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BULLETIN

CENTRE FOR CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE | PUSAT DIALOG PERADABAN

Officiating Forum on "Ethics & Sustainability: Role of Youths" 21 May 2022 Special lecture & Forum on "Role of Youths in Civilisation and Sustainability" 30 May 2022



"...we have to accept the fact that Malaysia is a plural and diverse society. Due to this diversity, efforts towards creating unity in Malaysia need to be complemented through continuous integration efforts. Thus, it is important to **introduce the concept of civilizational dialogue or intercultural dialogue to the youths** because dialogue can help self-understanding as well as allow the discovery of similarities and differences among cultures".



"Adopting a whole of nation approach enables us to synergise our efforts towards advocating and accelerating Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in the local context, particularly in areas of sustainable financing, climate action and technology.. Localising SDGs obliges us to engage discussions at the grassroots levels by encouraging participation of the youth in the creative implementation of the SDGs".

IN THIS ISSUE

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OUR BULLETIN

The bulletin reports on the activities and events conducted by the Universiti Malaya Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD), Universiti Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) and our collaborators.

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Lecture and Book Launch of "Cabaran Mantik kepada Muslim"

Cabaran Mantik Kepada Muslim, a book by Prof. Emeritus Dr. Shaharir Mohamad Zain, was launched on 10th May 2022. The program started with a welcoming address delivered by the UMCCD Director, Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin. Prof. Dato' Seri Dr. Md. Salleh Yaapar launched the book, giving a speech reviewing its content and highlighting its importance to the society. The book launch was followed by a lecture delivered by the author himself. UMCCD Deputy Director, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zul Ilham Zulkiflee Lubes was the moderator of the lecture. Prof. Emeritus Dr. Shaharir Mohamad Zain described and elaborated on several chapters from his book. To conclude, it was an insightful and interesting lecture, which was followed by a Q&A session.



Visit from Institut Masa Depan Malaysia (MASA)



Front row: MASA CEO with UMCCD Director, Deputy Director & Research fellow Back row: MASA research analysts, UMCCD research officers and administrative staffs



MASA CEO presenting a gift to UMCCD Director

"Institut Masa Depan Malaysia (MASA) telah membuat kunjungan hormat ke Pusat Dialog Peradaban (PDP), Universiti Malaya pada 11 Mei 2022.

Delegasi MASA yang diketuai oleh Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif, En. Azril Mohd Amin disambut oleh Pengarah, Pusat Dialog Peradaban, Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin bersama beberapa pegawai PDP.

Pada kunjungan ini, kedua-dua belah pihak membincangkan hubungan jaringan kerjasama yang melibatkan usaha ke arah penganjuran program dan dialog bersiri untuk golongan belia dengan mempraktikkan konsep Ilmu, Iman dan Amal. Hak asasi bagi manusia ialah mempunyai keamanan dan kelestarian untuk menjadi seorang insan yang boleh menyumbang kepada pembangunan sesebuah negara.

MASA menyambut baik peluang kerjasama ini dan akan membantu dari segi penyediaan modul dialog bersiri melalui input hasil daripada Focus Group Discussion (FGD). Semoga kerjasama dua hala ini memberikan manfaat dan menyokong usaha-usaha Wawasan Kemakmuran Bersama 2030 sekali gus menarik minat golongan belia untuk terlibat sama menyumbang dalam proses pembangunan negara."

[Quoted from the Facebook page of Institut Masa Depan Malaysia (MASA)]

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Meeting with *Angkatan Belia Islam Malaysia* (ABIM)



An online meeting between UMCCD and *Angkatan Belia Islam Malaysia* (ABIM) was held on the 18th May 2022. The meeting discussed future action plans as a follow-up of the previously signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between both organisations. Among the programs planned are intellectual discourses that will focus on the development of youths, the impact of COVID-19 on mental health, and also reflections on environmental & sustainability issues.

Forum and Interfaith Perspectives on "Ethics and Sustainability: The Role of Youths"





[From left to right: Dr. Iskandar, Mr. Jason Leong, Mr. V. K. Soon, Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin, Prof. Dr. Sabri Musa, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zul Ilham, Mrs. Gowri A/P P. S. Thangaya & Dr. Asmawati Muhamad

Students asking questions to panelist at the UMUC Exhibition

Malaysia is a country known for its plural and diverse society. Due to this diversity, efforts towards creating a unity need to be complemented through continuous integration efforts. On the 21st May 2022, the forum "Ethics and Sustainability: The Role of Youths" co-organised with the Student Affairs Division UM and Universiti Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC), highlighted the role of youths in appreciating the diversity of ethnicities and to flourish the core values of civilisation. **The forum was officiated by Professor Dr. Sabri bin Musa, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Malaya.** The invited panelists were Dr. Asmawati Muhamad from Universiti Malaya, Mr. V. K. Soon from the International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB), Mr. Jason Leong from the Association of NexGen Christians of Malaysia (ANCOM), and Mrs. Gowri A/P P. S. Thangaya from the Malaysia Hindu Sangam. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zul Ilham, the Deputy Director of UMCCD was the moderator of the forum. The forum was especially interesting because UMUC members also held a special exhibition with the theme "Values for Peace", which was held concurrently at the foyer area. The exhibition booths displayed ethical concepts encouraged in the four different communities represented by the invited panelists. The forum received an overwhelming response from students and ended with closing remarks from each of the panelists.

Visit by Mr. Mike Waltner from King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID)



Mr. Mike Waltner, Senior Programme Manager of KAICIID



[From left to right: UM KAICIID fellows (Dr. Ismath Ramzy, Prof. Raihanah Abdullah, Assoc. Prof. Dr Wendy), Mr. Mike Waltner & Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin

On 25th May 2022, UMCCD received a visit by Mr. Mike Waltner, Senior Programme Manager of King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID). The meeting began with welcoming remarks from the UMCCD Director. It was also attended by Universiti Malaya KAICIID fellows, Prof. Raihanah Abdullah, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wendy Yee Mei Tien and Dr. Mohammad Ismath Ramzy Mohammad Ismail. Possibilities of research fundings by KAICIID and potential future collaborations involving UM KAICIID fellows and UMCCD with KAICIID were discussed. The meeting explored interesting approaches to interreligious dialogue and intercultural engagement which will be translated into actual programs in the near future.

Reception of the Independence Day of Azerbaijan



The Embassy of Azerbaijan in Malaysia held an official reception dedicated to May 28 - Independence Day of Azerbaijan, at the JW Marriott Hotel Kuala Lumpur on the 26th May 2022. Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin (Director), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Durriyyah Sharifah Hasan Adli (Research fellow & Advisor of UMUC), and Mr. Ahmad Mohamad (Research Officer) represented UMCCD at the reception. Deputy National Unity Minister Wan Ahmad Fayhsal Wan Ahmad Kamal was the guest of honour at the event. H.E. Irfan Davudov, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Malaysia, delivered a speech and acknowedged Malaysia as one of its reliable partners in the international arena. Deputy Director of UMCCD, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zul Ilham bin Zulkiflee Lubes, talked on "Nature-based Energy from Biomass" in the "Man & Nature" program at Radio IKIM, on 8th May 2022.

Dr. Zul Ilham was a guest speaker for a Coffee Talk session organised by theplanetprodigy, on 14th May 2022. His talk entitled "Climate Change & the Impacts on Nature & Biodiversity: What Can Youth do to Change it?".

Director of UMCCD, Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin was a speaker in *Segmen Melestarikan Alam* at Radio IKIM on 17th May 2022. The talk entitled "Melestarikan Alam".

The Director of UMCCD was a speaker at the ninth lecture of ISTAC-World Professorial Lecture (IWPL 09) on 24th May 2022, organised by ISTAC-IIUM. The lecture entitled "Civilizational Dialogue for Peace with Humans and the Environment: Towards an Integrated Balanced Framework".

The Director of UMCCD was a panelist at the Faith for Our Palnet (FFOP) Workshop on Environmental and Climate Action in Islamabad on 30th May 2022. The topic was entitled "Faith and Our Planet: Climate Change in Religious Doctrine".

The Director of UMCCD was a speaker in *Segmen Melestarikan Alam* at Radio IKIM on 31st May 2022. The talk was on "*Hidrogen Hijau: Sumber Tenaga Lestari*". The Director of UMCCD was invited to the Webinar Reimagining the Human-Environment Relationship: A Stockholm+50 Associated Event on 2nd June 2022 at 9.00 p.m.

The Director of UMCCD was a guest speaker in *Segmen Melestarikan Alam* at Radio IKIM on 7th June 2022. The talk was on "Pendidikan Ke Arah Kewargenagaraan Global Melalui Literasi Kelestarian".

The Director of UMCCD delivered a lecture entitled "Konsep dan Pengisian/Kandungan Kurikulum Pergerakan Puteri Islam" at the Kursus Kefahaman Pelaksanaan Kurikulum dan Penilaian Peregrakan Puteri Islam Malaysia on 7th June 2022.

The Director of UMCCD was a panelist in the *Seminar Matlamat Pembangunan Lestari (SDG) dari Perspektif Agama* organised by the UKM-YSD Chair for Sustainabilityand Faculty of Engineering & Built Environment UKM in collaboration with Chair Holder of Al-Ghazali of Epistemology, Civilisational Studies and Renewal (ISTAC-IIUM), on 14th June 2022.

The Director of UMCCD was a guest speaker in *Segmen Melestarikan Alam* at Radio IKIM on 21st June 2022. The talk was on "Cabaran Teknologi Hijau bagi Penukaran Produk Mampan serta Bernilai Tinggi dalam Industri Kelapa Sawit". Forum on "Rethinking Poverty and Economic Development in the Context of the Pandemic and Natural Disaster Prone Era"



From left to right: Prof. Dr. Fatimah Kari, Mrs. Hawati Abdul Hamid, Dr. Haniza Khalid & Dr.Vivi Alatas

"No Poverty" is number one on the list of the Sustainable Development Goals declared by the United Nations in 2015. Conforming to that, on the 26th May 2022, the forum "Rethinking Poverty and Economic Development in the Context of the Pandemic and Natural Disaster Prone Era", which was coorganised by UMCCD and Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies (UAC), was held. The forum aimed to review the latest approaches on poverty measurement during this challenging era and to present empirical case studies on the concept of poverty. Prof. Dr. Fatimah Kari was the moderator. The invited speakers were: (1) Mrs. Hawati Abdul Hamid, Deputy Director of Research at Khazanah Research Institute (KRI), (2) Dr. Haniza Khalid, Senior Development Economist for United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam and (3) Dr.Vivi Alatas, Lead Economist for the World Bank's Poverty program in Indonesia. The presentation by speakers was followed by a lively Q&A session. The full video of the forum can be accessed via the UMCCD website at https://dialogue.um.edu.my/.

#RUANGBELIA: Dialogue session with YB Tan Sri Dato' Haji Muhyiddin Mohd Yassin



On the 21st June 2022, *Institut Masa Depan Malaysia* (MASA) organised the #RUANGBELIA program: Dialogue session with YB Tan Sri Dato' Muhyiddin Mohd Yassin, at the Sime Darby Convention Centre (SDCC). Invited representatives of UMCCD who attended the program were Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zul Ilham (UMCCD Deputy Director), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wendy Yee Mei Tien (UMCCD Associate) and Mr. Ahmad Mohamad (UMCCD Research Officer). The program provided a platform for youths to voice out their opinions on current national issues while receiving direct responses from the Former Prime Minister himself.

Forum on "The Role of Youths in Civilisation and Sustainability"



From left to right: Dr. Zul Ilham, Tuan Azril Mohd Amin, Dr. Wendy, Mr. Faisal, Mr. Tharma & Mr. Izzat Afifi

In collaboration with *Institut Kajian Dasar*, a forum entitled "The Role of Youths in Civilisation & Sustainability" was held on the 30th May 2022. The program began with a special lecture by the Chief Executive Officer of *Institut Masa Depan Malaysia* (MASA), Mr. Azril Mohd Amin. His speech was featured in the New Straits Times (dated 30 May 2022). After the special lecture, a forum moderated by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wendy Yee Mei Tien, with a similar title as the special lecture was held. The panelists were Mr. Muhammad Faisal Abdul Aziz (President, *Angkatan Belia Islam Malaysia* (ABIM)), Mr. Mohd Izzat Afifi Abdul Hamid (President, Malaysian Youth Council), Mr. Tharma Pillai (Advocacy Director, Undi18) and Mr. Mohammad Haafiz bin Nordin (Director of Finance and Operations, Yayasan Teach for Malaysia). Among the lessons and values discussed to impart to the youths in building a great civilisation included ethics and manners (*akhlak*), education, good leadership and perseverance. In addition, being optimistic and resilient in times of crises allow youths to emerge stronger and wiser. Last but not least, the sharing of wealth, opportunities and knowledge are critical values to be instilled in youths.

Meeting with Representatives from the Vajrayana Buddhist Council of Malaysia, Tibetan Buddhist Cultural Centre & Envoy of the HH Dalai Lama



Envoy of the HH Dalai Lama presenting a gift to the UMCCD Director



From left to right: Mr. Chang Lee Wei, Mr. Pari Jinpa, Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin, Mrs. Nur Lisa, Mr. Casey Liu & Mr. Pek

On 9th June 2022, UMCCD received a visit from Mr. Pek Chee Hen (Advisor, Vajrayana Buddhist Council of Malaysia), Mr. Casey Liu (President, Tibetan Buddhist Cultural Centre) and Mr. Pari Jinpa Gyatso (Coordinator-Southeast Asia, Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama). The plan to organise a dialogue session between Muslim scholars with the His Holiness Dalai Lama in India was proposed. Other feasible programs to promote peace and inter-religious harmony were also discussed.

Graduation of Dr. Alwani Ghazali as a fellow of King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID)



From right: Dr. Alwani and other KAICIID fellows

Dr Alwani Ghazali was selected for an interreligious dialogue fellowship training organised by King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID). Starting from early 2021, she attended the module alongside some 25 other fellows from around the globe. The modules covered two areas: first, theories and fundamentals of interreligious dialogue practice, and second: intercultural communication. Apart from these modules, fellows were also coached to organize dialogue programmes and they discussed the major aspects of civilizational dialogue based on sustainable development goals (SDGs). Due to COVID-19 restrictions, she only attended one out of the normally three physical trainings. The physical training was in Lisbon, Portugal in which she was given opportunities to visit and dialogue with the religious leaders. There was also a tour to Calouste Gulbenkian Museum where fellows were briefed on historical aspects while observing Gulbenkian's personal art collections from various civilisations. The final part of the physical training was a graduation night in which Dr. Alwani received an Interreligious Dialogue Fellowship Certificate from KAICIID, which simultaneously marked her membership of KAICIID's fellowship alumni network.

Interview Session between UMCCD Director and Department of Environment (DOE)



The nomination for *Anugerah Langkawi* - *Kelestarian Alam Sekitar* (ALKAS) for session 2022/2023 will open soon. ALKAS is the highest recognition from the Department of Environment (DOE) to individuals or organizations in Malaysia who have made significant contributions towards environmental sustainability. UMCCD Director, Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharudin was the recipient of ALKAS in 2016 and the award was presented by His Majesty the 15th Yang Di-Pertuan Agong, Sultan Muhammad V on 21 October 2016 in conjunction with the National Environment Day. On the 30th June 2022, an interview session with Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharudin was held at Universiti Malaya by representatives from the DOE. Her interest in environmental sustainability especially in environmental ethics, the interaction and relationship between religion and science as well as the impact of science on nature and society, were among the topics mentioned. The interview material will be turned into a chapter in an upcoming book which will document similar interviews of the ALKAS recipients in the past. To view the video by Azizan Baharuddin, please refer to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bauu0RGiYZM.

UMCCD Affiliates

Professor Dr. Mohd Hazim Shah Abdul Murad received his PhD in the History and Philosophy of Science from the University of Pittsburgh, USA. He is currently serving as a Professor in the School of Languages, Civilisation, and Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences, at the Universiti Utara Malaysia in Sintok, Kedah. His areas of expertise cover the history and philosophy of science, the relationship between science, religion, and culture, and comparative studies on science and philosophy in Islamic and Western civilisations.

Professor Dr. Zaid Bin Ahmad earned his PhD from Victoria University of Manchester, United Kingdom. Currently, he is a Professor at Faculty of Human Ecology, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). His areas of expertise are philosophy and civilisational study. He has hold several important positions in UPM including Dean of Faculty of Human Ecology, Head of Department of Studies and Civilisation for 8 years, and Principal of Sultan Alaeddin Suleiman Shah College, Universiti Putra Malaysia.

Professor Dr. Fatimah Kari earned her Bachelor's degree from National University of Malaysia (UKM), Master of Economics from the University of Leicester, UK and PhD (Economics) from Mississippi State University, United States. She is formerly the director of the Centre for Poverty and Development Studies (CPDS), University of Malaya, former head of Department of Economics, former deputy Dean of Undergraduate and Post Graduate, Faculty of Economics and Administration, Universiti Malaya.

Assoc. Prof. Dr Che Wan Jasimah bt Wan Mohamed Radzi is an Associate Professor of Department of Science and Technology, Universiti Malaya. She received her Ph.D. in Food Policy (UM). She was Head, Department of Science and Technology Studies (Oct 2014- Jan 2020) and Coordinator for research, Universiti Malaya Halal Research Centre (UMHRC) (2018-2020). Her research interest are in Food and Culture, Food and Religion, Food Technology and Health, and also Food Security and Safety.

Assoc. Prof. Gs Dr Rosilawati Binti Zainol is an Associate Professor at the Centre of Sustainable Urban Planning and Real Estate (SUPRE), Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Faculty of Built Environment, Universiti Malaya (UM). She was the former Director of UMCCD from 2018 to 2021. Her research interest is in urban analytics (the use of information technology in urban and regional planning and urban studies especially in geographic information systems), spatial analysis and spatial statistics.















Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zuraidah Binti Abdullah is an Associate Professor in Faculty of Education, Universiti Malaya. She received her Ph.D. in Principalship Studies (UM). She was the Deputy Director of UMCCD in 2011. Her research basically focuses on society from the perspective of education such as the issue of Professional Learning Community (PLC) in schools, Inclusive education programme, the National School Empowerment based on the PPPM 2013-2025, trans-genders, and resiliency of university students.



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ng Boon Kwee is an Associate Professor at the Department of Science and Technology Studies, Universiti Malaya. He obtained his PhD in the field of Technological Innovation Management (UM). His research primarily focuses on Policy and Management of Science and Technology. Special areas of interest include industrial science and technology policies, cluster innovation, and innovation for inclusive development.



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wendy Yee Mei Tien is currently the Director for the Center for Internship Training and Academic enrichment at Universiti Malaya. She received her PhD in youth studies (UPM). She also obtained a certificate in International Relations and Human Rights. In 2014, she obtained a certificate in peacebuilding and intercultural dialogue from the Institute for Peace and Dialogue in Switzerland. She is also a fellow of KAICIID.



Dr. Alwani Ghazali is attached to the Department of Aqidah and Islamic Thought at the Academy of Islamic Studies, University of Malaya. She graduated for PhD from the University of Melbourne, Australia. Apart from dialogue and interfaith relationship issues, Dr. Alwani is also interested in areas of Islamic Thought in issues such as contemporary framework for research in Islamic Studies and historical hermeneutics.



Mr. Collins Chong Yew Keat is currently serving in Universiti Malaya with more than 8 years of experience and knowledge in marketing, branding, internationalisation outreach and partnership, student mobility, and the higher education industry as a whole. His field of interests include international affairs and regional politics, youth leadership and emerging trends. He is also a regular contributor to opinion sections in providing op eds for both the local and international media on various contemporary global issues and interests.

Mr. Mohd Noor Musa is currently a research analyst at *Institut Masa Depan Malaysia* (MASA). He is in charge of public policy & research management and MASA Policy Development Programme (MPDP) focusing on economy, social and sustainability issues in Malaysia. Previously, he was the special project officer at the Director-General Office of the Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia. Throughout his career, he has published articles and conduct research in social, nation-building and environment.

Mr. Mohd Amiruddin Kamarulzaidi is currently a research assistant at the Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia (IKIM). He received his Master of Philosophy (Neuroscience and Islamic Studies) from Universiti Malaya. His research interests involve interfaith dialogue, Islam & science, and neuroscience. He has been involved in the preparation of reports, policy inputs and standard operating procedures (SOP) at the government agency level.

Mohamed Fouz Mohamed Zacky was a lecturer at Islahiyyah Arabic College, Sri Lanka (2013-2017). He was also a Visiting Lecturer at Ayesha Siddikah Educational Institute, Sri Lanka (2016-2017). His Ph.D. thesis entitled "Political Survival through Strategic Reconciliation: The Case of Muslim Minority in Sri Lanka". His areas of expertise include Modern Islamic Socio-Political Thought, Political Philosophy and Political Ethics, and Socio-Religious Thought of Muslim Minorities.

Special Dedication

Appreciation to Associate Professor Dr. Zul Ilham bin Zulkiflee Lubes, Deputy Director of UMCCD

UMCCD would like to express its gratitude and good luck wishes to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zul Ilham bin Zulkiflee Lubes, Deputy Director of UMCCD. Throughout his tenure at the UMCCD, he has brought in fresh ideas and optimistic energy, and contributed to the great achievements of UMCCD. In addition, we also would like to congratulate Dr. Zul Ilham for being selected as the Full Bright Malaysian Scholar, Program for FY2022-2023 at the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS), Cornell University, United States of America. He will be leaving in August 2022. We, at UMCCD, wish Dr. Zul Ilham all the best in his future pursuits and hope to welcome him again in the near future collaborations at UMCCD.









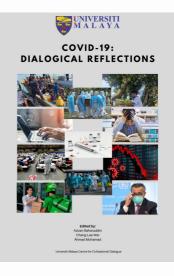
Publications

Book

COVID-19: Dialogical Reflections

Edited by: Azizan Baharuddin Chang Lee Wei Ahmad Mohamad

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Jurnal Peradaban



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KATHA journal



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