

BAIT AL AMANAH
House of Trust

ANNUAL REPORT
2021

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Message from Founding Director

The year 2021 has been an interesting year for us at Bait Al Amanah. We have persevered through two years of the health, economic and political crisis and have built back stronger. I am grateful that we are still committed to fulfilling our mission to expand new perspectives and disseminate critical findings for the benefit of all, through our research, publications and webinars.



Throughout the year, we have been actively contributing and impacting the ongoing discourse on various issues. These include the national discussion on the right strategies for pandemic management, economic recovery and structural reforms needed towards poverty alleviation. Furthermore, we have advocated for parliamentary reforms, political stability and good governance. On the international stage, we have raised awareness by providing platforms for dialogues in pursuit of peace for conflict regions.

All these impactful activities cannot simply be measured by the number of publications or webinars held. Instead, we as a young and small think tank have constructively contributed to a better Malaysia. One where our future generations can hopefully enjoy the fruits of our labour for a stable, prosperous and equitable society.

We are certainly excited about the challenges ahead. Yes, Malaysia and the world are undergoing severe disruptions, caused by the pandemic and the resulting economic crises in addition to technological shifts, the speed of communication, political security dynamics and of course globalization. We look forward to researching these challenges and examining how they will impact every sphere of Malaysian policy-making.

Taking this a step further, we seek to turn the challenges ahead into opportunities. Opportunities to provide new and creative insights into systemic dysfunctions and structural issues through analytical research. As we look forward to the years to come, we will remain steadfast to be independent and rigorous in our pursuit of better policy, better advocacy and better engagements.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to all my Bait Al Amanah colleagues who have worked diligently and passionately to uphold our mandate for improved policy-making through sound and multidisciplinary analysis. From the bottom of my heart, I would like to sincerely thank all our donors, supporters and partners who have journeyed together with us, sharing our belief for a better tomorrow.

Dr. Abdul Razak Ahmad
Founding Director

Overview of Bait Al Amanah



Bait Al Amanah is an independent research institute that promotes policy and decision-making through sound, independent and multidisciplinary analysis in areas of governance and democracy, economics, security, and issues of national importance.

Founded in 2015, Bait Al Amanah is an independent research institute that holds the responsibility of conducting studies and research to provide valuable and in-depth insights regarding governance and democracy, development economics, security, and issues of national importance. We pride ourselves on sound, independent, and multidisciplinary research and analysis to help improve policy and the decision-making process. Our main objective has always been to provide valuable insights and disseminate research findings for the benefit of the public. We accomplish this objective not just through our research and studies, but also by organizing dialogues with leaders, thinkers, academics, and citizens to address key issues faced by Malaysians. Through these dialogues, we discuss ideas and develop new perspectives to come out with solutions.

Bait Al Amanah provides consultancy services focused on our client's core issues and opportunities through a holistic approach. Our skilled consultants and analysts are fully committed to helping our clients investigate key concerns and find the best solutions. We provide consultancy services in four key areas, which are Political and Economic Risk Consulting; Leadership Consulting; Media, Big Data and Technology Consulting; and Social Development and Sustainability Consulting. Besides consultancy, we also believe that information is very important. Therefore, we are devoted to providing insights to help our clients understand certain issues better. For this purpose, we have three research divisions, which consist of 'Development Economics', 'Politics & Advocacy', and 'Foreign Affairs'.

Bait Al Amanah 2021 Highlights

Three words to sum up the year 2021: Resilience in Uncertainty.

The year 2021 was a challenging year for our think tank as the COVID-19 pandemic continued to threaten public health and livelihoods, in addition to political instability and the year-end massive floods. Despite the many challenges during the quadruple quandary of health, economic, political and flood crises, our team here at Bait Al Amanah demonstrated a great deal of resilience against the odds.

As a policy think tank seeking to develop new perspectives and offer valuable insights, we produced several publications in line with the analyses and discourses regarding policy responses to the pandemic. Our Development Economics division published the inaugural Malaysia Recovery Series Policy Papers, where policy recommendations towards national recovery in public healthcare, economic growth and higher education were provided.

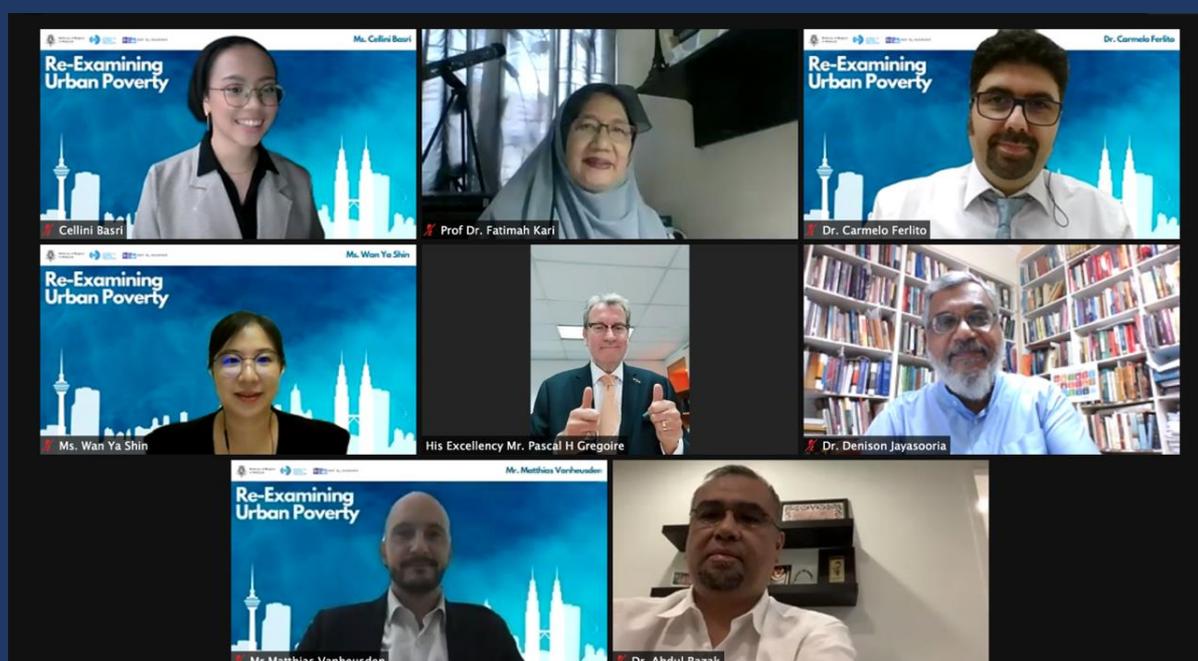
For instance, in the [From Pandemic to Endemic: Path towards Normalisation](#) policy paper published in July 2021, we highlighted the need to visualize an endemic roadmap, establish a lockdown-free approach through clarity in communication and information, utilise Big Data and digital technology for better contact tracing and transparency, enhance vaccination and post-pandemic medicinal effort and also expand the capacity and resilience of the healthcare system.



Datuk Seri Nazir Razak sharing his vision for a Better Malaysia at Webinar Negara

Through the [Webinar Negara: Essence of a New National Paradigm](#) held in September 2021 which we co-organised with several other organizations, we advocated for clarity, consistency and simplicity in standard operating procedures (SOPs) and targeted measures based on the basic reproduction number instead of questionable blanket policy measures. Most importantly, we called for radical reform to address the systemic dysfunctions and structural problems highlighted by the pandemic. In essence, Bait Al Amanah actively contributed to the national policy discourse towards pursuing greater resilience and recovery in the midst of unprecedented times.

Together with the Center for Market Education and the Embassy of Belgium in Malaysia, we organized the Re-examining Urban Poverty webinar to uncover, raise awareness and discuss the radical ways in which we can address the plight of those whose sufferings have often been left untold. Our Founding Director explained passionately how “this non-discriminatory COVID-19 virus has evolved into a disease of the most vulnerable urban poor, due to the lockdown limiting access to online education and the opportunity to make a decent living”. As a follow-up to the webinar, we are currently working on a research project to propose a series of policy recommendations centred around empowerment, growth and entrepreneurship.



Panellists share their perspectives and proposed recommendations at the Re-examining Urban Poverty Webinar

In 2021, our Development Economics division also published the Johor Sustainable Development Report 2020, a report which highlights the praise-worthy achievements of the state and explores the areas for improvement in line with the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This report which covers a wide range of subject matter including governance, socioeconomic growth, human capital development, infrastructure, environment, healthcare and education among others includes policy recommendations based on international case studies.



Recall Elections Webinar Poster

Besides that, our Politics and Advocacy division successfully raised awareness on the need to address the ongoing political instability, through the Recall Elections: A Solution to Party-Hopping in Malaysia webinar held in April 2021. This webinar which brought politicians and activists from both sides of the political divide received extensive media coverage. The webinar also explored alternative solutions besides recall elections, including the dismantling of excessive incumbency advantages, an electoral system change and the feasibility of laws to curb party defections.

Through our active participation in the bipartisan SEED Community for a Professional Parliament, we have been able to promote healthy policy competition between political parties with improved democratic processes. The ongoing efforts by our network of civil society organisations, think tanks and academia have contributed in one way or another to the parliamentary and government administrative reforms proposed in the current Memorandum of Understanding on Transformation and Political Stability.



Members of SEED Community for a Professional Parliament

In addition, the SEED Community has successfully established an All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM) on political financing. These efforts started with a webinar co-organized by IDEAS and Bait Al Amanah entitled Transparency in Democracy: Building Support for Transparency in Political Financing. Together, we are actively advocating for the immediate tabling of a political financing act to help tackle the deep-rooted issue of political corruption in Malaysia.

Next, our Foreign Affairs division has continuously raised awareness by providing a platform for discussion on numerous international issues of interest. This includes conflict regions such as Southern Thailand, Afghanistan, Kashmir and also the South China Sea. In the first Southern Thailand: the prospect for peace for a forgotten conflict webinar, we hosted several academicians and experts, who shared that local movements for peace in the Deep South need to build a new political platform for both local issues and national issues.

Following up on this, we organized a second webinar entitled Wacana Damai Patani Selatan Thailand (Peace Discourse of Southern Patani, Thailand) with the aim of understanding the root causes of the conflict in addition to efforts towards a peaceful resolution. It was exceptional to have representatives from the insurgent groups such as Barisan Revolusi Nasional (BRN), MARA Patani, and Patani Liberation Organization (PULO) as our panellists to share their insightful grassroots perspective. In an extremely enriching discussion, panellists agreed that the key strategy to achieving a peaceful solution is by undertaking peace discussions at a negotiation table with key stakeholders. Remarkably, both webinars reached a total of 15,000 views across our media platforms, successfully raising greater awareness towards the need for concrete efforts to address a long-forgotten conflict.



[Southern Thailand 1st Webinar Panellist Quote](#)



[Southern Thailand 2nd Webinar Panellist Line-Up](#)



Afghanistan Post US Military Withdrawal Webinar Poster

In line with the United States military’s withdrawal from Afghanistan, Bait Al Amanah together with the Afghan Peace Mediation Team co-organized the Afghanistan Post US Military Withdrawal: The Prospect of Peace webinar. This international dialogue hosted globally renowned speakers including Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, the former Prime Minister of Malaysia and Mr. Nader Nadery, the Chairman of the Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission in Afghanistan. The inaugural webinar highlighted the challenges of negotiating for peace, as well as the importance of an independent Afghan-led mediation team in brokering peace between the Government of Afghanistan and the Taliban.

All in all, it was an exceedingly fruitful year for our think tank as we chose to pursue resilience over instability and perseverance over uncertainty. We made the most of the challenges of the pandemic including the social distancing measures and border closures; by organizing more online webinars participated by an array of international thought-leaders and subject matter experts.

Most excitingly towards the end of the year, we became an active participant of the United Nations Global Compact, joining over 14,000 companies and 4,000 non-businesses as the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative. Through our policy research work, we hope to continually incorporate and advocate for the 17 SDGs for a better future for our nation and our world.



Project Reports

<p style="text-align: center;">Development Economics <i>(*) indicates reference in appendices</i></p>				
	Project Title	Project Type	Overview	Output
01	Johor Sustainable Development Report 2020	Research Project & Publication	A detailed report with a compilation of statistics, providing insight and policy recommendations, which covers a wide range of subject matter including governance, economic growth, human capital, infrastructure, environment, healthcare and education; based on UN SDGs.	Policy Report
02	From Pandemic to Endemic: Path towards Normalisation	Research Project & Publication	A paper that paints the background to Malaysia's slow recovery which leads to the need for a recovery strategy towards endemic. Malaysia requires a recalibration in its mindset and direction in dealing with COVID-19 to accept that this virus is endemic. This policy paper also comes with suggested recommendations as a way forward.	Policy Report and Op-ed*
03	Building Resilience in Malaysian Higher Education	Research Project & Publication	A policy paper that indicates the importance of accelerating digital revolution to transform higher education institutions to adapt to the new business environment post pandemic. This paper also indicates strategies towards higher education resilience, including the formulation of a recovery plan, decentralization in decision-making, funding reform, expansion of consultancy services and promotion of lifelong learning.	Policy Report and Op-ed*
04	Food Security: Resilience in the Face of Uncertainty	Research Project & Publication	A research collaboration with School of Economics, Finance & Banking (SEFB), Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM), on food security in Malaysia to examine the challenges and structural issues and explore how strategic intervention in terms of agricultural technology and financing can propel Malaysia's food security. The research projects include webinars, book chapters and op-ed articles.	Op-ed*, Chapter in Book and Webinar
05	CME-BAA Macroeconomic Observatory	Advocacy	Joint media statements by Bait Al Amanah and Center for Market Education (CME) to advocate for better policies regarding national economic issues. These include the need for Parliament to reconvene immediately to table the 12th Malaysia Plan, support for Bank Negara's decision to keep the Overnight Policy Rate (OPR) unchanged, urge for policymakers to keep a close watch on inflation.	Joint Media Statements*

06	Budget 2022 Analysis	Commentaries	Perspectives on Malaysia Budget 2022 were conveyed through articles, interviews and a webinar. These comprise of topics on upskilling, reskilling and underemployment, as well as recovery, resilience and reform. Additionally, the webinar highlighted perspectives on positive reforms in the 2022 Budget cycle, courageous fiscal reforms, an inclusive approach to social safety nets though lacking in Active Labour Market Policies and the need for long-term recovery initiatives instead of stop gap measures.	Interview , Op-ed* and Webinar
07	Urban Poverty Policy	Research Project	A research paper in collaboration with Center for Market Education (CME) and the Embassy of Belgium to analyze existing policies that are relevant to urban poverty eradication efforts and propose new and implementable policy recommendations, in line with promoting social mobility through growth and entrepreneurship.	Policy Report and Webinar
08	Malaysia-Pakistan Trade and Economic Relations Report	Research Project	A joint effort with Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) and Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) to produce a report which examines the intricacies of the trade and economic relations between Malaysia and Pakistan and explores greater opportunities for business and trade activities in a post-pandemic recovery era. The outcomes of this report will serve as a tool to lobby for greater government support for trade activities between Malaysia and Pakistan.	Proposal Stage
09	COVID Resilience Race	Policy Recommendation	A research paper on the overall resilience of Malaysia to achieve the new normal, to reopen the economy fully, and to recover from the COVID-19 lockdowns. This report includes policy considerations and recommendations for the government of Malaysia and relevant organizations.	Policy Brief
10	Budget 2022 Online Stakeholders' Roundtable	Joint Project	Together with Institute for Strategic Analysis and Policy Research (INSAP), a stakeholders' roundtable was organized to push for specific initiatives which should be included in Budget 2022. Underlying these initiatives, we strongly believe in the need to work together towards tackling the long term COVID-19 impact, protecting lives and livelihood, reinforcing national resilience, catalyzing reforms and leaving no one behind.	Joint Declaration*
11	International Best Practices for Tobacco and Nicotine Public Policy	Joint Research	This study explores case studies in East Asia and Asia to illustrate how developments in tobacco quit aids lead to greater smoking cessation rates, with specific focus on Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Japan and South Korea. The report is in	Policy Report

			collaboration with Property Rights Alliance and Center for Market Education.	
12	Inflation, Unemployment and COVID-19 Policies: Where is the Malaysian Economy Heading?	Joint Research	This policy paper critically analyzed the fiscal and monetary policies implemented to help Malaysia navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic. Co-authored with Center for Market Education, this paper focus on the unintended consequences and the pace set for the future of the national economy. A summary of the different fiscal and monetary policies implemented during the COVID-19 era are reported in this paper, with a focus on the current trends for GDP, unemployment and inflation. This paper also explores measures under the lens of a theoretical economic analysis, to stress the unintended consequences they produced and the perilous path they created for the future of the Malaysian economy.	Policy Paper
13	The Economic Impact of School Closures in Malaysia	Joint Research	Together with Center for Market Education, a study was conducted on the impact of school closures due to COVID-19 containment measures in Malaysia in the long run. Malaysian education system is already suffering from several problems, even more with the COVID-19 crisis. This is mainly as a result of centralization. The policies implemented by the Malaysian Government to attempt to curb the spread of the virus – namely, the closures of educational institutions, and in particular schools, associated with several lockdowns – have heavily weighed on the Malaysian society and life. This policy paper addresses the most critical effects of school closures on the Malaysian socioeconomic system, proposing a list of policy prescriptions for a safe return to face-to-face education.	Policy Paper
14	Joint Study on Temporary Basic Income (TBI) in Sarawak	Joint Research	This study envisaged to examine TBI in the Sarawakian context to observe its applicability and effectiveness in poverty eradication, as a significant step towards a deeper and all-encompassing social protection system.	Proposal Stage

Politics & Advocacy				
	Project Title	Project Type	Overview	Output
15	Ending Childhood Statelessness	Policy Recommendation & Advocacy	A collaboration with Wiki Impact to analyse existing policies and data available that are relevant to the human rights issues among the stateless communities and propose new, implementable policy recommendations. Out of the collaboration, Projek Didik Semua was formulated to advocate for the opening of public school for stateless children.	Policy Brief, Op-Ed and Webinar
16	Parliamentary Reform Advocacy with SEED Community for a Professional Parliament	Policy Recommendation & Advocacy	Ongoing advocacy efforts together with SEED Community for a Professional Parliament (SCPP), a network of individuals active in civil society organisations, think tanks and academia working towards a professional Parliament that facilitates healthy policy competition between parties. Projects include Memorandum for Improved Budget Review Process, Survey of MPs on National COVID-19 Plan Implementation and Press Statements for Parliamentary Reform such as introduction of Recall Election and Political Financing.	Press Statements and two Webinars titled " Recall Elections: A Solution to Party Hopping in Malaysia? " and " Transparency in Democracy: Building Support for Transparency in Political Financing "
17	International Conference on Student Development in Higher Education 2021 (ICSDHE)	Advocacy & Report	UNESCO endorsed conference organized in collaboration with International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) on defining a 'new narrative' to the functions of Student Affairs offices beyond services and welfare, bringing together leading academics, researchers, and activists to exchange and share their experiences and research findings on all aspects of student development and management.	Virtual Conference
18	Webinar Negara: Essence of a New National Paradigm	Advocacy	A webinar co-organized with Projek Bangsa Malaysia and Majlis Belia Malaysia to advocate for enhanced COVID-19 pandemic management through improved policy-making, good governance, increased efforts in building trust towards better SOP compliance and long-term systemic socio-economic reforms. Also, Bait Al Amanah and IDEAS released a joint media statement calling for an effective approach to national strategies in the fight against COVID-19, grounded in science and data.	Webinar and Media Statement

Foreign Affairs

	Project Title	Project Type	Overview	Output
19	Kashmir in Perspective: The Prospect for Peace and Democracy	Advocacy	An advocacy effort conducted with Tower Bridge Consultancy & Training and NAHEL Endowment for peace to raise awareness and instill understanding on the ongoing conflicts in Kashmir. The webinar organized included the President of Azad Jammu Kashmir himself alongside other international leaders from the United Kingdom, Pakistan, Turkey, Indonesia and Tunisia as presenters.	Academic Paper and a Webinar
20	Southern Thailand: Prospect for Peace in a Forgotten Conflict	Research Project	Research on Southern Thailand has been developed to analyze the issue as the most complex conflict in the Southeast Asia. Two webinars have also been organized with the first one focusing on the possible and sustainable solutions for peace making process from the experts and academicians related to the subject matter. The second webinar on the other hand featured the representative from Barisan Revolusi Nasional (BRN), MARA Patani, and Patani Liberation Organization (PULO) as the panelists with the aim to understand the root causes of the conflict and the inspiration of the Patani people in ending the conflict and towards a peaceful resolution.	Policy Brief and two Webinars titled " Prospect for Peace in a Forgotten Conflict " and " Wacana Damai Patani Selatan Thailand "
21	South China Sea Dispute: What it Means to Malaysia-China Relations	Advocacy	A webinar on South China Sea in the context of Malaysia-China relations has been greatly debated by the Malaysian scholars. This discourse aimed to analyze the domestic and structural imperatives on the maritime disputes and the best mechanisms to navigate Malaysia-China relations. This webinar is a joint effort between Bait Al Amanah with Z Consulting Group and NAHEL Endowment for Peace.	Webinar
22	Afghanistan Post US Military Withdrawal: The Prospect of Peace	Advocacy	A webinar co-organized by Bait Al-Amanah and Afghan Peace Mediation Team as a discussion platform to discuss the US military withdrawal from Afghanistan on 11th September 2021 and how it will affect the peace process, the challenges of negotiating for peace between the Government of Afghanistan and the Taliban, the importance of an independent Afghan-led mediation team in brokering peace between the Government of Afghanistan and the Taliban.	Webinar

Way Forward

The year 2022 is still fraught with many challenges and uncertain times ahead. On the international front, the possibility of war greatly threatens a global recovery from the pandemic, in addition to worsening humanitarian crises all over the world.

Closer to home, we continue to grapple with larger waves of COVID-19 due to the more contagious though less severe Omicron variant and an uneven economic recovery across sectors. Furthermore, the threat of political instability within the government in addition to environmental disasters due to erratic weather might derail our path towards holistic recovery.

With an unknown future ahead of us, we at Bait Al Amanah seek to continue providing in-depth policy research and advocacy towards building greater resilience to face an unnerving present and a daunting future. We seek to be an active voice for Good Governance, for Reforms towards Recovery and for Peace for Posterity, in line with our commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



First, we will continue to advocate for Good Governance through improved policy-making, greater accountability and parliamentary reforms. This will be done through our active participation in SEED Community for a Professional Parliament and also the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM) on political financing. Besides that, we will continue to advocate for holistic public healthcare outcomes through incorporating principles of harm reduction based on a commitment to human rights and evidence-based policy.

Second, we will pursue Reforms towards Recovery through fresh ideas and perspectives to development economics. For instance, we will continue our research on urban poverty and temporary basic income, seeking poverty alleviation initiatives that are empowerment centric and community-driven in a bottom-up approach. This aligns with SDG Goal 1 to eradicate extreme poverty and promote sustainable social protection systems. In addition, we will continually uphold the right to equitable and quality education for stateless children in line with SDG Goal 4, through our advocacy efforts; besides providing insight towards education reform.

Third, we will champion Peace for Posterity through in-depth policy briefs and reports in addition to providing platforms for discourse on conflict regions. As an independent and non-aligned think tank, we aim to provide a neutral platform where experts and also opposing factions can discuss a better way forward, based on the foundation of SDG 16 for Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and SDG 17 to strengthen global partnership for sustainable development.

All in all, we are committed to developing new perspectives and providing valuable insights to advance broader societal goals, including enhanced governance and democracy, socioeconomic growth and international security. As an active participant of the United Nations Global Compact, we seek to capitalize on collaboration and innovation to build a better present and future for Malaysia, our region and the world.

Benedict Weerasena
Research Director

Our Team



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Founding Director



Benedict Weerasena
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Abel Benjamin Lim
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Cellini Basri
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Dr. Nazli Aziz

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Dr. Awang Azman
Pawi**

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Malay Sociopolitic & Socioculture and Development Consultancy.



Dr. Carmelo Ferlito
Associate Consultant
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Support Us

Since our founding in 2015, we have been passionately providing expertise and insights in areas of governance and democracy, economics, foreign affairs and issues of national importance through sound research and evidence-based analysis.

Our team of brilliant young minds guided by experienced subject matter experts have successfully stimulated public debate, advocated for greater policy action on crucial socio-economic challenges and offered innovative solutions to address the pressing needs of our nation and neighbouring region. Through ongoing research, publications, roundtable discussions and webinars, we continually seek to provide new and creative perspectives to policy development.

As a non-profit organization, we depend on the generous contribution of donors who believe in our mission for enhanced policy research towards a better future together. Your funding support to Bait Al Amanah will ensure that we continue to serve as important catalysts for ideas and action. The more diverse our funding base, the greater the independence and impact of our research work.

All in all, your philanthropic contribution to institutions like us could help make a world of difference, not just for our ongoing mission, but also for the compounding impacts of our efforts on our global society. Please partner with us towards a better tomorrow by making a contribution at:

Account Name	: Bait Al Amanah
Bank Name	: Maybank
Bank Account No.	: 562674224072
Bank Address	: Maybank Ampang Point Branch, No 2 & 3 Jalan Memanda 7 Batu 4 1/2 Jalan Ampang, Taman Dato' Ahmad Razali, 68000 Ampang Jaya, Selangor.
Swift Code	: MBBEMYKL

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Appendix: Media Coverage

Development Economics

- i) COVID-19 Pandemic & Economic Recovery
- [A clarion call from think tanks, 4 June 2021, Borneo Post](#)
 - [Better to get middle-income back to work, says economist, 9 November 2021, Free Malaysia Today](#)
 - [BNM Yakin Ekonomi Malaysia Bakal Pulih, 16 April 2021, Dewan Ekonomi Jendela DBP](#)
 - [Covid containment measures could be more successful if govt more clear on the SOPs, 13 September 2021, The Malaysian Reserve](#)
 - [Going backwards in the COVID-19 resilience race, 30 June 2021, MalayMail](#)
 - [Greater savings through investing in supplements, 23 July 2021, The Malaysian Reserve](#)
 - [Have clear, coordinated strategy to curb pandemic, 2 June 2021, MalaysiaKini](#)
 - [LETTER | Time to make peace with Covid-19, virus not leaving us, 2 August 2021, MalaysiaKini](#)
 - [Survey: Majority of polled MPs find vaccination rollout inefficient, 14 June 2021, Malaysiakini](#)
 - [Time to make peace with Covid-19, the virus is not leaving us, 2 August 2021 The Malaysian Insight](#)
 - [Tingkatkan jumlah sasaran suntikan, 3 Jun 2021, Berita Harian](#)
 - [Tingkatkan 300,000 dos vaksin sehari, gesa 22 badan pemikir, 3 Jun 2021, UtusanTV](#)
- ii) Budget 2022
- [Budget 2022 must address inclusivity, development issues, 22 September 2021, The Malaysian Reserve](#)
 - [Budget 2022 – upskilling, reskilling and underemployment, 3 November 2021 The Malaysian Insight](#)
 - [Budget 2022 wish list: Civil service reforms, more development for Sabah, Sarawak, support for SMEs, 21 September 2021, Twentytwo13](#)
 - [Cukai Makmur: Scaring investors by punishing success, 4 November 2021, Free Malaysia Today](#)
 - [It's a pre-election budget, not a post-pandemic one, says economist, 29 October 2021, Free Malaysia Today](#)
 - [\[LIVE\] Consider This: Budget 2022 - Primed for recovery? | 29th Oct 2021, Astro Awani](#)
 - [LETTER | Budget 2022: Upskilling, reskilling and underemployment, 4 November 2021, MalaysiaKini](#)
 - [Prioritising development of Sabah and Sarawak among think tanks' wish list for Budget 2022, 22 September 2021, The Star](#)

- iii) Poverty & Social Protection
- [Bridge to upward mobility, 9 December 2021, The Star](#)
 - [Cash is king in helping the poor, say experts, 4 June 2021, Asia Newsday](#)
 - [Interest waiver won't help B50 group that much, says economist, 12 October 2021, Free Malaysia Today](#)
 - [Relook how Malaysia measures poverty, say academics, 15 April 2021, Free Malaysia Today](#)
 - [Taking a business path out of urban poverty, 26 May 2021, The Edge Markets](#)
- iv) Macroeconomic Policy
- [Bank Negara, citing improving sentiments, keeps OPR at 1.75pc, 5 March 2021, New Straits Times](#)
 - [BNM maintains OPR at 1.75% on expectation economy recovering, 5 March 2021, The Malaysian Reserve](#)
 - [High debt-to-GDP ratio not a major concern, says economist, 9 April 2021, Free Malaysia Today](#)
 - [Isyarat mengelirukan dorong pelabur lari, kata ahli ekonomi, 1 May 2021, Malay News](#)
 - [Keep an eye on inflation pressures, group tells Bank Negara, 26 March 2021, Free Malaysia Today](#)
 - [MEO urges BNM, policymakers to watch inflation trend, 26 March 2021, Malaysian Daily News](#)
 - [Mixed signals will drive investors away, warn economist, 1 May 2021, Free Malaysia Today](#)
 - [What's blocking Malaysia's climb to high-income status, 17 March 2021, Free Malaysia Today](#)
- v) Labour Market
- [Career prospects of fresh graduates unlikely to improve soon, say experts, 24 March 2021, The Malaysian Insight](#)
 - [Focus more on structural changes in labour market, 4 November 2021, New Straits Times](#)
 - [Report: Fresh grad salaries fell to minimum wage level in 2020, says Stats Dept, 1 April 2021, Malaymail](#)
 - [Salaries of New graduates dropped down to Minimum wage according to Stats Dept, 1 April 2021, The Asian Affairs](#)
- vi) Education Policy
- [Economic impact of prolonged school closure, 2 June 2021, Astro Awani](#)
 - [Education: A Powerful Driver of Social Mobility, 1 September 2021, Wiki Impact](#)
 - [How about a national recovery plan for education?, 21 July 2021, New Straits Times](#)
 - [National recovery plan critical for higher education, 23 July 2021, The Star](#)

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 - [School closures cost RM80 billion a year, 31 May 2021, The Malaysian Insight](#)
 - [The cost of school closures? RM80bil a year, claims paper, 31 May 2021, Free Malaysia Today](#)
- vii) Food Security
- [Ageing farmers, old techniques among agri-challenges, says official, 23 June 2021, The Malaysian Insight](#)
 - [Food security webinar: resilience in the face of uncertainty, 25 June 2021, The Vibes](#)
 - [High prices could escalate food insecurity, 30 November 2021, The Star](#)
 - [Mafi admits logistical headaches forcing producers to dump food, 22 June 2021, The Malaysian Insight](#)
 - [Make agriculture attractive among youths, 23 June 2021, The Malaysian Reserve](#)
 - [Sky-high prices will lead to growing food insecurity, 29 November 2021, Malaysiakini](#)
 - [Sky-high prices escalate food insecurity, 29 November 2021, The Malaysian Insight](#)
 - [Usahawan tani muda buktikan pertanian jana pendapatan besar, 26 Jun 2021, The Malaysian Insight](#)
 - [Young 'agropreneur' says agriculture where the money is, 26 June 2021, The Malaysian Insight](#)
- viii) Others
- [ECRL route set to accelerate property value, 19 April 2021, The Malaysian Reserve](#)
 - [Malaysia Property Prices May Have Hit Rock-Bottom, Says Economist, 10 June 2021, PropertyGuru](#)
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