

Islamic Astronomy Education in Malaysia: At a Glance

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As we moved towards a scientific society, we are beginning to realize that religion and science – in this case; astronomy – are the opposite sides of the same coin. For certain worships in Islam require astronomical knowledge in order to determine direction of *Kaabah* and to determine prayer times. Islamic Astronomy Education (IAE) in Malaysia begins with the advent of Islam in *Tanah Melayu* (Malaysia) circa 7th century. Therefore, *ulam?*’ (theologians) normally become a reference point in finding solution regarding astronomical issues. The purpose of this study is to highlight the progress of IAE in Malaysia. This exploratory study embarked on identifying key persons and key institutions that involved in disseminating IAE in Malaysia. As a preliminary result, we have found that IAE in Malaysia begins with individual efforts and then turn to a more collective effort. One thing for sure, it has started from small religious education schools – also known as – *sekolah pondok*. The momentum has not stopped there because there are many tertiary education institutions already have the Islamic astronomy module either as a full program or as an elective subject. It is hoped that Islamic astronomy will flourish and can contribute something valuable to society.