

MIR NASAR AHMAD



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Date of Birth: 20 May 1984
Marital status : Single
Citizenship : Pakistani

FREELANCE EXPERIENCE

As a freelance consultant, I have advised various law firms, Government owned and private companies on various matters of Omani law including:

- Worked as freelance consultant for Dentons Saudi Arabia from 2021-2023
- Retained by Port of Duqm Company SAOC as freelance consultant from 2021- to date.
- Advised ASYAD Group SAOC as freelance legal consultant on various matters in 2021.
- Advised RIA Baker, a leading law firm in the UAE on Omani law issues.
- Advised high net worth clients in the UK and Singapore on contractual and regulatory compliance matters.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Al Busaidy Mansoor Jamal & Co Advocates, Oman

Senior Associate (January 2015 to August 2019)
Associate (March 2012 to December 2014)

I was part of the Capital Markets and M&A team¹ at AMJ, Oman and have a broad range of experience in corporate commercial work in Oman, with a particular focus on mergers and acquisitions, capital markets, joint ventures, corporate structuring, corporate governance and competition law matters. Transactions on which I have acted as the lead associate/senior associate include:

- Advising the Government of the Sultanate of Oman as sole legal counsel on establishing a new free zone authority and drafting a Royal Decree for implementation of a comprehensive new free zone regime.
- Drafting, discussing and finalizing the Executive Regulations of the Competition and Anti-Monopoly Law as sole legal counsel for the Competition Prevention and Promotion of Competition Centre.

¹ Won *Team of the year* at the IFLR 2014 Middle East awards.

- Advising PTTEP on its acquisition of Partex's stake in Petroleum Development Oman (PDO);
- Advising Omantel on its US\$ 575 million sale of passive towers infrastructure including on all regulatory aspects of divestment and transfer of assets;
- Advising Saudi Telecom on its bid for a class 1 licence for mobile telecommunication services in Oman.
- Advised Arabia Insurance Co SAOC and Falcon Insurance Co SAOC in respect of their merger pursuant to a complex court sanctioned scheme of amalgamation, a first of its kind transaction in the history of Oman's insurance industry.
- Advised Menzies Aviation plc in relation to its acquisition of a stake in Oman Aviation Handling Co SAOC, Oman's premier aviation ground handling company with a concession from the Government of Oman
- Advising SATS Limited in relation to its acquisition of a stake in Oman Air Cargo LLC as a joint venture.
- Advising Al Anwar SAOG in relation to its joint venture with Hormuzghan Cement for establishment of a cement plant in the Duqm Special Economic Zone.
- Advising JP Morgan on the US \$1 billion note issuance guaranteed by Oman Electricity Transmission Company (OETC) listed on the Irish Stock Exchange marking the first-ever investment grade international bond issuance by an Omani corporate entity and also the largest ever international capital markets issuance out of Oman².
- Advising Oman Global Logistics Group on the restructuring of Government owned logistics sector companies in Oman, placing all of Oman's investment in ports, free zones, rail, maritime and land transport companies under one umbrella and represented the first Government sector restructuring of its kind in Oman undertaken jointly by the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Transport and Communications.
- Advising the Ministry of Finance of the Government of Oman on the divestment of a part of its shareholding in Oman Telecommunications Company SAOG.
- Advising Renaissance Services SAOG on the issuance of perpetual bonds worth up to \$200 million, issued by a foreign subsidiary wholly owned by Renaissance and denominated in U.S. dollars and Omani Rials.
- Advising Port Services Corporation on the restructuring of its business and contractual framework.
- Advising OCTAL on the restructuring shareholder debt and issue of new shares through a private placement exercise.
- Advising Oman National Investment Corporation Holding SAOG with OMINVEST, which was first merger between two prominent investment holding companies in Oman resulting in creation of one of the biggest investment conglomerate with investments spread across diversified business sections including banking, insurance, leasing etc.
- Advising on Omani due diligence and all Omani law issues pertaining to Boral Limited's US\$1.6 billion 50/50 plasterboard and ceilings joint venture with USG Corporation.
- Advising Akzo Nobel N.V. on its acquisition of a 50% stake in Sadolin Paints Oman SAOC.
- Advising Oman Oil Refineries Petroleum and Industries Company SAOC on the creation of a \$200 million joint venture between Orpic and Compañía Logística de Hidrocarburos (CLH) established for the purpose of undertaking the design and construction of the Muscat-Sohar Product Pipeline (MSPP).
- Advising a Hong Kong investor on all aspects of the acquisition of Schlumberger's oilfield services business in Iran, including financing of the transaction from a bank in Russia.

² Shortlisted for *Deal of the Year* in the debt-equity linked category for the IFLR Middle East Awards 2015.

- Advising Gulf Baader Capital Market Company on the acquisition of Bank Muscat's brokerage business in Oman.
- Advising Oman Dry Dock Company SAOC on the acquisition of 50% of the issued share capital of Duqm Development Company SAOC (DDC) from Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering (DSME) of Korea.
- Advising Qatar based QInvest on Omani law matters in relation to its US\$ 250 million acquisition of 60% shares in EFG Hermes, a Middle Eastern investment bank, in relation to local law matters impacting the transaction documentation.
- Advising British Petroleum on a proposed investment to construct a greenfield acetic acid plant at Duqm in Duqm as a joint venture with the Oman Oil Company.
- Advising Duqm Refinery Company SAOC on various regulatory aspects of the Duqm Refinery Project.
- Advised National Life and General Insurance Company, Al Ahlia Insurance Company and Arabia Falcon Insurance Company on their initial public offering of shares in the Muscat Securities Market.
- Advised Sembcorp Salalah Power Company, Musandam Power Company, Sharqiyah Desalination Company and Muscat City Desalination Company SAOC on their initial public offering of shares on the Muscat Securities Market
- Advising the joint lead managers HSBC, National Bank of Abu Dhabi, Credit Agricole Corporate Investment Bank and Standard Chartered Bank on the establishment of a \$600 million EMTN programme for the National Bank of Oman.
- Advising the promoters of Al Izz Islamic Bank in the RO. 100 million greenfield IPO of Oman's second Islamic bank, with RO. 40 million being raised from the public.
- Providing legal opinions/advice on corporate governance issues, marketing of securities in Oman, setting up business in Oman, undertaking real estate advisory services in Oman, tender law, sector law, free zone laws, commercial agency law and data protection law.
- Advising the Oman Rail Company on the proposed development of the Oman Rail project.

Orr, Dignam & Co., Advocates, Karachi, Pakistan

Associate

Sept 2007 to February 2012

Prior to moving to Oman in 2012, I practiced with Orr, Dignam & Co, one of the oldest and largest law firms in Pakistan and assisted the Partners of the Firm on a broad range of corporate commercial matters with a particular focus on competition/anti-trust law matters. Some of the transactions on which I acted as lead associate are as follows:

- Advised VimpelCom Ltd. in relation to its US\$ 6 billion combination with Wind Telecom S.p.A on Pakistan law matters including obtaining pre-merger approval from Competition Commission of Pakistan and representing the client before the Commission in a Phase II review. This was only the second Phase II review under Pakistan's competition law.
- Advised Akzo Nobel in relation to the acquisition of the shares of ICI Pakistan Limited and PPTA by Akzo Nobel and obtained pre-merger clearance for the transaction.
- Advised Packages Limited in relation to the acquisition of Preference Shares of Packages Limited valuing US\$ 50.0 million by International Finance Corporation (IFC) including on competition law matters.
- Advised Packages Limited in relation to the divestment of its entire voting ordinary shareholding in Tetra Pak Pakistan Limited (TPPL) and the subsequent acquisition of 1.00 million Non-Voting Ordinary Shares of TPPL by Packages Limited including on competition law matters.

- Advised a leading multi-national company in relation to competition law compliance by undertaking a comprehensive and detailed competition law audit of the practices of its businesses. This audit was the first of its kind in corporate law practice in Pakistan and lasted for over a year.
- Advising two global aviation companies on their proposed alliance and its impact on competition law in Pakistan and obtaining relevant exemptions from the Competition Commission.
- Advised Nalco Company in relation to the acquisition of shares of Nalco Pakistan by Nalco Asia Holding as part of a global inter-group restructuring.
- Advised various local and international companies on matters pertaining to merger control, abuse of dominant position, prohibited agreements under the new competition law regime in Pakistan.
- Advised GlaxoSmithKline plc on the acquisition of UCB S.A.'s business in Pakistan by GlaxoSmithKline Trading Services Limited.
- Advising Pakistan State Oil on its proposed acquisition of shares of Pakistan Refinery Limited and conducting a detailed due diligence on the target company.
- Advised a foreign company in relation to divestment of its shares in Coca-Cola Beverages Pakistan Limited.
- Advised a leading international marketing and communications company on regulatory and contractual matters in relation to a series of acquisitions of local advertising and marketing undertakings.
- Advised a consortium of international and local banks on the PKR 8 billion financing of a telecommunications company.
- Advised various international investment banks on proposed derivative transactions in Pakistan.
- Advising Goldman Sachs on a proposed commodity call-option arrangement with the Government of Pakistan.
- Advised United Bank Limited in relation to the conversion of 14.09 million UBL Depository Receipts into ordinary shares by Bestway Group.
- Advising Pak Arab Refinery Company Limited on preliminary regulatory issues in relation to the establishment of the US \$ 5 billion Khalifa Coastal Refinery by the collaboration of PARCO and the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.
- Advising Pakistan Refinery Limited in relation to its US\$ 400 million refinery up-gradation project.

EDUCATION

Bar Vocational Course

Called to the Bar in July 2007
 Member of Lincoln's Inn
 BVC Provider: Inns of Court School of Law, London, UK
*Overall grade achieved: **Very Competent** (809/1000)*

LLB(Hons)

Graduated in 2006
 University of London LLB (International Programme)
 Overall grade achieved: **2.1**
Awarded the 'High Achiever Award' in 2007 by the British Council, Lahore.
Awarded 'Academic Roll of Honour' in 2007 by the Institute of Legal Studies, Lahore

B.A. (Humanities)

Graduated 2003

Government College University Lahore

Majors: Political Science, Mass Communication and Persian Literature

Overall Grade Achieved: (1081/1200)

Awarded 'Academic Roll of Honour' and two (2) gold medals for Overall First Position amongst B.A and B.Sc students at the University

MEMBERSHIPS

- Member, Punjab Bar Council (Pakistan) (2010)
- Member, Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn (2007)
- New York Bar examination (in process)

OTHER EXPERIENCES AND INTERESTS

- *Lecturer for Law of Trusts and Law of Evidence*
Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology (SZABIST) (an institute affiliated with the University of London for its LLB International Programme) (January 2008 to February 2012).
- Faculty Advisor to SZABIST Law Society. Organized the first ever all Pakistan International Humanitarian Law Moot Court Competition in collaboration with the ICRC in Karachi in January 2012.
- In-charge of the summer internship programme for law students at Orr, Dignam & Co from 2009-2012.
- Won Outstanding Diplomacy Awards at LUMUN 2005/06, Pakistan's leading Model United Nations event.
- Publications include Oman Oil and Gas Review 2012 and 2013
- Introduction of a Competition Law in Oman (December 2014).

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

- Fluent in English, Urdu, Punjabi.
- Working knowledge of Arabic.
- Basic knowledge of Persian.
- Proficient at MS Word, Excel, Power Point and can use the internet with ease/expertise.
- Interests include poetry, travelling, human rights, sports, journalism and music.

REFEREES

Dave Guy: dmblackmuscat@gmail.com

Guillaume Baudet: Guillaume.Baudet@engie.com