



INSTITUT
KEFAHAMAN
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MALAYSIA
(IKIM)



Konrad
Adenauer
Stiftung

**International Conference on
“Multiculturalism in Asia - Peace and Harmony”**

25 - 26 August 2016

Venue: College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University, Salaya

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25 August 2016

- 08.00 – 09.00 a.m. Registration
- 09.00 – 09.30 a.m. Opening Ceremony
- Master of Ceremony** – Mr. Polapat Jittivuthikan, Graduate Student, College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University
- 09.00 – 09.10 a.m. **Opening Report** – Assoc. Prof. Wathinee Boonchalaksi, College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University
- 09.10 – 09.15 a.m. **Welcome Words** - Assoc. Prof. Thanya Subhadrabandhu, Acting Dean, College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University
- 09.15 – 09.30 a.m. **Welcome Words** – Dr. Azizan binti Baharuddin, Director-General of Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia (IKIM), Malaysia
- 09.30 – 09.40 a.m. **Welcome Remarks** – Mr. Michael Winzer, Resident Representative, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Bangkok, Thailand
- 09.40 – 09.50 a.m. **Conference Opening Remarks** – By Assoc. Prof. Preecha Soontranan, Vice President for Student Affairs and Alumni, Mahidol University
- 10.00 – 11.00 a.m. **Keynote Speech I – “Multiculturalism and Harmonious Coexistence – The Challenges of Cultural Diversity in ASEAN”**
- By Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, Former Secretary General, ASEAN.**
- 11.00 – 11.15 a.m. Break
- 11.15 – 12.00 p.m. **Session 1 – Creating Multiculturalism Amidst Ethnic, Linguistic and Religious Diversity**
- Moderator: Dr. Milos Hubina, Lecturer, College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University*
- Paper 1 – Creating Multiculturalism Amidst Ethnic, Linguistic and Religious Diversity - A Malaysian Perspective**
- Prof. Osman Bakar, Univeristi Brunei Darussalam.
- 12.00 – 12.30 p.m. Questions and Answers
- 12.30 – 13.30 p.m. Lunch
- 13.30 p.m. **Session 1 - (Continued)**

- 13.30 – 14.15 p.m. *Moderator: Dr. Mohd Sani bin Badron, Director, Center for Economic and Social Studies, IKIM, Malaysia.*
- Paper 2 - Creating Multiculturalism Amidst Ethnic, Linguistic and Religious Diversity - A Thai Perspective**
- Khunying Professor Emeritus Dr. Suriya Ratanakul, Mahidol University, Thailand
- 14.15 – 14.30 p.m. Questions and Answers
- 14.30 – 15.15 p.m. **Paper 3 – Creating Multiculturalism Amidst Ethnic, Linguistic and Religious Diversity – A Sri Lankan Perspective**
- Ven. Dr. Mahinda Deegalle, Bath Spa University, United Kingdom
- 15.15 – 15.30 p.m. Questions and Answers
- 15.30 – 16.00 p.m. Break
- 16.00 – 16.45 p.m. **Paper 4 – Creating Multiculturalism Amidst Ethnic, Linguistic and Religious Diversity – A Filipino Perspective**
- Prof. Arnold Monera, University of St. Joseph, Macau
- 16.45 – 17.00 p.m. Questions and Answers

End of Day 1

26 August 2016

- 08.00 – 08.30 a.m. Registration
- 08.30 – 09.15 a.m. *Master of Ceremony – Mr. Francis Chan, Graduate Student, College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University.*
- Keynote Speech II – Multiculturalism and Economic Cooperation in ASEAN**
- Dr. Rizal G. Buendia, Southeast Asian Politics and International Development, United Kingdom
- 09.15 – 09.30 a.m. Break
- 09.30 – 10.15 a.m. **Session 2 – Cross Cultural Communication**
- Moderator: Dr. Kornkanok Sarapirom, Lecturer, College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University*
- Paper 5 – Cross Cultural Communication Lesson from Thailand**
- Professor Emeritus Surichai Wun'Gaeo, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
- 10.15 – 10.30 a.m. Questions and answers
- 10.30 – 11.15 a.m. **Paper 6 – Cross Cultural Communication - Lessons from Malaysia - Interaction among Religious Adherents in Malaysia: Background and Motives of Morals**

	Dr. Mohd Sani bin Badron, Director, Center for Economic and Social Studies, IKIM, Malaysia
11.15 – 11.30 a.m.	Questions and Answers
11.30 – 13.00 p.m.	Lunch
13.30 – 13.45 p.m.	Session 3 – Socio-Ethical Issues for Multiculturalism <i>Moderator: Dr. Rufin Jamey Saul, Lecturer, College of Religious Studies Mahidol University</i>
	Paper 7 – Socio-Ethical Issues for Multiculturalism – A Malaysian Perspective Ven. Zhen Chan, International Buddhist College, Thailand
13.45 – 14.00 p.m.	Questions and Answers
14.00 – 14.45 p.m.	Paper 8 – Socio-Ethical Issues for Multiculturalism – An Indonesian Perspective Dr. Mohammed Iqbal Ahnaf – Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia
14.45 – 15.00 p.m.	Questions and Answers
15.00 – 15.15 p.m.	Break
15.15 – 15.45 p.m.	Session 4 - Youth Panel – Productive Co-Existence of Diverse Cultures: The Concerns and Voices of Youth <i>Moderator: Assoc.Prof. Dr. Pinit Ratanakul, Senior Advisor, College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University</i>
	Representatives:
	1. Ms. Anyada Jhaiyanuntana and Ms. Promsiri Nonglek -Buddhist Students Club – Mahidol University, Thailand.
	2. Mr. Ahmad Fahmi Shamsuddin - Malaysian Islamic Youth Movement (ABIM) – Association of Malaysia.
15.45 – 16.00 p.m.	Questions and Answers
16.00 – 17.00 p.m.	Session 5 – Panel Discussion – Search for New Paradigm of Harmonious Co-existence <i>Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Imtiyaz Yusuf, Director, CRS International Center for Buddhist-Muslim Understanding, College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University.</i>
	Discussants:
	1) Assoc. Prof. Pinit Ratanakul, Senior Advisor, College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University, Thailand
	2) Dr. Pg Norhazlin Pg Hj Muhammad, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Brunei
	3) Prof. Saroja Dorairajoo, Dept of Sociology, National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore

4) Puan Enizahura Abdul Aziz, Fellow, Centre for the Study of Sharia'h,
IKIM, Malaysia

17.00 p.m.

Closing Ceremony

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Cooperation Partners:

CRS Intl Center for Buddhist-Muslim Understanding, College of
Religious Studies, Mahidol University, Salaya, Thailand

Institute Kefahaman Islam Malaysia (IKIM)

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Thailand

KEYNOTE SPEAKER – I



Dr. Surin Pitsuwan received his primary and secondary education in his home province of Nakorn Sri Thammarat, Thailand. He became a Member of Parliament of Thailand in 1986, and has served in the same constituency for seven consecutive terms. During this period, he was appointed as secretary to the Speaker of the House of Representatives in 1986. Subsequent appointments were as assistant secretary to the Minister of Interior in 1988 and as Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister from 1992-1995. He was appointed as the Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1992-2001. A graduate in political science from Claremont Men's College in California, Dr. Surin holds a Ph. D. from Harvard University.

He also spent a year and a half studying Arabic and conducting his research at the American University in Cairo, 1975-1977, while concurrently a fellow at the Higher Council for Islamic Research, Cairo, Egypt.

Dr. Surin became the 12th Secretary-General of ASEAN (2008 – 2012). He contributed much to the development of ASEAN not only when he was its Secretary-General but also when he was the Foreign Minister of Thailand. Two of his most recognized accomplishments in dealing with ASEAN affairs were [1] first, spearheading the Asian countries to help restore law and order in East Timor during the violent uprising in the aftermath of the Referendum in August 1999, and [2] second, leading the ASEAN Member States and the United Nations and other international institutions such as the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and various other International NGOs to enter Myanmar to rescue that country from the catastrophe of Cyclone Nargis in May 2008 and remained there until the mission was accomplished in December 2010.

After his term as Secretary General of ASEAN, Dr. Surin has been appointed Professor Emeritus at Thammasat University and also an Honorary Advisor and Distinguished Visiting Fellow at King Prajadhipok Institute, an academic affiliation of the Thai Parliament.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER – II



Rizal G. Buendia, Ph. D. is Independent Consultant/Researcher in Southeast Asian Politics and International Development based in London, United Kingdom. He is former Teaching Fellow in Politics at the Department of Politics and International Studies and the Department of Development Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London and Chair of the Political Science Department, De La Salle University-Manila.

He authored the books *The Politics of the Bangsamoro Basic Law* (2015) and *Ethnicity and Sub-nationalist Independence Movements in the Philippines and Indonesia: Implications for Regional Security* (2002), published articles on the ASEAN, multiculturalism, peace and conflict, ethnopolitics, secessionism, human rights, governance, security, plural democracy, social development, and development administration in refereed international academic journals and book chapters. Currently, he is working on commissioned researches on the ASEAN Political-Security Blueprint and the Skills Mobility under the ASEAN Economic Community.

He served as consultant in various international development agencies, like the World Bank (WB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), ASEAN Governance Innovations Network-Institute of Governance (CAGIN-IOG), Canada International Development Agency (CIDA) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) among others.

He earned his PhD in Political Science at the National University of Singapore (NUS). He obtained his Master of Arts in Public Administration (MPA) from the University of the Philippines-Diliman (National College of Public Administration and Governance [NCPAG]).

Presently, he is a member of the International Editorial Board of the *Asian Journal of Criminology* (Melbourne, Australia), Founding Member of the Asian Criminological Society (Beijing, China), and former Editor in Chief of the *Asia Pacific Social Science Journal*. He is also member of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) and the *Phi Gamma Mu* Honor Society.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS (In Alphabetical Order)



Dr. Mohammad Iqbal Ahnaf is a faculty member at the Centre for Religious and Cross-cultural Studies (CRCS) Graduate School, Gadjah Mada University. He earned a Master degree in conflict transformation at the Centre for Justice and Peacebuilding, Eastern Mennonite University (USA) and Ph.D in Strategic Studies, Victoria University of Wellington (New Zealand).

He teaches graduate courses on 'religious activism and political violence,' 'religion, state and society,' 'research method on political Islam' and 'interreligious dialogue and peacebuilding.' His works cover various topics on religion, violence and peaceful coexistence. He is the author of *The Image of the Enemy: Radical Discourse in Indonesia* (2006); a working paper titled *Contesting Morality Youth Piety and Pluralism in Indonesia* (2012). His recently completed an article, "*Little China in a Javanese Muslim Town: How the Culture of Coexistence Survived Communal Tensions.*"

During the last five years he has served as a consultant for various government and non-governmental organization on counterterrorism issues. He was also appointed as a country coordinator of *Democracy (V-Dem)*, an international research collaboration for creating an alternative democracy index co-hosted by the Department of Political Science at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden; and the Kellogg Institute at the University of Notre Dame, USA.



Enizahura Abdul Aziz

Academic Qualifications:

1. Currently a Ph. D. Candidate in Political Science at International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)
2. Masters in Political Science from IIUM (Public Policy & Public Administration)
3. B.A (Hons) in Politics, University of East London, UK.

Working Experience:

Current Position: Research Fellow, Centre for the Study of Shariah, Law and Politics IKIM
(Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia)

Previous Working Experience:

1. Lecturer at City University College of Science and Technology
2. Lecturer at University Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
3. Social Worker, Women's Aid Organization (WAO) Malaysia

Additional Info:

1. Researcher for the IKIM-UTP-KUISAS-UPM Research on Development of Malaysia Socio-Religio Harmony Index Instruments
2. Researcher for the Development of *Fiqh Ta'āmul* (Inter-Religious Interaction from the Fiqh Dimension)
3. Researcher for the IKIM-UPM Research on the Issues and Challenges Among Religious Adherents in Malaysia.
4. Liaison/ Desk officer of IKIM in the Committee for the Promotion of Understanding and Harmony Among Religious Adherents in Malaysia (JKMPKA) from 2011- 2015.
5. Secretariat officer for the Working Committee in Inter-Religious Mediation and Training of the JKMPKA from 2011-2015.



Dr. Mohd Sani Badron is a Principal Fellow at the Centre of Economics and Social Studies, Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia (IKIM). He was conferred Bachelor of Laws by the International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM), and M.A. as well as Ph.D. in Islamic Thought by the International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization (ISTAC).

He joined ISTAC as Research Fellow (1993-2003), and then IIUM as Lecturer at the Department of Theology, Philosophy and Comparative Religions (2003-2006).



Dato' Emeritus Professor Osman Bakar, who earned a doctorate in Islamic philosophy from Temple University, Philadelphia is currently Distinguished Professor and Director of Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddien Centre for Islamic Studies (SOASCIS) at Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

He was formerly Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic & Research) of University of Malaya, Malaysia Chair of Southeast Asian Islam at the Prince Talal al-Waleed Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, Georgetown University, Washington DC and Deputy Chief Executive Officer (CEO), International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies, Malaysia (IAIS).

An Emeritus Professor of Philosophy of Science at the Department of Science and Technology Studies, University of Malaya, he was also the founder of the University's Center for Civilizational Dialogue (1996). In 1994 he was made a Dato' by HH the Sultan of Pahang and in 2000 a Datuk by the Malaysian King.

Dr. Bakar is an author of 20 books and more than 300 articles on various aspects of Islamic thought and civilization, particularly Islamic science and philosophy and Islam in Southeast Asia. He was a member of the Council of 100 Leaders of the West-Islamic World Initiative for Dialogue founded by the World Economic Forum, Davos, Switzerland.

His two most well-known books, *Classification of Knowledge in Islam* and *Tawhid and Science* have been translated into numerous languages. His latest books are *Islamic Civilization and the Modern World: Thematic Essays* (2014), *Quranic Pictures of the Cosmos: The Scriptural Foundation of Islamic Cosmology* (2016), and *Islamic Perspectives on Science and Technology* (co-editor, 2016).



Ooi Han Chun a.k.a Venerable Zhen Chan

Position: Lecturer, Faculty of Religious Studies, International Buddhist College, (IBC) Sadao, Songkhla, Thailand.

Director, Office of Student Affairs, IBC Songkhla.

Member, Board of Director of Than Hsiang Foundation, Malaysia.

Member, Monastic Sangha of Than Hsiang Temple, Penang Malaysia.

Academic Background:

2015 – Present Ph.D. Candidate (Human Resource Development), Burapha University Thailand.

2007 – 2008 Master of Buddhist Studies, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong China.

1998 – 2001 B.A. in Humanities, University of Science Malaysia, (USM) Penang Malaysia.



Ven. Dr. Mahinda Deegalle is Reader in the Study of Religions, Philosophies and Ethics at the College of Liberal Arts, Bath Spa University, United Kingdom.

He is the author of *Popularizing Buddhism: Preaching as Performance in Sri Lanka* (State University of New York Press 2006), the editor of *Buddhism, Conflict and Violence in Modern Sri Lanka* (Routledge 2006), *Dharma to the UK* (World Buddhist Foundation, 2008), *Vesak, Peace and Harmony: Thinking of Buddhist Heritage* (Sri Nagananda International Buddhist University, 2015) and the co-editor of *Pali Buddhism* (Curzon 1996).

He has held Numata Visiting Professorship in Buddhist Studies at McGill University, Canada and NEH Professorship in Humanities at Colgate University, USA. He has teaching and research experience in Buddhism in North America, Europe and Asia.

He regularly appears in the BBC1 The Big Questions, BBC World Service, Aljazeera and Buddhist TV programmes.



Dr. Saroja Dorairajoo holds a doctorate in social anthropology from Harvard University and an MA in Southeast Asian Studies.

Her interest in minority ethnic and religious communities has seen her conduct research on the *Orang Asli*, aboriginal peoples of Malaysia, the Malay-speaking southern Thai-Muslims, and more recently on Chinese-Muslims in the Hui Autonomous Province of Ningxia in north-central China.

Her research issues centre around gender, ethnicity, violence and food. The latter interest has seen her conduct research and publish on the notion of *halal* foods, religion, economics and society in Thailand, Singapore and most recently in China.

Dorairajoo has taught at the Anthropology Department of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. At present, Dorairajoo is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology at the National University of Singapore (NUS).



Prof. Dr. Arnold T. Monera is currently the Dean of the Faculty of Religious Studies at the University of St. Joseph in Macau where he teaches Scriptures, Biblical Greek and Theology. He received a Master of Arts degree in Oriental Religions and Cultures from the University of Santo Tomas in Manila.

He obtained his Ph.D./S.Th.D. from the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium). For many years he taught at the Department of Theology and Religious Education, De La Salle University-Manila.

In 2008, he was visiting lecturer at the Graduate School of Philosophy and Religion, Assumption University of Thailand. His research interests include New Testament Studies and Oriental Religions.



Pg. Dr Norhazlin Pg. Haji Muhammad is currently the Deputy Director of Sultan Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Centre for Islamic Studies (SOASCIS), Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD). She has previous experience as the Islamic Education Coordinator and Breadth Module Convenor at Sultan Hassanali Bolkuiah Institute of Education and Research Coordinator at SOASCIS, UBD.

In 2010, she was awarded a Ph. D. degree in Islamic Studies from the University of Birmingham, United Kingdom. She specializes in Islamic Philosophy of Education, Islamic Curriculum, Pedagogy of Teaching Islamic Education and System of Education in Brunei Darussalam.

Her research interests include comparative study between Islamic and Western philosophies of education, study on traditional and contemporary Muslim scholars' model of thoughts, Muslim and Western patterns of education, Brunei Law and Islamic Law, Child Protection in Islamic perspective and *Waqf* in Brunei Darussalam.

Her publications include a book entitled *The Educational System in Brunei Darussalam in the Light of Al-Attas' Philosophy of Education*.

She was also a Research Fellow at Oxford Centre of Islamic Studies, Oxford University, UK (2013) and a Visiting Researcher at the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim - Christian Understanding, Georgetown University, USA (2014).



Professor Emerita Khunying Dr. Suriya Ratanakul
Professor of Linguistics, Mahidol University.

Academic Background

- B.A. (French language and literature) First Class Honors, Chulalongkorn University.
- Doctorat de l'Université de Paris (*Etudes Linguistique et Extrême Orientales*).
- Founder and First Dean (16 years) of the Institute of Language and Culture, Mahidol University since 1974.
- Founder and First Dean of the Faculty of Arts since 2004.
- Currently teaching at the College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University.

Research Interests

- Anthropology of Religions of the Indigenous People, Myth and Ritual, Women and Religions

Some Publications, Research Paper/Academic Projects

1. Text book: *Western Civilizations*, College of Religious Studies, 2000.
2. Text book: *Western Civilization: the Romans*, College of Religious Studies, 2001.
3. Text book: *Introduction to Semantics*, College of Religious Studies, 2000.
4. Text book: *The Middle Age in Europe*, College of Religious Studies, 2002.
5. Text book: *From the Shang to the Sung*, College of Religious Studies, 2002.
6. Text book: *The Indian Civilization*, College of Religious Studies, 2003.
7. Text book: *From the Ming to the People's Republic of China*, College of Religious Studies, (2004).
8. Text book: *Rituals in Religions*, College of Religious Studies, 2006.
9. A research article: "Karen spirits cult" to be published in the *Journal of Religions and Culture*, College of Religious Studies.



Associate Professor Dr. Pinit Ratanakul is the founding Director of the College of Religious Studies, Mahidol University, he received B.A (Honors) in English from the Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University, and Ph.D. degree in Philosophy from Yale University, USA.

He is a distinguished Yale alumnus in Thailand, and is internationally well-known not only as one of the few pioneers, who introduced the discipline of philosophy to the Thai university curriculum.

He is also a Buddhist scholar who initiated the study of Bioethics in Thailand and Southeast Asia some thirty years ago, and is, currently, promoting the study and research in the field of Buddhism-Science relations/ dialogue.

His research interests include Bioethics; Religion and Science; Religion and Culture; and Religion and Psychology.



Ahmad Bin Fahmi Mohd Samsudin holds BA (Hons) degree in Economics from the International Islamic University, Malaysia (IIUM).

Currently, he is working as Chief Executive Officer for *Global Peace Mission* (GPM) Malaysia. He has been actively involved in students and youth activism starting from the National Union of Malaysian Muslim Students (PKPIM) began in 2006 and currently is the Vice President for *Muslim Youth Movement of Malaysia* (ABIM).

He was actively involved as Muslim coordinator in *Friendship Group of Inter-Religious Services* (FGIS) a platform to work on common values and goals with other entities of dissimilar religious practices as well as different ethnic backgrounds.

He has been an anchor for Malaysia's online TV program titled *What Say Youth & Let's Talk* at Mobtv.my. Actively involved as an activist locally and internationally he is keen to engage in action plans for the benefits of humanity and exchange of ideas with others.



Professor Emeritus Surichai Wun'Gaeo
Professor of Sociology, Chulalongkorn University

After finishing his post-graduate studies at University of Tokyo, he has successively held various academic posts including Director, Chulalongkorn University Social Research Institute and visiting professorships at various universities including Hitotsubashi (Japan), University of Illinois-UC (USA), and Humbolt (Germany). He has been Professor of Sociology, Chulalongkorn University, since 2009.

His publications include: *Confronting Cultural Globalization: A New Framework for Policy*. Office of Contemporary Arts and Culture (in Thai, 2004); *The Provinciality of Globalization: A Thai Perspective* (2004); *Rural Livelihoods and Human Insecurities in Globalizing Asian Economies* (2007); *Sociology of Tsunami: Coping with the Disaster* (in Thai, 2007), and *Health Governance and Institutional Learning Capacities in the New Context* (HSRI 2014).

He has been active in civil society movements and democratization issues, he is Chairperson of NGOs, namely, *Labor Rights Promotion Network*, and *Ecological Alert and Recovery Thailand (EARTH)* Foundation.

Triggered by increasing violence in southern most provinces of Thailand, he joined campaigns to change government policies under former prime minister Mr. Thaksin Shinawatra. Consequently, in 2004, he was a member and joint secretary of National Reconciliation Commission (NRC) chaired by Mr. Anand Panyarchun, former Prime Minister of Thailand. Since 2010, he is the Director, Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, Chulalongkorn University.