

Syed Shahab Qutub

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

AXIS LAW CHAMBERS (Advocates & Legal Consultants) Lahore, Pakistan

Partner, 2014-

HASSAN, QUTUB & RAHIM (Advocates & Legal Consultants), Lahore, Pakistan

Partner, 2013-2014

QUTUB & QUTUB (Advocates & Legal Consultants), Lahore, Pakistan

Partner, 2011-2013

RAJA MOHAMMED AKRAM & CO. (Formerly ZAFAR, IQBAL & RAJA), Lahore, Pakistan

Senior Associate Attorney, 2004-2005, 2006-2011

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Commercial, Corporate and Civil Litigation

- Represented leading financial institutions in recovery proceedings before the **Banking Courts** and **the High Court**.
- Banking Litigation experience includes recovery suits involving **project financing, working capital lines, lease financing, trade related financing and Islamic finance**.
- Represented financial institutions and other clients in cases involving financial crime before the **Banking Offences Court and National Accountability Courts**.
- Conducted litigation on behalf of textile companies challenging the retrospective levy of fuel adjustment surcharge by DISCOs.
- Represented a leading Independent Power Producer in litigation related to a dispute arising out of the indexation mechanism provided for in the tariff of the IPP.
- Represented the CEO of a public sector company in a case involving wrongful termination.
- Defended corporate clients before the labor court and labor appellate court in cases filed by workmen against alleged wrongful termination and recovery of arrears of wages.
- Represented clients in the civil court in cases arising out of the alleged violation of LESCO's Consumer Service Manual, the NEPRA Act 1997 and rules made thereunder.
- Represented corporate clients before **tax tribunals** as well as **the High Court** in cases involving levy of sales tax, income tax and customs duty.
- Assisted the **Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan** in cases involving insider trading, fraudulent trading, breach of directors' fiduciary duties and takeover laws.
- Represented clients before the **Environmental Tribunal** in cases arising out of environmental protection orders issued by the Environment Protection Agency.
- Represented clients in pre-grant hearings for electricity generation and distribution licenses before the **National Electric Power Regulatory Authority**.
- Represented corporate clients in a shareholder's litigation involving elections of companies, oppression and mismanagement and directors' liabilities.
- Represented a leading telecom sector company in litigation before the **Consumer Protection Court**.
- Regularly represent corporate clients before the **District Courts and the High Court** in cases related to real estate law, domestic sales and intellectual property.

International Business Transactions, International Trade Law (Anti-Dumping Laws)

- Structured and documented cross-border commercial transactions including joint venture, agency and franchise agreements.
- Advised clients on payment arrangements in international sales including the opening of various forms of documentary credit through local financial institutions.
- Represented a Chinese company before the National Tariff Commission in a case involving the levy of **antidumping duty**.

International Commercial Arbitration and Construction Law

- Represented an Austrian Hydro Power Corporation in an international arbitration involving a construction contract for a hydro power project in Pakistan. Drafted the statement of claim and dispute and represented the client in hearings before the arbitral tribunal.
- Represented a local fertilizer manufacturing company in a construction contract arbitration involving a civil works construction contract for a fertilizer plant in Pakistan.
- Represented a local textile company in an international commercial arbitration with its trading counterpart in the U.S.A.
- Drafted construction contracts for building projects in Pakistan based on FIDIC Conditions of Contract.

Energy Law

- Assisted senior partner in landmark constitutional petition challenging oil and gas price regulation.
- Advised clients on all aspects of electricity laws in Pakistan. Drafted applications for grant of electricity generation, transmission and distribution licenses, advised clients on tariff structures and electricity duties and represented clients in pre-grant hearings before the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority.
- Advised clients on applications for grant of mining concessions for coal and phosphate.
- Structured and documented a joint venture agreement between two leading stakeholders in the mining industry for creating a special purpose vehicle to conduct mining operations.
- Currently advising the Punjab Mineral Company on various aspects of coal supply transactions for proposed coal-based power projects to be set up in the province of Punjab.

Securities Regulation, Takeovers and Acquisitions Law

- Assisted the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan in prosecuting the directors of a public company for **insider trading and fraudulent trading** offences in a takeover scenario.
- Defended a leading brokerage house in proceedings for violation of Pakistan's takeover law.
- Assisted senior partner in advising a multinational investment consortium in a privatization bid for state owned telecommunications corporation: one of the largest acquisitions in Pakistan's corporate history.

Company formation, Corporate Regulation and Investor Protection Law

- Advised foreign clients on all aspects of company formation and incorporation in Pakistan including aspects of the law of investor protection in Pakistan.
- Advised clients on all aspects of company law including directors' liability, share transfer restrictions, CEO emoluments, investment in associated companies and compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance.
- Worked extensively on minority shareholders' rights and protections in a shareholders' litigation.
- Drafted shareholders' agreements and constitutional documents for public and private companies.

Banking and Secured Business Finance

- Structured and documented various shariah compliant financing transactions including Murabaha, Musharika and Mudaraba financing agreements and their advanced variations.
- Structured and documented a wide range of security arrangements including securitization through pledge, mortgage, fixed charge, floating charge, hypothecation and their advanced variations.
- Prepared documentation for syndicated finance transactions including inter-creditor security sharing, agency and debt subordination agreements.
- Conducted “legal audit” of the loan accounts of a major financial institution. The four month exercise entailed a detailed investigation into the enforceability of various loan agreements and security instruments as well as an assessment of the strength of the institution’s security interests.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, Islamabad, Pakistan

Access to Justice Program Loan, Annual Program Review, 2004-2005 (on behalf of Zafar, Iqbal & Raja)

The review entailed field visits and data analysis for assessment of implementation of loan conditionalities in a number of outcome areas focused primarily on judicial delays and efficiency of the law enforcement agencies.

Research Assistant, Family Laws Project, Summer 2005

Independently engaged by the ADB to conduct empirical research on the **impact of family law reforms** introduced through ADB initiative.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer Business Law Course, MBA Program, Government College University, Lahore, Pakistan

Visiting Faculty, Fall 2008

BAR ADMISSIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Punjab Bar Council, Lahore, Pakistan (2004)

Lahore High Court Bar Association

Lahore Bar Association