**“Lost and Hidden Manuscripts”: A Reassessment of Condemned Islamic Texts in the Early Modern Malay World**

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Panel format:

This panel will consist of double session, three or four presenters each. Besides me, four presenters who intend to join the panel include Annabel Gallop (British Library), Peter Riddell (SOAS), Andrew Peacock (University of St. Andrews), and Faris bin Joraimi (NYU). I will invite three other presentations from colleagues in other institutions, especially from Aceh/Sumatra.

Panel description:

Recently, a handful of Islamic manuscripts from the northern tip of Sumatra, written in Arabic and Malay and dating back to the early 1600s, have been found and digitised. For the Islamic sphere of the Malay world (the Jāwī world), this evidence not only adds new material to the genre of *kitab*, a term commonly used to denote religious literature by Muslims in Southeast Asia, but also refines our understanding of the Jāwī past, casting it in a much better perspective. One of the most important yet misunderstood scholars in Aceh, Shams al-Dīn al-Samatrāʾī (d. 1630), has been the subject of re-examination for the past decade, correcting the one-sided political censorship of the Aceh Sultanate buttressed by the writings of Nūr al-Dīn al-Rānīrī (d. 1658). MS 07-01436 from the Museum Negeri, Banda Aceh, consists of the treatises of the former, which on codicological grounds can be considered to have been copied in the early 17th century. This panel specifically aims to enrich our understanding of this discovery by presenting multiple views of this codex, to reassess the cultural, intellectual and philological aspects of the work of this Sufi author. Other contributions to the problem of ‘lost, hidden’ texts from Sumatra and the wider Malay world from 1600 to c. 1800 will also be considered to fill possible lacunae in the study of Islam in maritime Southeast Asia.