

Rajendre Khargi

Knight in the Order of Orange Nassau

(Ridder in de Orde van Oranje Nassau)

27 July 1955, Paramaribo, SURINAME

Nationality: Dutch

Married to Amrita Sietaram

Two children, Roshan (1983) and Pramod (1986)

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Core competences

Coach, people manager, creative, diplomat, networker

Professional Profile

An accomplished professional with 30 years of experience in general- media- and project management, both in non-profit (Public Broadcasting, News Agency, printed-media, health care and international development) and profit organizations (ICT, consultancy and new media).

Over 25 years of experience governing and working with both Dutch and International NGO's.

Initiator of various national and international NGO-activities like, OneWorld Netherlands, Global Village Media, OneWorld.net on ICT and development and the Lalla Rookh Academic Chair at VU University of Amsterdam, to study the Migration of indentured labour from India to Suriname and the Caribbean.

A long career (23 years) in journalism both in Radio and Print, as a reporter, editor, foreign correspondent and Editor in Chief for Dutch media such als NOS, Radio Netherlands and the Dutch News Agency ANP.

A seasoned Co-Active Coach (CTI) and Leadership and Systems Coach (ORSC), with a broad experience in both the NGO- and Business world.

Demonstrates linguistic proficiency in both English and Dutch. Possesses a working knowledge of German, French, Spanish and local languages in the Caribbean (Suriname and Netherlands Antilles and Aruba).

Mission Statement on Leadership

Our goal is to enable individuals, teams & organizations to improve their (team) leadership to engage the challenges of a fast changing work environment. To help them embrace change, enhance performance and achieve their goals and objectives. We believe leadership needs to evolve, matching new realities in this dynamically changing world. It requires new leadership: inspiring and effective leadership, positive working environments and improvement of results that will serve community.

Management Skills

General Management – Experienced in all facets of general management from Board of Governors/ share holders to individual workers at the workplace. Familiar with all key business processes (Marketing, Financial control, HRM, Sales). Demonstrated budget responsibilities up to US\$ 125 mio.

Communications management – Experienced with media and media assets. Demonstrated skills in media training and coaching of managers and professionals. Experienced in crisis management and mediation.

Project management and mergers – Expertise and demonstrated skills in running major complex projects and mergers (multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural, multi-lingual). Used to dead lines, negotiating and management of expectations.

Career

- 2020 – present Adviser to H.E. Albert R. Ramdin, Minister of Foreign Affairs.
International Business and International Cooperation, Paramaribo, Suriname.
- Special Envoy to The Kingdom of the Netherlands for the Minister to prepare the restart of the relationship between the two countries. Preparing the first summit in over 10 years between Ministers of Foreign Affairs H.E. Stef. Blok and H.E. Sigrid Kaag (International Cooperation) and H.E. Ramdin.
- Preparing and organising first high level meetings between Suriname and The Netherlands to advance diplomatic relations, technical support and expanding business opportunities.
- 2012 – 2020 Personal Adviser to the Chair of VHP (Progressive Reform Party)
Since July 2021 President, H.E. Chandrikapersad Santokhi. Advising on strategic planning and communications, speech writing in two election cycles 2015 and 2020.
- From 2013 onwards successfully developed and managed in depth relationships between Mr. Santokhi and Dutch political parties and government officials.
- Mobilizing and engaging the Surinamese Diaspora to support and invest in Suriname.
- 2010 - present Co-Active coach and trainer on Executive Leadership for various international operating managers, journalists, and UN/NGO directors. Managers and leaders that are coached and trained are working in The Netherlands, Switzerland, France, India, Suriname, Aruba and The Netherlands Antilles.
- Associate with Wissemagroup, The Hague, communication consultancy (till 2014).
- Associate with Messaggio, Annecy, France: communications agency dedicated to the public sector (till 2016).
- 2008 - 2009 Personal adviser to the General Secretary of Public Services International (Ferney-Voltaire, France), the Global Union Federation made up of more than 650 trade unions from 160 countries around the world, representing more than 20 million workers who deliver public services. Advising and coaching in organisational development, strategic planning and team building.
- 2007- 2009 Director of Communications, Public Services International (Ferney-Voltaire, France), the Global Union Federation made up of more than 650 trade unions from 160 countries around the world, representing more than 20 million workers who deliver public services. Responsible for all communications aspects of PSI's Centennial Congress in Vienna. Setting up and implementing a new communication policy and approach for PSI and it's newly elected General Secretary. Key change: integrate communications as part of strategic policy decision making.
- 2004-2007 Coach and consultant, Amrit Consultancy and Tuhuteru & Partners (The Hague, Netherlands). E.g. Haga-Hospital (The Hague-Netherlands) developed and implemented Quality Monitoring system for Department of Cardiac Surgery.
- Training of senior and HR-management on cultural diversity and media- and communications training. – INHOLLAND University Amsterdam, Daimler Chrysler, Newell-Rubbermaid, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education, ING-Bank, Randstad, Trade Union of Health Care workers NU91.
- Crisis management for various organisations and NGO's

- 2002-2004 Managing Director Youri Group B.V., multimedia company specialized in innovation for mobile telephony and internet. Spinned-out activities from SEIKO Communications. Amongst clients served were: Tiscali (ISP), Scarlet Telecom (Telco), Dutch Ministry of Social Affairs (government), TNO-Defence Research (Public).
- 1997-2002 Managing Director SEIKO Communications B.V. & MiniMail Nederland B.V., Dutch operating companies for Japanese company SEIKO. Introduction and development of new technologies for European and American markets.
- 1994-1996, Director News services ANP (Dutch National News Agency). (E.g. interactive teletext, videotext, cable services, interactive cd's for Philips): honoured with the Multimedia Award 1994 in the Netherlands.
- 1991-1994, Editor in Chief ANP, Dutch National News Agency responsible for Wire- and Radio services. Developed and implemented new strategy to adapt the organisation to changing markets and demands.
- 1989-1991, Amsterdam Bureau Chief of ANP. Builded up new small team (7 persons) to re-energize reporting from the nation's capital.
- 1985 -1988, Correspondent and Editor Foreign Affairs ANP for the Caribbean and Central America. Travelled and covered most of the Central America's and Caribbean countries/islands, including hotspots like Haiti and El Salvador
- 1980- 1984, Executive Editor and Producer NOS-radio (Dutch Public Broadcasting Service).
- 1974 -1980, Radio Reporter, NOS-radio and Radio Netherlands World Service.

Non profit activities

- 2005 – now Founding member and Chair of the Lalla Rookh Diaspora Academic Chair Foundation, Establishing Academic Chair to study history and Diaspora of the Surinamese Indians at the VU University of Amsterdam.
- 2005 – now Chair of OneWorld International Foundation (London, UK). OneWorld brings together the latest news and views from over 1,600 organizations around the world by using new media and ICT to advocate human rights, fight poverty worldwide and raise awareness on Climate Change. OneWorld centres are active in Africa, South Asia, Latin America, USA and Europe.
- 2005 – 2012 Founding member and treasurer of International Development Publications, Publisher of magazin “The Knowledge Broker”, which aims to contribute to evidence-based policy making and better formulated research questions in the field of poverty reduction and international development.
- 2009 – 2012 Chair of Global Village Media, the merger of :”OneWorld Netherlands” (online media) and “Onze Wereld” (printed magazine), which aims to become the independent platform for muliti media products on international cooperation, sustainable development and poverty reduction.
- 2003 - 2009 Chair of OneWorld Netherlands, Dutch Centre of OneWorld. Communications, New Media and Grass root activities with Dutch partners in cooperation with NGO’s as Hivos (non-governmental organisation inspired by Humanist Values) and NCDO (National Committee for International Cooperation and Sustainable Development).
- 2002 - 2003 Member of the Box Committee, Special Advisory Committee to the Minister of International Cooperation and Development to appraise and evaluate the strategic business plans of the 6 biggest NGO’s in the Netherlands (Oxfam-Novib, Hivos, Cordaid, ICCO, Plan Nederland, Terres des Hommes). In charge of developing –based on the evaluation- a transparent system to allocate budgets to these NGO’s (total budget € 2 billion over 4 years).
- 2002 - 2004 Member of the board of Trustees of INZET, NGO focused on North-South Campaigns. INZET executed projects and programmes in Central America and Africa to advance awareness on sustainable development and local projects at grass roots level.
- 2001 - 2002 Member of jury for the ECHO-award, for the most talented migrant student. Award promoted by Dutch Government and Universities to stimulate and enhance participation and success of students from ethnic minorities.
- 1994 - 2002, Board Member of NCDO (National Commission for International Cooperation and Sustainable Development). Responsible for allocating a yearly budget of € 10 million to activities related to awareness campaigns and projects to increase public awareness on International Aid and Cooperation. Founding member of the European Centre of Conflict Prevention.
- 1992 - 1995, Special Project Advisor NVJ (Dutch Journalist Federation): introduction and development of special programmes to increase cultural diversity in Dutch Media on behalf of NVJ, in the workforce of both broadcasters and printed media.
- 1992 - 1994, Member of the Netherlands Association of Editors in Chief. National

Association of Editors in Chief from all National and Local Newspapers in the Netherlands.

1992 - 1993, Member of the Government Advisory Committee on expanding and deepening the relationships between the countries of the Royal Kingdom of The Netherlands (The Netherlands, The Netherlands Antilles and Aruba).

Publications

“Hindostanen in de diaspora” (2005), report on the conference to establish the Lalla Rookh Academic Chair in Amsterdam.

“Breed uitgemeten” (2003), editor of final report of the Governmental Advisory Committee MFP, on admission and budget allocation of Dutch NGO's in the governmental funding programmes on international cooperation.

“Digitaal journaal” (1995), chapter in publication 'Zaken doen op Internet' (doing business on the internet) on developments in new, digital media.

“Gezin en media” (1994), chapter in 'Nederlandse Gezinnen van deze tijd' (Dutch families in these times), national publication on the occasion of the UN year of the Family.