

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

10.00 a.m. Introduction & welcoming remarks by Moderator
10.10 a.m. Presentation of discourse:

*Divorce among Non-Muslim Communities in
Indonesia* – Dr. Jendrius, M.Si

11.40 a.m. Q & A session
12.00 p.m. Closing

About KITA Discourse Series

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KITA DISCOURSE SERIES 4/2025

Divorce among Non-Muslim Communities in Indonesia

Presenter:

Dr. Jendrius, M.Si

**Dean, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences,
Universitas Andalas, Indonesia**

14 July 2025 (Monday)

10.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.

KITA Meeting Room
Level 4, Administration Building
Kolej Keris Mas
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
Bangi, Selangor

This seminar will be broadcasted online via:
Zoom & KITA Facebook Live

ABSTRACT

This study investigates divorce practices within Indonesia's non-Muslim communities, namely Protestant Christians, Catholics, Hindus, and Buddhists—groups that have received limited attention in existing empirical research. Despite the growing visibility of divorce cases registered in district courts across regions with predominantly non-Muslim populations over the past decade, academic insights into these trends remain scarce. Employing a longitudinal design, this study analyses secondary data on divorce cases recorded in district courts from 2013 to 2023 in selected regions where non-Muslim populations are demographically dominant. The research aims to identify key variables associated with divorce practices and to conduct a comparative analysis across different religious and ethnic groups based on socioeconomic status, age, gender, and marriage characteristics. Findings indicate significant variation in divorce rates across ethnic-religious communities. Divorce is notably low among Batak and Nias communities, who are predominantly Protestant, while relatively high rates are observed among the Minahasa (also Protestant), Balinese (Hindu), and Chinese-Indonesians (mostly Buddhist). Factors correlated with higher divorce rates include higher educational attainment, early age at marriage, higher socioeconomic status, and shorter marriage duration. A striking trend across all groups is the increasing number of women initiating divorce. These findings contribute to a broader understanding of the socio-cultural and structural dynamics shaping divorce among non-Muslim populations in Indonesia, offering important implications for family policy, gender studies, and socio-legal scholarship in pluralistic societies.

PRESENTER'S PROFILE



Dr. Jendrius is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at Universitas Andalas, Indonesia. He currently serves as the Dean of the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences (2024–present). Prior to this role, he was the Chair of the Sociology Department from 2016 to 2020 and the Coordinator of the Master's Program in Sociology from 2020 to 2024. After completing his Ph.D. at the University of Malaya in 2015, Dr. Jendrius initiated to establishes the Center for Gender, Childhood, and Family Development at Universitas Andalas. Dr. Jendrius's academic interests include sociology of family, gender studies, and digital sociology.