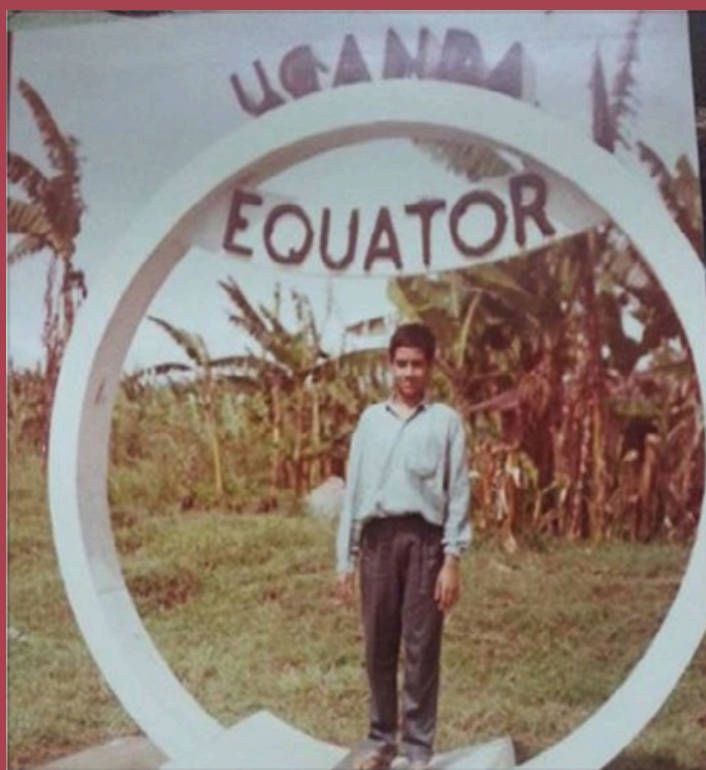


# From Dhaka to Presidio

A Journey Fueled by Geothermal Passion with Exceed Geo Energy

## Childhood in the Shadows of Energy Poverty

I was born in Dhaka, Bangladesh—a young nation marked by resilience, yet scarred by wars, political upheavals, and the constant struggle against poverty. My childhood memories were painted in the dim light of kerosene lamps. I can still remember many mothers in Africa carrying their children on their backs as they walked long distances to gather firewood or charcoal, determined to provide for them. I can see myself and my sister bent over our homework, eyes straining under flickering lamps, silently wishing for the luxury of steady electricity. Energy poverty wasn't just statistics—it was our life. It shaped my sense of resilience, but it also sparked a lifelong question: why should a lack of light dim any child's dreams?



Uganda Equator Portrait (1992)



Recreation of Uganda Equator Portrait (2018)

## Witnessing Change in Africa

My father's United Nations assignments took me to Rwanda, Uganda, and Kenya. Those experiences opened my eyes to the transformative power of access to energy on entire communities. In Kenya, I saw villages once bound to kerosene lamps and smoky kitchens suddenly alive with reliable electricity. Schools could run evening classes, women had time for businesses, and small farms gained new productivity. With nearly half of Kenya's electricity now generated from geothermal energy, it became clear to me: geothermal is not just about power plants—it is about dignity, freedom, and opportunity.

## Texas: All That Glitters is not Gold

When I arrived in the United States on a scholarship to Texas A&M University in 1998, I believed I was entering the world's most advanced energy economy. But driving through Texas, I encountered another truth. Places like Presidio, Texas, stood as reminders that energy poverty doesn't only belong to developing nations. Despite being part of the richest country in the world, Presidio's people live with limited jobs, unreliable electricity, and inadequate healthcare. Families often move away just to survive. It struck me deeply—energy poverty wears different faces, but the suffering is the same.

## Bangladesh: Heat Beneath Forgotten Soil

Despite progress in fossil fuel and nuclear energy, Bangladesh's geothermal promise remains untapped. Regions like Singra-Kuchma and Barapukuria show resource potential exceeding 5 GW, yet a lack of policy frameworks and investment keeps this resource buried. Meanwhile, millions still rely on biomass fuels, which carry all the associated health and environmental consequences. I see the same potential in Bangladesh that I saw in Kenya decades ago—a chance to ignite development through geothermal energy, if only the right roadmap is laid out.

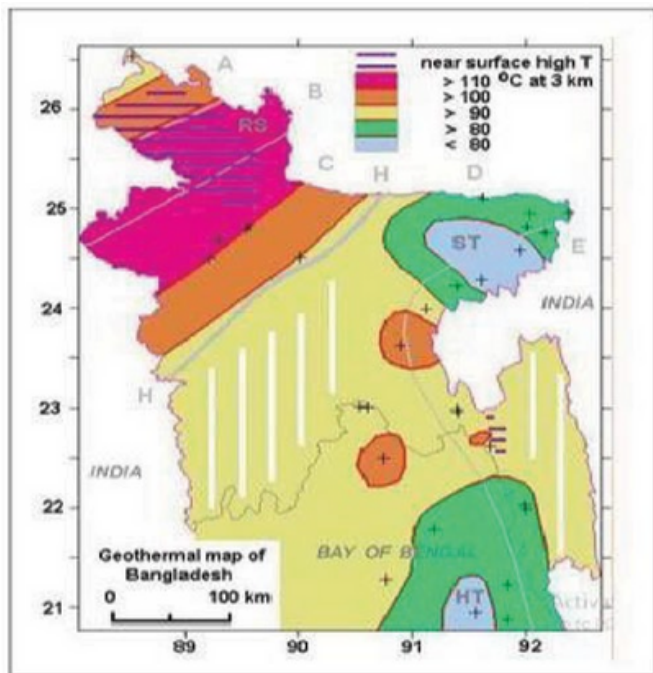
*Every well drilled is not just a project, but a step toward justice for communities in the dark.*

– Nasikul Islam, Drilling & Completions Manager



## From Oil and Gas to Geothermal: A Personal Calling

I spent years working in the oil and gas industry. It provided me with financial stability, global travel opportunities, and professional prestige. Yet each layoff—twice in my career—reminded me of the volatility and emptiness of fossil fuels. Oil and gas showed me wealth, but it didn't feed my soul. Geothermal, however, felt different. It demanded patience, persistence, and perseverance—values I carried from my childhood. But it also promised something more: the power to leave behind a lasting legacy of light and hope.



Geothermal Potential in Bangladesh with Proven Oil & Gas Fields

## Kenya as a Model, Presidio as an Opportunity, Bangladesh as a Frontier

Kenya: With nearly 1,000 MW of installed capacity, geothermal now accounts for 45–47% of the country's electricity

generation. It lowered costs, stabilized the grid, and lifted millions from the shadows of energy poverty. Presidio, Texas: A 110 MW geothermal project is in motion. With the right planning, it can bring jobs, stabilize the electricity supply, and revitalize a struggling community. Bangladesh: With an estimated potential of more than 5 GW, it stands where Kenya once was. Exploration, donor-backed pilots, and policy reforms could spark a new era of energy.

## Lighting the Path Forward

My story is not just about professional shifts—it is about a lifelong pursuit to end energy poverty. From Bangladesh's flickering lamps to Kenya's bright classrooms, from Presidio's empty hospitals to the promise of sustainable geothermal baseload, I have seen both the shadows and the light. For me, geothermal is not just energy. It is freedom from cycles of poverty, resilience in the face of climate change, and hope for communities too often left behind. Kenya has proven what is possible. Presidio can show it is possible here in America. Bangladesh can begin its journey. As for me, I carry the same commitment that lit my path from Dhaka to Texas: to never give up on geothermal's promise—to light the way for millions still waiting in the dark.

*Geothermal is a legacy  
project: we build it once,  
and generations thrive.*

*– Nasikul Islam,  
Drilling & Completions Manager*