

Program as at 9 May 2026

**IAFL Asia Pacific Chapter Meeting
Education Program**

Grand Hyatt Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 20 – 24 May 2026

Conference Chair: [John Spender](#) (Australia),

Education Program Coordinators: [Inger Blackford](#) (New Zealand), [Kiranjit Dhaliwal](#) (Malaysia),

[William Sloan](#) (Australia) and [Caroline McNally](#) (Hong Kong, China)

Thursday 21 May

8:45–9:00 am **Introduction and Welcome**

John Spender, President, Asia Pacific Chapter

Lee Jia Ping, President, [Women's Aid Organisation](#)

9:00-9.45 am

Keynote Address: The Interplay between civil and Sharia law systems

T G Maimun former Chief Justice of Malaysia

9.45-11:15 am **Family Law in Southeast Asia: An Overview**

Moderator: [Teong Liang Yap](#) (Singapore)

Speakers: Siew Choon Jern (Malaysia)

Dyah Nur Sasanti (Indonesia)

West Nareth Hib (Cambodia)

[Roll Chunhakasikarn](#) (Thailand)

Judge Maricel Magpantay-Ng (Philippines)

Diemphuong Nguyen (Vietnam)

11:15-11:45 am Coffee/tea break

11:45-1:00 pm **Divorce Nomads and Expatriates in Asia and the Middle East**

Moderator: [Madeleine Mendy](#) (United Arab Emirates)

Speakers: Fahri Azzat (Malaysia)

[Mukhtar Gharib](#) (United Arab Emirates)

[Geeta Luthra](#) (India)

[Sasha Allison](#) (Hong Kong, China)

[Miao \(Echo\) Zhao](#) (China)

1:00-2:00 pm Lunch

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Friday 22 May

8:45-10:00 am

Concurrent Sessions

Legislative Responses to Child and Forced Marriage

Moderator: [Sally Nicholes](#) (Australia)

Speakers:

Sara Hossain (Bangladesh)

[Mrinalini Sen](#) (India)

[Sala Sihombing](#) (Hong Kong, China)

[Shabina Begum](#) (England and Wales), *remote participation*

Tahera Hasan (Pakistan) *remote participation*

Citizens of the World: When Divorce, Wealth and Enforcement Collide

Moderator: [Nicola Watts](#) (Australia)

Speakers:

[Pinky Anand](#) (India)

[Jeremy Johnson](#) (New Zealand)

Jennifer Lee (England and Wales)

10:00-11.15 am

Concurrent Sessions

Extraterritorial Jurisdiction in Property Proceedings

Moderator: [Kai Yun Wong](#) (Singapore)

Speakers:

[Alison Ross](#) (Australia)

[Andy Hayher KC](#) (Canada)

[Lavanya Regunathan Fischer](#) (India)

[Yet Ngo Foo](#) (Malaysia)

[Lisa Ann Sharpe](#) (USA)

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Concurrent sessions (continued)

Third Parties in Parenting Matters

Moderator: [Kiranjit Dhaliwal](#) (Malaysia)

Speakers:

[Derek Ho](#) (Hong Kong, China)

[Kay Feeney](#) (Australia)

Goh Siu Lin (Malaysia)

[Shannon Miles](#) (USA)

[Michael Wells-Greco](#) (Switzerland)

11.15-11.45 am Coffee/tea break

11.45-1:00 pm **Concurrent Sessions**

Variation of Overseas Child Maintenance Orders

Moderator: [Inger Blackford](#) (New Zealand)

Speakers:

[Saudamini Sharma](#) (India)

[Cath Devine](#) (Australia)

[Ezane Chong](#) (Malaysia)

[Peter Barnes](#) (Hong Kong, China)

Conduct and behaviour in family law matters (parenting/property and maintenance)

Moderator: [Caroline McNally](#) (Hong Kong, China)

Speakers:

[Paul Fildes](#) (Australia)

[Aleksandar Pavleski](#) (Serbia)

[David Allison](#) (England and Wales)

[Tomoko Takase](#) (Japan)

[Shu Mei Hoon](#) (Singapore)

1.00-2.15 pm Lunch

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2.15-3.30 pm **All Things Being Equal, I'm Yours, No Refunds (No Longer Spouses, Who Gets the Houses?)**

Moderators: Judge Mariette Peters (Malaysia)

[Corinne Remedios](#) (Hong Kong, China)

Speakers:

[Robin Colesmith](#) (Australia)

[Lynda Kearns KC](#) (New Zealand)

[Sam Longworth](#) (England and Wales)

[Avi Levy](#) (USA)

3.30-4.00 pm Coffee/tea break

4.00-4.45 pm **In memory of Anne Marie Hutchinson OBE**

Moderator: To be confirmed

Speakers to include:

[Sulema Jahangir](#) (England and Wales)
