



NAVARATNAM CHAMBERS

Nahendran Navaratnam

BSc, LLB, FCI Arb, FMI Arb

- Advocate and Solicitor, High Court of Malaya
- Chartered Arbitrator
- Mediator
- Adjudicator



Nahendran Navaratnam is Head of Chambers at Navaratnam Chambers. He is a graduate of Monash University, Australia and holds a Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Laws. Nahendran was called to the Malaysian Bar in 1988 and has vast experience handling trial and appellate work in large corporate, commercial and administrative law disputes for private and public listed companies, major international and Malaysian financial institutions, multinational corporations and professional practices. He also acts in professional liability, tax, construction and in commercial arbitration disputes.

He also handles libel work, having acted in several high profile libel suits including several both for and against leading local and international publications. He is especially familiar with capital markets and securities industry regulatory and enforcement disputes having acted for and advised industry regulators.

He is recognised by Legal 500, Asialaw, Chambers, Expert Guides, Benchmark Litigation and “PLC Which Lawyer” as a leading individual for litigation and dispute resolution work in Malaysia.

Nahendran Navaratnam has been described in Legal 500 as *“very aggressive and astute”*.

Chambers says he is strongly endorsed for his *“well-grounded opinions and his practical approach”* and notes that *“peers have the highest respect for him”* adding *“he would be the one we turn to for a second opinion”* and further describes him as a *“knowledgeable practitioner whose ability to think on his feet and respond to issues in litigation and negotiation is exemplary”*.

He has also been described as *“a real gentleman in court”*.

Asia Law Profiles 2013 describes him as follows: *“On the dispute resolution front, clients have glowing praise for partner Nahendran Navaratnam, who heads the firm’s practice and regularly acts for large corporations in financial and contractual disputes....”* *“Nahendran is a fantastic operator. We recently had a messy dispute and he did a fantastic job. He wasn’t cheap, but we needed the outcome and he got it in an expeditious way.”* *“We frequently work with international law firms, and he would be an excellent lawyer in any jurisdiction”, the same client adds.*

Benchmark Litigation has this to say: *“Nahendran is among the best litigators. He is brilliant,”* said one competitor, who went on to comment that Navaratnam was one of the *“purest litigators he had ever met”*.

He is also featured in Financier Worldwide’s Corporate Advisory Handbook - Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution 2013.

Industry Experience

Nahendran has acted as counsel and arbitrator in various commercial and corporate disputes involving issues in the Securities Industry, Insurance, Construction, Energy, Company Law, Professional Liability, Media Law and Defamation, Partnership, Confidential Information, Trusts and Administrative Law.

His degree in Material Science gives him a significant and unique advantage dealing with complex technical issues. He is also very familiar with issues involving statutory and contractual interpretation and especially familiar with regulatory, licensing and enforcement schemes in the securities industry and telecommunications, water and energy sectors.

He has acted for the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange, New Straits Times, Petronas, Malaysian Airlines, Tabung Haji, Permodalan Nasional, Tenaga Nasional, Time, leading banks and insurance companies, the Malaysian Bar and many leading legal, engineering and accounting practices and been nominated as Arbitrator by the KLRCA, ICC and SIAC.

He has also been involved as Counsel in two Royal Commissions of Inquiry.

Publications

Nahendran has been a contributing editor for the Malayan Law Journal Annotated Statute series and the Butterworth’s Handbook on Civil Appeals and the Malaysian White Book.

He has delivered numerous papers for the Bar Council, and LexisNexis on civil trial practice and procedure, defamation and evidence and to the Malaysian Institute of Corporate Governance on director’s duties and corporate governance.

He modelled and wrote the Bar Ethics Course and the Kuala Lumpur Legal Aid Centre's working manual. He has also authored a chapter entitled "Independent Director – Perceptions, Roles and Responsibilities" issued by the Securities Commission of Malaysia and three text books published by Sweet & Maxwell entitled "A Trial Lawyer's Companion" – a handbook for civil trial practice in Malaysia, "A Manual for Legal Secretaries and Paralegals" and the "Litigation Practice Guide".

He has also contributed the Malaysian chapter for Financier Worldwide Commercial Arbitration Annual Review and been the Malaysian correspondent for the International Law Office from 2011 to 2012.

He has also been an adjunct lecturer at the School of Administration and Law of the now Mara University of Technology.

Professional Activities and Appointments

Nahendran has served on numerous sub-committees of the Malaysian Bar including the sub-committee for the Independence of the Judiciary, Human Rights, Legal Aid, Editorial, Professional Development and Civil Procedure.

He has also served as an elected representative of the Kuala Lumpur Bar and as past Chairman of Kuala Lumpur Legal Aid.

He is a regular coordinator and course leader for Advocacy courses conducted by the Malaysian Bar.

He served for two years on appointment by the Chief Justice of Malaya on the Advocates and Solicitors Disciplinary Board to deliberate on disciplinary complaints against lawyers.

He was a member of the judiciary reform committee of PEMUDAH, treasurer of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators, a member of the Rules Reform Committee of the Malaysian Bar and is listed to receive appointments as Arbitrator with the Kuala Lumpur Regional Center for Arbitration (KLRCA), the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators and the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) and has also been appointed by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC).

Nahendran is a Chartered Arbitrator and has been appointed as Arbitrator privately and by institutions such as the ICC, SIAC and the KLRCA both as sole arbitrator and as member or chairman of an Arbitral Tribunal. He is an accredited mediator and is a member of the Malaysian Bar and Securities Industry Dispute Resolution Center, Mediator Panel and is also a trained adjudicator on the KLRCA panel of adjudicators.

Professional Memberships

Nahendran is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and a Fellow of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators.

He is a member of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association of which he is past Vice Chair of the Civil Procedure Section and a member of the Australasian Forum for International Arbitration and the Arbitration Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce, Malaysia Branch.

Academic Qualifications

Bachelor of Science (Materials Science)	-	1984, Monash University
Bachelor of Laws	-	1986, Monash University
Chartered Arbitrator	-	2006