

NOR HIDAYAH BINTE MOHD AMIN [HIDAYAH AMIN]

LITERARY CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

- Master of Philosophy in Historical Studies, 2011, Newnham College, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom
- Master of Science (Instructional Technology) – GPA: 3.8/4 (completed a 2-year programme in ten months), 2007, Lehigh University, USA (I was a Fulbright Scholar at Lehigh)
- Bachelor of Arts (Political Science and European Studies) 2001, National University of Singapore, Singapore
- Programme International de Sciences Politiques et Sociales (Political Science, Economics, Philosophy, French, Arabic) 2000–2001, Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, France

CAREER

- Mar 2012 – current* Writer and Publisher at Helang Books, an imprint of Archipelago Consultancy
Founder of Archipelago Consultancy, Singapore-based consultancy providing high quality services in the areas of Research, Heritage, Education and Creativity.
<http://archipelago-consultancy.com>
- July 2001 – Sept 2010* Media Producer, Educational Technology Division, Ministry of Education, Singapore
- July 2007 – Dec 2007* Pro-bono Intern, Department of Public Information (DPI), United Nations Headquarters, New York City

ACADEMIC WRITINGS

- Hidayah Amin, '*Kampong Glam: The Pulse of the Malay Archipelago (1800-1999)*' (unpublished MPhil dissertation, Department of History, University of Cambridge, 2011).
- Hidayah Amin, '*The Lands Beyond... Imagination Beyond the Classroom*' (unpublished MSc paper, College of Education, Lehigh University, 2007).
- Hidayah Amin, '*Video Games for Education: Boon or Banes*' (Instructional Game Design presentation, College of Computer Engineering, Lehigh University, 2007).
- Hidayah Amin, Demet Metan, Jhumur Halder, '*FATE: Computer Game Design*' (Instructional Game Design presentation, College of Computer Engineering, Lehigh University, 2007).
- Other short academic essays: <http://lehighgirl.blogspot.sg>

PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- ◉ Fauzy Ismail and Hidayah Amin, *Gedung Kuning: The Politics of Contested Space in Singapore* [Working Paper Series, Volume 267, CONTESTED TRADITIONS, International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE), 2014]

BOOKS

- ◉ **My Name is Nadia. I have Autism / Nama saya Nadia. Saya ada Autisme.**
[by Huda Patel, Malay text by Hidayah Amin]
This book tells the story of Nadia, an eight year-old autistic girl. Readers are given a rare insight into the world view of a child with autism.



This book is the first book in the *I am Unique* series.
ISBN 978-981-11-13499
Genre: Children's picture book, non-fiction
Format: Paperback, 32 pages
Published: 2017, Singapore
Publisher: Helang Books

- ◉ **Kampung Tempe: Voices from a Malay Village**
This book conveys fragments of Kampung Tempe's history and retells stories from the bygone days of the early settlement, and the villagers' struggle for food that led them to produce *tempe* or fermented soya bean cakes, for which the village later came to be known.



Authors: Yahaya Sanusi & Hidayah Amin
ISBN 978-981-09-9815-8
Genre: English non-fiction
Format: Hardcover, 288 pages
Published: 23 July 2016, Singapore
Publisher: Helang Books

- ◉ **A Journey of Giving: The LBKM Story**
This book chronicles a Singapore charity, LBKM or the Lembaga Biasiswa Kenangan Maulud (Prophet Muhammad's Birthday Memorial Scholarship Fund Board)'s 50 year history from 1965 to 2015.



ISBN 978-981-09-7996-6
Genre: English non-fiction
Format: Hardcover, 224 pages
Published: 22 January 2016, Singapore
Publisher: LBKM

◉ **Mina meets Cambridge**

Mina is excited to visit her elder sister, Zara, in Cambridge. Mina has heard so much about Cambridge University from Zara and longs to visit. As Mina spends time with her sister, she discovers many interesting facts about Cambridge. However, she wonders why Zara does not seem to notice the charming characters they meet along the way...



Mina meets Cambridge is a whimsical story of an imaginative girl's adventure in Cambridge. There, she learns that in order to be successful, one needs to work hard, persevere, and have the courage to dream big.

ISBN 978-981-09-4282-3

Braille: ISBN 978-981-09-4898-6

Genre: Children's picture book, fiction

Format: Hardcover, 64 pages

Published: September 2015, Singapore

Publisher: Helang Books

◉ **Hang Nadim and the Garfish**

With print text in Dyslexic Font, Braille and digitally enhanced tactile elements, the retelling of Singapore folktale – *Hang Nadim and the Garfish*, a story of a young boy doing good with his bright idea – in this innovative One-for-All book seeks to integrate the needs of differently-abled children.



This book is the first book in the *Little Kids, Big Ideas* series.

ISBN 978-981-09-4899-3

Genre: Children's picture book, fiction

Format: Paperback, 30 pages

Published: June 2015, Singapore

Publisher: Helang Books

◉ **Malay Weddings don't cost \$50 and Other Facts about Malay Culture**

A collection of 42 articles about Malay culture and heritage, lifestyle and personas, customs and practices, including controversial issues such as circumcision, supernatural beings, determining of virginity, and the infamous '\$50-Malay-wedding' remark that triggered a heated debate on racism in Singapore in October 2012.



ISBN 978-981-09-1051-8

Genre: English non-fiction

Format: Paperback, 224 pages

Published: October 2014, Singapore, 1st Edition

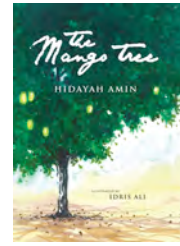
Publisher: Helang Books

◉ **The Mango Tree**

The Mango Tree is a touching story about family relationships, appreciation for nature, and having a rooted sense of identity that transcends time and space.

ISBN 978-981-07-5134-0
 eBook ISBN 9789674450816
 Braille: ISBN 978-981-09-1050-1

Genre: Children's picture book, non-fiction
 Format: Hardcover, 32 pages
 Published: March 2013, Singapore, 1st Edition
 Reprint: 2015
 Publisher: Helang Books
<http://gedungkuning.com/mango-tree-book/>



◉ **Gedung Kuning: Memories of a Malay Childhood**

A collection of 28 short stories revolving around my childhood home, Gedung Kuning (the Yellow Mansion) that was home to the family of Haji Yusoff 'Tali Pinggang' from 1912 to 1999. Through the short stories, readers get a historical narrative detailing the lives of people living in Gedung Kuning and the Malays of Singapore from 1850s to 1999.

ISBN 978-981-08-4756-2
 Genre: English non-fiction
 Format: Paper Back, 227 pages
 Published: January 2010, Singapore, 1st Edition
 Publishers: Singapore Heritage Society and Helang Books
<http://gedungkuning.com/gedung-kuning-book/>



BOOK EDITED

◉ **The Pursuit of Knowledge: Stories that Inspire and Empower**

This book is a collection of eight real-life stories of ordinary Singaporeans who struggled to pursue their dreams and ambitions.

ISBN 978-981-09-5277-8
 Genre: English non-fiction
 Format: Paperback, 94 pages
 Published: 7 November 2015, Singapore
 Publishers: RIMA & LBKM



SHORT STORIES

- ◉ Hidayah Amin, *Demon Wind*, Finalist in the Newnham Short Story Competition 2010/11, Newnham College, University of Cambridge.

ARTICLES & COMMENTARIES PUBLISHED IN NEWSPAPERS

- ◉ Hidayah Amin, 'MLM: Perhambaan Moden', *Berita Harian*, 15 February 2014.
- ◉ Hidayah Amin, 'Tell real story of Kampong Glam', *The Sunday Times*, 17 June 2012

- Hidayah Amin, 'Pastikan Kampong Glam tetap berciri kemelayuan', *Berita Harian*, 6 June 2012

ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN MAGAZINES

- Hidayah Amin, *Siram and Param*, Karyawan magazine Volume 10 Issue 1, Singapore: Association of Muslim Professionals, July 2009.
- Hidayah Amin, *Haji Yusoff 'Tali Pinggang' – Patriarch of Gedung Kuning and Pioneering Malay Entrepreneur*, Karyawan magazine Volume 9 Issue 2, Singapore: Association of Muslim Professionals, January 2009.
- Farhan Ali and Hidayah Amin, *The Forgotten Infant: Pre-natal Health and the Future of the Community*, Karyawan magazine Volume 9 Issue 1, Singapore: Association of Muslim Professionals, July 2008.

HONOURS & AWARDS

- **2017 IBBY Selection of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities**
Si Ma Guang and the Giant Jar by Lee Seow Ser. Publisher: Helang Books
- **2016 International Book Awards (IBA)**
Malay Weddings don't cost \$50 and Other Facts about Malay Culture is one of the two finalists of the IBA in the Multicultural Non-Fiction category.
- **SingaPlural 2016 – Recognition Showcase**
Hang Nadim and the Garfish is **selected** for the Recognition Showcase.
SingaPlural showcases the best design elements from the multi-faceted creative spectrum – Advertising, Architecture, Urban Planning, Landscape Architecture, as well as Interior, Furniture, Graphic and Fashion Design. SingaPlural is also the anchor event of the annual Singapore Design Week, which is organised by the DesignSingapore Council, a part of the Ministry of Communications and Information.
- **Samsung KidsTime Author's Award (SKTAA) 2015**
The Mango Tree book is the **Grand Prize (Singapore) winner**. There were 149 entries from the ASEAN countries, 32 second prize winners. Grand Prize Winners: 2 from Vietnam, 2 from the Philippines, 1 from Indonesia and 1 from Singapore.
- **Hedwig Anuar Children's Book Award (HABA) 2015**
The Mango Tree is the **winner** of the HABA. There were 63 entries from Singapore.
- **Singapore Literature Prize (SLP) 2014**
The Mango Tree was **shortlisted** for the SLP in the English, Non-Fiction category. The book was the only children's book among the other four shortlisted Non-Fiction works.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

- **SLP Panel – The Singapore Story: How does fiction, non-fiction, and poetry preserve it?**
Date: Wednesday, 4 March 2015

Time: 7 – 8.30 pm
 Venue: The National Library Building
 Moderated by: Dr Meira Chand
 Featuring: Joshua Yap, M Ravi, Hidayah Amin, Yong Shu Hoong

- ◉ **Full Disclosure: Writing Autobiography**
 Date: Sunday, 3 August 2014
 Time: 10.30 am – 11.45 am
 Venue: The Arts House
 Moderated by: Gene Tan
 Featuring: Constance Singam, Gwee Thian Hock, Hidayah Amin
- ◉ **Full Disclosure: Remembering Places**
 Date: Sunday, 3 August 2014
 Time: 2 pm – 3 pm
 Venue: The Arts House
 Moderated by: Kelvin Ang
 Featuring: Hidayah Amin, Josephine Chia, Tan Kok Yang
- ◉ **HerStories in Print**
 Date: Saturday, 8 March 2014
 Time: 2 – 4 pm
 Venue: Malay Heritage Centre Auditorium
 Moderator: Alfian Saat
 Featuring: Hidayah Amin, Aziza Ali, Rita Zahara

LITERARY FESTIVALS / WORKSHOPS / SEMINARS / FORUMS

SINGAPORE

- ◉ **#BuySingLit 2017**
 Poke-a-Braille Go!
 Date: Sunday, 26 February 2017
 Time: 3 pm – 5 pm
 Venue: The National Library Building
- ◉ **BuySingLit 2017**
 Storytelling & Drama Sama-sama
 Date: Saturday, 25 February 2017
 Time: 5 pm – 7 pm
 Venue: Malay Heritage Centre
- ◉ **To S.I.R (Socially Inclusive Reads) with Love. A socially inclusive picture book for kids, with or without special needs**
 Preschool & Primary Teachers Congress, Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC)
 Panel: Hidayah Amin, Lee Seow Ser, Tan Ai Khim
 Date: Sunday, 29 May 2016
 Time: 11.15 am – 12.15 pm
 Venue: The National Library Building
- ◉ **Little Kids, Big Ideas: Hang Nadim and the Garfish**
 Singapore Writers Festival
 Date: Sunday, 1 November 2015
 Time: 1 pm – 2 pm

Venue: River Room, Asian Civilisation Museum

- ◉ **The Nuts and Bolts of Self-Publishing: The Good, The Bad and The Fabulous**
 Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC) 2015
 Panel: Hidayah Amin, Sarah Mounsey, Emma Nicholson
 Date: Thursday, 4 June 2015
 Time: 12 pm – 1pm
 Venue: The National Library Building
- ◉ **Dream Bearers: Inspiring Children to Achieve**
 Speakers: Titus Yong & Aeron Young
 Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC) 2015
 Moderator: Hidayah Amin
 Date: Sunday, 31 May 2015
 Time: 4.30 – 5.30 pm
 Venue: The National Library Building
- ◉ **Buku untuk Kanak-kanak yang Berkeperluan Khas: Kami Juga Mahu Membaca!**
 [Books for Children with Special Needs: We Want to Read Too!]
 Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC) 2015
 Speaker: Hidayah Amin
 Date: Sunday, 31 May 2015
 Time: 11 am – 12.30 pm
 Venue: Bukit Merah Public Library
- ◉ **Little Lit!**
 Singapore Writer's Festival (SWF) 2013
 Date: Sunday, 10 November 2013
 Time: 3:30 – 4:30 pm
 Venue: Big Steps, Sch of Information Systems, S'pore Management University (SMU)
- ◉ **No Future in Nostalgia?**
 Singapore Writer's Festival (SWF) 2013
 Date: Sunday, 3 November 2013
 Time: 2:30 – 3:30 pm
 Moderated by: Angeline Yap
 Featuring: Choo Yangsze, Hidayah Amin, Josephine Chia
- ◉ **About my Childhood**
 Singapore Writer's Festival (SWF) 2013
 Date: Saturday, 2 November 2013
 Time: 5:30 – 6:30 pm
 Venue: Glass Hall, S'pore Art Museum (SAM)
 Moderated by: Pearl Samuel
 Featuring: Ann Peters, Bernice Chauly, Hidayah Amin

OVERSEAS

- ◉ **Jom Baca Bersama 10 minit Tahun 2017**
 (organised by National Public Library of Johor)
 Date: 26 April 2017
 Time: 11 am – 11.10 am
 Venue: Sekolah Kebangsaan Nong Chik, Johor Bahru, Malaysia

- ◎ **International Forum on Values and Ethics in Media Affairs**
 (organised by Letran and the Singapore Management University)
 Date: 26 November 2016
 Time: 10 am – 12.30 pm
 Venue: Colegio de San Juan de Letran, Manila, The Philippines
- ◎ **Children's Literature in ASEAN Countries**
 International Association of School Librarianship (IASL)
 Date: 18 – 19 October 2016
 Time: 2.45 pm – 4.15 pm (Session 3)
 Venue: Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
- ◎ **Buku Inklusif Untuk Kanak-kanak Pelbagai Upaya: Jom Baca Bersama!**
 Festival Kanak-Kanak (Children's Literature Festival) 2015
 Date: Thursday, 29 October 2015
 Time: 2.30 pm – 3.30 pm
 Venue: Dataran Underground, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

BOOK READINGS / CLUBS / WORKSHOPS

- ◎ **Book discussion**
 Audience: 15 people
 Date: Wednesday, 26 April 2017
 Time: 7.30 pm – 9 pm
 Venue: Wardah Books
- ◎ **Sharing Session**
 Audience: 60 Grade 4 Pupils from United World College South East Asia (Singapore)
 Date: Wednesday, 23 and 30 November 2016
 Time: 12.30 pm – 1.40 pm
 Venue: Primary Library, United World College, East Campus
- ◎ **Creative Writing Workshop**
 Audience: 50 Girl Guides from 24 secondary schools
 Date: Saturday, 25 June 2016
 Time: 9 am – 1 pm
 Venue: Singapore Girl Guides HQ
- ◎ **Creative Writing Workshop**
 Audience: 44 Brownies from 14 primary schools
 Date: Saturday, 4 June 2016
 Time: 9 am – 1 pm
 Venue: Singapore Girl Guides HQ
- ◎ **Meet the Writer**
 Audience: 70 students from Primary 1, 2 and 3 from the English Literary Appreciation Programme
 Date: Thursday, 3 March 2016
 Time: 2.30 pm – 3.30 pm
 Venue: School Library, West Spring Primary School
- ◎ **Book Talk by Local Author**
 Audience: Sec 1 to 3 Malay Language students (approximately 100 students)
 Date: Monday, 17 August 2015

Venue: Saint Anthony's Canossian Secondary School

- ◉ **Meet the Author @ Kinokuniya**
 Dates: 1 and 15 August 2015
 Venue: Kinokuniya JEM & Kinokuniya Takashimaya
- ◉ **Creative Writing Workshop**
 Audience: 45 Lower Secondary Students
 Date: Tuesday, 26 May 2015
 Venue: Changkat Changi Secondary School
- ◉ **SLP Panel (English non-fiction)**
 Audience: Public
 Date: Saturday, 16 May 2015
 Venue: The Arts House
- ◉ **Meet the Author**
 Audience: Participants from the FUNdaMENTAL Book Club
 Date: Wednesday, 25 March 2015
 Venue: Woodlands Regional Library
- ◉ **SLP Panel**
 Audience: Participants from the Singapore Writers Group
 Date: Saturday, 7 March 2015
 Venue: The Book Café, 20 Martin Road
- ◉ **UWCSEA – Asian Arts & Culture Week**
 Audience: Pupils from United World College South East Asia (Singapore)
 Date: Monday, 9 February 2015
 Venue: Primary Library, United World College, East Campus
- ◉ **Book Reading**
 Audience: 19 pupils & 5 teachers from Yan Chai Hospital Chiu Tsang Hok Wan Primary School (Hong Kong)
 Date: Sunday, 26 January 2014
 Venue: Wardah Books
- ◉ **Assembly programme**
 Audience: 710 pupils
 Date: Monday, 2 September 2013
 Venue: Da Qiao Primary School
- ◉ **artFIESTA**
 Audience: 15 kids with parents
 Dates: Saturday, 8 June 2013 & Sunday, 9 June 2013
 Venue: ArtSpace by Maya Gallery
- ◉ **Let's read!**
 Audience: 10 kids
 Date: Saturday, 1 June 2013
 Venue: Club HEAL
- ◉ **Readings@Seksan**
 Audience: 25 people
 Date: 25 February 2012

Venue: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

- ◉ **Gedung Kuning**
Singapore Book Club's Book Discussion Series 2010
Date: 3 September 2010 (Friday)
Time: 8 pm – 9.30 pm
Venue: The Arts House

BOOK LAUNCHES (BY HELANG BOOKS)

- ◉ **My Name is Nadia. I have Autism.**
Date: Saturday, 20 May 2017
Time: 4.30 pm – 5 pm
Venue: The Plaza, National Library Building, Singapore
Attendance: 30 people
In conjunction with the Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC)

Date: Saturday, 2 April 2017
Time: 1 pm – 3 pm
Venue: The Red Zone, Publika Shopping Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Attendance: 100 people
In conjunction with World Autism Awareness Day
- ◉ **Si Ma Guang and the Giant Jar**
Date: Friday, 14 October 2016
Time: 10.30 pm – 12.30 pm
Venue: Lighthouse School
Attendance: 100 people
https://www.facebook.com/pg/Helang-Books-112795035469893/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1134103170005736
- ◉ **Kampung Tempe: Voices from a Malay Village**
Date: Saturday, 23 July 2016
Time: 2 pm – 4.30 pm
Venue: Auditorium, Malay Heritage Centre
Attendance: 140 people
https://www.facebook.com/Helang-Books-112795035469893/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1067578586658195
- ◉ **Mina meets Cambridge**
Date: Sunday, 13 September 2015
Time: 11.30 am – 2.30 pm
Venue: The Pod, Level 16, National Library Building
Attendance: about 130 people
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.889029341179788.1073741830.112795035469893&type=3>
- ◉ **Hang Nadim and the Grafish**
Date: Saturday, 20 June 2015
Time: 10 am – 12 pm
Venue: The Plaza, National Library Building
Attendance: 120 people
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.845221888893867.1073741828.112795035469893&type=3>

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- ◉ **Malay Weddings Don't Cost \$50 and Other Facts about Malay Culture**
 Date: Saturday, 18 October 2014
 Time: 2.30 – 6 pm
 Venue: The Salon, National Museum of Singapore
 Attendance: about 200 people
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.722651414484249.1073741827.112795035469893&type=1>
- ◉ **The Mango Tree**
 Date: Saturday, 16 March 2013
 Time: 2 – 5 pm
 Venue: The Pod, Level 16 National Library Building
 Attendance: about 150 people
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.846653895417333.1073741829.112795035469893&type=3>
- ◉ **Gedung Kuning: Memories of a Malay Childhood**
 Date: Saturday, 9 January 2010
 Time: 2.30 – 5.30 pm
 Venue: The Pod, Level 16 National Library Building
 Attendance: 160 people
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.422141215227.371017.611730227&type=3>

TALKS / DISCUSSIONS

- ◉ **Writers Talking**
 Date: Tuesday, 29 March 2016
 Time: 5.30 pm – 7 pm
 Venue: SMU Administration Building Level 6, University Lounge
- ◉ **Jalan-jalan @ Kampong Glam**
 Date: Monday, 16 November 2015
 Time: 11.30 am – 12.30 pm
 Venue: Alsagoff Arab School
- ◉ **Gedung Kuning: A Family Home and the Diversity of a Malay House**
 [Jalinan Budi Seminar Series]
 Date: 24 September 2014
 Time: 10.30 am – 12.30 pm
 Venue: National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University
- ◉ **Writing 'Gedung Kuning'**, (Singapore Management University's Lunchtime Talk Series 2010)
 Date: Wednesday, 3 March 2010
 Time: 12.30 pm – 2 pm
 Venue: Wee Kim Wee Centre, Lee Kong Chian School of Business, SMU

PARTICIPATION AS A JUDGE

- ◉ **14th Budding Writers Project**
Date: August 2015
Organiser: Marshall Cavendish
- ◉ **Semarak Temasek 2015** [audio drama competition among junior colleges]
Date: May 2015
Organiser: Temasek Junior College, Malay Cultural Society
- ◉ **Words Go Round competition, Newspaper Blackout Poetry**
Date: Saturday, 7 February 2015
Time: 9.30 am – 12.30 pm
Venue: Goodman Art Centre, Singapore
Organiser: National Arts Council
- ◉ **Everyone Writes for Kindness**
Date: Thursday, 13 November 2014
Time: 11 am – 2 pm
Venue: Suntec City, East Atrium, 3 Temasek Boulevard, Singapore
Organiser: Singapore Kindness Movement

HONORARY CONSULTANT

- ◉ **Girl Guides Singapore Centenary Storybooks Project** [March 2016 – July 2017]
The Centenary Storybooks Project aims to instil a love for reading and creative writing in our girls by publishing a special commemorative book of stories to celebrate 100 years of Guiding in Singapore.
I conducted two creative writing workshops for more than 100 Brownies and Guides in June 2016. Brownies and Guides submitted 30 entries and 4 stories were finally selected as they best capture and celebrate the Guiding Spirit and values.

WEBSITES

- ◉ **www.archipelago-consultancy.com**
This is my professional website. Helang Books is an imprint of Archipelago Consultancy.
- ◉ **www.gedungkuning.com**
The website is about Malay ethnography, as portrayed through my family's cultural history.
- ◉ **www.hida-amin.blogspot.sg**
I blog about my observations, musings and reflections of life through my travels and interactions with people.

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