



## UMER AKRAM CHAUDHRY

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Advocate High Court, Pakistan

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Umer Akram Chaudhry is a highly experienced lawyer with over 15 years' practice in dispute resolution. He is recognized as "*one of the best newly coming litigators*" by Chambers Asia-Pacific 2022 and for his "*formulation of strategy and flawless execution*" by Chambers Asia-Pacific 2025.

Umer is qualified as an Attorney at Law in New York and an Advocate of the High Court in Pakistan. His practice primarily focuses on domestic and international dispute resolution, with a particular emphasis on construction, infrastructure, and commercial disputes. He has extensive experience of appearing as counsel before various forums, including the superior courts of Pakistan, international commercial courts, and arbitral tribunals.

Umer began his legal career as a litigation lawyer at Raja Mohammed Akram & Co. (now RMA & Co.) in Pakistan. In early years, he handled a variety of commercial and constitutional cases, including landmark constitutional. He also represented clients in regulatory matters before the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan and the Competition Commission of Pakistan.

He later moved to Singapore, where he worked at Clyde & Co LLP and Rajah & Tann LLP. Both firms are internationally recognized among the top-30 international arbitration practices. In Singapore, Umer was involved in a wide range of cases stemming from different common and civil law jurisdictions across South and Southeast Asia and the Middle East. His primary focus was on commercial, joint venture, shareholders, energy infrastructure, and hotel management disputes. He also worked for Mr Christopher Lau SC, a prominent arbitrator in Singapore, assisting him in numerous international arbitrations globally.

Beyond his advocacy work, Umer regularly advises clients on various issues that arise during contractual performance and risk mitigation strategies. He has represented clients in complex settlement negotiations and mediations. Umer has also acted as a member of a dispute adjudication board in a power project infrastructure dispute.

Umer is a member of the Adjunct Faculty at the Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law at the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), where he teaches courses on international commercial arbitration and civil procedure. He regularly contributes articles on international arbitration and dispute resolution to various publications and has been invited to speak at numerous conferences on legal issues. He is the co-author of the Pakistan Chapter of GAR Investment Treaty Know-How for the Global Arbitration Review and the Pakistan Chapter for the Global Arbitration Places Guide by Delos Dispute Resolution.

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## Recognition

"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**

Umer Akram Chaudhry is highly regarded by market commentators and is experienced in both litigation and arbitration in matters relating to shareholder, joint venture and other commercial disputes as well as construction issues. | **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2023**

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

Umer Akram Chaudhry is regarded as a "very bright" lawyer by market commentators and is experienced in both litigation and arbitration in matters relating to shareholder, joint venture and other commercial disputes as well as competition and constitutional issues. A client says he is "one of the best newly coming litigators because he's obviously younger compared to senior partners but very thorough and makes sure the client is up to speed with what the strategy is." | **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2022**

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



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## Representative Experience

### Adjudication

Acted as a member of the dispute adjudication board in a power project infrastructure dispute of around US\$ 80 million between a Pakistani employer and a Chinese contractor arising from EPC Contract (based on FIDIC standard form contract) governed by the laws of Pakistan (**Confidential**)

### International Arbitration

Representing a Pakistani public listed company against a UAE-based company in LCIA arbitration (with its seat in London and governed by English laws) for a claim of around US\$ 2.5 million arising out of a contract for sale and purchase of fertilizer (**Confidential**)

Represented the State-owned national grid company against an independent power purchaser in an infrastructure dispute of around US\$ 20 million in LCIA arbitration with its seat in London and governed by Pakistani laws (**Confidential**)

Represented a Pakistani corporate group, with companies in Pakistan and the United States, against Italian contractors in ICC arbitration (with its seat in New York and governed by New York laws) arising from services for construction of a fertilizer plant in the United States (**Confidential**)

Represented a Singaporean company against a consortium of private equity firms in two SIAC arbitrations (with seat in Singapore and governed by Singapore laws) for an estimated claim and counterclaim of around US\$600 million, involving construction of two major power projects in a South Asian country, arising from shareholders' agreements (**Confidential**)

Represented a US company against a Myanmar company in HKIAC arbitration (with seat in Singapore and governed by Myanmar laws) arising from a 25-year term hotel management agreement governed by Myanmar law (**Confidential**)

Represented a leading real estate company in Pakistan in an arbitration against a company from the Cayman Islands arising from an aircraft sale and purchase agreement conducted under the rules of the Swiss Chambers' Arbitration Institution in Geneva and governed by the laws of Switzerland (**Confidential**)

Represented a Pakistan-based information technology company in an arbitration (with its seat in New York and governed by New York laws) with its customers based in the United States in an arbitration under the auspices of the American Arbitration Association (**Confidential**)

### Arbitration-Related Litigation

Successfully represented Wateen Telecom Ltd (from Pakistan) against SpaceCom International, LLC (from the United States) to resist recognition and enforcement of an arbitral award of around US\$ 4.5 million (arising from satellite services agreement) issued under the DIFC-LCIA Rules in DIFC, Dubai, UAE before the Lahore High Court (*SpaceCom International, LLC v Wateen Telecom Ltd 2025 CLD 241*)

Successfully represented Metro Metals Northwest, Inc. (from the United States) against Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Ltd, a public listed company in Pakistan, for recognition and enforcement of an arbitral award of around US\$ 2.5 million issued under the ICDR Rules in the United States

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before the Lahore High Court (*Metro Metals Northwest, Inc. v Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Ltd* COS 42300 of 2022)

Representing New Metallurgy Hi-Tech Group Co., Ltd., a Chinese SOE, against Siddiqsons Tin Plate Limited, a Pakistani public listed company, for recognition and enforcement of an arbitral award of around US\$ 5 million (arising from EPC Contract) issued under the SIAC Rules in Singapore, successfully obtaining interim orders to restrain sale of assets by the award-debtor, before the High Court of Sindh (*New Metallurgy Hi-Tech Group Co., Ltd. v Siddiqsons Tin Plate Limited Suit No 1098 of 2023; Siddiqsons Tin Plate Limited v New Metallurgy Hi-Tech Group Co., Ltd. v Siddiqsons Tin Plate Limited* HCA No 100 of 2024)

Representing two independent power producers in proceedings for recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards (arising from power purchase agreements) issued under the LCIA Rules in London 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, an independent power purchaser, against Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Ltd, a public utilities company, for recognition and enforcement of a foreign arbitral award of around PKR 800 million (arising from gas supply agreement) issued under the LCIA Rules in London before the Lahore High Court and the Supreme Court of Pakistan (*Orient Power Company (Pvt) Ltd v SNGPL* PLD 2019 Lahore 607; *Orient Power Company (Pvt) Ltd v SNGPL* 2021 SCMR 1728)

Representing a Chinese State-Owned Enterprise and its local partner in proceedings before the Civil Courts and the Lahore High Court in disputes arising from the engineering, procurement, and construction contract for the 1,200 MW RLNG-based power plant in Punjab, Pakistan (**Pending**)

Representing a Pakistani public listed company against a UAE-based company in proceedings for recognition and enforcement of an arbitral award issued under the LCIA Rules in London 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 the termination of service partnership agreement with the local service partner in Pakistan before the High Court of Sindh (*System Company v MTU Middle East FZE* PLD 2019 Sindh 382)

Successfully represented Hi-Tech Lubricants Ltd in regulatory proceedings initiated by a complaint filed by Chevron Pakistan Lubricants (Pvt) Ltd for alleged deceptive marketing practices before the Competition Commission of Pakistan leading to dismissal of the enquiry report (*Show Cause Notice issued to Hi-Tech Lubricants Ltd* 2021 CLD 592)

Representing Gaffney, Cline & Associates (Consultants) Pte. Ltd, a subsidiary of Baker Hughes, in proceedings initiated by Pakistan-based petroleum concessionaries in relation to a consultancy oil and gas agreement before the High Court of Sindh (**Pending**)

Representing Careem Pakistan in proceedings to set aside administrative actions based on alleged violations of motor vehicles legislation before the Lahore High Court, successfully obtaining interim order against victimization of drivers on the ride-hailing network (**Pending**)

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Representing Pakarab Fertilizer Ltd and Fatima Fertilizer Ltd in proceedings before the Islamabad High Court in relation to calls for information on prices by the Competition Commission of Pakistan, successfully obtaining interim orders staying the effect of impugned notices (**Pending**)

Representing Lucky Core Industries Limited in proceedings before the Lahore High Court to challenge the Punjab Revenue Department's decision to impose charges on registering the change of name of the company in land records (**Pending**)

### **Corporate and Commercial Transactions**

Advised and conducted a comprehensive due diligence of a company incorporated in Pakistan holding licenses for granite and marble mining in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan on behalf of a private equity investment firm incorporated in Delaware, USA and advised on the share subscription agreement for an investment of around USD 3 Million

Advised and represented a leading international airport ground handling service provider for acquisition of majority shares in a Pakistani airport ground handling service provider (with presence at airports across Pakistan)

Advised and represented a leading business group in Pakistan on the seller side in multiple transactions involving sale of assets of a sugar mill and sale of shares of another sugar mill (both located in Punjab, Pakistan); the total transaction amounted to more than PKR 12 billion

Advised several Nishat Group companies on shareholders' agreements (involving parties from Japan), security documents and ancillary project agreements for establishing an automotive assembly plant for Hyundai Motor Company vehicles and parts in Pakistan

Advised a US based company in the acquisition of a technology company in Pakistan

Acted as an investor counsel for a minority shareholder in a 50 MW solar IPP in Ghara, Sindh in relation to the shareholders' agreements and sponsor support and security agreements under the financing documents

Advised a Spanish company for its investments in Pakistan's waste management sector, including negotiations of the joint venture agreement with the local partner and operations and maintenance agreement with the local government

Advising a United States based information technology company in an asset purchase agreement with a Pakistan based company, including negotiation of the asset purchase agreement and transfer of employees

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## About RMA & Co.

RMA & Co. has consistently been recognised amongst the best dispute resolution law firms in Pakistan. The firm offers expertise in commercial and contractual disputes for domestic and international clients. The practice handles construction disputes, recovery suits, insolvency proceedings, minority oppression cases and winding-up petitions. Constitutional litigation is a further area of focus, particularly in relation to environmental, climate change, and other human rights issues.



### Recognition:

"Their legal prowess is second to none and the most commendable part is the extra mile they go in the formulation of strategy and flawless execution." | **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2025**

"Their proficiency and adeptness in navigating intricate situations demonstrate an exceptional level of skill and expertise." | **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2025**

"RMA & Co have excellent understanding, not only of the law but also of complex business transactions. They are always available and provide excellent advice." | **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2024**

"The team is strong, professional, knowledgeable and well respected in the legal fraternity. They take strong ownership of cases and fight their heart out on every case." | **Chambers Asia-Pacific 2024**

"The team is hard working, and responses have been aptly delivered on time"; "Brilliant legal strategies"; "Excellent service"; "The team are switched on and practical." | **The Legal 500 (2023)**

# Our Offices

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