

Michel Massih KC

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Michel read Law at London University. In 1979 he was called to the Bar and began to practise soon after in criminal defence work. In 1999 Michel was appointed Queen's Counsel. He recently was awarded the prestigious 'Outstanding Criminal Lawyer' of year award by the Society of Asian Lawyers.

Leading Cases

Over the last 40 years Michel has defended in some of the most notorious leading criminal cases in the UK and Internationally. Michel has appeared in a number of reported cases in the Court of Appeal and in the House of Lords. Michel won recently a landmark court of Appeal case on the Law of Terrorism. (R v Iqbal & Others).

Expertise

Terrorism

Michel has been involved in the defence of a large number of cases where people have been tried on terrorism charges. Thus early on in his career he defended the Mujahideen of Iran. He defended the occupiers of the Iranian Embassy. In one such case a large number of defendants refused to be represented by anyone other than Michel and he had to act for over 50 defendants – divided over a number of courts. He also acted for the Mujahideen leader in the Court of Appeal. Michel was instructed in a large number of IRA cases including R v O'Dwyer (the Brighton Bombing) and the Harrods bombing.

Notable Terrorism cases

R v Said

R v Said. The shooting of the Israeli Ambassador (Shlomo Argov in London. Said was the gunman.

R v Hindawi

R v Hindawi. The attempted blowing-up of the El-Al plane by using the defendant's pregnant girl friend as innocent carrier of the semtex bomb.

R v Abdallah & Others

R v Abdallah & Others – Reported. The Hijacking of the Sudanese Airline. This was the 1st hijacking to Stansted airport. It involved Iraqi dissidents escaping from Saddam Hussein. Michel led the defence of two of the alleged hijackers. Both defendants were acquitted on appeal.