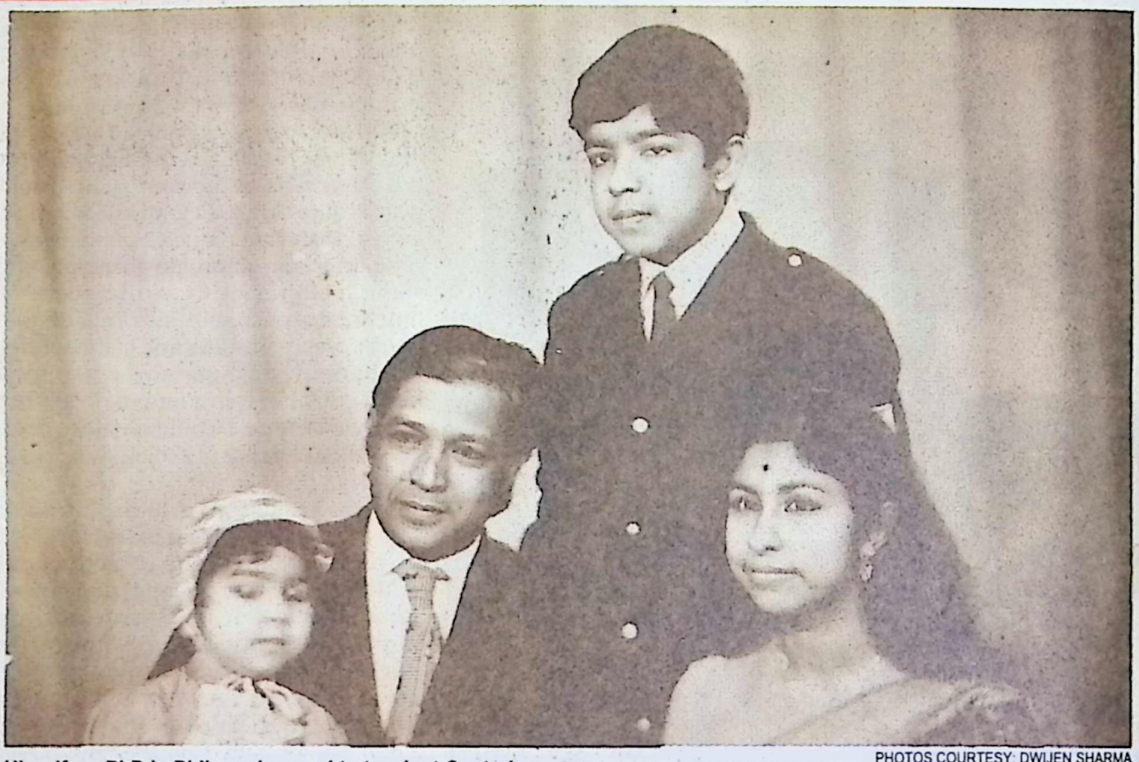


PHOTOS COURTESY: DWIJEN SHARMA

His wife, a PhD in Philosophy used to teach at Central Women's College. His son, a doctor and daughter, a microbiologist live abroad.

> "You must teach your children that the ground beneath their feet is the ashes of our grandfathers. So that they will respect the land, tell your children that the earth is rich with the lives of our kin. Teach your children that the earth is our mother. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of earth."

His speech was in response to a proposed treaty under which the Indians were persuaded to sell two million acres of land for $150,000—"You must teach your children that the ground beneath their feet is the ashes of our grandfathers. So that they will respect the land, tell your children that the earth is rich with the lives of our kin. Teach your children that the earth is our mother. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of earth."

He started writing seriously in 1957 in *Shomokal* while he was a student of Dhaka University. Hasan Hafizur Rahman, his friend and the assistant editor encouraged him to write. He has written extensively for children. "Ekhlasuddin Ahmad, the publisher of '*Tapur Tupur*' insisted that I write science stories for children," says Sharma. "These stories got published as a book under the name *Jiboner Shesh Nei* (No End To Life)."



At BM College, Barisal.