

## STUDY SESSION 2: THE POLITICS OF MALAYNESS AND MUSLIM IDENTITY

with Fuad Rahmat, Islamic Renaissance Front (IRF)

**Date:** 11 August 2012 (Saturday)

**Time:** 3 – 5pm

**Venue:** AWAM Centre  
85 Jalan 21/1 Sea Park,  
46300 Petaling Jaya.

**Map:** <http://www.awam.org.my/contact.html>

**Ethnicity and religion** are two important **identity markers** in Malaysia. While there is some awareness of the need to move beyond ethnic and religious lines, Malaysia remains, at various levels, segregated along such lines. This raises questions about our **future as a nation**.

In the course of AWAM's work, we have come to realise that there is a need to **understand** how ethnicity and religion is politicised in Malaysia and how this **impacts** society and women in particular. This is what we intend to do with AWAM's study sessions.

This is the **third** PER study session this year. The speaker will discuss the recent history of Muslim movements and organisations in Malaysia. He will guide us through the emergence of the Malaysian Muslim political landscape and the various players that populate this landscape.

This is part of a series of sessions that will cover economics, politics, religion and women.



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How has the development of political Islam in Malaysia impacted women's lives?

Are we asking the right questions?

**Speaker's bio:** Ahmad Fuad Rahmad is Director, Chairperson and Research Fellow of the Islamic Renaissance Front (IRF). He earned his M.A. in Politics from University College Dublin and M.A. in Social Philosophy from Marquette University. He has been published in several platforms including MRZine, Radical Philosophy and the Journal of South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies. He continues to research independently on Malaysian-related issues of decolonization and the politics of equality. He has presented at various international conferences on socio-political issues.

**To register:** Send the following information to Wei San at [advocacy-programs@awam.org.my](mailto:advocacy-programs@awam.org.my) by **3 August 2012**.

1.	<b>Name:</b>	
2.	<b>Email address:</b>	
3.	<b>Telephone number:</b>	
4.	I would like to attend the study session on 11 August (Saturday) at 3 – 5pm	<b>YES / NO</b>
5.	I would like to attend the follow up chai + chat for this study session on 14 August (Tuesday) at 8 – 10pm	<b>YES / NO</b>

**Preparation:** Some key readings will be circulated for the study session. Participants are asked to read them to maximise their participation and engagement at the study session.

What are our aspirations for a better Malaysia?

What does the 'politicisation' of ethnicity and religion mean?