

HELAL UDDIN ABBAS v MOHAMED YOUSUF SHAH

Statement in open Court

**For the Claimant:** *Serena Cooke solicitor advocate*

"I am glad to tell you that Mr. Shah now recognises that the allegation that Mr. Abbas at any stage beat his wife or was guilty of any violence during his first marriage was completely untrue.

Mr. Abbas felt that he had no alternative but to issue proceedings against the London Bangla and Mr. Shah following the publication of the advertisement which I have summarised.

Mr. Shah was the author of the story reporting the advertisement, however, as Mr. Abbas accepts, he was not the author of the advertisement, albeit that he was the editor of the London Bangla at that time and accepted it for publication. Mr. Abbas felt that he had no alternative but to commence proceedings against London Bangla Limited and Mr. Shah.

I am happy to tell your Lordship that Mr. Shah now accepts that there is no truth in the allegation that Mr. Abbas had been guilty of any form of domestic violence against his then-wife. He has agreed to join in the making of this Statement in open court."

**For the Defendant:** *Tina Kumar.*

"My Lord I appear on behalf of the Defendant [Counsel Miss Tina Kumar instructed by Sahota Solicitors]

I should tell your Lordship that the allegation of which Mr. Abbas complains was contained in an advertisement which was published in the London Bangla. Mr Shah played no part in the composition of the advertisement but he recognises that as the editor of the London Bangla he must accept responsibility for what was published in the advertisement and for his reporting of the content of the advertisement.

He recognises that there was no truth in the allegation that Mr. Abbas has beaten or is guilty of domestic violence to his then-wife. He apologises to him for the damage to his reputation.

Mr Shah has agreed to pay damages to him and to make a contribution to his legal costs."