

Making a difference
Sixth Biennial Minority Lawyers' Conference



minority lawyers' conference

race, religion and culture

2007

Keynote Address

Justice Albie Sachs,
South African Constitutional Court

Up to 6 hours CPD

Delegate Fee £130.00 + VAT

Student/Trainee/Pupil (limited places) £50.00+ VAT



Saturday 28 April 2007 at the Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2

Making a difference

Sixth Biennial Minority Lawyers' Conference

08:45 – 09:30

Registration

09:30 – 09:45

WELCOME

Andrew Holroyd, Vice President of the Law Society

INTRODUCTION

Rajshree Chhatrisha, Conference Co-Chair

09:45 – 10:45

KEYNOTE ADDRESS – Justice Albie Sachs

“making a difference”

10:45 – 12:00

MAIN PLENARY: EROSION OF ACCESS TO JUSTICE: MYTH OR REALITY?

Chair: Sailesh Mehta, Chair, Society of Asian Lawyers

Panel: Jocelyn Watson, Director, Imkaan, 2005-7

Geoffrey Vos QC, Chairman of the General Council of the Bar

Andrew Holroyd, Vice President The Law Society

Rajiv Menon, Newham Monitoring Project & Garden Court Chambers

- ▶ Legal aid reforms and the impact on the BME community
- ▶ Access to justice for the most marginalised
- ▶ The effects of the reforms on human rights

12:00 – 13:15

Lunch

13:15 – 14:15

PARALLEL WORKSHOPS 1

Session 1: In-house Counsel: Chart Your Own Course (the real stories)

Chair: Wertan F.W. Bellamy Jr, Co Founder CYOC

Panel: Mr Mirza Ahmad, Chief Legal Officer, Birmingham City Council,
Donna Samuels, Vice President European Council, Alliance Bernstein Ltd
Belinda Reed Shannon, Vice-President US Legal Operations ,
Global Counsel GlaxoSmithKline

- ▶ Professional transitions and ‘turning points’: How they impact on your career
- ▶ The people in whom you invest: how you invest and why
- ▶ Your legacy and what you are doing to secure it

Session 2: Anti-terror legislation and the selective erosion of human rights

Chair: Ifath Nawaz, Chair Association of Muslim Lawyers

Panel: Faisal Osman, Furnival Chambers

Imran Khan, Partner, Imran Khan and Partners

Tareq Ali, Partner of Sehgal & Co

Patrick Stevens, Senior Lawyer, Counter Terrorism Division,
Crown Prosecution Service

- ▶ Issues raised in defending defendants
- ▶ Terror legislation and the impact on the community
- ▶ The extent and impact of Police powers

Saturday 28 April 2007

Session 3: Business development: media insights

Chair: Karl King, Hardwicke Building, Barrister's Chambers

Panel: Catherine Reed, Law Society Press Office

Toby Craig, Bar Council Press Officer, Weber Shandwick Public Affairs

Claire Ruckin, Journalist, Legal Week

- ▶ What does PR mean for you?
- ▶ Principles of communication
- ▶ A guide to proactive & reactive news handling

Session 4: Discrimination Law – Where are we going?

Chair: Angela Mason, Head of Women and Equality Unit,
Department of Trade & Industry

Panel: Karon Monaghan, Matrix Chambers

Tufyal Choudhury, Chair Discrimination Law Association

Shah Qureshi, Partner, Webster Dixon LLP

- ▶ Discrimination law review
- ▶ Commission for Equality and Human Rights – Will it work?
- ▶ What the future holds for practitioners addressing discrimination

14:15 – 15:15

PARALLEL WORKSHOPS 2

Session 5: Personal & career development

Chair: Cathy Bissoon, Partner Reed Smith Richards Butler

Panel: Kim Hollis QC, 25 Bedford Row

Thalejv Vashishta, Paragon Law

Anna Kavanagh, Time4balance

Amrik Kandola, Partner Eversheds LLP

- ▶ How a good mentor can help your career
- ▶ Plan your route to success; achieve your goals... every time
- ▶ How to network your way to success

Session 6: Judicial appointments

Perspectives on and new initiatives of:

Chair: Gelaga King, 2 Bedford Row

Panel: Mrs Justice Dobbs

Azmat Nisa, District Judge

Her Honour Judge Frances Kirkham, Judicial Appointments Commission

Commissioner, David Truscott, Director, Tribunals Appointments

- ▶ Perspectives and initiatives delivering change in the judiciary
- ▶ The essential characteristics, skills and qualities of those seeking judicial appointment.
- ▶ First hand experiences from judges sitting in different jurisdictions

Saturday 28 April 2007

Session 7: Real equality in mental health treatment and care

Chair: Mark Mullins, Barrister, Outer Temple Chambers

Panel: Professor Sashidharan, Consultant Psychiatrist

Ulele Burnham, Barrister, Doughty Street Chambers

Chynere Inyama, Principal, Inyama & Co

- ▶ What is the likely impact of the Mental Health Bill - is it Racist?
- ▶ Race Equality in Mental Health Service Provision since "Rocky" Bennett - a psychiatrists perspective
- ▶ How can race equality in mental health law and practice be ensured?

Session 8: Preparing for changes in legal aid – Surviving Carter

Chair: Stephen Friday, Chair Black Solicitors network

Panel: Lucy Scott-Moncrieff, Partner, Scott-Moncrieff, Harbour and Sinclair

Oba Nsugbe QC, Pump Court Chambers, Sundeep Bhatia,

Vice Chair Society of Asian Lawyers and Criminal Consultant Solicitor

- ▶ What are the options?
- ▶ What are the business considerations for a post-Carter profession?
- ▶ Mergers; the way forward?

15:15 – 15:50

TEA BREAK

15:50 – 16:50

CLOSING SESSION: "have your say"

Your opportunity to raise relevant issues and questions

Chair: Michael Webster, Director, Black Solicitors Network

Panel: Nazir Afzal, Director Crown Prosecution Service West London

Angela Mason, Head of Women and Equality Unit, Department of Trade & Industry

Kim Hollis QC, 25 Bedford Row

Kay Hodge, Chair of American Bar Association Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity

16:50 – 17:00

CLOSING REMARKS:

Nwabueze Nwokolo Conference Co-Chair

17:00 – 18:30

CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION

With special thanks to:

The Society of Asian Lawyers, The Black Solicitors Network, The Association of Muslim Lawyers

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