

003 History of AKA Farm  
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a) Researcher's Identity

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b) Introduction

The Aka farm falls under Garidaha mouza and K.altapara mouza of Sherpur Thana under Bogra district. It stands on the Western side of the Bogra-Nogorbari highway. It is three miles away from Sherpur and ten miles away from Bogra town towards South.

c) Origin of the AKA Farm

A few Zaminders (landlords) were living in Sherpur Municipal area during prepartition period of Pakistan and India; of them two Zaminders; Mr. Radhikanath and Mr. Khitish Roy Bahadur had some Khash lands at the farm area. The Khash lands were topographically uneven, full of jungles and were a place of fear to the people. In the year 1944-45, 50% of the khash land (nearly 150 bighas) which were possessed by Mr. Khitish was given in Pattan (lease) through Mr. Bumzer Rahman, a Tahsilder and the lands were taken by three brothers namely Mr. Samiruddin, the elder brother, Mr. Amiruddin, the middle one and Mr. Azimuddin, the younger brother. They were residents of Kumira, a place near Nishindara of Bogra town and were engaged in purchasing mango from Sherpur and selling them at Bogra town.

When the possession of lands was being taken and they found many tigers in the jungles. Taorakata, Alamkata, Degorkata and Maina were the local names of some shrubs and herbs present in the jungles. Tigers lived in the bushes (like huts) which were formed naturally by the shrubs or herbs. Those were fond of eating cattle. For the presence of tigers and on the other hand, for the loneliness of the area, villagers used to go to bed early and did not walk outside their homestead after Asar-the evening prayer of the Muslims.

The three brothers made a little area cultivable where the jungle was comparatively thin and engaged many persons for cleaning the major part of

the jungle. They made some huts in different places at Badrapara on the western side near the farm for halting purposes after their work. During their work they often came across the tigers and conveyed the information to tiger hunters of Sherpur and to other persons who had guns. One person of Sherpur used to come by his elephant-back. According to Mr. Ledu Pramanik of Daripaqa, there were 50 to 60 tigers and Mr. Amiruddin Mistri himself observed the hunting of 12 to 14 tigers.

The jungles were so thickly grown that the three brothers could not manage to clean the whole area. They cut the shrub, plants, making the area free from darkness and tigers; but it remained topographically uneven as before.

Source: 1. *Mvi. Amiruddin Mzstri*. 2. *Md Hayatullah Mondo/ of Badrapara, Jamunna village. Bogra*

#### Naming the Farm:

Physically the farm was operated by Mr. Aman himself and the people knew that it totally belonged to him. But in fact, he had one partner. Mrs. Khaleda Begum, wife of Mr. A.B. Siddique, Supdt. Engineer, who had 4 acres of land within the farm. Moreover, Aman purchased the rest of the property in the names of his son, daughter and wife (Mrs. Asia Aman) and his own name. So, the adult partners of the farm were Aman, Khaleda Begum and Asia Aman. For naming the farm he took the first letter of these three names. On arranging them ('A', 'K' and 'A') the word AKA was made out of the same.

#### d) Conclusion

The Aka farm was started with a good intention by Mr. Aman and his partners. He took attempts several times of growing different crops. An inference could be drawn that local varieties of aus and aman were the crops which he grew successfully. Boro paddy, mustard and vegetables were also grown in little areas.

In terms of cost and return, he could not get a good crop there. He applied good quantity of manure and fertilizers and invested a good amount of money for its development. He took a loan of Taka 87,770.00 from the Krishi Bank (Agril, Bank), Bogra and did not repay a penny. The total amount has now increased to Taka 1,48,000.00 with interest (Upto May, 1976).

It was observed at Academy farm that the per acre cost of irrigation was Taka 500.00 to 600.00 during boro season of paddy. This was much higher than that in other areas. So, farm soil was not suitable for cultivation of boro paddy. It was known through experience that aus paddy of local variety might be cultivated in rain-fed condition. Aman paddy of local and high yielding varieties (IR.-20, IR.-5) might also be cultivated in low lands of the farm. It would be required essentially to apply more organic matters, including the application of requisite quantity of fertilizers, for a good harvest from the eternal bounties of Nature.

Source: *Kriahi Bank, Bogra*.