

BRITISH ASIANS  
**WHO'S  
WHO**  
AWARDS 2024

ASIANS  
**POWER 100**



BUCKINGHAM PALACE



HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Dear Mr. Haq

I am writing to thank you on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen for your very kind invitation to attend the British Asians Who's Who Awards 2024. Her Majesty was delighted to receive your invitation and was very interested to learn more about the annual awards. The Queen would have me pass on her warmest wishes for a very successful celebrate event.

Your sincerely

Mrs. Sophie Densham C.V.O  
Private Secretary to HM The Queen





## KENSINGTON PALACE



### THE PRINCE AND PRINCES OF WALES

Dear Mr. Haq

Thank you very much for your letter of 30th January, in which you invited The Prince and Princess of Wales to attend the British Asians Who's Who Awards on 26th April, 2024.

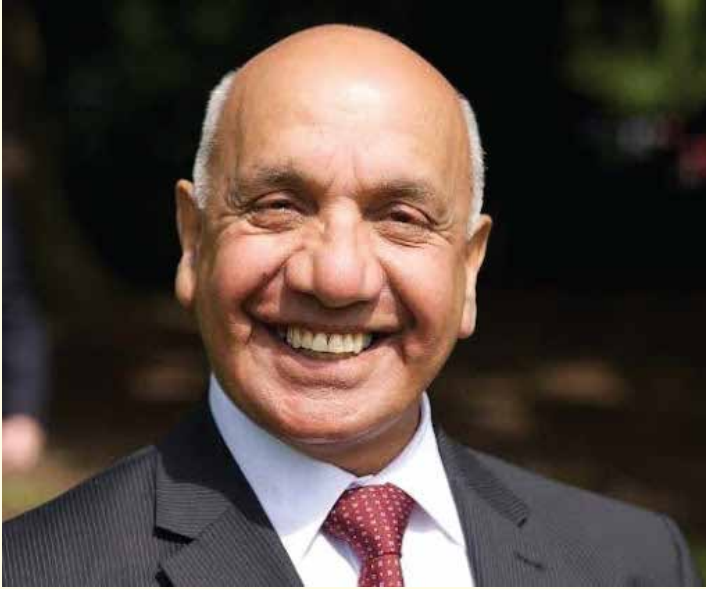
It was really thoughtful of you to invite Their Royal Highnesses, who would be extremely grateful for the kind invitation. The event sounds like a fantastic opportunity to recognise the contributions of those in the British Asian community, and please share our congratulations with all the award winners. Their Royal Highness would have me send you their warmest thanks and best wishes to everyone attending the Awards ceremony.

Your Sincerely,

Miss Katie Simon,  
Private Secretary  
The Royal Highness, The Prince and Princess of Wales



# VIRENDRA SHARMA MP



I am delighted to again support the British Asians Who's Who Awards 2024. British Asians make an outstanding contribution to this country, they make the trains run on time, manage banks, keep the NHS afloat and everything in between. British Asian Sports people excel at every level and in every discipline. From Jimmy Carter to Yan Dhanda, I am delighted to see football

becoming home to a growing number of British Asians. This year the Rich List is topped by Gopi Hinduja and his family, and Lakshmi Mittal is not far behind, British Asians are leading in sports, politics, and business. As representatives this sets an amazing example for future generations. Racism has not gone from Britain, but time and time again British Asians have shown they can overcome barriers and push new boundaries, racking up success after success. I have nothing but faith that the next generation will go further than the last and break new glass ceilings.

Across every sector and around the whole country British Asians are pillars of the community, supporting community groups and charities, taking roles in voluntary organisations, and standing for election. We mark that contribution today and recognise the value the British Asian community adds to the whole of our nation. I am delighted to be part of marking that here in the House of Commons the heart of our democracy. I am grateful to Samara Events UK for their work in putting on this event, and I am honoured to be asked to host it. I welcome you to Parliament and look forward to celebrating with you.



# ATTA HAQ

Chairman, British Asians Who's Who Awards



It is a very special day for me and I am proud of what we have achieved in the face of British Asians Who's Who Awards.

Today, I am honoured to hold the British Asians Who's Who Awards in this prestigious venue. Our main intention behind organizing this award ceremony every year is to build a positive image of British Asians.

Asians are capable in any field or Industry. Name any aspect whether it is Sports, Showbiz, Arts, Culture, Humanitarian, Community Work, Professionalism, Law, Enterprise, Property, Business and among many others.

Asians have upheld the name of their country not just in Great Britain also across the World. They have been working hard continuously to increase the credibility and reputation of British Asians. We received so much appreciation and respect from everyone which is incredible and overwhelming. On behalf of British Asians Who's Who Award, I would like to thank the United Kingdom for providing us with the opportunity of growing our businesses here in Great Britain. We salute the British democracy for promoting British Asian heroes who have done a lot for their communities.



# FERYAL CLARK MP



The continuous growth of the Who's Who awards is remarkable. The British Asian community have made significant contributions to the United Kingdom, spanning various sectors such as public services, sports, arts, literature and hospitality. The list could go on.

The strength of Britain's Asian community is also crucial to our country's economic and cultural success. Asian businesses and entrepreneurs play a key part in the life of our country and economy. Here in London, they are a fundamental part of the capital's vibrancy and success, helping the city maintain its edge in key sectors.

In my constituency of Enfield North, Asian businesses play a vital role in our local economy, not only through jobs and opportuni-

ties but also innovation, and I look forward to continuing my support to the community. I want to thank Samara Events UK for making these awards happens and I look forward to seeing it go from strength to strength.



# PRITI PATEL MP



British Asians Who's Who Awards 2024  
Every year, day in and day out, members of the British South Asian diaspora do such important work and contribute to local communities across the country.

Given their contributions, it is right that we recognise and reflect on their achievements. Our countries share a deep and meaningful bond, rooted in both the history and events that have linked our nations, and it is a relationship that continues to grow from strength to strength.

These ties between our communities could not flourish without the support of British Asians here in the UK, and individuals who excel in their respective fields whether in business, culture & sport, charitable endeavours or in politics.

At the British Asian Who's Who Awards, we recognise and celebrate these outstanding individuals from communities across Britain who are not only trailblazers, but who also help inspire the next generation of leaders.



# LORD KARAN BILIMORIA



The British Asian community has been a cornerstone of the UK's tapestry and has significantly contributed to its cultural, economic, and social prosperity.

This dynamic community, through its rich heritage and innovative spirit, has enhanced the UK's global standing in numerous fields. In the realm of technology and entrepreneurship, British Asians have founded some of the most forward-thinking start-ups, driving technological innovation and creating thousands of jobs. Their

influence extends into the arts, where filmmakers, writers, and artists introduce fresh narratives and perspectives, enriching the UK's cultural scene with diverse stories and experiences.

Moreover, British Asians have made remarkable strides in public service and healthcare, contributing to the well-being of the nation with dedication and excellence. Their political engagement has also grown, with more representation in government and public offices, ensuring that the voices of diverse communities are heard and considered in shaping the future.

Celebrating these achievements not only honors the British Asian community but also inspires future generations to continue contributing their talents and vision. Their success stories are more than mere anecdotes; they are the very essence of diversity's strength, affirming that the pulsating heart of the UK's progress and ingenuity beats to the rhythm of its diverse communities.





## RISHI SUNAK



Rishi Sunak is a British politician who is serving as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Leader of the Conservative Party since 2022. The first British Asian prime minister, he previously held two cabinet positions under Boris Johnson, latterly as Chancellor of the Exchequer from 2020 to 2022. Sunak has been Member of Parliament (MP) for Richmond (Yorks) since 2015. Sunak was born in Southampton to parents of Indian descent who immigrated to Britain from East Africa in the 1960s.

He was educated at Winchester College, studied philosophy, politics and economics at Lincoln College, Oxford, and earned an MBA from Stanford University in California as a Fulbright Scholar. During his time at Oxford University, Sunak undertook an internship at Conservative Central Office, and joined the Conservative Party. After graduating, Sunak worked for Goldman Sachs and later as a partner at the hedge fund firms the Children's Investment Fund Management and Theleme Partners. Sunak was elected to the House of Commons for Richmond in North Yorkshire at the 2015 general election. As a backbencher, Sunak supported the successful campaign for Brexit in the 2016 European Union membership referendum.

# AVTAR LIT



Avtar Lit, was a visionary entrepreneur and true force of nature who pioneered Asian radio, not only in the UK, but worldwide. He was ahead of his time with many of his projects but these laid the foundations for others to follow and build on. Avtar started his move into radio with the provision of a pirate radio service to West London's Asian Community in the early 1980s under the name of Sina Radio, and from 1986-1988 the provision of sub-carrier radio services he introduced Asian radio to Los Angeles, USA, with the radio programming produced in the UK.

In 1989 Avtar launched Sunrise Radio to West London's Asian community after being awarded a West London license by the IBA, this station was the UK's & the World's first 24-hour, independently owned commercial Asian radio Station. Sunrise Radio quickly became pivotal to British Asians' daily life, with many coming into the broadcast area from further afield to hear programming and music specifically for them.

Avtar was the first Asian broadcaster to launch on the Astra Satellite with Sunrise Radio being made available nationally to the UK and also Europe in 1991, and 1994 Sunrise Radio was launched to Greater London after being awarded a London-wide licence by the Radio Authority.

In 2000 he was the first Asian broadcaster to launch commercial Asian radio on DAB growing a DAB network of Sunrise Radio services Greater London & South-east, Birmingham, Coventry, Wolverhampton, Glasgow, and Edinburgh.

Avtar was the first Asian broadcaster to subscribe to the Radio Industry's Official audience measurement survey RAJAR and a planning system ensuring that Sunrise Radio was able to trade by mainstream industry standards.

Avtar Lit successfully set the Asian culture in a western context promoting harmony and integration, he was instrumental in the development of Asian music and new Asian talent and his news room provided wider mainstream broadcast media with ground breaking British Asian news stories. He gave Asians businesses a platform to grow their businesses economically and mainstream brands and services a direct connection with British Asians who did not buy into mainstream media. Avtar won many awards as the founder of Sunrise radio and many personal accolades were bestowed upon him including an Honorary doctorate also recognized in 2013 celebrating 40



years of commercial radio in the UK he was one of 40 people within his peer group awarded for shaping commercial Radio in the UK, he was the only Asian to make the honor list.

His legacy has many strands but the abiding one has to remain that 35 years since the launch of Sunrise Radio the station remains the UK's number 1 commercial Asian radio station to this day.



## SADIQ KHAN

Sadiq Khan Hon FRIBA is a British politician serving as Mayor of London since 2016. He was previously Member of Parliament (MP) for Tooting from 2005 until 2016. A member of the Labour Party, Khan is on the party's soft left and has been ideologically characterised as a social democrat. Born in Tooting, South London, to a British Pakistani family, Khan earned a law degree from the University of North London. He subsequently worked as a solicitor specialising in human rights issues and chaired the Liberty advocacy group for three years. Joining the Labour Party, Khan was a councillor for the London Borough of Wandsworth from 1994 to 2006 before being elected MP for Tooting at the 2005 general election. He was openly critical of several policies of Labour Prime Minister Tony Blair, including the 2003 invasion of Iraq and new anti-terror legislation. Under Blair's successor Gordon Brown, Khan was appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in 2008, later becoming Minister of State for Transport. A key ally of the next Labour leader, Ed Miliband, he served in Miliband's Shadow Cabinet as Shadow Secretary of State for Justice, Shadow Lord Chancellor and Shadow Minister for London.



## SANJAY ANAND



Sanjay Anand the Chairman and founder of Madhus LTD, a leading Indian restaurant chain and catering company. He has achieved great success in his career, particularly as the head of the UK's top ranking Asian catering company, Madhu's Ltd. Sanjay also runs a successful chain of restaurants, including an international branch in Istanbul.

Madhus started as a small family-run restaurant in 1980 and has since grown into a globally recognized catering brand. It holds an impeccable 44-year record and is proud of being the 4th generation of South Asian caterers. Madhus is the first Asian catering service to have catered at both Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle.

Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Sanjay's passion and drive led him to open Madhus at the Grove in December 2020 and Madhus of Mayfair in May 2020, both successfully. He also conceptualized a new sister brand, Madhus Brasserie, with locations at Harvey Nichols Knightsbridge and Richmond.

His expertise and contributions have been recognized through numerous awards, including the Industry Personality of the Year in 2004 and an MBE for his services to the hospitality industry. He has also received an Honorary Masters Degree from West London University. Sanjay Anand is truly a pioneer and a beacon of invention in the catering and hospitality industry.



## MOEEN ALI

Moeen Munir Ali OBE is an English cricketer who serves as vice-captain for England in limited overs cricket. He played Test cricket for England between 2014 and 2023, when he became only the 16th person to hit 3,000 runs and take 200 wickets in Tests. In domestic cricket he represents Warwickshire, having previously played for Worcestershire. He has also played in multiple Twenty20 leagues, including for Royal Challengers Bangalore and Chennai Super Kings in the Indian Premier League.

Ali made his debuts in all three formats in 2014. He was part of the England teams that won the 2019 Cricket World Cup and 2022 T20 World Cup. On 7 June 2023, Ali announced he was coming out of retirement for England Test team following an injury to first choice spinner Jack Leach, just ahead of the 2023 Ashes Series. Ali plays as an all-rounder, batting left-handed and bowling off spin.



## NEIL BASU

Anil Kanti "Neil" Basu QPM is a senior British police officer. Basu is currently a Non-Executive Director of the College of Policing, leading the strategic command course which prepares police officers and staff for promotion to the most senior ranks in the service. Basu is also part of the National Police Chiefs' Council's scrutiny board for police action plan on inclusion and race. From March 2018 to September 2021, he served as Assistant Commissioner for Specialist Operations in the Metropolitan Police and the National Police Chiefs' Council lead for Counter Terrorism Policing. He is the most senior serving British police officer of Asian heritage. In 2018, Basu received the Asian Achievers Award for Achievement in Uniformed and Civil Services. Following the resignation of Lynne Owens as Director-General of the National Crime Agency, Basu was one of the final candidates considered to replace Owens until the Home Office restarted the selection process in May 2022.

## HAMID YUNIS



Hamid Yunis is based in the City of London and is one of the world's leading corporate lawyers having practiced for circa 30 years. Hamid is the managing partner in London for McDermott Will & Emery, which is one of the world's largest and elite law firms. He is one of a very small number of Asian/Muslim managing partners in the leading markets of London or New York.

Hamid has advised clients on many high value transactions including highly sensitive matters for royal family members, governments and major corporations. Hamid works in various cross border jurisdictions including, MENA/G-CC, South Asia, AsiaPacific/China, USA, Europe and of course, the UK.

Hamid is involved in a number of charities including two interfaith organisations and a welfare/healthcare research entity. He is a keen supporter, professionally and personally, of various initiatives dealing with diversity, inclusion, equity and opportunity for all.

Hamid is married to Nosheen and has two daughters (Imania and Zara) and a son (Sulaiman). Hamid has been a keen sportsman having played football and cricket at a high level. Current sporting pastimes include skiing and tennis. Hamid also has an interest in the arts and media.

## TANIKA GUPTA



Tanika Gupta a British playwright of Bengali origin. Tanika Gupta awarded an MBE in 2008. Studied modern history at Oxford University. Worked for Asian Women's Refuge in Manchester and a community worker in London while beginning to write. She has written for television, including for East Enders, Grange Hill, A Suitable Boy, The Bill, Crossroads, adaptations and original radio plays for BBC Radio. She also wrote for the Asian network soap, Silver Street, and the BBC World Service soap, Westway.

## GI FERNANDO



Young Entrepreneur Mr. Arjuna Gihan Fernando (Popularly known as Gi Fernando) received an MBE in 2017. The Queen's New Year's Honors list awards people in the UK who have made significant contributions to society, including everything from charity, to journalism, and to technology. Member of the Order of the British Empire is the first rank of the order. Gi Fernando is a technology investor based in the UK who has backed businesses such as Citymapper, BookingBug, Car Throttle, and Plan.

## DR HASMUKH SHAH



Dr. Hasmukh Shah, a south Wales GP, has been recognised with a BEM. Worked at the NHS for over 43 years. His passion for community and charitable work was recognised in the Honours List. His charity efforts extend to raising funds for school projects in India and an orphan project in Africa. Dr. Shah was awarded Visiting Fellowship by the University of South Wales in 2017 for his long-standing medical professional work, education, and charitable work to people of Wales.

## BABITA SHARMA



Babita Sharma is a British television newsreader presented on the domestic BBC News Channel and BBC World News, presenting the Newsday strand each Monday to Wednesday from London with Rico Hizon in Singapore. Sharma co-hosted the Asian Curry Awards 2018 at the Grosvenor House in London on Sunday 18 November 2018. In 2018, Sharma won the Asian Achievers Award for Achievement in Media, Arts & Culture. Since 2022, Sharma has provided the voice over for the opening of Loose Women.



## THE SINGH TWINS

The Singh Twins (twin sisters Amrit Singh MBE and Rabin-dra Kaur Singh MBE) are British artists who work together on their artworks. Their work draws on both traditional Indian (in particular, Sikh) tradition, Western medieval illuminated manuscripts and contemporary Western culture, often 'pop culture'. Their work has been shown in galleries and museums.

The sisters' work is always credited to The Singh Twins, even if the sisters have worked alone on a piece. The Singh Twins' work is influenced by Indian miniature paintings, but deals with British contemporary culture, as well as topics such as globalisation and migration. In 2002, their work was the subject of an exhibition at the National Gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi, making them only the second British-born artists, after Henry Moore, to be accorded such an honour. Their work was also showcased in the National Portrait Gallery in London.



## JAMES CAAN



James Caan CBE, born in 1960 in Lahore, Pakistan, immigrated to the UK at the age of two. Growing up in an environment infused with his father's entrepreneurial spirit, he founded Alexander Mann, an international recruitment company, in 1985. By 2002, the company grew to become the most successful talent solutions company in the world, with revenues exceeding \$1B. James successfully sold the business to a US private equity firm, Advent International.

Beyond business success, Caan's passion for philanthropy led to the establishment of the James Caan Foundation in 2006. The foundation focuses on uplifting underprivileged families in Pakistan by constructing schools, homes, and supporting rural communities.

Engaging in the entrepreneurial ecosystem, he invested over £1.4 million of his own capital in 14 businesses during his tenure on BBC Dragons' Den from 2007 to 2010. In 2012, he became the Founder and Chairman of Start Up Loans, government-backed initiative supporting entrepreneurs with loans and mentorship, resulting in the creation of 110,000 jobs and the establishment of 28,000 businesses across the UK. James Caan received a CBE in 2015 for his services to entrepreneurship and charitable endeavours. Caan supports a diverse range of UK-based entrepreneurs through his private equity firm, Hamilton Bradshaw.



## TARIQ AHMAD

Tariq Mahmood Ahmad, Baron Ahmad of Wimbledon is a British businessman and a Conservative life peer. He was appointed Minister of State for the Middle East, North Africa, South Asia, Commonwealth and United Nations at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. Born in Lambeth to Punjabi speaking immigrant parents from Pakistan. His father was born in Gurdaspur and his mother was born in Jodhpur in British India. Tariq Ahmad was educated at Rutlish School, Merton Park, south west London. In 1991, he entered NatWest's Graduate Management programme, eventually working as Head of Marketing, Sponsorship and Branding and in 2000 went to work for Alliance Bernstein. In 2004, he joined Sucden Financial, where he served on the Executive Committee and as Director of Marketing, Strategy and Research. He is an Associate of the Institute of Financial Services and a member of the Institute of Directors.



## SHABANA MAHMOOD

Shabana Mahmood is a British politician and barrister who has served as the Member of Parliament (MP) for Birmingham Ladywood since 2010. A member of the Labour Party, she has served in the Shadow Cabinet of Keir Starmer as Shadow Secretary of State for Justice from September 2023. She previously served as Campaign Co-ordinator from 2021 to 2023, and briefly as Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury in 2015. Mahmood was born and brought up in Birmingham. Her father is a civil engineer and chair of the local Labour party. She attended Small Heath Leadership Academy and King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls in Birmingham. Mahmood graduated from Lincoln College, Oxford where she studied law and was the president of the Junior Common Room. She is a qualified barrister, specialising in professional indemnity. At the 2010 general election, Mahmood was elected as MP for Birmingham Ladywood with a majority of 10,105 and 55.7% of the vote.

## GOPI HINDUJA & FAMILY



Gopichand Parmanand Hinduja is an Indian-British billionaire businessman controlling the Indian conglomerate Hinduja Group. For many years he was co-chairman with his brother Srichand "S. P." Hinduja who died in May 2023. He and his brother were frequently named among the wealthiest people in the UK and Asia, and in the Sunday Times Rich List 2023 ranking of the wealthiest people in the UK he was placed 1st with an estimated family fortune of £35 billion.

The Hinduja brothers began their careers in their father's textile and trading businesses in Bombay, India, and Tehran, Iran. Successful early businesses included the sale of food commodities (onions and potatoes) and iron ore from India to Iran. With the acquisition of Ashok Leyland (from British Leyland) and Gulf Oil (from Chevron) in the 1980s and the establishment of banks in Switzerland and India in the 1990s, Hinduja Group became one of India's best known businesses alongside such names as Tata, Birla, and Ambani. In 2012, the Group acquired the US firm Houghton International, the world's largest metal fluids manufacturer, for \$1.045 billion, forming a consortium with the help of Ghouse Mohammed Asif, (Director of Private Equity of JP Morgan) and Hank Paulson, former United States Secretary of the Treasury and formerly of Goldman Sachs.



## SIR DAVID TANG

Sir David Tang, KBE is a Hong Kong businessman and socialite best known as the founder of the Shanghai Tang fashion chain, which he sold in 2006 to Richemont. Tang is the founder of the China Clubs (Hong Kong, Peking, and Singapore), the Shanghai Tang stores, Havana House and Pacific Cigar Company Ltd (the exclusive distributor for all Cuban cigars in Asia Pacific). More recently Tang opened the Cipriani in Hong Kong and the China Tang restaurant at the Dorchester Hotel. Tang is also a director and advisor to a number of boards, including Tommy Hilfiger. Tang was promoted from OBE to Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire (KBE) in the 2008 New Year Honours in recognition of his charity work. Sir David splits his time between London and Hong Kong, balancing his life and interests between the East and West.

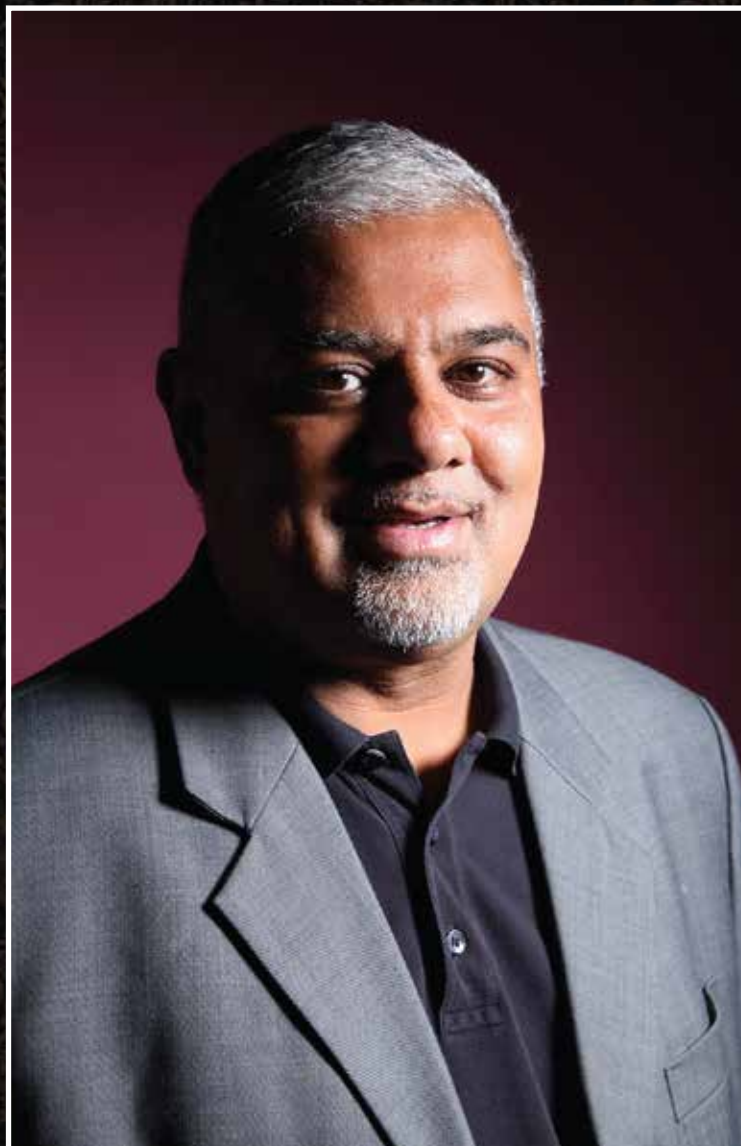


## DR KARTAR LALVANI

Kartar Singh Lalvani OBE the founder and chairman of Vitabiotics, a vitamin and mineral-based food supplements company. Lalvani was born to a Sindhi Sikh family in 1931 in Karachi. Lalvani's father was the owner of pharmacies in Karachi, Sindh before the partition of India. His family moved to Bombay after partition, where he educated.

He first came to London in 1956 to study pharmacy and went on to complete his doctorate from the University of Bonn. He founded Binatone with his brothers Gulu Lalvani and Pratap Singh Lalvani, which is currently run by Gulu's son Dino Lalvani. Vitabiotics is currently run by his own son Tej Lalvani. Lalvani's youngest sister is the socialite Bina Ramani (née Lalvani), after whom Binatone was named. In 2008, Lalvani had an estimated net worth of £200 million. He is also a philanthropist, private scholar and historian, serving as an honorary professor at the University of Franche-Comté.

# MAHMUD KAMANI



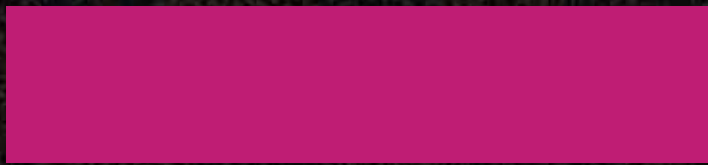
Mahmud is an Indian immigrant who came to the UK as a child. His first entrepreneurial move took him into the fashion and clothing industry, embracing all areas of the supply chain from sourcing, import and wholesale. He is best known as the founder of boohoo group in 2006 and subsequently floated the business in 2014, since when it has grown to achieve turnover of £1.8bn in the year ended February 2023.

While his role as Executive Chairman of boohoo takes up the vast majority of his time, he has over the years built a considerable property portfolio spanning across four continents and has been inspirational to other entrepreneurs in building their businesses, many of which he also backed with an equity investment.

His diverse investments include early stage and pre IPO backing of MedTech, ESG and technology related businesses. Mahmud was a very early investor in the global online publishers, LadBible and helped them with their growth enroute to their stock market flotation for £360 million pounds in late 2021. He remains a significant shareholder in LadBible today.



Sustainability is a particular focus for his current and future investments, favouring disruptive businesses with the potential to create both value and significant employment opportunities.



## RIDWANA WALLACE-LAHER



Ridwana Wallace-Laher is a trailblazing leader in the humanitarian sector, serving as the CEO of Penny Appeal and making history as the first Muslim woman to lead a major British charity. With over 20 years of senior experience in education and charity leadership, Ridwana has a proven track record of managing multi-million pound projects and leading diverse teams across the globe. Her transformative and compassionate approach to leadership is marked by innovation, sustainable impact, and nurturing the potential of those she serves.

Ridwana began her journey in the education sector, where she pursued her passion for shaping young lives. She worked tirelessly to foster inclusive learning environments, advocating for equal opportunities and expanding educational access to underserved communities.

Ridwana's extensive experience in the non-profit sector has equipped her with the skills and expertise to drive organisational growth, diversification, and digital transformation. As CEO of Penny Appeal, Ridwana focuses on future-proofing the charity in a post-Covid context, connecting with grassroots donor communities, and ensuring aid is delivered to those in need with efficiency and compassion. Her vision is to elevate the organisation's global impact, build resilient communities, and empower individuals to realise their fullest potential while maintaining a strong connection to the charity's core values and mission.



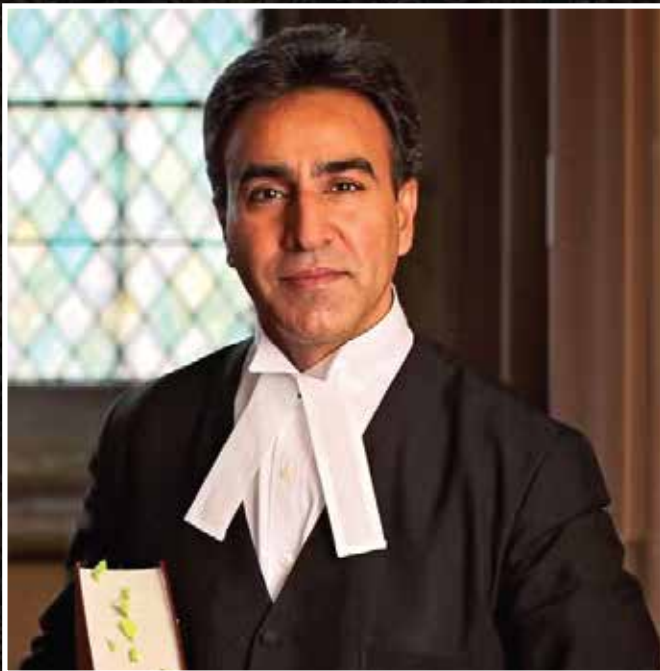
## SATVIR BUNGAR

Satvir is one of the British Asian community's highest achievers, working tirelessly as a trusted, multi-award-winning corporate adviser, holding the ICAEW and Securities Institute prestigious professional qualifications and operating in Corporate Finance field for 23 years. Satvir's professional recognition is at the highest level, with ICAEW profiling his CV and M&A transaction expertise and being awarded an MBE for services to Corporate Finance.

As Managing Director at BDO LLP (£1 billion turnover), Satvir supports the delivery of strategy to 9,000 employees, was the first person of colour appointed to this role in 2017 and leads the firm's Business Services sector.

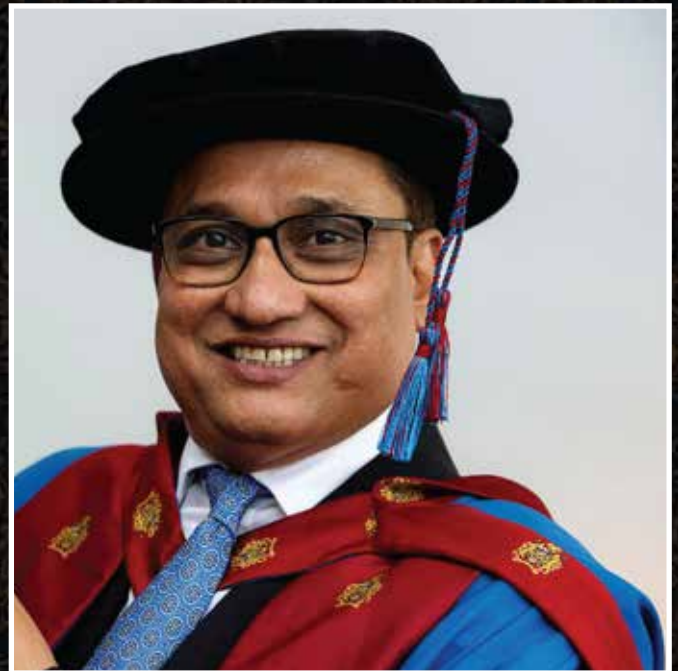
Satvir is a force for reason regarding his commitment to championing diversity, equity and inclusion, tirelessly using his professional platform to empower others including pro-bono NED roles at external charities. Satvir was selected as Baton bearer for Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games for creating sustainable society changes where he has helped deliver big movements.

## JO SIDHU QC



Jo is a criminal silk and has appeared in some of the country's highest profile criminal prosecutions over nearly three decades at the Bar. These have included numerous murder and terrorism trials, large scale conspiracies to commit fraud, drug trafficking and high value robberies. Many of his cases have involved human rights issues. In 2012 Sidhu was appointed Queen's Counsel a rank awarded to about 8% of practising barristers. Over 35 years in the Labour Party and in the legal profession he has been a leading champion for equality and diversity and a formidable campaigner against discrimination in all its forms.

## IQBAL AHMED



Iqbal Ahmed OBE is a Bangladesh-born British entrepreneur. Ahmed who is Based in Manchester, he made his fortune importing shrimp. His two companies, Seamark and Ibco, have extensive interests in shipping, hotel and real estate development, hospitality and food. Their success turned him into one of the United Kingdom's richest men. One of the highest ranked British Bangladeshi to be featured on the Sunday Times Rich List. Since March 1992, Ahmed has been CEO of the Seamark Group, which he founded with his brothers. The company Ibco is a supplier to the catering trade, and Seamark is the frozen-food processor.

# MAHBOOB HUSSAIN



Mahboob Hussain is highly respected in the Asian community and is the founder of the Nawaab name, with a long history of Successful Asian Pakistani restaurants. After moving to the UK in 1969 at the age of 15, Mahboob Hussain worked up through the ranks at a Textile factory in Yorkshire, from an apprentice to General Manager. After the textile factory moved to South Korea in 1985, Mahboob decided to follow his love for cooking.

In 1999 Mahboob introduced a new concept; live Asian cooking buffet with banqueting suites on a grand scale. The business opened its doors to the public in 2003 the likes of which was unheard of at the time in the UK. Mahboob sold the rights to the name 'Nawaab' to his previous business partners who were still operating restaurants in Bradford and Huddersfield under the Nawaab name. Mahboob rebranded his two existing restaurants in Manchester and London as 'Royal Nawaab' in 2017. Furthermore, They have opened their 3rd branch in East London in 2023 and contemplating to expand to his homeland Pakistan.

Mahboob is still actively involved in all restaurants at every level to ensure Royal Nawaab delivers the experience and quality that has made it world famous.



## SANJEET MANEK

Sanjeet Manek is a British entrepreneur and former investment banker. He attended Royal Holloway (University of London), graduating in 2013 with a bachelor's degree in Management. Upon graduation, he held instrumental roles at Deutsche Bank AG, Citi Global Markets, and Duet Asset Management.

While many remained idle during the lockdown, Manek identified a business opportunity and founded Sandea Wholesale Ltd, seizing the perfect moment to capitalize on a burgeoning market. The Harrow-based business has demonstrated resilience and adaptability, prioritizing service, value for money, quality, and the diversity of its product range.

"SANDEA" has earned a reputation as a trusted wholesaler for leading European brands of Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG), Over-the-Counter medicines (OTCs), Cosmetics, and Toiletries. It connects the right brands to the right retailers and consumers, leveraging long-established trading partnerships and an intricate understanding of the industry.

Manek's entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to charitable causes embody the company's values, positioning "SANDEA" as a unique and socially responsible player in the industry. Within three years of its establishment, "SANDEA" received accolades such as Wholesale/Distributor of the Year at the Asian Food and Restaurant Awards International and Wholesaler of the Year 2022 at the Pakistan Achievement Awards International.

"Xpress'd by Sandea Wholesale" is set to launch in 2024, offering a range of favorite Soft Drinks (Carbonated, Cocktail Ingredients, Sports & Energy Drinks, Still & Juice Drinks, Water) to independent retailers and the hospitality sector.



## SALEEM SHEIKH



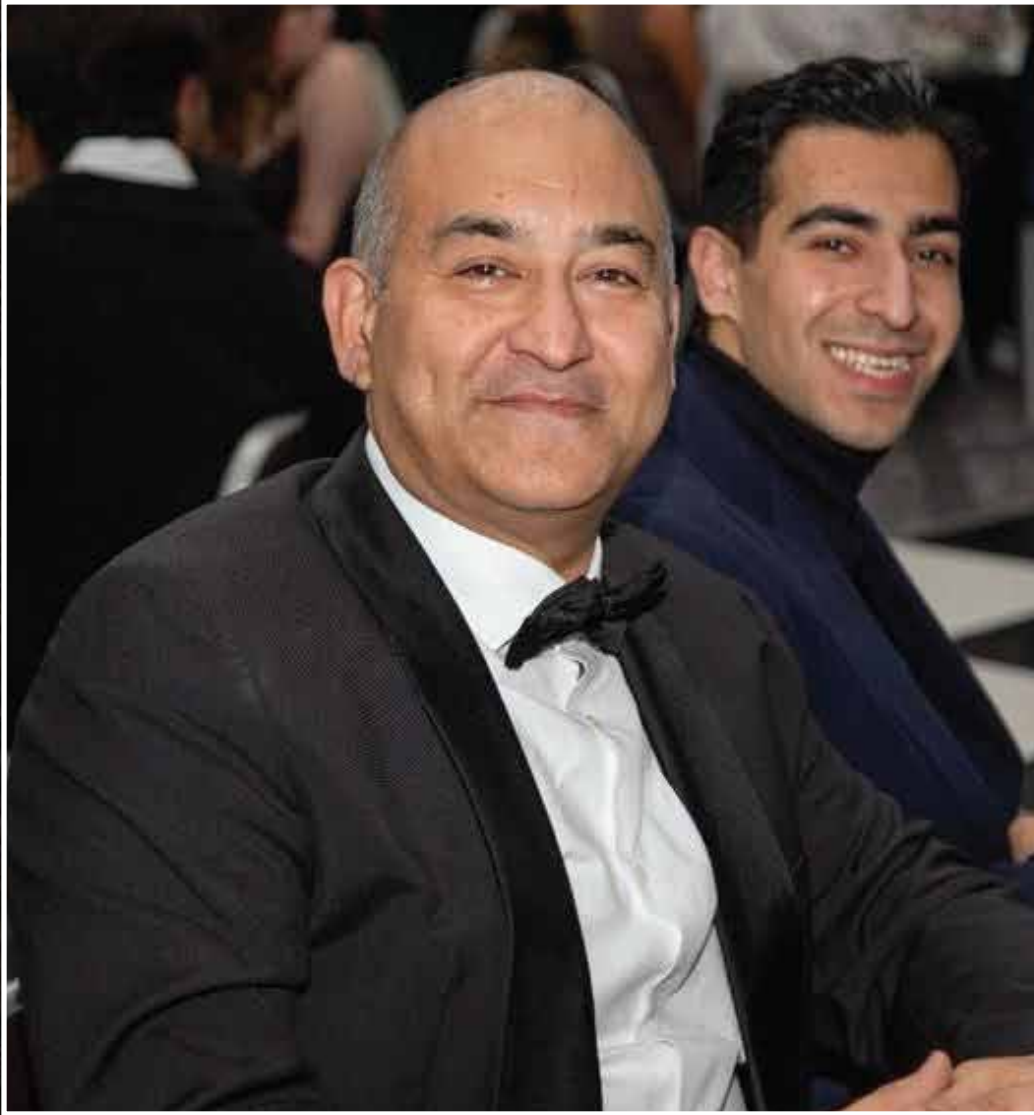
Saleem Sheikh is a leading figure in the UK's legal sector with a career spanning almost four decades. He works with a range of clients from private to corporate often with business interests across the globe. Saleem prides himself on providing a holistic approach to tackling his clients matters and treats their problems as if they were his own.

Saleem believes that his role is far beyond that of simply a lawyer and sees himself as a trusted advisor and a key part of his client's business and decision-making. He is the Senior Partner of GSC Solicitors LLP, a Legal 500 recommended commercial law firm based in the City of London advising companies of all sizes and private individuals.

Saleem drives the firm with the ethos of not just being good lawyers but good people too. The firm is well suited and adapted to meet the needs of its clients in an ever changing technological age.

He has been recognised in the CityWealth Leaders List for his wealth management pedigree. Saleem was Magic Circle Awards 'Entrepreneurial Individual of the Year', and is a 100 Power Muslim. Saleem is a key community member and believes in giving back to the community through his charitable endeavours.

# KAFEEL KHAN



In 2005, a single Costa Coffee store was the springboard for Kafeel Khan's entrepreneurial leap. With ambition and vision, he diversified into a flourishing property portfolio, showcasing his keen grasp of market trends and investment potential. Kafeel recognized the shift in consumer preferences and became the first franchisee of Chaiwala, a popular South Asian tea chain. He further expanded his horizons by becoming a Cupp bubble tea franchisee, tapping into a rising trend.

However, Kafeel's story is more than just business ventures. He's a firm believer in making a difference, actively engaging in philanthropic endeavours. His recent appointments as Trustee of the Shahid Afridi Foundation, and Member of the Saint Francis Hospice 100 Club reflects his dedication to social impact. This spirit of giving back is woven into the fabric of Goldex Essex, evident in partnerships with international and local charities such as Haven House Children's Hospice. By seamlessly integrating social responsibility into his business, Kafeel becomes an inspiration to others, proving that true success goes beyond profit and embraces positive societal contributions."

Having received numerous awards and recognitions. Kafeel Khan continues to remember his humble beginnings and offers support to young entrepreneurs and the wider community with his expertise.

## NITIN PATIL

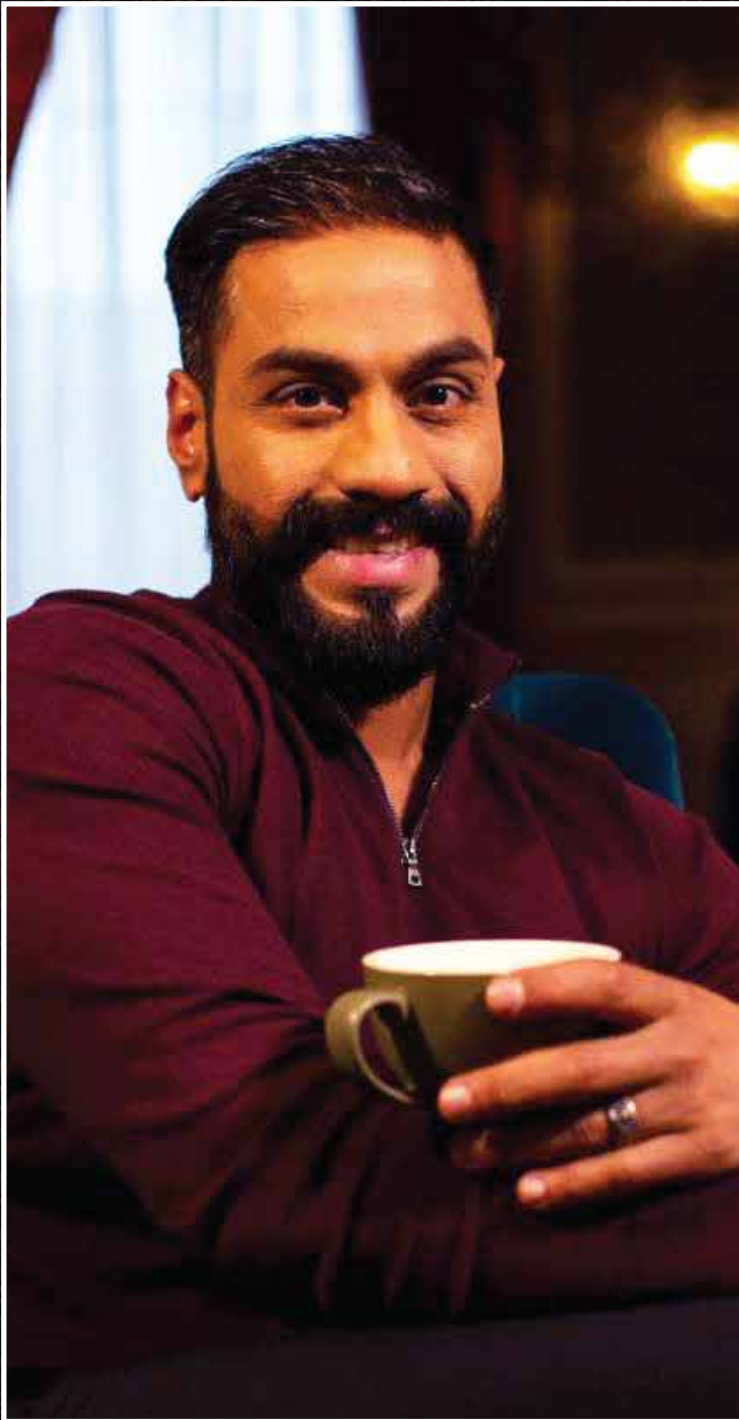


Nitin Patil, an entrepreneur fuelled by a blend of business acumen and a deep-seated commitment to community welfare. Throughout his career having navigated in diverse sectors, from Information Technology to Food and Property, establishing and nurturing businesses in the UK and beyond. His expertise lies in identifying the pulse of start-up companies, devising comprehensive growth strategies, and executing them with precision.

With a track record of international success. Nitin is recognized for his integrity, reliability, and unwavering dedication to fostering sustainable growth across industries. Outside the boardroom, he is proud to serve as a trustee for the Basingstoke Multicultural Forum for over a decade, actively contributing to its mission of inclusivity and harmony. Nitin has more than 30 years of corporate experience in building up businesses in various sectors. He is an achiever at international level, a successful businessman with dedicated focus towards customer satisfaction.

Furthermore, Nitin Patil extends his support to various local charities, leveraging his skills and resources to uplift communities and champion worthy causes. Drawing from his experiences at esteemed companies like Mastek, Satyam, and IBM, bringing a global perspective to his endeavours, having managed businesses across continents, including India, USA, and the UK.

## DR. MOHAMMED WAQAAS



Dr. Mohammed Waqaas name is mentioned in the list of people who have achieved success through hard work in the food industry. After becoming a doctor, the way Mohammed Waqaas made his mark in the food and restaurant industry is rare. Dr. Mohammed Waqaas became a part of his fathers restaurant brand Royal Nawaab and made it famous all over the world with great skill, experience and intelligence. Rather, he made his mark in the UK restaurant industry by providing the best service in shade of his father.

Why people now know Dr. Mohammed Waqaas as a role model is because he actively participated in the food and restaurant industry as well as in charity work and was always at the forefront of helping the community.

Dr. Mohammed Waqaas is seen very active in business and community activities as well as in sports. This is the reason why recently Dr. Mohammed Waqaas won 2nd place in British final men's physique body building competition and he motivated the youth to take care of their health and fitness, how to take care of yourself and how to make yourself active. The 8th Asian Food and Restaurant Awards 2023 recognised Dr. Mohammed Waqaas as **ROLE MODEL OF THE YEAR**.

Since founding MCR Property Group in 1989, Aneel has successfully transacted £4 billion in real estate, solidifying his status as a key figure in the UK property sector. His focus has predominantly been on housing development and investments, overseeing a diverse portfolio that includes over 5000 units either owned, leased, or under development across the UK. Aneel's strategic investments extend to the industrial sector, with 4 million sq ft of warehouse space currently under his ownership and development.

Aneel is deeply committed to addressing homelessness, a testament to his philanthropic vision. Through the Rafay Mussarat Foundation, named after his son and late father, he has dedicated substantial resources and efforts to combating homelessness and enhancing healthcare and education for underprivileged communities in the UK and Pakistan. This commitment has not only made a tangible difference in the lives of many but has also earned him recognition and accolades, including from the European Parliament in 2018. Aneel contributes as a board trustee to We Love MCR, further underscoring his commitment to community development and support in Manchester. Aneel Mussarat's blend of entrepreneurial acumen and compassionate philanthropy showcases his dedication to driving positive change in both the business and social spheres.

## ANEEL MUSSARAT



## SAFARAZ ALI



Safaraz Ali, a leading figure in social entrepreneurship, known for his profound impact on communities through education, skills development, and healthcare. Safaraz dedicated over two decades to creating opportunities and leading transformative change, leveraging strategic foresight and deep commitment to social mobility, diversity, and inclusion.

Through Pathway Group, Safaraz has revolutionised the way skills and employability are approached in the UK, significantly impacting thousands of lives every year. Their initiatives have been instrumental in bridging the skills gap, fostering employability, and facilitating social inclusion across various demographics.

The Multicultural Apprenticeship Awards and Alliance which were founded by Safaraz, have been a pivotal force in promoting diversity within skills and apprenticeship sector, by highlighting the importance of ethnic diversity.

Nationwide Care Services, another of Safaraz's social ventures, reflects his holistic approach to social entrepreneurship. The organisation provides crucial home care services, demonstrating Safaraz's commitment to addressing broader societal needs. Safaraz's influence is evident not only in the breadth of his initiatives but also in the depth of their impact. His efforts have led to meaningful, lasting changes, promoting social mobility, diversity, and inclusion. Safaraz Ali's work embodies the true spirit of social entrepreneurship, making a significant difference in the lives of many.

Rishi Khosla is an entrepreneur, philanthropist and investor. He is the CEO and co-founder of leading financial technology company, OakNorth, which launched in September 2015.

OakNorth is reshaping how entrepreneurs of scale-up businesses (\$1m-100m revenue) are supported in order to boost growth, prosperity and innovation for the benefit of communities. To date, it has lent over £10bn to businesses across the UK and across a multitude of sectors, directly supporting the creation of tens of thousands of new jobs and homes across the UK.

Rishi founded his first business, Copal Partners (which later became Copal Amba) in 2002 with his business partner, Joel Perlman. Together, they grew the business to 3,000 employees across 11 markets, before selling it to Moody's Corporation in 2014.

Through his family foundation, Rishi supports work to nurture agency, creativity, and curiosity in early childhood development that will enable people to unleash their potential later in life, as well as supporting medical research into rare diseases, and initiatives which support female empowerment.

Rishi is an early-stage investor in Paypal, with other investments including About Energy (battery technology), Spiracheck (biotech), and Xometry (3D printing and manufacturing). His passion is innovation and technology and giving back to community!

## RISHI KHOSLA





## SULEMAN RAZA



Suleman Raza, a successful entrepreneur in the hospitality industry, holds a Member of the British Empire (MBE) medal and the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services. Originating from Pakistan, his journey from dishwasher to restaurateur reflects determination and ambition.

Having realized his ambition, Suleman Raza opened his first restaurant, Spice Village, a 15-seater takeaway, in 2004. Today, he manages a successful business with over 200 staff, encompassing Spice Village branches, a thriving event catering and management segment, and a hotel and banqueting business. The evident success includes notable achievements, like hosting the first-ever Iftar party at No. 10 Downing Street and securing numerous awards.

Suleman Raza, an embodiment of passion and hard work, is an inspiration globally. He channels profits for charitable work, aiding the homeless and launching 'One Million Meals' during the Covid-19 crisis. His Spice Village Uplyft campaign promotes diversity, offering jobs and support to South Asian youth with limited English. Collaborating with the Royal Army, Raza contributes to the British Asian community. His vision is to eradicate homelessness, reflecting his commitment to philanthropy. Raza's journey from humble beginnings to a philanthropic restaurateur showcases resilience and determination, inspiring the British Asian community to dream big and contribute positively.

Asif Khan born and raised in Yorkshire, is an Entrepreneur, Commercial Banker, Founder and Managing Director of the well-known Janan Group of Companies. In August 2011, Asif launched the first Janan store with his brothers in the heart of the City of Bradford, a family business with Asif at the helm and his brothers taking an integral role in its operation. Asif's leadership and utilising his valuable Banking experience, Janan has gone from strength to strength with 17 stores across the country and 4 international websites.

Janan has created an unrivalled shopping experience with all major Asian designer brands under one roof. Customer experience, employee welfare, honesty, integrity and social responsibility are at the heart of the company ethos. Janan has won several awards for relentlessly high standards; "This success would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of my team and the loyalty of our clients".

As well as running a successful business empire, Asif is involved in many charitable endeavours, he strongly believes in giving back to the community and to the less fortunate. Asif credits his parents for his strong values and continued success: "It is my parents Duas (prayers) that have made me who I am today".

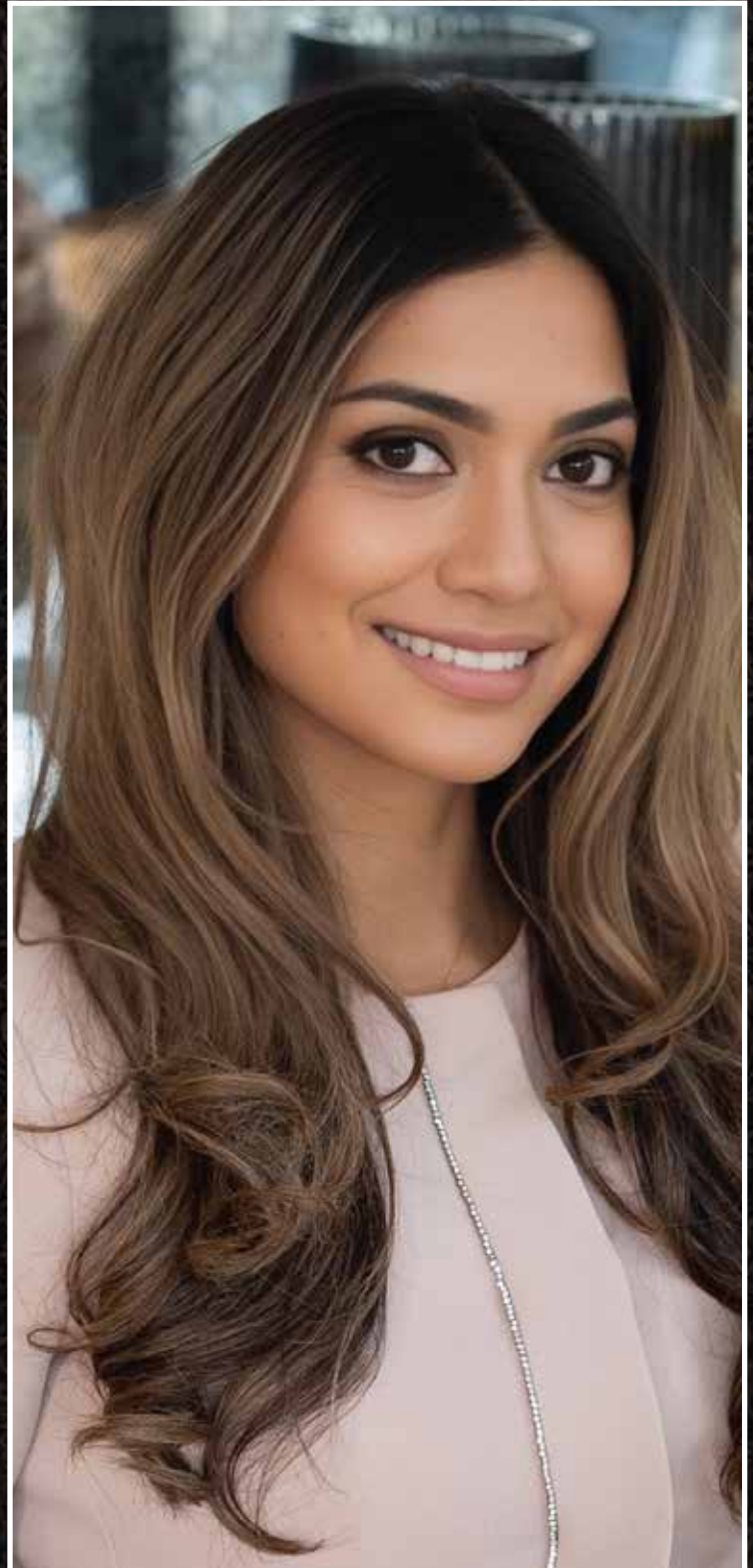
## ASIF KHAN



## DR. TARA LALVANI

Dr. Tara Lalvani is a visionary beauty tech entrepreneur and the founder of Beautifect, the leading brand for high-tech beauty tools. With a background in medicine and a passion for beauty and technology. After years of research and development, she launched the innovative, award-winning Beautifect Box, which quickly became a hit with beauty enthusiasts, celebrities and industry insiders around the world. It was snapped up by the world famous luxury retailer, Harrods in the first month of launching. Followed by Fenwick, Sephora and then expanding into the Middle East launching onto the luxury platform, Ounass. The United States currently sits as its largest market, with big A-list celebrities as not just fans of the brand, but actual customers. The brand is most often referred to as 'game-changing', it's no surprise VOGUE stated 'You'll wonder how you ever lived without it!'

Today, Beautifect is fast paced to become the global leader for best-in-class beauty tools, and Dr. Tara continues to push boundaries creating new products which focus on quality, design and performance. With Dr. Tara at the driving seat, Beautifect achieved over \$1M in sales across just its debut year and has since grown at an impressive 300% year on year! It's safe to say, Tara means business.



## SURINDER ARORA



Surinder Arora is the Founder and Chairman of the Arora Group. Having arrived in the UK as a teenager from India, Surinder founded the business in 1999, running a four-star hotel at Heathrow for airline staff. From there, he built a business based on strong principles of enterprise, including the purchase of the Renaissance London Heathrow hotel in 2012, where he worked as a waiter in the 1970s.

Today, the Arora Group is one of the UK's largest private owner/operators of hotels with specialists in property, construction, hotel development and management divisions. The Group manages assets located in key UK business areas, including major airports. It currently owns and operates 12 hotels in key locations, providing over 6,000 rooms, which include franchises from some of the largest international hospitality brands, such as Hilton, Accor, Marriott, and IHG.

Surinder and his wife Sunita have three children and are co-founders of the Arora Family Foundation, supporting social responsibility initiatives in the UK and overseas. Since its inception in 2012, the foundation has raised a total of £4.25 million which has been donated to charities such as; The British Heart Foundation, Diabetes UK, Thames Hospice, Cancer Research, Macmillan Cancer Support, among many others.

## RASHPAL SINGH NANDHRAY



Rashpal Nandhray, a Chartered Accountant, is the dynamic Founder and CEO of Satkeer Catering, a London-based company recognised for its excellence with multiple awards. In 2001, Rashpal diversified into Event Management, achieving success for six years before focusing on his accountancy career following the sale of his venture. A significant setback occurred in April 2013 when Rashpal sustained a severe back injury, resulting in the loss of feeling in both legs from the waist down. Amidst the challenges of rehabilitation, Rashpal sought solace and motivation in his passion for the events industry.

In a remarkable display of resilience, Rashpal realised his long held dream of establishing his own catering business, one committed to providing bespoke services that prioritise customer satisfaction and deliver on promises. Overcoming doubts and entering a fiercely competitive arena, he launched Satkeer Catering in October 2013. Over the ensuing decade, the company has garnered over 20 prestigious awards, including the coveted "Caterers of the Year 2023 United Kingdom" at the Asian Food and Restaurant Awards International. Celebrating Satkeer Catering's remarkable 10 year journey, Rashpal and his team honoured guests at the event, where they showcased their culinary excellence. Through determination, vision, and unwavering dedication, Rashpal has not only overcome personal adversity but has also elevated Satkeer Catering to the pinnacle of culinary distinction in the United Kingdom.

## MEHMOOD KHAN



Mehmood Khan, the founder and CEO of Dawat 'Art of Cooking', is a simple man and a culinary expert, above all qualities, he is a leader. Starting his dream as an entry-level chef in 1994, he has dedicated the last 30 years to serving his community. The unprecedented success achieved in such a saturated and competitive market has allowed him to help the world around him. Throughout the years, while climbing the ladder of success, Mehmood has been celebrated for his efforts to help his community. From receiving multiple awards from local councils in areas he supports, to aiding Islamic trusts around London.

The success of the people around him is what makes Mehmood an avid member of his community. Along with his community work, Mehmood operates as a maestro in the Asian restaurant scene. An eye for detail like no other has earned him awards such as Asian Restaurant of the Year and Excellent Management awards for his restaurants located in Greater London. Dawat also operates a catering group which is heavily recognised as a leading caterer. The advancements of Dawat in recent years, alongside Mehmood's persistent desire aims to improve and inspire the next generation of culinary artists and leaders.

# NASEEM KHAN



Naseem Khan proudly bring to you the true essence of Punjabi Cuisine. First opened their doors in 2017 already received many awards. Namji has grown from strength to strength. Namji is now a multiple Award winning restaurant. MKFM 2019 as 'The Best Indian Curry in MK'. Circus Independent Food awards 2020 "Favourite Indian Restaurant". Best Restaurant in Buckinghamshire 2021 by AFRA awards. For 5 running years we have received 'Awards of Excellence' from TripAdvisor. We have also been awarded Travellers choice 2020 by Trip Advisor. This prestigious award placing Namji in the top 10% of hospitality businesses around the globe.

Naseem's mother, Late Monawar Sultana passed down all the traditional Punjabi recipes. All meals are prepared fresh when ordered, with flavours that will excite and will create an amazing sensation on your palate. Namji has managed to establish a reputation as the Best homecooked cuisine by public vote. Naseem is very passionate and always serves it with pride. Naseem has also established her Charity organisation Give Back 2U UK which not only supports to empower women, but cooks hundreds of meals every week to the homeless vulnerable adults. Naseem established a Soup Kitchen in 2020 during the pandemic to support struggling families.

## ROMANA KOUSAR



A highly experienced and dedicated Solicitor running her own Law Firm at Legal Pathway Solicitors as well as taking on the role of a Partner at Axis Solicitors. Romana's extensive passion in law can be seen from her exemplary work in Immigration and Family Law, as well as litigation and other legal matters. Romana has always aimed to achieve the best results she can for her clients whether they require assistance in domestic violence or apply for Leave to Remain in the UK.

Romana's role involves leading a team in providing clients with highest level of services and insuring a positive result and justice. Outside of work, Romana is a well-known personality as she has been involved in various community events providing pro bono legal assistance, supporting charity work and regularly appears on TV providing legal advice on mainstream media channels. Romana is also an active member of many business and organisations for Lawyers in London. In 2023 she was elected as the president for the Women's Wing at ILCUK.

Romana's achievements shine though her progress as she has acquired many awards for her community and legal services. She has been awarded many Appreciation Certificates from various Mayors and Councillors.



## TONY LIT



Tony Lit MBE, MD of Sunrise is an exceptional individual, who for the last 25 years has proved a true champion for entrepreneurship, inclusion, and social cohesion amongst British Asians in the UK. Tony has held several prestigious posts that have contributed positively to UK society and has given his time and expertise freely to charity and voluntary initiatives. He is a respected professional in the UK's Radio Industry, and the leading and most influential figure in Asian Media, he is also an authoritative spokesperson.

With Tony at the helm, Sunrise Radio has grown from a West London commercial Asian Radio station to a London-wide service and the UK's only national commercial Asian radio station, continuing as the UK's number one commercial Asian service attracting a loyal audience. His vision, dedication, and sheer hard work has laid the foundations for Asian broadcast media to build upon developing into the diverse industry of today.

Tony's influence through Sunrise Radio helped to advance and celebrate modern British-Asian culture initiating a positive change in attitudes towards the Asian community, and giving Asians a sense of pride in their British Asian culture that takes the best from their South Asian roots and British upbringing.

## JOHN ROCHA



John Rocha was born in Hong Kong in 1953 and is a fashion, home and accessories designer best known for his minimalist style. Rocha moved to London in the 1970's to study fashion and now lives in Dublin with his wife, business partner and muse Odette with whom he has three children. Rocha also collects contemporary art and vintage cars and has a passion for fly-fishing. In 1993, the British Fashion Awards awarded Rocha with the Designer of the Year award. While fashion remains John Rocha's first love, he continues to expand his portfolio of work and to explore ever-new areas of creativity and design.

## AJAY BANGA



As president and CEO of MasterCard, Ajaypal Singh Banga is one of the most influential business leaders in the world. An outspoken advocate for gender equality around the globe, Pune-born Banga has steered his company to ever-greater success while helping 2.2 million Syrian refugees in Lebanon and Jordan in a joint mission with the World Food Programme to end world hunger. Of course, among his philanthropic endeavours and various board and consultant positions, he has steered MasterCard – sponsor of the Brit Awards - to an unprecedented level of success and remains one of the most influential business leaders in the world.



## KAMLESH PATEL

Kamlesh Kumar Patel, Lord Patel of Bradford, OBE is a member of the House of Lords. Having been appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 1999 Birthday Honours, he was created a life peer as Baron Patel of Bradford, of Bradford in the County of West Yorkshire on 8 June 2006. A qualified Social Worker, he worked in inner city Bradford and then established a number of Third Sector agencies working with those misusing drugs and those with mental health problems; later moving to academia working with a number of universities. On 19 March 2018, Lord Patel of Bradford was appointed by the Secretary of State for Education and the Secretary of State for Health & Social Care as the Chair of Social Work England. Social Work England is the regulator for all child, family and adult social workers in England.



## MARIA AKHTAR

Maria Akhtar is an award winning entrepreneur and the CEO and Founder of Smile and Dazzle Aesthetics based in West Yorkshire. Maria is a qualified Dermatologist/Skin Specialist. With the Aesthetics industry growing rapidly around the world. Maria specialises in all treatments that enhances female beauty and makes one feel empowered. Her and her team's work ethics are based upon customer satisfaction and empowering women through their treatments. Maria believes "If you look good, you feel good"

When Maria came into this field she never realised that she would be an inspiration to other females. "Alhamdulillah I feel blessed knowing that a lot of women and young girls look up to me and want to follow my footsteps, serve the community and do well in life". Maria believes in giving back to community and through her passion she motivates young inspiring females to follow her footsteps by attending schools and colleges to give insights about her journey.



## TANI DULAY

Tani, the founder and chief executive of Woodbourne Group, responsible for leading the company's operations and management. His role involves shaping the group's strategic vision, implementing long-term plans, and overseeing the day-to-day activities of directors. To date, Tani has effectively acquired, secured planning, developed, and monetised over 1.19 million sq ft of real estate across all major use-classes. The company now strategically focuses on asset-backed businesses, leveraging its property expertise. Tani has steered the company towards a concentration on life sciences and entry into the children's care market.

Tani a dedicated advocate for Birmingham, actively supporting the city through philanthropy. His involvement extends to various international charitable projects, and he participates in local charity initiatives whenever possible. Tani has been featured in Forbes, Yahoo Finance, and BBC News and is a regular speaker at global family-office conferences, real estate, and private equity forums, providing valuable insights into property, finance and investing.



## SAYEEDA WARSI

Sayeeda Hussain Warsi, Baroness Warsi, PC is a British lawyer, politician, and member of the House of Lords who served as co-chairwoman of the Conservative Party from 2010 to 2012. She served in the Cameron–Clegg coalition, first as the Minister without portfolio between 2010 and 2012, then as the Minister of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and as the Minister of State for Faith and Communities, until her resignation citing her disagreement with the Government's policy relating to the Israel–Gaza conflict in August 2014. Warsi grew up in a family of Pakistani Muslim immigrants living in West Yorkshire. She became a solicitor with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). In 2004, she left the CPS to stand for election to the House of Commons. After being raised to the peerage in 2007, Warsi served as Shadow Minister for Community Cohesion and Social Action. She became the first Muslim to serve as a Cabinet Minister.



## ZAYN MALIK

Zayn Malik was one of the five members of One Direction, an English-Irish boy band that has topped the pop charts. Zayn Malik was born on January 12, 1993, in Bradford, England, to a family of English-Pakistani descent. He had an early love for singing and performing, and at the age of 17 he competed in the television competition The X Factor.

He was teamed Dire for Adil is Im and up with four other male contestants to form the group act One Direction, who went on to become one of the most popular boy bands in music history. Malik left the group in March 2015. The following year, he released his first solo album. Malik grew up in East Bowling, located south of the Bradford city centre. He attended Lower Fields Primary School and Tong High School in Bradford. Where he took performing arts courses and appeared in school productions.



## RUSHANARA ALI

Rushanara Ali is a British politician serving as Member of Parliament (MP) for Bethnal Green and Bow since 2010. A member of the Labour Party, she was the first British Bangladeshi elected to Parliament. In April 2007, Ali was chosen as the Labour Party's prospective Parliamentary candidate for Bethnal Green and Bow. In May 2010, she was elected as a Member of Parliament with a majority of 11,574 votes. She is the first person of Bangladeshi origin to have been elected to the House of Commons became one of the United Kingdom's first female Muslim MPs. In February 2013, Ali voted in favour of the Same Sex Marriage Bill. This drew support from pro-LGBT activists such as Peter Tatchell, but condemnation from religious figures such as the Imams of mosques in Tooting and Bradford.



## AFZAL KAHN

At first glance, Afzal Kahn Design's central Bradford HQ looks like any heavily glazed modern small office block, with tinted windows on the upper floors. But as you get closer, you notice the ranks of Jeep Wranglers on the forecourt and a handful of big Range Rovers. Afzal Kahn is profitably meeting a desire for individuality among a few hundred wealthy people each year. These buyers can commission a customised vehicle that is unique and the trend among the most affluent car buyers to make their cars unique is something that has had super-premium car makers such as Aston Martin, with its new bespoke Q division racing to meet demand. Kahn was very early to this trend. He started Project Kahn in 2004 and concentrated mostly on customising Range Rovers. By the late 1980s, Kahn had set up in a small factory building glass fibre components.



## NAVIN KUNDRRA

Navin Kundra is a multi-talented and multi-lingual British singer, songwriter, actor and philanthropist renowned for his captivating performances across various platforms. With a music career spanning over a decade, Navin has amassed a plethora of achievements whilst remaining independent, including six number one singles in the Asian Charts, singing for the Royal Family, breaking a Guinness World Record with his music and singing on BBC's "Strictly Come Dancing".

He has also won prestigious awards such as the "Entertainer of the Year Award" at the House of Commons, a "British Soap Award" at the ITV Soap Awards and the "Stardust Global Icon Award" for Outstanding Achievement in Music. His music seamlessly blends contemporary pop with traditional Indian influences, earning him critical acclaim and a dedicated global fanbase. He recently performed a sold out UK Tour of his concert, "Voice Of Legends" which landed him a nomination at the Asian Media Awards for Best Live Event.



## TARIQ SHEIKH

Tariq's Father opened his first butcher store in East Putney in 1965. He started working for his father from the tender age of 16 and learned the trade, 35 years on and he now has one of the best known halal brands in the UK.

Tariq wanted to change the way halal meat was served and his concept to open high end, clean and hygienic butchers stores has become a reality. He was not happy with traditional butchers and demanded better quality range and service.

Tariq Halal Meat is one of the largest independent halal meat wholesalers in London and after 35 years in the trade he still has the same passion and drive to serve customers. Tariq launched the 1st ever halal meat franchise concept that he dreamt of and customers today now have the choice to buy halal meat of the highest standard. His knowledge and passion to industry has been invaluable.



## POPPY JAMAN

Poppy Jaman OBE a respected icon in the international mental health space; a global voice of authority on workplace mental health, working with leaders from across the world to create national policies that drive sustainable change forward. She is the Global CEO of MindForward Alliance and, over the past 12 years, has created the world's leading work place mental health organisation focused on transforming workplaces into spaces that support the mental health of their employees; partnering with global business leaders, initially in the financial services sector, to achieve her goal. Poppy also working with the World Health Organisation (WHO), as part of a Special Initiative in Bangladesh, where she is advising on the implementation of the country's national mental health strategy. In 2009, while working for the Department of Health, Jaman completed her MBA at University of Portsmouth. Jaman received the Asian Achievers Award for Achievement in Community Service.

SANJAY ARORA



Sanjay Arora joined his father Surinder in the Arora Group in 2016 as a director, where he oversees the group's new acquisitions and new developments. He was appointed Group Strategy Director in 2019 and then Chief Operating Officer in 2022, setting the vision for the future of the Group as well as continuing to diversify the existing portfolio into new sectors. Since he joined the business he has over seen the group's new acquisitions and helped develop two new landmark hotels which have become favoured venues for business leaders and Prime Ministers.

DR SWATI DHINGRA



Swati Dhingra graduated from the University of Delhi and then the University of Wisconsin-Madison, before becoming a post-doctoral fellow at Princeton University. Now also Associate Professor of Economics at LSE, she is one of the country's leading economists and an eminent member of the MPC panel who has taken a more cautious approach to recent rises in interest rates. From the challenges of Brexit to the impact of Covid on the UK economy, our winner's policy papers have had impact at the highest levels.

M. MAHTABUR RAHMAN



Mr. Mohammed Mahtabur Rahman (Nasir) a seasoned businessman and well versed in a broad range of trade ventures around the world hails from Sylhet. He completed his education there itself and pursued with passion his traditional family-owned business, which was established in the holy city of Makkah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the year 1970. He mastered the art of craftsmanship of the Fragrance Industry and surmounts the business to new heights. The quality conscious Al Haramain Perfumes has been accredited by the authorities with Dual ISO Certificates.

SHRITI VADERA



Shriti Vadera, Baroness Vadera, PC is a Ugandan-born British investment banker, and has been chair of Prudential plc since January 2021, having joined the board in May 2020. Until September 2009, she was a government minister jointly for the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and the Cabinet Office. She was chair of Santander UK from March 2015 to October 2020, the first woman to head a major British bank. Vadera was born in Uganda in 1962 to Indian Gujarati parents.



## JAY SEAN

The most successful British/European male urban artist in US chart history, Kamaljit Singh Jhooti – known to the world as Jay Sean – is the only male artist in the past ten years to have two simultaneous Top Ten tracks. A British singer-songwriter, rapper, beat boxer and record producer, Jay Sean is the first UK urban act and first artist of South Asian descent to reach number one on the Hot 100 with his American debut single 'Down' – a track embraced by hip-hop, pop and R&B fans in equal measure and racking up nearly 70 million views on YouTube. Jay Sean is all of the above. In addition to a successful music career Jay Sean is a visible supporter of community projects, performing in Justin Timberlake's charity concert to raise funds for the Shriners Hospital for Children - which became one of the highest-earning charity events of 2009."

## HAMZAH SHEERAZ



Mohammed Hamzah Sheeraz is a British professional boxer who has held the WBO European light-middleweight title since 2019. Sheeraz was born on 25 May 1999 in Ilford in London, England into a family of athletes from his father's side. Sheeraz's paternal family originates from the village of Matore, in the Kahuta Tehsil, located in Rawalpindi District of Punjab, Pakistan, and his father was a cricketer who played for Gloucestershire. His paternal grandfather and uncle were both boxers, the latter winning ten national amateur titles for the Slough and Pinewood Star clubs.

## KANIKA KAPOOR



Kanika Kapoor is an Indian singer. She was born and raised in Lucknow. In 2012, she relocated to Mumbai to become a singer. Kapoor's first song "Jugni Ji" (2012) was for a music video—which became a commercial success. In 2014, she began her Bollywood playback singing career with the song "Baby Doll" for the film Ragini MMS 2. Upon its release, the song topped the music charts and Kapoor received wide critical acclaim and several accolades for her singing style, including the Filmfare Award for Best Female Playback Singer. Kapoor subsequently earned widespread recognition and success for singing one of the Hindi cinema's top charted songs.





## NAGA MUNCHETTY

Subha Nagalakshmi Munchetty-Chendriah known professionally as Naga Munchetty, is an English television presenter, newsreader and journalist. She is a regular presenter on BBC Breakfast. She is also a former presenter of BBC World News and BBC Two's weekday financial affairs programme Working Lunch. Her early education was at Graveney School in Tooting. She studied English Literature and Language at the University of Leeds, graduating in 1997. Her first job was as a journalist on the City Pages of the London Evening Standard. She also worked on the Business Section of The Observer. Munchetty's television career began as a reporter for Reuters Financial Television, after which she worked as a senior producer for CNBC Europe, a business producer and reporter for Channel 4 News and a presenter on Bloomberg Television. She was also a contestant on the fourteenth series of Strictly Come Dancing.

## PROF. SIR SHANKAR BALASUBRAMANIAN



Sir Shankar Balasubramanian FRS FMedSci is an Indian-born British chemist and Herchel Smith Professor of Medicinal Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Cambridge, Senior Group Leader at the Cancer Research Cambridge Institute and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. He is recognised for his contributions in the field of nucleic acids. He is scientific founder of solexa and bimodal following his PhD, Balasubramanian travelled to the US as a SERC/NATO Research Fellow and worked in the group of Stephen J.

## ANILA DHAMI



TV Presenter Anila Dhama has presented and produced across TV, Radio, and online, breaking major news stories like Brexit, the General Election, Grenfell and the Westminster terror attack. She has hosted live debates on the topic of the day and interviewed many inspirational people including MPs, experts, celebrities and real people. Anila is passionate about creating a well informed electorate, promoting gender equality, and furthering the evolution of humanity. Anila has worked across renowned networks, interviewing inspirational and influential people.

## DR NIKKI KANANI



Nikita "Nikki" Kanani MBE is a general practitioner and the former chief clinical officer of the Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group. In 2018 she became the first woman to be appointed medical director of primary care at NHS England. Kanani was born in London on 18 August 1980, the daughter of community pharmacists Jagdish Kanani and Keerti Kanani. Her father came to the UK as a refugee from Uganda in 1972, and her parents met at Sunderland Polytechnic.

## THARSHINY PANKAJ



Tharshiny started out offering one-to-one tuition to students from their home. And today some 20 years later it is a truly astonishing educational establishment serving over 6,000 students with offices in London, New York, Dubai and India. The business was started by Tharshiny and her husband Selva, offering a full range of education from nursery to independent sixth form and through to higher education. The majority of their students are mature and it is now one of the leaders in its sector.



## AMIR KHAN

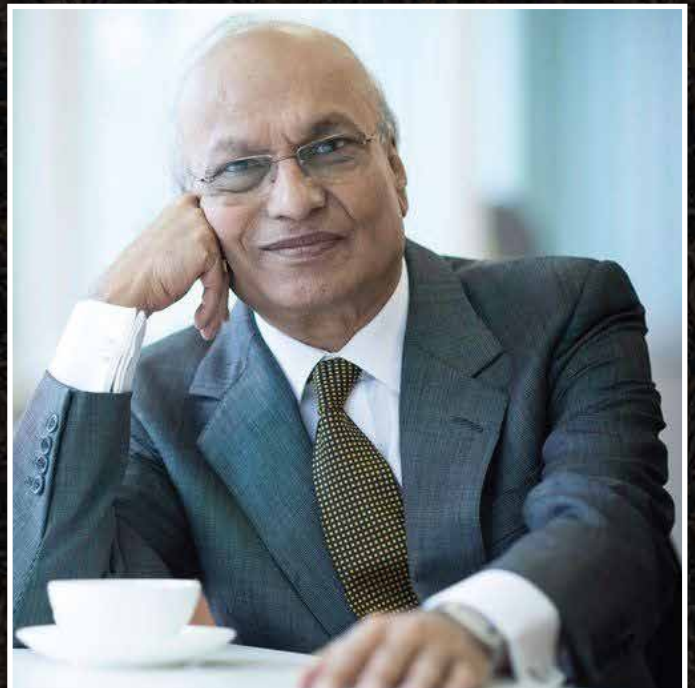
Amir Khan a British professional boxer. He is a former unified light welter weight world champion, having held the WBA (later Super) title from 2009 to 2012, and the IBF title in 2011. He held the Commonwealth lightweight title from 2007 to 2008, the WBC Silver welter weight title from 2014 to 2016 and challenged once for a middleweight world title in 2016. As an amateur, Khan won a silver medal in the lightweight division at the 2004 Olympics, becoming Britain's youngest boxing Olympic medallist at the age of 17. He is also one of the youngest ever British professional world champions, winning the WBA title at the age of 22. In July 2011, the International Business Times ranked Khan as the world's 8th best active boxer, pound for pound, while BoxRec ranked him 13th best, pound for pound, in April 2016. Outside of boxing, he has worked as a philanthropist and mixed martial arts promoter.

## SALIM JANMOHAMED



Salim Janmohamed is a remarkable entrepreneur who started out flipping burgers at his father's restaurant whilst still a schoolboy. He learnt the trade quickly and opened his own fast food restaurant over four decades ago. Using his vast experience in turning around loss making businesses he built an impressive portfolio of fast food restaurants, eventually becoming the largest UK franchisee for one of the big US brands. Earlier this year he exited the business at an impressive premium and at the height of the market. Salim Janmohamed built the Karali Group into one of the country's biggest and most respected Burger King Franchise operations.

## NIRMAL SETHIA



Nirmal Sethia is an internationally renowned entrepreneur whose business empire spans in the UK, Europe, Russia, India and the Middle East. His multi-billion pound empire, quite uniquely has no debt. Mr Sethia's NEWBY tea is one the world's leading luxury tea brands and has as part of its mission the revival of tea as a medicinal beverage and not just a hot drink. His dedicated revival of tea culture fits perfectly not just with business success, but with his charitable and philanthropic activities which, after a lifetime of business success, Nirmal has now dedicated himself to.



## SUELLA BRAVERMAN

Sue-Ellen Cassiana "Suella" Braverman is a British politician and barrister who served as Home Secretary from 6 September 2022 to 19 October 2022, and again from 25 October 2022 to 13 November 2023. A member of the Conservative Party, she was chair of the European Research Group from 2017 to 2018 and Attorney General for England and Wales from 2020 to March 2021, and again from September 2021 to 2022. She has been the MP for Fareham since 2015. In the January 2018 cabinet reshuffle, Braverman was appointed parliamentary under-secretary of state for exiting the European Union by Prime Minister Theresa May. In November 2018, she resigned in protest against May's draft Brexit withdrawal agreement. Braverman was appointed attorney general for England and Wales and advocate general for Northern Ireland by Prime Minister Boris Johnson in the February 2020 cabinet reshuffle; she was appointed as Queen's Counsel automatically on her appointment.

BINDI KARIA



Bindi is a connector of people and Businesses. Incredibly passionate about all things startup in Europe and has worked at the heart of innovation and disruption in Europe since 2000, over which she has also influenced and co-designed policy and governance at the EU level. The founder of a Boutique Advisory Firm Bindi Ventures, focused on advising and connecting the dots across four core Innovation pillars (Corporate, Startup, VC Managing Partners, Government Innovation) all in the pursuit of their commercial success.

JASVINDER SANGHERA



Jasvinder, CBE is a British author and campaigner against forced marriages and abuse. Her memoir Shame (2007) a Times Top 10 Bestseller and described in the House of Lords "political weapon". The then Prime Minister, David Cameron, said her work "turned my head on the issue of forced marriage". Her work is recognised as a key contributory factor to the creation of a specific UK forced-marriage criminal offence in 2014. She was awarded The Pride of Britain Award in 2009.

HAFSA QURESHI



Hafsa Qureshi an openly bisexual and genderqueer Muslim from Birmingham (UK). They are a multi-award winning LGBTQ+ activist, writer and public speaker. Their work has been featured in: VICE, Sky News, Channel 4, Metro, BBC News, Pink News and more. They have worked with numerous public, private and third sector organisations across their career. They currently work within LGBTQ+ inclusion and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) sector. I work to raise awareness and visibility for queer people of faith.

ONKARDEEP SINGH



Onkardeep has been volunteering for the last 15 years in various capacities within the Sikh community across the country. He has been committed to building better interfaith relations and promoting dialogue between people of different religions. He has spoken at leading faith festivals such as Limmud (Jewish), Greenbelt (Christian) and Living Islam (Muslim), his work has focussed on the foundation of youth-centred projects which unite people of faith in a common cause. He is also part of interfaith charity Three Faiths Forum.



## NUSRAT GHANI

Nusrat Munir Ul-Ghani is a British Conservative Party politician who has been Member of Parliament (MP) for Wealden in East Sussex since 2015. She currently serves as Minister of State for Industry and Economic Security and Minister of State for the Investment Security Unit. In January 2018, she became the first female Muslim minister to speak from the House of Commons despatch box.

From 2018 to 2020, Ghani was Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Aviation and Maritime and a Lord Commissioner of HM Treasury under prime ministers Theresa May and Boris Johnson. After having served as vice-chair of the 1922 Committee, she was appointed Minister of State for Science and Investment Security by Liz Truss in September 2022. Ghani was born in Kashmir on 1 September 1972, the daughter of parents from Azad Kashmir. Ghani was raised in Birmingham, England in a working-class background and educated at Bordesley Green Girls' School.

## HUMZA YOUSAF



Humza Haroon Yousaf is a Scottish politician who has served as First Minister of Scotland and Leader of the Scottish National Party (SNP) since March 2023. He served under his predecessor Nicola Sturgeon as justice secretary from 2018 to 2021 and then as health secretary from 2021 to 2023. He has been Member of the Scottish Parliament (MSP) for Glasgow Pollok since 2016, having previously been a regional MSP for Glasgow from 2011 to 2016. Yousaf studied politics at the University of Glasgow, before working as a parliamentary assistant for Bashir Ahmad, the first Muslim and second generation immigrant elected to the Scottish Parliament.

## PUSHPINDER SAINI



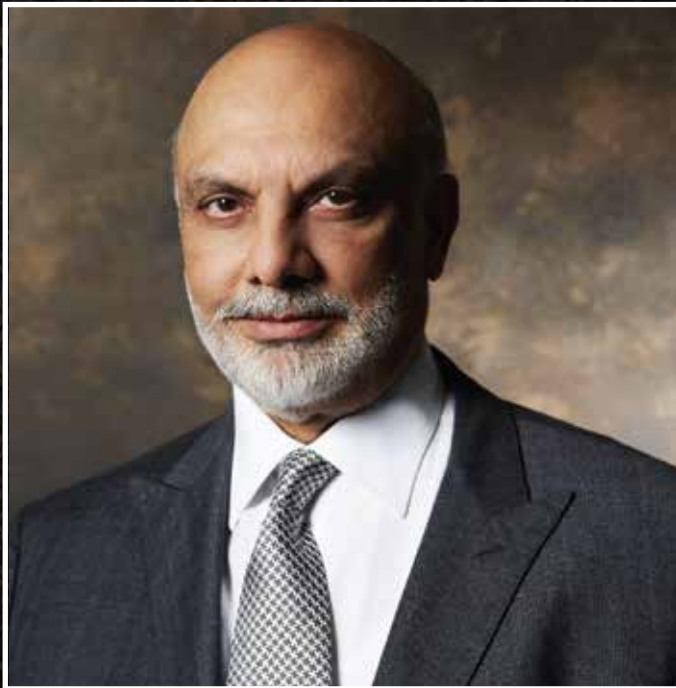
Sir Pushpinder Singh Saini is a British High Court judge. Saini was born in Nairobi, Kenya and educated at Dormers Wells High School in Southall and attended Corpus Christi College, Oxford, completing a BA and the postgraduate BCL, graduating with a first on both. He was called to the bar at Gray's Inn in 1991 and practised from Blackstone Chambers. He took silk in 2008 and was appointed a deputy High Court judge in 2017. On 1 October 2019, Saini was appointed a judge of the High Court and assigned to the Queen's Bench Division.



## SAJID JAVID

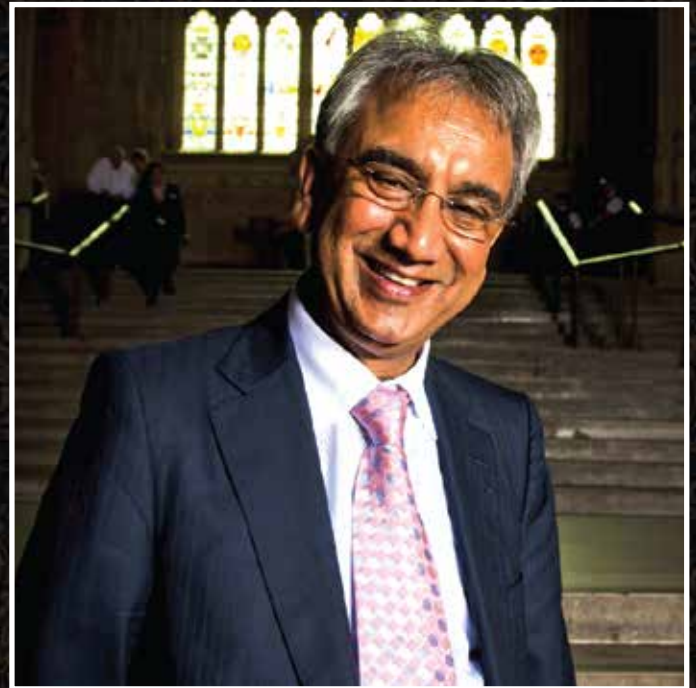
Sir Sajid Javid is a British politician who served as Secretary of State for Health and Social Care from June 2021 to July 2022, having previously served as Home Secretary from 2018 to 2019 and Chancellor of the Exchequer from 2019 to 2020. A member of the Conservative Party, he has been Member of Parliament for Bromsgrove since 2010. Born in Rochdale, Lancashire, to a British Pakistani family, Javid was raised largely in Bristol. He studied Economics and Politics at the University of Exeter, where he joined the Conservative Party. Working in banking, he rose to become a managing director at Deutsche Bank. He was elected to the House of Commons in May 2010. Under the coalition government of David Cameron he was a Junior Treasury Minister before being promoted to Cameron's Cabinet as Culture Secretary, following Maria Miller's resignation. Following the 2015 general election, Cameron promoted Javid to Business Secretary.

## JASMINDER SINGH



Jasminder Singh OBE is a British billionaire businessman. Jasminder Singh was born in Dar es Salaam, Tanganyika (now Tanzania) in an Indian family. He is the son of Bal Mohinder Singh, and they moved to the UK from Kenya in 1973, and first ran a post office together. Singh first worked as an accountant. He then began working in the hotel industry for his uncle. Through Edwardian Hotels, of which he is the chairman and CEO, Singh owns or co-owns 12 luxury hotels in central London, under the Radisson Blu Edwardian brand, and the 404-room May Fair Hotel.

## DOLAR POPAT



Dolar Popat, Baron Popat is a Ugandan-British accountant, businessman and Conservative life peer in the House of Lords. He became a Member of the House of Lords in July 2010 and is the first Gujarati to represent the Conservative Party in the upper house. From January 2013 to March 2015 he served as a Minister of the Crown at the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills, and the Department for Transport. He was Lord-in-Waiting, with the duties of a party whip. He was subsequently appointed as the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Rwanda and Uganda in January 2016.



## ANAS SARWAR

Anas Sarwar is a British politician who has served as Leader of the Scottish Labour Party since 2021. He has been a Member of the Scottish Parliament (MSP) for the Glasgow region since 2016, having been Member of Parliament (MP) for Glasgow Central from 2010 to 2015. Born in Glasgow to Pakistani Muslim parents, Sarwar was privately educated at the independent Hutchesons' Grammar School and studied general dentistry at the University of Glasgow. He worked in Paisley as a dentist until being elected as Member of Parliament for Glasgow Central at the 2010 general election when he succeeded his retiring father, Mohammad Sarwar during his time in the House of Commons. After leaving Westminster, he was elected at the 2016 Scottish Parliament election on the Glasgow regional list. Having been defeated in the 2017 Scottish Labour leadership election by Richard Leonard, he was elected as Leader of the Scottish Labour Party in the 2021 leadership election.

## HARPREET CHANDI



Harpreet Kaur "Preet" Chandi MBE is a British physiotherapist and British Army medical officer who completed a solo expedition across Antarctica to the South Pole, finishing on 3 January 2022. In January 2023, she recorded the longest ever solo and unsupported polar expedition. She was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in the 2022 Birthday Honours. She is a Sikh of Indian Punjabi descent. When she was aged 14 she was keen on tennis and left for a tennis school in Surrey; at the age of 16, she was in the Czech Republic, where Jiří Novák ran a tennis school.

## VINAI VENKATESHAM



Vinaichandra Guduguntla Venkatesham OBE is a British-Indian football administrator. He has served as the Chief Executive of Arsenal Football Club since 2020. Since 2010 in a variety of roles, he was appointed Managing Director to replace the outgoing Ivan Gazidis. Immediately before the promotion, he was the chief commercial officer. He worked at the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games prior to joining Arsenal, and is currently a non-executive director of the British Olympic Association. He serves on the Board and Executive Committee of the European Club Association and on the Board of the Joint Venture (UCCSA) between UEFA and the European Club Association.

## MALALA YOUSAFZAI



Malala Yousafzai is a Pakistani female education activist and the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize laureate at the age of 17. She is the world's youngest Nobel Prize laureate, the second Pakistani and the first Pashtun to receive a Nobel Prize. Yousafzai is a human rights advocate for the education of women and children in her native homeland, Swat, where the Pakistani Taliban had at times banned girls from attending school. Her advocacy has grown into an international movement, and according to former Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, she has become Pakistan's "most prominent citizen." The daughter of education activist Ziauddin Yousafzai, she was born to a Yusufzai Pashtun family in Swat and was named after the Afghan folk heroine Malalai of Maiwand. Considering Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Barack Obama, and Benazir Bhutto as her role models, she was also inspired by her father's thoughts and humanitarian work. In early 2009, when she was 11, she wrote a blog under her pseudonym Gul Makai for the BBC Urdu to detail her life during the Taliban's occupation of Swat. The following summer, journalist Adam B. Ellick made a New York Times documentary about her life as the Pakistan Armed Forces launched Operation Rah-e-Rast against the militants in Swat.



## MISHAL HUSAIN

Mishal Husain is a British newsreader and journalist for BBC Television and BBC Radio. She is one of the main presenters of BBC Radio 4's Today, and occasionally appears as a relief presenter on the weekday edition of the BBC News at Ten, and more rarely, the BBC News at Six. She has hosted The Andrew Marr Show, HARDtalk, Impact and BBC Breakfast. Mishal Husain was born on 12 March 1973 in Northampton, England, to Pakistani parents. Her mother was a teacher and former producer for Pakistan Television Corporation, and her father was a urologist. She has a younger brother. She is the granddaughter of Syed Shahid Hamid, the first Director-General of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence. Husain was privately educated at the British School in Abu Dhabi; the family were also based in Saudi Arabia for a period. Husain returned to England at the age of 12 to continue her private education at Cobham Hall School, an independent school in Kent.

## ISA GUHA



Isa Tara Guha is a British cricket commentator, television and radio cricket broadcaster, and a former England cricketer who played in the 2005 World Cup and the 2009 World Cup. She cites winning the World Cup in 2009 as a career highlight. She played as a right-arm medium bowler and right-handed batter. She appeared in 8 Test matches, 83 One Day Internationals and 22 Twenty20 Internationals for England between 2001 and 2011. She played domestic cricket for Thames Valley and Berkshire.

## ZEESHAN HAIDER



Zeeshan Haider, FCCA, CFA a chartered certified accountant by qualification as is currently the Chief Business Officer at UBL UK. Mr. Haider has proven himself as a leader in the finance industry for over a decade in the UK. He has demonstrated tenacity, perseverance and constant improvement to achieve a position of influence and trust within the banking community. Zeeshan's contributions to various organisations further demonstrate his industry knowledge and achievements. Zeeshan representing the qualities required for success and leadership in the finance sector.



# MUHAMMAD SUFYAN MOAVIA



As a Chartered Certified Accountant who arrived in the UK in 2003 with just £250, his journey has been one of tenacity and achievement. Qualifying ACCA in 2005, he founded IBISS & CO in 2009, starting from a humble bedroom and study table. Specialising in owner-managed businesses and property landlords, he became a chartered tax advisor in 2017. IBISS & CO has evolved from a sole practitioner in a small room to a thriving practice with five UK offices, over 50 professionals, and 3000 clients. Honoured as the best accountant and tax advisor for landlords at the Landlord Investment Show Awards in 2022 and a finalist in 2023.

Distinguishing themselves through unwavering commitment to excellence and innovation, they transcend mere number crunching, crafting financial strategies that empower clients in tax planning. Notably, saved over £20 million in Inheritance Tax, showcasing their intricate financial expertise.

Beyond financial accomplishments, their community involvement is profound. IBISS & CO is more than a business; it embodies resilience, ambition, and community impact. As they navigate the financial world, they focus on empowering clients, enriching communities, and creating global opportunities. They aspire to be torchbearers of positive change in the world of accountancy.

DR ANIL KUMAR OHRI



Dr Kumar became a consultant in learning disability in 1989 when he treated patients in secure settings and developed his forensic interest. In 2004 became the medical member of the mental health review tribunal panel. In 2010 he became the Second Opinion Appointed Doctor (SOAD) for Wales. He received training in assessment of capacity under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 has good working knowledge of the Mental Health Act 1983. He also has graduate and post graduate qualifications in law.

TRISHNA BHARADIA



Trishna Bharadia a multi-award winning patient engagement consultant and advocate, working with multiple stakeholders to better embed the patient voice across the healthcare ecosystem and medicines development lifecycle. Main interests lie in good and equitable patient engagement practice; diversity issues in healthcare, clinical research; patient involvement in scientific publications and health information; empowering patients for shared-decision making and self-management.

MANJIT GILL



Manjit Gill MBE Founder and CEO of Binti International received an honour from Her Majesty for the work she did around the taboo subject of periods; Menstruation. The foundation of life and a regular occurrence for half of the world's population, periods still remain a conversation that nobody really wants to have. We are finally making tracks in the road and making talking about periods the norm within family homes, Bollywood, Hollywood, with politicians, fathers, sons, brothers, husbands and friends.

ZLAKHA AHMED



Zlakha Ahmed MBE is the founder of Apna Haq and has over 21 years of experience developing and overseeing violence against women support services at a local level, while influencing strategy, policy and procedure at a regional, national, European and global level. Apna Haq is a community organization that seeks to help women from ethnic communities who suffer from abuse. In 2016, Zlakha was awarded an MBE award by the Queen of England for her outstanding service to the community.



## VARUN SHARMA

Varun Sharma, the dynamic entrepreneur and owner of London's premier mobile bar company. With a keen eye for innovation and a passion for creating unforgettable experiences has become a trailblazer in the events industry. Having redefined the art of mobile bars, providing top-notch services that elevate any occasion.

Varun is known for hosting the most popular and high-quality events in the city, curated a portfolio that boasts exclusive gatherings at the poshest venues across London. Meticulous attention to detail and commitment to excellence have earned Varun a reputation as a trend-setter in the event planning scene and helped create a brand image of Hyjack Cocktails.

From chic cocktail soirees to lavish corporate functions, clients turn to for their expertise in crafting bespoke beverage experiences that leave a lasting impression. Varun Sharma stands as a shining example of entrepreneurial success and a maestro of mobile bar extravagance in the heart of London.

## TEJ LALVANI



Tej Lalvani is the CEO of Vitabiotics, the largest vitamin company in the UK and a Dragon the current hit BBC show Dragon's Den. With his experience leading Vitabiotics to become one of the leading and most innovative nutrition companies in the world, Tej brings to the Den shrewd business expertise and a passion for developing brands. Founded in 1971 by his father, Professor Kartar Lalvani, Tej has overseen the phenomenal growth of Vitabiotics for twenty years, driving the company's expansion to sell its products in over 100 countries.

With Professor Kartar Lalvani still remaining as Chairman, the family business run by Tej now turns over £300 million annually and is renowned for producing many of the UK's number one selling vitamins including Wellwoman, Perfectil and Pregnacare. The company has won various awards, including Boots' Supplier of the Year and the Queen's Award for Innovation. From an early age, Tej was immersed in every aspect of the business. After following in his father's footsteps studying pharmaceutical science in London, Germany and India, Tej took a periodical role in each department at Vitabiotics to understand every functionality of the company in depth. His first position was a junior role, driving forklift trucks in the warehouse.



## SHAHID KHAN (NAUGHTY BOY)

Shahid Khan, known by his stage name Naughty Boy, is an English DJ, songwriter, record producer and musician. Shahid has enjoyed outstanding success in music and has launched himself as an acclaimed record producer under the moniker Naughty Boy. He runs his own production company called Naughty Boy Recordings. He has produced two top-ten records for UK rappers Chipmunk and Wiley, both featuring Emeli Sande and also co-wrote and produced Sande's debut album, *Our Version of Events* (2012), which was named as the Critics' Choice for the 2012 BRIT Awards. It sold nearly two million albums in the UK alone and is the biggest selling UK album in both 2012 and 2013. Naughty Boy spent 2011 and 2012 working on records for Leona Lewis, JLS, Cheryl Cole, Jennifer Hudson, Alesha Dixon and Tinie Tempah, among others. In 2013, Naughty Boy released his debut album *Hotel Cabana*.

## KRISHNAN GURU-MURTHY



One of the most recognisable faces in British TV, Krishnan Guru Murthy is a key part of the broadcast team of Channel 4 and a national treasure in his own right. From cutting his teeth on children's news at the BBC he then switched to the then-new BBC News 24 before moving over to Channel 4. There he became an ambassador for Unreported World, has interviewed some of the world's biggest stars and reported on a host of live events, including London 2012, the Winter Olympics 2014 and the re-burial of Richard III in Leicester.

## SIR HARPAL KUMAR



As CEO of Cancer Research UK, Sir Harpal Kumar has helped change the lives of millions and, in the process, changed the way we think of a disease that directly affects nearly 40% of people. Today as many people survive cancer as die from it and Kumar's influence on that statistic cannot be understated. However, as shown in his report, "Achieving World-Class Cancer Outcomes: A Strategy for England 2015-2020," there's still plenty to be done in the fight against cancer, a fight that few people are more qualified than Sir Harpal to take on.

## NASIR YOUNAS



Nasir Younas, a respected Award-winning entrepreneur, has had a journey which embodies perseverance, dedication, and remarkable success. Nasir's extensive experience in Hospitality Management, Real Estate, and the Food Service Industry has been nurtured through years of leadership and strategic insight. From humble beginnings as a waiter and delivery boy to ascending the ranks to become a celebrated manager within the hospitality industry and now a business owner, his 15-year journey has been nothing short of inspirational.

Today, as CEO/Founder of Authentic Pakistani Cuisine Brand name, Haweli Restaurant Ilford and Southall, Nasir has overseen the successful establishment of a celebrated culinary destination. Under his guidance, Haweli has garnered acclaim, receiving the prestigious "Best Upcoming Restaurant of the Year" award in August 2022 at Wembley Arena. Nasir's strategic vision and hands-on approach have propelled Haweli to new heights, with an executed expansion into catering and additional location in 2023. In the Span of 3 years, Haweli have become well known Pakistani's cuisine within South Asians in London. Nasir also have intensions to expand further into new locations in London and across UK in 2024 and years to come.

Behind every triumph lies a story of perseverance and determination, qualities that Nasir embodies wholeheartedly.



## SEEMA MALHOTRA

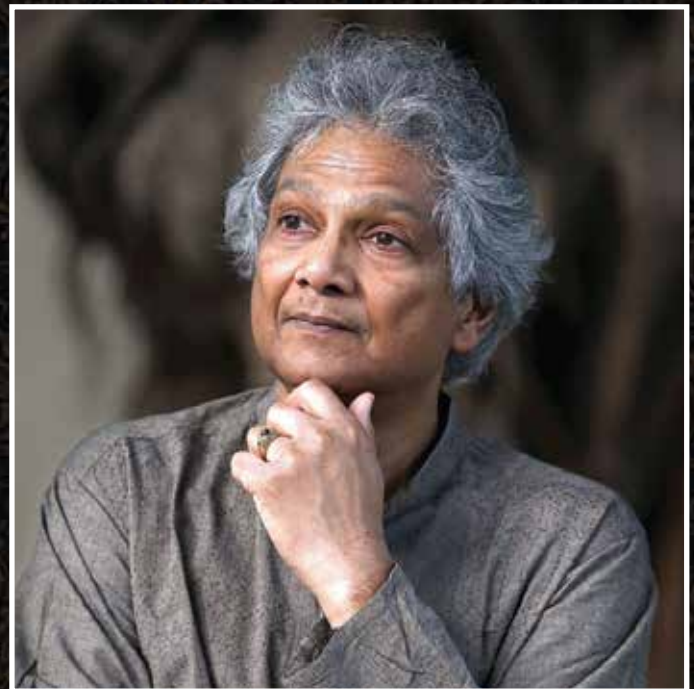
Seema Malhotra is a British politician serving as the Member of Parliament (MP) for Feltham and Heston since 2011. A member of Labour and Co-operative, she has served as Shadow Minister for Business and Consumers since 2021 and previously sat on the opposition front bench as the Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Shadow Minister for Employment and a shadow Home Office minister. One of five children of Sushil Kumar Malhotra (1941–2014), of Osterley, a shop owner, formerly a financial adviser and an engineer, and his wife Usha, she was educated at schools in the London Borough of Hounslow, studied politics and philosophy at the University of Warwick and took a postgraduate degree in business and information studies at Aston University.

## NEETA PATEL



Neeta Patel CBE is a Non-Executive Director at FTSE 250-listed Allianz Technology Trust PLC and Albion Venture Capital Trust PLC and was Founding CEO of the NEF+ programme, and latterly of the merged Centre for Entrepreneurs (CFE), for 11 years until May 2022. CFE is the UK's leading entrepreneur development programme and since its launch in 2011, nearly 350 people have gone through the programme, launching 200+ ventures, raising £240m with an aggregate valuation of £600m created more than 5000 jobs. Neeta was awarded a CBE in 2020 and is a mentor to a number of CFE founders; Board Member at City Ventures.

## ROMESH GUNASEKERA



Romesh Gunasekera FRSL is a Sri Lankan-born British author, who was shortlisted for the Booker Prize for his novel Reef in 1994. He has judged a number of literary prizes and was Chair of the judges of Commonwealth Short Story Prize competition for 2015. His first book, Monkfish Moon, a collection of short stories reflecting the ethnic and political tensions that have threatened Sri Lanka since independence in 1948, was published in 1992, and was shortlisted for several prizes. His 1994 novel Reef was shortlisted for the Booker Prize. Gunasekera travels widely for festivals, workshops and British Council tours.

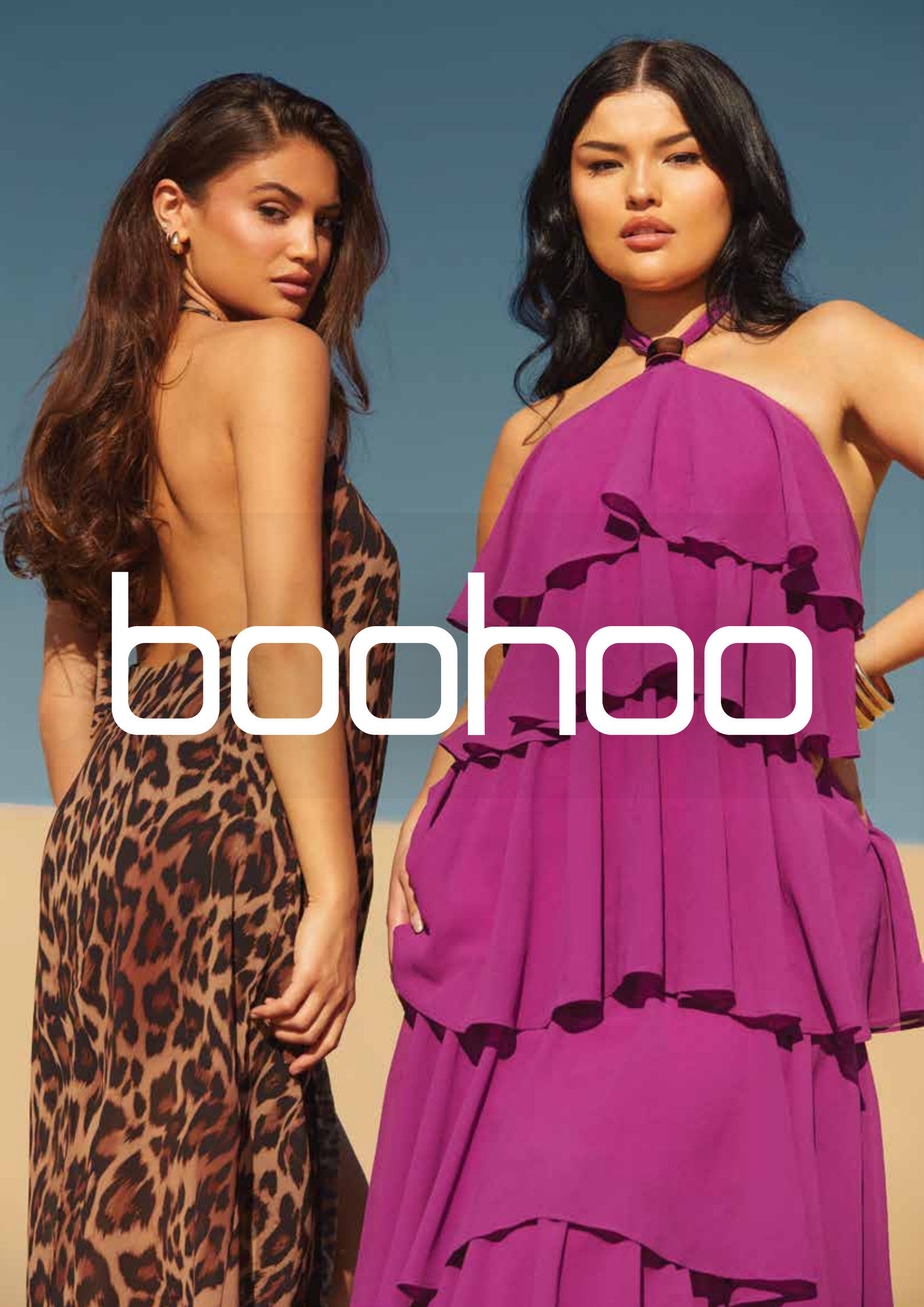
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Penny Appeal is a domestic relief humanitarian organisation dedicated to serving vulnerable communities in over 60 crisis-hit countries. Through our various programmes, we are committed to turning small change into a BIG difference in the lives of those most in need around the world.

Our OrphanKind appeal, which works to provide orphan children with the essential love, nurturing, and support they need in life, is at the forefront of our transformational programmes. By supporting orphan children, we are providing them with the care they so rightfully deserve, and a chance to break free from the cycle of poverty, and we welcome everyone at the British Asians Who's Who Awards 2024 to get involved in this truly remarkable initiative.



*On behalf of the entire Penny Appeal team, I'd like to extend a huge thank you to Virendra Sharma MP for hosting this incredible event.*

*It's a great honour to be a part of this prestigious event and to be personally nominated for the 'Humanitarian of the Year Award' and chosen to present the 'Women Empowerment Award'.*

*As the first female CEO of a major British Muslim charity, empowering women and young girls has become part of my everyday life. This includes vulnerable orphan girls around the world, who I am particularly passionate about supporting and empowering. And as such, I am proud to share that our brand-new, state-of-the-art Orphan Village Complex, 'Mera Apna Ghar', is supporting some of Pakistan's most vulnerable orphaned girls.*

*Designed to accommodate 100 girls in total, the complex comprises of homes with fully furnished bedrooms, dedicated sports facilities, communal areas, and classrooms where lessons are delivered in various subjects, ensuring every single girl is provided with the resources they need to thrive. With your support, we can offer homes like this to many more of the 153 million orphan children around the world.*

*As you enjoy this year's British Asians Who's Who Awards, I encourage you to join us on our mission of transforming the lives of orphan children forever – Insha'Allah.*

*Ridwana Wallace-Laher*

Ridwana Wallace-Laher  
Penny Appeal CEO



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