# Leonard A. Leo, Chair, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom



Leonard A. Leo serves as the Executive Vice President of the Federalist Society for Law & Public Policy Studies, an organization of over 45,000 conservatives and libertarians dedicated to limited, constitutional government and interested in the current state of the legal order. He manages the projects, programs and publications of the Lawyers Division. He also helps manage the Federalist Society's government, media, and corporate relations, as well as special initiatives such as the organization's Supreme Court Project and International Law Project.

Mr. Leo has participated actively in a number of international forums. He served as a U.S. delegate to the U.N. Commission on Human Rights in 2005, has been an observer to the World

Intellectual Property Organization, participated in two World Health Organization delegations in 2007, and is involved with the U.S. National Commission to UNESCO.

Mr. Leo has published articles on religious liberty under the U.S. Constitution, presidential war powers, executive privilege, legislative responses to judicial activism, property rights, and several federal civil procedure issues. With James Taranto of the Wall Street Journal, he is the co-editor of Presidential Leadership: Rating the Best and Worst in the White House (Simon & Shuster, 2004).

Mr. Leo received his undergraduate degree with high honors from Cornell University in 1987 and his law degree from Cornell Law School with honors in 1989.

Mr. Leo is active in the affairs of the Catholic Church, serving as a member of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta and a member of the board of the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast.

Commissioner Leo was first appointed in 2007 and reappointed in August 2008 by President George W. Bush. Mr. Leo was reappointed in June 2010 by Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.)

# Rev. Majed El Shafie, Founder, One Free World International



Born in Cairo, Egypt into a prominent Muslim family of lawyers and following in the footsteps of his father and uncles, Majed too chose to become a lawyer. Through the witness of his best friend, Tamir, he experienced the love of Christ and made the decision to give his life and service to the Lord.

He began the mission to bring the Christian community all of the same legal rights as the Muslim community in Egypt. He began a ministry which in just two years grew to 24,000 Christians. His ministry built 2 churches inside

mountains, a bible school and medical clinic. He established a newspaper to request from the Egyptian government the same equal rights to the Christian community. The Egyptian government did not tolerate this and Majed was arrested and taken to the torture section of the Abu Zaabel prison in Cairo.

During his time in prison, Majed underwent severe torture for seven days in the underground prison. He experienced everything from having his head shaved and placed under hot and cold water, being hung upside down, being burned with cigarettes. He experienced a miracle when the attack dogs were silenced and did not attack him. He was crucified during the last two and a half days with a mixture of salt and lemon to anoint his wounds. He went through all of this because of his new faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

He eventually escaped through a whirlwind journey, fleeing to Israel, where he was jailed for over a year because the Israeli government did not know what to do in his circumstance. Legally he could not stay in Israel, but if they sent him back to Egypt, he would be executed.

Through the intervention of Amnesty International and the United Nations, Majed was released from prison and became a free man in Jerusalem, Israel. Since then he has relocated to Toronto, Ontario, where he has actively started his own ministry and is now the President and Founder of One Free World International. Rev. El Shafie became a Canadian citizen on May 29, 2006.

Along with One Free World International, Majed also has a Christian Arabic radio program, "River of Love" reaching the Middle East and North Africa. He has started a second Arabic radio program called, "Encourage Iraq" to help encourage the Iraqi people in this time of unrest and to introduce them to the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ.

Majed has visited and spoken in many churches and congregations in both Canada and the United States. He has also been interviewed by several magazines, television and radio programs both Christian and secular.

Majed's passion is to help the persecuted Christians around the world and be their voice when their voices are not heard.

## Amjad Mahmood Khan National Director of Public Affairs, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA



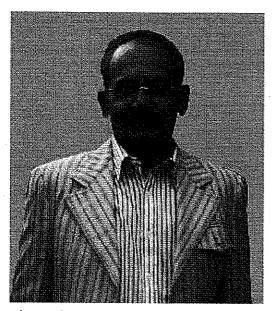
Amjad Mahmood Khan is a senior litigation associate at a prominent international law firm in Los Angeles, a post-graduate research fellow at Harvard Law School and National Director of Public Affairs for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA. He graduated summa cum laude from Claremont McKenna College with degrees in English Literature and Government and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. His senior thesis, "Fighting Islamic Extremism,"

earned departmental honors. He later earned a "Juris Doctor" (J.D.) degree from Harvard Law School, where he served as Editor-in-Chief of the Harvard Human Rights Law Journal. He is a former judicial clerk to the late Honorable Warren J. Ferguson, Senior Circuit Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Mr. Khan is a frequent lecturer on topics concerning the Islamic world, particularly human rights, minority rights, law and governance. He has lectured at several leading academic institutions, including Harvard Law School, Harvard Divinity School, Stanford Law School, University of California Berkeley, Carnegie Mellon University, Claremont McKenna College, and the State University of New York at Buffalo. His legal scholarship and commentaries have appeared in a variety of prominent journals and newspapers, including the Harvard Human Rights Law Journal, Richmond Journal of Global Law and Business, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Christian Science Monitor and New York Daily News. He has testified twice before the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission at the U.S. House of Representatives about the persecution of religious minorities in the Islamic world.

Mr. Khan was selected by Los Angeles Magazine and Super Lawyers Magazine as a 2012 "Rising Star" Litigator. Mr. Khan also devotes a substantial portion of his legal practice to free services for the poor, underserved and unrepresented in society. He has earned special distinction for having performed in excess of 4,000 hours of pro bono legal work during his career. He has expertise in asylum and refugee law and has served as National Co-Chair of the Human Rights and Refugee Practice Group at Latham & Watkins LLP. He has achieved over a dozen pro bono asylum victories for persecuted immigrants, including a family of Coptic Christians from Egypt, a family of Ahmadi Muslims from Indonesia, a Jew from Iran, a political activist from Bhutan, the daughter of an Ethiopian actor and activist, an abandoned child from Guatemala, the son of a political leader from Honduras, a Garifuna teenager from Honduras and a journalist from Columbia. He has also led two groundbreaking and award-winning pro bono legal projects for Humanity First USA—the first, a project to rebuild six mosques and schools in Greater New Orleans through a grant by the Qatar Katrina Fund, and the second, a project to create access to clean and sanitary water for 1.26 million people in the earthquake-affected regions of Pakistan. Most recently, he was part of a team of lawyers that was awarded the 2012 Muslim Advocates Thurgood Marshall Award for authoring an amicus brief for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in defense of the civil liberties of an American Muslim.

#### Dr. Sachi Ghosh Dastidar Distinguished Service Professor, State University of New York at Old Westbury



Dr. Sachi Ghosh Dastidar is a Distinguished Service Professor of the State University of New York at Old Westbury. He has taught in the U.S., Kazakhstan and India. Dastidar was an elected Board Member of a New York City School district. He has authored ten books including, Ai Bangla Oi Bangla (This Bengal, that Bengal; 2012), Empire's Last Casualty: Indian Subcontinent's Vanishing Hindu and other Minorities (2008), Living Among the Believers (2006), Central Asian Journal of Management, Economics and Social Research (2000), and Regional Disparities and Regional Development Planning of West Bengal (1990). He has written over 150 articles, and has made over 140 presentations. He has testified as an expert

witness in Washington. He has traveled to 80 countries.

He has received Senior Fulbright Award, Distinguished Service Professor award of the State University of New York, and over a dozen awards. In Uzirpur, Bangladesh a new "Mahatma S G Dastidar Sanskrit College Building" has been dedicated in his honor, and an engraved marble bust was unveiled in Malikanda, Bangladesh. He is a cofounder of Probini Foundation that educates the poor in 30 schools in India and Bangladesh. He heads the Indian Subcontinent Partition Document Project. His research interests include educating the poor, partition, human rights, housing, among others.

Sachi G. Dastidar holds a doctorate degree from the Florida State University, a master's degree from the Indian Institute of Technology and a bachelor's degree from Calcutta University.

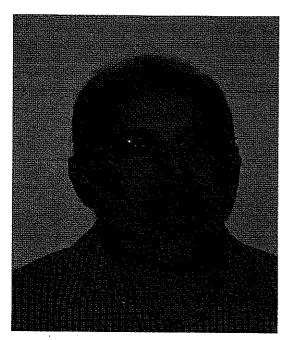
# Dr. Angana P. Chatterji, India Human Rights Specialist



Dr. Angana Chatterji is an anthropologist and historian of the present. Dr. Chatterji's scholarly work, and policy and advocacy research, focuses on human rights, cultural survival, and social justice in India and South Asia, along with work in the United States. Dr. Chatterji's recent writings include: Violent Gods: Hindu Nationalism in India's Present; Narratives from Orissa (Three Essays Collective, 2009); a co-edited volume, Contesting Nation: Gendered Violence in South Asia; Notes on the Postcolonial Present (Zubaan, Due April 2012); a co-contributed anthology, Kashmir (Verso, October 2011); and the report entitled, BURIED EVIDENCE: Unknown, Unmarked, and Mass Graves in Indian-administered Kashmir (2009), for which she was lead author. She has worked with land rights and public policy connected to

public lands reform in Orissa, in eastern India, where, in the past decade, she has been mapping the intersections of majoritarian nationalism and social and gendered violence as they impact the rights and freedoms of ethnic and religious minority groups, and with issues of conflict and militarization as they contravene human rights in Kashmir. She also works with issues of diaspora and identity politics in the United States. Dr. Chatterji is Co-convener of the International People's Tribunal on Human Rights and Justice in Indian Kashmir, which had documented witness/survivor testimonies, investigating disappearances, gendered and sexualized violences, torture, extrajudicial killings, and unknown and unidentified graves. Chatterji served on the faculty in the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at California Institute of Integral Studies from 1997-2011, where she co-created a curriculum in postcolonial anthropology. Dr. Chatterji has served on human rights commissions, offered expert testimony on cases, testified at briefings and hearings, including to United Nations Bodies, the European Parliament Human Rights Subcommittee, United Kingdom Parliament, and United States Congressional Commissions and Task Forces. Dr. Chatterji serves on the board of directors of Vasundhara, and various advisory boards, including the Kashmir Initiative at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard University.

## Dr. Najid Hussain President, Ahsan Jafri Foundation



established in Bear, Delaware.

Dr. Najid Hussain is the President of the Ahsan Jafri Foundation, established to honor Ahsan Jafri (1929 – February 28, 2002), a former Parliamentarian in India who was burnt to death in 2002 in his home by a group of unknown rioters during the Gujarat riots in India in 2002. Ahsan Jafri had worked all his life to bring Hindu and Muslim communities together. Dr. Hussain is the son-in-law of Ahsan Jafri.

Born and raised in India, Dr. Hussain is an accomplished marine scientist and environmental physicist. He taught at Janata College, Chandrapur (India), University of Bath (England), the University of Delaware and Regional Engineering College, Chandrapur (India). Currently he is the president and director of an environmental laboratory which he