

Summer Semester 2022

SDAC Guest Lecture Series

Historicizing Gender and Sexuality in the Malay-Indonesian World

Maznah Mohamad
National University of Singapore

Friday
06.05.22
10-12:00 c.t.
Via Zoom



Maznah Mohamad is Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Malay Studies at the National University of Singapore. Her areas of research are Gender and Sexuality, Malay Manuscripts as Medium and Method for Alternative Histories, Bureaucratic Islam, and Women's Political Leadership. Her recent published articles have been on sexuality in early Malay writings (*Religions*, 2021), monetisation of politics in Malaysia (*Journal of Contemporary Asia*, 2020), and women's political representation in Malaysia (*Southeast Asian Studies*, 2018). Her book, *The Divine Bureaucracy and Disenchantment of Social Life* was published in 2020 (Palgrave-Macmillan). She is currently working on research towards the completion of two book manuscripts, namely, *Visual Representations of Femininities in the Malay World* (joint-authored, forthcoming, Amsterdam University Press) and *Sexuality and Islamic Spirituality in Early Malay Writings* (forthcoming, I.B. Tauris/Bloomsbury Press).

Gender and sexuality have been represented and constituted in particular ways throughout a marked history of the Muslim, Malay-Indonesian world. The lecture will trace how the conception of gender has evolved over time, by locating the sources of transformation, either as being derived from structural fragmentation, colonialism, cultural collision, ideological shifts, power transferences, and various other factors of importance. The sources to understand this may vary from one period to the other, ranging from textual materials of the pre-20th century to empirically derived data of the present period. The underlying question of this lecture is to understand what makes a particular conception and practice of gender more dominant in one period over the other. From this, how can one understand paradoxes and contradictions of 'doing and enacting gender' in contemporary Muslim Southeast Asia?

This event will be held via zoom.
Please contact Prof. Dr. Viola
Thimm to register
(viola.thimm@fau.de).

