

DAME JASVINDER SANGHERA DBE

Author & advocate for women's rights in the UK

Agent: **Mark Lucas**



Jasvinder was awarded a Damehood in The King's Birthday Honours list in 2024, in recognition of her remarkable accomplishments and service to people throughout the UK. She was born and raised in Derby and is a survivor of a forced marriage. Jasvinder is the founder of Karma Nirvana, a national charity that has been operating for 30 years and provides support to both men and women affected by honour-based crimes and forced marriages.

Jasvinder's achievements go far beyond her work with [Karma Nirvana](#). She is listed in 'Who's Who 2016' and featured in the book 'Voice and Vote', which was commissioned by Buckingham Palace to celebrate 100 years of women's voting rights and identifies 100 women who have made significant contributions to women's rights. Additionally, she is an acclaimed international speaker and serves as a leading expert advisor to the Courts for child and criminal proceedings.

Her memoir, [Shame](#), was a Sunday Times Top 10 Bestseller and was described in the House of Lords as a 'political weapon'. Her work and advocacy have brought the issue of forced and child marriages to the forefront of society and former Prime Minister David Cameron credited her work with changing his perspective on forced marriage after reading her memoir. Her campaigning efforts led to the passing of the Forced Marriage Bill and the criminalisation of forced marriage in the UK, as well as changes internationally. In the House of Lords, her advocacy resulted in significant, lasting reforms that have improved policies, reporting, and support for victims and survivors of sexual harassment.

Jasvinder has received numerous awards for her work, including Woman of the Year, Honorary Doctorates from the University of Derby and De Montfort University Leicester. She was awarded the Pride of Britain Award, Cosmopolitan Ultimate Woman of the Year and was listed in the Guardian's top 100 Most Inspirational Women in the World. She received the Global Punjabi Award and was awarded a CBE for her outstanding contribution to the victims of forced marriage and honour-based abuse. She was recognised as the Legal Campaigner of the Year. Additionally, she has been awarded the

prestigious Robert Burns Humanitarian Award for her self-sacrifice and selfless service. Recently, she was honoured as one of the Women In Management Top 50 Professionals in for her social activism.