



Faizul H. Ibrahim

A N T H R O P O L O G I S T
E D U C A T O R
P H D F E L L O W

Gender: Male
DOB: 7/8/1990
Nationality: Bruneian

Introduction

I am an anthropologist, educator, as well as a PhD fellow at the Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies (ASAFAS), Kyoto University. I am pursuing a career in academia and my research interest is in ethnicity, ethnic identity, Borneo studies, Dusun studies, social class, and food anthropology. Additionally, I am a freelance writer, business development manager and English-language educator. I come with vast experience from numerous industries such as advertising, digital marketing, copywriting, politics, and qualitative research. I am also a certified trainer in two areas: peacebuilding and development certified under UNESCO and gender dialogue certified under UN Women.

Social Research & Political Experiences

Research Assistant to Special Academic Advisor

Universiti Brunei Darussalam | 2019-2021

I worked under the Special Academic Advisor, Professor Dr Tong Chee Kiong. However, I also worked closely with Professor Dr Lian Kwen Fee and Dr Asiyah Az-Zahra Ahmad Kumpoh. The anthropological research I was involved in was regarding the Dusun identity and community in Brunei. My tasks were reviewing literature, transcribing, authoring papers and conducting fieldwork. My fieldwork required me to create a network of informants in the Tutong district by engaging on a grassroots level. The research will produce a series of papers about the ethnic Dusun of Brunei.

- 1) Who are the Dusun in Brunei Representation and Deconstruction of an Ethnic Identity (Working paper)
- 2) Ethnic-formation and Social Change: The Lowland Dusun of Brunei 1950s – 1990s (Pending book chapter)
- 3) Deconstructing Ethnicity in Borneo: The Lowland Dusun of Brunei (Pending book chapter)

Research Assistant (Part Time)

Centre for Advanced Research (CARE) | 2018-2019

The centre commissions projects from both the public and private sectors. They provide a collaborative platform for researchers from different disciplines to work together on several overlapping research areas pertinent to these three research clusters: Youth and Economy; Welfare and Poverty; Health and Aging. However, I was exclusively involved with the Health and Aging research project. Most of my work was conducting fieldwork in the Belait and Brunei-Muara district to interview the elderly and senior citizens.

Research Assistant (Part Time)

Institute of Asian Studies (Universiti Brunei Darussalam) | 2015

I assisted Professor Dr Lian Kwen Fee on his research 'South Asian Migrant Workers in Brunei: A Sociological Study of Temporary Labour Migration' under the Institute of Asian Studies' by identifying and interviewing informants as well as transcribing interviews.

Political Intern (Department of Politics One)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs | 2013

I was the first student from UBD to be a political intern at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs under its DY program. I was tasked with writing daily political reports for either Japan, Korea, Indonesia or Australia at the Department of Politics One. Brunei became the Chair of ASEAN in 2013, and I was involved with the proceedings. I assisted in the administrative side by drafting agendas and visit programs; planning flights; translating reports from Malay to English; researching on all things ASEAN. I was able to support my department in running several ASEAN meetings and diplomatic summits efficiently.

Other Career Highlights

Business Development

Blue Raincoat Collective | 2021-2022

I primarily onboarded vendors for our biggest client Bank Islam Brunei Darussalam (BIBD) under Community for Brunei. I was also finding ways to expand the company's network of clientele. I first joined the agency on a part-time basis (while working with Universiti Brunei Darussalam) from April 2021 to early December 2021. However, I joined full-time with Blue Raincoat Collective from late December 2021 to March 2021.

Business Development Lead & Interior Stylist

Kasakita Interiors (S-GL Enterprise) | 2019

Kasakita Interiors is an interior furnishing company in Brunei. My main task was to serve the existing clientele and explore new ones both in the private and public sector. Generally, I handled almost every aspect of the job from supply-chain responsibilities to the installation process. I also spearheaded its overall branding development.

Content Director & Co-Founder

Creativity180 Digital Agency | 2014-2017

I was responsible for securing clients such as The Body Shop and Guardian. I communicated with my clients daily and worked to create content as a copywriter. My team and I were able to boost sales, brand awareness and engagement digitally.

Language

Languages: English, Malay and Indonesian

IELTS Score – 7.5 (C1)

Extra-Curricular

- I run marathons and ultras at a local and regional level
- I volunteered through a community outreach in rural Indonesia (2013)
- I freelance as 'The Reasonable Writer' (Writing portfolio provided upon request)

Contact Information

Japan Address: 611-0011, 206, Leoplace Gokasho II, 5-1 Gokasho Okamoto, Uji-shi, Kyoto
Brunei Address: No. 27, Spg. 71, Kg. Kulapis, Brunei

- 070-1276-8538
- faizul.h.ibrahim@gmail.com
- thereasonablewriter.com

REFEREES & REFERENCES PROVIDED UPON REQUEST

Work in Japan (Part-Time)

KLC International | 2023-Present

Native English Teacher

Universal Campus | 2023-Present

Native English Teacher

Cross the Border x Benesse BE Studio | 2023-Present

Visitation English Teacher

Kids Meet World | 2023-Present

Private English Teacher

ISA (International Student Advisors) | 2022-Present

Group Leader

Education Background

Kyoto University

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Southeast Asia Area Studies | 2022 - Present

Attending the Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies (ASAFAS)

Universiti Brunei Darussalam

MA Anthropology (By Research) | 2020

Thesis: Understanding and Framing Middle-Class Bruneians Through Food Choices

- *Asia in Transition Vol 20 (Chapter 5: Food Choices and the Malay Muslim Middle Class in Brunei Darussalam)*
- *IAS Working Paper Series 38 (Kitchen Anthropology: Understanding Food, Cooking and Eating in Bruneian Middle-Class Families)*
- *FASS Guest Lecturer and Seminar (UBD AZ-4310 Anthropology of Food)*

Universiti Brunei Darussalam

BA Sociology and Anthropology | 2015

Thesis: Understanding the Multifaceted Identity of the Brunei Dusun