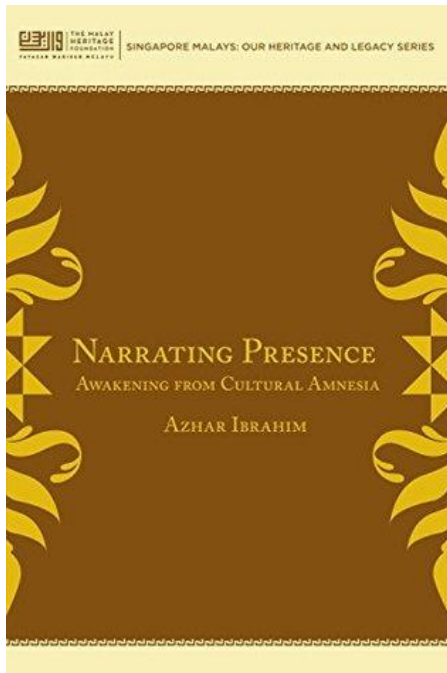


# NARRATING PRESENCE: AWAKENING FROM CULTURAL AMNESIA



## Synopsis

This book investigates and raises questions on the background and social-historical conditionings that had shaped and coloured Malay thinking and worldview, from the past to contemporary thought. The author had endeavoured to fathom the thinking and soul of the society concerned through its literary heritage and letters.

So, to what extent had colonialism conditioned the thought of Singapore Malays? What has been the historical and intellectual response of Malay literature and letters to the various changes brought by colonial capitalism in the beginning, and what is its impact on contemporary thinking in the form of historical continuities?

This book portrays the condition and stirring of the soul of the Singapore Malays in forging their own cultural identity, how they endeavoured to maintain their tradition while at the same time cultivating 'the New Malay', all within a unique and relevant context.

## **About the Writer**

Dr. Azhar Ibrahim is a Visiting Fellow at the Department of Malay Studies, National University of Singapore (NUS). He obtained his PhD and MA from the same Department in 2008 and 2002 respectively. His research interests include sociology of religion, sociology of literature and critical literacy, and the Malay-Indonesian intellectual development. He pursued his post-doctoral research on social theology in Muslim Southeast Asia at the Faculty of Theology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark and the Abbasi Islamic Studies Program at the Stanford University, USA.