

Nisha Pillai

Freelance Journalist and Coach
Former BBC World News Presenter

Moderator of Business Dialogue



One of the most outstanding professional moderators of international forums and debate, drawing upon her vast experience of top-level international broadcasting

Professional experience

- With over twenty-five years experience as a BBC presenter and journalist, Nisha has been an anchor for BBC World News and conducted award-winning investigations for *Panorama* and *The Money Programme*.
- Some of her most noteworthy work has been her time covering events such as the attacks on the Twin Towers, the fall of Baghdad and the collapse of the financial rescue plan in US Congress.
- Nisha has hosted important discussions such as between audiences in New York and Islamabad at the outset of the Afghan war, and also between the ordinary public individuals from New York and Amman.
- Nisha has led live location coverage of the Indian elections and the 50th anniversary of Pakistan's Independence. She also hosted live interactive debates between audiences in America, Pakistan and Jordan. She presented BBC World News' coverage of Israel's 50th anniversary of independence from Jerusalem.
- She was awarded the *Royal Television Society's* Award for best current affairs programme for '*The Max Factor*' - her investigation into Robert Maxwell's sprawling business empire.

Sample assignments

- Nisha Pillai is a motivational speaker and conference host, who moderates lively panel discussions. She is also a sought-after public speaking coach.
- Her experience is extensive across many sectors from economics and finance to various industry sectors to a range of different UN agencies like UNICEF, UNIDO and UNAids and even a major Physics powerhouse like CERN.
- She performed moderating duties for many business conferences, e.g. BASF, Ernst & Young, Gartner, KPMG, Royal Bank of Scotland, SIBOS, Tata Consulting Services, Visa International, and others.

Nisha Pillai - Personal bio

- Nisha worked for some 25 years with BBC, initially as a reporter on its principle economic affairs show, *The Money Programme*, then *Panorama* the BBC's flagship current affairs programme and more recently as an anchor for World News. Nisha was also one of the first regular interviewers on *Hard Talk*, the BBC's half-hour long interview programme.
- She entered journalism with a job at The Investors Chronicle. Her first job after leaving university was at Schroders Investment Bank.
- Nisha gained a BSc in Analytical Economics at the London School of Economics (LSE).

Client testimonials

- "Nisha receives our very highest recommendation to serve as a moderator or Master of Ceremonies." Managing Director, Legatum Centre for Development & Entrepreneurship, **MIT**.
- "I would like to thank you personally for your contribution in making our EMEIA partners conference such a success. You brought a great deal of warmth and energy to your role as host and your professionalism in handling multiple handovers and last-minute changes was particularly welcome!" Area Managing Partner, **Ernst & Young**
- "Nisha has a unique understanding of the essentials of communication and more importantly how to adapt those principles to different executive situations. Head of Research, **Gartner Executive Programmes**