

Syed Imad Alatas

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

Email: ialatas@unc.edu

EDUCATION

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

- Doctoral student, department of Sociology.

National University of Singapore (NUS) **Aug 2019 – Jan 2022 (Expected)**

- 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.”**
Supervisor: A/P Eric Thompson.

National University of Singapore (NUS) **Aug 2013 - June 2017**

- Graduated with a Bachelors of Social Sciences (with Honours) in Sociology. Completed a thesis titled: **“Documenting Lived Masculinities of Male Adolescents in an All-Boys Secondary School.”** Supervisor: Dr Adelyn Lim.

Student Exchange Programme - The Netherlands **Jan 2016 - July 2016**

- Studied for a semester at Maastricht University, where I enrolled in history courses. I learnt to be independent and interact with students from different socio-economic backgrounds.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

- Religion, Youth, Gender

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Alatas, Syed Imad. (Forthcoming). Women and Islamisation in Malaysia: Contestations on the Practice of Islam. In Lumina, I (Ed.), *The Politics of Muslim Identities: South and Southeast Asia*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- 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.
<http://apssr.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/RB-3.pdf>
- Alatas, Syed Imad. (2019). Interfaith Efforts Can Stem Prejudices and Stereotypes. In Mohamed Imran Mohamed Taib & Nurul Fadhiah Johari (Eds.), *Budi Kritik* (pp. 157-162). Singapore: Math Paper Press.

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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.
http://www.myjurnal.my/filebank/published_article/84611/3.pdf

MANUSCRIPTS IN SUBMISSION

- Alatas, Syed Imad. 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*. *Under Review*.
- Alatas, Syed Imad. Malaysian Muslimah Activists' Modes of Thought: Rereading Islamic and Alternative Sources of Knowledge. *Under Review*.
- Alatas, Syed Imad. Gender Equality and Complementarity: A Survey of Muslim Women's Discourses in Malaysia Regarding Gender Justice. *Under Review*.

WRITTEN WORKS IN MEDIA

- Raise the standard of religious discourse:
<https://www.thestar.com.my/opinion/letters/2020/01/01/raise-the-standard-of-religious-discourse>
- A brighter religious landscape under Mahathir: <https://www.malaymail.com/s/1633271/a-brighter-religious-landscape-under-mahathir-imad-alatas>
- On Ashura, sectarianism bares its ugly head in Malaysia:
<https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/opinion/2019/09/10/on-ashura-sectarianism-bares-its-ugly-head-in-malaysia/>
- Insufficient reasons for cold-turkey approach to Middle East:
<https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/449509>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- "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, 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.

SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS

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 modules. The fellowship was awarded in addition to a full tuition fee waiver.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Religion in Society and Culture (Teaching Assistant) **Jan 2021 - April 2021**
- Sociology of Popular culture (Teaching Assistant) **Aug 2020 - Nov 2020**
- Sociology of Religion (Teaching Assistant) **Jan 2020 - April 2020**
- Introduction to Sociology (Teaching Assistant) **Aug 2019 - Nov 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.

Middle East Institute, Intern **May 2017 - July 2017**

- Reported on current affairs in the Middle East through secondary research.
- Published lecture briefs on MEI's website that summarized important MEI talks.
- Succeeded in attracting members of the public to attend our events, be it academic or cultural. The internship also instilled skills in me such as writing effectively and meeting deadlines under pressure.

VOLUNTEER WORK

Graduate Representative to the Sexual Harassment Committee **Mar 2021 – July 2021**

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- 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.

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. This volunteering work helped instil in me a sense of empathy towards those who may not be as fortunate as me.

The KRC, Editor (<http://kentrledgecommon.com/>)

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), Modern Standard Arabic (beginners').