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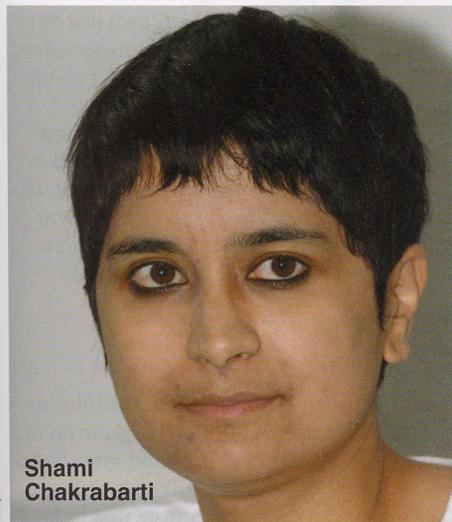
Law's 10 most powerful Asians

Afzal, Nazir

Crown Prosecution Service

Nazir Afzal is a director in London's Crown Prosecution Service and hit the headlines for highlighting the scandal of honour crimes. Nazir, head of CPS West London Sector, was named Legal Personality of the Year by the Society of Asian Lawyers, which represents around 15,000 professionals. Afzal, who is 43 and lives in Northolt, is based at the CPS London West Sector headquarters at Harrow.

Afzal is noted for his commitment and passion to victims of crime and towards improving public confidence in the legal profession and the justice system. A recent CPS honour crimes conference, which he organised and chaired, attracted widespread press coverage and put the issue at the top of the public agenda.



Shami Chakrabarti

Chakrabarti, Shami

Probably the best-known Asian lawyer in the media today, Shami Chakrabarti is hardly ever out of the news. Born in London in 1969, she became the director of Liberty in September 2003. Her early political years were spent as an active member of the Social Democratic Party and she worked as a barrister at the Home Office.

Disillusioned and wanting to make a difference, Chakrabarti joined Liberty in 2001 and spent the following two years campaigning against the increasingly severe anti-terrorist measures which followed the 9/11 attacks in the US. Now well known for her stand for civil liberties, her growing stature means she is being hailed as one of tomorrow's leaders.

Chawla, Mona

Mona Chawla was born in New Delhi, India,

and has lived in countries across the globe. She has always had a keen interest in international issues. A member of the New York Bar and the Law Society for England and Wales, she practises corporate immigration and commercial law.

Admitted to practice law both in New York and in the UK, Chawla is proficient in French and fluent in Hindi. She is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and advises corporate clients and individuals on the immigration consequences of relocation and investments abroad. Chawla has also been published in the *New York Law Journal* and trade magazines on immigration matters.

Chawla, who is the principal consultant for all North American and English migration matters, currently shares her time between her UK and US offices.

Fatima, Shaheed

Shaheed Fatima, who was called to the bar in 2001, has been described as being someone who "inspires confidence and is a feisty advocate". Having earned a joint first-class degree from Glasgow and her LLM from Harvard, her areas of practice include human rights and international law.

Gill, Manjit Singh QC

Manjit Singh Gill QC has a wide portfolio of experience. His local government work has included environmental law, advising both sides on the closure and supervision of reg-

istered homes, social services issues, privacy issues, property, planning and finance-related matters.

Another key area of his practice involves employment law. He has extensive experience in appearing before Employment Tribunals, the Employment Appeal Tribunal and the higher courts as well as advising on the full range of employment related issues.

Gill has also been involved in most of the lead cases challenging the Government's attempts to send asylum-seekers to countries in Europe on 'safe third country' grounds.

He has conducted some high-profile 'terrorist' trials (for instance, Conspiracy to Murder the Indian Prime Minister). He has appeared in litigation involving the UK's obligation in securing extra-territorial protection under Articles 2 and 3 in the trials and detention of its citizens abroad (British Muslim men detained in Yemen on 'terrorist' charges). Gill is recommended in various legal directories, including the *Chambers Guide to the Legal Profession* and the *Legal 500*.

Khan, Imran

Imran Khan's 10 years of work for the family of Stephen Lawrence has made him the country's best-known Asian solicitor.

Khan's family left Pakistan to come and live in East London, when he was four years old. The racist abuse and attacks he suffered in childhood led him to take on what he calls impact cases, ones that highlight inequality and disadvantage.

Manjit Singh Gill

