

Program as at 12 March 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

A representative from [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:*

[Shabina Begum](#) (England and Wales)

Sara Hossain (Bangladesh)

[Mrinalini Sen](#) (India)

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

Tahera Hasan (Pakistan) *remote participation*

**Enforcement of property orders / Sanctions**

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

*Speakers:*

[Pinky Anand](#) (India)

[Jeremy Johnson](#) (New Zealand)

Sam Larmour (Senior Liaison Officer, Australian High Commission, Malaysia)

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)

[Adriana Chieco](#) (Brazil)

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

11.15-11.45 am Coffee/tea break

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

**Variation of Overseas Maintenance and Parenting Orders**

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

*Speakers:*

[Saudamini Sharma](#) (India)

[Cath Devine](#) (Australia)

[Ezane Chong](#) (Malaysia)

Prisca Chogero (Tanzania)

[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 **Asset Division Across Jurisdictions – 50/50 or not?**

*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**

*Speaker:*

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

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