



L I B E R T A S
CHAMBERS

M. Ayaz Qazi KC

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Year of Call: 1993

Year of Silk: 2024

Ayaz is a specialist criminal practitioner and exclusively defends. His practice has developed into one which is 'serious crime' heavy.

His cases routinely involve significant and sensitive issues of both fact and law. He has appeared in many high-profile matters, most notably R v Ahmed an honour-based killing which at the time was described in the Sunday Times Review as one of the most extraordinary cases of modern times.

His consistent excellence in Advocacy was recently recognised by his appointment to silk.

His recent workload has included:

R v MA 2020 – Gross Negligence Manslaughter

R V TM 2021 – Drive by shooting

R v AY 2022 - Multiple shootings / Murder / Attempted Murder

R V LH 2022 - Attempted Murder

R v EK 2023 - Rape

R v SA 2023 – Preparatory acts of Terrorism

R v BE 2023 - Petroleum related Duty Evasion

R v SA 2023 - Attempted Murder x 3

R v LH 2023 - Conspiracy to Supply Class A (£1 billion)

R v DW 2024 - Duty Evasion

Throughout the last fifteen years of practice, Ayaz has regularly been instructed in cases like his recent workload. He has excelled in cases where the allegations have been of a sexual nature. His handling of vulnerable witnesses and conduct of sensitive cross examinations have been commended by the judiciary.

He has appeared for the defence in many of the gang related 'grooming' cases tried throughout England and Wales. He is a vulnerable witness trained advocate and routinely conducts s28 hearings.



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In financial related crime he continues to receive instructions in complex frauds and particularly cases relating to the evasion of duty. He has substantial experience of cases presented with voluminous evidence. These have included MTIC Fraud where he has often appeared as case leader.

In 2023, appeared as case leader for the defence in a Prosecution involving the single largest seizure of Class A drugs in Yorkshire. The allegation of conspiracy to supply was valued in the region of a billion pounds. The negotiation to a much lesser offence after the Trial had commenced resulted in the Defendant receiving a term of imprisonment leading to his imminent release.

MEMBERSHIPS:

Ayaz is a member of:

- Grays Inn;
- Criminal Bar Association

LANGUAGES

Ayaz speaks Urdu and Punjabi fluently.

Testimonials

"Ayaz is a very well-prepared advocate with great client care management." – Chambers and Partners, 2025

"He is approachable and works well in a team." – Chambers and Partners, 2025

"Ayaz is excellent for serious cases such as large-scale drugs supply and rape cases." – Chambers and Partners, 2025

"He thinks things through and is a go-to for big cases." – Chambers and Partners, 2025

"Ayaz is tactically astute and very good in court." – Chambers and Partners, 2025

"Ayaz is, without the least hesitation, a class act. His approach to cases is based on excellent preparation and thoroughness to the extent of minute detail." – Legal 500, 2023