

# SHAHLA F. ALI (夏蘭)

## Independent Arbitrator

B.A., MA, JD, Ph.D; State Bar of California  
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*US Citizen; Hong Kong Permanent Resident*



## SPECIALIZATION

- Int. Arbitration
- Community/Investor
- IP; Domain Name
- Commercial
- Trade/Finance

## EDUCATION

PhD/JD, University of California, Berkeley

Hopkins-Nanjing Center for Chinese & American Studies, Hassenfeld Fellow

MA, Landegg, *Consultation & Conflict Resolution*, Honors

BA, Stanford University  
*International Relations and Chinese Language*, Distinction

## ADMISSION

State Bar of CA  
ASIL; ITA; ABA

## ARBITRATION PANELS

CIETAC; HKIAC; KCAB;  
THAC; ADNDRC; SCIA;  
FINRA

## LANGUAGES

- English (fluent)
- Mandarin (Advanced)
- Farsi (Intermediate)
- Russian (Basic)

## ARBITRATION EXPERIENCE

Shahla Ali, recognized as a “well known international arbitration practitioner” is a Professor and Associate Dean at the University of Hong Kong’s Faculty of Law. She serves as a bilingual arbitrator (English/Chinese) with HKIAC, CIETAC, FINRA, SCIA and mediator with HKMC, HKMAAL, WTC Macau and the HK Building and Lands Tribunal. She has studied and practiced in China, Hong Kong SAR, Israel, the US and Switzerland and speaks English, Chinese and Farsi. She is qualified to practice law in California.

In addition to her Asia-Pacific experience, Shahla worked as an attorney with Baker & McKenzie, LLP in its San Francisco office where she focused on international trade, corporate transactions and regulatory compliance. She received her JD and PhD from UC Berkeley in Jurisprudence and Social Policy, her MA in Conflict Resolution, and BA in International Relations and Chinese Language from Stanford University. She has conducted mediation and collaborative negotiation trainings for private and public sector managers and UN staff, and teaches Arbitration law at the University of Hong Kong.

Internationally, she has consulted with USAID, IFC/World Bank and the UN on access to justice, peace process negotiation, and served as a delegate at UNCITRAL’s WG II, and IBA’s Working Group on Investor State Mediation Rules. She is the author or co-editor of 6 books, and more than 50 articles and chapters in the area of cross border arbitration and mediation.

## SELECTED ARBITRATION CASE EXPERIENCE

- Co-arbitrator in a dispute between a Dutch company and a Mainland company relating to a purchase agreement, CIETAC, Hong Kong (in Mandarin Chinese)
- Co-arbitrator in a dispute between a trust fund and a broker/dealer relating to a claim of unsuitability, FINRA, San Francisco
- Presiding arbitrator in a 2013 dispute regarding domain name rights to ican.com, HKIAC, Hong Kong
- Presiding arbitrator in several disputes regarding domain name rights to alimama.wang, whirlpoolchina.com, tvb22.com, rimowasales.com and rimowaoutlet.com, paulsmith-france.com, HKIAC, Hong Kong (in Mandarin Chinese)
- Co-arbitrator in a dispute involving domain name rights to teene.com, CIETAC, Beijing (in Mandarin Chinese)
- Co-arbitrator on an expungement panel, FINRA, San Francisco

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **University of Hong Kong**, Professor & Associate Dean (International), Hong Kong
- **Baker & McKenzie, LLP**, Associate, International/Trade Group, San Francisco, USA
- **United Nations Office of Human Resource Management/QED**, Mediation trainer, NY
- **Resolve Consulting**, Principal (landlord-tenant, real estate contract, airline dispute)
- **U.S. District Court, Alternative Dispute Resolution Program**, San Francisco, CA
- **California Administrative Office of the Courts**, Office of the General Counsel, SF
- **U.S. District Court, Northern District of California**, Extern for Judge Wayne Brazil
- **Gregorio, Haldeman & Piazza**, Mediation case manager, SF, CA

## ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION

- Teach CIARB Module 1: International Arbitration Law
- Arbitrator Chairperson Training, FINRA
- Arbitration Expungement Training, FINRA
- MA degree in Consultation & Conflict Resolution, Landegg University, Switzerland (90+ hrs training in mediation and conflict resolution theory and skills).

## GOVERNMENT DISPUTE RESOLUTION BODIES

- Member, Department of Justice, Regulatory Subcommittee on Mediation, DOJ, 2014-
- Member, Financial Dispute Resolution Appointments Committee, FDRC 2014-present
- Asian Mediator Resource Person, Office of the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO), International Finance Corporation/World Bank Group for Community Bank Disputes
- Consultant, Financial Consumer Protection Bureau, Peoples Bank of China (2014)
- Co-facilitator, HK Waste Management Public Dialogue, HK Stock Exchange
- Party-Appointed Representative, HK Administrative Appeals Board, Privacy Commission

## RECOGNITION

Women in International Arbitration Committee, HKIAC  
Academic Council, Institute for Transnational Arbitration  
World Arbitration and Mediation Review, Advisory Board

## VISITING APPOINTMENTS ARBITRATION TEACHING

Jan 2019            UCLA School of Law, *Lawyer as Peacemaker*, Invited Guest Lecturer  
July 2015-16      Beijing University/STL Shenzhen/IEEM Macau, *Investor State Dispute Settlement*  
Nov 2014           National University of Singapore, *International Arbitration Academy*  
July 2010           Duke University/University of Hong Kong, *International Arbitration Law*  
June 2010          Santa Clara Summer Program, *Public International Law of Investor State Arbitration*  
Oct 2003           United Nations Office of Human Resource Management, *Mediation for Managers*

## PERSPECTIVES/PUBLICATIONS

1. Ali, S, (2021) FORMING TRANSNATIONAL DISPUTE SETTLEMENT NORMS: SOFT LAW AND THE ROLE OF UNCITRAL'S REGIONAL CENTRE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (Edward Elgar)
2. Ali, S, I. Bantekas, M. Gomez, P. Ortolani, (2020) COMMENTARY ON THE UNCITRAL MODEL LAW ON INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press)
3. Ali, S., COURT MEDIATION REFORM: EFFICIENCY, CONFIDENCE AND PERCEPTIONS OF JUSTICE (Edward Elgar, forthcoming 2018).
4. Ali, S. (2016) GOVERNING DISASTERS: ENGAGING LOCAL POPULATIONS IN HUMANITARIAN RELIEF (Cambridge University Press).
5. Ali, S., Ginsburg, T., Eds. (2013) INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION IN ASIA (Juris Publishers).
6. Ali, S. (2013). CONSUMER FINANCIAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION IN A COMPARATIVE CONTEXT: PRINCIPLES, SYSTEMS AND PRACTICE (Cambridge University Press)
7. Ali, S. (2010; 2012 reprint). RESOLVING DISPUTES IN THE ASIA PACIFIC: INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION IN EAST ASIA AND THE WEST (Routledge).