

SAM KARIM QC (SHEIKH M S KARIM)

Year of call: 2002
Year of silk: 2017

Clerked by: Mark Ronson

AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

Administrative & Public Law Arbitration Court of Protection & Mental Health Health & Social Care Inquests Judicial Review Licensing Local Government Procurement Technology & Construction



Arbitration

Sam is a specialist lawyer in domestic and international commercial arbitration. He acts as counsel and sits as a panel or sole arbitrator. He is a Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCI Arb) and is admitted as a practitioner in the Dubai International Finance Centre Court and the Abu Dhabi Global Markets. He is fully conversant in arbitrations under the AAA, Court of Arbitration for Sport, HKIAC, SIAC, ICC, LCIA, ARIAS, UNCITRAL and ICSID, as well as ad hoc arbitrations pursuant to the Arbitration Act 1996, particularly in the Middle East and Brazil.

Specific areas of Sam's work includes: (1) Investment Arbitration, (2) Energy Charter, (3) Treaty Arbitration, (4) WTO Arbitration, (5) Construction & Engineering, (6) Energy & Natural Resources, (7) Oil & Gas, Mining, (8) IT & IP, (9) Shipping, (10) Law of the Sea, (11) International Trade, Trade Finance, and (12) Islamic finance.

His expertise is demonstrated and recognised by his invitations to speak at leading global conferences, a few examples include:

- International Bar Association (IBA) Annual Conference in Seoul 2019 at an event jointly hosted by the Bar Council of England & Wales and the Korean Bar Council about conducting International Arbitration in London;
- GAR Live Paris 2019, when he spoke about how International Arbitration can remain at the forefront of international advocacy;
- At the University of Dubai in 2018, when he spoke about the future of Arbitration against the context of modern technologies;
- GAR Live Abu Dhabi 2019 when he moderated a distinguished panel on conflicts of interest and disclosure;
- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators regional events in 2017 and 2018;
- GAR Live Dubai 2019, when he spoke about Artificial Intelligence and the future of Arbitration;
- The British and Irish Commercial Bar Association Dispute Resolution Conference in Dubai 2015 when he moderated a distinguished panel on the practical approach to the enforcement of UAE judgments and arbitral awards; and
- Joint conference with the Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil (Bar Council of Brazil) in 2014 and 2015 on use of International Arbitration in resolving commercial cross border disputes.

Sam is also an author in this area, some examples include:

- Joint editor (with Sir Maurice Kay) the book called 'International Arbitration: The Global Guide for Practitioners, to be published in 2020;
- Article in the International Arbitration Law Review, 'Artificial Intelligence: An Undiscovered Future of Arbitration', [2019] Int. A.R., Issue 2; and
- Article in the Annual Review 2019 by the International Islamic Centre for Reconciliation & Arbitration, 'A New Era for Arbitration in the UAE: The Federal Law Number 6 of 2018 on Arbitration'

Profile

Sheikh Mohammed Samiul Karim QC (Sam Karim QC) is dynamic silk who is regarded as a leading practitioner by legal commentators who say that, "When he is on his feet in a courtroom, he is simply captivating.", he is "an outstanding advocate....and one of the leading practitioners", and that he remains "remarkably calm and in control, he never gets fazed by the complexities of a case". It is also said that "... His academic understanding of subject matter litigation is incredible."

He is specialist areas are four-fold:

- (a) Domestic and international commercial arbitration in which he acts as counsel and sits as panel or sole arbitrator;
- (b) Procurement;
- (c) Judicial Review and Human Rights / Civil Liberties; and
- (d) Court of Protection

Sam is a Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and is admitted as a practitioner in the Dubai International Finance Centre (DIFC) Court.

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Year of Silk: 2017

Areas of Expertise

Administrative & Public Law

Arbitration

Court of Protection & Mental Health

Health & Social Care

Inquests

Judicial Review

Licensing

Local Government

Procurement

Technology & Construction

Memberships

Member of the Executive Committee of the Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)

Northern Administrative Law Association (NALA), Acting Chair

Founding member and Chair of the Kings Community Care and Disability Rights Association

Appointments

- Attorney General's Regional Panel of Queens Counsel.
- UK Advisor to the Chinese Government on development of Administrative Reconsideration Law in China. Appointed by the Asia Foundation.
- Previously a member of the Attorney General's Regional Panel of Junior Counsel.
- Chairperson of the Legal Aid Working Group and co-chaired the Training Working Group relating to the Regionalisation of the Administrative Court.
- Director of Manchester Public Law Pro-Bono Scheme.
- Northern Circuit Education Committee Member.
- Head of Public Law 2017 to present

Publications

(1) 'Public law online', and online based legal knowledge database,

(2) 'Judicial Review: Law & Practice', which is currently in its second edition and the co-author being the late Mrs Justice Patterson (Jordans)

(3) Bullen & Leake & Jacob's Precedents of Pleadings, and

(4) 'A human rights perspective on reducing restrictive practices in intellectual disability and autism',

Qualifications

LLB (Hons), LLM (Lond.), PG Dip Law, MCI Arb (Intl. Arbitration)

Recommendations

"He's a very good advocate who makes very focused submissions."

(Chambers UK 2021)

"His advice is always very thorough and his advocacy is very effective." "His softly-spoken manner makes him ideal for dealing with vulnerable clients, and belies a razor-sharp advocacy which is effective and persuasive. He sees the issues with a clarity that compares with few others and is

a pleasure to work with." "Excellent on his feet, very knowledgeable and approachable."

(Chambers UK 2021)

"He is a very polished, attractive advocate." "He is calm, methodical and committed to delivering the best result for those instructing him." "He has a good client manner and excellent subject matter knowledge. He is also a quick thinker on his feet."

(Chambers UK 2021)

"He is an articulate, persuasive advocate and has the ability to charm litigation friends."

(Legal 500, 2020)

"Excellent client manner and ability to explain often complex legal points in client friendly terms. Responsive and able to turn work around quickly when needed. Quick thinking, particularly when on feet in Court."

(Legal 500, 2020)

"Has in-depth knowledge in Court of Protection, and is very efficient and proactive in his approach."

(Legal 500, 2020)

"Proactive and knowledgeable."

(Legal 500, 2020)

"An extremely able advocate who can think on his feet."

(Legal 500, 2020)

"His advocacy is clear, concise, accurate and calm under pressure. He's very punctual as well."

"He's unflappable and very good at dealing with people." "He's very dedicated, researches his cases very thoroughly and really gets to grips with the main issues. He's a pleasure to work with." "He's knowledgeable, articulate in court and a very safe pair of hands."

(Chambers & Partners, 2020)

"Sam is an outstanding advocate. He is a pleasure to work with. He is always on hand at the drop of a hat to discuss a case, and he has an ability to put lay clients completely at ease even when dealing with difficult medical decisions."

"He understands the technical points of public law really well." "He is diligent and straight-dealing."

"He has a real breadth of knowledge. He is a measured and careful advocate." "He has a good knowledge of the law and is well-prepared. His submissions are underpinned by a knowledge of the law."

(Chambers & Partners, 2018)

'An outstanding advocate.'

(Legal 500, 2018)

'An outstanding advocate, who makes lay clients feel completely at ease.'

(Legal 500, 2018)

"Accomplished new silk"

(Chambers & Partners, 2017)

"When he is on his feet in a courtroom, he is simply captivating."

(Legal 500, 2016)

"He's excellent, and used by all parties - he's very academic in his thought processes."

(Chambers and Partners, 2016)

"... His academic understanding of subject matter litigation is incredible."

(Chambers and Partners, 2015)

"He is one of the leading practitioners in the North"

(Chambers & Partners, 2017)

"He is innovative in the way he approaches cases and creative in the way he deals with matters..."

(Chambers and Partners, 2015)

"He's a very skilful advocate who is always remarkably calm and in control, he never gets fazed by the complexities of a case... He puts his points across succinctly and never wavers."

(Chambers & Partners, 2017)

"...He has a plenary style that is very logical and meticulous, and makes his points very well without annoying the judge."

(Chambers and Partners, 2016)

"He is very good at negotiating with other parties and bringing them round to his way of thinking."

(Chambers and Partners, 2015)

"He is charismatic... [and an] engaging... advocate."

(Chambers and Partners, 2013)

