

Dr Abdul Jaleel PARAPPU KADAVATH MATRA

Education

- Ph.D. (West Asian Studies) Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
 - MPhil. (West Asian Studies) Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
 - M.A. (Islamic Studies) Darul Huda Islamic University, Kerala, India
 - M.A. (Sociology) IGNOU, New Delhi
 - B.A. (Sociology) University of Calicut
 - B.A. (Islamic Studies), Darul Huda Islamic University, Kerala, India
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Professional Experience

2022 – 2023

Research Fellow, IAE cluster, ARI, National University of Singapore

- Assist and coordinate the Muhammad Alagil Distinguished Professorship Program.

2016 – 2022

Researcher, KAHDII, Muhammad Alagil Chair, ARI, National University of Singapore

- Research and document the history of Arab communities in Malabar.

2019 – 2021

Lecturer, Centre for Islamic and West Asian Studies, University of Kerala

- Taught courses: 1) India-West Asia Cultural Linkages, 2) Contemporary Intellectual Movements in West Asia and 3) Research Methodology at PG level.

2016

Visiting Research Fellow, BGSMCS, Free University, Berlin

- Worked on the project: "From Hadrami Sayyids to Malayali Tangals: The Sacred Lineage and Shifting Diasporic Identity of Hadramis in Kerala, South India"

2015 – 2017

Lecturer and counsellor, IGNOU Study Centre, PSMO College, Kerala

- Taught Sociological Theories and Concepts, Research Methodologies and Methods and Sociology of religion at PG level.

2013 – 2015

Researcher, Muziris Heritage Project, Tourism Department, Government of Kerala

- Researched and digitised historical documents for Cheraman Perumal Islamic Heritage Museum.

2011 – 2012

Research Team Leader, Qatar Unified Imagining Project, Qatar Foundation, Doha

- Led a research team for cataloguing and digitising records in the National Archives of India, New Delhi

2009 – 2010

Lecturer in Sociology and Islamic Studies, Darul Huda, Kerala.

- Taught Sociological Theories and Muslim societies at UG level

Research Area/Topic/Discipline

Arabs, Indian Ocean, Sufism, South and Southeast Asia

Short Biography

Abdul Jaleel is a Research Fellow associated with the Muhammad Alagil Chair in the Inter-Asia Engagements Cluster at the Asia Research Institute of the National University of Singapore. With a keen focus on the history, culture and literary traditions of Arab communities in South India and Southeast Asia, he explores broader aspects of the Arabia Asia engagements. Over the last few years, he has been researching and documenting the historical as well as intellectual traditions and cultural expressions of Arab and other Asian societies in South India. Prior to this, he taught West Asian Studies at the University of Kerala and was a Visiting Research Fellow at BGSMCS, Free University Berlin. His ongoing book project traces the history of religious cultivation of Muslim communities in South India by examining a set of categories that contributed to the development of Sufi religiosity across the historical coastal regions of the Indian Ocean.

Publications

Book

Abdul Jaleel P.K.M., (forthcoming), *Loving Islam: The Cultivation of Islamic Communities in South India*.

Refereed Articles

Abdul Jaleel P.K.M., 'Review article, For God or Empire: Sayyid Fadl and the Indian Ocean World, by Wilson Jacob (2019), *Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies* 5 (1) 2021: 139-142. <https://jiows.mcgill.ca/article/view/102>

Abdul Jaleel P.K.M., Review article, 'What is Islam? The Importance of being Islamic' by Shahab Ahmed (2016), *Islamic Insight* 1 (2018): 124-31.

Book Chapters

Abdul Jaleel P.K.M., 'Maritime Peripheries and Universal Connections: Reflections on Studying Islam in the Indian Ocean,' in M.H. Ilias (ed.), *Research in the Islamic Context: Political and Methodological Reflections from South Asia, Indian Ocean, and the Arab World*. New York: Routledge, 2022, 196-209. <https://www.routledge.com/Research-in-the-Islamic-Context-Political-and-Methodological-Reflections/Ilias/p/book/9781032156019>

Abdul Jaleel P.K.M., 'Narratives from the Peripheries: An Indian Ocean Perspective for the Study of Islam', in Abbas Aghdassi and Aaron W. Hughes (eds.), *New Methods in the Study of Islam*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2022, 252-277. <https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/book-new-methods-in-the-study-of-islam.html>

Abdul Jaleel P.K.M., 'Sufis of the Sea: The Yemeni Alawi Sufi Order in South India,' in Sofiyurahman, Qazi (ed.), *Dimension of Islamic Spirituality in South Asia and Beyond*. Calcutta: Calcutta University Press, 2022, 106-114.

Abdul Jaleel P.K.M., 'Arab Immigrants under Hindu Kings in Malabar: Ethical Pluralities of 'Naturalization' in Islam', in Ray Jureidini and Said Fares Hassan (eds.), *Migration and Islamic Ethics*. Leiden: Brill, 2020, 196-214. <https://brill.com/view/book/edcoll/9789004417342/BP000011.xml>

Abdul Jaleel P.K.M., 'Religious Rivalries in Eighteenth Century Malabar: The Diasporic Writings of a Hadrami Scholar,' in Michael N. Pearson and Mahmood Kooria (eds.), *Malabar in the Indian Ocean: Cosmopolitanism in a Maritime Historical Region*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2018. <https://india.oup.com/product/malabar-in-the-indian-ocean-9780199480326>

Keynotes and Plenaries

Invited Talks and Panel Discussions

19 Jun 2023: "Standardization of the Ponnāni Script: Manuscripts, Diaspora and Printing." Workshop on Ponnani Script versus Arabic Script? Scribal Practices among Muslims of Malabar, Centre for Ḥaḍramī Studies, SHIC Parappur & Leiden Centre for Indian Ocean Studies.

28-29 Nov 2022: "Inter-texting Anti-Wahhabi Polemics: Counter Circuits of Traditional Scholarship" International Conference on Spiced Islam & Textual Circulations: India, Indonesia and the Indian Ocean, University of Jakarta, Indonesia.

4 Aug 2019: "Longing for Umma in Non-Muslim Peripheries: Sayyid Fadl and the Khilafat Movement in South India', IISS International Conference on Transnational Islam and Challenges of Being Muslim Ummah, ILEM, Istanbul.

28-30 Jan 2018: "Arab Immigrants under Hindu Kings in Malabar: Ethical Pluralities of Naturalization in Islam", International Conference on Migration and Islamic Ethics: Issues of Residence, Naturalization and Citizenship, Hamad bin Khalifa University, Doha, Qatar.

7-8 Dec 2017: "Reconnecting Territories: Texts and Contexts in the Alawi Sufi Cosmopolis", the 4th Muhammad Alagil Arabia Asia Conference, ARI, NUS.

3 June 2016: "Sacred Capital and Travelling Ritual of al-Haddad: Hadrami Sayyid Immigrants in Malabar", International Conference on Islam in Malabar: Discourse, Text and Public Culture, Free University, Berlin.