

CONTRIBUTORS

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Anthony Tutong obtained a Bachelor's Degree in International Studies from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and a Master of Science in Educational Administration Management from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). He continued his studies in Political Science at UNIMAS and was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the field of Political Science in 2023. His research focused on patronage politics during elections in the indigenous community, especially the Iban community living in the interior of Sarawak. This study of patronage politics was conducted during the 2016 and 2021 state assembly elections as well as the 2018 and 2022 general elections. In addition, he has a deep interest in studying traditional culture and local politics in Sarawak. Now, he works as Head of Form 6 Academic Teacher Unit at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Bau, Sarawak.

Arnold Puyok is an Associate Professor in Politics and Government Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, UNIMAS. His research delves into the intricacies of Sabah and Sarawak politics, as well as the nuanced dynamics of federal-state relations. Beyond the academic realm, he offers commentaries on the ever-evolving landscape of contemporary Malaysian politics. His enthusiasm shines through in his exploration of the intersectionality between politics, culture, and policy, with a particular focus on the rich tapestry of Borneo.

Awang Mashabi Awang Mohamad is a senior lecturer attached to the Industrial Relations and Labour Studies Programme at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, UNIMAS. His research interest and specialisation are on coastal communities, capital accumulation, primitive accumulation, rural sociology, division of labour, capitalism and the market, sociology of development. Awang Mashabi is a lifetime member of Persatuan Sains Sosial Malaysia (PSSM), Qualitative Research Association of Malaysia (QRAM) and is a member of Canadian Anthropology Society. Besides his academic and research endeavour, since 2014, Awang Mashabi has been actively involved in community engagement through grassroots sports particularly grassroots soccer development, among less fortunate kids in Petra Jaya area striving to achieve one of UN 's SDG goals of sustainable cities and communities.

Farah Zaini is a lecturer at the Development Planning and Management Programme, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, UNIMAS. She earned her PhD in Land Administration and Development from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM). Her scholarly focus encompasses land administration, property rights, and the utilisation of geographic information system (GIS) in development studies. Passionate about advancing knowledge in these areas, she actively contributes to academic exploration and seeks to enhance understanding in the fields of land management and development.

Hafizan Mohamad Naim is a lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, UNIMAS. Having just obtained her PhD from the Ghazali Shafie Graduate School of Government, Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM), her research is primarily focused on collective identity and identity formation. Hafizan holds a Master of Social Science in Political Science from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and a Bachelor's degree in International Affairs Management from UUM. Alongside her primary PhD focus, she maintains a keen interest in the politics of development and is actively engaged in research on sago plantation in Sarawak, exploring its socioeconomic impact.

Haslina Hashim obtained her PhD in Human Geography from the University of Melbourne in 2018. Her PhD project is about the lived experiences in public rental housing in Sarawak. She has a special interest in housing studies. Dr Haslina is a registered consultant with the Natural Resources and Environmental Board (NREB) and she is a member of the Malaysian Association of Social Impact Assessment (MSIA). Prior to her appointment with UNIMAS, Dr Haslina was engaged as a social researcher at the Ministry of Social Development and Urbanisation in 2004. Her major task at the Ministry was to conduct research projects for the purpose of developing social policies for the state of Sarawak.

Ivy Jugah is a lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Sarawak. She holds a Master of Social Sciences in Political Science from UNIMAS and is currently pursuing her PhD at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, UNIMAS. Her research interests include government and political studies, Sarawak elections, and government policies. Her recent research titled *Kajian Indeks Keselamatan Sempadan Negara* is funded by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Lucy Sebli-Seidelson holds a position of senior lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, UNIMAS, specifically within the Department of Politics and International Relations. Currently, Dr Sebli is leading research initiatives on

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Mohd Azizuddin Mohd Sani specialises in the fields of politics and international relations. He is known as an expert in political theory, human rights, freedom of expression, media politics, democratisation and Malaysian politics. He graduated with a PhD in Politics and International Relations from Keele University, United Kingdom. He Professor of Politics and International Relations at the School of International Studies, UUM since 2016. He is also a Visiting Adjunct Professor for the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Taylor's University, Malaysia. Prof. Azizuddin is a columnist for *Berita Harian* and *Sin Chew Jit Poh*.

Neilson Ilan Mersat obtained his bachelor's degree and master's degree in Political Science from UKM. He pursued further studies at the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia, earning a PhD in Political Science and International Relations in 2005. Throughout his academic journey, he served as a Visiting Scholar at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale (1998), the American Study Centre in Salzburg, Austria (1999), and the Department of Political Science at National Taiwan University, Taipei (2008). His research focuses on various aspects, including political parties, elections, ethnic politics, the Iban Diaspora, and the utilisation of resources and indigenous knowledge. Professor Mersat has also held significant administrative roles, such as Deputy Dean (2009–2013) and Dean at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (2014–2020 and 2022–present) at UNIMAS. Additionally, he served as the Director of Publications at the same university (2020–2021).

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