

Port Elizabeth Bar

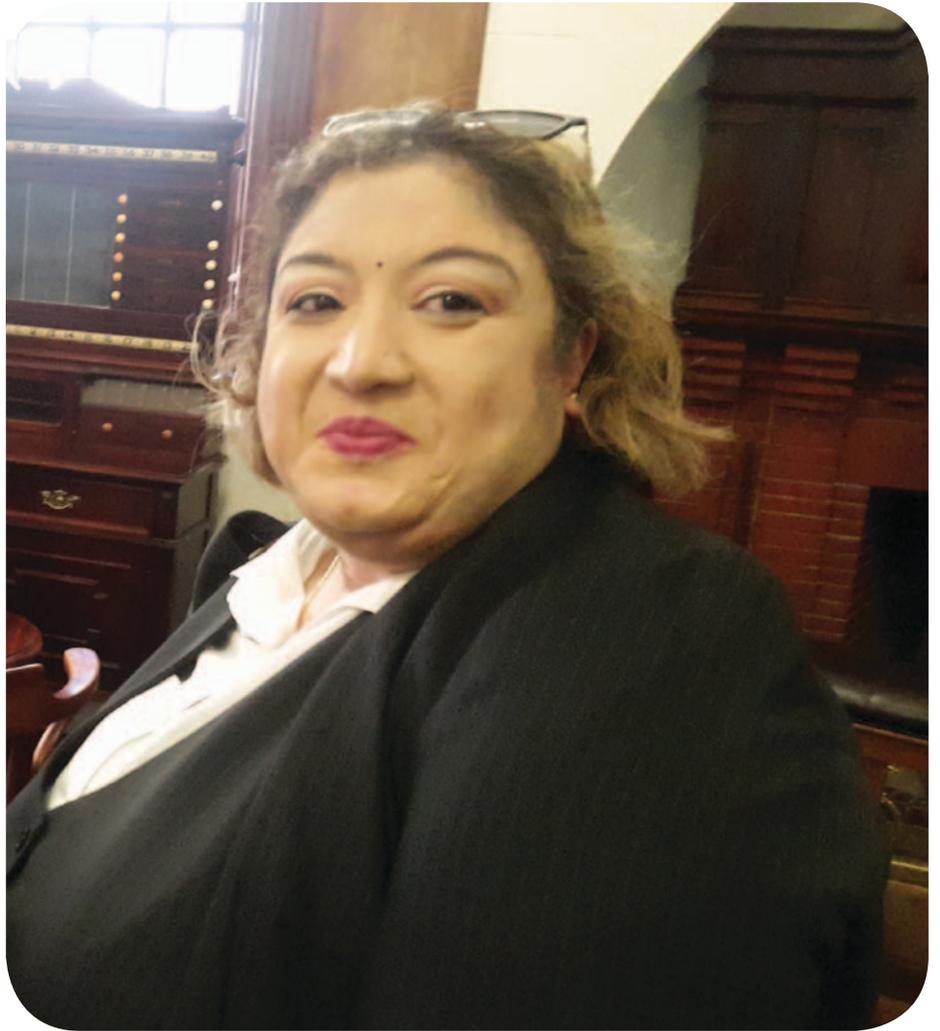
TRIBUTE TO BADRIKA NARAN

by Helen Ayerst, *Port Elizabeth Bar*

We are profoundly saddened by the sudden death of Badrika Naran, a member of the Port Elizabeth Bar, on 4 July 2020, after she contracted the notorious Covid-19.

Badrika, being a Port Elizabeth girl through and through, was born on 7 February 1975 in Port Elizabeth. She attended Woolhope Secondary High School in Malabar until she was eligible for admission to Lawson Brown High School where, upon her acceptance, she was one of the first scholars of colour to attend the school. She went on to graduate from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, where she obtained an LLB degree. While studying part-time, she dedicated many hours to enriching the lives of the children of the SOS Children's Home in Schauderville, Port Elizabeth by teaching them English and Afrikaans. She married her husband, Shakeel Dar, in 2011.

Badrika quickly made her mark when she joined our bar in December 2006 and was one of the youngest members to serve on the bar council. She was an active participant in all bar affairs and made particularly valuable contributions as a member of Advocates for Transformation and the pupillage committee, not to mention being a competent advocacy trainer of the pupil members. She was deprived of a long and, in all likelihood, distinguished career having been invited to interview for the aspirant judges course to be held, but for the national lockdown, during July this year.



She was a popular and highly engaged member of the bar, fiercely protective of its ethos. She will be remembered for her welcoming smile, words of wisdom to all members – not just the pupil and junior members – of our bar. Her absence will be hard-felt by all, even by those who only had brief dealings with Badrika.

On a personal note, I will miss Badrika, or Rika as she was affectionately known by most, immensely. She was my friend, colleague, confidante and, many a time, my worthy opponent. We spent many hours in her chambers drinking coffee or, better still, wine, talking about life at the Bar, life in general, and at times,

some of our incorrigible male colleagues whom, I might add, were all very dear to Badrika.

A few of us were lucky enough to spend time with Badrika in chambers, shortly prior to her passing, which was a welcome respite from the harsh reality of lockdown.

She is survived by her husband Shakeel, mother Susheila Naran and extended family.

Farewell dear colleague, your collegiality and friendship will be sorely missed by us all. **A**