



Chief J-K Gadzama SAN

CALL: 1996 (N)

CALL: 2008 (E&W)

Introduction

Chief Joe-Kyari GADZAMA MFR, SAN, FCIArb. (UK) is a very high profile and successful Commercial and Constitutional lawyer in Nigeria, who was called to the Nigerian Bar in 1986. He was appointed a Notary Public in June 1996 and a Senior Advocate of Nigeria(SAN) in 1998. Gadzama was subsequently called to the English Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 2008. He is a CEDR Accredited Mediator, a Fellow and the Chairman of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, UK, Abuja and a Regulatory Consultant.

Professional Experience

Gadzama's professional experience spans a vast area of adjectival and procedural law. He has been external Solicitor to several Merchant, Commercial, Development and Industrial Banks; adviser to major multinational corporations and indigenous companies and organizations and network individuals in Nigeria.

He is one of the leading counsel to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), and also the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). He has appeared in some of the most famous and ground breaking cases in Nigeria on Constitutional Law and other aspects of Nigerian law.

He is registered with the Securities & Exchange Commission as a Capital Market Consultant and is a partner in the legal consortium of Legal Advisory Partnership (LAP), comprising foreign and indigenous lawyers charged with the responsibility of providing legal services to the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) Abuja, from April, 2004 to July, 2007. Aside this very important assignment, he is a Legal Consultant to Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE), the Secretariat of the National Council on Privatization (NCP).

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Other accomplishments in his portfolio include; Legal Adviser, University of Maiduguri Alumni Association (2001-2003); Member, Board of Trustees, University of Maiduguri Alumni Association 2005 to-date; Vice President (Legal) Abuja Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture. (2003 till date); Member, Presidential Advisory Committee on the Prerogative of Mercy, July 2005 to date; Member, Nigeria-Finnish Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Founding member and Vice President of the Nigerian-Italian Chamber of Commerce (NICIN); Member, Centre for Law and Business, Lagos and Member, Negotiation and Conflict Management Group (NCMG); Board Member, Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC), 2008-till date; Board Member, Diamond Pension Fund Custodian Ltd., 2009 till date; Board Member Lagos Court of Arbitration, 2009 till date.

Several continuing education courses at both the national and international levels especially in the areas of Arbitration, Mediation and Dispute Resolution; Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration from Keble College, Oxford University, UK 2006; Institute of Public-Private Partnership (IP3), Washington DC October, 2009; Short Course on Regulation at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Basket of continuing legal education capacity development includes training in energy and natural resources, oil and gas, Arbitration and Conciliation, Commercial Law, Capital Markets Operations and Regulatory Services.

Arbitration & ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution)

- i. Member, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) (2001 to date).
- ii. Executive Committee Member, Nigerian Branch of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) 2002 – 2005.
- iii. Member, Governing Board of the Abuja Multi-Door Courthouse – AMDC- (ADR Center) 2003 – 2004.
- iv. Member, Screening and Selection Committee of the Abuja Multi-Door Courthouse (ADR center) 2003 – 2004.
- v. Member of the Panel of Neutrals, Abuja Multi-Door Courthouse (ADR center) 2003 till date.
- vi. Member and Sponsor, Negotiation and Conflict Management Group (NCMG).
- vii. Member, London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA).
- viii. Mediator, jointly accredited by the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution, England (CEDR) and Negotiation and Conflict Management Group (NCMG).
- ix. Chairman, Association of CEDR Accredited Mediators of Nigeria (ACAMON) 2004-2010.

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x. Member, National Committee on the Reform & Harmonization of Arbitration and ADR Laws in Nigeria.

xi. Chairman, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK), Abuja Chapter, 2012 – till date.

xii. Board Member, Lagos Court of Arbitration 2010 – till date.

Membership of Professional Bodies/Associations and Community and National Development

Active and selfless services to the Nigerian Bar as Member, Nigerian Bar Association 1986 to date; Member General Council of the Bar (Nigeria) 2004 to date; Member, National Executive Committee of the Nigerian Bar Association (1998 to date); Member, Council of Legal Education Nigeria (2002 to 2003); Chairman, Nigerian Bar Association, Abuja Branch Jan. 2003 to Dec. 2004; Member, Body of Benchers 2007 to date, Member, West African Bar Association (WABA); Member, African Bar Association (ABA); Member, International Bar Association (IBA); Member, Commonwealth Lawyers' Association (CLA); Member, Pan African Lawyers' Union (PALU); Member, South Eastern Circuit, Bar of England and Wales; Chairman, 2005 NBA Conference Planning Committee; Pioneer Chairman, Nigerian Bar Association Section on Public interest and Development Law (SPIDEL) November 2006 to Friday, 12th November, 2010; Member, Presidential Policy Advisory Committee (PPAC)Judiciary/Legislature Sub-Committee (1999); Member, Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF); Associate Member, American Bar Association, Chairman, Board of Trustees, University of Maiduguri Alumni Association (August 2012 till date), Captain, IBB International Golf and Country Club 2004-2005; Member of Ikoyi Club 1938, Kaduna Golf Club, Rayfield Golf Club Jos, Kano Club Port-Harcourt Golf Club and Trustee of Lake Chad Club, Maiduguri.

Honours and Awards

National Honour of Member of the Order of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (MFR) December 2004; Nigerian Bar Association Merit Award, 2002; December 2003; West African Nobles Award, Ghana and winner of the prestigious Holstrom Golf Trophy of the International Bar Association (IBA) Conference in Prague, Czech Republic, 2005.

Selected Papers and Presentations

1. Keynote Address on Privatization, Bureau of Public Enterprise (BPE) National Workshop in Yola, Adamawa State 2000.

2. Roles of Courts and lawyers in the Administration of Justice, NBA Maiduguri, 10th July, 2000.

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3. Cordiality between Judges and Lawyers: It's Desirability and Limitations, NBA, Annual General Conference, 2000.
4. Causes of Communal Conflicts and Crises in Nigeria, NBA General Conference, Ibadan, Oyo State, 2002.
5. The Role of Lawyers in the sustenance of Democracy in Nigeria, NBA Abuja Branch.
6. The Concept of Judicial Review, Nigerian Law School, Abuja, 2003.
7. Stay of Court Proceedings Pending Arbitration: International Workshop on Arbitration and ADR in Africa July, 2004, Abuja.
8. Development and Practice of ADR and Arbitration in Nigeria, NBA Annual General Conference, Abuja, August 2004.
9. Privatization in Africa, IBA Conference, Prague, Czech Republic, 2005.
10. Integration of Arbitration, Mediation and Conciliation in Dispute Resolution in Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa, 2006.
11. ADR and Multi-Door Concept for Judges and Lawyers; Abuja, 2006.
12. Legal Education in Nigeria, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow; Faculty of Law, University of Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria July, 2006.
13. ADR and the Multi-Door Concept for Judges and Lawyers; at the Abuja Sheraton Hotel and Towers, on the 27th June, 2006.
14. Legal Education in Nigeria Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: at the 4th Annual Public Lecture of Justice Chambers, Faculty of Law, University of Ilorin, on Tuesday, 25th day of July, 2006.
15. Attainment of Justice and Equity through effective Census Tribunal Rules of Procedure at a two days Stakeholders' Workshop; Organized by the Jos Branch of the Nigerian Bar Association on behalf of the National Population Commission, at Chelsea Hotel, Abuja, on Monday, 21st August, 2006.\
16. Ethical Standards and Best Practices in Arbitration and ADR in Africa presented at the 3rd International Arbitration and ADR in Africa workshop, held at Hilton Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya.
17. International Trade Dispute Resolution presented at the 15th Commonwealth Law Conference held at the Kenyatta International Conference Center, Nairobi, Kenya on Wednesday 12th September, 2007.

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18. The Powers and Jurisdiction of the Investments and Securities Tribunal in the Administration of Justice and Development of the Nigerian Capital Market, presented at a workshop organized for judges of the Superior Courts, held at the Auditorium of Shehu Musa Yar'adua Centre, Abuja on Wednesday 24th to Thursday 25th October, 2007.

19. Practice and Procedure in International Arbitration being a paper presented by Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, MFR, SAN, FCIArb. at a training workshop organized by the Policy Analysis and Research Project (PARP) of the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on Tuesday, October 28, 2008.

20. Legal/Regulatory Framework for Public – Private Partnerships being a Paper Presented at the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Annual General Conference in Lagos, August, 2009.

21. Legal Education, Practice and Technology: The Nigerian Challenge, being a Paper Presented on the 27th of January, 2010, at Law Week of the University of Ado Ekiti (Now Ekiti State University).

22. An Overview of draft National Policy on Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) as a Legal framework for Infrastructure Concession (IC), being a paper presented by Chief J-K Gadzama, SAN at the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors' workshop on Infrastructure Concession on 14th April, 2010, in Abuja.

23. Keynote Address on Peace and Unity at the Peace and Unity Conference held at Ladi Kwali Hall, Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Abuja on April 19, 2012.

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