## NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

**Elfatih Abdullahi** Abdelsalam, Ph.D., is Professor in the Department of Political Science at the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). He obtained his B.Sc.& M.Sc. in Political Science from Khartoum University and his Ph.D. in Political Science from Northwestern University, Illinois, USA. In addition, he obtained a Post-Graduate Diploma in Islamic Revealed Knowledge from IIUM. He taught Political Science at various universities, institutes and military academies in the Sudan before joining IIUM in1994. He has published in refereed journals in Canada, the US, the UK, Egypt, India, Malaysia and the Sudan. Prof. Elfatih has also contributed various chapters in books. His latest book "Human Rights in the Muslim World" is forthcoming in early 2015 (IIUM Press, Kuala Lumpur). His areas of specialisation include international law & diplomacy, research methods, conflict & conflict resolution, contemporary Islamic political thought & movements, comparative politics and international political.

Aliyu Mukhtar Katsina is a political scientist based in Katsina, Nigeria. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from Usmanu Danfodio University, Sokoto, Nigeria. After working as a Special Advisor (Media Affairs) to the Katsina Local Government Council, Aliyu Katsina proceeded to the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA) Kaduna where he earned his Master of Science degree in Defence and Strategic Studies. At the International Islamic University Malaysia's Department of Political Science where he earned his Ph.D. in Political Science, Aliyu Katsina also won the award for best Ph.D. He is an editorial board member of the Journal of African Studies and Development, an emerging refereed academic journal in Africa. He is also the Secretary General of the Consensus for Human Development (C4HD), a CBO based in Katsina, Nigeria. Dr. Aliyu Katsina has been working with Hassan Usman Katsina Polytechnic as an academic staff engaged in teaching and research.

His opinion pieces on topical national issues have appeared on such respected online media websites like Sahara Reporters and Pointblank News.

Mohammad Redzuan Othman is a Professor of History and former Head of Department of History, University of Malaya. He received his M.A. from SOAS, University of London, and Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh. He has written extensively on the history of Islam and society in Malaysia. He has published among others, articles in the *Journal of Islamic Studies* (Oxford), *Hamdard Islamicus* (Pakistan), *Malaysia in History* (Malaysia) and co-authored the book, *The Malays in the Middle East. With Bibliography of Malay Printed Works Published in the Middle East* (Kuala Lumpur: University of Malaya Press, 2000). He is currently the Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, and Director of University of Malaya Centre of Election and Democracy (UMCEDEL), University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**Mashitah Sulaiman** is a senior lecturer at the Faculty of Leadership and Management, Islamic Science University of Malaysia (USIM). She graduated from the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) in 2000 for her B.A (Hons) in Arabic Language and Literature and later received her M.A. in Civilization Studies from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Recently, she pursued her study in the doctoral program at the Department of History, from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya. She has published articles in the International Journal of Business and Social Science, Journal of Sejarah (University of Malaya), Jurnal Pengajian Umum (the National University of Malaysia), and has authored several books. She has written many articles on various issues significantly on Islam and the Malay civilization in Malaysia and presented papers in local and international conferences. Her principal research interests are in the history of Islam and the Malay civilization in Malaysia, ethnic relations and history of the Middle East, particularly the development of Islam and politics in Turkey, Islamic da'wah and religiosity.

Rahmah Ahmad H. Osman is a graduate of Al Azhar University and obtained her Masters from the University of Jordan and her Ph.D from SOAS, University of London. She is currently an Associate Prof. at the Dept. of Arabic Language and Literature and Deputy Director of the Office of Institutional & Academic Quality Mgt. at the International Islamic University Malaysia. She specializes in Comparative Literary Studies and Arabic Literature. She has written and published in both Arabic and English. Her publications in English include "Investigating the Perceived Emotional Experience of Bilinguals in the Acquisition of First and Second Languages: KIRKHS Students as a Case Study;" "A Bird's Eye View on the Islamic Literature Discourse in Indonesia;" Her research awards include June 2012- Outstanding Researcher Award (Islamic Knowledge), IIUM Quality Day 2012 - Gold Medal for Best Research Project, amongst others.

**Necati Aydin** is associate professor of economics at the King Saud University. Dr. Aydin received his bachelor's degree in Public Finance, master's degree in International Economics, and two doctoral degrees, one in Education and the other in Economics. He worked as a researcher at Florida State University and Florida TaxWatch Research Institute for nine years after receiving his first doctoral degree. He has conducted research in a variety of topics, including local and state government budget analysis, economic impact studies, tourism, higher education, virtual education, information technology, and Medicaid. He currently focuses on human nature, subjective well-being, and neuroeconomics, Islamic economics and finance. He conducts experimental studies on Islamic neuroeconomics using an fMRI scanner. He presents his works through conferences and seminars at some of the most prominent universities around the world, including Harvard and Cambridge. In addition to teaching MBA and doctoral courses, he conducts faculty workshops on effective teaching. In total, Dr. Aydin has completed over forty research projects, authored seven, translated two, and co-authored three books and published many peer-reviewed articles. He also writes articles in Zaman, the most widely circulated Turkish newspaper, Yeni Safak, and Today's Zaman on social and political issues.

Eron G Manusov, MD is a graduate from the Uniformed Services School of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland. Prior to this, he received his psychobiology degree from the University of California, Riverside in 1980. He has taught in several universities and practiced medicine in several states in the US. He is also the recipient of several honors and awards, including the Gold Foundation Humanism in Medical. Dr. Manusov has received several meritonous awards from the United State government for his services to the Armed Forces. He is currently the Program Director for the University of Texas School of Medicine at San Antonio (UT-Rio Grande Valley) Doctors Hospital at Renaissance Family Medicine Residency Program. His research is in the area of Happiness and Diversity. He is active in the Multi-Cultural and Multi-Racial Council for the National Rural Health Association.