

Curriculum Vitae

A/P NOOR AISHA ABDUL RAHMAN

Department of Malay Studies, National University of Singapore
Blk AS8 #06-07, 10 Kent Ridge Crescent, Singapore 119260.

Office Tel: (65) 6516 6003

Email: mlsnabar@nus.edu.sg

Co-Director: Social Service Research Centre

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore

The Shaw Foundation Building

Blk AS7, Level 3, #03-22

Singapore 117570.

Education

Ph.D, Malay Studies, National University of Singapore, 2000

M.A., Malay Studies, National University of Singapore, 1991

LLB., National University of Singapore, 1984

Research Areas

Sociology of religion with a focus on Islam and the religious life of the Malays

Muslim law and its administration in Southeast Asia

Elites and development in Southeast Asia

Low Income Families

Awards

NUS Research Scholarship Award (MA) (1986-1989)

NUS Post Graduate Research Scholarship Award (PhD) (1995-1999)

FASS Excellent Teacher Award (AY2014/2015)

Current Teaching Modules

Islam and Contemporary Malay Society (MS2205/SSA2206)

Law and Malay Society (MS2212)

Shariah Law in Southeast Asia (MS4208)

Social Science Critiques and Malay Studies (MS5101/6101)

Graduate Students Seminar (MS6220)

Independent Study Module (MS4660), (MS5660), (MS6660)

Islam in Southeast Asia: Historical and Sociological Perspectives (Post Graduate Certificate in Islam in Contemporary Societies, Muslim Religious Council of Singapore)

Students Supervised

Honours Theses

Nur Diyana bte Abdul Kadir. *Community Leaders' Forum: A Study of the Politics of Singapore's Malay Elites* (2013/14)

Radhiah bte Ramli. *The Paramount Welfare of the Child; A Study of Syariah Law on Custody and its Implementation in the Singapore Syariah Court.* (2016/17)

Muhammad Faris Alfiq bin Mohd Afandi. *Fatwa in Malaysia: An Analysis of Fatwa relating to Pluralism and its Implications* (2016/17)

Liyana Sulaiman. *The Magical Orientation of Religion: A study of Modes of Healing Amongst Mental Illness Patients within the Malay/Muslim Community of Singapore.* (2017/18)

Siti Nur Khairiah Zakariah. *ARS (Asatizah Recognition Scheme): A Critical Examination of Singapore's Strategy in Managing Religious Teaching and Radicalism.* (2018/19)

Syafiqah Md Anwar. *Mediating Problems of Malay Youths at ITE: A Study of Perceptions and Programmes of Malay Self-Help Groups.* (2018/19)

Mira Azurah Bte Hassan. *Access to Services for Children among Malay Low Income Families in Singapore.* (2019/20)

Nur Fadhlin Sakinah Bte Ismail. *Asatizah and Social Media: A Study on Singapore's Prominent Asatizah Influencers.* (2021)

Reena Chandini Rameesh. *Relooking the Politics of Multiculturalism and its Impact on the Muslim Community of Singapore with Special Focus on the Muslim Personal Law.* (2021)

Nur Hikmah Ali. *Compulsory Education and its Impact on Madrasah Education in Singapore* (2022)

Graduate Theses

PhD

Azhar Ibrahim, *Social Idealism and Characterization: A Study of Character Types and their Social Meanings in Selected Malay Novels.* (Passed, 2009)

Norazlinda Zubir, *Identity Formation within the Singapore Malay Community and How it has Evolved.* (Passed, 2011)

Pradana Boy Zulian, *Fatwa in Indonesia: A Study of Dominant Legal Ideas in the Post Order Baru.* (Passed, 2015)

Nuraini Bte Ismail, *Dynamics of Malay Theatre in Singapore: Contestation on/in Stage[s]*. (Co-Supervisor. Passed 2022)

Wahyudi Akmaliah, *Mediatization of Islam: New Media, Religious Authority and Contestations in Indonesia*. (2020-)

Member of PhD Thesis Committee

Omer Ali Saifudeen, (Department of Sociology) Department of Sociology "*The Chosen*" - *An Examination of Extremist Muslim Narratives, Discourse and Ideologies in Cyberspace*. (Passed, 2012)

Rameez Aboobacker, *Ethnic Identity Formation and Evolution of Minority Malays in Sri Lanka*. Department of Malay Studies. (Passed, 2015)

Zelda d/o Mohd Ibrahim, *A Multimodal Approach to Teaching Malay Language: Towards the Development of the Arif Budiman Individual*. (2015)

Alfian Kuchit (Faculty of Law), *Post-Colonial Muslim Family Law Jurisprudence in the Appeal Board of Singapore from 1980 to 2010*. (2022-)

Hideki Kitamura (Department of Sociology) *Islamic Finance as Politicized: A Historical Ethnography in Multi-Ethnic Malaysia* (2022-)

MA

Pairah Satariman, *Malay Language Curriculum for Secondary Schools in Singapore: An Evaluation of its Development and Implementation*. Co-Supervisor (Passed, 2006)

Norshahril Saat, *Religious Orientations of the Muslim Religious Elite in Singapore and Malaysia*. (Passed, 2010)

Siti Hajar Esa, *School Dropout Phenomenon within the Malay/ Muslim Community of Singapore: Presumptions, Prescriptions and Disjunctions* (Passed, 2012)

Nur Syafikah Taufik, *Fatwa Amid the Pandemic in Southeast Asia* (2021-)

Fariz Ridzuan, *Self-Help Social Services for the Malays of Singapore: The Malay Intelligentsia's Role and its Impact* (2022-)

Research Contributions

Monographs and Commissioned Research

Colonial Image of Malay Adat Laws: a Critical Appraisal of Studies on Adat Laws in the Malay Peninsula During the Colonial Era and Some Continuities. Asian Social Science Series, Leiden: Brill, 2006. 150pp.

Secularism and Spirituality: Seeking Integrated Knowledge and Success in Madrasah Education in Singapore. (co-ed.) Singapore: Institute of Policy Studies/Marshall Cavendish Academic, 2006. 183pp.

Religious Activism and Women's Development in Southeast Asia. (ed.) Singapore: Association of Muslim Professionals, 2012.355p

Malays. Singapore Chronicles. (co-author, Azhar Ibrahim) Institute of Policy Studies, Straits Times Press, Singapore, 2017. (115 pp.)

Navigating Educational Development: MENDAKI and the Malays. (co-author, Idris Rashid KhanSurattee) Straits Times Press, 2019.

Reaching for the Crescent: Aspirations of Singapore Islamic Studies Graduates and the Challenges.(co-authors, Norshahril Saat, Azhar Ibrahim) ISEAS (2021).

A Social History of the Alkaffs in Singapore. (150p.) Hotel Properties Ltd, Singapore, 1999.

Report On A Study On Teenage Marriage in the Malay/Muslim Community of Singapore. Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports, 2005. (130pp.)

Report on the Singapore Muslim Community: Law, Identity and National Integration. Muslim Religious Council of Singapore, 2006.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman. Risks and Resilience of Marriages Among Minors within the Malay/Muslim Community of Singapore: An Evaluation of Programmes and Policies. Ministry of Social and Family Development. 2013 (120pp)

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman (Co-Investigator); Neo Yu Wei (PI). Study on Families Living in Singapore's Public Rental Housing. (2019). Ministry of National Development.

Selected Articles in Journals

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, "Traditionalism and its Impact on the Administration of Justice: the Case of the Syariah Court of Singapore." *Inter Asia Cultural Studies*, vol. 5 (3), December2004.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman "Changing Roles, Unchanging Institutions: Women and Globalization in Muslim Societies in Asia" *The Muslim World*, Vol. 97 (37), July 2007.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman "Muslim Personal Law within the Singapore Legal System: History, Prospects and Challenges" *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs* Vol. 29, (1), March 2009.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman "Teenage Marriage in the Muslim Community of Singapore: Problemsand Programs" *Journal of Asian Social Science*, Vol. 38 (5), 2009

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman. "Dominant Perspective on Terrorism and its Implications on the

Singapore Muslim Community”, *Copenhagen Journal of Social Science*, Vol. 27 (2), 2009.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman “Muslim Personal Law and Citizen’s Rights: the Case of Singapore”,

Asian Journal of Comparative Law, Vol. 7, 2012.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman “CEDAW and the Prospects of Reform of the Muslim Personal Law in Singapore”, *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, Vol. 34 (1), 2014.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman. “Singapore’s Syariah Law versus Syariah Revivalism”, *ISEAS Perspective*, (36), 23 June, 2016.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman. Muslim Personal Law and the Accommodation of Minorities: the Need to Better Balance Individual Rights and Group Autonomy in Singapore. *German Law Journal* (2019), 20(7), pp. 1079-1095

Chapters in Books

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, *Report of the Select Committee on the Administration of Muslim Law Act. Singapore*. Singapore National Printers, 1999, 18p.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, “The Muslim Religious Elite of Singapore” in *Religious Diversity in Singapore*. Edited by Lai Ah Eng. Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2008, pp248- 274.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, “The Aims of Madrasah Education in Singapore: Problems and Perceptions” in *Secularism and Spirituality: Seeking Integrated Knowledge and Success in Madrasah Education In Singapore*. Edited by Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman and Lai Ah Eng. Singapore: Marshall Cavendish Academic, 2006 pp. 58-92.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, “Marriages between Muslims and non-Muslims in Singapore” in *Muslim-non-Muslim Marriage: Political and Cultural Contestations in Southeast Asia*. Edited by Gavin W. Jones, Chee Heng Leng and Maznah Mohamed, ISEAS, 2009 pp.283-319.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, “Dominant Themes in Contemporary Scholarship on Islam and Women” in *Religious Activism and Women’s Development in Southeast Asia*. Edited by Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman. Singapore: AMP, 2009 Pp. 34-49

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, “Issues on Islam and Muslims in Singapore post 9/11” in *Encountering Islam: The Politics of Religious Identities in Southeast Asia*. Edited by Hui Yew-Foong, ISEAS, Singapore, 2013, pp. 335-375.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, “Challenges to Madrasah Education in the Modern World” in *Rethinking Madrasah Education in the Modern World*. Edited by Mukhlis Abu Bakar, Routledge, London/New York, 2018, pp.17-35

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, “ Shariah Revivalism in Singapore”, in *Islam in Southeast Asia: Negotiating Identity*. Edited by Norshahril Saat, ISEAS Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore, 2018, pp195-231.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, “Religious Resurgence amongst the Malays and its Impact: The Case of Singapore” in *Alternative Voices in Muslim Southeast Asia: Discourse and Struggles*. Edited by Norshahril Saat and Azhar Ibrahim, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, 2019, pp. 33-66.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, “Religion and the Fool : Reflections on Syed Hussein Alatas’ Concept of the Fool and its Relevance to Malay Religious Elites’ Discourse”. Edited by Dustin Byrd and Seyed Javad Miri, Brill (forthcoming 2022)

Book Reviews

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman. *Religious Legal Traditions, International Human Rights Law and Muslim States* by Kamran Hashemi. (Leiden: Martinus Nijhof, 2008. 285pp) *Journal of Islamic Studies*, 2010, Vol. 22, Issue 1, pp. 131-133.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman. *Modernization, Tradition and Identity: The Kompilasi Hukum Islam and Legal Practice in the Indonesian Religious Courts* by Euis Nurlaelawati (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2010. 293pp) *Journal of Islamic Studies*, 2012;doi:10.1093/jis/etq031.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman. *Muslims in Singapore: Piety, Politics and Policies* by Kamaludeen Mohamed Nasir, Alexius Pereira, Bryan Turner (London: Routledge, 2009, 144pp), *Asian Journal of Social Science*, 40(1) 2012 pp.133-137.

Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman. *Contemporary Islamic Discourse in the Malay-Indonesia World: Critical Perspectives* by Azhar Ibrahim (Petaling Jaya: Strategic Information and Research Development Center, 2014, 315pp) *Sojourn*, 2014, Vol. 29, No 2, July 2014.

Conference Papers/Seminars/Workshops

“Discourse on Moderate Muslims in Singapore: an Evaluation”. *Religious Harmony and Diversity in Singapore* organized by Institute of Policy Studies, September 2005.

“Women and the Family in the age of Transformation”. *Women in the New Millennium*, Singapore Muslim Missionary Society, (JAMIYAH), July, 2005.

“Teenage Marriage in the Malay/Muslim Community of Singapore: An Analysis” *7th ASEAN Inter-Universities Seminar*, Hanoi, July 2006

“Marriages between Muslims and non-Muslims” *Muslim, Non-Muslim Marriages in Asia* Workshop organized by ARI, NUS (September 2006)

“The Malay Legal Legacy and its Relevance to Contemporary Ideas on Islam and Law in Malaysia and Singapore” *Singapore/Malaysia Forum*, Faculty of Arts and Social Science, October 2007.

“Minority *Fikh*: the Case of Singapore” *The Sacred in the Global City*, Asia Research Institute & NTU, National Library Board, Singapore, 2007.

“Critical Appraisal on Discourses on Islam and Malay Women in South east Asia” *Women and Religion in Asia (ASIA Trends)*, Asia Research Institute, July 2007.

“Dominant Perspective on Terrorism and its Implications on Singapore Muslims” *8th ASEAN Inter-University Conference*, Manila, May, 2008.

“The Gulen Schools and the Challenges of Modern Education” *International Conference on the Fethullah Gulen Schools*. Sharif Hidayatullah University, Jakarta, October 2010.

“Religion and the Ideology of the Market” *International Conference on Trade and Finance in the Malay World: Historical and Cultural Perspectives*, University of Frankfurt, June 2010.

“Muslim Personal Law and Citizens’ Rights” *Workshop on Law and Religious Pluralism in Contemporary Southeast Asia*. Faculty of Law and ARI, NUS. November, 2011.

Muslim law and Human Rights, *International Seminar on Human Rights and Cultural Diversity*, organized by non-Aligned Movement (NAM) for Human Rights and Cultural Diversity; Center for Human Rights Education, Curtin University and the Faculty of Law, Shahid Bahesti University of Iran, June 2011.

“Varieties of Religious Orientation in Southeast Asia: Implication for the Prospects of Reform of the Muslim Personal Law”, *International Conference on Understanding Muslim Societies*, University of Hyderabad, January, 2012.

“Obstacles to Development of Shariah Law in Southeast Asia”, *Seminar organized by the Malay Language and Culture Division, NIE, NTU*, March 7th 2012.

“Risk and Resilience amongst Young Malay Families in Singapore” , *Seminar on Engaging Hearts & Minds*, CLF /Mendaki, ComCare and Social Support Division (CSSD), Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF), 27th September, 2013.

“State and Direction of Research on Islamic Law in Southeast Asia” *Workshop on Law and Religion in Asia : Themes and Future Directions*, Workshop organized by Centre for Asian Legal Studies (CALs), Faculty of Law, NUS, 2014.

“Reflections on Ideas and Application of Shariah Law in Southeast Asia”, Seminar on *Extremism and Reform in the Malay World: Conceptualisation and Case Studies*, Seminar, Department of Malay Studies, FASS, March 17, 2015.

“Religious Revivalism and its Implication on Discourse and Application of Muslim Law in Singapore”, Workshop on *Islamic Developments in SEA*. ISEAS, November 16, 2015.

“Malay Culture and Development: Competing Debates”, Keynote address presented at the *International Conference on Malay Culture*. University of Jambi, Indonesia, October 26-27, 2016

“Muslim Law, Gender and Challenges of Globalisation”. *International Seminar on The Dynamics of the Malay Islamic World in Responding to Contemporary Global Issues*, Palembang State Islamic Raden Fatah, Indonesia Palembang, December 2-3, 2016.

“The Administration of the Muslim Law in Singapore and its Challenges”. *Regional Seminar on Women 2.0. Women and Development in the 21st Century: The Way Forward*. University Islam Malaysia, Cyberjaya, 31 October to 1st November 2017.

“Competing Perspectives on Islam and State amongst Muslims in Southeast Asia”. *Asian Cultural Dialogue Conference* organised by the Faculty of World Studies, Tehran University and the Institute of Culture and Communications Organisations, 13-15 January, 2018.

“The Administration of Muslim Law Act of Singapore: Tradition and Change”, NUS –Humboldt University (Faculty of Law) Project on *State Management of Religious Diversity*, Humboldt University, Berlin, 2nd June 2018.

Public Talks

“Religiosity within a Secular Society” in conjunction with Community in Review Series, organized by the Association of Muslim Professionals (AMP), March 2003.

“Malay Culture”, Lecture series delivered to Friends of the Museum, 2004.

“The Religious Life of the Malays of Singapore”, Ministry of Community, Youth and Sports, 2004.

“Ethical Principles in Research Involving Human Subjects”, MUIS, February, 2005.

“Dominant themes in Discourse on Islam in Southeast Asia”, Institute of Policy Studies, September, 2008.

“The Future of Madrasah Education in Singapore” The Reading Group, February, 2007.

“Singapore’s Multicultural Model”, Institute of Policy Studies, April, 2007

“Modernisation and Tradition”, Lecture series, Muslim Religious Council of Singapore, May, 2012, 2013, 2014.

“Mencari Kartika”, ISEAS and ARI (Malaysia Study Group), August 2010.

“Legal Pluralism in Singapore: Implications on Rights of Muslims”, AWARE, AWARE Center, 11th July 2014.

“Major Issues in the Administration of Muslim Law in Southeast Asia”, Political Science Department, Ateneo de Manila University, 18th July 2014.

“Muslim Personal Law and the Accommodation of Minorities”, Kuliah Umum International, Program Studi Hukum Keluarga Islam Fakultas Hukum Islam, Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang, 3rd December 2021.

Service as a Reviewer

Reviewer for Journal Syariah, Universiti Malaya (2011-).

Advisory Board Member, The Journal of Islamic Research, Angkara University, Faculty of Divinity. (2019-)

Reviewer for Kajian, Journal Shariah, Kemanusiaan: Asian Journal of Humanities, Asia Pacific Journal of Social Work and Development, Journal of Asian Social Science, Journal of Religion and State, Asian Bio-ethics Review, Sojourn, ISEAS, Critical Asian Studies, Religions.

Other Contributions

Member of the NUS IRB (2002 -)

Member of the Panel for Heritage Grant Projects for the National Heritage Board (2013 -2021)

Member of the National Collection Advisory Panel for the National Heritage Board (2022-2024)

Member of the Malay Language Learning and Promotion Committee, Ministry of Education, (2016 -)

Member of the Advisory Board, Malay Language and Literature Programme (BA), School of Arts and Social Sciences, Singapore University of Social Sciences. (2019-)

Member of Cedar Girls Secondary School Advisory Board (2019-)