



SAPNA JHANGIANI KC, C. Arb, FCI Arb

Education

Program on Negotiation,
Harvard Law School, 2022

Mediator Training (Basic and
Advanced), Sage Mediation,
2021

Diploma in International
Commercial Arbitration, Queen
Mary University of London,
2006

Arbitration Award Writing
Exam, Chartered Institute of
Arbitrators, 2006

Bar Vocational Course, Inns of
Court School of Law, 1999

Diploma in Law, City
University, 1998

M.A. and B.A (Joint Hons)
Philosophy & French, Jesus
College, Oxford University,
1997

Scholarships

Viscount Sankey Bar
Scholarship, Jesus College
Oxford, 1997, 1998 & 1999

Peter Duffy Human Rights
Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn –
four months at the European
Court of Human Rights in
Strasbourg in 2000

Sunley, Eastham, CPE &
Hardwicke Scholarships,
Lincoln's Inn, 1997 to 1999

Pegasus Commonwealth
Scholarship - Allen & Overy,
New York, 2003

Sapna is a barrister at Blackstone Chambers called to the Bar in 1999, and appointed Queen's Counsel in 2020. She practised at the Independent Bar in London until 2006, when she relocated to Dubai and practised from Clyde & Co Dubai for 5 years, focusing on international disputes, encompassing both commercial and investor-state disputes.

Sapna transferred to Clyde & Co Clasis Singapore in 2011, and was called as an advocate and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore in 2019. From 1 September 2021, Sapna accepted a 3-year role in public service as International Legal Counsel at the Attorney-General's Chambers Singapore (AGC), during which time she worked with the Criminal, Civil, International Affairs and Academy divisions of AGC. On 4 September 2024, Sapna was appointed a Judge of the Court of Appeal of the DIFC Courts.

For the last 16 years of her 25-year career, Sapna has sat as an arbitrator, having received her first tribunal appointment in 2009 from the Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC). She has experience as sole or co-arbitrator in a wide range of disputes, in both *ad hoc* and institutional arbitrations. In 2022, she was appointed a Chartered Arbitrator.

Sapna has accepted appointments as a mediator in civil and commercial disputes since 2021 and is an accredited mediator with the Singapore International Mediation Institute and on the specialist mediator panel of the Singapore International Mediation Centre.

Sapna has substantial multi-jurisdictional and cross-border experience, having been involved as arbitrator or counsel in complex, high-stakes disputes seated in diverse jurisdictions such as London, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Dubai, Thailand, PRC, Vietnam, India, Indonesia, Paris, Mauritius, and the Cayman Islands. She has a wealth of experience in cases governed by both civil and common law, with particular expertise in cases governed by English, Singapore, Hong Kong, DIFC, Indian, Malaysian, Dubai and Mauritian law.

Sapna's experience spans a broad spectrum of disputes including commercial disputes relating to joint ventures, consultancy agreements, sale of goods, and licensing and distribution; to DIFC employment disputes; to criminal law and judicial review.

Sapna's expertise has been recognised by leading directories, including Lexology Index which included her in the list of Global Elite Thought Leaders for Arbitration for 2026. She was named by Asia Legal Business as one of the top 15 Female Lawyers in Asia.

Court Admissions and Affiliations

Judge, Court of Appeal of DIFC Courts

Past Chair, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Singapore branch)

Member, Advisory Board, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue

Called to the BVI Bar, 2024

Vice Chair, ICC Commission on Arbitration & ADR, 2023

Chartered Arbitrator, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, 2022

Appointment as Queen's Counsel, 2020

Called to the Singapore Bar, 2019

Member, SICC Arbitration Court Users' Committee

SIMC Specialist Mediator

SIMI Accredited Mediator

Fellow, Singapore Institute of Arbitrators, 2012

Fellow, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, 2009

Called to the English Bar, 1999

International Law Association (Singapore Branch), Council Member

Languages

English, French, conversational Hindi

Task Forces

ICCA-Queen Mary Taskforce on Third Party Funding (Investment Arbitration Sub-Committee)

ICC Taskforce on Decisions as to Costs

Co-author of Singapore Institute of Arbitrators' Guidelines for Third Party Funders in Singapore

ICC Taskforce on Maximising the Probative Value of Witness Evidence

ICC Taskforce on AI in International Arbitration

Representative Experience as Arbitrator

- Nominations as Chair, sole or co-arbitrator in arbitrations seated in London, Singapore, Dubai, India and Hong Kong;
- Party-appointed arbitrator in DIFC-LCIA arbitration (under DIAC rules) relating to USD 90 million dispute between shareholders in a Qatari company servicing the oil and gas industry, in which the interim award made law in a number of jurisdictions (see eg. *DFL v DFM* [2024] SGCA 41);
- Party-appointed arbitrator in LCIA arbitration in London relating to multimillion transaction fees due to financial advisors;
- Party-appointed arbitrator in several SIAC arbitrations, including an Asian telecoms dispute valued at USD 250 million;
- Sole arbitrator jointly appointed by parties in several SIAC arbitrations;
- Institutional and party-nominated appointments in several ICC arbitrations involving State-owned entities;
- MCIA arbitration seated in Bangalore, and Delhi International Arbitration Centre arbitration seated in Delhi;
- Regular appointments by both parties (nominated by law firms based in Dubai, Singapore, Europe, Hong Kong, Thailand and India) and institutions (SIAC, ICC, LCIA, DIAC and HKIAC);
- Appointed by Singapore Government in 2020 to Panel of Assessors for COVID-19 Temporary Relief;
- Appointed as adjudicator by Financial Industry Dispute Resolution Authority in Singapore.

Recent Publications

- “*Conflicts of Laws and Issues in Arbitration*” in “*Arbitration in Singapore: A Practical Guide*” edited by the Honourable Chief Justice of Singapore, Sundaresh Menon;
- “*Let’s Bank on Arbitration...Why or Why Not?*”, Singapore Law Gazette, February 2024;
- “*Managing disputes in an evolving business landscape*”, Singapore Business Times, November 2023;
- “*Singapore’s Commercial Dispute Resolution Outlook and ADR Landscape: a Vibrant and Constantly Adapting Outlook*”, Ciarb Resolver, April 2023;
- “*Section 12(5)(a) of the International Arbitration Act: Versatile Chameleon or Limited Source of Powers?*”, 2022 SI Arb J 29.
- “*Abuse of Process and Good Faith: Underused Tools to Tackle the Challenge of Multiplicity of Proceedings in Investor-State Arbitration*” in “*International Arbitration and the Rule of Law*” in honour of Fali Nariman