



## SEMINAR

### SEARCHING FOR 'JUSTICE' Syariah Law Implementation in a Multicultural Society

#### A panel discussion with film screening of *Mencari Kartika (Searching for Kartika)*

Date: Tuesday, 10 August 2010  
Time: 4.00 pm – 5.30 pm  
Venue: Seminar Room II, ISEAS

#### About the Panelists

Ms Norhayati Kaprawi,  
the filmmaker



Photo credit: Malaysian Insider

*Norhayati Kaprawi* is an activist who is passionate about Muslim women's issues. She now explores audio-visuals as a medium to put forward the issues that are close to her heart. She is an active member of Sisters in Islam, an advocacy group in Malaysia, and was its Public Education Manager for four years before embarking into film-making. She continues to be active in women's rights activism in Malaysia and in the region.

*Dr Suzaina Kadir* is a Senior Lecturer at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. Her research interests and area specialisation include religion and politics, with special focus on Muslim politics in Southeast Asia and South Asia; state-society relations and political development in Asia, with special focus on Southeast Asia; and regional security of Southeast Asia with a focus on non-traditional security issues affecting ASEAN such as women's rights and the impact of religion.

*Dr Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman* is an Associate Professor with the Department of Malay Studies, National University of Singapore. Her teaching and research areas include Islam in contemporary Malay society, Malay political culture and law (including the administration of Muslim law) in Malay society. She actively works with the Malay community groups in Singapore including giving talks and seminars to various organizations, and currently sits on the MUIS (Islamic Religious Council of Singapore) Scholarship board.



### About the Film

#### **Mencari Kartika (Searching for Kartika)**

a documentary by Norhayati Kaprawi  
40 min, Malay with English subtitles

First-time filmmaker Norhayati Kaprawi was inspired to make Mencari Kartika after surveys by polling house Merdeka Center found a large majority of Muslims in Malaysia supported the caning of Kartika Sari Dewi Shukarno for consuming alcohol. This documentary explores the Muslims's perception of 'justice' in the context of Malaysia that is lauded for its modern, progressive, multi-racial image. A Malaysian media regards this film as important because "it reveals a truth about what made international headlines by letting us in on the private and the political in a way that media reports failed to." In fact, Kartika herself has endorsed the film, saying that it offers viewers a larger truth about her actions and statements after she was sentenced. A 30-minute version of the film was screened at the V Women Film Festival in Jakarta in March 2010. The screenings in Kuala Lumpur were met with enthusiasm by the media and the public.

*You are invited to the Seminar and Film Screening.*

Jointly Organized by:

ISEAS Malaysia Study Group and ARI Malaysia Study Group