

# CHRISTIANITY AND THE CHINESE IN INDONESIA: ETHNICITY, EDUCATION AND ENTERPRISE

## Dr Chang-Yau HOON

Associate Professor at the Institute of Asian Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam

### Abstract:

Comprising approximately 1.2 percent of Indonesia's total population, the ethnic Chinese are known for their dominance in the Indonesian economy. Just below half of the population of Chinese Indonesians (42.8 percent) are Christians, either Protestant or Catholic. The conspicuous presence of Chinese Christians in urban cities in Indonesia gave Christianity a "Chinese face". Notwithstanding the fact that almost half of the Chinese minority are Christians, publications on Christianity among the Chinese in Indonesia are scarce. Drawing on the forthcoming monograph of the same title (June 2023), this seminar examines three aspects of Protestant Christianity among the ethnic Chinese in urban Indonesia: ethnicity, education, and enterprise. Through an investigation on the contested religioscapes of Indonesia and the dynamics between the state, religious groups, capitalist enterprises and the Chinese community, the paper endeavours to shed light on the murky relationships between religion, capital and the state.

**Chang-Yau HOON** is an Associate Professor at the Institute of Asian Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, and an Adjunct Research Fellow at the University of Western Australia. He specializes on the Chinese diaspora, identity politics, multiculturalism, China-ASEAN relations, and religious and cultural diversity in contemporary Southeast Asia. His latest books include *Contesting Chineseness: Ethnicity, Identity and Nation in China and Southeast Asia* (Springer, 2021), *Southeast Asia in China: Historical Entanglements and Contemporary Engagements* (Lexington, 2023); *Stability, Growth and Sustainability: Catalysts for Socio-economic Development in Brunei Darussalam* (ISEAS, 2023); and *Christianity and the Chinese in Indonesia: Ethnicity, Education and Enterprise* (Liverpool University Press, 2023).



**3 April 2023 (Monday)**  
**4:00-5:30 PM (HKT)**

**Virtual via Zoom**

How to attend this seminar:

Via Zoom  
<https://cityu.zoom.us/join/796047>  
Passcode: 796047



After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the seminar.