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IN ARBITRATION



INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
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ICDR YOUNG & INTERNATIONAL



CAREERS 2.0: FIND YOUR NICHE

The COVID-19 pandemic has altered the way the world functions. As businesses and corporations grapple with the effect of the virus and reduced workforce to manage costs, job opportunities traditionally available to young practitioners can be expected to be impacted. However, with the change comes new opportunities. Fresh graduates and young practitioners often try to fit into the existing frameworks and opportunities rather than gaining an eclectic set of knowledge and skills to build niche practices. To increase awareness about specialised areas of law and alternative dispute resolution (ADR), the AIAC YPG introduces its new initiative **"CAREERS 2.0: FIND YOUR NICHE"**, a series of monthly webinars. This project is aimed at providing a platform to connect with experienced practitioners from all over the world who can share their success stories and give tips on building careers in those specialised areas of ADR.

Please join us for the webinar titled "**CONTOURS OF A LEGAL CAREER IN ISLAMIC FINANCE**" on Friday, 25th September 2020 at 4.00 p.m. (MYT). Registration: http://bit.ly/AIACYPG25_9

OPENING REMARKS ON BEHALF OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION



MS MONICA WY CHONG

Monica is a partner in WongPartnership Singapore's Corporate & Commercial Disputes practice group. She has an active court and international arbitration practice, with a focus on complex, high-value and cross-border disputes across a range of sectors, including energy, financial services, business consultancy, trade and investment matters. She has acted, including as lead counsel, in proceedings conducted under a variety of arbitral rules, including SIAC, ICC, UNCITRAL and ICSID, and regularly appears before the Singapore High Court and Court of Appeal for arbitration-related matters. She is currently the co-Chair of the Asia-Pacific Forum for International Arbitration (AFIA).

SPEAKERS



MS FARMIDA BI

Farmida Bi is Chair of Norton Rose Fulbright LLP, as well as European Head of Islamic Finance, and has specialised in capital markets and Islamic finance transactions for over 25 years, advising on English and New York law. She has acted on many high profile Islamic finance transactions, including US\$7bn in sovereign bonds and sukuk for the Government of Pakistan; the Goldman Sachs debut US\$500mn sukuk issuance; and Indonesia's US\$3bn sukuk programme and initial issuance of US\$1bn of sukuk. Farmida is ranked in the 'spotlight table' for Islamic finance in Chambers UK 2020 and named as a 'leading individual' for Islamic finance and debt capital markets in the Legal 500 2020. Farmida is a graduate of Downing College, Cambridge and qualified as a solicitor in 1992 and as a New York attorney in 1999.



MR ARIF JAMAL

Arif Jamal is an Associate Professor at the National University of Singapore Faculty of Law (NUS Law). He currently serves as Deputy Director of the Centre for Asian Legal Studies (CALs) at NUS Law and co-Editor-in-Chief of the Asian Journal of Comparative Law. Arif's research and teaching interests include law and religion, law in Muslim contexts, and legal and political theory. He holds an LLM, with a focus on Islamic Law, from SOAS and a PhD from UCL and had also been Visiting Researcher with the Islamic Legal Studies Program at Harvard Law School.



MR JALALULLAIL OTHMAN

Jal Othman is a senior partner and head of the Islamic Finance Practice Group in the law firm of Shook Lin and Bok. Originally born and bred as a conventional finance lawyer, Jal has over his years of practice transformed into a consummate revert to Islamic Finance. A graduate of Queen Mary College in the University of London, Jal holds positions in CIMB Islamic Bank Berhad, Deutsche Trustees Malaysia Berhad, Bursa Malaysia Berhad, Malaysian Accounting Standards Board and the Financial Reporting Foundation. In the field of academia, Jal sits on the Senate of INCEIF University and is a member of its Board of Trustees. Jal is also a member of the Advisory Panel of Taylor's University Law School. Jal continues to be a student of Islamic Finance and continues on his road of discovery of the philosophies and concepts behind Islamic Finance.



MS AZLIN AHMAD

Azlin Ahmad is a Senior Associate at Herbert Smith Freehills. She advises on banking and finance matters, with a focus on Shariah-compliant banking and financing. She has experience in both conventional and Islamic financing transactions, handling a variety of matters for retail and corporate clients, including representation for both the borrowers and financial institutions. Originally from Kuala Lumpur, Azlin practised locally for a number of years before relocating to the UAE, where she spent over a decade working primarily on Islamic financing matters. She handles bilateral and syndicated financing, including project financing and private debt securities, as well as Islamic trust certificates (sukuk). Azlin also has experience in structuring and drafting corporate and retail Islamic products for banks and financial institutions, where her documentation for such products has been adopted in Malaysia, Singapore and the UAE. Azlin is qualified as a barrister in England and Wales, and has been admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya.

MODERATOR



MS NEREEN KAUR

For the past 11 years, Nereen has been actively involved in litigation, arbitration, mediation and adjudication relating to construction disputes. Her experience includes disputes relating to landmark bridge projects, disputes concerning structural integrity of rail networks, construction of ports, the failure of demolition works and oil and gas structural disputes. Also an arbitrator, Nereen is listed on the Panel of Arbitrators at the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC), specialising in construction, engineering and infrastructure disputes. Nereen is a Fellow of both the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) and the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators (MI Arb), the national arbitration body of Malaysia, where she is presently serving as the Honorary Secretary for the 2019/2021 term of office. Nereen is currently pursuing her Masters with Queen Mary University of London in International Arbitration.