

# The National Centre of Excellence for Islamic Studies, Griffith University

## International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies (IAIS) Malaysia

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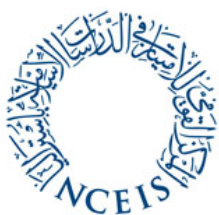
## The Multi Faith Centre

Presents:

### A New Islamic Rating Index of Well-being for Muslim Countries

**Abstract:** The differing views that various parties and states hold regarding the efficacy of their *Islamisation* approach and its impact nationally remain unresolved until today. This lecture is an attempt to assess the well-being of countries in an objective and scientific manner. It introduces a new Islamic Index of Well-being (IIW) for Muslim Majority Countries (MMCs), which is based on principles derived from the Qur'an and Sunnah to comprise the key fields of Personal Religiosity and Social Interactions. These two elements are given equal weighting. The Religiosity element is obtained from published data of the Pew Research Center for indicators of the percentage of Muslim citizens who perform obligatory practices of praying five times daily, men attending the mosque at least once weekly, and Muslims fasting in Ramadan (or paying zakah). Research has shown a direct, positive relationship between Religiosity levels and psychological wellbeing. Five parameters are assessed for the Social Interactions performance of MMCs: secondary education, good status of women, care of children, limited income inequality and elimination of corruption. From an Islamic perspective, governments are required to assist weaker members of society, which is reflected in indicators used to determine the status of women, children and the poor. The resultant IIWs calculated for the 27 (Arab Gulf countries were not surveyed) out of a total 50 MMCs plus Nigeria show that the highest IIW levels are in Southeast Asia (Malaysia and Indonesia take the top positions), followed by Senegal and the Palestinian Territories. Middle Eastern countries follow, then sub-Saharan African countries with overlap, while former Communist bloc countries generally have the lowest indices. 2012 IIWs represent a base level for the measurement of country improvements in years to come.

**Dr Daud Abdul-Fattah Batchelor** is Associate Fellow at the International Institute for Advanced Islamic Studies Malaysia. He has a broad experience with leading multinational corporations and institutions in industry, academia and international consulting covering the fields of Environmental Management, Islamic Political Science and Earth Sciences. Daud has taught at Sultan Qaboos University, Oman and Universiti Sains Malaysia. Daud has a Master of Arts from the International Institute for Islamic Thought and Civilisation Malaysia and a Diploma of Islamic Studies. In 1985 he was presented with the prestigious Longmans Award for his PhD research at Universiti Malaya. He has an MSc with Distinction from the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London and a Master of Engineering Science from Griffith University. Since 1978 he has been active in Muslim community organizations and is co-founder of the Islamic College of Brisbane. He is currently writing a book on the Islamic political system and lessons to be learned from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran



NATIONAL CENTRE  
OF EXCELLENCE FOR  
ISLAMIC STUDIES  
AUSTRALIA

**DATE:** WEDNESDAY, 26 JUNE 2013

**TIME:** 6:30-7:30PM FOLLOWED BY Q&A

**VENUE:** Multi Faith Centre (N35), Nathan, GRIFFITH  
UNIVERSITY



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