

Asfah Sultana Bhagdin: Summary Curriculum Vitae

Asfah Bhagdin is a full-time forensic consultant for J P French Associates, having first worked for the company for over 6 years on a part-time basis. She is a native speaker of English, Urdu and Panjabi and works mainly within the areas of transcription, speaker comparison and disputed utterance analysis in cases involving English, Urdu and Panjabi. Ms Bhagdin worked on the education staff of a Young Offenders' Institution for five years, where she held the post of Lecturer in English. Her duties involved teaching young men (15 - 18 years) from a wide range of regional and ethnic backgrounds and some for whom Panjabi was their first language. She also served as an Urdu and Panjabi – English interpreter in the Institution.

Positions

Forensic consultant, J P French Associates, York

Firm of solicitors (responsibilities included taking witness statements in Panjabi and Urdu and translating them into English as well as interpreting in court.)

Lecturer of English and Urdu/Panjabi-English interpreter, Young Offenders' Institution

Teaching Fellow, Dept of Language & Linguistic Science, University of York

Qualifications

BA Language studies with Psychology, University of Leeds

MA Language and Linguistic Science, University of York

PGCE, University of Leeds

Memberships

Member of the International Association for Forensic Phonetics and Acoustics

Casework

Asfah Bhagdin has given expert evidence on Pakistani/Indian English and Mirpuri, Panjabi and Urdu in the Crown Court, including the Central Criminal Court (the Old Bailey) in terrorist, drugs and murder cases. She has also given evidence in the Sindh High Court, Karachi (court removed to England to hear expert evidence). In criminal cases she undertakes work for both prosecution and defence.

Security Clearance: SC

Miscellaneous

Ms Bhagdin has provided advice and staff training for the Netherlands Forensic Institute. She has also provided advice and training to various police forces in the transcription of poor and/or difficult quality material. In particular, she has provided advice for the benefit of translators and interpreters who are recruited by the police to transcribe poor quality material.