

RESEARCH UNIT



OBJECTIVES



THEMES



WRITING GUIDELINES



# SCHOLARSHIP ADVANCEMENT PROJECT SAP 2022

August 4th 2022



ISLAMIC PHILOSOPHY  
AN ITS RELEVANCE IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD



Organized by  
Research Unit | FIDS | AHAS KIRKHS



# ABOUT SAP PROGRAM

# COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Scholarship Advancement Project (SAP) is an intervention program designed to help academics at AHAS IKRKHS to strengthen their scholarship skills. It focuses on initiatives to speed knowledge development and dissemination by providing a conducive opportunity to all academicians to write, present and publish a journal paper

**Dr. Maulana Akbar Shah**

**Dr. Mohd. Abbas Bin Abdul Razak**

**Dr Muhammad Rashaad Bakashmar**

**Dr. Alizaman Dumangcag Gamon**

**Dr. Salah Machouche**







## Objectives

- ✓ To contribute to the departmental research activities in 2022.
- ✓ To carry out some of the SAP 2022 project activities.
- ✓ To provide a practical knowledge text book for Islamic Philosophy and Inter-Disciplinary Studies.



AUTHORS		ARTICLE TITLES
1	Dr. Abdul Latif Bin Abd. Razak	A Semantic Studies of Anxiety Related Terms in the Qur'an and Sunnah
2	Prof. Dr. Berghout Abdelaziz	Spirituality and Sustainable development. Why Ethics Matter?
3	Dr. Ramzi Bendebka	Peace, Rationality and Social Development: An Islamic Perspective
4	Dr. Kabuye Uthman Sulaiman	The inclusion of cultural diversity in IIUM's mission and vision: challenges and solutions
5	Dr. Mohd. Abbas Bin Abdul Razak	Commercialization of Spirituality in the Era of Globalization
6	Dr. Bachar Bakour Mohamad	الأخلاق المصلحية والمصالح الأخلاقية في الشريعة الإسلامية
7	Dr. Wan Mazwati Binti Wan Yusoff	Narrative Review on the Concept of 'Aql
8	Dr. Alizaman Dumangcag Gamon	Epistemological Reform: What Can be Inferred from the Integration Project and its Relevance to Muslim Minority Societies in Southeast Asia
9	Dr. Salah Machouche	Understanding Worldview and Creativity: A reflection from An Islamic Worldview
10	Dato' Hamidon Abd. Hamid	Community Engagement As A Transformative Platform For Murabbis
11	Dr. Fatimah Bt. Abdullah	Humanism /Being Good Without God, Religion And Morality/Ethics: Islamic Response
12	Dr. Norillah Abdullah	Socratic Questioning: A Philosophical Approach in Developing Critical Thinking Skills
13	Dr. Maulana Akbar Shah	Observation of Ethical Values Promoting Human Psychology from the Panorama of Revelation and Tradition of the Prophet Muhammad (saw)
14	Dr Norbani Ismail	Islamization of Modern Malaysia: Framing 'Islam is the Way of Life'
15	Dr. Aliza Bin Elias	The role of Islam and the Malay Identity: Post-colonial crises, challenges and struggles from historiographical perspective
16	Dr. Abdulwahed Jalal Nori	Fostering Rational Thinking Among High School Children Through Philosophy: A Simple Approach
17	Che' Razi Jusof	The Concept of Return in Islam



## THEMES OF THE PROGRAM

1	❖ Philosophy and Ilm Kalam
2	❖ Islamic philosophy and <i>Tasawwuf</i>
3	❖ Philosophy and Islamic ethics
4	❖ Philosophy of cognitive mind development
5	❖ Islamic philosophy and world view
6	❖ Islamic philosophy of applied arts
7	❖ Philosophy and human science theories and issues
8	❖ Islam and psychology
9	❖ Philosophy of language and meaning
10	❖ Philosophy and minority rights
11	❖ Philosophy and management of health crisis
12	❖ Philosophy and world issues (human rights, refugees, environmental crisis, Islamophobia ...etc)



Tentative Program	
TIME	AGENDA
8.00- 08. 15	<b>Welcoming Speech:</b> The Dean: Prof. Shukran Bin Abd Rahman
8.15- 08. 20	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Haslina Binti Ibrahim
8.20- 08. 25	Dr. Ainul Azmin Binti Md. Zamin
8.25- 08. 45	<b>Key-note Speaker:</b> Dr. Abdul Latif Bin Abd. Razak (Significance of Scholarship Advancement Program)
SESSION 1	Moderator: Dr. Mohd. Abbas Bin Abdul Razak
8.45- 9.00	Dato' Hamidon Abd. Hamid
9.00- 9.15	Prof. Dr. Berghout Abdul Aziz
09.15- 09.30	Dr. Ramzi Bendebka
09.30- 09-45	Dr. Wan Mazwati Binti Wan Yusoff
SESSION 2	Moderator: Dr. Kabuye Bin Othman Sulaiman
09-45- 10.00	Dr. Salah Machouche
10.00-10.15	Dr. Mohd. Abbas Bin Abdul Razak
10.15-10.30	Dr. Bashar Bakour Mohamad
10.30-10.45	Dr. Alizaman Dumangcag Gamon
10.45-11.00	Dr. Fatimah Abdullah



SESSION 3	Moderator: Dr. Fatimah Abdullah
11.00- 11.15	Dr. Kabuye Bin Uthman Sulaiman
11.15- 11.30	Dr. Abdulwahed Jalal Nori
11.30- 11.45	Dr Maulana Akbar shah@ U Tun Aung
11. 45.-12.00	Dr. Aliza Bin Elias
SESSION 4	Moderator:Dr. Alizaman Dumangcag Gamon
12.00-12.15	Che'Razi Jusoh
12.15-12.30	Dr Zuraidah binti Kamruddin
12.30-12.45	Dr. Norillah Binti Abdullah
12.45-13.00	Dr Norbani Ismail
13.00-13.15	<b>Closing Remark:</b> Dr Maulana Akbar shah

# WRITING GUIDELINES & DATES

All writers are cordially requested to submit abstracts by June 15, 2022. Abstracts and complete papers should be sent to Dr. Alizaman through email at [alizaman@iium.edu.my](mailto:alizaman@iium.edu.my). In your e-mail make sure to define the subject as "Abstract SAP 2022 + author's name" to easily identify your your abstract. The length of the abstract should not accede 250 words. The abstract should include a defined problematic, methodology, and findings. A full paper should be submitted by August 31, 2022.

- Paper length should be between 6,000 and 7,000 words.
- Chicago Style Citation (with footnotes).
- File type: Word Document
- Provide no more than five keywords.

As one of the goals of the SAP 2022 is to provide lecturers and students with a textbook/good reference on Islamic Philosophy and Interdisciplinary studies, authors are consequently requested to adapt a relevant writing style and materials to reflect this goal wherever possible. We appreciate your valuable participation and we pray for your success.





# ABSTRACTS

## Peace, Rationality and Social Development: An Islamic Perspective

Ramzi Bendebka

This paper aims to discuss the interactive relationship between peace and rationality, highlighting this relationship's role in social development. While analyzing the concepts, this paper claims that the absence of war does not necessarily mean the existence of peace in rational terms. Dealing with the concepts of war and peace is profoundly related to dichotomies, and this is devoted to the existence of a gap in the literature about the true meaning of peace and its relationship to rationality. On the other hand, global challenges such as the war on terrorism, extremism, and Islamophobia are making the understanding of peace more complex. Moreover, Islam is a religion of peace, however, so many Muslim countries are still suffering from social conflicts among their members, and that leads us to question how Muslims use reason to promote peace and thus contribute to social development. Hence, the role of rationality in promoting peace in Islam requires the consideration of different dimensions such as self-peace, societal peace, and world peace. Some practices, such as community and religious blocs, must also be considered. Therefore, the paper not only addresses definitions from an Islamic perspective but also tries to explain that relationship and give it the appropriate status in Islamic thought.

Keywords: Peace, Rationality, Social Development, Islam, Peace Dimension.  
SECULAR

## HUMANISM /BEING GOOD WITHOUT GOD, RELIGION AND MORALITY/ETHICS: ISLAMIC RESPONSE

Fatimah Abdullah

This article argues that secular humanism is basically related to rights, atheism, naturalism, secularism, and ethics but lacking any religious influence or belief system. They denied and doubted anything associated with the supernatural or things beyond the power of humans, including God. They value the existent of humans as the main power in this world and believe that all humans have the right to do what they want to do. Secular humanist lies on the naturalistic framework of life, thus rejecting revealed knowledge and divine guidance in morality and ethics. According to this article secular humanism defined as being good without God holds that man is capable of achieving absolute everything religion has claimed to endow upon humans. Intellect and reason are adequate resources to attaining self-fulfilment and ethical conduct. Men are responsible of their own destinies; have a monopoly of fate and knows for themselves the direction of life one should espouse. This article concludes that Secular Humanism based on human criteria alone and totally opposed to a God- centred universe is intrinsically limited and incomplete in its worldview and therefore is incapable of solving problems encountered by humanity.

KEY WORDS: Supernatural, morality and ethics, Being good without God, atheism and secularism.

# ABSTRACTS

## Commercialization of Spirituality in the Era of Globalization

Mohd Abbas Abdul Razak & Machouche Salah

Despite all the sophistication in the areas of science and technology, modern man is in no way different from the one in the countryside, when faced with insurmountable psychological issues like stress, anxiety, depression, bereavement, etc. reaches out for a quick fix to resolve the matter. Mainly he hopes for some sort of divine intervention, a philosophy or a mind-control technique to get him out of his awful and pathetic condition. Seeing people in a desperate and vulnerable situation, fake gurus, spiritual healers, charlatan religious teachers and the likes exploit such human conditions to their benefit. The present study among others is geared toward exploring the different shades of meaning attached to the word spirituality, what are the underlying motives of the service providers, the techniques used to allure their clients, and how globalization helps in turning the service providers' business into a lucrative one. Besides that, this study will also put forward some suggestions for those who are looking for a solution to overcome their psychological burdens. The research data of the study will be collected from literature, journal papers, and internet sources related to the interest of the study. As a qualitative study, in interpreting the relevant data of the study, the researchers will employ the content and textual analysis methods.

## Epistemological Reform: What Can be Inferred from the Integration Project and its Relevance to Muslim Minority Societies in Southeast Asia

Alizaman D. Gamon

Given the influence of the dominant culture of knowledge in Muslim minority societies in Southeast Asia, Muslim intellectuals and policymakers face the challenge of epistemological reform that is required for meaningful integration. The widespread adoption and acceptance of majority approaches to knowledge and reform that are alien to Muslim socio-economic religious realities have indeed widened the social gap that intensifies the issue of identity, gender, and cultural specificity. The study aims to address epistemological awareness and reform as a tool for the integration of Muslim minority societies with their respective host country. In addition, the study will explore the impact of epistemological biases that undermine the integrated approach to reform. The methodology of the study is qualitative. It relies on textual analysis and primary sources such as government policies on educational reform, documents, unpublished works, and interviews in addition to library research. Due to the prevalence of modern Western assumptions about knowledge and reform, the study recommends the need to embrace an alternative paradigm; an integrated epistemological approach that is pertinent in this age of cultural and religious plurality. Such epistemological reform would enrich prevalent ones and the given parameters for social integration and thus, allows gradual recognition of the tawhidic worldview and epistemology as the driving force of civilizational dialogue and understanding amongst Muslim and non-Muslim societies in the region

KEY WORDS: Supernatural, morality and ethics, Being good without God, atheism and secularism.



# ABSTRACTS

Understanding Worldview and Creativity: A reflection from An Islamic Worldview

Salah Machouche, Mohd. Abbas Abdul Razak, Bensaid Benaouda

In today's world, most educational institutions regard the effort to create a positive educational environment as an incubator for the growth of creativity and new ideas. Because of its practicality and efficiency in satisfying human needs in all dimensions, as well as its capacity to solve issues, creative thinking has been seen as the quickest approach to bring about the good changes needed today to sustain development and advancement in all dimensions of human existence. Understanding the phenomenon of creativity and its origins, as well as developing approaches and methods to enhance its learning, would be a critical first step towards any projected success in this approach. This qualitative research investigated the relationship between worldview and human creativity from an Islamic perspective. The outcomes of this study show that creativity, like other aspects of human nature, is sensitive to the direction and worldview assumptions that a person considers consciously or subconsciously when managing his or her life affair. Furthermore, the study explained how the Qur'an being the source of the Islamic worldview, provides an extraordinary platform for the blossoming of human creativity by venturing into issues such as human nature, psychic, mental, and behavioural elements of man. As a means of analyzing the pertinent data, the researchers have used the content and textual analysis methods. Key terms: Islam, worldview, creativity, values, thinking

الأخلاق المصلحية والمصالح الأخلاقية في الشريعة الإسلامية  
بشار بكور

إن البعثة النبوية ذات رسالة أخلاقية، والشريعة إنما جاءت لتحقيق مصالح العباد في الدنيا والآخرة. قال النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم: "إنما بُعثت لأتمم مكارم الأخلاق". فإن الشريعة كما يبين ابن القيم "مبناها وأساسها على الحكم ومصالح العباد في المعاش والمعاد، وهي عدل كلها، ورحمة كلها، ومصالح كلها، وحكمة كلها". إن للأخلاق جذوراً مرتبطة بالعلوم الإسلامية من عقيدة وتفسير وحديث وفقه وأصول فقه وتصوف؛ إذ الحديث عن الأخلاق يدرس علاقة المخلوق بالخالق، ويتناول قواعد السلوك الإنساني ومصادره ومعاييره، والإلزام الخلقي، والحرية، والقضاء والقدر، والخير والشر، والنية والدافع... إلخ. وبناء عليه، اتخذت المعالجات الأخلاقية في الإسلام عدة اتجاهات: أخلاق فلسفية، أخلاق فقهية وأصولية، أخلاق كلامية ومنطقية، أخلاق صوفية عرفانية. يدرس البحث مكانة العلاقة الوثيقة بين المصلحة بأقسامها الثلاثة (الضرورية والحاجية والتحسينية)، والخلق في الإسلام عند الإمامين العز بن عبد السلام والشاطبي، ثم عرض نقاط التشابه والتمايز بين هذين الإمامين الأصوليين وبين الرؤية الأخلاقية عند الفيلسوف المفكر طه عبد الرحمن مع التركيز على بيان مركزية وشمولية البعد الأخلاقي في الشريعة.

كلمات مفتاحية: الأخلاق، المصلحة، الشاطبي، العز، الشريعة، طه

# ABSTRACTS

Community Engagement As A Transformative Platform For Murabbis.

Hamidon Abd. Hamid

IIUM gives great importance to the roles of lecturers and teachers as enshrined in the contract document that they have signed when they agreed to take up the job at IIUM. Lecturers are not only expected to impart knowledge in their specific fields but are also called upon to be in situ parents to their students; being concerned for them and giving importance to their affective or emotional development. They are required to be murabbis (holistic educators) who will develop students with holistic humanistic characteristics or sejahtera characteristics. In achieving the above-mentioned goal of producing sejahtera graduates the murabbi has the capital of curriculum, effective presentation, objective assessment; all in the classroom setting; face to face or online. However, literature review has unearthed quite a number researches presenting community engagement as a platform of great efficacy for transformation whether in the level personal behaviour change or social - cultural communal level. This is due to the different facets and levels of human interaction in the real world of community engagement. This real experience will impact upon the different faculties of the human individual and consequently these transformed individuals will undertake the needed communal transformation. However the limitations facing the implementation of this approach in terms of resources and time are something to be seriously looked into as well. Community engagement as an educational platform should be looked at from the Islamic viewpoint, not from the juristic view but rather from the normative and transformative view point of maqasid al Deen.

The paper will conclude with a proposed framework for utilising Community Engagement as a tarbiyyah (holistic education) platform.

Narrative Review on the Concept of ‘Aql  
Wan Mazwati Wan Yusoff

The proliferation of opinions, in social media, on the danger of using ‘aql to understand religion is appalling. Some Muslims would except whatever information, however silly it may be, imparted by their teachers as true without first evaluating it critically. This would lead to the perpetuation of blind imitation which in turn would stifle deep understanding and creativity. The most devastating consequence of relegating the ‘aql is the failure to make correct conclusion and judgment on religious truths. This misconception of the meaning and functions of ‘aql probably stemmed from the lack of literature written and disseminated among Muslims on the concept of ‘aql in Islam. Therefore, this narrative literature review was conducted to summarize and synthesize research reports on the concept of ‘aql from Islamic perspective. Ninety-three articles and theses which met the selection criteria were reviewed and categorized according to the emerging themes. The findings showed that most studies were done to analyze and interpret the concept of aql in the Quran, past scholars’ conception of aql—the past scholars are al-Kindi, al-Farabi, Ibn Sina, Miskawayh, Ibn Taymiyyah, Zamakshari, Tabari, al-Ghazali, Muhammad Abduh, roles of ‘aql, ‘aql and Islamic education, the relationship between nafs and ‘aql and brain and heart. All research reports asserted the compatibility between ‘aql and revelation. However, extensive analysis on the curriculum of Islamic education in Malaysia found that even though higher order thinking is emphasized but the concept of ‘aql was not included in syllabus of Form 1 to Form 5.



# ABSTRACTS

Islamization of Modern Malaysia: Framing 'Islam is the Way of Life'

Norbani Ismail

The study surveys the current state Islam and Muslim affairs post contemporary Islamization of Malaysia. The Islamization of modern Malaysia first emerged around the 1970's, which coincided with the global Islamic awakening, had helped Malaysia to emerge among the most openly Islamicized Muslim countries in the world. Its expression of Islam in both public and private spaces and institution has helped placing Islam and its values at a greater position than it was before. Critiques has argued that Islam has been politically misused for political goals and ambitions, yet to its proponents, it is a way of positing and interpreting Islam in its contemporary context. This study attempts to highlight the interlocuters of Islamization of Malaysia and how their debates and discourse have shaped and negotiated the notion of Islam and its contemporary relevance in Malaysia. This study helps to understand how do the Malaysian Muslims adopt Islam as a way of life, and at the same time accommodate it to the multifaceted modern living. This study also helps to understand the present state of Islam and Muslims and thus helps to imagine the future of Islam and its internalization in post-modern Muslim-majority society like Malaysia.

A Sematic Studies of Anxiety Related Terms in the Qur'an and Sunnah

Abdul Latif Abdul Razak

Al-Qur'an and Sunnah are the sources of reference for all disciplines of knowledge, including psychology. One of the important discourses in psychology is on emotion. In this study, the author wants to highlight and analyse the anxiety related terms in the Qur'an and Sunnah. Among those terms are hazan, huzn, ghamm, khawf, hamm and so on. At least two significances of the studies, namely, to see how the terms are used in the Qur'an and Sunnah and to understand the stories behind the revelations (asbab al-nuzul) of the origins (asbab al-wurud) of the hadith. The study also found that anxiety, an aspect of human emotion, is mentioned in many parts of the Qur'an and many ahadith of the Prophet. This shows the importance of that emotional aspect in Islam.

Keywords: Anxiety, emotion, psychology, huzn

# ABSTRACTS

Observation of Ethical Values Promoting Human Psychology from the Panorama of Revelation and Tradition of the Prophet Muhammad (saw)

Maulana Akbar Shah, Abbas bin Razzak, Alizaman D. Gamon,

Ethics is an important domain of study which concerns human values and morals and how an individual should act. It explains discipline, actions, and relationships, whether good or bad, morally and right and wrong. Ethical values reflect the behaviour of human beings through their effective communication, responsibility, accountability, professionalism, trust, and mutual respect for their colleagues at work or in society. These values earn him an acceptable state in his society and help him to promote to the highest level. When people exercise ethical values to any human being, their psyche has a big effect that changes their attitude toward the highest position. The prophet Muhammad (S) is an example in this episode, growing his popularity in society due to the practical exercise of moral values and ethics. He was kind to everyone, irrespective of the rich and poor; ultimately, people accepted his propagation of Islam due to the values and kindness rendered to the people. Islam spread due to his honesty, trustworthiness, responsibility, and loyalty. There are many stories reflecting the highest level of his morals and values in the revelation and tradition of the Prophet (saw). These stories are examples of the significance of applying values and favourable psychological effects on human beings. This research will apply a qualitative research methodology through the information, revelation, the tradition of the Prophet (saw), and library resources. This article is intended to be published in a Scopus journal or an indexed journal.

Keywords: Islam, philosophy, Ethics, morality, Da'wah,

Fostering Rational Thinking Among High School Children Through Philosophy: A Simple Approach

Abdul Wahed Jalal Nori & Machouche Salah

Though inquisitive by nature, youngsters' curiosity isn't always encouraged. Teaching philosophy to youngsters enables them to invest their curiosity and acquire practical skills. According to the studies in the field, the young students who are exposed to philosophy are more likely able to develop their communication skill, use logical thinking style, more imaginative, and become less emotional when facing problems and challenges. Offering philosophy course for school children is a forward-thinking debate of our future educational system that strives to provide a safe training on how philosophy might be incorporated and integrated in the curriculum and school activities. The following questions will be addressed in this paper: What exactly is philosophy for children in Islamic context? What are the objectives of offering this course? What are its main contents? What is the more useful approach that should be adopted by the teacher in instructing philosophy for a Muslim high school student?

Keywords: Rational thinking, School children, philosophy, and Islamic education.



## Spirituality and Ethics for Sustainable Development

Berghout Abdulaziz

This paper discusses the place and importance of spirituality and values in attaining balance on sustainable development models and actions. Spirituality in general terms, refers to one vital aspect of human existence and civilisation. By his very nature, man consists of spiritual, physical, and material dimensions. Spirit, soul, mind, body, senses, motives, intentions, actions, and deeds are all what make a human being and human civilisation. These elements and aspects of a human being are interconnected and interrelated. Sadly, many current models of sustainable development projected a disjointed and reductionist perspective of man and civilisation stressing more on material aspects. This paves the way for unbalanced human life and civilisation. This paper looks at the role of spirituality and ethics in regaining equilibrium on our understanding of man and articulation of sustainable civilization. The paper concludes that one of the root causes of human problems lies on ignoring the cementing power of spirituality and ethics which make the substance of human life and development meaningful and tied to a worldview, purpose and perspective of life. Hence, defining spirituality, should be comprehensive and deep enough to reflect the transient and transcendent aspects of human existence connecting both the physical and spiritual aspects of human reality and existence in a balanced way.

Keywords: spirituality, ethics, sustainability, civilization, and worldview.

## The inclusion of cultural diversity in IIUM's mission and vision: challenges and solutions

Kabuye Uthman Sulaiman

IIUM is a melting pot of a group of individuals from different cultures and countries. Among the missions of IIUM are: first, to integrate naqli (revealed) knowledge and 'aql (rational) knowledge; second, to incorporate diversity into research, teaching and learning; and third, to enhance intercultural understanding and foster civilization dialogues in Malaysia as well as across communities and nations. The purpose of this paper is to explore the answers to the following research questions: What is cultural diversity from the standpoint of Islam? Why is inclusion of cultural diversity and awareness in IIUM's mission and vision important? What is IIUM students' awareness of cultural diversity? How do IIUM lecturers incorporate cultural diversity and awareness in the lesson plan? What challenges does IIUM face in fostering cultural awareness? How should these challenges be overcome?

Keywords – cultural diversity, integration, cultural awareness, IIUM's mission and vision, civilization dialogue.

## The Concept of Return in Islam

Che'Razi Jusoh

Islam is the religion that emphasizes on betterment and perfection. A Muslim shall not be a good Muslim without working hard and always struggle for the best. Islam views man as the best creation which was bestowed with intellect. The capacity of intellect is unlimited provided a man able to manage it accordingly. Working hard and continue struggle came from determination to achieve an objective. The highest objective for a man is to get pleasure of the Creator. To reach the blessings from God man needs to strive hard by preparing himself to be an obedience servant. Hence, the idea of return is a fundamental idea in Islam because it reflects the notion of God whose all creatures came from and to Him all will return. It also inferred that nothing can escape from Him whose Power and Will determined every single thing in the entire cosmos. This research focused on four aspects of return; returning oneself to God when he found catastrophe in his life; returning to the original state of man (fitrah); refining one's work by keep doing it until reach a success and lastly reminding oneself upon a conviction in religion by parable of rain on how Allah revive a dead land by sending rain that can make the land alive and benefits to human being. As such the study examined a number of Qur'anic verses and the Traditions of the Prophet (Peace be

upon him) which indicated that the idea of return has a great impact in a Muslim's worldview. Moreover, by spirit of return study discovered that the learned forefathers' significant achievements somehow greatly due to that spirit, and it shall enshrine our generation as well. The findings are of great importance to young generation especially University students who are always in the state of inquiry to be well guided in their life.

Key terms; worldview, return, fitrah, refinement, achievement

# ABSTRACTS

The role of Islam and the Malay Identity: Post-colonial crises, challenges and struggles from historico-philosophical perspective

Aliza bin Elias

The paper offers a critical analysis on the historiography of Islam in the Malay world that had directly impinged on, especially, the issues of Malay identity and nation building. It focuses on the crisis of identity and challenges posed by a peculiar historiographical scholarship on Islam in the Malay world by British and Dutch writers cum colonial administrative-historian-researchers. Series of events in the late 60's to 80's reflecting these crises and the struggles to readdress and place back the essential role of Islam in defining the Malay identity will be highlighted. The paper argues that the root cause of the crises could be traced back to the systemic problem in the worldview of some influential and leading Dutch and British historians weighing down on their epistemology and methodology in dealing with the religion of Islam and its internalization within the Malay history. In achieving the objective of this paper, various sources of information will be consulted including newspapers, magazines, letters as well as unclassified first-hand documents found in personal collections. Hopefully this paper would shed more light on the role of Islam in the Malay identity building and the struggles of our past luminaries to put it back on the right path. That struggle, without any doubt, should be continuously remembered, cherished and upheld by the present and future generation.

Keywords: Malay identity, worldview of Islam, philosophy of history, historiography of Islam in the Malay world, nation building, post-colonial crises and challenges.





## VENUE & DATE

August 4th 2022

Al-Shafi'i Conference Room

IRK Building

