

SYED IMAD ALATAS

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EDUCATION

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (UNC) 2021 – 2026 (expected)

- Doctoral Student, Department of Sociology

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (UNC) 2023

- Masters of Arts, Sociology. Thesis Title: **“Tensions of Masculinity: How Married Muslim Men Perceive the Role of the Househusband in Malaysia.”**

National University of Singapore (NUS) 2022

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

National University of Singapore (NUS) 2017

- Bachelor of Social Sciences (with Honours) in Sociology. Thesis title: **“Documenting Lived Masculinities of Male Adolescents in an All-Boys Secondary School.”**

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 Previously Appeared as *Malaysian Muslimah Activists’ Modes of Thought: Rereading Islamic and Alternative Sources of Knowledge* in *Journal of Malaysian Studies*.)

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

- 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 IN PREPARATION

- 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.” *In Progress*.
- Alatas, Syed Imad. "Sami “Usu” Zayn and the Bloodline: Humor as a Counter to the Racialization of Masculinities in the WWE?" *Revise and Resubmit to The Journal of Popular Culture*.

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.

BOOK REVIEW

- Alatas, Syed Imad. (2022). Review of Miriam Koktvedgaard Zeitzen’s “[Elite Malay Polygamy: Wives, Wealth and Woes in Malaysia](#).” *Journal of International Women’s Studies* 23(1): Article 27.

SELECTED ARTICLES IN MEDIA

- [Staying sane in an insane world: Performance and academics](#)
- [Writing from the margins](#)
- [Being Malaysian, living in Singapore and the question of loyalty](#)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “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 TALK(S)

- “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**

- Awarded a research award (\$4993) by the Carolina Asia Center at UNC Chapel Hill so that I can conduct dissertation fieldwork.

AN@S Scholastic Achievement Award **2023**

- Awarded the [Scholastic Achievement Award](#) by Arab Network at Singapore for demonstrating character and aptitude for holistic excellence in academia. The award includes a cash prize and a 2-year mentoring program.

Graduate Teaching Fellowship, NUS **2019 – 2021**

- Awarded a monthly stipend for the duration of my Master’s degree, where I tutored for assigned courses. The fellowship was awarded in addition to a full tuition fee waiver.

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

- Sociology of Islam, UNC Department of Sociology **Spring 2024**
- Sociological Perspectives, UNC Department of Sociology **Fall 2023**
- Sex and Gender in Society, UNC Department of Sociology **Spring 2023**
- U.S. Poverty and Public Policy, UNC Department of Sociology **Fall 2022**
- Race and Ethnicity, UNC Department of Sociology **Spring 2022**
- Family & Society, UNC Department of Sociology **Fall 2021**
- Religion in Society and Culture, NUS Department of Sociology **Spring 2021**
- Sociology of Popular Culture, NUS Department of Sociology **Fall 2020**
- Sociology of Religion, NUS Department of Sociology **Spring 2020**
- 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 work and ad-hoc duties to them, including research and editorial work.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Diversity Committee, UNC Sociology 2023 - present

- Currently serving 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. Current projects include making sure department syllabi are reviewed every year to ensure diversity of content.

Graduate Representative to 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

January 2024

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.