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## HIGH COURT JUDGE

### ◀ Mrs Justice Dobbs DBE

The Honourable Mrs Justice Dobbs DBE became Britain's first ethnic minority High Court judge in 2004 and remains to date the only one. She is also a Dame, holds a Doctorate and was made a Queen's Counsel in 1998. Read more about her in the Legal History and Legal History in the Making section.

## DEPUTY HIGH COURT JUDGES



### ◀ Daniel Alexander QC

Daniel Alexander QC is a barrister practising at 8 New Square, Lincoln's Inn and he became a Deputy High Court Judge in 2006. He has also been a Queen's Counsel since 2003. Read more about him in the Queen's Counsels section.

### Michel Kallipetis QC

Michel Kallipetis QC is the former head of Littleton Chambers and is a Recorder who sits as a Deputy High Court Judge in the Queen's Bench Division, the Chancery Division and the Technology and Construction Court. He has over 38 years' experience as a practising barrister in the field of general commercial law, professional negligence and mediation. His clients have included Shirley Bassey and Elton John. Michel is an accredited mediator with the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution and ADR Chambers – a leading Alternative Disputes Resolution group - and is a Chartered Arbitrator. He is Chairman of Bar Council Committee on ADR and was a member of the working party which drafted the EU Code of Practice for mediators. He was also asked to attend a meeting of JURI - the legal service committee of the European Parliament - to give expert opinion on the proposed EU Directive on ADR. Michel was called to the Bar (Gray's Inn) in 1968 and took silk in 1989. He is a member of the FCI Arb, the Employment Law Bar Association, Professional Negligence Bar Association, COMBAR, TECBAR, Bar European Group, LCIA and ICC.

## CIRCUIT JUDGES (COUNTY/CROWN COURTS)

**Patricia Dangor**

Patricia Dangor sits at Isleworth Crown Court and was appointed a Judge on the South Eastern Circuit in 1999.

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**Usha Karu**

Usha Karu sits at Isleworth Crown Court and became a Judge on the South Eastern Circuit in November 2005. She is a member of the India International Foundation.

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**Mushtaq Ahmed Khokhar**

Mushtaq Ahmed Khokhar sits at Manchester Crown Court and became a Judge on the Northern Circuit in July 2006. He was called to the Bar (Lincoln's Inn) in 1982. He became an Assistant Recorder in 1997 and was appointed as a Recorder in 2000, both on the North Eastern Circuit. He has also been Standing Counsel on the North Eastern Circuit for Her Majesty's Customs and Excise since 2001. When practising, his specialist area is crime, with an emphasis on fraud, drugs, money laundering, asset recovery, forfeiture and confiscation. He was involved in three of the biggest money laundering cases ever to be prosecuted in this country – involving £140 million, £350 million and £75 million respectively.

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**Barbara Mensah**

Her Honour Judge Barbara Mensah, who sits at Luton Crown Court, became the first Circuit Judge of African origin when she was appointed to the South Eastern Circuit in December 2005. She was called to the Bar (Lincoln's Inn) in 1984 and was appointed as a Recorder in 2003.

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**Nasreen Pearce**

Nasreen Pearce, who sits at Luton County Court, was the first Asian woman to become a Circuit Judge when she was appointed to the South Eastern Circuit in 1994.

## Deva Pillay

His Honour Judge Deva Pillay, who sits at Blackfriars Crown Court, was appointed to the South Eastern Circuit in April 1997. He also serves as a member of the Ethnic Minority Liaison Judges.



### RECORDERS (PART-TIME JUDGES)

## Elroy Claxton

Elroy Claxton is a member of 23 Essex Street Chambers and specializes in criminal litigation. He was called to the Bar in 1983 and was appointed as an Assistant Recorder to the Crown Court in 1998. He became a full Recorder in 2000. Elroy is a prominent trial lawyer, primarily as a criminal defence advocate. He has been Lead Counsel in a number of murder and attempted murder cases in the UK. He has also conducted a number of Courts Martial. His earlier experience was in the Prosecution Department of the Metropolitan Police Solicitors (now known as the Crown Prosecution Service). Elroy was Special Counsel on a PII Panel in 2004. He is a member of the Criminal Bar Association and the South Eastern Circuit. He is Chairman of the Legal Services Commission Cost Committee, serves on the Inner Temple Bar Liaison Committee and the South Eastern Circuit Minorities Committee. Elroy is a regular conference speaker.

## Lincoln Crawford OBE

Lincoln Crawford a member of 12 King's Bench Walk Chambers and specialises in Employment, Sports, Education and Public Law. He is a qualified mediator in Higher Education issues and a former member of the British Boxing Board of control. He is a trainer in advocacy and is trained to do Public Access work. He was called to the Bar in 1977 and is also a member of the Trinidad and Tobago Bar. In 1997 he was appointed a Recorder of the Crown Court. He is also a part-time chairman of employment tribunals. In 1998 he was awarded an OBE and in 1999 he was awarded an honorary degree - Doctor of Laws from Brunel University. He is the first black person to be elected to a senior position

on the Bar Council. His public and voluntary service include Vice-Chairman of the Access to the Bar Committee and participation in numerous TV and radio programmes.

His major legal inquiries involved inner city disturbances and disadvantage in employment since the 1980s – including the Scarman Inquiry (1981), Handsworth (1986) and the Inquiry into employment practices in the London Borough of Hackney (Crawford Report 1996). He has also conducted major inquiries into mental health and into discrimination and exclusion of mentally-ill people. His area of practice is extensive and includes employment, race relations, education, mediation, sports law, arbitration (approved assessor for the Sports Dispute Resolution Panel), public law and disciplinary work, personal injuries and clinical and professional negligence.

In 2001 he was part of a government delegation to the World Conference on racism in South Africa. In 2007 he represented the UK and spoke on its behalf at the United Nations' commemoration of the Abolition of the TransAtlantic Slave Trade.

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## Courtenay Griffiths QC

Courtenay Griffiths QC is joint head (with Owen Davies, QC) of Garden Court Chambers - one of the best-known, largest, radical and respected Chambers in the UK. He has been a Recorder since 1999. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.

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## Gopal Hooper

Gopal Hooper was a founder member of 87 Fleet Street Chambers, where he currently has an extensive criminal practice encompassing all major areas such as fraud, serious drugs and sex cases. Gopal also sits as a Recorder. He is qualified in Roman-Dutch law and has provided expert evidence on the Zimbabwe Constitutional and Immigration Law. He has also undertaken consultancies in legal matters in Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Malawi. Gopal was called to the Bar in 1973 and is a member of the Middle Temple, South Eastern Circuit and the Criminal Bar Association.





### **Satinder Hunjan QC**

Satinder Hunjan is a QC at No 5 Chambers and is a Recorder of the Crown Court. He became a QC in 2002. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.

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### **Mukhtar Hussain QC**

Mukhtar Hussain QC is head of Lincoln House Chambers in Manchester – one of the leading sets of chambers in the North of England. He has been a Recorder since 1990 and took silk in 1992. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.

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### **Karim Khalil QC**

Karim Khalil QC became an Assistant Recorder in 1997, one of the youngest at the age of 35. He became a Recorder in 2000. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.

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### **Mohammed Khamisa QC**

Mohammed Khamisa is a QC at 9-12 Bell Yard Chambers and was made a Recorder in 2004. He became a QC in 2006. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.

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### **Avtar Khangure QC**

Avtar Khangure is a QC at St Philips Chambers in Birmingham and became an Assistant Recorder in 1998, a full Recorder in 2000 and a QC in 2003. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.

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### **Gelaga King**

Gelaga King is a member of 2 Bedford Row Chambers. He was called to the Bar in 1985 and was appointed a Recorder of the Crown Court in 2000. He is also a member of the Bar in Sierra Leone. He is a leading junior specializing in serious crime, with particular expertise in drugs, confiscation and fraud. Gelaga is on the Attorney General's list of prosecution Counsel. His practice has included defending and prosecuting

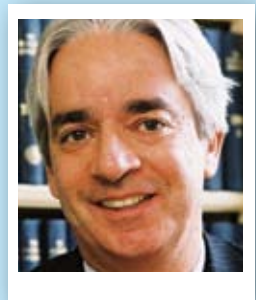
a wide range of criminal cases, including murder, drugs, sex offences, money laundering, confiscation, serious fraud and customs and excise offences. He is a member of the Bar Council's Human Rights team that recently visited Sierra Leone in order to provide advocacy training for local lawyers and to foreign advocates appearing before the International Special Court. Gelaga is a member of the South Eastern Circuit, CBA, Inns of Court Disciplinary Tribunal, LCD working party on equality and Essex Bar Mess. He is a former member of the Bar Council Professional Complaints Committee and the Bar Council Race Relations Committee.

### Karl King

Karl King is a member of Hardwicke Building Chambers. He was called to the Bar in 1985 and is a Recorder. He has also been a member of the Civil Justice Council since 2003. Karl's early practice involved broad-based advocacy and advisory work, handling cases in personal injury, contract, sales of goods, real property and landlord and tenant as well as criminal work. By 1990 he had ceased practising in crime to specialize entirely on property-related work and personal injury cases. He has been an active member of the Bar, sitting on a number of committees, including Professional Conduct and Complaints, Equality and Diversity (as Vice-Chair) and Training for the Bar. He was an elected member of the South Eastern Circuit from 2000 to 2003 and has been a representative of the Bar in a number of capacities in dealing with Government departments and other agencies.

### Ali Malek QC

Ali Malek is a QC at 3 Verulam Buildings Chambers and has been a Recorder since 2000. He became a QC in 1996 and a Bencher in 2003. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.



## Hodge Malek QC

Hodge Malek is a QC at 4-5 Gray's Inn Square Chambers and has been a Recorder since 2005. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.

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## Harry Narayan

Harry Narayan is a member of Cobden House Chambers in Manchester. He was called to the Bar in 1970 and became a Recorder of the Crown Court in 1993. Harry practises in all aspects of criminal law and immigration.

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## Oba Nsugbe QC

Oba Nsugbe QC is joint head of Chambers at 3 Pump Court. He has been a Recorder since 2000 and became a silk in 2002. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.

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## ← Raj Parker

Raj Parker has been a partner at the at the Magic circle law firm Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer since 1993 He is the dispute resolution partner and co-head of its financial institutions group at its London office. Raj's specialism is general commercial dispute resolution, with particular experience in the insurance and reinsurance, public and administrative and sports areas. His clients include insureds and reinsureds such as Anglo American, Reuters, MFI, Deutsche Bank and Caledonian Bank and acting for the Football Association in advisory and contentious work, including the Hillsborough proceedings - the litigation which established the Premier League - and various disciplinary hearings and participating in working parties which reported on financial irregularities, betting and compliance issues. Raj is first rank of 'leading individuals' in *Chambers UK 2006* for general commercial litigation and for insurance and reinsurance: 'Raj Parker leads the insurance/reinsurance



group. He has impressed lawyers and clients alike with his “shrewd judgment”...Raj Parker is “So charming, a real client man as well as an excellent brain.” Raj is also highly recommended in *PLC’s Dispute Resolution 2004/5 Global Counsel Handbook* for commercial and insurance and reinsurance disputes. He is Centre for Dispute Resolution (CEDR) accredited and a solicitor-advocate and an arbitrator at the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne. He is one of the very few solicitor recorder for the Crown Court

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### Icah Peart QC

Icah Peart is a QC at Garden Court Chambers and has been a Recorder since 2000. He became a QC in 2002. Read more about him within the Queen’s Counsels section.

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### Khawar Qureshi

Khawar Qureshi QC is at Serle Court Chambers and sits as a Recorder. Read more about him within the Queen’s Counsels section.

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### Vasanti Selvaratnam QC

Vasanti Selvaratnam is a founder member of Stone Chambers and became a Recorder and a silk in 2001. Read more about her within the Queen’s Counsels section.

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### Nirmal Shant QC

Nirmal Shant QC is at 1 High Pavement Chambers, Nottingham and has been a Recorder since 2001. Read more about her within the Queen’s Counsels section.

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### Harendra de Silva QC

Harendra de Silva QC is deputy head of Chambers at 2 Paper Buildings and has been a Recorder of the Crown Court since 1994. He became a QC in 1995. Read more about him within the Queen’s Counsels section.



### ☛ Kuldip Singh QC

Kuldip Singh QC is at Serle Court Chambers and has been a Recorder since 2002. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.



### ☛ Anesta Weekes QC

Anesta Weekes QC is at 23 Essex Street Chambers. She became a Recorder in 2000. Read more about her within the Queen's Counsels section.

### Richard Wilson QC

Richard Wilson QC is at 36 Bedford Row Chambers, sits as a Recorder of the Crown Court and is also a part-time Chairman of the Employment Tribunals. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.

#### DISTRICT JUDGES AND DEPUTY DISTRICT JUDGES

### Jinder Boora

Jinder Boora is a member of Ropewalk Chambers in Nottingham. He was called to the Bar in 1990 and was appointed a Deputy District Judge for the Midlands in 2004. He specializes in all aspects of personal injury, housing, trusts and commercial litigation. He has a particular interest in beneficial interests and mortgages, possession actions (residential and commercial), health and safety at work (including insidious disease actions) and catastrophic injury claims. Jinder was a member of the General Council of the Bar (1993-1996), served on the Bar Council Finance Committee (1995-1996) and the Young Barrister's Committee (1993-1996). He was a lecturer at the University of Leicester from 1990 until 1991.



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## Davinder Lacchar

Davinder Lacchar was called to the Bar in 1977 and specialized in criminal and family law. In 1996 she was appointed to the Metropolitan Stipendiary Bench, sitting in London's Youth and Family Proceedings and adult Family Courts. At that time she was a member of the Criminal Justice Consultative Council, CJCC Race Group and the Equal Treatment Advisory Committee at the Judicial Studies Board. She was appointed as a District Judge in 1996 and currently sits at the West London Magistrates' Court.

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## Araba Obodai

Araba Obodai was appointed a District Judge on the North West Region in 2005. She was the first black President of the Manchester Law Society in 2000 and only the third female to hold the position. Araba, from Sierra Leone, qualified as a solicitor in October 1988. She is currently a partner in the commercial litigation department of the Manchester law firm Wacks Caller and has been with them since 2002. She specializes in technical and complex matters, in particular directors' disqualifications, professional negligence and insurance disputes. She was instrumental in winning the Norglen case in the House of Lords that led to changes in Legal Aid regulations. She was appointed as a Deputy District Judge on the North West Region in February 2001. She has seats on both the Advisory Board of the College of Law and the Legal Aid Appeals Committee and is a legal practice course assessor.

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## Shamim Qureshi

Shamim Qureshi was appointed as a District Judge (Magistrates' Court) in Wolverhampton in 2004. He read law at Bristol Polytechnic and was called to the Bar in 1982, having won a Gray's Inn scholarship. He was a Senior Crown Prosecutor between 1984 and 1989 and practised at the Bristol Bar between 1989 and 2002. He was a part-time Judge Advocate at Courts Martial in 2001 and went on to become an Immigration Adjudicator between 2002 and 2004. Shamim also served in the Territorial Army between 1986 and 2001, becoming a Captain in 1998.

## Pal Sanghera

Pal Sanghera is a District Judge sitting in Birmingham. He was previously a solicitor in Leamington and is involved with various public bodies, including Warwickshire College, where he is Chair of its Equal Opportunities Advisory Committee. He is also a governor of The Kingsley School, in Leamington Spa.

## Ray Singh

Ray Singh was the first judge on the Welsh bench from an ethnic minority. He was appointed Deputy District Judge in 1992, District Judge in 1997 and currently works on the Wales and Chester Circuit. He has been a member of the Welsh Advisory Committee on Drug and Alcohol Misuse, the Judicial Studies Board, Family Court Services Committee, National Assembly Advisory Group and the South and South West Wales Criminal Justice Liaison Committee. He is a former Commissioner of the Commission for Racial Equality (1996–2002), a former member of the Race Relations Committee, General Council of the Bar and is a former part-time Chair of the Child Support Appeals Tribunal. He is also an independent Chair of the Complaints Panel for the Welsh Assembly Government, a board member of Neath Victim Support and a governor of both Swansea Institute for Higher Education and Swansea College.

### TRIBUNAL JUDGES AND PART-TIME TRIBUNAL JUDGES

## Cordella Bart-Stewart

Cordella Bart-Stewart is a part-time immigration Judge at tribunals and a founder member of the Society of Black Lawyers. Cordella qualified in 1987 and is a member of the Solicitors Family Law Association, the Immigration Law Practitioners Association and the Law Society Family panel. She is currently an executive committee member of the Middlesex Law Society. She has been a Privy Council agent since admission as a Solicitor and was appointed as a part-time immigration adjudicator in June 2000. Cordella has worked with a number of community groups as voluntary

legal adviser or as a member of their management committee. For over 10 years, she was honorary legal adviser for two local Citizens Advice Bureaux and legal adviser to the African Caribbean Medical Society. She represents the Black Solicitors Network on the Law Society's Pastoral care working group.

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### **Nehar Bird**

Nehar Bird is a Senior Immigration Judge who sits at Taylor House, London.

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### **Khurshid Drabu**

Khurshid Drabu has been a Senior Judge at Asylum and Immigration Tribunals since 2005. He was Vice-President at the Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Special Adjudicator at the Immigration Appellate Authority and head of Litigation and Complaints at the Commission for Racial Equality. He was also Deputy Director of the United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service from 1983 until 1989. He was instrumental in drafting the constitution of the Muslim Council of Britain (MCB) and when it was set up in 1997 he chaired its first AGM and carried out the role of Election Commissioner. The MCB website says of him: "His work over the years is strong evidence of his true and firm commitment to promoting good relations between followers of all faiths and no belief and between members of different cultures and ethnicities." He became the Honorary Muslim Adviser for the Ministry of Defence. In the *Muslim News* Awards for Excellence 2007 he received the Good Citizenship Alija Izetbegovic Award for courage and determination to secure equal rights for the Muslim community. In 2006 he was named in the Muslim Power 100.

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### **Kate Eshun**

Kate Eshun is a Senior Immigration Judge.

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### **Davinder Gill**

Davinder Gill is a Senior Immigration Judge and sits at Field House, London.

## Peter Herbert

Peter Herbert is a Recorder of the Crown Court, an Immigration Judge and an Employment Tribunal Chair. See further information about him in the Judges (Recorders) section.

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## Ajmalul Hossain QC

Ajmalul Hossain QC specializes in trans-national banking, trading supply and financial contracts at Selborne Chambers. He has acted for several hundred ex-employees of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International in the multi-million pound liquidation of the bank in England, Luxembourg and the Cayman Islands, which has now been settled in their favour. In 1988 he became a Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. Recent cases have included the successful release from detention of two Channel 4 television journalists. This involved negotiations at the highest level of Government. He has advised in the setting up of subsidiaries, branches and representative offices of banks, financial institutions and companies in Bangladesh, the UK, America and the Middle East and is an Expert Witness on laws of different jurisdictions, appearing in courts of North America, Europe and Asia. He is Chairman of Employment Tribunals, dealing with complex cases of sex, race and disability discrimination, unfair and wrongful dismissal. Ajmalul was called to the Bar in 1976 and took silk in 1998. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Fellow of the Society for Advanced Legal Studies and a member of the Standards Panel of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

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## Christiana Hyde

Christiana Hyde is an Employment Tribunal Chairman. She was formerly practising from Tooks Court Chambers.

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## Mohammed Khamisa QC

Mohammed Khamisa became the President of the Mental Health Review Tribunal in 2005. He is also a Recorder. See further information about him under the Judges (Recorders) and Queen's Counsels sections.



## Esme Martin

Esme Martin is a Senior Immigration Judge who sits at Hatton Cross.

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## Goolam Meeran

Judge Goolam Meeran became President of Employment Tribunals in November 2002. He was appointed to be a Judge on the South Eastern Circuit the following month. He became a part-time Chairman of Employment Tribunals in 1992 and became a full-time Chairman in 1993. He had been a Regional Chairman since 1998. He was called to the Bar in 1982. Having grown up in South Africa during the apartheid regime, he was acutely aware from a very early age of how injustice affects the day-to-day lives of citizens.

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## Patricia Wellesley-Cole

Patricia Wellesley-Cole is a Senior Immigration Judge.

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## Richard Wilson QC

Richard Wilson is at 36 Bedford Row Chambers and is a Recorder and part-time Chairman of the Employment Tribunals. Read more about him within the Queen's Counsels section.