



BALQIS AINI MUSTAFA

Australia Malaysia Virtual PhD
Internship Program - 2022

Intercultural Adaptation and
Integration of Rohingya
Refugees in Malaysia

Thesis Outline

My PhD thesis delved into the adaptation and integration of Rohingya Refugees in Malaysia. Major findings revealed that the Rohingya refugees managed to adapt well in Malaysia, despite challenges in employment, education, healthcare and safety.

Supervisors & Institutions

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdul Latiff Ahmad
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

Dr. Aparna Hebbani
University of Queensland

Future Goals

To have a lifelong relationship with my host supervisor, future collaborations, and perhaps going back to Australia for more opportunities!

AMVPIP Experience

A remarkable experience! The virtual internship has benefitted me in so many ways, academically and personally. The knowledge and expertise Dr. Aparna has as an intercultural communication scholar has allowed me to obtain new skills, methods, and styles in qualitative research and refugee studies. And of course, Dr. Aparna's outlook on life. I am grateful to be able to visit her in Brisbane, and presented my paper in UQ! Though the internship was a brief one, the experience was priceless.

Key Takeaways

- 1) To be selected as an AMVPIP scholar will be the highlight of your year.
- 2) Leverage your host supervisor's expertise: 12 weeks are not that long, really. Communicate often, ask questions, make mistakes, progress. This is how we learn.
- 3) If you have the opportunity to visit your host supervisor and institution, please do so! Plan an academic visit. You'll learn and experience so much more. Being able to fly to Brisbane to visit Dr. Aparna and UQ is one of the memorable moments I have as an AMVPIP alumna.