

**Closed-Door Roundtable Discussion
on
Issues Impacting the Malay community in Singapore
Session One: Social and Economic Mobility**

Thursday, 31 March 2022
Seminar Room 4-3 (Level 4)
Faculty of Law, Block B
National University of Singapore (*Bukit Timah Campus*)

PROGRAMME

2.30 pm – 3.00 pm	Registration
3.00 pm – 3.05 pm	Welcome and Introduction Dr Mohamad Shamsuri Bin Juhari Research Fellow Institute of Policy Studies
3.05 pm – 3.35 pm	Presentations Speaker Mr Yusof Sulaiman Associate Lecturer School of Business Singapore University of Social Sciences Discussant Mr Mohksin Bin Mohd Rashid Executive Director AMP Singapore
3.35 pm – 4.50 pm	Discussion
4.50 pm – 5.00 pm	Summary Remarks
5.00 pm	End

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SYNOPSIS

Historically, the Malay community has occupied the lower rungs of society in terms of their education and socio-economic standards. Following the release of the Census of Population 1980, the plight of the Malays became a concern for the Singapore Government. Fast-forward a few decades, the community has managed to achieve measurable progress. Malay-Muslim community leaders have put forth various initiatives, ranging from financial disbursement to providing advice. Nonetheless, their rate of development is not on par with their counterparts from other ethnic groups. The 2020 Census of Population highlights worrying trends for the community, with issues related to education and home ownership.

In light of this, this event brings together political office holders, civil servants, academics, professional, community leaders, practitioners, and advocates to discuss:

- (1) Key factors that hinder social and economic mobility among the Malay community;
- (2) Current gaps in social safety nets in meeting the needs of the less privileged; and
- (3) Challenges to implementing existing measures.

The goal of this discussion is to identify interventions to increase the social and economic mobility of the Malays in Singapore.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

MOHAMAD SHAMSURI Bin Juhari is Research Fellow in the Society and Culture Department at the Institute of Policy Studies. Prior to his foray into the field of Research, Dr Mohamad Shamsuri had acquired a wide range of work experiences in the education service, ranging from classroom teaching to senior management and leadership positions in various academic institutions. He has taught students across diverse backgrounds and abilities, from at-risk youths to those in the Gifted Education Programme. He has also designed and facilitated curriculum at the Secondary, International Baccalaureate Diploma, Undergraduate and Masters levels. Following a previous portfolio where he headed the Centre for Research on Islamic and Malay Affairs, Dr Mohamad Shamsuri's scope of research at the Institute of Policy Studies focuses on issues pertaining to the local Malay-Muslim community, specifically in relation to Identity, Family and Education. He received his PhD in Education from the University of Birmingham United Kingdom. He also holds a Bachelors and Masters in Sociology from National University of Singapore as well as a Postgraduate Diploma in Education from National Institute of Education.

MOHKSIN Bin Mohd Rashid is currently Executive Director of AMP Singapore, a non-profit organisation serving the Malay/Muslim community in Singapore. Mr Mohksin has more than a decade of experience working in the non-profit sector, including co-founding and subsequently, heading non-profit youth organisation, Majulah Community, as its Chief Executive Officer. He has also been active in community work for close to two decades, volunteering in non-profit organisations, mosques and youth groups. His volunteer work includes chairing the steering committee of CLF LABS, and as Honorary Secretary of the Mosque Management Board of Wak Tanjong Mosque. He received the Muis50 Inspiring Youth Award from the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore (MUIS) in 2018 for his contributions in the socio-religious field.

YUSOF Sulaiman is currently Associate Lecturer at the Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS) and PSB Academy. He is highly passionate in learning and development, having served as a member of the Board of Governors for the Singapore Polytechnic from 1997 to 2006. He also has extensive experience in the oil and gas industry with 30 years

working in Shell in various management and leadership roles. Mr Yusof is also actively involved in community work. He is a founding member of AMP Singapore, with speciality in research and development, and is one of the pioneers of the Centre for Research on Malay Muslim Affairs (RIMA), initiated by AMP to be a think tank for the Malay/Muslim community. Since its inception, Mr Yusof has been a member of the Board of Directors at RIMA for several terms, overseeing research in areas such as educational achievement of the Malays, social benchmarking with new measures of success, and the Malay/Muslim identity project.

Last modified on 29 March 2022

