

As leading counsel Mukhtar Hussain QC has been in many high profile cases both prosecuting and defending. In recent years he has concentrated on defence work and on high profile cases in Fraud, Murder, Terrorism and Drug Trafficking. In addition to these substantial cases. Mr Hussain is often retained by private clients to defend in cases alleging violence, sexual offences, drug possession and dishonesty. His work ethic, skill as an advocate and excellent success rate make him a popular choice for high net worth individuals requiring an outstanding service in the Crown or Magistrates Court.

His Fraud practice encompasses asset forfeiture and restraint, VAT, duty diversion, revenue, banking, MTIC, and mortgage frauds. His experience in fraud goes back many years. He was in the first two VAT fraud cases to be tried in Manchester. His background, IT skills and understanding of data management give him the essential skills required for a successful fraud practice.

As junior counsel Mr Hussain had a highly successful practice in civil, crime, immigration and private international law. This provided him with a sound base to take silk and continue his success as leading counsel.

Having established a very successful practice, by sheer hard work and dedication and at a time when equal opportunity was not popular, Mukhtar Hussain QC became a Crown Court Recorder at the age of 37 and went on to become Queens Counsel at the age of 42. He is the first Recorder and Queens Counsel from an ethnic background outside London.

Mr Hussain has been featured in the Manchester Evening News as one of the 250 most influential people in Greater Manchester.

### Murder

*R v* Cleavon Fisher. Operation Chappletown - This was one of the biggest homicide investigations conducted by the Police Force. 9 men charged with murder. Allegations of people specially recruited to commit the offences. After an 8 week hearing and numerous legal submissions, all Defendants were acquitted of murder. Instructed by Mary Monson Solicitors.

R v Farzana Ahmed - A case that "gripped Great Britain" for 11 weeks. Murder of Shafilea Ahmed, a Warrington teenager, by her own parents. The murder took place in Warrington in 2003. The decomposed body was recovered 5 months later in the Lake District after the floods of that year. The police investigation continued for the next 7 years. The trial lasted 11 weeks at Chester Crown Court. It was covered by every newspaper and TV station in the UK as well as international media on almost daily: http://www.theguardian.com/uk/2012/aug/03/shafilea-ahmed-parents-guilty-murder

*R* v Baltrunass - Successful defence of *Mr.* Baltrunass in a three handed cut throat murder case. The motive alleged by the Crown to be a Robbery. The victim was beaten to death.

*R* v Ben Geen - Defending a young male nurse charged with 2 counts of Murder and 18 counts of causing grievous bodily harm. You can read the articles in full here: http://www.guardian.co.uk/crime/article/0,,1710049,00.html

*R* v Raza UI Haq Aslam - Murder of Policewoman Sharon Beshenivsky. Organised armed robbery of a Money Exchange Bureau in Bradford with machine guns. This led to the killing of a Policewoman Sharon Beshenivsky and attempted killing of another officer. Successful defence of Mr. Aslam as to both the charge of murder and attempted murder.

*R* v Mohammed Sadiq and others - Murder. A hired attempted killing where the victim was shot twice but still survived to tell the tale. Sadiq suspected that the deceased was having an affair with his partner. There was a link both to drugs and another killing that took place the following night as the same gun had been used.

*R* v Ramzan Mirza - A successful defence of a tit-for-tat shooting of a taxi driver. Co-defendants were the Cohen brothers who are well known within Sheffield. DNA evidence of Ramzan Mirza was found at the scene of the murder. This received huge amounts of both national and local publicity.

*R* v Choudhury - Multi-handed organised robbery case involving a shooting arising from a drug dealing. Manchester gangsters hired to kill the victim in Blackburn. The Crown case was built around the movements of the defendants from use of their mobile phones. The cell site evidence played crucial part. All defendants acquitted.

*R v.* Ruksar Bibi - Murder of a child by parents. Case involved complicated cultural issues relating to the mother's responsibility and role within the Pakistani Muslim community.

*R* v Zaman & others - Murder of a member of the public, defended in this high profile case where the victim was killed whilst trying to prevent his car from being stolen.

R v Swift & others - Acted for one of the defendants in a Kosovo gang-land murder heard at the Old Bailey.

*R* v Thorpe - Defending in a multi-handed gang murder at the Old Bailey.

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# CONTACT DETAILS

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#### PRACTICE AREAS

Business Crime & Financial Regulation Criminal Law Immigration & Asylum Law Inquests Judicial Review Law Regulatory

### APPOINTMENTS

2001: Senior Bencher Middle Temple
2000: President of the Mental Health Tribunal
2000: Member of the Criminal Injury Compensation Board
1996: Chairman of the Police Tribunal
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1989: Appointed as a Recorder
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#### **MEMBERSHIPS**

Member of the Criminal Bar Association SFO Panel Foreign and Commonwealth Office Panel Advisor for the Pakistan Medical Association Past Member of the Bar Council Past Member of the Northern Circuit Executive Committee.

## LANGUAGES

Arabic Gujarati Hindi Persian Punjabi Urdu





#### Terrorism

R v Ijaz Ali. Operation Zanetti, landmark case. Investigated by the terrorist unit and prosecuted by treasury counsel with AG prior approval. Distributing threatening written material intending to stir up hatred on the grounds of sexual orientation. This was the first prosecution of its kind in the United Kingdom under the amended Public Order Act. The case had a number of significant issues from Freedom of Speech & Religion and the Human Rights Act. It attracted considerable media publicity and interest from various groups.

R v Asim Kausar. Operation Gully - Charged with Terrorist offences. Very high profile case with huge amount of media interest.

# Serious Violence

*R* v Robert England - Case involveding extremely serious allegations against parents of violence on a ten-month old baby. There were several serious fractures both recent and old. There were complicated and complex medical issues including osteogenesis imperfecta (brittle bones). Eventually prosecution offered no further evidence and the Defendant acquitted of all charges.

*R* v Andre Singh - A case involving an alleged drug dealer accused of cutting off an ear of one of his "runners" and shooting another twice in the leg because they had short changed him and thereby disrespected him.

R v Choudhury - Organised robbery of a drug dealer with the use of firearms.

R v L - Private case. The Defendant, a high ranking banking Executive, was able to retain his liberty and his job in the Bank.

R v Baber Ali Shah, Old Bailey - Serious shooting case of attempted murder.

# Drugs and Money Laundering

*R* v Rehman - Defending in a serious police corruption and drugs case involving huge amounts of Class A drugs. This had been a long running covert operation where some of the evidence had been obtained by means of covert listening devices being placed in private homes as well as vehicles.

*R v Simmons - Money laundering case arising out of a huge operation by the drug squad in Manchester where 22 Defendants had been arrested and later dealt with by the court. The Defendant and her husband had left the jurisdiction and were arrested 2 years later in Spain and then extradited. The trial went on for 16 weeks.* 

Operation Pancrack - Large-scale drugs and money laundering investigation. Involved the 'bugging' of several commercial and private premises and country-wide mobile surveillance.

Operation Oyster - Large-scale drugs case involving 12 defendants and lasting 12 months. The first instance of Chief Constable of Lancashire authorising the 'bugging' of a private home.

Operation Gately - Large-scale drugs conspiracy involving 25 defendants. The investigation involved the use of an undercover police officer.

Operation Casper - Case involving the supply of large amounts of Class A drugs over an extended period. Police investigation had involved the use of mobile and static observations as well as the use of undercover police officers.

Operation Fiscal - Multiple defendant drugs and money-laundering case.

R v Mohammad & Others - £12 million money-laundering case.

R v Brendan Flynn - Gangland shooting of 4 people (on separate occasions).

R v Rashid Zaman & Other - Christmas Day murder of a home-owner after the theft of his car.

R v Mohammed & others - £12 million money laundering case.

R v Rowe-Hartley & others - Acted for one of the defendants in a case where the defendants were collectively known as the "Bling-Bling" gang who were charged with conspiracy to supply £300 million worth of cocaine - client acquitted.

*R* v Rehman - Defending in a serious Police corruption and drugs case involving huge amounts of Class A drugs. There had been a long-running operation where evidence had been obtained by means of covert listening devices in private homes and cars.



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## Fraud

*R* v Sagir Hussain - This was a massive car ringing fraud in Staffordshire. Sagir Hussain was said to be the ring leader.

R v Mohammed Rafiq - General Election Fraud: very high profile case in Yorkshire which received extensive media coverage. Several defendants including a parliamentary candidate were charged. The trial lasted several weeks. The defendants were convicted but the convictions were quashed by the Court of Appeal subsequently.

Operation Duma - Alleged £80 million multi-handed MTIC fraud. The investigation took 5 years and the trial lasted nearly 6 months

# Other Crime

*R* v Awan - Kidnapping in Pakistan and the ransom demanded in United Kingdom. Interpol played crucial part in the arrest of the Defendant and others.

Graff Jewellers Robbery - Instructed to defend one of the alleged robbers involved in the biggest jewel robbery in the UK, where the robbers stole £40m worth of jewellery.

R v Yakub and others - This was tried in Leeds where one of the Defendants was a practicing solicitor. The charge was to pervert the course of justice. It arose out of a number of gang land tit-for-tat murders in Bradford. One of the Defendants charged with the murder was Yakub's brother. Yakub was a talented cricketer in local Yorkshire league and a university graduate.

Oldham Riots - prosecuted all 62 defendants involved in the Oldham Riots

# Sexual Offences

Mukhtar Hussain has been very regularly instructed and successful in defending a range of sexual offences in the past. These ranged from indecent assaults through to rape matters. Since taking silk Mr Hussain's involvement in sexual offence cases is reserved for private clients or those cases where the alleged offence is part of a conspiracy or linked to other offences (such as murder).

Examples include:

R v Ashar - Famous case of grooming a deaf and dumb girl who had been smuggled and kept as a slave by this couple. She was subjected to sustained rapes over a long period. Private Client.

R v Dr A - sexual offence allegation against a consultant orthopaedic surgeon. Private Client

R v B - Murder case with a sexual background. Legal Aid

R v H - Murder case with very serious sexual offences.

R v D - Indecent Images. Private Client.

R v N - Indecent Assault and Rape Allegation involving underage complainant. Private Client.



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