

Dato' Sunil Abraham

Nationality: Malaysian

Languages: English & Malay



Dato' Sunil Abraham is a partner at Cecil Abraham & Partners. He specialises in Corporate and Commercial, Banking and Securities, Media, Telecommunications, Public & Administrative and Environmental Law disputes. He has significant advocacy experience before the High Court, Court of Appeal and Federal Court and before arbitral tribunals.

Sunil has also sat as arbitrator in commercial, construction, and infrastructure and oil and gas disputes and has been involved in numerous high-value complex investment treaty arbitrations.

Sunil has worked extensively across a multitude of jurisdictions including Asia, Middle-East, US & Europe.

He has been recognised as a leading individual by Legal 500 Asia Pacific, Benchmark Litigation Asialaw Profiles as well as being ranked by Chambers & Partners Asia Pacific in the area of dispute resolution. He has also been recognised in Who's Who Legal as a Future Leader in Arbitration. In 2016, he was named by Asian Legal Business in the Top 40 Under 40 Practitioners in Asia.

Sunil was awarded the title "Dato'" by His Royal Highness, The Sultan of Kelantan in 2017.

Sector Expertise

- Banking and Securities Disputes
- Corporate and Commercial Disputes
- Commercial & Investment Treaty Arbitration
- Environmental Law
- Land & Property Law
- Media Law Disputes
- Public & Administrative Law Disputes
- Telecommunications & Information Technology Disputes

Experience

Arbitration

- Sotella Fund Pte Ltd v Lextrend Sdn Bhd & Ors [2023] MLJU 2299
- Sotella Fund Pte Ltd v Bamboo Quest Sdn Bhd & Anor [2023] MLJU 2258
- Malaysia Resources Corp Bhd v Desaru Peace Holdings Club Sdn Bhd [2023] 11 MLJ 412
- Kua Khai Shyuan & Ors v Equities First Holdings, LLC [2022] MLJU 859
- Siemens Industry Software GmbH Co Kg (Germany) (formerly known as Innotec GmbH) v Jacob and Toralf Consulting Sdn Bhd (formerly known as Innotec Asia Pacific Sdn Bhd (M)) & Ors [2020] 3 MLJ
- Arch Reinsurance Ltd v Akay Holdings Sdn Bhd [2019] 5 MLJ 186
- Triumph City Development Sdn Bhd v Kerajaan Negeri Selangor Darul Ehsan [2017] MLJU 1394
- AV Asia Sdn Bhd v Measat Broadcast Network Systems Sdn Bhd [2014] 3 MLJ 61
- Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic v Thai-Lao Lignite Co Ltd, a Thai Co & Anor [2013] 3 MLJ 409
- Celcom (Malaysia) Berhad v Pin Center Sdn Bhd [2008] 1 LNS 712
- Malaysian Historical Salvors Sdn Bhd v Government of Malaysia, ICSID Case No. Arb 05/10
- Astro All Asia Networks Ltd (United Kingdom) v The Republic of India, PCA Case No. 2016-24
- South Asia Entertainment Holdings Ltd (Mauritius) v The Republic of India, PCA Case No. 2016-25

Banking & Securities

- I-Serve Online Mall Sdn Bhd & Ors v Bank Negara Malaysia & Ors [2022] MLJU 2952
- AWH Equity Holdings Sdn Bhd & Ors v GMV-Borcros Sdn Bhd [2019] MLJU 1069
- Michael Chow Keat Thye v Securities Commission Malaysia & Anor [2013] 10 CLJ 505
- Primus Malaysia Sdn Bhd v Rin Kei Mei & Ors [2012] 2 CLJ 501
- Hartaya Sdn Bhd & Ors v Malayan Banking Berhad & Ors [2010] 9 CLJ 469

Corporate & Commercial Law

- Leopad Holdings Sdn Bhd v Asian Shield Warehousing Sdn Bhd [2021] 2 MLJ 424
- Wong Yee Boon v Gainvest Sdn Bhd [2020] 2 CLJ 727
- Dato' Tan Wei Lian & Ors v Datuk Mansor Masikon [2019] 1 LNS 1615
- Wong Yee Boon v Gainvest Sdn Bhd [2018] 1 MLJ 124
- Tripple International Ltd v Belia Cermat & Ors [2016] 1 LNS 105
- Tripple International Ltd v Belia Cermat & Ors [2016] 1 LNS 135
- Leisure Dotcom Sdn Bhd v Globesource Sdn Bhd [2015] 5 MLJ 789
- Mariposa Grp Pty Ltd v Supreme Fame Sdn Bhd [2015] 1 LNS 159
- [China Road & Bridge Corp & Anor v DCX Technologies Sdn Bhd and another appeal \[2014\] 5 MLJ 1](#)
- [PKNS Holdings Sdn Bhd v Nusa Gapurna Development Sdn Bhd & Anor \[2014\] 1 LNS 519](#)
- Dato' See Teow Chuan & Ors v Ooi Woon Chee & Ors and other applications [2013] 4 MLJ 351
- Gurubachan Singh s/o Baghwan Singh & Anor v Vellasamy s/o Pennusamy & Ors and other applications [2012] 2 MLJ149

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- Ooi Woon Chee & Anor v Dato' See Teow Chuan & Ors [2012] 2 MLJ 713
- Lembaga Kemajuan Tanah Persekutuan (Felda) & Anor v Awang Soh Bin Mamat & Ors [2010] 3 CLJ 895
- Metramac Corporation Sdn Bhd (formerly known as Syarikat Teratai KG Sdn Bhd) v Fawziah Holdings Sdn Bhd; Tan Sri Halim Saad & Che Abdul Daim Hj Zainuddin (intervener) [2007] 5 MLJ 501
- Lembaga Kemajuan Tanah Persekutuan (Felda) & Anor v Awang Soh Bin Mamat & Ors [2009] 4 MLJ 610
- Contigreen Sdn Bhd v Segamat Kinisayang Supermarket Sdn Bhd [2009] 1 LNS 1150
- Dancom Telecommunications (M) Sdn Bhd v Uniasia General Insurance Bhd [2008] 6 MLJ 52
- Cepatwawasan Group Berhad & Anor v Tengku Dato' Kamal Ibni Sultan Sir Abu Bakar & 17 Ors [2008] 2 MLJ 915
- Tan Heng Chew & Ors v Tan Kim Hor & Ors [2006] 5 MLJ 313
- Dato' Tan Heng Chew v Tan Kim Hor [2006] 2 MLJ 293
- Standard Chartered Bank v KTS Sdn Bhd [2006] 4 MLJ 617
- Tan Kim Hor & Ors v Tan Heng Chew & Ors [2009] 4 MLJ 358
- Tan Heng Chew & Ors v Tan Kim Hor & Ors [2009] 2 CLJ 234

Constitutional Law

- Sultan Ismail Petra Ibni Sultan Yahya Petra v Tengku Muhammad Faris Petra & Anor [2011] 1 MLJ 1
- Dato' Seri Ir Hj Mohammad Nizar Bin Jamaluddin v Dato' Dr Zambry Bin Abd Kadir [2010] 1 MLJ 285
- Tengku Muhammad Fakhry Ibni Sultan Ismail Petra v Yang Maha Mulia Pemangku Raja Kelantan & Ors [2011] 1 MLJ 128
- Dato' Seri Ir Hj Mohammad Nizar Bin Jamaluddin v Dato' Dr Zambry Bin Abd Kadir [2009] 5 MLJ 108

Environmental Law and Public & Administrative Law

- Datuk Bandar Kuala Lumpur v Perbadanan Pengurusan Trellises & Ors and other appeals [2023] 3 MLJ 829
- Tan Bun Teet & Ors v Tun Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed & Ors [2021] MLJU 1662
- Perbadanan Pengurusan Trellises & Ors v Datuk Bandar Kuala Lumpur & Ors [2021] 3 MLJ 1
- Perbadanan Pengurusan Trellises & Ors v Datuk Bandar Kuala Lumpur & Ors [2018] MLJU 2012
- Wong Kin Hoong & Anor (suing for themselves and on behalf all of the occupants of Kampung Bukit Koman, Raub, Pahang) v Ketua Pengarah Jabatan Alam Sekitar & Anor [2013] 4 MLJ 161
- Zakaria bin Abdullah & Ors v Lembaga Perlesenan Tenaga Atom & Ors [2013] 5 MLJ 206
- Wong Kin Hoong & Ors v Ketua Pengarah Jabatan Alam Sekitar & Anor [2011] 7 CLJ 1005

Fraud & Forgery

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- Chuah Ah Meng & Anor v Tian Kon Siong [2020] 2 CLJ 596
- Chuah Ah Meng & Anor v Tian Kon Siong [2019] 6 MLJ 265
- Letchumanan Chettiar Alagappan (as Executor to SL Alameloo Achi (Deceased)) & Anor v Secure Plantation Sdn Bhd [2017] 5 CLJ 418

Legal Profession

- Cherie Booth QC v Attorney General, Malaysia & Ors [2006] 6 MLJ 501
- Badan Peguam Malaysia v Louis Edward Van Buerle [2006] 1 MLJ 21
- Foo Ton Hin v Malaysian Bar & Ors [2007] 8 CLJ 141
- Louis Edward Van Buerle v Malaysian Bar [2005] 5 MLJ 45

Land Law

- Tegas Sejati Sdn Bhd v Pentadbir Tanah dan Daerah Hulu Langat & Anor and another appeal [2024] 4 CLJ 1
- Tegas Sejati Sdn Bhd v Pentadbir Tanah Daerah Hulu Langat & Anor and another appeal [2023] 3 MLJ 795
- MTrustee Bhd v Tribunal Pengurusan Strata Di Putrajaya & Ors [2021] MLJU 1226
- Leopad Holdings Sdn Bhd v Asian Shield Warehousing Sdn Bhd & Another Appeal [2019] MLJU 1720
- Citra Tani Sdn Bhd v Mujur Zaman Sdn Bhd [2017] MLJU 1394
- Karun Maksima Sdn Bhd v Pentadbir Tanah Daerah Port Dickson & Ors [2016] 3 CLJ 52
- Leisure Dotcom Sdn Bhd v Globesource Sdn Bhd [2015] 5 MLJ 789
- Tenaga Nasional Berhad v Majlis Daerah Hulu Terengganu [2014] 9 CLJ 149
- Abdul Manap Bin Ahmad v Wersuah Binti Amoon [2006] 2 CLJ 349

Media Law

- Messrs Ong, Ric & Partners (suing as a law firm) & Ors v Messrs Thomas, Shankar Ram & Co Advocates (sued as a law firm) & Ors [2022] MLJU 2463
- Mkini Dotcom Sdn Bhd & Ors v Raub Australian Gold Mining Sdn Bhd [2021] 5 MLJ 79
- Raub Australian Gold Mining Sdn Bhd (in creditors' voluntary liquidation) v Hue Shieh Lee [2019] 3 MLJ 720
- Raub Australian Gold Mining Sdn Bhd v Mkini Dotcom Sdn Bhd & Ors [2018] 4 MLJ 209
- Raub Australian Gold Mining Sdn Bhd v Mkini Dotcom Sdn Bhd & Ors [2016] 12 MLJ 476
- Dato' Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein v Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim [2011] 1 LNS 1189
- Semesta Insurance Underwriting Agency Sdn Bhd v Koperasi Insurance (M) Bhd and another suit [2011] 3 MLJ 379

- MCAT Gen Sdn Bhd v Celcom (Malaysia) Bhd [2007] 8 MLJ 107
- MCAT Gen Sdn Bhd v Celcom (Malaysia) Bhd [2007] 8 MLJ 277
- MCAT Gen Sdn Bhd v Celcom (Malaysia) Bhd [2007] 1 MLJ 195

Medical Negligence

- Dr Harikrishnan & Anor v Megat Noor Ishak bin Megat Ibrahim & another appeal [2018] 3 MLJ 281
- Zulhasnimar Hasan Basri & Anor v Dr Kuppu Velumani P & Ors [2017] 5 MLJ 438

Academic & Professional Qualifications

Academic

- BSC Economics (Hons), London School of Economics, University of London
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Law, BPP Law School
- Bar Vocational Course, Inns of Court School of Law, City University
- Barrister at Law of the Honourable Society of Middle Temple
- Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya

Professional

- Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, United Kingdom
- Fellow of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators
- Fellow of the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution

Professional Associations & Recognitions

Panel of Arbitrators

- Asian International Arbitration Centre
- ADGM Arbitration Centre, Abu Dhabi
- Borneo International Centre for Arbitration and Mediation
- Dubai International Arbitration Centre
- Japan Commercial Arbitration Association
- International Centre for Dispute Resolution

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- International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Malaysia
- London Court of International Arbitration
- Russian Arbitration Centre
- Shanghai International Arbitration Centre
- Singapore International Arbitration Centre
- Thailand Arbitration Center
- Vienna International Arbitral Centre

Panel of Mediators

- Asian International Arbitration Centre

Past:

- Member of the Management Board of the International Bar Association (IBA)
- Member of the Legal Practice Division of the IBA
- Member of the IBA Diversity & Inclusion Council
- Co-chair of the Asia Pacific Regional Forum of the IBA
- Advisory Board Member of the Young Lawyers' Committee of the IBA
- Co-chair of the Asia Pacific Arbitration Group of the IBA
- Asia Pacific Liaison Officer to the Arbitration Committee of the IBA

Publications, Articles & Thought Leadership

Publications

- Encyclopedia of International Commercial Litigation – Malaysian Chapter by Kluwer International Law (2009)
- The IBA Arbitration Guide 2012 – Malaysian Chapter
- Lexis Nexis Dispute Resolution Law Guide 2017 – Malaysian Chapter
- Chapter 19 – Misrepresentation, Bullen & Leake & Jacob's Malaysian Precedents of Pleadings (2017 Edition)
- Chapter 19 – Misrepresentation, Bullen & Leake & Jacob's Malaysian Precedents of Pleadings (2023 Edition)
- The IBA Arbitration Guide 2018 – Malaysian Chapter
- Getting The Deal Through, Sovereign Immunity (2018) – Malaysian Chapter

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- Getting The Deal Through, Sovereign Immunity (2019) – Malaysian Chapter
- Getting The Deal Through, Sovereign Immunity (2020) – Malaysian Chapter
- World Arbitration Reporter by Juris Publishing LLC – Malaysian Chapter (2018)
- World Arbitration Reporter by Juris Publishing LLC – Malaysian Chapter (2020)
- World Arbitration Reporter by Juris Publishing LLC – Malaysian Chapter (2022)
- Getting The Deal Through, Investment Treaty Arbitration (2019) – Malaysian Chapter
- Getting The Deal Through, Investment Treaty Arbitration (2020) – Malaysian Chapter
- Getting The Deal Through, Investment Treaty Arbitration (2022) – Malaysian Chapter

Directories & Client Quotes

Honours

Awarded the title "Dato" by His Royal Highness, The Sultan of Kelantan in 2017

The Asia Pacific Legal 500 has said the following in its publications:

"...Dato' Sunil Abraham is superb all-round. Excellent on paper and in court. Calm, intelligent and strategic, he is a pleasure to work with..."

Chambers' Asia Pacific has said the following in its publications:

"Sunil Abraham is well prepared, diligent, meticulous and highly persuasive. He is excellent in technically difficult cases when the stakes are high."

"Sunil Abraham is an up-and-coming disputes lawyer who is particularly skilled in intellectual property and construction disputes. He has expertise on both arbitration and litigation mandates, and handles a range of commercial matters on both fronts."

"Sunil Abraham is sharp, intelligent and meticulous in his work as well as being a strong advocate."

"Sunil is a personable and no-nonsense lawyer."

Who's Who Legal has said the following in its publications:

"Dato' Sunil Abraham is renowned in the Malaysian arbitration space thanks to his impressive practice which encompasses environmental and planning law disputes."

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"Dato' Sunil Abraham is a prominent name in the Malaysian market thanks to his 'brilliant legal strategy'

"Dato' Sunil Abraham has a solid legal background and very effective communication skills."

"Dato' Sunil Abraham sits among the foremost arbitration practitioners in the market who 'always attracts high value, high profile disputes stemming from the oil and gas and constructions sectors."

Sunil Abraham – "Responsive, technically strong and meticulous."

Sunil Abraham – "Calm disposition" and "He is sharp, intelligent and meticulous work"