

## ARMED ROBBERY MAN GUILTY

A Bolton man has today pleaded guilty to conspiring to commit armed robberies in Burnley.

Rais Atcha, 20, of Burnwell Close, Bolton was one of four men involved in a robbery at Muzaffer's jewellers on Brougham Street, Burnley on Saturday February 19th 2011. The display cabinets were smashed and over £30,000 of traditional Asian jewellery was stolen.

On May 27th 2011, he was part of a group of men who burst into a house on Fairfield Drive, Burnley where the two residents, a 74-year-old man and 63-year-old woman, were threatened and assaulted with a firearm and an axe.

Around £3,000 of cash and jewellery was stolen. Atcha was arrested after a long and complex investigation by a team of detectives from Burnley CID, who were able to use forensic, telephony and witness evidence as part of their enquiries. He appeared at Burnley Crown Court January 24th.

DS Nicola Bithell from Burnley CID said: "This has been a long and complex enquiry and I am satisfied with the result. Atcha is a dangerous offender who was part of a group that used extreme violence and weapons to threaten the victims leaving them terrified and traumatised."

## POLICE ARREST 10 IN EARLY MORNING DRUG RAIDS

Ten people have been arrested on January 26th after dawn police raids to stamp out drug dealing.

More than 100 officers swooped on nine addresses at dawn after months of investigation into the distribution of heroin and crack cocaine.

In total, nine men and one woman were arrested on suspicion of drug offences including possession with intent to supply class A drugs.

Police from the neighbourhood teams, serious crime division, dog handlers and tactical aid unit raided properties in Chadderton, Limeside, St Mary's, Clarksfield and an address in Blackburn.

Superintendent Catherine Hankinson, from Greater Manchester Police's Oldham Division, said: "Today shows that the desire to rid our communities of the blight of drugs is continuous and we will go back and keep tackling the issue in the same area as many times as necessary until the problem is dealt with."

"Residents told us that class A drug dealing was a worry to them so we have responded robustly to combat this."

"Drugs wreck lives and the crime associated with them causes misery to the whole community - so we do everything possible to find out who is responsible and put them before the courts."

# A FREE WOMAN

## Burnley magistrate walks free despite £360,000 mortgage fraud

By **Daniel Samme**  
daniel@asianexpress.co.uk

**A magistrate has walked free from court after being convicted of a £360,000 mortgage fraud.**

Shanz Hussain forged her husband's signature on several key documents before being caught.

The Burnley magistrate was said to have acted "wholly uncharacteristically" during her bitter divorce according to Judge Christopher Cornwall.

Hussain, from Haslingden, is a former co-director of the Lincoln Group of Companies and said to be a pillar of the community.

Following a trial at Preston Crown Court however she was convicted of forging a series of documents to secure the transfer of her matrimonial home, 163c Manchester Road in Burnley, from her former husband Mazhar.

The former magistrate forged a Land Registry document, utility bill and passport to secure finance. Passing sentence Judge Cornwall

said: "Having achieved so much you find yourself having fallen to the ground from a great height."

It was conceded however that the breakdown of her 20-year marriage and an "acrimonious divorce" was the explanation for her uncharacteristic behaviour.

The judge also said that the public interest would not be served by sending Hussain, who is no longer a magistrate, directly to prison.

The 39-year-old had served on the Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale Bench for six years.

Hussain, who was found guilty of seven fraud offences, was given a 12-month prison sentence, suspended for two years. She must also complete 300 hours community service.

Peter Birkett QC, defending, said that his client had been advised, by her solicitors, that in all likelihood she would be awarded the house in any divorce settlement.

But Hussain, who had initially said she planned to appeal her conviction, now accepted she had acted dishonestly in committing

forgery, the court heard.

Mr Birkett told the court that the loss of her reputation and the publicity surrounding the case served as a "huge punishment" for Hussain.

A jury was told that not only did Hussain forge her former husband's signatures on a financial declaration and Land Registry documents but she had also falsely signed the name of a Blackburn solicitor as a witness.

She originally denied the charges claiming she had been "framed" by her estranged husband following a break-up last year.

The fraud was discovered by Mr Hussain's solicitor John McNabb, of Burnley firm SFN, who raised the alarm while handling his client's divorce from the defendant.

Her fingerprints were later found on Land Registry, utility bill and passport forms, which had supposedly been signed by Mr Hussain and Ansar Amin, of Walker Preston Solicitors in Blackburn.



**A. FREE:** Shanz Hussain has escaped a prison sentence for mortgage fraud



**AS** New role: Faiza Seth up for the task

## FAIZA SETH APPOINTED AS JUDGE FOR MISS INDIA UK

**Glamorous London socialite Faiza Seth has been appointed as a judge for the prestigious Miss India UK pageant, 2012.**

Miss Seth is the CEO of the award winning interior design house Casa Forma in London, and dedicates her spare time to alleviating poverty among the hardest hit children in an extremely impoverished area in Mallapur, India.

Born in India and raised in the US, Faiza eschewed the convention of being a socialite wife and rejected the easy option of working in the family apparel business. Instead she took a demanding job at Lehman Brothers. Next came an MBA at Stanford, one of the world's most exacting business schools, punctuated with a spell at Morgan Stanley.

"At the time I was unsure of what I really wanted to attain in my career, but knew that business training and a financial background would be of value in whatever I might set my heart on," she explained.

Faiza is CEO of Casa Forma and leads their strategy and business initiatives, for both their UK and their India offices. Casa Forma won two awards at the International Design and Architecture Awards, 2011.

She lives in London with her

husband. She was nominated for the Asian Women of Achievement Awards 2011, for The Social and Humanitarian Award, for her work with the Soham For Kids, a registered UK charity.

Faiza founded the Soham For Kids School in Hyderabad, India in 2010 because she believes that educating the impoverished is a long-term solution to alleviating poverty.

This strategy requires self-enabling individuals to permanently break the cycle of poverty and eventually provide for themselves and their families. Faiza developed the holistic concept of establishing this completely free school that not only delivers a well rounded education, but also provides food, clothing and healthcare to 100 children across four grades ranging from pre-school, lower kindergarten, upper kindergarten to first grade.

The charity aims to expand the school one grade each year. Soham for Kids is one of a few charitable schools in India that is non-denominational promoting a culture of acceptance and openness.

The event will be hosted on board HMS President, on the February 4th, 2012.