


# NURFADZILAH YAHAYA

11 Arts Link, History Department, National University of Singapore, AS1 05-27 S(117573), Singapore  
hisny@nus.edu.sg or fadzilah.yahaya@princeton.alumni.edu | fadzilahyahaya.com |  @nfyahaya

**Assistant Professor**, History Department, National University of Singapore

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**Associate Member**, Religion and Globalization Cluster, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

## PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

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July 2015 - June 2016	Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore
August 2012 - June 2015	Mark Steinberg Weil Early Career Fellow in Islamic Studies in Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, USA

## EDUCATION

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November 2012	Ph.D, in History, Princeton University, New Jersey, USA Dissertation: <i>Courting Jurisdictions - Colonial Administration of Islamic Law Pertaining to Arabs in the British Straits Settlements and the Netherlands East Indies, 1860-1941</i> (Winner of Al-Wehdah Book Prize granted by Arab Association of Singapore)
September 2008	Master of Arts, Princeton University
August 2006	Master of Arts, National University of Singapore
July 2003	B.A. (Honours), European Studies and English Literature, National University of Singapore

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Book manuscript

Fluid Jurisdictions: Colonial Law and Arabs in Southeast Asia, Ithaca: Cornell University Press 2020.

### Peer-reviewed publications in journals

“Class, White Women and Elite Asian Men in British Courts during the Late Nineteenth Century” Journal of Women’s History, 31.2 (Summer 2019): 101-123

“Legal Pluralism and the East India Company in the Straits of Malacca, 1786-1821,” Law and History Review, 33.4 (November 2015): 945-964

“Craving Bureaucracy: Marriage, Islamic Law, and Arab Petitioners in the Straits Settlements,” Muslim World, 105.4 (October 2015): 496-515

“The Question of Animal Slaughter in the British Straits Settlements during the Early Twentieth Century” Indonesia and the Malay World 43,126 (July 2015): 173-190; Winner of the Indonesia and the Malay World Young Scholar Prize

### Under Preparation

Article: “The Holy Rail Conundrum –Religious, Colonial and National Sovereignty over the Hejaz Railway”

### Other peer-reviewed publications

“Colonialism and Islamic Law,” Oxford Bibliographies in Islamic Studies Natana De Long-Bas. New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

“Chapter 4: European Concept of Jurisdiction under Colonial Rule,” The Oxford Handbook of Jurisdiction in International Law Stephen Allen, Daniel Costelloe, Malgosia Fitzmaurice, Paul Gragl, Edward Guntrip, eds. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019, 60-80.

“British Colonial Law and the Establishment of Waqfs by Arabs in the Straits Settlements, 1860-1941” in The Worlds of the Trust Lionel Smith, ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013, pp. 167-202

“Tea and Company: Interactions between the Arab Elite and the British in Cosmopolitan Singapore” in Hadhrami Diaspora in Southeast Asia: Identity Maintenance or Assimilation? Ahmad Ibrahim Abushouk and Hassan Ahmed Ibrahim, eds. Leiden: Brill, 2009, pp. 57-80

### **Roundtable review**

“Juridical Pan-Islam at the Height of Empire” Kitabhkhana Roundtable on *Afghanistan Rising: Islamic Law and Statecraft between the Ottoman and British Empires* by Faiz Ahmed, *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*, forthcoming, August 2021.

### **Edited special volumes**

Co-editor of special issue of Yearbook of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law 19 (December 2018) on Islamic Law and Empire

Co-editor of special issue of Muslim World, 109,1 (December 2018) on Muslim Endowments and Trusts in Asia

### **Blog entries**

- As guest-blogger on Legal History Blog in September 2020
  1. On writing process and book cover
  2. On diasporas transformed by colonialism - Case of South Asian diaspora in Southeast Asia
  3. On puns in legal history
  4. On second book project on history of land reclamation
  5. On property and legal shorthand
- Surplus and Colonial Charity at HistPhil Blog, September 23 2020
- World Legal History Blog in February and March 2016
  1. “Lawyer v. East India Company”
  2. “Descendants and Ethical Stakes”

### **Book reviews**

Review of Constituting Religion: Islam, Liberal rights, and the Malaysian State. Tamir Moustafa. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2018. Reading Religion (website of American Association of Religion), November 2020.

Review of Imperial Muslims: Islam, Community and Authority in the Indian Ocean, 1839-1937. Scott Reese. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2018. H-Africa on Humanities and Social Sciences Online.

Review of The Politics of Islamic Law: Local Elites, Colonial Authority, and the Making of the Muslim State. Iza R. Hussin. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 2016. St. Antony’s International Review (STAIR).

Review of Taming the Wild: Aborigines and Racial Knowledge in Colonial Malaya Sandra Khor Manickam. Singapore: National University of Singapore Press 2015. Journal of the Malayan Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, 89.1 (June 2016), pp. 167-170.

Review of Doubt in Islamic Law: A History of Legal Maxims, Interpretation, and Islamic Criminal Law. Intisar Rabb. New York: Cambridge University Press (2015). Society for Contemporary Thought and the Islamic World (SCTIW) Review, March 2016

Review of Spiritual Economies: Islam, Globalization and the Afterlife of Development. Daromir Rudnyckyj. Ithaca: Cornell University Press (2010). Southeast Asian Studies, 1/2 (August 2012), pp. 349-351.

Review of Textile Imports into Qajar Iran: Russia versus Great Britain, The Battle for Market Domination. Willem Floor. Costa Mesa, California: Mazda Publishers, 2009. International Journal of Middle East Studies, 42 (2010), pp. 701-702.

Review of Muslims and Matriarchs: Cultural Resilience in Indonesia through Jihad and Colonialism. Jeffrey Hadler. Cornell University Press, 2008. Itinerario, 33/2, (July 2009), pp. 102-104.

Review of Secret Trades, Porous Borders: Smuggling and States along a Southeast Asian Frontier, 1865-1915. Eric Tagliacozzo. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005. Crossroads 19/2, (November 2009), pp. 210-212.

Review of Trade and Society in the Straits of Melaka - Dutch Melaka and English Penang, 1780-1830. Nordin Hussin. Copenhagen: Nordic Institute of Asian Studies Press, 2007. Itinerario 31/3, (December 2007), pp. 177-179.

Review of The British Occupation of Indonesia 1945-1946 - Britain, the Netherlands and the Indonesian Revolution. Richard McMillan. Oxford: Routledge, 2005. Itinerario 30/2, (September 2006), pp. 220-221.

Review of Transcending Borders: Arabs, Politics, Trade and Islam in Southeast Asia. Leiden: KITLV Press, 2002. Edited by Huub de Jonge & Nico Kaptein. Arab Studies Journal 13-14, (Fall 2005/Spring 2006), pp. 148-151.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Courses taught at National University of Singapore

- History of Labour Migration and Mobilities in Asia
- History of Keramats (sacred tombs) in Southeast Asia
- Graduate Research Seminar (writing seminar)
- Asia and the Modern World
- Legal History of Southeast Asia
- Law, Crime and Punishment in History
- History of Islam in Southeast Asia
- Introduction to History of Southeast Asia
- History of Islamic World

### Courses taught at Washington University in Saint Louis

- Approaches to the Qur'an
- Introduction to Islamic Civilization
- Islam in the Modern World
- Islam in the Indian Ocean
- Introduction to Islamic Law

### Princeton University

- Spring 2012: Assistant-in-Instruction for "Europe in the World" with David Cannadine
- Fall 2011: Assistant-in-Instruction for "Muslims and the Qur'an" with Muhammad Qasim Zaman
- Fall 2008: Assistant-in-Instruction for "Britain 1815-1945: Dominance, Democracy, and Decline" with Linda Colley

## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

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- 2020-2023: Ministry of Education (Singapore) Tier 1 Grant SGD\$50,000 (USD\$36,761)
- Visiting Fellowship, Centre for History and Economics at Harvard University (September 2019)
- 2017: Office of the Deputy President Research and Technology Grant for Research Excellence at National University of Singapore (awarded to top 20% of faculty)

- 2016-2020: Faculty Start-up Grant of SGD\$39,935 (USD\$28,315) at National University of Singapore
- 2015: Three-Year Postdoctoral Fellowship at Yale-NUS College (Declined)
- January 2015: Winner of the Indonesia and the Malay World Young Scholar Prize (2014)
- January 2015: Al-Wehdah Arab Association of Singapore Book Prize for doctoral dissertation
- 2014-2015: Santander & Harvard Law School Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP) Doha Research Grant for research on Islamic finance in Indonesia and Malaysia (Declined)
- 2013-2014: Florence Tan Moeson Fellowship for research at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
  - Catalogued Malay & Indonesian Manuscripts collection at Library of Congress
- June 2013: J. Willard Hurst Summer Institute Fellow in Legal History, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2012-2013: Postdoctoral Fellowship at International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) in Leiden, The Netherlands (Declined)
- 2012-2013: Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Graduate Fellow Award (Declined)
- 2009-2010: Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Summer Funding
- November 2008: Law and Public Affairs (LAPA) travel grant to Washington, DC for Middle East Studies Association Conference
- 2006 – 2012: Shelby Cullom and Kathryn Davis merit grant, Princeton University Fellowship
- 2006 – 2007: Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Summer Funding
- 2005 – 2006: National University of Singapore Postgraduate Research Scholarship

## EDITORIAL BOARDS

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Journal of Southeast Asian Studies July 2016 – present

Journal of Global History January 2021-December 2024

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS (AS KEYNOTE)

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May 24 2017	Keynote Speaker for workshop on “Rule, Resistance and the State/s: Perspectives from Islamic International Law and International Relations,” held at the Erik Castrén Institute of International Law and Human Rights, University of Helsinki, Finland (fully sponsored)
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## INVITED PUBLIC TALKS

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November 3 2019	Panelist on Singapore Legal History at Singapore Writers’ Festival
February 27 2019	“Alternate pasts: Politics of Commemoration of 1915,” Public Talk at Arts House (Former Parliament House), Singapore
November 16 2018	“Letters of Power Across the Indian Ocean - Religious and Trade Links in the Nineteenth Century”, Public Talk at Asian Civilizations Museum, Singapore.

## INVITED TALKS

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May 25 2021	Talk on second book project “Overflow - History of Land Reclamation in the British Empire in the Twentieth Century” Max Plank Institute for Legal History, Frankfurt, Germany
March 22 2021	Book talk on <u>Fluid Jurisdictions</u> at University of Leiden, The Netherlands with discussants Faiz Ahmed (Brown University) Katherine Lemons (McGill University)

March 4 2021 Book Salon on Fluid Jurisdictions at Polis Project (New York based research and journalism organization)

February 23 2021 Book discussion of Fluid Jurisdictions at Harvard Joint Centre for History and Economics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA and the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, University of Cambridge, UK

February 19 2021 Talk on second book project “Overflow - History of Land Reclamation in the British Empire in the Twentieth Century” Joint Centre for History and Economics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

January 28 2021 Book talk on Fluid Jurisdictions at Center of Asia-Pacific Initiatives, University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

November 18 2020 Talk on second book project “Overflow - History of Land Reclamation in the British Empire in the Twentieth Century” Columbia Legal History Workshop, Columbia University Law School, New York

November 13 2020 Book talk on Fluid Jurisdictions at Center of Southeast Asian Studies, Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies, Global Islamic Studies Center, Asian Languages and Cultures, University of Michigan

October 22 2020 Book discussion of Fluid Jurisdictions Asia Research Institute at National University of Singapore with Mitra Sharafi (Wisconsin-Madison) and Eng seng Ho (Duke)

October 12 2020 Book talk on Fluid Jurisdictions at Faculty of Law and History Department, Hong Kong University with Michael Feener (Kyoto University) as discussant

October 6 2020 Book talk on Fluid Jurisdictions at Rector’s Tea at Elm College, Yale-NUS College, Singapore

October 5 2020 Lecture on establishment of waqfs in the Hijaz during the interwar period at Comparative Law Workshop, Harvard Law School

September 24 2020 Panelist for “Colonial Legal Regimes in Southeast Asia” at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

September 15 2020 Book Talk, Program in Islamic Law, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA with Iza Hussin (Cambridge University) as discussant

June 11 2020 Book talk, Center for Asian Legal Studies, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore

May 28-31 2020 Panelist for ‘In Pursuit of Better Myth: Professional Myths and Legal Worlds in the Scholarship and Life of W. Wesley Pue’ Law and Society Association, Denver (conference cancelled due to Covid-19)

January 12-13 2020 Law and Coloniality Workshop, Georgetown University, Qatar (workshop cancelled due to nuclear threat in the Persian Gulf)

November 7 2019 “Politics of Philanthropy in Colonial Times” Conference on National Political Economy at Stockholm’s Ersta Sköndal Bräcke University College, Stockholm, Sweden (fully sponsored)

September 26 2019 “Letters of Power Across the Indian Ocean - Religious and Trade Links in the Nineteenth Century” Brandeis University, Waltham, MA (partially sponsored)

- September 25 2019 “Constructing the Index of Arabs – Colonial Imaginaries in Southeast Asia” Joint Center for History and Economics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (fully sponsored)
- September 21 2019 “The Holy Rail Conundrum –Religious, Colonial and National Sovereignty over the Hejaz Railway” Workshop on “Writing Legal Lives” Joint Center for History and Economics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. (fully sponsored)
- August 21-23 2019 “Letters of Power Across the Indian Ocean - Religious and Trade Links in the Nineteenth Century” Conference on Law and Society - Offices of the Southern Jurist-Diplomat, University of Melbourne Law School, Australia (partially sponsored)
- August 1 2019 Panelist on ‘Nineteenth and Twentieth Century History’ as part of Singapore Bicentennial Lecture Series
- May 2-3 2019 Workshop on ‘Between the Straits: The History of Capitalism in Islam’ University of Toronto Law School, Canada. (fully sponsored)
- May 24- 25 2018 “Powers that Bind: Tracing the Impact of Powers of Attorney” Historical and Comparative Macrosociology of Middle Eastern Legal Systems, International Institute Sociology of Law, Oñati, Spain. (partially sponsored)
- November 20 2017 “Index of Arabs and Imperial Imaginaries,” Indian Ocean Lecture Series at the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), The Netherlands.
- July 14-16 2017 “When a Fatwa Becomes ‘Law’ - An Analysis of the Ethical Inquiry of the Human Organ Transplant Act in Singapore” Sharia in Motion II, University of Cambridge, UK. (Fully sponsored)
- October 27 2016 The Question of Animal Slaughter: Colonial Regulation of Islamic Law Department of Near and Middle Eastern Cultures, University of Toronto, Canada. (Not sponsored)
- June 2-5 2016 Panelist for Author-Meets-Reader session for Intisar Rabb, Doubt in Islamic Law: A History of Legal Maxims, Interpretation, and Islamic Criminal Law (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015) at Law and Society Association (LSA), New Orleans, LA. (not sponsored)
- May 24 2016 “How did Arabs become foreign in the Indies?” Talk at History Department, University of Leiden, The Netherlands. (Not sponsored)
- December 9-11 2015 “Powers that Bind: Acts of Proxy Across the Indian Ocean” Ocean of Law: Intermixed legal systems across the Indian Ocean world, 1550-1950, Leiden University, The Netherlands. (Fully sponsored)
- October 28-November 1 2015 Panelist for Author-Meets-Reader session for Intisar Rabb, Doubt in Islamic Law: A History of Legal Maxims, Interpretation, and Islamic Criminal Law (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015) at American Society for Legal History (ASLH) Meeting, Washington D.C. (Not sponsored)
- April 24 2015 “Acts of Proxy Across the Indian Ocean” History of Paperwork and Bureaucracy at Center for History and Economics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. (Fully sponsored)

October 9 2014	"Colonial Limitations of the Islamic Concept of Charity in Southeast Asia" Harvard Asia Center, co-sponsored by Alwaleed Islamic Studies Program & Harvard Islamic Legal Studies Program (ILSP), Cambridge, MA. (fully sponsored)
July 31 2014	"Halal Slaughter in Singapore," Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura (Islamic Religious Council of Singapore) Roundtable discussion.
June 23-24 2014	"British Colonial Limitations of the Islamic Concept of Charity in Southeast Asia" Arabia Asia conference, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. (Fully sponsored)
February 20 2014	"Colonial Limitations of the Islamic Concept of Charity in Southeast Asia." Cornell Southeast Asia Program Brown Bag Talk, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. (Not sponsored)
October 28 2013	"Indigenous Hybridity? Dutch Colonial Legal Administration of Arabs in the Netherlands Indies, 1860-1942" Research Workshop at Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies, New York University (NYU), NY (Fully sponsored)
May 29 - May 31 2013	"Imperial Molds Recast – Study of Historical Links between Middle East and Singapore," Converging Regions: Global Perspectives on Asia and the Middle East, at the Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore. (Fully sponsored)
April 12 2013	"East India Company Law in Penang, 1786-1826: The Case of Syed Hussain Aideed," Workshop on The Travels of Law, University of Chicago, IL. (Fully sponsored)
March 16 2013	"Impact of Family Law on Diasporas in Colonial Southeast Asia" Conference on Recovering Law in Asia, Center for History and Economics, Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge, UK. (Fully sponsored)
May 9 2011	"Islamic law in Singapore" Colonial/Postcolonial Law in Asia and the Pacific Workshop. Sponsored by Institute for Legal Studies and the East Asian Legal Studies Center at University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School, Madison, WI. (Fully sponsored)
April 24 2011	Participant, Workshop on Making an Ocean of Law: Licit and Illicit Activity in the Indian Ocean in Duke University, Durham, NC. (Fully sponsored)

## INTERVIEWS

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January 2021	Interview on XQS on <a href="#">Chapati Mystery</a>
November 2020	Interview on <i>Fluid Jurisdictions of Arab Diaspora under Colonial Rule in Southeast Asia</i> (Cornell University Press, 2020) on <a href="#">New Books Network</a>
June 18 2020	Interview on Learning Malay History " <a href="#">More Better</a> " Podcast (meant for the general public)
June 10 2020	Textbook on Primary Sources and Dutch Colonialism, forthcoming
October 8 2019	Interview on <i>Fluid Jurisdictions of Arab Diaspora under Colonial Rule in Southeast Asia</i> (Cornell University Press, 2020) on <a href="#">Ottoman History Podcast</a>

## CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

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October 15-16 2020	“Impact of Colonialism on Comparative Law,” Panel on Comparative Imperial Law at American Society of Comparative Law
October 7 2020	“Arab Diasporic Legal Influence in the Netherlands Indies,” Middle East Studies Association Conference
March 19-22 2020	“A Delicate Balance – Impact of British Relationships with Malay Rulers on Colonial Malaya,” Association of Asian Studies, Boston, MA (conference cancelled due to Covid-19)
November 20-24 2019	“Soldiers Without War: Military Logistics and Sepoy Mutiny in Singapore (1915)” American Society for Legal History, Boston, MA.
May 30-June 2 2019	“Liquid Legalities: Swamps and Maritime Piracy: Environmental Law in the Straits of Malacca” Law and Society Association, Washington DC, USA.
March 22-26 2018	“Retaining Arabness in the Netherlands Indies,” Association of Asian Studies, Washington DC, USA.
January 4-7 2018	“Swamps and Maritime Piracy: Environmental Law in the Straits of Malacca” American Historical Association, Washington DC, USA.
March 29 – April 2 2017	“Colonial Regulation of Religious Slaughter of Animals” American Society for Environmental History, Chicago, IL.
December 12 – 14 2016	“How Kings Became Pirates: East India Company Maritime Jurisdiction” Ocean of Law II, University of Leiden, The Netherlands.
October 26 – 29 2016	“How Kings Became Pirates: East India Company Maritime Jurisdiction” American Society for Legal History (ASLH), Toronto, Canada.
April 14 2016	“Colonial Regulation of Religious Animal Slaughter,” Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.
August 11 – 14 2015	“White Women in British Colonial Courts – The Case of Marie Gorski” European Association for Southeast Asian Studies (EUROSEAS) Annual Conference, Vienna, Austria.
May 28 – May 31 2015	“White Women in British Colonial Courts – The Case of Marie Gorski on panel on ‘Promising Progress, Producing Difference: Law in Colonial Contexts’ Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.
November 22- 25 2014	“Powers that Bind: Tracing the Impact of Powers of Attorney in the Indian Ocean from 1880-1970,” Middle East Studies Association (MESA), Washington D.C.
August 3 – 16 2014	“A Question of Relative Need – British Colonial Limitations of the Islamic Concept of Charity in Southeast Asia,” SIAS Summer Institute, National Humanities Center, Chapel Hill, NC.
June 1 – June 2 2014	“Question of Guardianship in Colonial Southeast Asia: Arab Children under British and Dutch Rule” Conference on The Law and the Child in Historical Perspective, 1400-2000, University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, MN.
May 29 – June 1 2014	“On Firmer Ground Swamp Piracy in Southeast Asia” Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, MN.
April 3- 4 2014	“Animal Welfare and ‘Halal’ Slaughter in Islam” at ‘Why Do Animal Studies? An Interdisciplinary Conference on Animal Studies,’ University of Chicago, IL.



- January 3 – 11 2014 “Illegality of the Swamp in Southeast Asia – Postcolonial Implications” at the ‘Legacies of Colonialism for Global Policy’ Workshop at the Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP) organized by Harvard University Law School in Doha, Qatar.
- November 7- 10 2013 “Family Law and Empire: Dutch Colonial Law Governing Arabs in the Netherlands Indies” American Society for Legal History (ASLH), Miami, FL.
- July 29- August 9 2013 Participant in the Summer Institute on Cultural Encounters: Global Perspectives and Local Exchanges, 1750-1940, organized by Harry J. Liebersohn and Jürgen Osterhammel at the SIAS Summer Institute at Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Germany.
- June 9 - June 21 2013 “Book proposal: Courting Jurisdictions” Hurst Summer Institute in Legal History, biennial event hosted by the Institute for Legal Studies at the University of Wisconsin Law School and co-sponsored by the American Society for Legal History (ASLH), Madison, WI.
- March 9-10 2013 “Fowl Affair: Animal Slaughter in Penang” 2nd Annual Southeast Asian Studies Symposium, Oxford University, UK.
- January 4-January 15 2013 “Project Proposal: Colonial Administration of Islamic Religious Slaughter of Animals in Southeast Asia” at the ‘Revitalizing the Arab and Islamic Legal Traditions’ Workshop at the Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP) organized by Harvard University Law School, in Doha, Qatar.
- July 5-7 2012 “The Gorski-Alsagoff case in Singapore in 1890,” at the Legal Histories of the British Empire in National University of Singapore.
- June 6-8 2012 “Powers that Bind: Tracing the Impact of Powers of Attorney in the Indian Ocean from 1880-1970,” SSRC Conference on Inter-Asian Connections III on Asian Crossings, 1789-1914, at the University of Hong Kong.
- June 5 2011 “The Fowl Affair: British Concerns over Slaughter of Animals in The Straits Settlements during the Early Twentieth Century,” Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA.
- November 12- 14 2010 “Courting Jurisdictions: The Case of Syed Hussein Aided in Penang, 1791-1819.” North American Conference for British Studies (NACBS), Baltimore, MD.
- September 23 - 25 2010 “British Colonial Law and the Establishment of Waqfs by Arabs in the Straits Settlements, 1860-1941,” Conference on The Worlds of the Trust, McGill University Law School, Montreal, Canada.
- July 28- July 29 2010 “The Impact of English Law on Arabs and Indian Muslims in the Straits Settlements, 1870-1942” Conference on the Global Crossroads - The Port Clusters of Southeast Asia and the Middle East, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore.
- July 19- July 24 2010 “English Law and the Law of Arabia by the Hadhrami Diaspora in the British Straits Settlements of Penang, Malacca and Singapore” at the World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies (WOCMES), Barcelona, Spain.

- April 13 - 16 2010 Panelist for “Family Foundations and Trusts: Anchoring the Family: Property Strategies of Migrants.” European Social Science History Conference (ESSHC), Ghent, Belgium.
- March 13 - 14 2009 “The Swamp in the Straits of Malacca during the Nineteenth Century,” paper presented at Harvard Graduate Student Conference on International History, Cambridge, MA.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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### **Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, UK Government**

Course on Colonial Legacies for internal employees, February 2021

### **American Society for Legal History**

Member of Publications Committee, 2020-present

Selection Committee Member Hurst Summer Institute in Legal History at University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2017 & 2019

Board Member, H-Law Mailing List on Humanities and Social Sciences Online (H-Net), 2016-2019

Member of Program Committee, ASLH Annual Conference, Denver, CO (November 2014) & Washington DC (October 2015)

### **Law and Society Association (USA)**

Selection Committee Member, James Willard Hurst Book Prize Committee, November 2016 – March 2017

## PEER REVIEWER

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**Book manuscripts** reviewed for: Brill Publishers (2018), Cambridge University Press (2018)

**Articles** reviewed for: Crime, History and Societies/Crime, Histoire et Sociétés (2021); Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies (2020); Leiden Journal of International Law (2020); Sojourn (2020); TRANS (2020); Indonesia and the Malay World (2020); Journal of Islamic Studies (2020); Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East (2014); Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient (2014); Journal of Law and Religion (2017); Law and History Review (2013, 2015, 2018); Law and Society Review (2011, 2016); Southeast Asia Research (2016); Southeast Asian Studies (Kyoto) (2018)

## PANELS ORGANIZED AND/OR CHAIRED

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### **Keynote by Julia Stephens on ‘The Crafty Widow: Tracing Gendered Mobilities through InterAsian Archives of Law, Religion, and Material Consumption’**

Social Sciences Research Council (USA) February 23 2021 (Moderator)

### **Panel on ‘Leviathan Unmoored: On the Fluid Transformations of Britain’s Colonial Legacies at Empire’s End’**

Law and Society Association, Boston, MA, May 28-31 (Chair and Discussant) cancelled due to Covid-19

### **Public panel on Art of Interpreting History**

The Future of Our Pasts Project, The Arts House, Singapore, March 13 2019 (Moderator)

### **Panel on ‘Amphibious Spaces: Colonial Engagements with Watery Spaces’**

American Historical Association, Washington DC, January 4-7 2018 (Organizer)

### **Panel on ‘Law and Peace: Empire, War and Law’**

British Legal History Conference, London, 5-8 July 2017 (Moderator)

### **Panel on ‘Contending Visions of Islamic Law and Society in the 20th and 21st Centuries’**

Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, June 2016 (Discussant)

**Panel on ‘Mobile Subjects and the Transformation of Law and Space across Eighteenth and Nineteenth century Eurasia’**

American Historical Association (AHA) Annual Meeting co-sponsored by American Society for Legal History (ASLH) Atlanta, GA, January 2016 (Organizer)

**Series of seven panels on Imperial Peripheries and Islamic Law**

Annual conference at Institute of Global Law and Public Policy (IGLP) Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, June 2015 (Organizer and Moderator)

**‘The Promise and Pathos of British Colonial Legalities’**

Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting Seattle, WA, May 2015 (Chair and Discussant)

**‘Relationship between Law and Religion - Case-Study: Apostasy in Malaysia’**

Comparative Legal Studies Stream at Institute of Global Law and Policy, Harvard Law School, Doha, Qatar, January 2015 (Junior Faculty, led discussions as part of stream)

**‘Lawless’ Africa: Competition to Rule Among Africans and Europeans in the Empire’**

American Society for Legal History (ASLH) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 2014 (Discussant)

**‘Islam, Women and the Law’**

Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, MN, May 2014 (Chair and Discussant)

**‘Islamic Law, Religious Minorities and Citizenship Rights’**

Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, MN, May 2014 (Chair and Discussant)

**‘Colonial Law in the Indian Ocean’**

Law and Society Association (LSA) Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, MN, May 2014 (Organizer)

**‘Colonies and Postcolonies of Law’**

Princeton University, NJ, March 2011 (Conference Organizer)

**‘British Colonial Law’**

North American Conference for British Studies (NACBS), Baltimore, MD, November 2010 (Organizer)

**DEPARTMENTAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**

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**National University of Singapore**

Member, Tenure-Track Appointment Committee, Global Studies Program, 2018

NUS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Open Day, 2017, 2018

Member, Ong Chit Chung Memorial Fellowship Committee, History Department, January 2019, January 2018

Guest lecture at Yale-NUS College on ‘Coming of Islam to Southeast Asia’ for undergraduate course on History and Culture of Southeast Asia, August 27 2018, August 29 2017, November 2020

Co-organizer, Workshop: Muslim Endowments in Asia: Waqf, Charity and Circulations, Asia Research Institute, May-October 2016

Convenor, Works-in-Progress Seminars, Asia Research Institute 2015-2016

Mentor to Asian Graduate Student Fellow, Selection Committee Member, Asian Graduate Student Fellowships Committee, Asia Research Institute, 2016

Chair of panel at Conference: The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of the Social Gospel in Asia, c. 1890s-1930s Asia Research Institute, August 2016

Co-Organizer, Roundtable: How to Study Religion in Times of Crises, Asia Research Institute, June 2016

**Washington University in St. Louis**

Panelist for “Building your scholarship: Article writing, conference presentations, and what happens to the dissertation” aimed at Graduate Students in the History Department, March 2013

## **OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE**

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June 2011-June 2012: Student Assistant for the Rare Books and Special Collections in Firestone Library in Princeton University (part-time)

August 2003 – July 2004: Reporter for the Malay newspaper *Berita Harian* (part-time)

## **RESEARCH LANGUAGES**

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Malay (native), French (fluent), Arabic (fluent), Farsi (intermediate), Dutch (reading knowledge), Mandarin conversation (beginner), Spanish (beginner)

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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Association for Asian Studies (AAS)

American Historical Association (AHA)

American Society of Law and History (ASLH)

American Society for Environmental History (ASEH)

Law and Society Association (LSA)

Middle East Studies Association (MESA)

## **VOLUNTEER WORK**

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Princeton University Alumni Schools Committee

- Interviewed prospective students in Singapore and Pakistan as part of undergraduate admissions process

## **REFEREES**

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Michael F. Laffan  
Professor of History  
G29 Dickinson Hall  
Department of History  
Princeton University  
Princeton NJ 08544  
mlaffan@princeton.edu

Engseng Ho  
Professor of Cultural Anthropology  
205 Friedl Building  
Duke University  
Durham NC 27708  
engseng.ho@duke.edu

Mitra Sharafi  
Professor of Law  
University of Wisconsin Madison Law School  
975 Bascom Mall  
Madison WI 53706  
mitra.sharafi@wisc.edu

Muhammad Qasim Zaman  
Robert H. Niehaus '77 Professor of Near Eastern Studies and Religion  
116 Jones Hall  
Department of Near Eastern Studies  
Princeton University  
Princeton NJ 08544  
mzaman@princeton.edu

