

Fatwas and the Dissemination of Religious Authority in Indonesia

Agenda >
Indonesia

31 October 2002
Leiden,
the Netherlands

In this workshop, members of the current IIAS project on 'Islam in Indonesia' will present their research to date on aspects of *fatwa* production and transmission. Invited experts will also present papers with the aim of providing greater cohesion to the project and comparative comment.

Participants have been invited to consider the means, authority, audience, and impact of *fatwas* in Indonesia. More broadly they will address how *fatwas* are disseminated, what response they engender, and how a relationship is established between the *fatwa* requestor and *mufti*. Naturally the question of audience is crucial in this, and papers will explore whether *fatwas* reflect or determine the direction of debates over religion in Indonesia. Of course it is difficult to assess the impact of the *fatwa* on a given society. One might well ask whether *fatwas* really do affect the practice of Islam in Indonesia or are more connected to controversial issues. In this sense, the workshop will be a first step on the way to answering broader questions of the nexus between Islam and the nation state of Indonesia. <

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Convenors:

Michael Laffan and Nico Kaptein, Leiden University

Presentations will be given by Atho Mudzhar, Kees van Dijk, Nico Kaptein, Jajat Burhanuddin and Michael Laffan with comments from Muhammad Khalid Masud.

Those wishing to attend the workshop as an observer or to submit an additional abstract for consideration are invited to contact Michael Laffan at the IIAS in the first instance. E-mail: m.laffan@let.leidenuniv.nl