

SYED IMAD ALATAS

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EDUCATION

Doctoral Candidate, Sociology, UNC Chapel Hill **Dec 2026 (Expected)**

- *Dissertation*: “An Ally in the Fight against Patriarchy? Men’s Involvement in Gender Justice Advocacy in Malaysia.”
Dissertation Committee: Charles Kurzman (Chair), Lisa Pearce, Tania Jenkins, Juliane Hammer, Azza Basarudin

M. A., Sociology, UNC Chapel Hill **2023**

- *Master’s Thesis*: “Tensions of Masculinity: How Married Muslim Men Perceive the Role of the Househusband in Malaysia.”
Thesis Committee: Charles Kurzman (Chair), Lisa Pearce, Juliane Hammer

Masters by Research., Sociology, National University of Singapore (NUS) **2022**

- *Master’s Thesis*: “Women’s Issues and What It Means to be a Muslimah: The Religious Orientations of Female Muslim Activists in Malaysia.”

B.Soc.Sci Hons., Sociology, National University of Singapore (NUS) **2017**

Exchange Program, Maastricht University, The Netherlands **2016**

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

- Gender, Islam

BOOK

- Alatas, Syed Imad. (2022). *What It Means to be a Muslimah: The Religious Orientations of Female Muslim Activists in Malaysia*. Petaling Jaya, Malaysia: Gerakbudaya Enterprise. (A Chapter of This Book Appeared as *Malaysian Muslimah Activists’ Modes of Thought: Rereading Islamic and Alternative Sources of Knowledge* in *Journal of Malaysian Studies*.)

PUBLICATIONS

- Alatas, Syed Imad. (2023). [Compatibility despite Controversy: Sunni-Shia Marriages within the Singapore Muslim Community](#). Special Issue on Asian Families: Networks, Practices, and Inequalities. *Asian Studies: Journal of Critical Perspectives on Asia* 58(2): 1-28.
- Alatas, Syed Imad. (2023). [Malaysian Muslimah Activists' Modes of Thought: Rereading Islamic and Alternative Sources of Knowledge](#). *Kajian Malaysia* (Journal of Malaysian Studies) 41(1): 133-152.
- Alatas, Syed Imad. (2020). [Islamic Attitudes towards Israel and Jews: A Comparison of Malaysia and Indonesia](#). *Asia-Pacific Social Science Review* 20(3): 153-162.
- Alatas, Syed Imad. (2018). [Institutional Setting and Lived Masculinities among Male Adolescents: A Case Study of a Government-aided All-Boys Secondary School in Singapore](#). *Southeast Asian Social Science Review* 3(2): 57-82.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

- Alatas, Syed Imad. ““I Might as Well Wear a Maid Costume”: Married Muslim Men in Malaysia and their Ambivalences towards the Primary Caregiver Father Role.” *Men and Masculinities*.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Alatas, Syed Imad. (2023). [Developing a School of Autonomous Knowledge: Thoughts of the Late Syed Hussein Alatas](#). In Byrd, Dustin & Seyed Javad Miri (Eds.), *Syed Hussein Alatas and Critical Social Theory* (pp. 9-21). Leiden: Brill.
- Alatas, Syed Imad. (2021). [Women and Islamisation in Malaysia: Contestations on the Practice of Islam](#). In Lumina, Lulia (Ed.), *The Politics of Muslim Identities: South and Southeast Asia* (pp. 33-47). Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

SELECTED ARTICLES IN MEDIA

- [Writing from the margins](#)
- [Transcending BLM and ALM: Looking at context-specific atrocities](#)
- [Religious Terrorism and Toxic Masculinity](#)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Men’s Perceptions of Gender Equality in Malaysia and Challenges with Engaging in Feminist Activism.” *Bringing Southeast Asia Home Workshop 2024*, North Carolina, Carolina Asia Center, May 13, 2024.

- “Tensions of Masculinity: How Married Muslim Men Perceive the Role of the Househusband in Malaysia.” *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion*, Utah, October 20-22, 2023.
- “I Get to See My Kids Grow Up: The Lived Experiences of Muslim Househusbands in Malaysia.” *XX ISA World Congress of Sociology*, Melbourne, Australia, June 25-July 1, 2023.
- “Tensions of Masculinity: How Married Muslim Men Perceive the Role of the Househusband in Malaysia.” *Myth, Modernity, and the Sacred: Questions of Power and Authority*, Charlottesville, University of Virginia, April 27-28, 2023.
- “Gender Justice in Islam: How Muslimah Activists in Malaysia discuss Marital Issues and Women’s Roles.” *American Sociological Association 117th Annual Meeting*, Los Angeles, August 5-9, 2022.
- “Women’s Issues and What It Means to be a Muslimah: The Religious Orientations of Female Muslim Activists in Malaysia.” *16th Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies*, Asia Research Institute, Singapore, July 12-14, 2021.
- “Malaysia-Israel Relations: How Long will the Ambivalence Last?” *11th International Malaysian Studies Conference*, Kedah, Malaysia, August 13-14, 2018.

INVITED TALKS

- “What It Means to be a Muslimah: The Religious Orientations of Female Muslim Activists in Malaysia.” Book Launch, Gerakbudaya Enterprise, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, June 17, 2023.
- “Sunni-Shia Marriages in Singapore: Challenges and Commonalities.” Centre for Research on Islamic and Malay Affairs (RIMA), Singapore, January 25, 2022.

FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS

- Bringing Southeast Asia Home Research Award for Graduate Students **2023**
- Graduate Teaching Fellowship, NUS **2019-2021**

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Teaching Fellow, Sociological Perspectives, UNC Department of Sociology **Fall 2024**
- Teaching Assistant, Sociology of Islam, UNC Department of Sociology **Spring 2024**
- Teaching Assistant, Sociological Perspectives, UNC Department of Sociology **Fall 2023**
- Teaching Assistant, Sex and Gender in Society, UNC Department of Sociology **Spring 2023**
- Teaching Assistant, U.S. Poverty and Public Policy, UNC Department of Sociology **Fall 2022**
- Teaching Assistant, Race and Ethnicity, UNC Department of Sociology **Spring 2022**
- Teaching Assistant, Family & Society, UNC Department of Sociology **Fall 2021**
- Teaching Assistant, Religion in Society and Culture, NUS Department of Sociology **Spring 2021**

- Teaching Assistant, Sociology of Popular Culture, NUS Department of Sociology **Fall 2020**
- Teaching Assistant, Sociology of Religion, NUS Department of Sociology **Spring 2020**
- Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Sociology, NUS Department of Sociology **Fall 2019**

WORK EXPERIENCE

Middle East Institute, Executive (Publications) 2017 - 2019

- Oversaw the institute's publications for each quarter of the financial year. Spearheaded the institute's annual report for 2017 and 2018.
- Co-managed the institute's social media pages (FB & Twitter).
- Supervised interns and delegated research and editorial work, in addition to ad-hoc duties.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Reviewer for *Social Forces*.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Diversity Committee, UNC Sociology 2023 - 2024

- Served on the diversity committee of UNC sociology with another graduate representative to help in ensuring that the department is a welcoming, safe, equitable, and supportive space for students, staff, and faculty of all backgrounds to thrive. Projects included making sure department syllabi are reviewed every year to ensure diversity of content.

Graduate Representative for the Sexual Harassment Committee 2021

- Served as the graduate representative to the sociology department's Sexual Harassment Committee at NUS. Short-term projects included creating a poster, a website page, and short pamphlets in order to raise visibility and kickstart discussions about the issue of sexual harassment. In this role, I was also a liaison between students and the department on matters pertaining to sexual harassment on and off campus.

VOLUNTEER WORK

Darul Ihsan Orphanage 2018 - 2019

- Provided an orphan with one-to-one English tuition on a weekly basis.

The Kent Ridge Common, Contributing Editor 2015 - 2017

- Edited bi-weekly submissions from students and contributed an article on current affairs every month. Articles fostered discussions on the online community about what matters to Singaporeans.