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Drishti Suri



Year of call:	**2022**
Degree:	**BA International Relations (King's, First Class), GDL (City, Distinction)**
Languages:	**Hindi (fluent), Urdu (fluent), Punjabi (working knowledge), French (some knowledge), Arabic (some knowledge)**

Drishti accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers' practice including commercial law and arbitration, civil liberties and human rights, public law, public international law, and sanctions.

Recent highlights of Drishti's experience include the following significant cases:

- Commercial Law: a complex civil fraud claim for US$800 million, brought by the Kuwaiti Public Institution for Social Security against its former Director General and other defendants. The case is one of the largest fraud disputes heard in the Commercial Court and previously featured in The Lawyer's Top 20 cases;
- Arbitration: LCIA arbitration proceedings between a company owned by the Indian government and a company owned by the German government, concerning alleged breaches of an LNG supply contract. The claim was settled for $285 million;
- Civil Liberties and Human Rights: successful challenge to an application for a terrorism notification order under Schedule 4 of the Counter-Terrorism Act 2008;
- Public Law: successful judicial review challenge to the unlawful delay in re-locating asylum seekers stranded on the island of Diego Garcia for over three years in inhumane conditions;
- Public International Law: successful claim for an attachment of debt order worth over £20 million against the Republic of Nigeria. The case raises issues of scope of state immunity from enforcement and the requirements for a waiver of immunity;
- Sanctions: appeal to the Court of Justice of the European Union against the General Court's decision to uphold sanctions imposed under the Belarusian sanctions regime in Gutseriev v Council of the European Union.

Before coming to the Bar, Drishti was a Judicial Assistant at the Court of Appeal to Dame Victoria Sharp, the President of the King's Bench Division, where she worked on a range of appeals including the landmark challenge to the Investigatory Powers Act 2016. Drishti also assisted in teaching public international law at King's College London and for three years assisted Professor Philippa Webb with research on public international law matters, including issues of state and diplomatic immunity and state responsibility.

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Drishti studied international relations at King's College London, with a specialism in the Middle East and North Africa and a focus on public international law. Drishti was awarded the top scholarships by the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple to study both the GDL and the Bar Course.

EXPERIENCE

Commercial

Drishti accepts instructions in all areas of commercial law.

Drishti has assisted in high-value and complex commercial disputes, including those raising multi-jurisdictional and conflict of laws issues. She is instructed in claims in the High Court and the Court of Appeal, including civil fraud, unfair prejudice, breach of contract, and misrepresentation cases. Drishti also has experience acting for clients in arbitral proceedings, including under the LCIA, ICC and UNCITRAL rules.

Drishti has advised on performers rights, copyright law, and related contractual issues, including for high-profile music artists.

Drishti has advised clients in relation to foreign proceedings where issues of English law arise.

Cases

C v D
Acting for the Claimant in a claim for enforcement of guarantee worth c. €80 million. The case raises issues of foreign law and jurisdiction. With Harry Adamson.

A v B
Acting for the Claimant in an LCIA arbitration concerning implementation of a Restructuring Plan under a Shareholders Agreement. With Harish Salve KC.

X v Y
Acting for an oil and gas company in UNCITRAL arbitration proceedings against a State, relating to rights and obligations under a production sharing contract. With Harish Salve KC.

Kerish International Motors Agency v Opel Automobile GmbH
[2024] EWHC 1047 (Comm)
Acting for the Respondent in an appeal by the Claimant against the Commercial Court's judgment in a case concerning the import to, and sale of cars in, Palestine. The appeal raises issues of Palestinian law and contractual interpretation. With Andrew George KC.

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Zhongshan Fucheng Industrial Investments Co Ltd v Federal Republic of Nigeria

BVI Court of Appeal

Acted for the Claimant in an appeal by the Defendant against an attachment of debt order worth over £20 million. The case raised issues of state immunity, including the scope of state immunity from enforcement and the requirements for a waiver of immunity. With Tim Otty KC.

GAIL v SEFE Marketing and Trading Singapore Pte Ltd (SMTS)

Acted for the Claimant, Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), in LCIA arbitration proceedings arising from the alleged breach of an LNG supply agreement. The claim was settled for US$285 million. With Harish Salve KC.

H v Lawn Tennis Association (LTA)

Represented the LTA in a case concerning attempted resale of Wimbledon tickets in breach of contract. Claim dismissed during dispute resolution hearing.

Public Institution for Social Security v Al Rajaan & Others

A complex civil fraud claim for US$800 million, brought by the Kuwaiti Public Institution for Social Security against its former Director General and other defendants. Assisted Harry Adamson, acting for D1 and D2.

Re Artemas Joseph Holdings Ltd

[2024] EWHC 850 (Ch)

Appeal to the Court of Appeal on points of law in relation to, (i) consequences flowing from a Part 36 offer made to multiple parties, and (ii) secondary liability of a non-member third party for unfair prejudice. Assisted Fraser Campbell, acting for the petitioner, now the Respondent.

Al-Aggad v Al-Aggad

[2024] EWHC 673 (Comm)

Claim for breach of contract and unlawful means conspiracy. Assisted Shane Sibbel, acting for the claimant in relation to jurisdiction and alternative services challenges brought by the defendants, which were dismissed.

Delancey Real Estate and Asset Management v HMRC

A high-value contractual dispute with HMRC relating to an Employee Benefit Trust Settlement Agreement. The case involved complex issues of tax law, trusts, and recission. Assisted Leona Powell, acting for the claimants.

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Advanced Multi-Technology Ltd v Uniserve

[2024] EWHC 1725 (Ch)

Claim for breach of contract for the supply of PPE during the Covid-19 pandemic. Assisted Fraser Campbell, acting for the Part 20 defendants.

O v T

Claim for breach of contract and non-payment, raising an issue on penalty clause. Assisted Fraser Campbell, acting for the claimant.

Jones v Mallett

Claim for wrongful retention and dissemination of confidential information. Assisted Fraser Campbell, acting for the claimants.

M v P

Part 20 claim for unpaid debt and restitution. Assisted Fraser Campbell, acting for the Part 20 defendant.

L v S

Application to strike out contempt application by the defendant, including on grounds of abuse of process. Assisted Fraser Campbell, acting for the claimants.

Arbitration

Drishti accepts instructions in all areas of arbitration.

Drishti has experience in high-profile commercial arbitrations, including arbitral proceedings on behalf of foreign states and commercial entities. She has particular experience in disputes relating to production and supply of oil and gas.

Cases

X v Y

Acting for an oil and gas company in UNCITRAL arbitration proceedings against a State, relating to rights and obligations under a production sharing contract. With Harish Salve KC.

A v B

Acting for the Claimant in an LCIA arbitration concerning implementation of a Restructuring Plan under a Shareholders Agreement. With Harish Salve KC.

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GAIL v SEFE Marketing and Trading Singapore Pte Ltd (SMTS)

Acted for the Claimant, Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), in LCIA arbitration proceedings arising from the alleged breach of an LNG supply agreement. The claim was settled for US$285 million. With Harish Salve KC.

Civil Liberties & Human Rights

Drishti has experience representing clients in civil liberties and human rights cases, including in national security, terrorism, and prison law cases.

Drishti has advised clients including non-governmental organisations on breaches of human rights under domestic and international law, and state obligations under the ECHR.

Cases

R (FA) v Chief Constable of North Wales Police

Acting for the Claimant in judicial review proceedings against the North Wales Police's use of powers under Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000 to detain and seize the work device of a practising solicitor. With Jude Bunting KC, Hugh Southey KC and Rabah Kherbane.

A v SSHD

Acting for the Claimant in judicial review against the SSHD's decision to make a Public Order Disqualification Order denying access to specialist support for victims of modern slavery and trafficking.

Eastern Region Special Operations Unit v R

Acting for the Defendant and the Interested Party in challenge to an account freezing order raising allegations of bribery and corruption in Egypt and Gaza. With Rabah Kherbane.

The Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis v MH

Acted for the Respondent in proceedings concerning an application for a terrorism notification order under Schedule 4 of the Counter-Terrorism Act 2008. The case raised issues of statutory construction, fair trial rights in an autonomous foreign jurisdiction, and reliability of a confession to being a member of a proscribed organisation in the context of lack of mental capacity and ill-treatment. Case conceded by the Commissioner following exchange of evidence and written submissions. With Rabah Kherbane.

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R (BAA & Ors) v Secretary of State for FCDA

Represented a group of Tamil asylum seekers stranded on Diego Garcia in the British Indian Overseas Territory for three years, in a judicial review challenging unlawful delay in relocating them to the UK. With Ben Jaffey KC and Natasha Simonsen.

R (VT Ors) v Commissioner for the British Indian Ocean Territory

Represented a group of Tamil asylum seekers stranded on Diego Garcia in the British Indian Overseas Territory for three years, in a habeas claim challenging unlawful detention. With Ben Jaffey KC and Natasha Simonsen.

West Midlands Police v A and B

Representing respondents in proceedings concerning a terrorist account freezing order and forfeiture of property under the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001. With Rabah Kherbane.

Gutseriev v Council of the European Union

Appeal against the General Court's decision to uphold sanctions imposed under the Belarusian sanctions regime. Assisted Jason Pobjoy, acting for the appellant.

AB v Ukraine

Appeal to the European Court of Human Rights against sanctions imposed by Ukraine. Assisted Jason Pobjoy, acting for the appellant.

T v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Appeal against asylum decision for a Black bisexual woman from South Africa who fled to the UK to escape discrimination and a violent partner. Assisted Fraser Campbell, acting for the appellant.

Public & Regulatory

Drishti practises in all areas of public law.

Drishti has experience of judicial review proceedings, including those related to prison law, criminal justice issues, national security and terrorism cases.

Drishti also has experience of appeals against decisions of the Department for Work and Pensions.

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Cases

R (FA) v Chief Constable of North Wales Police

Acting for the Claimant in judicial review proceedings against the North Wales Police's use of powers under Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000 to detain and seize the work device of a practising solicitor. With Jude Bunting KC, Hugh Southey KC and Rabah Kherbane.

A v SSHD

Acting for the Claimant in judicial review against the SSHD's decision to make a Public Order Disqualification Order denying access to specialist support for victims of modern slavery and trafficking.

Eastern Region Special Operations Unit v R

Acting for the Defendant and the Interested Party in challenge to an account freezing order raising allegations of bribery and corruption in Egypt and Gaza. With Rabah Kherbane.

Ramsaroop v Michelle Trotman (Trinidad and Tobago)

[2025] UKPC 45

Acted for the Appellant in appeal to the Privy Council in a case concerning recoverability of counsel's brief fees as costs in habeas corpus proceedings. With Tom Richards KC.

The Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis v MH

Acted for the Respondent in proceedings concerning an application for a terrorism notification order under Schedule 4 of the Counter-Terrorism Act 2008. The case raised issues of statutory construction, fair trial rights in an autonomous foreign jurisdiction, and reliability of a confession to being a member of a proscribed organisation in the context of lack of mental capacity and ill-treatment. Case conceded by the Commissioner following exchange of evidence and written submissions. With Rabah Kherbane.

R (BAA & Ors) v Secretary of State for FCDA

Represented a group of Tamil asylum seekers stranded on Diego Garcia in the British Indian Overseas Territory for three years, in a judicial review challenging unlawful delay in relocating them to the UK. With Ben Jaffey KC and Natasha Simonsen.

R (VT Ors) v Commissioner for the British Indian Ocean Territory

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West Midlands Police v A and B

Representing respondents in proceedings concerning a terrorist account freezing order and forfeiture of property under the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001. With Rabah Kherbane.

R (AK) v SSJ

Judicial review of the Parole Board's decision to maintain Category A designation for a prisoner convicted of the transatlantic Al-Qaeda bomb plot. Assisted Harry Adamson, acting for the Secretary of State for Justice.

MAA v SSJ

Parole board proceedings, concerning the admissibility of expert evidence on polygraph test requirements imposed on an individual convicted of terrorism offences. Assisted Jason Pobjoy, acting for the Secretary of State for Justice.

R (Client Earth) v Financial Conduct Authority

[2023] EWHC 3301 (Admin)

Judicial review of the Financial Conduct Authority's decision to approve the prospectus for Ithaca plc, an oil and gas company. Assisted Harry Adamson, acting for Client Earth.

R (CWJ) v DLAC & The Lord Chancellor

Judicial review concerning legal representation for school exclusion hearings. The case raised issues in relation to Article 6 rights, including whether a school exclusion decision involves determination of civil rights. Assisted Shane Sibbel, acting for the Lord Chancellor.

AB v Ukraine

Appeal to the European Court of Human Rights against sanctions imposed by Ukraine. Assisted Jason Pobjoy, acting for the appellant.

Covid Inquiry

Advice on government's disclosure obligations to the inquiry. Assisted Shane Sibbel, acting for HM Government (Cabinet Office).

T v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Appeal against asylum decision for a Black bisexual woman from South Africa who fled to the UK to escape discrimination and a violent partner. Assisted Fraser Campbell, acting for the appellant.

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Public International Law

Drishti has a strong background in international relations issues and experience working on public international law cases.

Drishti has experience advising on the interpretation of international treaties and on international human rights obligations. Her clients include states, non-government organisations, individuals, and UN bodies.

Drishti has experience on cases concerning state and diplomatic immunity, and assisted in the Supreme Court case of Wong v Basfar [2022] UKSC 20.

Drishti has assisted in teaching public international law at King's College London. Drishti has also assisted in research on a number of public international law publications, including The Right to Fair Trial in International Law by Amal Clooney and Professor Philippa Webb and Freedom of Speech in International Law by Amal Clooney and Lord Neuberger.

Cases

Zhongshan Fucheng Industrial Investments Co Ltd v Federal Republic of Nigeria

BVI Court of Appeal

Acted for the Claimant in an appeal by the Defendant against an attachment of debt order worth over £20 million. The case raised issues of state immunity, including the scope of state immunity from enforcement and the requirements for a waiver of immunity. With Tim Otty KC.

Sanctions

Drishti has experience on sanctions cases, including advices to individuals, corporate entities, the FCDO, and the OFSI. Drishti has experience of various sanctions regulations, including the Russia sanctions regulations, Myanmar sanctions regulations, and the EU's Belarusian sanctions regulations.

Cases

AB v Ukraine

Appeal to the European Court of Human Rights against sanctions imposed by Ukraine. Assisted Jason Pobjoy, acting for the appellant.

Gutseriev v Council of the European Union

Appeal against the General Court's decision to uphold sanctions imposed under the Belarusian sanctions regime. Assisted Jason Pobjoy, acting for the appellant.

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ACHIEVEMENTS

Appointments

- COMBAR India and Asia Committee

Scholarships and Awards

The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple:

- Peter Taylor Scholarship (top Bar Course scholarship)
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Princess Royal Scholarship (top GDL scholarship)

The City Law School:

- BVS Scholarship
- City Law School Scholarship for Academic Excellence

King's College London:

- Desmond Tutu Scholarship

VAT registration number: 476879808

Barristers regulated by the Bar Standards Board