

Arif H. Ali



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Arif Hyder Ali is a globally ranked and recognized lawyer with over 30 years of experience in international dispute settlement, including investor-State and international commercial arbitration, state-to-state disputes, and cross-border litigation. He is currently the Co-Chair of Dechert LLP's International Arbitration and Public International Law Group. He has served as lead trial counsel and arbitrator (sole, party-appointed, presiding) in arbitrations under all the major arbitral regimes and the laws of over 50 civil and common law jurisdictions, as well as Islamic law and public international law. He has also held positions at leading academic institutions (Georgetown University Law Center, University of Dundee's Centre for Energy, Mineral Law, and Policy) as an adjunct law professor, honorary lecturer and global faculty member. He has worked as a senior lawyer in two international organizations: from 1993 to 1996, he was a Section Chief at the United Nations Compensation Commission, a subsidiary organ of the United Nations Security Council, and from 2000 to 2001, he served as Senior Counsel at the World Intellectual Property Organization Arbitration and Mediation Center.

Mr. Ali has been decorated by the King of Bahrain with the Order of Bahrain (II) for his role in Bahrain's successful representation before the International Court of Justice (Maritime Delimitation and Territorial Questions between Qatar and Bahrain (Qatar v. Bahrain)). For over two decades, he has been ranked by market-leading directories (*Chambers*, *Legal 500*, *Who's Who Legal*, *Global Arbitration Review* and *The Best Lawyers in America*) as one of the world's best arbitration practitioners. Amongst many of his recognitions and awards, he is a recipient of *Law 360's MVP Award* (awarded to a select group of lawyers who have distinguished themselves from their peers by securing hard-earned successes in high-stakes disputes and complex global matters), the Minority Corporate Counsel Association's 2021 *Rainmaker Award* (awarded to those who have achieved sustained success through innovation, and demonstrated a deep commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, and an extraordinary commitment to the community), BTI's 2021 *Client Service All-Star Award* (awarded to those who show continuous commitment to delivering the best levels of

customer service), and the Financial Times' 2021 Award for *Most Innovative Legal Practitioner in North America* (awarded for having won a string of high stakes and cutting-edge international arbitrations).

Mr. Ali was born in Bangladesh and has lived and worked around the world. Given his personal background, language skills, jurisdictional experience and professional activities, Mr. Ali brings a unique multi-cultural, multi-institutional and multi-jurisdictional awareness and perspective to his work as an arbitrator and advocate. He is recognized by peers and clients as a “*polished maestro in his field,*” a “*brilliant lawyer,*” a “*great advocate,*” and “*a very intelligent and knowledgeable international arbitration expert*” with “*extensive knowledge of complex arbitration issues,*” and a “*pragmatic approach.*” Peers note “*his knowledge of and sensitivity towards region-specific legal issues,*” “*outstanding intellect evident in his ability to quickly absorb relevant technical and scientific information,*” and “*absolutely brilliant ability to rapidly understand the complexities of a business operation in the context of a contentious dispute.*”

Mr. Ali has argued and arbitrated disputes under the laws of several civil and common law jurisdictions and is often sought out as an arbitrator in light of his understanding of the analytical, substantive and jurisprudential differences between the two systems, as well as his multi-cultural and multi-jurisdictional perspectives.

He has been involved in arbitrations as counsel and arbitrator under the laws of Argentina, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, India, Iraq, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, England and Wales, and several states of the United States (New York, California, District of Columbia, Massachusetts, Texas, Virginia, Maryland).

Mr. Ali's industry and sector expertise as an advocate and arbitrator includes oil and gas, energy, mining, precious metals, life sciences, telecommunications, hospitality, textiles, retail, among other industries and economic activities.

He has worked on disputes in a broad range of areas, including corruption allegations; mergers and acquisitions; post-acquisition valuations; joint ventures; contracts subject to the UN Convention on the International Sale of Goods and INCOTERMS; intellectual property licensing agreements; foreign direct investment; privatization; the construction, operation and commercialization of thermal, nuclear, and hydro-power plants; oil and gas pipeline construction and concession-related matters; mining and minerals concessions; gas pricing disputes; natural resource exploitation projects

and contracts; the development and operation of tourism and hospitality projects; project finance and development agreements; contract stabilization and renegotiation issues; patents and trademarks; internet governance and top-level domains; and information technology-related disputes.

In the field of construction arbitration (civil, industrial, and mechanical), Mr. Ali has worked on disputes involving design and construction; delay; defects; substantial performance; express and implied warranties; change orders; construction sequencing; site selection, suitability, and access; and sub-contractor substitution.

Mr. Ali's working languages are English, Spanish, French and Urdu. He is also conversant in Hindi, Bengali and Portuguese. He is an avid Manchester United fan, cricket fanatic, secret poet, undeterred chef, and intrepid adventurer. His love for the law is only surpassed by his love for his family.