

Curriculum Vitae

Sharifah Masturah Alatas
Email: alatas@unimc.it

Surname: Alatas
First names: Sharifah Masturah
Goes by: Masturah
Languages: English (mother tongue), Italian, Malay

EMPLOYMENT

1992-present: Collaboratrice ed esperta linguistica (CEL) di lingua inglese/English Language lecturer, University of Macerata, Italy.

2004-2011: Cambridge ESOL examiner.

1990-1994: Journalist, *The Star* newspaper (Malaysia).

EDUCATION

2015 Mphil English and Creative Writing, Lancaster University, UK.

Research areas: Biographical/historical novel; post-colonial novel; essay writing, migrant writing; cultural translation; creative writing theory; Emilio Salgari.

2004: MA in Culture and Media Studies, Open University, U.K. Thesis topic: The Global Savage: constructions of national and transnational identities on *Tourism Malaysia*. Thesis supervisor: Martin Moloney (SOAS).

1990: BA Honours in English and Comparative Literature, Rutgers University, New Jersey, U.S.A.

1986: Cambridge Advanced Level Certificate, 3 A-Levels, Raffles Junior College, Singapore.

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Books:

The Life in the Writing-Syed Hussein Alatas, New edition. Gerakbudaya, 2024.

The Life in the Writing-Syed Hussein Alatas, Marshall Cavendish International, 2010. Biography.

The Girl Who Made it Snow in Singapore, Ethos Books, Singapore, 2008. Children's/Young Adult reader.

Italiani per Vocazione (co-authored with Igiaba Scego and other authors), Cadmo/Casilini, Florence, 2005. Migrant writing. Winner of XXXI Emigration Prize.

Short stories:

‘Monkey business’ in *Naratif Kisah Journal*, 2016.

‘Tradictrici’, *Lingua Madre 2006*, Seb 27, Torino, 2007.

‘Sensitip issues’, *Living Rights Anthology: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in stories and poems*, Flame Books, Manchester, 2004.

Select book chapters/articles/essays/reviews:

1. ‘Emilio Salgari’ in *Christian-Muslim relations: A bibliographical history*, eds. David Thomas and John Chesworth, Brill 2024.
2. Introduzione a *I pirati della Malesia*, Emilio Salgari. Giunti-Barbera 2022.
3. “The Midlife of an Idea: Syed Hussein Alatas’ Captive Mind after Fifty Years” in *Syed Hussein Alatas and Critical Social Theory*, Brill, November 2022, pp. 22-50.
https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004521698_004
4. “Guglielmo Ferrero (1896), Ibn Kaldoun: an Arab Sociologist of the Fourteenth Century” in *Historical Sociology*, Vol. 35, Issue 3, September 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1111/johs.12376>
5. “Arif’s Gift” in *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*, 22:4, 630-636, DOI: [10.1080/14649373.2021.1995174](https://doi.org/10.1080/14649373.2021.1995174)
6. ‘Hair Conditioning’ in *Will the Flower Slip Though the Asphalt: Writers Respond to Capitalist Climate Change*, Left Books, 2017. Edited by Vijay Prashad. With contributions from Naomi Klein, Amitav Ghosh, Susan Abulhawa and others.
7. “Becoming Italian” in *CounterPunch*, 21 July 2017.
8. “The name of the eco” in *CounterPunch*, 16 February 2016.
9. “The Italian botanist and the misshapen phallus” in *CounterPunch*, 10 August 2016.
10. “Sometimes it really is about Islam” in *CounterPunch*, 16 January 2015.
11. “Malaysia’s Dog issue” in *CounterPunch*, 27 October 2014.
12. “Malaysian Mandela” in *Boundary 2*, 2014) 41(2): 21-23
13. “Becoming Native: Notes on Malaysian Trees and the Roots metaphor” in *Der Baum als Symbol und Strukturelement in der Literatur und Kunst/L’albero come simbolo e come elemento strutturale nella letteratura e nell’arte,”* Iudicium, 2012.
14. Prefazione a *Italiano-Melayu Manuale di Conversazione* di Rita Ruggeri, Marshall Cavendish International, 2012. Il primo dizionario bilingue Italiano-Bahasa Melayu. First Italian-Malay bilingual conversation handbook.
15. “Finding the Clarity” hosted by *University Ranking Watch* blog/Richard Homes, 26 January 2012.
16. ‘Examining Rem Koolhaas’ prologue to *Singapore Songlines*’, Quarterly literary Review Singapore, Vol.9 No.4 October 2010.

17. 'Una riflessione sulla traduzione inglese di *Le Tigri di Mompracem* di Emilio Salgari', El-Ghibli, Numero 27, March 2010.
18. 'Emilio Salgari meets his first Malaysian Reader', Heteroglossia, Macerata EUM, No. 10, 2009.
19. 'Storie Personal/Personal Stories: Intervista a Theodore Zeldin', Iperstoria, 26 Aprile 2009.
20. 'Brave ragazze e brutte parole: l'influenza di Sex and the City su due scrittrici mussulmane', Acoma, Milan, Numero 36, Summer 2008.
21. 'Dentro un enigma chiamata Malaysia', *L'Unita'*, 15 May 2006. Review of Italian translation of Tash Aw's *The Harmony Silk Factory*.
22. 'My son's school books', *Quarterly Literary Review Singapore*, October 2004.
23. La liberta' e' una malattia europeo', *L'Indice dei Libri*, February 2001. Review of Italian translation of Pramoedya Ananta Toer's novel *Bumi Manusia*.
24. 'True picture of the rights of Muslim women' in Studies on Women Abstracts Vol 10, Taylor and Francis 1992.

WORK REVIEWED BY:

Salil Tripathi in *Global Asia*, December 2010.
 Bernard Koh in *The Sunday Times*, Singapore, 17 February 2008.
 Alessandro Portelli in *Il Manifesto*, Italy, 21 September 2008.
 Filippo La Porta in *Il Messaggero*, Italy, 30 June 2005.
 Maria Antonietta Saracino in *Lo Straniero*, Italy, December 2005.
 Enrico Valenzi in Rivista *Omero* 08 July 2005

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS AND CONFERENCES

Oasis American Studies International School 2016. MA Workshop on the topic: Cultural Imperialism and Intellectual Captivity: U.S.-Malaysian Connections, 29 May 2016.

Singapore Writers Festival, 8 December 2007. Presentation of book *The Girl Who Made it Snow in Singapore*.

'Authors for Rome' theatre festival, Teatro Eliseo, 11-12 June, 2007. Reading of short story 'La Cartolina'.

'Multiculturalism in the United States and Europe: Immigration, Integration, Identity. Conference speaker. Sirmione, Lake Garda, 9-11 May, 2001. Conference organised by the Cultural Office of the United States Embassy in Italy.

'Policy into Practice for Lesser used languages in Europe'. Conference speaker. Cardiff, Wales, 30 September – 5 October, 2001. Conference organised by the British Council, U.K.

'The many voices of Migrant Writers'. Conference speaker. Rome, 14 December 2001. Conference organised by the International Organization for Migration.

INVITED SEMINARS

‘1Malaysia and the ‘United States of Europe’: The concept of social and cultural integration in different national contexts’, Universita’ Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona, Dicembre 2010.

Master di Primo Livello in Religioni e Mediazione Culturale, Sapienza Universita’ di Roma 2009-2010.

‘Intercultural communication and Managing Cultural Diversity: the case of Malaysia’, Istituto Adriano Olivetti (ISTAO) 2008, 2009.

AWARDS:

First prize, Singapore Unbound First Flash Fiction Contest 2021.

Longlisted, Cambridge Short Story Prize. 2018.

Longlisted, D.K. Dutt Memorial Award for Literary Excellence 2015.

Nominee Non-Fiction category Readers’ Choice Awards 2011 for the book *The Life in the Writing*

Commendatory Prize, Oxbridge Sunway Essay Competition 1990. Awarded by the Oxford and Cambridge Society of Malaysia.

TELEVISION AND RADIO APPEARANCES

Radio 3 Suite ‘Il mormorio del sangue, il tumulto dei sogni’, 27 agosto 2009

Shukran Rai 3 June 2001