

Welcome to the Australia-wide inter-disciplinary database for all post-graduate students engaged in studies of Islam and Muslim societies.

This database is intended to be a useful tool for networking and keeping up-to-date with relevant issues and topics in the field of Islamic studies. Each student's file has its own page(s). The files are organised alphabetically according to 'Research Field' and cross-referenced according to 'Case Study', as indicated in the table of contents below.

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Research field: **Arab Culture**

Case Study: Civil war, conflict resolution and culture in **Lebanon and Algeria**

Name: Benjamin MacQueen

Email address: Ben.MacQueen@arts.monash.edu.au
benjamin.macqueen@deakin.edu.au

Institution: Deakin University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Assoc Prof Fethi Mansouri and Dr Lynne Alice

Candidature: Commenced April 2001

Research Summary

My thesis sought to explore the juncture between patterns of post-Cold War conflict, the role of culture and identity, and the processes of conflict resolution amongst the states of the Arab Middle East. In particular, it posed the question of: *how, and to what extent, does culture affect the processes of conflict resolution in the Arab world?* Through a method of content analysis emphasising contextuality and latent reading of peace agreements (the 1989 Ta`if Agreement in Lebanon and the 1999 Civil Concord in Algeria) the thesis highlighted how culture, when conceptualised as a secondary, relational dynamic focussed on political elite values and assumptions, affects the priorities and themes of conflict resolution processes. The cross-disciplinary approach of this research enabled the extrapolation of findings relevant to conflict resolution theory (in terms of the incorporation of culture as an explanatory concept) as well as for politics in the Middle East (the influence of elite political culture over political processes).

Publications

Book Chapters

'Islamism in Algeria and America's Global Campaign', in S. Akbarzadeh & F. Mansouri (eds.) *Islam, Human Security & Xenophobia, Vol, 1 & 2* (in-press, approval November 2005)

'Australia and North Africa: the Missing Link?', in F. Mansouri, & A. Saeed (eds.) *Australia and the Middle East: A Frontline Relationship* (London: I.B. Taurus, in-press, approval April 2005)

Refereed Articles

Co-authored with S. Akbarzadeh, 'Human Rights in Iraq: Gender Equality and Religious Freedom' *Australian Journal of Political Science* (under review)

'Civil War, Islamic Politics, and Conflict Resolution in the Arab-Islamic World', in *Asia Examined: Proceedings of the 15th Biennial Conference of the Asian Studies Association of Australia*, R. Cribb (ed.)

coombs.anu.edu.au/ASAA/conference/proceedings/MacQueen-B-ASAA2004.pdf

Conference Papers

'Islamism in Algeria and America's Global Campaign', Paper presented at the *Islam, Human Security and Xenophobia International Conference*, Melbourne, 25-26 Nov.

'Civil War, Islamic Politics, and Conflict Resolution in the Arab-Islamic World', Paper presented at the *15th Biennial Conference of the Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA)*, Australian National University, Canberra, 29 June-2 July

Co-authored with Fethi Mansouri, 'A Comparative Analysis – Civil Society in the Middle East and South East Asia', Paper presented at the *Workshop to promote Islamic-Western Dialogues on Governance Values (I-WDGV)*, Jakarta, 18-21 Sept.

Other (non-refereed) Publications

'The Role of the Family in Crime Prevention in ASB Youth: a Literature Review', Victorian Arabic Social Services (VASS), Melbourne

'Beirut Blame', *The Age*, 17 Feb

'Misreading the Middle East', *The Age*, 27 July

'Double Standard Undermines US Moral Authority', *The Age*, 19 May

Co-authored with Fethi Mansouri, 'Exploring the Arab World: Cultures, States, and Communities – A Multicultural Training Course', Victoria Police Multicultural Advisory Unit (VPMAU) in conjunction with the Victorian Arabic

Research field: **Arab Culture**

Case Study: Negotiations between **Australian and Arab** cultures

Name: Jarrod Hingston

Email address: jarrod.hingston@aei.gov.au

Institution: Deakin University

Level of study: Masters

Supervisor: Dr Fethi Mansouri

Candidature: Commenced 2003

Research Summary

Focussing on the influence of cultural orientations during cross-cultural communications between English speaking background Australians and Arabs from the Arabian Gulf. Cultural orientations being explored include trust, ethics, relationship, rules and laws, individualism versus collectivism, presenting information, partnership formation, conflict resolution and contracts.

Research field: **Arab-Israeli Crisis**

Case Study: The Peace Process and the **Occupied Territories**

Name: Damien Cheong

Email address: elusive_soul@hotmail.com
ddche1@student.monash.edu.au

Institution: Monash University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Dr Shahram Akbarzadeh and Dr Micheal Janover

Candidature: Commenced 2003

Research Summary

The failure of the 2003 Road Map to Peace and the resultant diplomatic stalemate was attributed to the Palestinian Authority's (PA) refusal to prevent Palestinian militants from perpetrating suicide and other attacks against Israel. The PA's reluctance to move against the militants gave rise to accusations that the leadership was adamant about resolving the conflict with Israel through the use of force. This research provides an alternative explanation as to why the PA was unwilling to move resolutely against the militants. It argues that the Palestinian leadership was constrained by the dynamics of the Palestinian political system, and could not take assertive action, as this would have increased its crisis of legitimacy. Instead, the Palestinian leadership relied on a two-track strategy in which it tacitly championed the cause of liberation through armed struggle, while simultaneously trying to adhere to its international commitments to the negotiated settlement.

Research field: **Civil Society**

Case Study: **The Internet and Civil Society in Syria**

Name: Steve Townsend

Email address: sa@recognition.com.au

Institution: Macquarie University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Dr Andrew Vincent

Candidature: Commenced March 1, 2006

Research Summary

I have just started this research project and the direction it takes may change slightly as time goes on. At present I want to determine the various ways in which the Internet is influencing the development of civil society in Syria: how is government support of Internet use assisting the growth in its use? How are various civil society organisations making use of the Internet? To what extent is it useful? What factors could be improved to make Internet use more effective in encouraging the growth in civil society?

Research field: **Civil Society**

Case Study: Indigenous and foreign forms of civil society in **Arab states**

Name: Gavin O'Sullivan

Email address: gmo@deakin.edu.au

Institution: Deakin University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Fethi Mansouri

Candidature: Commenced September 2005

Research Summary

Recent literature and western policies on Middle East democratisation has emphasised the role of civil society as a democratising agent. However, some have observed that despite the large increases in numbers over the last 1 – 2 decades, no regime change has occurred and the civil society being promoted has little grassroots support. Furthermore, it is suggested that this failure is due to the tendency to focus on, and promote, western style NGOs, ignoring the indigenous forms which may already have social/cultural legitimacy and grassroots support.

Taking the form of a case study surveying the overall dimensions of civil society in selected Arab states, the primary aim is to demonstrate and describe the existence of indigenous forms of civil society, and then to distinguish and compare them to introduced, or foreign, forms of civil society.

The study will attempt to answer the following hierarchy of questions:

1. What is the actual extent, or landscape, of civil society in the selected Arab state(s)?
2. What is the extent, or landscape, of indigenous forms of civil society in that state?
3. What comparisons can be made between indigenous and foreign forms of civil society?
4. What comparisons can be made between the functions and activities of these forms?

Research field: **Islamic Banking**

Case Study: Approaches to riba and banking selection criteria for **Australian** Muslims

Name: Imran K. Lum

Email address: iklum@unimelb.edu.au

Institution: The University of Melbourne

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Prof Abdullah Saeed and Dr Adrian Gully

Candidature: Commenced March 28, 2006

Research Summary

This project seeks to analyse the different approaches to the prohibition of riba among Australian Muslims. It also seeks to understand the demand for Islamic banking in Australia, by exploring the reasons and motivations for and against Islamic banking and study the extent to which religious, economic and social factors influence bank selection criteria of Australian Muslims.

Research field: **Muslims in Western Societies**

Case Study: Development of a theoretico-conceptual framework to account for factors determining types of religious identity construction in Western-born Muslims.

Name: Adis Duderija

Email address: adisduderija@hotmail.com

Institution: University of Western Australia

Level of study: Masters

Supervisor: Samina Yasmeen

Candidature: Commenced March 28, 2006

Research Summary

My study examines factors that may be responsible for a particular type of religious identity construction among Western-born Muslims. I focus on how particular models of interpretation of normative Islamic teachings in the Quran and Sunna produce/construct various types of religious identity. I intend to hermeneutically describe, juxtapose and contrast two approaches to Islamic hermeneutics, namely progressive Muslim and neo-traditional Salafi. Additionally, my study will examine which approach to the interpretation of the Quran and Sunna is prevalent among Muslim schools in the West. Concomitantly, my study aims to determine what types of religious identity construction Western-Muslim schools are responsible for.

Research field: **Muslims in Western Societies**

Case Study: Muslim youth culture and political identity formation in **Australia**

Name: Joshua Roose

Email address: jmroo1@student.monash.edu.au

Institution: Monash University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Dr Pete Lentini and Dr Anita Harris

Candidature: Commenced March 1, 2006 (Part-time)

Research Summary

Research field: **Muslims in Western Societies**

Case Study: al-Muhajiroun (The Emigrants) in the **United Kingdom**

Name: Kylie Baxter

Email address: Kylie.Baxter@arts.monash.edu.au

Institution: Monash University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Dr Shahram Azbarkadeh and Dr Andy Butfoy

Candidature: Commenced March 15, 2004

Research Summary

The primary focus of my work is the United Kingdom-based organization al-Muhajiroun (The Emigrants). However, investigating an Islamist organization which operates in the West also leads me to consider the historical and contemporary experience of Muslim in the United Kingdom and the emergence of, and theoretical approach of, the international Islamist movement. Furthermore, this research explores the experiences of religious minorities in modern Western societies and the tensions which can exist between citizenship and conceptions of religious duty. This research also considers the various contemporary interpretations of jihad and the doctrinal challenges which face Western proponents of Islamism.

Publications

Book Chapters

Kylie Baxter and Shahram Akbarzadeh, 'In Search of the Caliphate', in Shahram Akbarzadeh and Samina Yasmeen (eds), *Islam and the West: Reflections from Australia* (Sydney: 2005, University of New South Wales Press).

Kylie Baxter, 'Jihad and the Limits of Citizenship. The Australian and United Kingdom Experience', in Robert Cribb, (ed.) *Asia Examined: Proceedings of the 15th Biennial Conference of the ASAA, 2004, Canberra, Australia* (Canberra: Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA) & Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies (RSPAS), The Australian National University, 2004) ISBN 0-9580837-1-1.

Journal Articles

Shahram Akbarzadeh and Kylie Connor, 'Sharing an Illusion: The OIC and Palestine', *Middle East Policy*, Vol. 12, No.2 (2005), pp. 79-92. .

Kylie Connor, 'Islamism in the West: The life-span of al-Muhajiroun', *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, Vol. 25, No. 1 (2005), pp.117-134.

Research field: **Muslims in Western Societies**

Case Study: Islamic religious education in **Australia**

Name: Muhammad Eeqbal Farouque Hassim

Email address: ehassim@unimelb.edu.au
m.hassim@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au

Institution: University of Melbourne

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Prof Abdullah Saeed and Dr Abdul-Samad Abdullah

Candidature: Commenced January 14, 2005

Research Summary

The PhD project seeks to develop a model for secondary level Islamic religious education programs in Australian Islamic schools that appeal to students based on a survey of student volition and the factors influencing student volition towards a current program. The King Khalid Islamic College of Victoria is being used as the case study school. This research was mainly spurred by the perceived lack of motivation and interest amongst secondary level students towards available Islamic religious education programs in Islamic schools. With its new approach to Islamic religious education program model development, this project is expected to contribute significantly to the design of more appealing programs for students in the Australian context and is the first theoretical and applied study of its kind in Australia. Two of the key questions to be explored by this research are: Firstly, what are the factors (internal and external to the student) affecting student volition towards secondary level Islamic religious education in an Australian Islamic school? Secondly, what model may be proposed to develop and implement a secondary level Islamic religious program for Australian Islamic schools based on a survey of student volition and the factors affecting this volition towards the Islamic religious education program at an Islamic school?

Research field: **Muslims in Western Societies**

Case Study: Islam and sexuality/queer Muslim identity in **Australia**

Name: Ibrahim Abraham

Email address: Ibrahim.Abraham@arts.monash.edu.au

Institution: Monash University

Level of study: Masters

Supervisor: Dr Andrew Singleton and Dr Kirsten McLean

Candidature: Commenced March 2006

Research Summary

This project is a qualitative, critical and theoretical exploration of queer Muslims in Australia. A relatively unexplored area of the sociology of religion, sexuality and ethnicity, queer Muslims have slipped through the cracks of scholarly research, lying at the intersection of studies of sexuality, religion, and ethnicity. The focus will be on the construction and negotiation by individuals of the dual identities of queer and Muslim, and the possibilities that exist for the construction of communal space by networks or collectivities of queer Muslims. The focus of the project will be Australia, where the diverse Muslim communities (first and second generation immigrants, converts, lapsed Muslims, Muslims-on-the-verge, etc.) and vibrant queer communities (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex and self-defined 'queer') exist in a political milieu of multiculturalism, postcolonialism and late capitalism. The project will be an original dialogue of the experiences, opinions, hopes and fears of queer Muslims, and theoretical and critical scholarship from sociology of religion and sexuality, gender studies, critical theory, Islamic studies and queer theory.

Publications

Refereed Publications

Abraham, I. Forthcoming 2006. *Hijab in an Age of Fear: Security, Secularism and Human Rights*. *Australian Religion Studies Review* 19.2.

Abraham, I. Forthcoming. Agents of Change: Theology, Culture and Identity Politics. In Michael Leach et al (eds) *The Politics of Representation*. Cambridge Scholars Press, Cambridge, UK.

Boer, R. and Abraham, I. 2006. Australasia. In John F. Sawyer (ed) *The Blackwell Companion to the Bible and Culture*. Blackwell, Oxford: 232-49.

Boer, R. and Abraham, I. Forthcoming. Noah's Nakedness: Islam, Ethnicity and the Phantasy of the Christian West. In Roberta Sabbath (ed) *Sacred Tropes: Tanakh, New Testament and Qur'an as Literary Works*. Duke University Press, Durham, NC.

Conference Papers

Abraham, I. 2005. 'Agents of Change: Theology, Culture, and Identity Politics', paper presented at the 2005 ANZATS/ANZSTS Conference: 'Faith, Culture and Conflict', University of Western Australia, July 4-8.

Also presented at 'The Politics of Recognition: Identity, Respect and Justice' conference, Deakin University, July 30-31, 2005.

Abraham, I. 2005. "'On the Doorstep of the Work": Ricoeurian Hermeneutics, Queer Hermeneutics and Scripture', paper presented at the 2005 ANZATS/ANZSTS Conference: 'Faith, Culture and Conflict', University of Western Australia, July 4-8.

Abraham, I. 2005. "'Muhammad was a Punk Rocker": Subversive Islamic Identities', paper presented at the 2005 Australian Association for the Studies of Religion Conference, University of Sydney, October 1-2.

Abraham, I. 2005. 'Alternative Islamic Identities: Race, Sexuality, Subculture', paper presented at the CSCI Islamic Studies Postgraduate Conference, University of Melbourne, November 21-22.

Reports and Legal Submissions

Abraham I, and Joseph, S. 2005. 'Castan Centre for Human Rights Law Submission to the Human Rights Consultation Committee', submission to the Victorian Department of Justice Human Rights Consultation Committee, August.

Abraham, I. and Joseph, S. 2005. 'Castan Centre for Human Rights Law Submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee concerning the *Anti-Terrorism Bill (No. 2) 2005*', submission to Australian Senate Committee Hearing, November.

Abraham, I. 2006. 'Castan Centre for Human Rights Law Submission to the International Commission of Jurists' Eminent Jurists Panel on Terrorism, Counter-Terrorism and Human Rights', March.

Research field: **Muslims in Western Societies**

Case Study: Muslim youth, community and education in **Australia**

Name: Seyed Sherifdeen

Email address: seyedsdn@yahoo.com

Institution: Victoria University

Level of study: PhD (Education)

Supervisor: Prof Nicola Yelland and Dr Marcelle Cacciattolo

Candidature: 2005

Research Summary

The aim of this study is an exploration to investigate notions of identity for Australian Muslim Youth. It will also seek to examine the impact of family, scrutinizing inter-generational relations between parents' expectations, and Muslim Youth perceptions of identity and their religious faith.

The following objectives are anticipated to be achieved by this research:

- To explore the notion of identity of ABMY.
- To examine the impact and or relations between family, friends and the community on Muslim Youth perceptions of identity and religious faith
- To examine whether there is a need for a specific educational program for ABMY which meet the expectations of the community.

Research field: **Nationalist Movements**

Case Study: The **Kurdish** Nationalist Movement in **Turkey**

Name: Ela Ogru

Email address: eogr2@student.monash.edu.au

Institution: Monash University

Level of study: Masters

Supervisor: Dr Shahram Akbarzadeh and Dr Michael Janover

Candidature: Commenced March 2004

Research Summary

After almost a century of socio-economic and political marginalisation in Turkey, Kurdish national identity and the national movement entered the mainstream political arena during the late 1990s. Due to the effects and pressures of 'Europeanization', the Turkish state has had to re-evaluate and subsequently alter its policies regarding the existence and cultural and political rights of its Kurdish minority. For the first time in the Kemalist Republic's history, pro-Kurdish political parties have been allowed to participate in federal politics. This research project will examine the two most popular political parties for Kurds during the nineties; HADEP and the Islamist organisation Refah Party. The way in which these groups represent Kurdish national identity, and the challenges they pose to the Kemalist-Turkish Republic, will be analysed.

Research field: **Nationalist Movements**

Case Study: British responses to the 1969 **Libyan** coup d'etat

Name: Natalie Dowling

Email address: ndowling@unimelb.edu.au

Institution: University of Melbourne

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Dr Richard Pennell

Candidature: Commenced April 2004 (Part time)

Research Summary

Scholarly work on Libya has been largely limited to US-Libyan relations. This does not adequately cover Libya's twentieth century history and fails to appreciate its place in the demise of British imperialism and the emergence of Arab nationalisms in the Middle East and North Africa. There have of course been many books on Libya's domestic and especially foreign policy under Qaddafi. However, none of these have made use of the resources located at the British National Archives, which only recently been made available. These include important files from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and War Office. I intend to paint a broader picture of the British political, diplomatic and military responses to the Libyan coup de'tat. I will examine it not only in relation to the Suez crisis and the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, but also in the context of Cold War politics, pan-Arabism, anti-imperialism and Islamic fundamentalism. Thus, my research presents a case study of the response of the British Labor government to nationalist challenges in the post-colonial world.

Research Field: **South East Asia**

Case Study: Partai Keadilan Sejahtera (PKS), **Indonesia**

Name: Firman Noor

Email address: firmam.noor@anu.edu.au

Institution: Australian National University

Level of study: Masters

Supervisor: Dr Greg Fealy

Candidature: July 2005

Research Summary

In my research I will explore the real position of PKS in the Indonesian political constellation, particularly in the context of mainstream political thinking. Some people argue that this party is an example of a radical, Islamist or fundamentalist movement, many of which exist in the contemporary Indonesian situation. On the other hand, some people believe that this party is similar to other moderate parties in Indonesia. I believe that PKS is of such quality that it should be included in the mainstream of what Ahmad Moussalli calls 'moderate fundamentalism'. In general, moderate fundamentalists believe in fundamentalist political values. However, PKS can also move moderately by joining the democratic political system in Indonesia, and also by rejecting violence. I explore key political issues, such as the relation between Islam and politics, the function of the state, the role of syariah in the state, the existence of the nation state and Pancasila, the future of the Islamic state and Chalipha Islamiyah, and the relationship between democracy and shura. Also, in order to support my argument I present a comparison between PKS's political thinking and movements and more modernist and 'radical fundamentalist' movements. I intend my research to bring a nuanced approach to studying Islamic political development in Indonesia, by promoting one perspective about the existence of fundamentalist groups in Indonesia, which are by no means monolithic.

Research Field: **South East Asia**

Case Study: Government control and the judiciary in **Malaysia**

Name: Muhammad Bakashmar

Email address: mbak1@student.monash.edu.au

Institution: Monash University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Dr Pete Lentini

Candidature: Commenced July 1, 2004

Research Summary

This study seeks to present a new understanding of judicial independence in Malaysia through an examination of the relationship between statist democracy and the rule of law. The study has three main objectives. First, I will study the impact of development policies on the rule of law. Second, I will examine the capacity of the legal system to uphold the rule of law. Third, I will evaluate the relationship between economic development and judicial independence in post-colonial Malaysia. Contrary to claims made by many international development institutions that the rule of law is a necessary condition for economic development, initial evidence from the Malaysian case denies any positive correlation between the two. In Malaysia, high rates of economic growth have been paralleled by the decline in several key indicators of the rule of law. Thus, I pose the following questions in my study. First, what are the reasons for the apparently negative relationship between the rule of law and economic development in Malaysia? Second, what are the necessary measures that

Research field: **South East Asia**

Case Study: Security relations between **Malaysia and Thailand**

Name: Panpa-nga Chulanont

Email address: chulanont19@yahoo.com

Institution: Australian National University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Prof Anthony Milner, Prof Desmond Ball and
Dr John Funston

Candidature: Commenced February 15, 2006

Research Summary

The conflict in Southern Thailand, which has claimed more than 1,000 lives since the beginning of 2004, has attracted international interest. The conflict occurs in provinces bordering Malaysia, where most residents are Muslims. While around 90% of Thais are Buddhist, those in the southern provinces are ethnically and culturally bound to Malaysia. Cooperative security relations between the two countries are therefore critical to addressing this dispute. Security relations between Thailand and Malaysia are examined with these religious and cultural differences in mind. Research will look at the history of interaction between Muslim authorities and governments in Bangkok, and the development of bilateral security relations between the two countries. It will include detailed case studies of successful negotiations between the two sides.

Research field: **South East Asia**

Case Study: Islam and philanthropy in **Indonesia**

Name: Amelia Fauzia

Email address: a.fauzia@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au
amelia_fauzia@yahoo.com

Institution: University of Melbourne

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Prof M.C. Ricklefs, Prof Arief Budiman
and Prof Michael Leigh

Candidature: Commenced March 2004

Research Summary

My study argues that although traditional practices still continue, Islamic philanthropy has been transformed from traditional to modern philanthropic organizations, where positive roles of religion are distinctive but the negative impacts exist too. Muhammadiyah organization, the major modernist and the second largest civil society organization in Indonesia, had transformed the traditional practices of charitable giving, which were only for religious deed to social change purposes, since the second decades of the twentieth century. Islamic philanthropy has been used both by government and by civil society organizations for their own social and political purposes. While religion, education and social sectors get most benefit from Islamic philanthropy, unavoidably, the practices also have a role in supporting non mainstreaming group activities for their own religious and political purposes that somehow arousing hostility. My study argues that there are differences in the practices of philanthropy between the Traditionalist, Modernist, and "Islamist" Muslims in social and political contexts. These differences are not only based on different theological and doctrinal understanding, but mostly influenced by socio-political circumstances. The more 'strict' the understanding of Islamic teachings, the more practicable Islamic philanthropy becomes, the more dangerous it is without social justice philanthropy. Therefore social justice philanthropy, that giving for all without limitation of gender, groups, ethnics and religion, and intended for social changes, is essential to be executed in such a plural community.

Publications

Amelia Fauzia. 'Women, Islam and Messianic Movements in Southeast Asia', *Encyclopaedia of Women and Islamic Culture*, under peer review.

Amelia Fauzia. 'Basis DKI Jakarta: Peluang dan Tantangan Badan Amil Zakat Pemerintah Daerah' ['The Zakat Body of Jakarta Provincial Government: chances and Challenges of Local Governmental Zakat Body'], in Chaider Bamualim and Irfan Abubakar (eds) *Revitalisasi Filantropi Islam* (Jakarta: Pusat Bahasa dan Budaya, 2005).

Amelia Fauzia, 'Inilah Realitas Politik Indonesia' ['This is the Reality of Indonesian Politics'], *Media Indonesia*, 7 June, 2004.

Amelia Fauzia. 'No Money No Worry Islamic Civil Society in Indonesia has a great Role to Play in Community Development', *Inside Indonesia*, Jan-March 2004, p. 18-19.

Amelia Fauzia, et.al. *Realita dan Cita Kesetaraan Gender di UIN Jakarta. Baseline dan Analisa Institusional Pengarusutamaan Gender pada UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta Tahun 1999-2003* (Jakarta: McGill IAIN-Indonesia social equity project, 2004).

Amelia Fauzia, 'Darul Islam Movement' and "Persatuan Ulama Seluruh Aceh – PUSA", in Ooi Keat Gin (ed.), *Historical Encyclopedia of Southeast Asia*, 2004.

Amelia Fauzia, et al, *Philanthropy untuk Keadilan Sosial Menurut Tuntutan Al-Qur'an dan Hadith [Social Justice Philanthropy Revealed in the Qur'an and Hadith]* (Jakarta: Pusat Bahasa dan Budaya, Dec 2003).

Amelia Fauzia and Yuniyanti Chuzairah, *Apakah Islam Agama untuk Perempuan? [Is Islam Religion for Women?]* (Jakarta: Pusat Bahasa dan Budaya, 2003).

Amelia Fauzia and A. Hermawan. 'Ketegangan antara Kekuasaan dan Aspek Normatif Filantropi dalam Sejarah Islam di Indonesia' ['Tensions between the Authority and A Normative Aspect of Philanthropy in the History of Islam in Indonesia'], in Idris Thaha (ed.), *Berderma untuk Semua, Praktek dan Wacana Filantropi Islam [Philanthropy for All, Practice and Discourse of Islamic Philanthropy]* (Jakarta: Pusat Bahasa dan Budaya & Teraju, 2002), pp. 157-89.

Research field: **South East Asia**

Case Study: Muslim identity formation in **Malaysia**

Name: Gerhard Hoffstaeder

Email address: g.hoffstaeder@latrobe.edu.au

Institution: La Trobe University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Prof Joel Kahn and Dr Wendy Mee

Candidature: Commenced February 2005

Research Summary

The preliminary research questions I pose then are: What role does Islam play in the practice of everyday life, in the definition of self (as in self-identity) and in what ways does it affect the relations with non-Muslims and/or non-Malays? My research seeks an inter-disciplinary approach to the subject matter of identity formation and articulation, dealing with theological, philosophical and psychological aspects in particular. Further research in Muslim-Malaysian identity formation and articulation has relevance for many other societies and would further understanding of how Islam, with its unique concept of submission and the role of the individual, is localised and syncretised the world over.

Research field: **The ‘War on Terror’**

Case Study: The politics of independent documentary production.

Name: Tuba Boz

Email address: tboz1@student.monash.edu.au

Institution: Monash University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Dr Pete Lentini, Prof Gary Bouma and Dr Nick Economou.

Candidature: Commenced 2004

Research Summary

This thesis is based on an examination of the politics of independent documentary production in the 21st century, with a particular focus on the implications of war and the ‘war on terrorism’. The theoretical approach undertaken is primarily based on the theory of political economy. In order to best ascertain accurate information, material will be gathered from both primary and secondary sources. Existing theories will be utilised, and in order to contribute to the body of knowledge, an Australian-based independent production company – *Ipsa-Facto Productions* – will be used as a case study. Thus, I will provide a critical analysis of the interplay between independent documentary production companies, government agencies, film festivals, broadcasters, distribution companies, and new media.

Research field: **The ‘War on Terror’**

Case Study: Nationalism and the ‘War on Terror’

Name: Tim Stoney

Email address: timstoney@hotmail.com

Institution: Monash University

Level of study: Masters

Supervisor: Dr David Wright-Neville

Candidature: Commenced March 2004

Research Summary

I’m arguing that war is intrinsically linked to nationalism and nationalist agenda’s and this creates a problem in addressing the ‘war’ on terrorism, which is not, intrinsically, a nationalist war. The problem is that terrorism demands greater national security, as one part of the response. But, I argue, terrorism needs an international response from an agency like the UN. The effect of conceiving the ‘war’ as a national issue, is useful in terms of mobilising initial support for the war, but means the conduct of the war is skewed by nationalist agendas and therefore less effective than it could otherwise be is conceived of differently. For example, the invasion of Iraq makes perfect sense when you think of war as a national issue and war as conflict between sovereign nation states. However, in terms of a response to non-state, religiously motivated actors, it looks like a way to perpetuate terrorism, rather than end it.

Research field: **Women and Islam**

Case Study: Fundamentalism in Islam and Christianity

Name: Patricia Margaret Madigan

Email address: pmad9410@mail.usyd.edu.au

Institution: University of Sydney

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Assoc Prof Ahmad Shboul (University of Sydney) and Prof Pauline Allen (Australian Catholic University)

Candidature: Commenced July 26, 2004

Research Summary

This study explores the impact of fundamentalism on women's lives and their responses to it. I focus on the origins and dynamics of fundamentalism as a political, economic, social and cultural movement in Christianity and Islam. I propose to examine the impact of fundamentalism and fundamentalist-type movements within the religious traditions of Catholic Christianity and Sunni Islam. I aim to assess whether and in what ways religious traditions might be diminished or reduced to ideology through processes of selection, omission and innovation driven by fundamentalist interests or concerns, and the impact this has on women's lives. I aim to investigate the ways that women in Islam and Christianity, separately and together in inter-faith dialogue, are attempting to challenge fundamentalist perspectives which diminish them and to recover a place for themselves in their respective traditions.

Publications

Journal Articles

Patricia Margaret Madigan, 'The threat of fundamentalism? Some Christian and Muslim perspectives', *Compass Theological Review*, Winter 2004.

Patricia Margaret Madigan, 'Religions for Peace: A Call for Solidarity to the Religions of the World', *The Australasian Catholic Record*, Vol 81, No 1, January 2004.

Patricia Margaret Madigan, 'Buddhist Perceptions of Jesus', *The Australasian Catholic Record*, Vol 80, No 4, October 2003.

Patricia Margaret Madigan, 'A Tale of Mountain-climbing and an Elephant in the Living Room - the third phase of the ecumenical movement', *Compass Theological Review*, Vol 35, Winter, 2001.

Research field: **Women and Islam**

Case Study: Islamic family law and multiculturalism in **England and Australia**

Name: Anisa Buckley

Email address: abuckley@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au

Institution: University of Melbourne

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Sultan of Oman Prof Abdullah Saeed and Dr Adrian Gully

Candidature: Commenced March 2005

Research Summary

My research seeks to identify the extent to which granting Muslim communities self governance over or partial recognition of Islamic family law procedures in the multicultural Western nations of England and Australia negatively impacts upon Muslim women as vulnerable group members. The aim of this research is to formulate a model of multicultural accommodation for Australia that addresses the dilemma of Muslim women and Islamic divorce procedures, through identifying and analysing the comparative political arrangements (implicit and explicit) existing between the state, the Muslim community and Muslim individuals within the Western multicultural countries of England and Australia.

Research field: **Women and Islam**

Case Study: The Politics of the Veil in **Indonesia**

Name: Deny Hamdani

Email address: deny.hamdani@anu.edu.au

Institution: Australian National University.

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Katherine Robinson and Virginia Hooker

Candidature: Commenced July 2003

Research Summary

This study deals with the development of Islamic veils in Indonesia over three decades. During 11 months of fieldwork in Indonesia, I conducted participant observation research among female Muslims, in-depth interviews, and collected media and archives relating to religious experience, discourse and political development. The collected data illuminates that the meaning of Indonesian veils meaning has changed over time. In the 1970s, veils were merely worn by so-called *santri muslim* (devout Muslim) women affiliated with Muhammadiyah, Nahdlatul Ulama or Persis. However, after the contestation of Islamic veils in the 1980s, the wearing of veils became popular. In the late 1990s, the veil took on new meanings in terms of fashion and lifestyle. The case of de-veiling also emerged in the phenomena of new '*santri Muslim*'. This study is intended not only to explore the causes of the emergence of Islamic veils (*kerudung* or *jilbab*) in Indonesia since the inception of the idea of modernisation to the present, but also to investigate the discourse of veils among various Muslim groups who are influential in shaping the religious and cultural behaviour. The transformation of unpopular veils to popular veils has been the result of contestation between Islamic forces against the state.

Publications

Book Chapters

Deny Hamdani, 'Patriarki dalam Keluarga Muslim', in Umar and Nazaruddin (eds), *Kultur Ramah Perempuan*, 2004.

Other Articles

Deny Hamdani, 'Simbol yang jadi burn-bulanan' (2005) at <http://www.ppi-australia.org>

Research field: **Women and Islam**

Case Study: Development of gender discourse in Nasyyatul Aisyiyah, **Indonesia** 1965-2005

Name: Siti Syamsiyatun

Email address: syamsiyatun@yahoo.com

Institution: Monash University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Assoc Prof Susan Blackburn

Candidature: March 3, 2002

Research Summary

My research looks at how an Islamic organisation for young women, Nasyyatul Aisyiyah develops its womanhood ideology within the given timeframe in Indonesian social and political contexts, how it negotiates its multiple identities, as young women, Indonesians and Muslims, as well as its multiple loyalties to the attached identities formulate 'ideal young Muslim womanhood'. I find that Nasyyatul Aisyiyah has experienced various changes with regard to conceptualise its gender vision, and this is partly due to the organisation's struggle to respond to and survive different political regimes in Indonesia which promoted different kind of womanhood ideology for Indonesians. Under the authoritarian regime of New Order, Nasyyatul Aisyiyah concentrated at developing internal cadre and focused its program on social and religious issues and detached itself from practical politics. As Indonesia undergoes democratisation the organisation has more room to develop its gender vision. In this era Nasyyatul Aisyiyah promotes a portrait of ideal young Muslim women as ones who not only care for their immediate families but also actively engage in social and political life not only at local level but also national and international level.

Publications

Journal Articles

(Forthcoming) "A Daughter in the Indonesian Muhammadiyah: Nasyyatul Aisyiyah Negotiates a New Status and Image" in *Journal of Islamic Studies*, Oxford University, London.

Conference Papers

'The Origin of Nasyyatul Aisyiyah: Organising for Articulating Religious-based Womanhood in Pre-Independent Indonesia' in *Asia Examined: Proceedings of the 15th Biennial Conference of the ASAA 2004*, edited by Robert Cribb (Canberra: Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, The Australian National University, 2004), ISBN 0-9580837-1-1

'Community Development in the Eyes of Indonesian Muslim Women: Nasyyatul Aisyiyah during the New Order Regime' in *Conference Proceedings: Community*

Development, Human Rights and Grassroots , edited by Kevin Brown, et. al.
(Geelong: Centre for Citizenship and Human Rights, Deakin University, 2004), ISBN
1 74156 003 9.

‘Women’s Political Participation and Political Development: With
Emphasis on Islamic Societies’, *Other Feminism*, Queensland University,
Australia, July 2003.

Research field: **Women and Islam**

Case Study: Sexual behaviour and female circumcision among **Somali and Australian** women

Name: Monique Toohey

Email address: Monique@nasihahconsulting.com

Institution: ACU National

Level of study: Masters

Supervisor: Dr Zita Marks

Candidature:

Research Summary

Research field: **Women and Islam**

Case Study: The women's movement in **Iran**

Name: Houri Jahanshahrad

Email address: hjah1@student.monash.edu.au

Institution: Monash University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Dr Maryanne Dever

Candidature: July 2005

Research Summary

Women living in Muslim societies and families have faced longstanding difficulties and obstacles to their rights. Despite the fact that women make a crucial contribution to any society's economic, social, cultural and political well-being, women in the Islamic Republic of Iran are barred from participating in many public arenas in that country. Those Iranian women champion women's rights in Iran need to engage in careful comparisons and lengthy debates in order to fully understand and benefit from the principles of feminism. Due to the special conditions in Iran, a complete concordance with the principles of Western feminism does not suit Iranian women. Therefore, my research seeks to locate an indigenous approach to survey women's issues in Iran. This approach will contribute to finding a solution to the 'woman question' in Iran. This is a necessary undertaking in order to end the subjugation and marginalisation of women in Iranian society.

Publications

Journal Articles

Houri Jahanshahrad, 'Regional Security Regime and Confidence, Security Building Measures within the Context of Arab-Israeli Disputes', *Alternatives: Turkish Journal of International Relations*, Turkey, Autumn and Winter (2003).

Houri Jahanshahrad, 'Women's Political Participation and Political Development in Islamic Societies', *Pandora's Box Journal*, University of Queensland, Australia, 2003.

Conference Papers

'Regional Security Regimes and Confidence, Security Building Measures within the Context of Arab-Israeli Disputes', *The First Congress on the Middle East Studies*, University of Mainz (Germany), Sep. 2002.

'Women's Political Participation and Political Development: With Emphasis on Islamic Societies', *Other Feminism*, Queensland University, Australia, July 2003.

'The Role of Islamic Feminism in Improving Women's Status in Post-Revolutionary Iran', *International Conference: Islam, Human Security, and Xenophobia*, Melbourne, Australia, 25-26 November 2005.

Research field: **Women and Islam**

Case Study: Women's human rights in the **Islamic Republic of Iran**

Name: Rebecca Barlow

Email address: rbar5@student.monash.edu.au

Institution: Monash University

Level of study: Masters

Supervisor: Dr Shahram Akbarzadeh and Assoc Prof Susan Blackburn

Candidature: Commenced January, 2006

Research Summary

Can the establishment of women's human rights in the Muslim world occur within the Islamic framework, or does it necessitate a move into a secular discourse? I locate this research question within a study of the Islamic Republic of Iran, where prospects for improved gender relations are complicated by a heated debate between Islamic feminists and secular feminists. The limitations apparent in both the Islamic and secular frameworks lead me to explore the extent to which cooperation between the two camps is possible. It also leads me to pose the following interrelated questions. One, can the establishment of women's human rights in Muslim societies occur in a 'third space', somewhere between the extreme poles of Islamic feminism and secular feminism? Two, what might be the best way(s) to deal with the tensions between the universalistic nature of women's human rights, and the local conditions of their realization in Muslim societies? Shirin Ebadi, winner of the Nobel Peace prize 2003, offers a pertinent case study for how to theorise and work within this potential 'third space'. As an Iranian lawyer, Ebadi has demonstrated an unparalleled willingness and ability to cooperate with and negotiate between both the secular and Islamic feminist camps.

Publications

Barlow, Rebecca and Akbarzadeh, Shahram. 'Women's rights in the Muslim World: reform or reconstruction?', *Third World Quarterly*, forthcoming.

Research field: **Women and Islam**

Case Study: Women's Organisations and Activists in **Pakistan**

Name: Catherine Hine

Email address: cahine@securenym.net

Institution: Australian National University

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Dr Tamara Jacka

Candidature: Commenced March 31, 2006

Research Summary

This research examines how women's organizations and activists in Pakistan are able to negotiate for change in gender relations. It does this by looking at gender violence and the ways women's groups and activists have used it to engage with the state and society on issues relating to women. In examining the processes of engagement it looks at the interface between state and society where dialogue can be created, issues framed, and the voice of women's groups and activists legitimised. It aims to contribute to the body of literature on women's organisations with reference to the ways they develop and engage on behalf of women through an exploration of theories of civil society and social movements. Such an examination will contribute to the development of frameworks for understanding the processes of negotiation and change while seeking to take into consideration the various forces at work to achieve this. The research will seek to document processes of engagement by women's organisations, the history of the development of that engagement, their framing and the development of discourses in the area of women negotiating collectively. Through this it will seek to identify particular issues that facilitate and hinder the processes of negotiation.

Research field: **Women and Islam**

Case Study: **Australian** women's experiences of conversion to Islam

Name: Karen Turner

Email address: k.turner3@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au

Institution: University of Melbourne

Level of study: PhD

Supervisor: Dr Mary Patterson and Prof Andy Dawson

Candidature: Commenced February 22, 2004

Research Summary

Muslim converts have been mythologised in the popular imagination since September 11th 2001. Islamic groups around the globe have claimed an increase in the number of men and women who have converted to Islam, and the Australian media have followed in-depth, the stories of 'Jihad Jack' and David Hicks. Popular portrayals of the 'Muslim convert' have a specifically gendered dimension, neglecting to consider the significantly greater numbers of women who have converted to Islam. Based on ethnographic research undertaken with women's mosques groups in and around Melbourne from 2004–2006 I explore the experiences of female 'converts' to Islam, their experiences as 'new' Muslims, their relationship with the Islamic community in Australia and the impact religious understandings of gender have on their new identity. These considerations are viewed in the context of discussions on the perceived success or failure of multiculturalism in Australia, fears about global (in)security and the discourses surrounding terrorism and 'Islamic fundamentalism'. How do the religious, political and social understandings of Islamic identities within Australia impact upon the everyday lives of new Muslims? Until recent times there has been a significant gap in the literature on Australian Islam and the contributions of women to Australian life and culture, this research aims to 'speak to' this gap, capturing the everyday experiences of Muslim women and documenting their place within the multicultural milieu that is Australia.