# Statement of Purpose of Md. Abed Rahman

I always had a knack for trying to understand how things work; my fascination for behavioral sciences is no different. However, I never knew a particular field like Human Computer Interaction existed until my senior year in university. There I took a course in Human Computer Interaction and I realized I have found my calling. The idea that an interdisciplinary study of humans and machines could yield more effective and efficient machines thrilled me. My mind would wander and think about the endless possibilities; I would start daydreaming about making a machine that would 'know better' and would interact better with humans. Several years from now, I picture myself as an extensive researcher doing advanced research on the latest and challenging problems of this particular field.

I obtained a BSc. in Computer Science and Engineering from Islamic University of Technology, one of the leading universities of Bangladesh. My Bachelor's thesis was on Smartphones based Lifelogging. I strived on making a complete, single device based Lifelogging system with better performance. The device used was a Smartphone and to increase performance music was introduced as an added reminiscence tool. The idea showed promising results in improving reminiscence and it was well received by the panel of professors to whom I defended it at the end of my senior year. My grades were good throughout and because of that I graduated in 2012 securing second position in a highly competitive class of 49.

After completing my undergraduate studies, I joined the Samsung R&D Institute Bangladesh. I worked on the TIZEN project - an open source operating system for multiple devices. My small time there was fruitful and educative. Then I joined the Islamic University of Technology (IUT) as a lecturer in December 2012. Being a teacher gives me the opportunity to be in an environment which is congenial to research and guarantees constant exposure to advanced research methodologies and ideas. As a matter of fact I am a member of the System and Software Lab. There I get to engage in helping students in their research which I believe will be a great help during my graduate studies.

It was in this vein, that I decided to further my career in research and it prompted my interest in the graduate program of the University of Minnesota. I am aware that the University of Minnesota is a top university and it is blessed with some of the finest minds in Computer Science. The research innovations that go on in this institution are what made me interested in this University. Firstly, Human Computer Interaction is the field I am interested the most. I am interested in working with Dr. Brent J. Hecht. I am also interested in Artificial Intelligence which is the consequence of my fascination towards intelligent agents. I am particularly interested in working under Dr. Nikolaos Papanikolopoulos as his current research interests regarding combining Artificial Intelligence with social and behavioral sciences converges with my own.

I wish to earn a PhD and I hope that my background, education, motivation and qualifications are found suitable to enroll into the PhD program in Computer Science at University of Minnesota.