

AL-GHAZZĀLĪ'S INFLUENCE
ON MALAY THINKERS

A STUDY OF
SHAYKH 'ABD AL-ŞAMAD AL-PALIMBĀNĪ



MEGAWATI MORIS

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by

MEGAWATI MORIS



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DR. MEGAWATI MORIS is currently an Assistant Professor at the Department of Usuluddin and Comparative Religion, Kulliyah of Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Human Sciences (KIRKHS), International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

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She is also a member of the Iḥyā' 'Ilm al-Kalām project initiated by ISSI-KRM in 2016.

As an advisor for the Intellectual Youth Club (IYC) at IIUM from 2011 until the present, she also involves herself in student intellectual activity by giving lectures and participating in forums organized by student associations on campus.

Dr. Megawati's work is significant when viewed from the broader context of Malay-Islamic thought and civilisation as a whole. Through her study of the life and works of 'Abd al-Ṣamad al-Palimbānī, she has already succeeded in highlighting the significance of the place and role of Palembang as a centre of Islamic learning in its historical and intellectual relationships with the rest of the Malay world. Her inclusion in this work of a study of Shaykh Dāwūd al-Faṭānī, another major Malay scholar, who is a contemporary of 'Abd al-Ṣamad al-Palimbānī but who hailed from another part of the Malay world helps us to better appreciate the significance of the network of religious scholars in the region during the eighteenth century. Pattani in southern Thailand, Shaykh Dāwūd al-Faṭānī's birthplace, used to be a major centre of Malay-Islamic learning. Dr. Megawati shows that as contemporaneous centres of Malay-Islamic intellectual thought Palembang and Pattani actually shared a common interest and concern with the thoughts of al-Ghazzālī and Ibn al-'Arabī. She was thus able to strengthen her thesis that affirms the remarkable depth and breadth of al-Ghazzālī's influence in the Malay world.

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