



Anisa Kassamali

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Anisa Kassamali's practice spans public law and human rights, public inquiries, inquests, business and human rights litigation, collective redress and CPR Part 19, international law, and extradition.

Before transferring to the Bar, Anisa qualified as a solicitor and practised in the public law team at Herbert Smith Freehills LLP. She couples this with a practical understanding of Government, having worked as a Civil Service Fast Streamer before qualifying as a lawyer.

Anisa was the judicial assistant to Lord Sales at the UK Supreme Court for the legal year 2020 – 2021. She advised on the merits of appeals and authored articles / speeches on topics ranging from artificial intelligence to planning law.

Anisa is the junior editor of the TGC Inquests and Inquiries newsletter. She is author of the first chapter on the principles of negligence in the sixteenth edition of *Bingham's Personal Injury and Motor Claims Cases*. She contributes to various publications both within and outside of Chambers, including TGC's Collective Redress, Business and Human Rights newsletter and the AEV newsletter.

Notable recent and current instructions include:

- Acting for more than 700,000 Brazilian claimants in proceedings brought against BHP Group following the worst environmental disaster in Brazil's history, the collapse of the Fundão Dam in November 2015. The trial is listed for October 2024 and is featured in *The Lawyer* as a Top 20 Case of 2024 (led by various, including Alain Choo-Choy KC and Russell Hopkins)
- Acting for approximately 1,500 Brazilian orange farmers in a high-value competition damages claim arising out of alleged breaches of Brazilian antitrust law (led by various, including Alain Choo-Choy KC and Juliet Wells)
- Acting in a number of proceedings in relation to the British Indian Ocean Territory (led by various, including William Irwin)
- Acting for the Department for Transport on the Cranston Inquiry, advising on issues including national security, public interest immunity, legal professional privilege and cabinet collective responsibility (led by various, including David Blundell KC and William Irwin)
- Acting for HMG in various proceedings related to the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme and the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (led by Cathy McGahey KC, Lisa Giovanetti KC and William Irwin)

- Advising on FIFA's human rights obligations in international law in respect of Saudi Arabia's bid to host the 2034 World Cup (assisting Rodney Dixon KC)
- Advising on the environmental impacts of the Syrian conflict and the approach that should be taken to COP 28 (assisting Rodney Dixon KC)

Anisa accepts pro bono instructions in both the domestic and international sphere. She combines the experience from her core practice, together with her time at the UN Women Office for Jordan and Syria, based in Amman (6 month placement), her time as a trainee solicitor at Liberty (6 month secondment), and her studies in Law, War and Human Rights at the LSE.

Expertise

Public Law

Anisa is routinely instructed in judicial review matters. She accepts instructions in a broad range of public law issues including cases concerning human rights law, national security law, and immigration law (including unlawful detention).

Anisa developed her strong interest in public law whilst practising as a solicitor in the public law team at Herbert Smith Freehills LLP and working as the judicial assistant to Lord Sales in the Supreme Court. She couples this with a practical understanding of Government, having worked as a Civil Service Fast Streamer.

Notable cases include:

- Acting for HMG in various proceedings related to the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme and the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (led by Cathy McGahey KC, Lisa Giovanetti KC and William Irwin)
- Acting in a number of public and private law proceedings in relation to the British Indian Ocean Territory (led by various, including Sir James Eadie KC and William Irwin)
- *R (Friends of the Earth Ltd and ors) v Heathrow Airport Ltd* [2020] UKSC 52 concerning the development of a third runway at Heathrow Airport and the relationship between international and domestic law (as the judicial assistant to Lord Sales)
- *R (Begum) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2021] UKSC 7 concerning the grant of leave to Shamima Begum to enter the UK (as the judicial assistant to Lord Sales)
- *R (BF (Eritrea)) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2021] UKSC 38 concerning the Home Office's age assessment policy and the correct approach to be taken when determining the legality of policies (as the judicial assistant to Lord Sales)
- Acting for Sir John Major on the challenge to the Prime Minister's decision to advise the Queen to prorogue Parliament for an exceptional period *R (Miller) v The Prime Minister* [2019] UKSC 41 (as a solicitor at Herbert Smith Freehills LLP)

Business & Human Rights

Anisa is instructed in innovative business and human rights litigation. Notable cases include:

- Acting for more than 700,000 Brazilian claimants in proceedings brought against BHP Group following the worst environmental disaster in Brazil's history, the collapse of the Fundão Dam in November 2015. The trial is listed for October 2024 and is featured in *The Lawyer* as a Top 20 Case of 2024 (led by various, including Alain Choo-Choy KC and Russell Hopkins).
- Acting for approximately 1,500 Brazilian orange farmers in a high-value competition damages claim arising out of alleged breaches of Brazilian antitrust law (led by various, including Alain Choo-Choy KC and Juliet Wells).
- Advising on FIFA's human rights obligations in international law in respect of Saudi Arabia's bid to host the 2034 World Cup. This includes consideration of the UN's Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (assisting Rodney Dixon KC).

Collective Redress

Anisa's current instructions in group litigation include:

- Acting for more than 700,000 Brazilian claimants in proceedings brought against BHP Group following the worst environmental disaster in Brazil's history, the collapse of the Fundão Dam in November 2015. The trial is listed for October 2024 and is featured in *The Lawyer* as a Top 20 Case of 2024 (led by various, including Alain Choo-Choy KC and Russell Hopkins).
- Acting for approximately 1,500 Brazilian orange farmers in a high-value competition damages claim arising out of alleged breaches of Brazilian antitrust law (led by various, including Alain Choo-Choy KC and Juliet Wells).

International Law

Anisa regularly acts in matters concerning international law issues, both in the international arena as well as in the context of domestic disputes.

Notable cases include:

- Advising on the environmental impacts of the Syrian conflict and the approach that should be taken to COP 28 (assisting Rodney Dixon KC).
- Advising on FIFA's human rights obligations in international law in respect of Saudi Arabia's bid to host the 2034 World Cup (assisting Rodney Dixon KC).
- Acting in a number of public and private law proceedings in relation to the British Indian Ocean Territory (led by various, including Sir James Eadie KC and William Irwin)
- *R (Friends of the Earth Ltd and ors) v Heathrow Airport Ltd* [2020] UKSC 52 concerning the development of a third runway at Heathrow Airport and the relationship between international and domestic law (as the judicial assistant to Lord Sales).

Anisa has addressed events in Geneva on alleged breaches of international human rights law by GCC states, including arbitrary detention. She combines this with her practical knowledge of the UN system, having



carried out a placement at the UN Women Office for Jordan and Syria (based in Amman).

She is also well-placed to advise on international criminal law issues following her studies in Law, War and Human Rights at the LSE.

Inquiries

Anisa is the junior editor of the TGC Inquests and Inquiries newsletter.

She is currently instructed by the Department for Transport on the Cranston Inquiry, advising on issues including national security, public interest immunity, legal professional privilege and cabinet collective responsibility.

Anisa has previously been instructed in her capacity as a solicitor on the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

Inquests

Anisa is the junior editor of the TGC Inquests and Inquiries newsletter. She has advised on discrete issues in relation to inquests.

Environmental Law

Anisa acts in matters concerning environmental issues.

Notable cases include:

- Acting for more than 700,000 Brazilian claimants in proceedings brought against BHP Group following the worst environmental disaster in Brazil's history, the collapse of the Fundão Dam in November 2015. The trial is listed for October 2024 and is featured in *The Lawyer* as a Top 20 Case of 2024 (led by various, including Alain Choo-Choy KC and Russell Hopkins)
- Advising on the environmental impacts of the Syrian conflict and the approach that should be taken to COP 28 (assisting Rodney Dixon KC)
- *R (Friends of the Earth Ltd and ors) v Heathrow Airport Ltd* [2020] UKSC 52 concerning the development of a third runway at Heathrow Airport and the relationship between international and domestic law (as the judicial assistant to Lord Sales).

Extradition & Interpol

Anisa is instructed to appear in Westminster Magistrates' Court on behalf of requested persons. She has experience in dealing with a large range of issues arising in Part 1 cases.

Anisa's public law and international law practices mean that she is particularly adept at dealing with human rights issues, recently addressing an event in Geneva on issues relating to extradition.



Education

- University of Oxford, BA (Hons) History
- School of Oriental and African Studies, MSc Comparative Political Thought (Distinction)
- University of Law, Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction)
- BPP, Legal Practice Course (Distinction) and Bar Transfer Test

Languages

- Arabic (beginner)
- Spanish (beginner)

Memberships

- Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)
- Defence Extradition Lawyers Forum (DELFF)
- Personal Injury Bar Association (PIBA)