

SYED AKBAR HUSSAIN

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I founded Pakistan's first ADR platform, The ADR Initiative LLP (ADRI) to promote ADR. Its success led to me being nominated and shortlisted for the National Mediation Awards 2020 (Mediation Innovation Award). Fortune favoured me, leading to the Shanghai Arbitration Commission enrolling me as an Arbitrator and leading to my first solo SIAC Arbitration.

I have been privileged to initiate and lead the project, SAZH-TAF Roundtable on FDI and Doing Business, in which we brought stakeholders to discuss the issues and generate solutions to FDI and Doing Business in Pakistan, under the support of The Asia Foundation.

As a lawyer, I specialise in consulting and advising investors and clients under SAZH Consulting, while handling complex mediation, arbitrations and disputes for clients in a variety of industries, in particular, the energy, finance and fintech, construction and international trade sectors.

I have been privileged to advise Senator S.M. Zafar on constitutional matters, and various other luminaries of the legal industry, such as Senator Syed Ali Zafar, Naeem Bokhari, etc. A deep understanding of the field of fintech, power, real estate, development and international trade etc. has given me the honour to assist my clients to achieve their commercial and legal goals.

FOREIGN INVESTMENT & CONSULTING EXPERIENCE [abridged from 2016-2022]

- **Founder and Creator**, SAZH-TAF Roundtable on Issues and Solutions for FDI & Doing Business in Pakistan [2022], brought together stakeholders to generate solutions, as the first of its kind Roundtable

ADR EXPERIENCE [Abridged from 2013-2022]

- Appointed to the Panel of Arbitrators of the **Shanghai Arbitration Commission** [China - 2022]
- Nominated and Shortlisted for the **National Mediation Award, 2020 (Mediation Innovation Award) [UK]**
- Represented BBJ Steel Limited as Legal Counsel in **Singapore International Arbitration Center**, [2019-2021]
- Defending clients in two **International Arbitration cases** in the **Lahore High Court** under the NY Convention [2020-2022]
- Appointed to the Mediation Panel of **Singapore International Mediation Institute** [Singapore - 2020]
- Founder of **The ADR Initiative LLP**, Pakistan's first and only ADR platform, think tank and policy firm in Pakistan, and corporate partner of **ADR ODR International** [Since 2019]
 - Shortlisted for **National Mediation Awards, 2020** [Diversity and Inclusion Award].
 - Trained more than 50 Accredited Mediators and Arbitrators in Pakistan
 - Trained civil and district judges for ADR In collaboration with the **Lahore High Court** and the **Punjab Judicial Academy**, for the establishment of the new commercial courts [2021]
 - **Drafted Pakistan's first Model ODR Rules** after thorough consultations with industry experts and stakeholders. [2021]
 - In partnership with **The Asia Foundation**, established Pakistan's first Roster of Mediators and Arbitrators hosted by The ADR Initiative [2021]
 - Established **ADRI Educational Centers** in the most prestigious law colleges in Pakistan.
 - Established the **ADRI Advisor Network** to promote and guide on usage of ADR in various industries.
- Resident Representative of **ADR ODR International** in Pakistan [Since 2019],
 - Accredited Mediator, Arbitrator and Negotiator on the panel of ADR ODR International
 - Business development; succeeded in establishing AOI in Pakistan
- CEO of the **International Arbitration Center Pakistan**, [2019-2021]
- Chairman, ADR Committee of the **Lahore High Court Bar Association** [2019-2020]
- Mediation and Arbitration Expert and Consultant in various power and construction cases
 - Expert Mediation – **Hydro Electric PPA**, between CPPA and HUBCO [2019-2020]
 - Expert Mediation – **Natural Gas PPA**, between CPPA and TNB Liberty Power [2013-2014]

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- Ad-hoc Arbitration – **Energy and Commodities**, between SNGPL and confidential company [2020-2021]
- **Report & Policy Brief**, SAZH-TAF Roundtable, Report and Policy Brief on FDI & Doing Business with the participation of public and private stakeholders, local and foreign [2022]

LEGAL EXPERIENCE [Abridged from 2010-2022]

- **Advocate, High Courts of Pakistan** [Since 2013]
- Local Expert, **World Bank – Women Business and the Law** for Pakistan [Since 2017]
- Founder of **SAZH Consulting LLP** [Since 2016]. Formerly SZH Law [2010 - 2016], a boutique specialist law firm founded alongside Justice Sayed Zahid Hussain to provide legal consultancies and dispute resolution services to local and international clients. Work highlights include:
 - Advised **Senator Dr. S.M. Zafar** as counsel on constitutional interpretations and issues facing the country. Drafted opinions for Superior Court Judges and Politicians that sought advice e.g. on Exit Control Lists, Secret Ballots, Article 59 on Election of Senators, and mode of appointment of Chief Justices in Superior Courts.
 - Advised and represented **Big Bird Group of Companies**, Pakistan's biggest poultry company as their legal advisor in company matters and litigation [2013-2019].
 - Advised and represented **Fabcon Design & Engineering**, a construction company specializing in steel and pre-fab government-related contracts as their legal advisor in company matters and litigation [2016-2019]
 - Advised and represented **BBJ Pipe Industries and BBJ Steel Limited**, one of the largest Pakistani steel companies in their International and local arbitration [Since 2019]
 - Advised and negotiated on behalf of **National Enterprises**, agents of Boeing, Collins Aerospace, and Rolls Royce for Pakistan Airforce, against Boeing and Collins on renewal of contracts following revisions in defense law [2018-2021]
 - Advised and transacted on behalf of **Rafiq Engineering Pvt Ltd**, Pakistan's largest fan manufacturers against Sky Electric for Solar Plant Project [2019-2020]
 - Advised and acted as Consulting Mediator for **Equality Labs** and **United States Institute of Peace** for a VR based Interfaith Harmony project [2021-2022]
- Consulting Partner of **Dayioglu Law Firm, Turkey** – Managing operations between Pakistan and Turkey [Since 2020]
- Legal Expert, **UNFPA and Punjab Commission on the Status of Women** [2018-2019]
- Advisor to the **Federal Ombudsperson for the Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace** – Heard, resolved, and adjudicated more than 100 cases on behalf of the Ombudsperson [2017-2018]
- Advocate and Consultant for **Legal Advisors Inc [Senior Advocate Naeem Bokhari]**
 - **Panama Case** – Represented the incumbent leading political party, PTI against the then Prime Minister of Pakistan, Nawaz Sharif and successfully had him disqualified as Prime Minister, paving the way for PTI to be elected [2016-2019]
- Advocate and Consultant for **Mandviwalla and Zafar [Senator Syed Ali Zafar]**, a legal 500 law firm in Pakistan.
- Advisor and Counsel on **Finance and Fintech** for various startups
 - Advised **Finpro**, an NBFC offering smartphones to the masses through micro-finance
 - Undertook and completed course on **Fintech & Policy** by Duke University

ACADEMIA AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **LLM – Private Law** [Koc University, Istanbul, 2016]

International Contract Law	WTO Law and Trade	ADR Mechanisms
International Tax Law	Global Competition Law	IP Law

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Privatization Law

MNC Law

Int.Transport Law

Group of Companies Law

Project Paper - Doing Business
between Pakistan and Turkey

- **Post Graduate Certificate – Commercial and Corporate Law** [University of London, 2014]
Capital I & II
Evolution of Law of Foreign Investment
Multinational Enterprises in context
Regulation and infrastructure of arbitration
- **LLB** [University of London, 2012]
- **O' and A' Levels** [Aitchison College Lahore, 2007]
- **ADR Lecturer for University of London LLB** at Universal College Lahore [Since 2019]
- ADR Lecturer/Trainer for the local judiciary at the **Punjab Judicial Academy** [Since 2020]
- Articles published in legal journals and newspapers. Details available on request.
- Have spoken and judged at events and competitions. Details available on request.

References are available on request