

**President of the Bar Abdelaziz
BENZAKOUR**

**The Ombudsman of the Kingdom of
Morocco**

(Starting 18th of March 2011)



- Date and place of Birth: 01/01/1943, Marrakesh (Morocco),
- Married, father of two children,
- Occupation: lawyer at the Bar of Casablanca, accredited to the Court of Cassation.

Professional experience and responsibilities :

- Chair of the Inter-African Union of Lawyers (1988-2002),
- Arbitrator accredited to the Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce –Morocco (since 1998),
- Member of the Board of the University of Hassan II- Aïn Chock –Casablanca (1995-2002),
- Special advisor to the President and member of the steering committee of International Association of Lawyers (1990-1991),
- Chair of the Moroccan Bar Association (1986-1989),
- Founding member of the International Conference of Bar Associations Sharing a Legal Tradition (1985),
- Chair of the commission of the Arab Lawyers Union in charge of Woman Status (1984 -1992),
- Member of the Permanent Bureau of the Arab Lawyers Union (1983-1985),
- President of the Bar of Casablanca (1983-1985),
- Secretary of the Board of Casablanca Bar Association (1980-1982),
- Member the Board of Casablanca Bar Association (1975-1989),
- Director of the Training Conference of the Bar of Casablanca (1975-1982),
- Admission to the Bar of Casablanca since 1964.

Human Rights responsibilities and activities :

- **Ombudsman of the Kingdom** (since 18th of March 2011) and in this official capacity :

At the national level:

- Member of the Superior Council of the Judiciary,
- Member of [the National Human Rights Council](#) of (C.N.D.H.),
- Member of [the National Authority for Integrity, Prevention and Fight Against Corruption](#).

At the international level:

- President of the [Association of Mediterranean Ombudsmen \(A.O.M.\)](#),
- 1st Vice-president of the Arab Organization for Ombudsman Offices ,
- Former vice-president of the [Association of Ombudsmen and Mediators of La Francophonie \(A.O.M.F.\)](#).
- Member of the Member of the High Authority of the National Dialogue on Reform of the Justice System, founded in May 2012,
- Member of the [National Commission for the Protection of Personal Data /C.N.D.P](#) (Geneva since founded in 2010),
- Commissioner of the [International Commission of Jurist](#) (since 2008),
- Member of the [Equity and Reconciliation Authority](#), Coordinator of the Working Group responsible for compensation for damages (January 2004/November 2005),
- Member of the Independent Arbitration Forum for compensation of victims of disappearance and arbitrary detention and their dependents (August 1999/November 2003),
- Member of the Advisory Council for Human Rights (after its reorganization upon Paris principles), Chairman of the Working Committee for External Relations (December 2002 to January 2007),
- Member of the Advisory Council for Human Rights (1997-2002), before its reorganization, Chairman of the Working Committee for Information and Communication with national and international NGOs dealing with human rights (1998- 2002),
- President of the 1st trial of violence against women upon the invitation of the Democratic Association of Women of Morocco, the Center for Listening to Women victims of violence and the Association of Women Solidarity (March 1996/Casablanca),
- Founding member of the [Moroccan Organisation of Human Rights](#) (1988),
- Organization of the 1st National Seminar in Morocco on Human Rights (December 1987/Oujda),
- Organization of the 1st regional seminar in Morocco in partnership with a foreign institution (the Bar of Bordeaux) about the “the Legal Status of Aliens under Human Rights” (July 1985/Mohammedia).

Research Works :

Presented at many national and international professional and human rights seminars, and published, with numerous articles in journals including: « la Gazette des Tribunaux du Maroc », « AL Mohamat », « Al Mouhami », « Al Ichaae », « Al Miyaar », « Au sein des Tribunaux », « La Ligue des Magistrats », « Le Droit », la « Gazette du Palais », « Juriste International »,...

Works :

- « L'Islam et la Liberté de Culte » (AL Ofok Edition -1992)
- « Le Statut Juridique du Dirigeant d'Entreprise au Maroc » (Daloz Edition and the Bar of Paris – 1992/ AL Ofok Edition -1994).