



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

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.

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ASIAN WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Shortlist 2024

The Asian Women of Achievement Awards, in association with NatWest, is delighted to announce the 2024 shortlist. The Asian Women of Achievement 2024 nominees include a six-time champion gold medalist boxer, a leading suicide prevention researcher, the founder of a pioneering plastic-free menstrual product brand, a multi-award winning abstract artist, and a trauma therapist and author who supports victims of torture. Doctors, chefs, authors, journalists, entrepreneurs, and CEOs – no matter their role or industry, these finalists are making pivotal contributions to British society.

The Asian Women of Achievement Awards 2024 will take place on Thursday 6th June at the Hilton London Bankside.

ARTS & CULTURE

Maliha Abidi, Artist & Founder, Women Rise
Chandrika Darbari, Singer & Songwriter, Warner Music India
Ekta Kaul, Artist & Founder, Inner Thread
SUKKI, Writer & Director
Shreena Patel, Abstract Artist, Art by Shree

BUSINESS

Anna Dilku, Group Social Media Manager, Aviva
Shruti Dube, Director EMEA Strategy Planning and Operations, Meta
Tanuj Kapilashrami, Chief Human Resources Officer, Standard Chartered Bank
Aruna Muthoo, Technology Transformation Leader, KPMG
Dineshi Ramesh, Chair, Thrift+
Reshmi Suresh, Senior Director, President's Chief of Staff, Worldpay

ENTREPRENEUR

Dipalee Jukes, Co-Founder & CEO, Ground & Water
Amina Khan, Pharmacist & Founder, The Pharmacist Beauty
Natasha Makhijani, CEO, Oliver Sanderson Group
Dr Rina Newton, Co-Founder, Code Clarity
Shafali Shown-Keen, Franchisee, SNAK Restaurants Limited T/A McDonald's

MEDIA

Jasmine Dotiwala, TV Executive - Producer, Reporter, Director
Perminder Mann, CEO, Bonnier Books UK
Tasnim Nazeer, Independent Journalist, TV Reporter & Presenter
Lalita Taylor, Executive Producer/Co-Chair, BBC Academy Fusion/BBC W/STEM

PROFESSIONS

Az Ajam-Hassani, Transaction Services Partner, Deloitte
Professor Dilanthi Amaratunga, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, University of Huddersfield
Coco Ke Lieu, Chief Regional Officer, HLB Global
Eleena Misra KC, King's Counsel (Barrister), Old Square Chambers
Muneebah Quyyam, Senior Engineer, AtkinsRéalis
Zaqia Rashid, Partner and Head of Public Inquiries and Public Law, TLT

PUBLIC SERVICE

Shirin Amani Azari, Psychotherapist, Docklands Outreach
Dr Ban Haider, Senior Lecturer in Primary Care and Associate Dean for Culture and Development, St George's, University of London
Arunima Misra, Legal Counsel, GLAS
Manjinder Nagra, President, Sussex Law Society
Pooja Saini, Reader in Suicide and Self-Harm Prevention, Liverpool John Moores University

SCIENCE

Dr Abirami Lakshminarayanan, Sequence Development Manager, Oxford Nanopore Technologies
Dr Sabrina Li, Assistant Professor, University of Nottingham
Karrie Liu, Director - Healthcare Analytics, Hypatia Analytics
Beenish Luqman, CEO, DiRibona
Manjinder Virk, Founder & Director, Bioma

SOCIAL & HUMANITARIAN

Dr Zareen Roohi Ahmed, Founder & CEO, Gift Wellness
Diana Chao, Founder & Executive Director, Letters to Strangers
Fawzia Koofi, Chair, Women for Afghanistan
Shilly Pancholi, Diverse Communities Executive, England and Wales Cricket Board
Taban Shoreshe OBE, Founder & CEO, The Lotus Flower
Ridwana Wallace-Laher, CEO, Penny Appeal

SPORT

Harvinder Channa, Head of Girls Cricket/ Non-Executive Director, Aztecs Cricket Club/ Essex County Cricket Club
Charan Kaur Dhesi, Boxer, East Hull Boxing Academy
Jasmine Naeem, Professional Cricket Umpire, England and Wales Cricket Board
Fuka Nagano, Professional Footballer, Liverpool FC Women

TECHNOLOGY & DIGITAL

Zahra Ahmed, Program Manager, Safe, Reliable & Trustworthy AI, Google DeepMind
Dr Narisa Chauvidul-Aw, Founder & CEO, KogoPAY
Aaliyah Jaffer, Lead Sponsor - Technology, Transport for London
Ria Kinsley, Senior Agile Delivery and Product Consultant - Next Gen Engineering, Accenture
Rina Ladva, Global Head of Business Development and Growth, PA Consulting
Dr Lakshmi Manjoosha Adapa, Fintech Product Leader, Hopper

YOUNG ACHIEVER

Sheherzad Kapadia, Patient Engagement Lead, Croydon Health Services
Dr Tulsi Patel, Doctor, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust
Crystelle Pereira, Cook, Author & Broadcaster
ZeZe Sohawon, CEO, Emotion Dysregulation in Autism
Gisele Yew, Founder & President, Passionate heARTS

ASIAN WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS Shortlist 2024



“AWA has given me a platform to empower, inspire, and more importantly educate young women, make them realize that with hard work, sacrifice, dedication and commitment, dreams can and do come true – I’m living proof!”

Annie Zaidi
Ladies Development Coach
Coventry Sphinx Football Club
2015 Sport Award Winner

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.

“I am thrilled to start our AWA Awards 25th anniversary celebrations by introducing an incredible line-up of role models. From various walks of life and professions, each and every one of them have left an indelible mark on their fields, embodying the spirit of resilience and innovation. Their journeys inspire us all to strive for excellence, to break barriers and to uplift others along the way. A warm welcome to our 2024 finalists to the AWA family and to our ever-expanding global community.”

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. Through our Enterprise programmes we have committed to ensuring at least 50% of our support is provided to Women, 20% to Ethnic Minority Individuals and 75% outside of London and South East. 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, NatWest Group