



HOSSEIN RAEESI

HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYER

EXPERT IN IRANIAN LAW & ISLAMIC LAW

ADVOCATE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, CHILDREN'S RIGHTS & JUSTICE

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ONLINE PROFILE

- Carleton University
- Youth and Justice Lab

ABOUT ME

With over 30 years of legal experience, including 20 years of practice in Iran as a licensed lawyer, I specialize in Iranian and Islamic Sharia law and its applications, particularly in family law, children's rights, judicial system, general contracts regulations and the criminal justice system. My expertise spans across family law, authentication of judicial documents, child custody, divorce, general contracts, refugee/immigration, procedural law, criminal justice system, inheritance, wills, children's justice, and international human rights law.

I have a deep understanding of the legal structure in Iran both pre and post the 1979 revolution and am well-versed in Sharia law as practiced in Iran and other Islamic countries. I have also acted as an expert witness in cases before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and have been qualified to act in that capacity in different cases (e.g., *Al-Barqawi v. El-Hassan*, 2019 & *Aldush v. Alani*, 2021 ONSC 6410 at paras. 33-51)

In addition to my legal practice, I am an adjunct research professor, a scholar and researcher, and I am the director of the **Youth and Justice Lab** at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. I also teach and conduct research in **Children's Rights, Islamic Law, Juvenile Justice, and Criminal Justice Reform**.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Iranian and Islamic Sharia Law

Expertise in Iranian pre and post 1979 revolutionary law and justice system, Islamic sharia law, divorce, criminal law, immigration, refugee, and juvenile justice.

Children's Rights and Juvenile Justice

Extensive experience defending children in conflict with the law, advocating for reforms in the juvenile justice systems, and protecting the rights of children in Iranian and international contexts.

Family Law & Conflict Resolution

Specializing in family law cases, particularly in Iranian family disputes involving children, custody, and inheritance, wills, applying Iranian and Islamic law principles.

Expert Reports & Testimony

Providing expert legal analysis and reports on Iranian law, Islamic law, and children's rights for use in court and other legal proceedings.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE & QUALIFICATION

- Iranian & Islamic & Sharia Law
- Juvenile Justice & Children's Rights
- Expert Reports & Testimony
- Mediation & Arbitration
- International Legal Advocacy
- Marriage, Divorce & Custody
- General Contracts & Procedural Law
- Judicial & Justice Systems

SERVICES OFFERED

- Expert Reports
- Expert Witness Testimony
- Mediation & Arbitration
- Legal Consultation & Advisory
- Document Authentication & Verification

Expert Witness

Available to testify as an expert witness on issues related to Iranian family law, Islamic law, children's rights, and justice for minors in legal cases.

Mediation & Arbitration

Skilled in resolving conflicts with regards to general contracts, inheritance, wills, marriage, divorce, and children's disputes through mediation and arbitration, with a focus on Iranian law matters.

Document Authentication and Verification

One of my key abilities and services is assessing judicial and legal documents to verify their authenticity, ensuring that all court and legal documents are legitimate and trustworthy.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS AND EXPERIENCE

Specializing in human rights, family law, and juvenile justice.

Advocacy for Children

Successfully defended over 100 cases involving the death penalty for minors, securing acquittals and reductions in sentences for children and women facing execution.

Expert on Iranian Islamic Family Law

Extensive experience in mediating family law conflicts, especially concerning custody, inheritance, and minors' rights within the context of Islamic law.

International Collaboration

Worked with UN-OHCHR, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and legal institutions on human rights and justice reform.

Academic Contributions

Faculty member at **Carleton University**, managing the **Youth and Justice Lab** and conducting research on juvenile justice, Islamic law, and international human rights.

Legal Writing & Research

Published articles and reports on Iranian law, juvenile justice, and children's rights in legal journals and human rights publications.

HIGHLIGHTED QUALIFICATIONS

- **Expert in Iranian & Islamic Law:** Extensive experience in Iranian legal systems, family law, criminal law, and Sharia law.
- **Human Rights & Juvenile Justice Advocate:** Defended political prisoners, women, LGBTQ individuals, and minors facing the death penalty.
- **Legal Scholar & Educator:** Adjunct Research Professor at Carleton University's Department of Law and Legal Studies.
- **Expert Reports & Testimony:** Provided legal analysis and expert witness testimony on Iranian and international Islamic sharia law, family disputes, and children's rights.
- **International Collaboration:** Worked with UN-OHCHR, Ontario Office of Children Lawyers(OCL), Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and legal institutions on human rights and justice reform.
- **Human Rights Advisor & Investigator:** Extensive experience advocating for human rights, defending vulnerable groups, and collaborating with international organizations on legal investigations and justice reform.

SERVICES OFFERED

- **Expert Reports**

In-depth reports on Iranian family law, Islamic law, authentication of judicial documents and children's rights, providing legal analysis and context for use in Canadian and international courts.
- **Expert Testimony**

Offering expert witness testimony on Iranian legal practices, the impact of Islamic law on family and child-related matters, and children's rights in the Iranian Islamic State context.
- **Mediation & Arbitration**

Mediation services to resolve family disputes and children's conflicts under Iranian family law, with a focus on preserving children's rights and well-being.
- **Consultation & Advisory**

Providing legal consultation to Canadian law firms on cases involving Islamic sharia law, Iranian legal matters, women's rights, LGBTQs rights, children's rights, immigration, refugee, and international human rights law.

PUBLICATIONS & CONTRIBUTIONS

- **Research on the Death Penalty**

In-depth studies on the death penalty for minors in Iran and its implications for international human rights law.
- **Children's Rights in Islamic Legal Systems**

Research and reports on the protection of children's rights within Islamic legal frameworks in Iran and other Islamic nations.
- **Family Law & Sharia Law**

Contributions to discussions on family law disputes, including inheritance, custody, and the protection of children in Iranian and Islamic contexts.

EXPERT QUALIFICATION IN SHARIA LAW AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

- **“Qualified as an expert in Sharia Law and International Human Rights by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice”**
– Aldush v. Alani, 2021 ONSC 6410, para. 51
- **“Extensive knowledge of Islamic jurisprudence... given in a very precise and direct manner”**
– para. 45
- **“Previously qualified by the Court in January 2018 and September 2019”**
– para. 38
- **“Significant expertise gained through 20+ years of legal practice, academic scholarship, and international consultancy”**
– para. 50
- **“Consultant for world organizations on Islamic Law and Human Rights”**
– para. 50

Ontario Superior Court of Justice — Aldush v. Alani, 2021 ONSC 6410

I was qualified by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice as an expert in Sharia Law, Islamic Legal Systems, and International Human Rights Law in the matter of Aldush v. Alani, 2021 ONSC 6410. In this decision, the Court assessed my academic and professional background, publications, and international consultancy work, ultimately finding that my opinion evidence met the threshold for admissibility.

Key Excerpts from the Judgment

- “Mr. Raeesi is being tendered as an expert in Sharia Law and Islamic Legal Systems, including family laws in Islamic states, as well as International Human Rights.” – Justice M. Smith, para. [43]
- “Mr. Raeesi gave his evidence in a very precise and direct manner... He has extensive knowledge of Islamic jurisprudence that is similarly used in the UAE.” – para. [45]
- “Mr. Raeesi has acquired significant expertise in Sharia Law and Islamic Legal Systems through his numerous years of practical and scholarly involvement.” – para. [48]
- “Mr. Raeesi’s special and peculiar knowledge in the subject matter has been gained in numerous ways... practicing lawyer for 20 years, education including a master’s degree, extensive teachings and publications, ongoing funded research, and being a consultant for important world organizations.” – para. [50]
- “Mr. Raeesi is therefore qualified to render an opinion in Sharia Law and Islamic Legal Systems, including family laws in Islamic states, as well as International Human Rights.” – para. [51]
- The Court also referenced my previous qualifications as an expert by the Ontario Superior Court:
“In this court, Mr. Raeesi has previously been qualified to give expert evidence in January 2018 and September 2019.” – para. [38]

These repeated qualifications by the Court reinforce my longstanding work in Islamic legal studies, comparative Sharia law, and the intersection of domestic and international human rights norms. I have contributed to the field through legal practice, teaching, research, and consultancy for global institutions committed to justice and human rights.

Feel free to contact me for more information or to discuss potential collaborations.