



## Recognising the extraordinary achievements of Asian women in Britain today

The Asian Women of Achievement Awards, founded by Pinky Lilani CBE DL in 1999, celebrate multicultural Britain and the contribution of diverse cultures and talents to UK society. We put on a platform, the phenomenal Asian women across the UK and across industries, who are making a valuable and important contribution to British life. The awards play a key role in redefining the contribution of Asian women; and informing a new, positive, pro-diversity debate.



# ASIAN WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

## Shortlist 2023

The Asian Women of Achievement Awards, in association with NatWest, is delighted to announce the 2023 shortlist. From high-flying CEOs and impact investors to award-winning journalists, app developers tackling cyber bullying, researchers advancing human health science and pioneering athletes, these nominees are a true testament to the crucial role played by Asian women in the UK today.

The Asian Women of Achievement Awards 2023 will take place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June at the Hilton London Bankside.

### ARTS & CULTURE

**Khairani Barokka**, Writer, Artist & Editor, Modern Poetry in Translation

**Nicole Chui**, Artist

**Professor Raminder Kaur FRSA FRAI**, Professor of Anthropology and Cultural Studies, School of Global Studies/Director, University of Sussex/Sohaya Visions

**Nusaiba Mohammad Timol**, Founder & Director, WAW Creative Arts

**Rubina Pabani and Poppy Jay**, Podcasters, Brown Girls Do It Too

### BUSINESS

**Shazia Azim**, Head of Financial Services Consulting, PwC UK

**Satmeet Kaur Chahal**, HR Generalist Manager, Enterprise Rent-A-Car

**Viola Jardon**, Senior Programme Manager, Institute for Sustainability Leadership, University of Cambridge

**Sharmila Paranjpe**, Chief Ombudspersons & Chairperson PSHC, Wipro

**Ritu Sehgal**, Managing Director, Head of Transaction Services & Trade, NatWest Bank

**Tingting Yang**, Global Spirit of Progress Manager, ESG, Diageo

### ENTREPRENEUR

**Jeroo Doodhmal**, Founder & CEO, Pip and Henry

**Masako Eguchi-Bacon**, Founder & CEO, Ocean Bridge Management

**Susan Fang**, Founder & CEO, OxBridge Holdings

**Pranee Laurillard**, Co-Founder & Director, Giggling Squid

**Safak Muderrisgil**, Chair, ETKIYAP

### MEDIA

**Anila Dhami**, Freelance Presenter & Journalist, 5 News ITN, ITV News London

**Catharina Moh**, Presenter, Producer & Director, BBC News Current Affairs, The Travel Show

**Nabihah Parkar**, Video Journalist, Vice World News

**Ushma Vyas**, Head of Video - Innovation, Saga

### PROFESSIONS

**Harleen Deol**, Consultant Oncoplastic Breast Surgeon, East & North Hertfordshire NHS Trust

**Bhavisha Gorecha**, EMEA Operations Chief of Staff, Head of the Office of the SMR, EMEA Co-Head of the BAME Network, Credit Suisse

**Ediscyll Lorusso**, Senior Thrombosis Clinical Nurse Specialist, St George's University Hospital

**Krishna Mistry**, Body Engineering Programme Lead, Volta Trucks

**Kalpana Shah**, President - Elect, Institute and Faculty of Actuaries

**Rachpal Thind**, Partner, Sidley Austin

### PUBLIC SERVICE

**Neelu Agarwal**, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Lead, Prudential Regulation Authority, Bank of England

**Anita Grant**, ACO for Trust and Legitimacy, Sussex Police

**Jhumar Johnson**, Chief of Staff, The Open University

**Dr Sonali Kinra**, General Practitioner/ Deputy Medical Director, NHS North Central London Integrated Care Board

**Dr Shivani Sharma**, Associate Professor & Executive Lead: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, University of Hertfordshire, School of Life and Medical Sciences

### REAL ESTATE, INFRASTRUCTURE & CONSTRUCTION

**Farheen Ahmed**, Technical Director, Arcadis

**Lesha Chetty**, Business Unit Director, Local Government and Communities, Cities and Places Market, Mace

**Gemma Katakya**, Managing Director, The Blackstone Group

**Michelle Miranda MRICS**, Regional Director, Faithful+Gould

**Aasia Mohammad**, Transaction Management Director, CBRE

**Saba Nayab FRICS**, Director of Sustainability Valuations and Advisory Services, CBRE

### SCIENCE

**Christina Hu**, Head of the ZOE Health Study, ZOE

**Dr Hina Khan**, Executive Director, Space Scotland

**Professor Ji-Seon Kim**, Professor in Physics & Director of EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Plastic Electronics, Imperial College London

**Dr Reshma Rao**, Royal Academy of Engineering Research Fellow, Imperial College London

**Professor Suchitra Sebastian**, Professor of Physics, University of Cambridge

**Dr Shweta Singh**, Assistant Professor, University of Warwick

### SOCIAL & HUMANITARIAN

**Kanchana Gamage**, Founder & Director, The Aviatrix Project

**Dr Nargis Islam**, DCLinPsy, C.Psychol., AFBPsS, Freelance Consultant Clinical Psychologist/ Clinical Lead for Inpatient Psychological Therapies Services, Buckinghamshire Oxford Health, NHS Foundation Trust

**Nidhi Kapoor**, Director - Pre-Sales, Visa Government Solutions, Visa

**Nisha Patel**, BBC Radio Journalist/UK Commissioner for Perception, The Scouts

**Atifa Sayani**, Head of Academic Programmes, Aga Khan Schools, Aga Khan Development Network

**Amara Sharif**, Cross Company Allyship Programme Lead, KPMG UK

### SPORT

**Rupinder Bains**, Board Member, The Football Association

**Yashmin Harun BEM**, Chair & Founder, Muslimah Sports Association

**Alhena Moosa**, Football Coach & Manager, FC Leytonstone

**Jayna Patel**, Premier League Kicks Programme Manager, Premier League Charitable Fund

### TECHNOLOGY & DIGITAL

**Farah Al-Sader**, Director - PwC Deals Insights & Analytics, PwC

**Simran Mohnani**, Circular & Sustainable Supply Chains Venture Associate, Deloitte Ventures

**Trisha Prabhu**, Founder & CEO, ReThink

**Namrata Sarmah**, Chief Product Officer, INTO University Partnerships

**Shefali Stephens**, Capital Markets Senior Manager, Accenture

**Jenita Treacy**, Senior Product Manager, Transport for London

### YOUNG ACHIEVER

**Anisah Akhtar**, Head of Student Experience and Corporate Communications, Luton Sixth Form College

**Cathy Yitong Li**, Facilitative Committee Member, UNFCCC Women and Gender Constituency

**Arushi Madan**, Assistant Vice President - Software Engineer, Barclays

**Koyesha Mukherjee**, Senior Policy Advisor, Department for Business and Trade, Government of United Kingdom

**Maryam Rahbar**, Chief Scientific Officer, Jack Fertility

**Miriam Walker-Khan**, Diversity and Inclusion Reporter, Sky Sports

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## Shortlist 2023



*"We are all here for a common purpose: to do our best, to represent Asia and to become faces for the future."*

**Rabia Nasimi**  
Head of ESM Research  
UK Covid-19 Inquiry  
Highly Commended Finalist in the 2022 AWA Public Service Category

### A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE

The awards have led to the creation of numerous initiatives and projects designed to help women and improve opportunities for the next generation. The awards are not simply a night of recognition but a community and a programme of initiatives that offer the opportunity for candidates to meet like-minded women and build business contacts.

Our sister initiative, the Women of the Future Programme, enables opportunities through our Women of the Future Network and Women of the Future Ambassadors Programme.



#### Women of the Future Network

An active network of high-achieving women bringing members together to share experiences and build their own networks. Our membership of over 1000, continues to grow each year with the inclusion of the AWA shortlisted candidates and Women of the Future Awards candidates.



#### Women of the Future Ambassadors Programme

Connecting students with role models and strengthening the pipeline of talent among Britain's younger women.

*"We are honoured to introduce an outstanding cohort of exceptional leaders hailing from a diverse range of professions and sectors. These remarkable women have left an indelible mark in their respective fields, and their accomplishments serve as a beacon of hope and inspiration for the next generation of global leaders. We applaud each and every nominee – their unwavering determination to break down boundaries is redefining the leadership landscape and empowering countless others."*

**Pinky Lilani CBE DL**  
Chairman  
Asian Women of Achievement Awards

*"As long-term sponsor of the Asian Women of Achievement Awards, we understand the importance of recognising and celebrating Asian women and the valuable contribution they make. At NatWest we're committed to supporting female entrepreneurs. Our Enterprise Hubs across the UK aim for 60% of places to go to women and 20% of places are currently filled by ethnic minority led companies. This year's Awards shortlist is impressive, especially during an ongoing challenging environment. My congratulations to everyone shortlisted and I look forward to hearing your stories."*

**Julie Baker**  
Head of Enterprise and Climate Engagement and Partnerships  
NatWest Group