SHAHLA F. ALI (夏蘭)



Independent Arbitrator, FCIArb | Mediator
B.A., MA, JD, Ph.D; State Bar of California
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University of Hong Kong,
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US Citizen; Hong Kong Permanent Resident

SPECIALIZATION

Commercial/Sale of Goods/Trade/Finance
Community/Investor/Securities/ Infrastructure

EDUCATION

PhD/JD, Jurisprudence & Social Policy, UC Berkeley
Graduate Certificate in Chinese Studies, Hopkins-Nanjing Center
MA, Landegg, Consultation & Conflict Resolution, Honors
BA, Stanford University

ADMISSION/ CERTIFICATION

State Bar of California; IAI; FCIArb; HKMAAL Mediator

ARBITRATION PANELS/ LISTS

AAA-ICDR; LCIA, VIAC, HKIAC; SIAC; KCAB; THAC; CIETAC; ADNDRC; SCIA; FINRA, AIAC, Global Arbitrators List, Office of the Ombudsman for UN Funds and Programs, Energy Community Panel

MEDIATION PANELS

UN Funds/Programs Ombuds Roster; AIIB Panel, Energy Community Panel of Mediators; WB/IFC/CAO Community Mediation; HKMAAL; WTC-Macau; HK Building and Lands Tribunal

LANGUAGES

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

"well known and respected in arbitral circles." [Chair, Leading Arbitration Institution]

"deeply impressed by her profound knowledge … excellent skills in award writing…strong analytic skills… cap[acity] to resolve complicated issues… a well-recognised scholar in arbitration. Her ability to write fluent Chinese is advantageous. [Director, Asian Arb Inst.]

"*attractive [for East/West] panels as she can approach users with facility from both perspectives and conduct proceedings consistent with their interests & choices." [US/Int Arb]*

ARBITRATION EXPERIENCE

Shahla Ali is a Chartered Arbitrator and an accredited mediator, Professor, Associate Dean (International) and Director of the Program in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution at the University of Hong Kong's Faculty of Law. She serves as a bilingual arbitrator (English/Chinese) with the UN Funds and Programs, HKIAC, ICDR, ICC, LCIA, FINRA, SIAC, KCAB, THAC, CIETAC, SCIA, SHAC and mediator/neutral with the World Bank/IFC, Energy Community. She has served on more than 45 ad hoc and institutional arbitrations and administrative tribunals as tribunal chair, co-arbitrator and sole arbitrator and panelists under the UNCITRAL, HKIAC, HKAO and CIETAC rules. She has lived and practiced in Mainland China, Hong Kong, Israel, Europe and the US.

In addition to her Asia-Pacific experience, Shahla worked as an attorney with Baker & McKenzie in the international trade, corporate transactions and regulatory compliance group in its San Francisco office. Internationally, she has advised USAID, IFC/World Bank, ADB, AIIB and the UN on dispute prevention, mediation systems, sustainability and peace process negotiation and served as a delegate to UNCITRAL's WG II, and IBA's Working Group on Investor State Mediation Rules. Regionally, she has served as a member of the Department of Justice's Mediation Regulatory Framework Sub-Committee, the Financial Dispute Resolution Appointments Committee, HKIAC's Women in International Arbitration Committee, ICDR's Greater China Committee and the Executive Committee of the Asia-Pacific Mediation Forum. She is the author or co-editor of 11 books, and 73 articles and chapters in cross border dispute resolution.

SELECTED ARBITRATION CASE EXPERIENCE

- Presiding arbitrator, HKD1.1mil share dispute, HK and Indonesian parties under the 2018 HKIAC Rules, HKIAC
- Co-arbitrator in a USD 15 million share agreement dispute between China, US, BVI, HK entities under the UNCITRAL Rules, HKIAC
- Presiding sole arbitrator in a UNCITRAL CISG trade dispute between China and US parties under the HKAO (Cap. 609) Rules, HKIAC
- Arbitration panel member in a FINRA USD 6.5mil securities dispute.
- Co-arbitrator in a USD 200,000 CISG manufacturing dispute between Dutch and Chinese entities, CIETAC Rules, Hong Kong (in Mandarin)
- Co-arbitrator in a USD 950,000 million trust dispute involving allegations of breach of duty and unsuitability, FINRA
- 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 whirlpoolchina.com, tvb22.com, rimowasales.com and paulsmith-france.com, HKIAC, Hong Kong (in Mandarin Chinese) under the URDP Rules.

SELECTED ARBITRATION EXPERIENCE (Continued)

- Co-arbitrator in a dispute involving domain name rights to teenee.com, CIETAC, Beijing (in Mandarin Chinese)
- Co-arbitrator in an expungement case, FINRA, San Francisco

COUNSEL/ADVISORY EXPERIENCE

- Advisor on a 2025 FINRA arbitration filing and negotiation between a Taiwan investor and a US Broker-Dealer in a dispute involving claims of breach of fiduciary duty, unauthorized fund transfer and transactions, improper account handling, failure to maintain accurate records, failure to provide accurate account information, improper withholding of customer funds and improper debt collection activities (in English/Mandarin), FINRA, US
- Advisor on an WIPO Arbitration filing regarding domain name rights between middle eastern parties, WIPO
- Counsel/Neutral for a US (CA) Real Estate Corporation on an employment and real estate contractual matter.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **University of Hong Kong**, Professor & Associate Dean (International); Director, LLM in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution, Hong Kong (2008 to the present); teach FCIArb accredited International Arbitration Law
- **Baker & McKenzie, LLP,** Associate, International/Trade Group, San Francisco, USA (2006-2008)
- **United Nations Office of Human Resource Management/QED**, Mediation trainer, NY
- **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

GOVERNMENT/ACADEMIC DISPUTE RESOLUTION BODIES

- Global Arbitrators List, Office of the Ombudsman for United Nations Funds and Programs
- Ombuds Office Resource Person, Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)
- Chair, Non-Proliferation and Arms Control, American Society of International Law (ASIL)
- Member, ASIL Annual Meeting Committee
- ISDS Mediation Consultant, Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Academic Council, Institute for Transnational Arbitration (ITA)
- ICDR Greater China Committee (ICDR)
- Energy Community Panel of Mediators
- Senior Fellow, Asia Global Institute, HKU
- ICCA; Arbitral Women; FCIArb East Asia
- Asian Mediator Resource Person, Office of the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO), IFC/WB
- Member, Department of Justice, Regulatory Subcommittee on Mediation, DOJ, 2014-2020
- Member, Financial Dispute Resolution Centre, Appointments Committee, FDRC 2014-2020
- Co-facilitator, HK Waste Management Public Dialogue, HK Stock Exchange

SELECTED MEDIATION CASE EXPERIENCE

- AIIB Panel Mediator for internal disputes; Mediation consultant on system design.
- Mediator in a corporate employment dispute, California; settled.
- Public Sector Mediator, HK Waste Management Public Dialogue, HK Stock Exchange
- Mediator in an airline consumer dispute, Hong Kong; settled.
- Mediation advisor in a divorce proceeding, California; settled.
- Mediator in a landlord-tenant dispute, California; settled.

RECOGNITION

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

VISITING ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS & TEACHING

Spring 2026	University of Aukland, *Consultation and Collaborative Negotiation*, Visiting Professor
Summer 2024	Science Po, Arbitration Academy, *Arbitration Law in Asia*, Visiting Professor
Spring 2022	Pepperdine Caruso School of Law/Strauss Institute, *Mediation*, Adjunct Professor
Oct 2018	NYU School of Law, *Law and Development Colloquium*
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*
June 2006	Stanford Program in Beijing, Cross Cultural Dispute Resolution in a Global Environment
Oct 2005	United Nations Office of Human Resource Management, Collaborative Negotiation; Mediation
Fall 2004	UC Berkeley Law, Law and Society in China

SELECTED BOOKS/TRANSLATIONS

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 University Press)
3. Ali, S., Ginsburg, T., Eds. (2013) International Commercial Arbitration in Asia (Juris Publishers).
4. Ali, S. (2013) Consumer Financial Dispute Resolution in a Comparative Context: Principles, Systems and Practice (Cambridge University Press)
5. Ali, S., (2018) Court Mediation Reform: Efficiency, Confidence and Perceptions of Justice (Edward Elgar).
6. Ali, S. (2016) Governing Disasters: Engaging Local Populations in Humanitarian Relief (Cambridge U. Press).
7. Ali, S. (2010; 2012 reprint). Resolving Disputes in the Asia Pacific: International Mediation and Arbitration in East Asia and the West (Routledge).
8. Translation: Ali, S. (2001). 张文显主编，《法律学》北京：高等教育出版社,（重印 全国高等学校法学专业和新课程教材 (Zhang Wen Xian, Jurisprudence, Beijing Higher Education Press, 1999)

Selected Journal Articles & Book Chapters

1. Ali, S. (2024) *Decentralized Global Legal Ordering*, Michigan State Law Review.
2. Ali, S. (2020) *ICA and ISDS Developments in Hong Kong in the Context of China's Belt and Road Initiative*, Civil Justice Quarterly, 39 C.J.Q Issue 3.
3. Ali, S. and Komolo, E., (2020) *UNCITRAL's Engagement in African and Latin American Dispute Resolution and Reform*, Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution, Vol. 35, No. 3.
4. Ali, S., (2019) *Civil Mediation Reform: Balancing the Scales of Procedural and Substantive Justice* CIVIL JUSTICE QUARTERLY, (2018) 37(4) CJQ.
5. Ali, S., (2018) *Practitioners Perceptions of Court-Connected Mediation in Five Regions: An Empirical Study*, VANDERBILT JOURNAL OF TRANSNATIONAL LAW, Volume 51, Issue 1, Fall 2018, pp. 245
6. Ali, S., (2018) *Nudging Civil Justice: Examining Voluntary and Mandatory Court Mediation Experience in Diverse Regions*, CARDOZO JOURNAL OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION, Volume 19, Issue 2
7. Ali, S., (2016) *The Legal Framework for Med-Arb Developments in China: Recent Cases, Institutional Rules and Opportunities*, DISPUTE RESOLUTION INTERNATIONAL, DRI 119.
8. Ali, S. and Repousis, O. (2016) *Investor-State Mediation and the Rise of Transparency in International Investment Law: Opportunity or Threat?* DENVER JOURNAL OF INT'L LAW AND POLICY
9. Ali, S. and Rubino-Sammartano, M. (2015) Winds of Change as to Intra-Arbitration Appellate Proceedings Have Reached Asia, ASIAN DISPUTE REVIEW.
10. Ali, S. (2016) *Mass Claims Mediation in China*, JOURNAL OF COMPARATIVE LAW, Vol 10-2, (Eds. Palmer, M. Hualing, F.)
11. Ali, S., (2013). *The Jurisprudence of Responsive Mediation: An Empirical Examination of Chinese Peoples Mediation in Action*, JOURNAL OF LEGAL PLURALISM AND UNOFFICIAL LAW,
12. Ali, S., (2013). *Globalization and Financial Dispute Resolution: Examining Areas of Convergence and Informed Divergence in Financial ADR,* JOURNAL OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION, (Fall 2013).
13. Ali, S. and Huang, H. R. (2012). *Financial Dispute Resolution in China: Arbitration or Court Litigation?* ARBITRATION INTERNATIONAL, Vol. 28, No. 1. 77-100.
14. Ali, S. and DaRoza, A. (2012). *Alternative Dispute Resolution Design in Financial Markets – Some More Equal than Others: Hong Kong's Proposed Financial Dispute Resolution Centre in the Context of Experience in the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia and Singapore*, PACIFIC RIM LAW AND POLICY JOURNAL. Vol. 21, No. 3.
15. Noguchi, L. & Ali, S. (2011). *Women, Decision Making and Sustainability: Exploring the Experience of the Badi Foundation in China*, HASTINGS WOMEN'S LAW JOURNAL. 295-315.
16. Ali, S. & Lee, F. (2011). *Lessons Learned From a Comparative Examination of Global Civil Justice Reforms*, INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LAW AND MANAGEMENT. Vol. 53, Issue 4.
17. Ali, S. (2011) *Facilitating Settlement at the Arbitration Table: Comparing Views on Settlement Practice Among Arbitration Practitioners in East Asia and the West* (September 2011). ONATI SOCIO-LEGAL SERIES, Vol. 1, No. 6, 2011.

18. Ali, S. & Wang, J. K. (2011). *After Lehman: International Response to Financial Disputes – A Focus on Hong Kong*, RICHMOND JOURNAL OF GLOBAL LAW AND BUSINESS. 151-177.
19. Ali, S., Davis, W. E. & Lee, J. (2011). *Multi-Stakeholder Dispute Resolution: Building Social Capital Through Access to Justice at the Community Level*, PEPPERDINE DISPUTE RESOLUTION LAW JOURNAL. Vol.11, Issue 2.
20. Ali, S. (2011). *The Morality of Conciliation: An Empirical Examination of Arbitrator Role Moralities in East Asia and the West*, HARVARD NEGOTIATION LAW REVIEW. 1-30.
21. Ali. S. (2010). *Measuring Success in Devolved Collaboration*, JOURNAL OF LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW. 93.
22. Ali, S. (2009). *Approaching the Global Arbitration Table: Comparing the Advantages of Arbitration as Seen by Practitioners in East Asia and the West*, THE REVIEW OF LITIGATION. Vol. 28, Issue 4. 7
23. Ali, S., Davis, B. & Katbeh, L. (2005). *Creating Commercial Dispute Resolution Centers in the West Bank/Gaza*, DISPUTE RESOLUTION JOURNAL. 66-72.
24. Ali, S., (2021) *Transnational Commercial Law: Developments and Controversies* in OXFORD HANDBOOK OF TRANSNATIONAL LAW (Peer Zumbansen Ed, forthcoming). Oxford University Press.