

# UAE CORPORATE TAX



3 YEARS OF COMPLIANCE.  
TRUST. GROWTH. PARTNERSHIP.



## CHIEF GUEST



**H.E. Mirza Al Sayegh**  
Member of Board of Trustees  
Al Maktoum Foundation, UAE

## GUEST OF HONOUR & KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Dr.(CA) Ankur Aggarwal**  
Chairman and Founder  
BNW Developments

## SPEAKERS



**Nilesh Ashar**  
Senior Managing Director  
FTI Consulting  
Topic: Key CT Issues and Updates



**Rishi Sapra**  
Founder & CEO  
Young Global  
Topic: FY26 TP Updates and Compliance Considerations



**Fran Wilhelm**  
Associate Partner,  
Dhruva Consultants  
Topic: Introduction to UAE's New R&D Tax Incentive

## PANEL DISCUSSION

Topic: Beyond Compliance: How UAE Corporate Tax Changed the CFO Agenda

### MODERATOR



**Mahendra Khiani**  
Joint Vice President  
Taxation Society

### PANELISTS



**Mohammed Afzal Volli**  
Director of Finance  
Rakez



**Shiraz Khan**  
Partner, Head of Tax  
Middle East & North Africa  
Al Tamimi & Company



**Ashwani Baweja**  
Group Corporate Finance Head  
Export Trading Group



**Nitin Agarwal**  
Group Tax Director  
Majid Al Futtaim

## FOUNDERS



**Naveen Sharma**  
Chairman



**Nimish Makvana**  
President



Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
8:00 AM to 1:40 PM  
Followed by Lunch



Conrad Hotel,  
Dubai, UAE

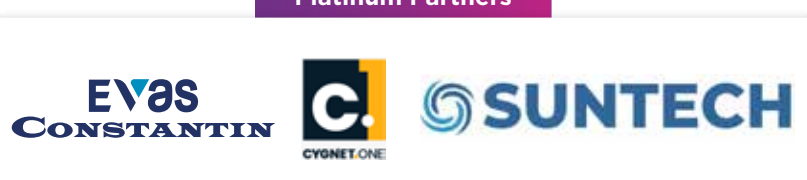
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# UAE CORPORATE TAX



The Committee of Taxation Society takes great pleasure in inviting you for the Event on “UAE Corporate Tax - 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary”

This event will take place on **Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026, 8:00 AM to 1:40 PM** at **Conrad Hotel, Dubai, UAE**

## MANAGING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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**Nimish Makvana**  
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**Harsh Patel**  
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**Danielle Cyrus**  
Executive Member  
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AGENDA	
Day and Date	Saturday, 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
08:00 AM to 09:00 AM	Registration, Breakfast & Networking
09:00 AM to 09:05 AM	<b>Opening Remarks</b>
09:05 AM to 09:10 AM	<b>President Address by</b> Nimish Makvana President, Taxation Society
09:10 AM to 09:15 AM	<b>Chairman Address by</b> Naveen Sharma Chairman, Taxation Society
09:15 AM to 09:55 AM	<b>Address by Guest Speaker</b> Nilesh Ashar Senior Managing Director FTI Consulting <b>Topic: Key CT Issues and Updates</b>
09:55 AM to 10:35 AM	<b>Address by Guest Speaker</b> Rishi Sapra Founder & CEO Young Global <b>Topic: FY26 TP Updates and Compliance Considerations</b>
10:35 AM to 11:20 AM	<b>Address by Guest Speaker</b> Fran Wilhelm Associate Partner, Dhruva Consultants <b>Topic: Introduction to UAE's New R&amp;D Tax Incentive</b>
11:20 AM to 11:35 AM	Tea / Coffee Break
11:35 AM to 12:00 PM	<b>Chief Guest Address by</b> H.E. Mirza Al Sayegh Member of Board of Trustees Al Maktoum Foundation, UAE
12:00 PM to 12:20 PM	<b>Guest of Honour &amp; Keynote Address by</b> Dr.(CA) Ankur Aggarwal Chairman and Founder BNW Developments
12:20 PM to 12:35 PM	Felicitations of Annual Partners/ Founding Members & Release of Tax Connect Newsletter
12:35 PM to 01:35 PM	<b>Panel Discussion</b> <b>Topic: Beyond Compliance: How UAE Corporate Tax Changed the CFO Agenda</b> <b>Moderator</b> Mahendra Khiani, Joint Vice President, Taxation Society <b>Panelists:</b> Mohammed Afzal Volli, Director of Finance, Rakez Shiraz Khan, Partner, Head of Tax Middle East & North Africa Al Tamimi & Company Ashwani Baweja, Group Corporate Finance Head, Export Trading Group Nitin Agarwal, Group Tax Director, Majid Al Futtaim
01:35 PM to 01:40 PM	<b>Vote of Thanks by</b> Managing Committee Member, Taxation Society
01:40 PM Onwards	Networking Lunch



**Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026**  
**8:00 AM to 1:40 PM**  
**Followed by Lunch**



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**Dubai, UAE**

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## CHIEF GUEST



**H.E. Mirza Al Sayegh**  
Member of Board of Trustees  
Al Maktoum Foundation, UAE

H.E. Al Sayegh is Chairman or Deputy Chairman of numerous companies both in UAE and overseas, including Al Maktoum College of Higher Education in Scotland. In 1983, H.E. Al Sayegh took charge of investment affairs of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum's Office. In 1979, he represented the UAE on the Political Committee of the United National General Assembly session. In 1976, H.E. Al Sayegh was appointed as Counselor and Minister Plenipotentiary (Charge d'Affairs) at the UAE Embassy in London. In 1974, he was head of UAE Consular Mission in Bombay. In 1973, he was elected as the Third Secretary and Head of Information and Translation Section, at the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abu Dhabi.

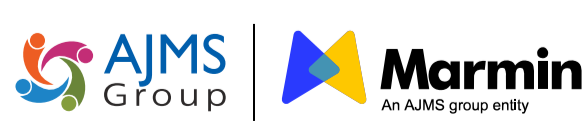
H.E. Al Sayegh holds a Masters degree in International Relations from the University of Southern California (UK Programme), London and a BA in Business Administration from the University of Jordan.

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## GUEST OF HONOUR & KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Dr.(CA) Ankur Aggarwal**  
Chairman and Founder  
BNW Developments

Dr.(CA) Ankur Aggarwal, a highly accomplished professional in the field of finance and business consultancy, embarked on his journey after completing his B.Com (Hons) degree from Delhi University in 2008. With a solid academic foundation, Ankur quickly established himself as a prominent figure in Chartered Accountancy, becoming a trusted advisor and consultant in taxation, audit, accounting, company law matters, and financial services. With over 15 years of experience, Ankur's deep knowledge of accounting standards, bank audits, and income tax matters has made him the go-to expert in the industry.

During his tenure as the Managing Partner of M/s. Ankur Aggarwal & Co, a renowned Indian Chartered Accountancy firm from 2011 to 2021, Ankur showcased his unwavering commitment to excellence and dedication to providing superior services. His exceptional leadership and expertise in finance propelled the firm to new heights, solidifying its reputation as a trusted and sought-after advisor. Ankur's remarkable track record and dynamic approach have earned him recognition as a visionary leader in the industry.

Over the past five years, Ankur Aggarwal has played a pivotal role in shaping the landscape of the Dubai real estate market. Additionally, he has devoted his recent efforts to the development of Al Marjan, Ras Al Khaimah (RAK), with a determined focus on bringing its future vision to life.

His unwavering dedication and innovative strategies have propelled the industry forward, setting new standards of excellence. Ankur's global connections and collaborations have been instrumental in facilitating valuable partnerships and unlocking new avenues of growth for brands, investors, and developers worldwide.



# UAE CORPORATE TAX



## SPEAKER



**Nilesh Ashar**  
 Senior Managing Director  
 FTI Consulting

Nilesh Ashar is an international tax and corporate tax specialist with more than 25 years of tax experience. Mr. Ashar has advised clients on complex tax engagements in sectors such as real estate, financial services, private equity, oil and gas, retail and family offices across the Middle East, India, the UK and Europe.

Mr. Ashar has been based in Dubai since 2012, following stints in India and London. He brings a range of tax experience to FTI Consulting’s clients, including advisory services focused on corporate and international tax matters, cross-border tax structuring, M&A tax, economic substance, tax governance, transfer pricing and VAT. He has extensively advised Gulf Cooperation Council (“GCC”) Family Groups and multinational enterprises (“MNEs”) on tax structuring and tax optimization initiatives, including advising them on tax change management programs such as United Arab Emirates (“UAE”) corporate tax and VAT implementation, transfer pricing strategies and overall tax risk management frameworks.

Mr. Ashar also brings a wealth of experience in helping organisations and regulatory authorities identify and manage tax risks, particularly in the context of evolving tax legislations in the Middle East, including advising on their effective tax rates and improving their tax processes in the ever-evolving business and transactional environment. More recently, in the UAE, Mr. Ashar is currently leading UAE corporate tax assessments for large UAE-headquartered groups and advising clients on the impact of the UAE corporate tax on their operational structure and transfer pricing policies.

Prior to joining FTI Consulting, Mr. Ashar spent time with multiple Big Four firms, during which he set up the India Tax Desk in London, led the international and M&A practice for a Big Four Firm and set up the international tax practice for a boutique firm. Additionally, Mr. Ashar is a regular speaker at seminars, conferences, client workshops and various industry forums and has contributed to many thought leadership pieces in the tax arena.

### Relevant Experience:

- Advised several UAE-headquartered groups on UAE corporate tax implementation projects
- Advised UAE sovereign wealth funds (“SWFs”) and other UAE-headquartered groups on their global transfer pricing compliances under Country-by-Country Reporting regimes
- Led Global Minimum Tax/Pillar 2 engagements for leading UAE and GCC-headquartered businesses
- Advised on a global private equity (“PE”) firm’s acquisition of a visa processing group
- Advised a UAE-headquartered global logistics player’s acquisitions in Australia and the United States
- Advised on a global PE firm’s acquisition of a large healthcare group in India and the Middle East
- Advised on pre-IPO diligence and structuring of hotels and energy companies
- Led the tax due diligence and structuring for two proposed carve-outs in the energy and utilities sector

### Associations

Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

### Education

B.Com, H.R. College of Commerce and Economics



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## SPEAKER



**Rishi Sapra**  
Founder & CEO  
Young Global

Rishi Sapra stands at the helm of Young Global as its visionary Founder and Chief Executive Officer, bringing over 15 years of distinguished experience in Transfer Pricing, Corporate Tax, and International Tax consulting across the UAE, UK, Netherlands, and India. His exemplary career trajectory with Big Four and Tier 2 consulting firms has positioned him as a transformative leader in the Tax Advisory landscape.

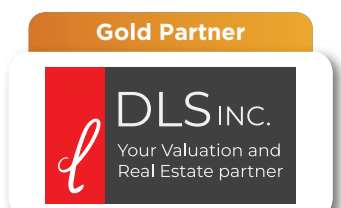
Rishi's comprehensive expertise encompasses a diverse array of Tax Advisory and Transfer Pricing domains, including the evaluation of supply chain and business models, execution of value chain analyses, intellectual property structuring, formulation of transfer pricing policies, and development of comprehensive documentation. His advisory capabilities extend to practical implementation guidance and strategic defense during tax and transfer pricing audits.

While maintaining a broad industry portfolio, Rishi has cultivated particular expertise in addressing the unique challenges faced by small and medium enterprises. He provides strategic guidance to organizations throughout their evolutionary journey - from emerging startups to established multinational enterprises. His proficiency lies in enabling businesses to effectively manage transfer pricing risk through pragmatic arrangements that align with their operational models while addressing complex transfer pricing and tax implications arising from organizational transformation.

Rishi has successfully navigated numerous transfer pricing audits with various tax authorities, including ZATCA (Saudi Arabia), ETA (Egypt), GTA (Qatar), the Dutch Tax Authorities, and UK HMRC. His recognized expertise led to his selection to provide advanced training to ZATCA's Transfer Pricing Unit on specialized areas including audit methodologies, Advance Pricing Agreements (APAs), business restructuring considerations, and financial transaction analyses.

His professional accomplishments include the successful conclusion of multiple unilateral APAs with Dutch Tax Authorities and UK HMRC, as well as bilateral APAs between Dutch and Danish Competent Authorities. Within the UAE, Rishi has architected sophisticated tax and transfer pricing operating models for various businesses in diversified industries.

At Young Global, where Tax is our business, Rishi integrates global perspectives with regional expertise to deliver transformative tax strategies calibrated to navigate today's increasingly complex fiscal landscape.





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## SPEAKER



**Fran Wilhelm**  
Associate Partner,  
Dhruva Consultants

Fran leads Dhruva's R&D Tax Advisory practice in the UAE, supporting innovative businesses to access and benefit from the newly introduced R&D tax incentive. He has over 15 years of experience in international tax, with a focus on innovation incentives.

Prior to joining Dhruva, Fran spent 10 years with Europe's largest innovation funding advisory firm, specialising in UK R&D tax credits, with broader exposure to global incentive regimes. He has advised a wide range of multinational and high-growth companies to identify, substantiate, and optimise their R&D claims.

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## MODERATOR



**Mahendra Khiani**  
Joint Vice President  
Taxation Society

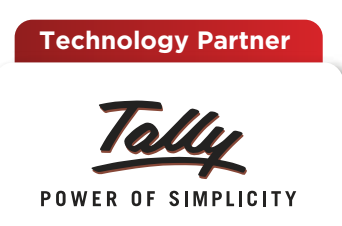
CA Mahendra Khiani is a Director at KPMG Middle East, where he leads the NextGen Governance, Risk, and Compliance (NextgenGRCS) and Enterprise Risk Management practice, driving digital transformation across risk, audit, finance, and sustainability functions. He works closely with Boards, Audit Committees, and senior leadership teams to modernize governance and risk frameworks through technology-enabled and datadriven solutions.

Mahendra specializes in transforming traditional Internal Audit and Enterprise Risk Management models by embedding advanced analytics, machine learning, and artificial intelligence into risk, controls, and assurance processes. He has led the development of several proprietary solutions spanning Internal Audit Data Analytics, Enterprise Risk Quantification, and Finance and Process Automation, helping organizations shift from reactive compliance to predictive, insight-led decision-making.

Beyond client work, Mahendra is an active contributor to the professional ecosystem. He serves as Technology Champion for the ICAI Dubai Chapter, Managing Committee Member at the Taxation Society of UAE, and Vice President – Education at ICAT, where he drives technology upskilling initiatives. Through these platforms, he has trained and mentored 1,000+ professionals on emerging technologies, data analytics, AI, and digital risk transformation.

Mahendra is a Chartered Accountant, holds an MBA from IIM Kozhikode, a Postgraduate degree in Data Science, and an Executive Postgraduate in Data Science with specialization in Natural Language Processing.

With over 17 years of global Big Four consulting experience, he has worked across diverse industries, delivering cutting-edge risk management and audit solutions that enhance organizational resilience and executive decision-making.





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## PANELIST



**Mohammed Afzal Volli**  
Director of Finance  
Rakez

Mohammed Afzal Volli is the Director of Finance at Ras Al Khaimah Economic Zone (RAKEZ) Group and a transformation-driven finance leader shaping future-ready public-sector finance. With over 20 years of experience, he operates at the intersection of strategy, risk, governance, and technology, partnering with Boards to drive sustainable economic value.

He has led enterprise finance transformations spanning SAP S/4HANA, advanced planning and analytics, AI-enabled insights, and automation, positioning finance as a strategic enabler of growth, resilience, and stakeholder confidence.

He holds an Executive Program in Management from Cornell University, an MBA, and a professional qualification from CIMA.

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## PANELIST



**Shiraz Khan**

Partner

Head of Tax Middle East & North Africa  
Al Tamimi & Company

Shiraz is a UK qualified lawyer with over 23 years of international tax experience. Prior to joining Al Tamimi & Company, he was the global head of tax at a leading multinational where he was responsible for the tax affairs in over 100 countries. He has also worked for a top international law firm in the UK and big 4 firms in both the UK and the Middle East. Shiraz specialises in advising on international tax structuring and tax aspects of cross border M&A, private equity, structured finance, Islamic finance and real estate transactions. He has in-depth knowledge and expertise across all taxes including corporate tax, withholding taxes and VAT in a wide range of industry sectors. He has particular expertise in advising multinational corporations on structuring their investments and operations into the region and financial institutions, sovereign wealth funds, real estate investment companies, family offices and private equity groups based in the region on their international investments.

Shiraz regularly speaks at conferences and seminars on international tax issues and has been involved in advising governments on the drafting of tax laws.

### Recent Experience

- Tax advice for a global media group based in the Middle East in connection with their international operations across Europe, Middle East, Africa, America and Asia regions.
- Structuring of various investments totaling USD1.5bn across Europe and the United States for a global real estate fund, including advising on tax efficient profit repatriation and exit as well as the tax considerations related to the financing structure.
- Advised a private equity firm on a EUR2bn pan-European acquisition of a large engineering group including debt push-down at investment level.
- Tax due diligence, structuring and sale and purchase documentation support for a Gulf bank in respect of an acquisition of a banking group in 13 countries across the Middle East and Asia.
- Advised a sovereign wealth fund on various debt and equity investments into the United States.
- Provided tax advice to a Shariah compliant bank based in the Gulf region in connection with the issue of a USD750m ijara backed sukuk.
- Advised a regional retail organisation on the tax implications of expanding its operations in the Middle East.
- Advised an international airline on the tax implications of a cross-border sale of an aircraft and advised private charter entities and individuals on aircraft and aviation-related sales.
- Assisting a leading Korean construction company with one of the first MAP requests in the GCC region
- Advised one of the world's largest multinational technology companies in connection with activities in Kuwait as well as assistance in dealings with the Kuwaiti Department of Income Tax
- Advised a large multinational corporation on the tax aspects including retention tax issues with respect to its business operations in Kuwait
- Tax advice for a global media group based in the Middle East in connection with their international operations across Europe, Middle East, Africa, America and Asia regions.

### Language(s)

- English

### Education

2001 – Bachelor of Laws, LLB, King's College

### Admission

2002 – Professional Bar Qualification, Inns of Court School of Law, UK

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## PANELIST



**Ashwani Baweja**  
Group Corporate Finance Head  
Export Trading Group

Ashwani is a seasoned global corporate finance leader with over 25 years of experience across complex, multi-country, multi-business environments.

He leads Group Corporate Finance for ETC Group, a global enterprise spanning 50+ countries and 300+ legal entities, working closely with CEOs, boards, and investors on scaling up finance organization, growth strategy, capital allocation, governance, M&A, tax strategy, and value creation.

He has led complex multi-jurisdiction restructurings, redesigned operating and corporate hub structures, and strengthened global reporting and tax frameworks to support scale without fragility. His industry footprint spans IT, healthcare, FMCG, retail, manufacturing, and agri-commodities across Africa, APAC, and the Middle East. Known for combining disciplined execution with a people-centric approach to building resilient organisations and finance teams.

### Education & Credentials

- Chartered Accountant (FCA)
- Harvard Business School, Senior Executive Leadership Program (SELP)
- Saïd Business School, Oxford, AI & Business Analytics
- INSEAD, Management Program
- ISB - Indian School of Business, Role of CFO: Integrating Strategy & Finance
- CIFRSS™, Certified IFRS Specialist, IABFM Dubai

### Executive Career

- ETC Group — Global Corporate Finance Head & BU CFO
- Olam International — Country & Regional CFO
- Future Group | Max Healthcare | Samsung SDS

### Board Advisory

- Global Advisory Board Member — Virtual Advisory Board, UK
- Certified Advisory Board Chair™ — Advisory Board Centre, Australia

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## PANELIST



**Nitin Agarwal**  
Group Tax Director  
Majid Al Futtaim

Nitin Agarwal, featured in the prestigious Global Tax 50 List of Most Influential Global Tax Leaders in 2025 and awarded Indirect Tax In-House Leader of the Year – 2025, is a purpose driven tax transformation leader and Group Tax Director at Majid Al Futtaim. He oversees indirect tax governance, technology, and transformation across 15+ jurisdictions in the Middle East and beyond. With more than two decades of experience spanning tax, tax technology, ERP governance, E-invoicing frameworks, automation, and data-driven tax operations, he has been at the forefront of real-time tax transformation initiatives in the region. Nitin is also the author of the internationally recognized book “Extinction of Tax As We Know It” and is currently developing a practitioner-focused playbook and course on the PEPOL e-invoicing framework through the UAE lens, alongside broader work on Tax Administration 3.0, AI, and the future evolution of tax careers in digitally connected ecosystems.

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Chairman



**Nimish Makvana**  
President

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Vice President



**Ekansh Agrawal**  
Secretary



**Vishal Hurkat**  
Treasurer

## JOINT OFFICE BEARERS



**Mahendra Khiani**  
Joint Vice President



**Mahesh Prabhu**  
Joint Secretary



**Wilson Lewis**  
Joint Treasurer

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Executive Member



**Khadar Khan Mohammed**  
Executive Member



**Harsh Patel**  
Executive Member



**Danielle Cyrus**  
Executive Member

