

Dr NOR Ismah

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Education

- PhD, Southeast Asian Studies, Leiden University Institute for Area Studies, 2023
- MA, Southeast Asian Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa, 2012
- SS, Arabic Language and Literature, Sunan Kalijaga State Islamic University, 2002

Professional Experience

OCTOBER 2023 – AUGUST 2024

Gosling-ling Postdoctoral Fellow, AAS and CSEAS University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

- I presented and advanced my book manuscript titled "Women Issuing Fatwas: Female Islamic Scholars and Community-Based Authority in Java, Indonesia," which is slated for publication by Edinburgh University Press as part of their series on women interpreting Islamic law.

MAY – JULY 2023

Co²libri Early Career Researcher Fellow, Institute of Asian and African Studies, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

- I presented and successfully published my research on "Platform Writers and the Production of Digital Literatures: The Professionalism of Muslim Women Novelists in Indonesia" in the *International Quarterly for Asian Studies*.

Research Area/Topic/Discipline

Female Islamic authority; Muslim women movement; Women's knowledge production; Anthropology, Gender, and Islamic Studies

Short Biography

Nor Ismah has a wealth of research experience, having overseen numerous projects for universities, think tanks, and NGOs. Her scholarly pursuits centre on gender studies, women's knowledge production, media, and the intersection of Islam in the Indonesian context. Her forthcoming dissertation, "Women Issuing Fatwas: Female Islamic Scholars and Community-Based Authority in Java, Indonesia", promises to be a significant contribution to the field. At ARI, she will work on her research project titled "Religious Networks and Gender Dynamics: A Study of Female Islamic Authority in Southeast Asia."

Nov 2024

Publications

Books

Economic Empowerment for Women-Led MSMEs in Rural Indonesia: Lessons from Indonesian CSOs, co-authored with Herni Ramdlaningrum, Dia Mawesti, Cut Nurul Aidha, Fiona Armintasari, Dwi Rahayu Ningrum. Jakarta: Perkumpulan Prakarsa, 2023.

Salam from Pesantren: Pengalaman Santri Mengelola Media untuk Perdamaian. Jakarta: Search for Common Ground Indonesia, 2014.

Refereed Articles

“Pesantren: Its Founding and Role in the Colonial Period”. *Tebuireng: Journal of Islamic Studies and Society*, Vol 3, Issue 1 (2022), 1–16.

“Reading Indonesian and Malaysian Young Adult Novels: Capturing the Image of Young Muslim Women in Indonesia and Malaysia”. *Journal Humanisma*, Vol. 4, No. 2 (2020), 108–121.

“Competing Identity and Culture, the Formation of Forum Lingkar Pena and Komunitas Matapena in Indonesia”, *Dinika*, Vol. 3, Issue 3 (2019), 353-376.

Edited Journal Special Issues

“Women’s Fatwa-Making in Indonesia: Gender, Authority, and Everyday Legal Practice”, *International Journal of Islam in Asia* 4 (2023), 75–97.

“Platform Writers and the Production of Digital Literatures: The Professionalism of Muslim Women Novelists in Indonesia”, *IQAS/ International Quarterly for Asian Studies* Vol. 54 / (2023) iv, 409–429.

“Siting Islamic Feminism: The Indonesian Congress of Women Islamic Scholars and the Challenge of Challenging Patriarchal Authority”, co-authored with David Kloos, in *History and Anthropology Journal*, Volume 34, Issue 5 (2023), 818–843.

“Destabilising Male Domination: Building Community Based Authority among Indonesian Female Ulama”, *Asian Studies Review*, 40, no. 4 (2016), 527–544.

Edited Book

Munjidah Wahab: Otoritas, Profesionalisme, dan Kebijakan Publik di Kabupaten Jombang. Jombang: Boengaketjil. 2023

Book Chapters

“Menjalani Laku Sunyi Feminis”, in *Feminis Cari Ribut, Sebuah Perjalanan Mencari dan Menjadi*. Yogyakarta: Amongkarta, 2021.

“Ketika Perempuan Meneliti Perempuan”, in Wijayanto et.all (ed.) *Melakukan Penelitian Ethnografi di Indonesia*. Jakarta: Marjin Kiri, 2019.

“Dwarsligging: Cerita tentang Geboorte di Leiden” in Kurnia Efendi (ed.), *Oleh-Oleh dari Leiden*. Jakarta: Penerbit Kosakata, 2019.

“The New Generation of Women Writers from the Pesantren tradition in Indonesia” in Yvonne Michalik and Melani Budianta (ed.), *Indonesian Women Writers*. Berlin: Regiospectra, 2015.

Awards/Grants and Distinctions

The Emerging Scholars in Asian Studies provided by the Asian Studies Program of University of Delaware, April 2024.

Gosling-lim – Association for Asian Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, October 2023–August 2024.

Co2libri Early Career Researcher Fellowship at the Institute of Asian and African Studies, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, May–July 2023

Short-term awards to participate in the International Visitor of Leadership Program on “Empowering Muslim Women as Peacemakers and Agents of Changes”, supported by the United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, 2021.

A fellow researcher of Women Living Under Muslim Law Research and Publication under the supervision of Professor Homa Hoodfar, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada, 2021–2022.

Scholarship to participate in “Gender in Muslim Contexts” 2021 Online Summer Program provided by the Aga Khan University’s Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilizations (AKU-ISMC), UK, 2021.

Short-term awards to participate in the Leadership program for Senior Multifaith Women Leaders supported by Australia Awards Indonesia, 2020.

Travel grants to participate in the Empowerment of Women in Contemporary Indonesia Conference organised by Center for Southeast Asian Studies University of California, Los Angeles, 2019.

Scholarship for PhD study at Leiden University provided by the Indonesia Endowment Fund for Education of Ministry of Finance of Republic Indonesia, 2016–2020.

Alumni Awards provided by the International Fellowship Program of Ford Foundation, 2015.

Short term awards to participate in the Australia-Indonesia Muslim Exchange Program organised by Australia Awards Indonesia, 2014.

Scholarship to join Graduate Student Affiliate program provided by East West Center, Hawai’i, USA, 2010–2012

Scholarship for Master study provided by the International Fellowship Program of Ford Foundation, 2010–2012.