

Syed Imad Alatas

PhD student, Department of Sociology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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EDUCATION

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (UNC) **Aug 2021 – present**

- PhD student, Department of Sociology.

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (UNC) **Aug 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) **Feb 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) **June 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 **Jan 2016 - July 2016**

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

- Religion (Islam), Gender

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.

JOURNAL 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.

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- 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.

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, I (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](#) (2023)
- [Writing from the margins](#) (2022)
- [Being Malaysian, living in Singapore and the question of loyalty](#) (2019)

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.

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- “Malaysia-Israel Relations: How Long will the Ambivalence Last?” *11th International Malaysian Studies Conference*, Kedah, Malaysia, August 13-14, 2018.

INVITED TALK(S)

- “Sunni-Shia Marriages in Singapore: Challenges and Commonalities.” Centre for Research on Islamic and Malay Affairs (RIMA), Singapore, January 25, 2022.

SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS

AN@S Scholastic Achievement Award

September 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

Aug 2019 – Aug 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

- 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)

Sept 2017 - July 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

Aug 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: Clarifying reporting mechanisms to address student grievances, encouraging new students from minority backgrounds to enroll in our program, and making sure department syllabi are reviewed every year to ensure diversity of content.

Graduate Representative to the Sexual Harassment Committee

Mar 2021 – July 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

Sep 2018 - Sep 2019

- Volunteered with a Muslim orphanage in Singapore on a weekly basis where I provided an orphan with one-to-one English tuition.

The KRC, Contributing Editor

Oct 2015 - Sept 2017

- Edited bi-weekly submissions from students to a university newspaper and published an article of my own every month on current affairs. Articles fostered discussions on the online community about what matters to Singaporeans.

RELEVANT SKILLS

- **Languages:** English (fluent), Malay (proficient).