

Omar Bashir Maniar

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Date of Birth November 13, 1984

Education and Qualifications

B.A/LL.B. in Law and Policy, *Lahore University of Management Sciences* July 2008
GCE A Levels, *Karachi Grammar School* May 2003
GCE O Levels, *Karachi Grammar School* May 2001

Professional Experience

Justice System Support Programme – Adam Smith International March 2020-
Deputy Team Lead, Punjab. Supervisor: Neil Fowler, Principal Manager, ASI. Present

- Leading delivery of programme *outcomes, outputs, and results* and ensuring JSSP logical framework and indicators remain relevant, results-focused and rely on accurate, timely data.
- Leading on progress reviews and work planning sessions and responsible for allocation of work to technical team.
- Ensuring that the programme adheres to good 'development practice' in its design and implementation of activities.
- Leading internal progress reviews and overseeing dissemination of lessons learnt across the programme.
- Ensuring effective monitoring and evaluation within each work stream, putting in place feedback loops and ensuring strategy design is based upon data and evidence.
- Supporting integration of gender equality and gender mainstreaming into programme design and capacity building.
- Overseeing risk assessments and tracking implementation of mitigation strategies.
- Monitoring performance of individual advisers, coordination with Project Managers to identify possible reasons for underperformance and recommending necessary corrective measures.
- Maintaining proactive engagement with counterparts and the UK Department for International Development (DFID).
- Leading provision of technical assistance on legislative reforms for improvement in the criminal justice system in Punjab, specifically on prisons, probation and parole, legal aid, witness protection and the use of forensic evidence.

Justice System Support Programme – Adam Smith International August 2019-
Legal Adviser. Supervisor: Neil Fowler, Principal Manager, ASI. February 2020

- Supported criminal justice institutions in adopting and implementing the Punjab Rule of Law Roadmap.
- Led technical work on capacity building and implementation of new standards for forensic and scientific evidence, protocols for inspection of investigation, and measuring improvement in compliance with standards.
- Drafted policy and legislation on forensic evidence, legal aid, prison management and corrections, and medico-legal examination of survivors of sexual violence.
- Contributed to program planning, development of annual logical framework, monitoring and evaluation plans and periodic donor reporting.
- Maintained proactive engagement with counterparts in Punjab, including the Punjab Police, Prosecution Department, Prison Department, Directorate of Reclamation and Probation, Home Department and the Lahore High Court.

Justice System Support Programme – Adam Smith International December 2018-
Senior Delivery Associate – Equity. Supervisor: Habib Imtiaz Gill, Senior Advisor, JSSP. July 2019

- Supported Rule of Law reforms in Police, Prosecution, Judiciary and Government departments for improved standards and service delivery in criminal cases in the province of Punjab.

- Specifically led work related to witness protection, improved standards for forensic and scientific evidence, conducting structured inspections of criminal investigations, revision of rules related to remissions in prison sentences and research on police complaint redress mechanisms.
- Supported ASI management in program planning and reporting.

Democracy Reporting International & Sindh Human Rights Commission

Technical Expert – Human Rights Institutions. Supervisor: M. Rafique, Senior Human Rights Expert, DRI.

September 2018-
December 2018

- Provided institutional support to Sindh Human Rights Commission to improve management practices.
- Developed a data management and utilization framework for complaints of human rights violations.
- Development of a provincial Human Rights curriculum for training government officials.
- Legislative review of land tenancy from a human rights perspective.

Legal Aid Society/Legal Aid Office

Associate Director. Supervisor: Haya Zahid, Executive Director LAS/LAO.

January 2017 –
August 2018

- Provided strategic direction and leadership for legal empowerment and legal aid programming.
- Project and organisational management.
- Advocacy and lobbying with various stakeholders on provincial policy and rule of law reform agenda.
- Liaised with donors, communities, government institutions and stakeholders, working specifically with Open Society Foundations, U.S. State Department (INL and DRL), British High Commission – DFID and the Government of Sindh

Legal Aid Society

Program Manager, LAS-ADR Project. Supervisor: Haya Zahid, Executive Director LAS/LAO.

June 2016 –
August 2018

- Led program design and implementation for a two year program to promote alternate dispute resolution in Sindh.
- Managed a team of over 60 staff members, covering nine districts in Sindh, to deliver program objectives.
- Led financial management, monitoring and evaluation, compliance and reporting for a USD 2 Million grant from the U.S. State Department Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labour.
- The LAS ADR Project was shortlisted for the World Justice Prize in 2019.

Legal Aid Society

Team Lead, Community Outreach and Paralegal Program.
Supervisor: Haya Zahid, Executive Director LAS/LAO.

April 2015 –
October 2016

- Conceived and implemented a community paralegal program in 9 prisons in Sindh.
- Supervised teams implementing community legal aid Clinics in Sukkur, Larkana and Ghotki Districts with a focus on Religious Minority communities.
- Trained program staff on interactive teaching and community outreach techniques.
- Developed reference guides for use by prison paralegals and program teams engaged in awareness raising.
- Worked to successfully institutionalise the Prison Paralegal Program in the prison system in Sindh.
- The LAS Paralegal Program was shortlisted for the global Grassroots Justice Prize in 2018.

Community Legal Services Forum

Lead Consultant, Community Paralegal Programs. Supervisor: Ashley Barr, Team Leader, EUA2J

October 2015 -
December 2016

- Authored a research paper on International Best Practices in Community Paralegal Programs.
- Lead Consultant for National Paralegal Training Manual.
- Lead Trainer for Master Trainers for Paralegal Programs.
- Advised CLSF members, including EU Access to Justice, UNDP, Open Society Foundation, EDACE, and others on community paralegal recruitment, training, monitoring and evaluation and support services.

Legal Aid Society

Consultant, Training and Impact Assessment. Supervisor: Haya Zahid, Executive Director LAS/LAO.

April 2014 –
March 2015

Community Outreach and Prison Paralegal Program

Hamdard School of Law, Hamdard University

Lecturer, Adjunct Faculty Member teaching U.S. Constitutional Law and Criminal Law

Instructor / Supervisor Hamdard School of Law – Street Law Clinic

Supervisor: Justice Nasir Aslam Zahid, Dean Faculty of Legal Studies

January 2012 –

December 2014

- Implemented the first Clinical Legal Education program in Pakistan by establishing a Street Law Clinic with law students visiting the juvenile detention facility in Karachi.

Maniar Dairies

Owner and proprietor

January 2012 –

Present

Pakistan Tobacco Company (British American Tobacco)

Management Trainee, Corporate and Regulatory Affairs

Supervisor: Shaiful Bahari Mahpar, Head of Corporate and Regulatory Affairs.

November 2008 -

December 2010

- Regulatory Affairs Management and Compliance.
- Policy based lobbying.
- Internal and External Communication, Corporate and Employer Brand Management, Corporate Social Responsibility.

Academic Projects, Conferences & Workshops

- Developed a human rights curriculum including legislative review and a comparative analysis of laws in Sindh and Pakistan's international human rights obligations for use by the Government of Sindh.
- Legislative review of Sindh Tenancy Act, 1950 that regulates relationships between landlords and tenants
- Published a baseline survey titled: The People Behind Bars in Sindh – A baseline study on prisoners, with funding from the Home Department, Government of Sindh.
- Published a research report titled: The Victim and the Accused: An analysis of the legal needs in the criminal justice system in Sindh, with funding from the UK Department for International Development.
- Australia Awards Fellow 2016-2017 at the Australian National University, for research on the Criminal Justice System in Pakistan.
- Recipient of scholarship to attend the Legal Empowerment Leadership Course organized by the Central European University, Budapest, Hungary.
- Lead Trainer, Training of Master Trainers for Community Paralegal Programs, Phase 1 and 2, conducted by the Community Legal Services Forum (EU Access to Justice Punjab, Open Society Foundation, The Asia Foundation and UNDP).
- Lead trainer, Training of Religious Minority Community Leaders conducted by Legal Aid Society.
- Lead trainer, Training of Trainers for Community Paralegal Programs conducted by Insaf Network Pakistan.
- Lead Consultant, National Community Paralegal Manual commissioned by Community Legal Services Forum.
- Authored a paper titled International Best Practices in Community Paralegal Programs, November 2015
- Presented at various global conferences conducted by the Global Alliance for Justice Education on clinical legal education.
- Presented at the 2nd Conference of the European Network for Clinical Legal Education.
- Conducted a ToT Training for Open Society Foundation funded law clinics in Pakistan.
- Presented at the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Conference on clinical legal education.

Honours and Awards

- Recipient of the Australia Awards Fellowship for research on criminal justice in Pakistan (2016-2017) at the Australian National University College of Law, Canberra.
- Recipient of the Fulbright Scholarship for the United States Summer Institute for Pakistani Undergraduate Leaders in 2006.