

Curriculum Vitae



1. **Full name:** Sara Gul Abbasi

2. **Contact:** M: +92-345-2560179 E: saragullabbasi@gmail.com

3. **Highlights:**

- Advocate High Courts of Pakistan
- Certified Legislative Drafter
- Legal researcher, writer, teacher
- Selected for pursuing field dissertation in Kampala, Uganda as an outstanding candidate in LLM Human Rights Law degree
- Represented a Glasgow based NGO at the Cross-Party Group on Human Rights at Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh

4. **Education:**

Institution (date from - to)	Degree or Diploma:	Award Qualification
University of Strathclyde, Glasgow (2013-14)	LLM Human Rights Law	Obtained = Merit / 2:1
Government College University Lahore (2012-2013)	Postgraduate Diploma	Obtained = CGPA 3.16/4
University of London (2008-2011)	LLB (Hons) Qualifying Law Degree	Obtained = Second Class Honours

5. **Professional Experiences:**

I. **Independent Practicing Advocate** at High Courts, Lower Courts and Federal/Provincial Services Tribunals in Pakistan (Jan 2018 – Present)

- Independent case handling, starting from and including client meetings, plaint/petition/appeal drafting, researching and litigation
- Specializing in Civil Services Law, Labour Law and Family Law matters

II. **Legal Counsel/Researcher** at **PUBLIC INTEREST LAW ASSOCIATION OF PAKISTAN (PILAP), KARACHI, PAKISTAN**, www.pilap.pk/ (Jan 2017 – Dec 2017)

- Performed legal research and provided legal services in pursuing public interest litigations such as Education Petition and Nuclear Petition
- Worked on various advocacy projects of the organization including illegal Billboards campaign, Delays in Delivery of Justice project, Article 19-A Right to Information campaign and tree mapping (Saaya) campaign
- Researched and composed articles, reports, newsletters, press releases etc.
- Organized talks and attended trainings for furthering the aims of the organization

III. **Visiting faculty** at **L'ÉCOLE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES, KARACHI, PAKISTAN**
(Session 2016-17)

- Taught 'Contract Law' module – University of London International Programmes

IV. **Senior Associate Attorney** at **REHMAN & REHMAN LAW CHAMBERS, LAHORE, PAKISTAN** (Jan 2015 – Feb 2016)

Employer: Mr. Shakil-ur-Rehman Khan (*ex Advocate General Punjab, Pakistan*)

- Conducted legal drafting and research via legal journals, precedents, books and online portals
- Represented clients', pleaded their cases and conducted proceedings before various courts and forums
- Particularly assisted with the workload of major clients of the firm i.e. Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination, Government of Pakistan (MNHSR&C); Punjab Healthcare Commission (PHC); and Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL)
- Assisted in drafting legislation, rules & regulations pertaining to health matters at the provincial level for PHC

V. **Visiting staff** at **SOL - SCHOOL OF LAW, LAHORE, PAKISTAN**, www.sol.org.pk
(Session 2015-16)

- Taught 'United Nations Protection of Human Rights' module - LL.M University of London International Programmes
- Organized continuing professional development activities for lawyers on behalf of the school

VI. **Associate Attorney**; at **QUTUB & QUTUB, ADVOCATES AND LEGAL CONSULTANTS, LAHORE, PAKISTAN** (Aug 2011 – Aug 2013)

Employer: Mr. Syed Ijaz Qutub (*ex Addl. & Sessions Judge; ex Addl. Registrar LHC*)

- Drafted suits, petitions, appeals etc. as advised and researched legal precedents
- Conducted proceedings on behalf of government servants in matters pertaining to their appointments, termination, promotion, reversion etc. before respective departments, tribunals & appellate courts
- Contested labour cases in front of the Payment Wages Commissioner, Conciliator and Labour Courts
- Managed clientele and oversaw administration of the firm including supervision of staff, clerks and junior associates

6. **Internships / Voluntary Experiences:**

I. **Intern - Policy, Law Reform & Legislative Advocacy Department**; at **FOUNDATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE, Kampala, Uganda**, www.fhri.or.ug

(Competitive selection for LL.M Field Dissertation) (Jun 2014 – Aug 2014)

- Performed field research and collected primary data/evidence for my LL.M Dissertation on '**Right to Freedom of Assembly in Uganda: To What Extent Does Public Order Management Act 2013 Reflect and Accord with International Human Rights Law Standards**'
- Prepared memorandum on behalf of FHRI for the Review and Reform of Prison Act No. 17 of 2006 to present before the Uganda Law Reform Commission

- Carried out interviews of detainees/prisoners on regular FHRI jail/prison visits

II. **Research and Administrative Volunteer** at **ROSHNI CHARITY, Glasgow, Scotland, UK**, www.roshni.org.uk (Nov 2013 – Apr 2014)

- Efficiently handled the office and administrative work of the organisation
- Worked on various projects like 'Scottish Ethnic Communities Fund' and 'My Voice (regarding Female Genital Mutilation)' and represented the organisation at the meetings of the Cross-Party Group on Human Rights at Scottish Parliament

7. **Conferences and Workshops:**

- Attended two-days '**HRD Training Workshop: The Rights to Equality and Non-discrimination**', by **Equals Right Trust UK** and **Human Rights Commission of Pakistan**, at Avari Hotel Karachi, 28th February-1st March 2017
- Organized a Conference '**Redefining Legal Education in Pakistan**' by **SOL - School of Law** (co-sponsored by CourtingTheLaw), 5th Mar 2016
- Organized and attended a training course on **LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING (Techniques and Practice)** by **Barrister Ronan Cormacian**, legislative drafter in UK and Director of Sir William Dale Legislative Drafting Clinic based at University of London, at PC Hotel Lahore, 28th Nov 2015
- Attended Workshop on '**Progressive Abolition of the Death Penalty**', at Hotel Africana, Kampala, 30th June'2014
- Attended Workshop on '**UN International Day in Support of Torture Victims**', **Theme: 'Fight Torture Implement the Law'** at Hotel Africana, Kampala, 24th June'2014
- Attended **Cross-Party Group on Human Rights** at **Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh**, (Scottish National Action Plan launch) 10th Dec 2013 & 12th Mar 2014

8. **Publications:**

- '*Economic Social Rights (ESRs) in Court's Domain*', Sara Abbasi (December 10, 2016). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3049290>
- '*Internet as a Public Space for Freedom of Expression: Myth or Reality?*', Sara Abbasi (February 27, 2017). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3064175>
- '*Confuting Objections to Mandatory Mediation*', Sara Abbasi (June 26, 2017). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3202920>
- '*Globalization and UN Human Rights System*', Sara Gul Abbasi (September 12, 2017). Available at Courting The Law: <http://courtingthelaw.com/2017/09/12/commentary/globalization-and-un-human-rights-system/>
- '*Mediation's Struggle Against Formal Civil Justice System*', Sara Gul Abbasi (November 3, 2017). Available at Courting The Law: <http://courtingthelaw.com/2017/11/03/commentary/mediations-struggle-against-formal-civil-justice-system/>

9. **Other skills:**

- Adept at I.T skills & internet usage; Microsoft Office; Adobe; Conversant with International Research Databases like WestLaw, HeinOnline, Lexis et cetera