UMER AKRAM CHAUDHRY

Advocate | Attorney at Law | Arbitrator

ADMISSIONS

Attorney at Law, New York
Advocate High Court, Pakistan

ARBITRATOR PANELS

Dubai International Arbitration Centre

QUALIFICATIONS

LL.M. UC Berkeley School of Law (Fulbright Scholar)
B.A.-LL.B. Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)

CONTACT

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OVERVIEW

Umer Akram Chaudhry is a seasoned dispute resolution expert, focused on construction and energy disputes across Asia and the Gulf. Qualified as an Attorney at Law in New York and as an Advocate of the High Court in Pakistan, he has practised for over 18 years across South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Middle East.

His practice is substantially cross-border. He has acted in international arbitrations seated in London, Singapore, New York, Geneva, Doha and Islamabad, under governing laws including English, New York, Swiss, Qatari and Pakistani law. He is regularly instructed by international clients—including US, European and Chinese companies—in cross-border disputes and in the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards in Pakistan, where he has acted in several of the leading reported decisions.

He represents contractors, employers and corporate clients, including state-owned enterprises, in construction, energy, infrastructure and commercial disputes, and acts through the full life of a dispute: claims strategy, dispute board and adjudication proceedings, arbitration, litigation and enforcement. His current instructions include a construction arbitration in Doha under the QICCA Rules.

His approach to arbitration was shaped in Singapore, where he practised with Clyde & Co LLP and Rajah & Tann LLP in numerous international arbitrations, working on disputes across South and Southeast Asia and the Middle East.

Clients also retain him outside formal proceedings—to advise on issues arising during contractual performance and on risk mitigation, and to structure and negotiate complex settlements. He has served as a member of a dispute adjudication board in a US$ 80 million power project dispute under a FIDIC-based EPC contract.

Umer holds an LL.M. from the University of California, Berkeley, which he attended as a Fulbright Scholar. He teaches international commercial arbitration and civil procedure as a member of the Adjunct Faculty at LUMS, and is co-author of the Pakistan Chapter of GAR Investment Treaty Know-How (Global Arbitration Review) and the Pakistan Chapter of the Global Arbitration Places Guide (Delos Dispute Resolution).

Umer is a member of the Dubai International Arbitration Centre List of Arbitrators and accepts appointments as sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator and presiding arbitrator, including in expedited proceedings.

RECOGNITION

"Umer is very responsive. His capability to provide practical and in-depth analysis of construction disputes in Pakistan is most impressive." — **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2026**

"I highly recommend Umer to any business seeking a knowledgeable, reliable and business-savvy legal partner." — **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2026**

"He has a knack for expressing legal matters clearly and concisely and succeeds in driving desired outcomes through strategic planning and dedicated effort." — **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2025**

"He is very straightforward when laying down the issues. He spells out the merits before beginning the battle as well." — **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2025**

"His ability to provide practical and in-depth analysis on construction disputes in Pakistan is most impressive." — **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2024**

"He has strong expertise in the areas of his practice and we have found his advice to be coherent and well thought out." — **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2024**

"We think highly of Umer Akram Chaudhry's familiarity with the law of Pakistan." — **The Legal 500 2023**

"Umer Akram Chaudhry is professional and is thorough, approachable..." — **The Legal 500 (2022)**

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Adjudication

- Acted as a member of the dispute adjudication board in a power project infrastructure dispute of approximately US$ 80 million between a Pakistani employer and a Chinese contractor arising from a FIDIC-based EPC contract governed by the laws of Pakistan. (Confidential)

International Arbitration

- Representing a contractor in relation to claims made by a sub-contractor (QAR 100 million) in QICCA arbitration (seat: Qatar; governing law: Qatari) arising out of the design and construction of an apartment complex in Doha. (Confidential)
- Represented a Pakistani public listed company against a UAE-based company in LCIA arbitration (seat: London; governing law: English) in claims of around US$ 3 million arising from a fertiliser sale and purchase contract. (Confidential)
- Represented the state-owned national grid company against an independent power producer in an infrastructure dispute of around US$ 20 million in LCIA arbitration (seat: London; governing law: Pakistani). (Confidential)
- Represented a Pakistani corporate group against Italian contractors in ICC arbitration (seat: New York; governing law: New York) arising from services provided in connection with the construction of a fertiliser plant in the United States. (Confidential)
- Represented a Singaporean company against a consortium of private equity firms in two SIAC arbitrations (seat: Singapore; governing law: Singapore) involving a claim and counterclaim of approximately US$ 600 million in relation to two major power projects in South Asia, arising from shareholders' agreements. (Confidential)
- Represented a US company against a Myanmar company in HKIAC arbitration (seat: Singapore; governing law: Myanmar) arising from a 25-year hotel management agreement. (Confidential)
- Represented a leading Pakistani real estate company in Swiss Chambers' Arbitration Institution proceedings (seat: Geneva; governing law: Swiss) arising from an aircraft sale and purchase agreement. (Confidential)
- Represented a Pakistan-based information technology company in AAA arbitration (seat: New York; governing law: New York) against US-based customers. (Confidential)

Domestic Arbitration

- Successfully represented a multinational oil and gas company in an arbitration (seat: Islamabad) against a local purchaser in a dispute arising from a gas sale and purchase agreement.

Arbitration-Related Litigation

- Successfully represented Wateen Telecom Ltd in resisting recognition and enforcement of an arbitral award of around US$ 4.5 million (DIFC-LCIA Rules; DIFC seat) before the Lahore High Court. *SpaceCom International, LLC v Wateen Telecom Ltd* 2025 CLD 241.
- Successfully represented Metro Metals Northwest, Inc. in proceedings for recognition and enforcement of an arbitral award of around US$ 2.5 million (ICDR Rules; US seat) before the Lahore High Court. *Metro Metals Northwest, Inc. v Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Ltd* COS No 42300 of 2022; *Metro Metals Northwest, Inc. v Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Ltd* 2026 LHC 3261.
- Representing New Metallurgy Hi-Tech Group Co., Ltd. (Chinese SOE) in proceedings for recognition and enforcement of an arbitral award of around US$ 5 million (SIAC Rules; Singapore seat) before the High Court of Sindh, successfully obtaining interim orders restraining asset sales. *New Metallurgy Hi-Tech Group Co., Ltd. v Siddiqsons Tin Plate Limited* Suit No 1098 of 2023.
- Represented two independent power producers in proceedings for recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards (LCIA Rules; London seat) before the Islamabad High Court. *Nishat Chunian Power Limited v NTDC* Ex Petition No 2 of 2020; *Liberty Power Tech Limited v NTDC* Ex Petition No 3 of 2020.
- Represented Orient Power Company (Pvt) Ltd in recognition and enforcement of a foreign arbitral award of around PKR 800 million (LCIA Rules; London seat) before the Lahore High Court and Supreme Court of Pakistan. *Orient Power Company (Pvt) Ltd v SNGPL* PLD 2019 Lahore 607; 2021 SCMR 1728.
- Representing a Ukrainian entity in recognition and enforcement of a foreign arbitral award (ICAC Rules; Kyiv seat) before the Lahore High Court. *Lutsk Foods PrJSC v Citro Jus* COS No 64140 of 2025.
- Representing a Chinese SOE and its local partner in disputes arising from the EPC contract for the 1,200 MW RLNG-based power plant in Punjab before the Civil Courts and the Lahore High Court. *Harbin Electric International Company Ltd v National Power Parks Management Company* 2025 LHC 6565.
- Representing a Pakistani public listed company in recognition and enforcement of an LCIA arbitral award before the Lahore High Court. (Confidential)

Commercial Litigation / General Dispute Resolution

- Successfully represented Rolls-Royce Power Systems AG and MTU Middle East FZE in proceedings related to termination of a service partnership agreement before the High Court of Sindh. *System Company v MTU Middle East FZE* PLD 2019 Sindh 382.
- Successfully represented Pakarab Fertilizer Ltd and Fatima Fertilizer Ltd before the Islamabad High Court challenging Competition Commission of Pakistan notices, obtaining interim orders.
- Successfully represented Hi-Tech Lubricants Ltd in regulatory proceedings before the Competition Commission of Pakistan, leading to the enquiry report being set aside. *Show Cause Notice issued to Hi-Tech Lubricants Ltd* 2021 CLD 592.
- Representing Gaffney, Cline & Associates (Consultants) Pte. Ltd., a Baker Hughes subsidiary, in proceedings before the High Court of Sindh arising from an oil and gas consultancy agreement. (Pending)

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