



Michael Mansfield QC

Called 1967 (QC 1989)

Legal Aid Lawyers Outstanding Achievement Award 2010
The Monitoring Group Lifetime Achievement Award 2009
Chambers & Partners Lifetime Achievement Award 2008
Association of Muslim Lawyers Lifetime Achievement Award 2007

Background

Michael Mansfield QC was born in 1941 and educated at Highgate School and Keele University. Called to the Bar in 1967, he established Tooks Chambers, in 1984 and became Queen's Counsel in 1989. Michael has represented defendants in criminal trials, appeals and inquiries in some of the most controversial legal cases the country has seen, particularly where issues of Civil Liberty have arisen.

Barry George, accused of killing TV presenter Jill Dando; **the family of Stephen Lawrence** both in the private prosecution for murder and the Public Inquiry and the families of victims at the on-going **Bloody Sunday Inquiry** in Derry and London. He also chaired an Inquiry into the "Shoot to Kill" policy in the North of Ireland at Cullyhanna.

More recently he has successfully represented, **Fatmir Limaj, the Deputy Prime Minister of Kosovo** at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in The Hague; successfully represented clients in the notable "**Ricin**" Trial, and "**Shaken Baby**" Appeals and **Nabeel Hussain** in the so-called "**Fertiliser plot**" trial; is acting for **the family of Jean Charles de Menezes**, shot by the Metropolitan Police in 2005 and **Mohammed Al Fayed** in his pursuit of the truth surrounding the death of his son, Dodi, and Princess Diana in Paris in 1997 as well as being involved in the Inquiry into the shooting of solicitor, **Patrick Finucane**.

Michael has represented many families at Inquests, including **Tom Hurdall** and **James Miller**, two British journalists murdered by the Israeli army, the **Marchioness** Disaster, the **Deptford/New Cross Fire**; the **Lockerbie/Omagh/Dublin Monaghan** bombings, and **Michael Barrymore**.

Notable Cases

Michael's past clients include: **Superintendent Ali Dizaei** of the Metropolitan Police and **Angela Cannings**, the acquitted 'cot death' mother; **Tahira Tabassum**, acquitted widow of the first British suicide bomber in Israel; the **Orgreave** miners who were unjustly accused of riot during the miner's strike in 1984; the **Birmingham Six**, who were released in 1991, nearly sixteen years after being wrongly convicted; those in the **ABC Official Secrets** case and the **Operation Julie** drugs trial; **James Hanratty**, hanged in 1962 for murder; '**spy**' **Michael**

tooks
chambers

81 Farringdon Street
London
EC4A 4BL
DX 68 Chancery Lane

Telephone
020 7842 7575

Facsimile
020 7842 7576

Emergency
07850 823676

E-mail
clerks@tooks.co.uk

Web
www.tooks.co.uk

Bettany; Frank Critchlow and the Mangrove; the **Bradford 12** and the **Newham 7** against the National Front; robbers in the **Knightsbridge Heist; Colin Wallace**; the **'Camberwell', 'Torso', 'Big H'** and **M25** murder trials; **Judith Ward; Iraqi dissidents** fleeing Saddam Hussein; **Turkish and Kurdish exiles; Palestinians** charged with the Israeli Embassy bombing in London and **Ruth Ellis**, the last woman to be hanged in Britain.

Current Commitments

In the Spring of 2009 Michael was part of an independent lawyers mission to the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) investigating the operation of the military court system, a legacy of the British Mandate

In December 2009 he participated as an expert in a conference on Transitional Justice organised at the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

Currently Michael is a member of the jury panel on the Russell Tribunal inquiry into the legal ramifications of Israel's human rights and humanitarian law violations in Palestine. Part 1 was heard in Barcelona in March 2010. There are to be four more hearings, the next in London later in the year.

Publications

Michael has presented a numbers of television documentaries and series, including *Presumed Guilty* for BBC1. He is a regular contributor to television and radio current affairs programmes and was a panel member of *The Moral Maze* for many years. He has also published numerous articles for all the major broadsheets and law journals, a children's book *The Whale Boy* and most recently *The Home Lawyer* - a legal handbook. Over the last few years he has also given a number of successful talks at theatre venues around the country in a series entitled "An Audience with...."

Michael's latest book is *Memoirs of a Radical Lawyer*, published by Bloomsbury, 2009. (See book signings under [Events](#)).

Articles in 2010 include: *The Times* on the Chilcot Inquiry into the Iraq war; two articles on the Russell Tribunal on Palestine for *The Times* and *Socialist Lawyer*; an essay for the *Justice Gap* edited by Jon Robbins; a print debate with Melissa Benn for red pepper on the forthcoming general election. In addition: Forewords to two books - one on the Ricin trial and the other on the Tichborne Claimant.

Societies

Interights, President of Amicus, President of National Civil Rights Movement and President of The Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers.