



Dr Raihanah Abdullah

Dr. Raihanah Abdullah is the current Dean of the Humanities Research Cluster and Professor of Shari'ah and Law at the University of Malaya, Malaysia. She received her Bachelors in Shari'ah from the University of Malaya, her Masters in Arts (Islamic Societies and Cultures) from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and her Ph.D in Law from the International Islamic University, Malaysia.

Dr. Raihanah Abdullah is a registered Shari'ah lawyer practicing in Malaysia whose interests revolve around Islamic Family Law, Islamic Law and Gender, and Islamic Law and Society.

She was the Head Department of Shariah and Law during 2006-2007 and also the Director of Centre for Civilizational Dialogue from 2011-2013. She was awarded a fellowship with the Freeman Foundation for Salzburg Global Seminar, Schloss Leopoldskron, Salzburg, Austria in October, 2008. She was also esteemed by the Institute of Oriental Philosophy during its 52nd anniversary, which was reported in *Seikyo Shimbun*, the 3rd largest newspaper in Tokyo, Japan (6 million in circulation), on February 4th, 2014. Dr. Raihanah was invited by the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID) Vienna, Austria with 500 other religious leaders around the globe to participate in the 'Global Forum on The Image of the Other: Interreligious and Intercultural Education' held on 18 and 19 November, 2013. She is also actively involved in Muslim women's NGOs, especially in enhancing legal awareness for Muslim women in Malaysia. She is also a member of the Association of Shariah Lawyers, Malaysia. She has been appointed by several Government

agencies as one of the consultants in the Family Support Division under the Department of Shariah Judiciary Malaysia and is also an expert panelist in dealing with Muslim women's issues (PISWI) under the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia.

Dr. Raihanah has published dozens of academic articles, among which are many co-authored International publications such as, Zaleha Kamaruddin and Raihanah Abdullah (2008). "Protecting Muslim Women Against Abuse of Polygamy in Malaysia: Legal Perspective", *HAWWA: Journal of Women of the Middle East and the Islamic World*, 6(2):176-201; Abdullah R, and Khairuddin S. (2009). "The Malaysian Shariah Courts: Polygamy, Divorce and the Administration of Justice", *Asian Women*, 25(1): 21-32; Raihanah Abdullah, Wirdati Mohd Radzi, Fuadah Johari and Golam Dastagir (2014). "The Islamic Legal Provisions for Women's Share in the Inheritance System: A Reflection on Malaysian Society", *Asian Women*, 30(1): 29-52; and Raihanah Abdullah, Silma Abdullah and Nahid Ferdousi (2015). "The Fragile Status of a Muslim Wife: The Legal History of Polygamy in Malaysia", *Journal of Family History*, 40(2): 135-152.

Dr. Raihanah currently resides in Shah Alam, 30 km from the city of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and is married to Professor Dr. Ahmad Hidayat Buang, and they have 3 sons and a daughter.

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