

# SHAHLA F. ALI (夏蘭)

## Independent Arbitrator, FCIArb

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



## SPECIALIZATION

- Commercial/Sale of Goods
- Trade/Finance
- Securities
- Community/Investor
- IP; Domain Name

## EDUCATION

PhD/JD, *Jurisprudence & Social Policy*, comparative arbitration  
University of California Berkeley

Graduate Certificate in Chinese-American Studies, Hopkins-Nanjing Center, *Hassenfeld Fellow*

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

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

## ADMISSION

State Bar of California;  
American Society of International Law; Institute for Transnational Arbitration; ABA; FCIArb

## ARBITRATION PANELS

HKCIAC; KCAB; THAC; CIETAC; ADNDRC; SCIA; FINRA, AIAC, Global Arbitrators List, Office of the Ombudsman for UN Funds and Programs, Energy Community Panel

## LANGUAGES

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

## ARBITRATION EXPERIENCE

Shahla Ali, recognized as a “rising name in Asian arbitration” and a “well known international arbitration practitioner” is Professor and Associate Dean 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, KCAB, THAC, CIETAC, SCIA, SHAC and mediation/neutral with the World Bank/IFC, Energy Community and HKMAAL. She has been described by parties as an “excellent” arbitrator having served on more than 40 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 studied and practiced in China, Hong Kong, Israel, the US.

In addition to her Asia-Pacific experience, Shahla worked as an attorney with Baker & McKenzie in its San Francisco office where she focused on international trade, corporate transactions and regulatory compliance. She is the author or co-editor of 9 books, and more than 50 articles and chapters in the area of cross border dispute resolution. Internationally, she has consulted with USAID, IFC/World Bank and the UN on access to justice, peace process negotiation, arbitration reform 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, and the Executive Committee of the Asia-Pacific Mediation Forum

## SELECTED ARBITRATION CASE EXPERIENCE

- 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, 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, 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)
- 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

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **University of Hong Kong**, Professor & Associate Dean (International); Director, LLM in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution, Hong Kong (2008 to the present); teach CIArb 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

## ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION

- Arbitrator Chairperson Training; Arbitration Expungement Training, FINRA
- MA degree in Consultation & Conflict Resolution, Landegg University, Switzerland

## GOVERNMENT DISPUTE RESOLUTION BODIES

- Global Arbitrators List, Office of the Ombudsman for United Nations Funds and Programs
- Energy Community Panel of Mediators
- Senior Fellow, Asia Global Institute, HKU
- Board of Trustees, Asian Law and Society Association
- Asian Mediator Resource Person, Office of the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO), International Finance Corporation/World Bank Group for Community Bank Disputes
- Member, Department of Justice, Regulatory Subcommittee on Mediation, DOJ, 2014-
- Member, Financial Dispute Resolution Appointments Committee, FDRC 2014-2020
- Co-facilitator, HK Waste Management Public Dialogue, HK Stock Exchange

## RECOGNITION

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

## VISITING APPOINTMENTS ARBITRATION TEACHING

Spring 2022 Pepperdine Caruso School of Law/Strauss Institute, *Mediation*, Adjunct Professor  
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*

## 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)