

Ashif Kassam; OGW

An accountant specialising in strategy, financial restructuring, governance and tax thereby helping organisations deliver and create value

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Biography

Ashif is the Executive Chairman of RSM Eastern Africa LLP, a firm he founded in 2004. RSM Eastern Africa operates in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania with a staff force of over 185. The firm is a member of RSM, one of the leading global networks of independently owned and managed professional service firms providing accounting, audit and assurance, corporate finance, tax, specialist consulting and risk advisory services, operating in 120 countries and supported by 43,000 people.

Ashif has over 25 years of experience in audit and assurance, transaction advisory and tax services making him one of the few professionals in the accounting industry with diverse experience.

Ashif has advised clients in various industries including financial services, manufacturing, trading, real estate, construction, hospitality, agriculture, logistics, oil and gas and mining (extractive industries), information technology, telecommunication, media, NGOs and tax exempt entities.

Ashif is married to Zainuba and they have been blessed with 3 lovely children, Rinaaz (12), Rayan (11) and Rohail (7), all ardent tennis and football players.

Awards & Honours

- Honoured by ICPAK in 2015 for selfless contribution to the accounting profession in Kenya and globally.
- Order of the Grand Warrior (O.G.W.) of Kenya in Dec 2012 by Mwai Kibaki, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces of Kenya, in recognition of advising the Treasury on the matter of Privatization of State Corporations and contribution to the development of the accountancy profession.
- ACCA Achievement Award in 2012 in recognition of the contribution to the accounting profession locally & globally.
- ACCA Achievement Award in 2009 in recognition of being a self-starter and for contribution to the accountancy profession.
- Awarded fellowship by ICPAK in 2004, within 7 years of becoming a member against the 10 year requirement, due to the immense contribution to the accounting profession.
- Ismaili Youth for Excellence Award in the Professional and Entrepreneurial Category in 2004 for contribution to the profession and entrepreneurial skills.

Key Board Experience and Memberships

- Certification on corporate governance for directors by the Centre for Corporate Governance, where he was the top candidate. Also awarded a Certificate of Competence by the Sirdar Applied Directorship Programme. Has also attended Corporate Governance training by IFC.
- Member of Entrepreneurs Organisation (EO), the world's most influential community of entrepreneurs since 2014 and currently a Board Member and the Chair of EO Accelerator, a program that he has successfully spearheaded the launch. Member of the ZOAD Forum.
- Board Member of The Jubilee Insurance Company of Kenya Ltd, Kenya's leading insurer, chair of its Board Investment Committee and a member of its Board Audit Committee. Also the Chairman of Jubilee Financial Services Ltd.
- Past member representing Middle East and Africa on the International Audit and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB), mandated with setting international standards on auditing, review engagements, other assurance, quality control and related services. Also served taskforces which led to the revision of International Standard on Review Engagements (ISRE) 2400 – Engagements to Review Financial Statements & International Standard on Related Services (ISRS) 4410 – Compilation Engagements.
- Past member on the Council of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya (ICPAK) and has over 25 years of service on various committees including Public Finance, Financial Services and Professional Standards.
- Board and Committee Member on various Aga Khan Development Network bodies including Aga Khan Health Service, Kenya, Aga Khan Education Service, Kenya and Aga Khan Foundation. Currently, a member of Aga Khan University's Resource Development Committee.

Detailed list of honorary services attached.

Professional Memberships

- Fellow member of Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya (ICPAK) (Reg. No: 2362 / Practicing Certificate No: 1126).
- Fellow member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, UK (ACCA).
- Practicing member of National Board of Accountants and Auditors of Tanzania (NBAA).
- Practicing member of Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Uganda (ICPAU).
- Member of Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, UK (MCIArb).

Contact Information

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