



## **EXPERT CV**

### **AINA KHAN OBE**

**Managing Director & Solicitor**

**Aina Khan Law**

Dawson House

5 Jewry Street

London EC3N 2EX

Reception: 020 3858 8020

[clients@ainakhanlaw.com](mailto:clients@ainakhanlaw.com)

<https://www.ainakhanlaw.com>

[LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/ainakhan](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ainakhan)

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#### **Expertise:**

Private International law, Islamic Family Law, laws of Muslim countries

OBE received for 'Services to the Protection of Women and Children in Unregistered Marriages'

Fellow of IAFL (International Academy of Family Lawyers)

Founder of 'Register Our Marriage', lobbying for marriage registration reform: <https://registerourmarriage.org>

Founder of 'ABAL' ('Across Border Alliance of Lawyers' with experts in 70+ countries) <https://abal.world>

#### **Expert Reports recently prepared on:**

- Legality of unregistered UK religious marriages, foreign marriages & divorces
- Islamic marital settlements ('Mahr') and enforcement under English law of contract
- Children placements abroad and risk assessments of family members
- Children relocation
- Wills & Inheritance
- Property, serious fraud (for Serious Fraud Office and National Crime Agency)

*Disclaimer: Aina Khan OBE frequently works with a personally curated network of experienced legal experts globally, to provide the most accurate and up-to-date local knowledge. Case documents will be disclosed to her chosen expert unless instructions to the contrary are received in writing. The identity of her expert is not provided for security reasons (but will be sent to the Judge upon request). Attendance at court is via video link unless agreed otherwise.*

#### **Advisor to**

- 10 Downing Street, Home Office, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Justice, Department for Levelling Up Housing & Communities, Members of the Houses of Lords and Commons, Select Committees, Think Tanks, Law Commission on Marriage and on Weddings, Independent Review on Sharia, Faith Institutions, academia

#### **Academic Lectures, Publications & Collaborations**

- Cambridge; Oxford; Sorbonne; Harvard, Max Planck Institute Germany; Brandeis Boston USA; Maastricht Netherlands; Leiden Netherlands; Erlingen Germany; Milany; Mumbai; University of London (LSC; King's College; Queen Mary's College; SOAS; Institute of Advanced Legal Studies; UCL); Birmingham; Cardiff; South Wales; Kent; Sussex; Coventry; Brunel; Interfaith Legal Advisers Network (ILAN); Law and Religion Scholars



Network (LARSN); BPP; MBL; Lectures attended by judiciary, lawyers, academics, and postgraduate students from the UK and abroad; Trained 240+lawyers nationwide in Islamic Family law.

### **Publications**

- 'Islamic Alternative Dispute Resolution' (LexisNexis Butterworths Family Law Service) since 2012
- 'Marital captivity' (Maricap)
- LexisNexis 'Foreign Marriage and Divorce'
- Westlaw 'Religious Marriages'
- Family Law Week
- Jordans Family Law Journal
- 'It's not about the Burqa' (Routledge)

### **Endorsements**

- Muslim Council of Britain (MCB), Islamic Society of Britain (ISB), Mosques & Imams National Advisory Board (MINAB), Association of Muslim Lawyers (AML), Sharia Councils & Imams

### **Media appearances**

- BBC's Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman, Kirsty Wark, Emily Maitlis; BBC Radio 4's Today, Sunday, Woman's Hour; Channel 4, Sky News, Islam Channel, Voice of Russia, France 24, UK and International TV channels

### **Positions held**

Senior Faith Leader, St George's House, Windsor Castle, Armed Forces Muslim Forum at Ministry of Defence, Freeman of Worshipful Company of Glaziers, Advisory Board, Centre for Muslim Policy Research. (Past) MoJ's Working Group on Muslim Marriages; 'Islam and English Law' committee at Temple Church London; Honorary Legal Advisor at Central Family Court, London; Service Delivery Committee of Royal Courts of Justice Citizen Advice Bureau; Trustee to various charities.

**Awards:** Finalist 'Community Initiative of the Year' British Muslim Awards 2019; 'Legal Personality of the Year' Law Society Excellence Awards 2018; 'Achievement in the Community' Asian Achievers Awards 2018; 'Services to Law' British Muslim Awards 2014; 'Innovative Solicitor of the Year' Family Law Awards 2012; 'European Muslim Women of Influence' CEDAR 2010

**Languages:** Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi, French, written Arabic

### **Previous Employment**

2012 – 2018 Founder and Head of Islamic Department, Duncan Lewis, London  
2011 – 2012 Founder and Head of Islamic Department, Slater & Gordon, London  
2008 – 2011 Founder and Head of Family Department, Woodroffes, London  
1994 – 2008 Senior Partner, Aina Khan Partnership, London

### **Education:**

2007 Law Society's Advanced Family Panel  
1991 Solicitor of Supreme Court of England & Wales  
1985 College of Law, Guildford Solicitors' Final Exam  
1984 University of E London, LLB Honours  
1980 Ilford County High Grammar School for Girls, A levels