



# FIT Asia Bulletin

No.1, 11 March 2025

## A Brief Introduction to FIT Asia

The official launch of the FIT Asia was held on the evening of 20 January 2024 at the Grand Millennium Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. This new establishment is built on the solid foundation of Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum (APTIF) with the APTIF Joint Committee leading the creation of FIT Asia as the fifth regional centre, joining FIT Europe, FIT North America, FIT Latin America, and the newly established FIT Africa (2023). The objectives of FIT Asia are strictly professional, cultural and academic, and they align with the provisions of FIT's Bylaws and Rules of Procedure. It also aims to cater to the needs of professional associations within the Asian region.

The historic and long-awaited formation of a regional centre in Asia will foster collaboration among professional associations of translators, interpreters and terminologists in the region, on diverse areas such as skills and training, sustainable practice and future development, while enhancing the profile of the profession both regionally and internationally.



### Board of FIT Asia

**Xing Yutang (Chair):** Translators Association of China (TAC)

**Mohammadreza Arbabi (Secretary):** Translators and Interpreters' Association of Tehran (TIAT)

**Ravi Kumar (Treasurer):** Indian Translators Association (ITA)

**Defeng Li:** Federation of Translators and Interpreters of Macau (FTIM)

**Mohamed Zain Sulaiman:** Malaysian Translators Association (MTA)

**Maroun Mounsef:** Association of Certified Public Translators - Lebanon (ACPT Lebanon)

**Indra Listyo:** Association of Indonesian Translators (HPI)

*Dear colleagues at FIT Asia,*

The 11th Asia-Pacific Translation and Interpreting Forum (APTIF11), co-organised by the Hong Kong Translation Society (HKTS), the International Federation of Translators (FIT), the Asian Regional Center of the International Federation of Translators (FIT Asia) and the Academy of Language and Culture (LAC) of the Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) will be held at HKBU from 21 to 23 May 2025.

APTIF (formerly known as the Asian Translators Forum) is a triennial event launched in 1995 to provide a platform for exchanges and cooperation within the translation and interpreting community in the Asia-Pacific region. APTIF11 welcomes researchers, practitioners and trainers in the field of translation and interpreting both within and beyond the region to share ideas, research findings and best practices on the theme “Culture, Connectivity and Technology: Translating Communities, Transforming Perspectives”.

This influential forum will feature distinguished keynote speakers, including Prof. Mona Baker (University of Oslo & SISU Baker Centre for Translation & Intercultural Studies, Shanghai International Studies University), Prof. Satoshi Nakamura (The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen), Prof. Jemina Napier (Heriot-Watt University), and Ms. Alison Rodriguez (International Federation of Translators). The event will commence with the HKTS Honorary Fellowship Conferment Ceremony cum Master Lectures. Hong Kong Sign Language interpreting service will also be provided at the conference.

For more information, please visit the APTIF11 website (<https://ctn.hkbu.edu.hk/aptif11/>). We look forward to welcoming you in 2025!

APTIF11 Organizing Committee

### Organizers

- International Federation of Translators (FIT)
- Asian Regional Center of the International Federation of Translators (FIT Asia)
- Hong Kong Translation Society (HKTS)
- Centre for Translation, Hong Kong Baptist University
- Academy of Language and Culture - Department of Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University

THE **11th** ASIA-PACIFIC  
TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETING FORUM

## Culture, Connectivity and Technology: Translating Communities, Transforming Perspectives

**21-23 May 2025**

Face-to-face Forum  
Hong Kong Baptist University

### Featured Speakers

(in alphabetical order of surname)



**Mona BAKER**  
(University of Oslo)



**CHAN Sin-wai**  
(Saint Francis University)



**Satoshi NAKAMURA**  
(Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen)



**Jemina NAPIER**  
(Heriot-Watt University)



**Alison RODRIGUEZ**  
(International Federation of Translators)



**Yifeng SUN**  
(University of Macau)



**TAN Zaixi**  
(Hong Kong Baptist University)



<https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=aptif11>



<https://ctn.hkbu.edu.hk/aptif11/>



[aptif11@hkbu.edu.hk](mailto:aptif11@hkbu.edu.hk)



**Abstract Submission**



**Conference Website**



**Conference Email**

# WEBINAR

## TRANSLATORS IN MALAYSIA – COMPETENT BUT UNDER-REPRESENTED

**Date: 21 December 2024** | **Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM** | **Platform: Online (Meet/Zoom)**

This webinar, organised by the Malaysian Translators Association (MTA), successfully gathered translators, interpreters, language experts from diverse backgrounds to discuss the challenges, opportunities, and realities of the translation profession in Malaysia.

### Panel of Speakers

#### 1. Darren Meng Yew Choy

English/Mandarin/Malay Translation Expert (Translator/Interpreter)

Member of MTA & CATTI

#### 2. Bashir Basalamah

Malay/Indonesian/English Translation Expert (Translator/Interpreter)

Member of MTA, AIIC & NAATI

#### 3. Darya Kirienko

Russian/English/French/Spanish Translation Expert (Translator/Interpreter)

Member of AIIC & TAALS

#### 4. Mohd Yusairy Jamil

Malay/Japanese/English Translation Expert (Translator/Interpreter)

Member of MTA & JLPT N1 Holder

**Moderator: Aisyah Sahaharudin**

**Keynote Speaker: Dr. Leelany Ayob**

### WEBINAR OBJECTIVES

#### 1. Raising Awareness:

Highlighting the crucial role of translators in Malaysia's multilingual society.

#### 2. Discussing Challenges:

Addressing the lack of formal recognition and regulation for the translation profession in Malaysia.

#### 3. Promoting Professional Development:

Providing recommendations to enhance translators' skills, professionalism, and recognition in Malaysia.

## OPENING REMARKS BY MTA PRESIDENT DR. HASURIA CHE OMAR

In her opening address, MTA President Dr. Hasuria Che Omar emphasised that while translators in Malaysia are competent, they still lack formal representation. She highlighted the challenges faced by translators—especially freelancers—such as the absence of protection, ethical guidelines, and professional standards when dealing with organisations.

Dr. Hasuria also underscored the importance of the Malaysian Translators Association in advocating for the welfare and rights of translators, whether they are members or non-members. She expressed her hope that the webinar would serve as a platform to discuss these critical issues with experienced panellists and suggest steps to fortify and consolidate the translation profession in Malaysia.

## KEY POINTS RAISED BY THE PANEL

### a) Status of Translators in Malaysia

#### 1. Role of Translators:

Essential in legal, diplomatic, educational, and public service sectors.

Need to navigate diverse contexts while maintaining fidelity to the original content.

#### 2. Challenges:

The absence of formal regulations may lead to inconsistencies in translation quality.

There is a lack of an official code of ethics or professional standards.

#### 3. Importance of a Regulatory Body:

Malaysia currently has no dedicated governing body for translators, despite the increasing need for one.

### b) Opportunities for formal Professional Development

#### 1. International Recognition:

Emulating international standards such as AIIC (International Association of Conference Interpreters), NAATI (National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters), and CATTI (China Accreditation Test for Translators and Interpreters).

#### 2. Recommendations for Improvement:

Urging the Malaysian Translators Association (MTA) to:

Introduce a formal code of ethics.

Establish a recognised certification pathway.

### c) Need for Formal Education

#### 1. Lack of Training Structures:

Formal education for translators often focuses on theory without offering clear career pathways or internships.

Limited collaboration between academic institutions and the translation industry.

## **2. Suggestions for Improvement:**

Develop joint training programmes between universities, government agencies, and industry stakeholders.  
Provide practical training to ensure translators are equipped for real-world challenges.

## **d) Insights from the Panellists' Experience**

### **1. Challenges in Translation:**

Handling simultaneous translation/interpretation across diverse fields, such as media and legal sectors.  
Ensuring factual accuracy and maintaining neutrality.

### **2. Lessons Learned:**

Understanding cultural contexts and linguistic sensitivities is crucial.  
Time management and thorough preparation are essential for maintaining translation quality.

## **e) Call to Action for the Community**

### **1. Role of the Malaysian Translators Association (MTA):**

Raising market awareness about the value of professional translation services.  
Encouraging clients to provide source materials in advance and ample work time to enhance translation quality.

### **2. Promoting Quality and Professionalism:**

Encouraging community support to elevate the recognition of professional translators.  
Developing lifelong learning programmes for continuous skill enhancement.

## **WEBINAR SUMMARY: TRANSLATORS IN MALAYSIA – COMPETENT BUT UNDER-REPRESENTED**

The webinar “Translators in Malaysia – Competent but Under-represented” explored the roles, challenges, and opportunities faced by professional translators in Malaysia. Featuring experienced panellists from various linguistic fields, the programme provided valuable insights and recommendations for strengthening the translation profession.

This webinar serves inter alia, as a crucial move for advancing translator professionalism in Malaysia, with the hope that greater recognition and formal standards will be established in the future.

# UNDANGAN PEMBENTANG KERTAS KERJA & PESERTA | CALL FOR PAPERS



## PERSIDANGAN PENTERJEMAHAN ANTARABANGSA KE-20 Pemeliharaan Warisan melalui Terjemahan

## 20TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSLATION Heritage Conservation through Translation



19/08/2025 - 21/08/2025 | Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)



### KEPADA | FOR

Ahli Akademik | Academics Penterjemah | Translators Jurubahasa | Interpreters  
Badan-Badan Kerajaan & Swasta | Government & Private Bodies  
Pelajar Institusi Pengajian Tinggi | Students of Higher Education Institutions  
Mana-Mana Pihak yang Berminat dalam Bidang Penterjemahan |  
Any Party Interested in the Field of Translation

### SUB-TEMA | SUB-THEMES

#### Pemugaran Bahasa Peribumi melalui Terjemahan

Indigenous Language Restoration through Translation

#### Generasi Muda, Warisan dan Terjemahan

Young Generation, Heritage and Translation

#### Kecerdasan Buatan dalam Warisan dan Terjemahan

Artificial Intelligence in Heritage and Translation

#### Terjemahan dalam Era Revolusi Industri 4.0

Translation in the Era of Industrial Revolution 4.0

#### Terjemahan Inovasi dan Kreativiti

Translation of Innovation and Creativity

#### Terjemahan dan Ketampakan Budaya

Translation and Cultural Visibility

#### Terjemahan Sastra

Literary Translation

#### Sejarah Lisan, Warisan dan Terjemahan

Oral History, Heritage and Translation

#### Naratif Budaya dalam Terjemahan

Cultural Narratives in Translation

#### Etika dalam Terjemahan

Ethics in Translation

#### Lokalisasi dan Transkripsi

Localisation and Transcreation

#### Terjemahan Muzik dan Lirik Tradisional

Translation of Traditional Music and Lyrics

#### Terjemahan dan Teknologi

Translation and Technology

#### Terjemahan dan Korpus

Translation and Corpus

#### Terjemahan Teks Keagamaan

Translation of Religious Texts

#### Terjemahan Manuskrip Sejarah

Translation of Historical Manuscripts

#### Terjemahan Budaya Popular

Translation of Popular Culture

#### Terjemahan Warisan Kuliner

Translation of Culinary Heritage

#### Terjemahan dan Bahasa Peribumi

Translation and Indigenous Languages

#### Terjemahan dan Bahasa Terancam

Translation and Endangered Languages

#### Terjemahan dan Komuniti Setempat

Translation and Local Communities

#### Terjemahan dan Komuniti Diaspora

Translation and Diaspora Communities

#### Terjemahan dan Identiti Budaya

Translation and Cultural Identity

#### Terjemahan dan Gender

Translation and Gender

### TARIKH PENTING | IMPORTANT DATES

Tarikh Akhir Penghantaran Abstrak  
Deadline for Abstract Submission 28/02/2025

Notis Penerimaan Abstrak  
Abstract Acceptance Notification 22/03/2025

Tarikh Akhir Penghantaran Abstrak Lanjutan  
Deadline for Extended Abstract Submission 31/05/2025

### YURAN PERSIDANGAN | CONFERENCE FEE

| KATEGORI<br>CATEGORY                           | TEMPATAN /<br>ASEAN<br>LOCAL / ASEAN | ANTARABANGSA<br>INTERNATIONAL |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pembentang<br>Presenter                        | RM700                                | USD250                        |
| Pembentang<br>(Pelajar)<br>Presenter (Student) | RM400                                | USD200                        |
| Peserta<br>Participant                         | RM400                                | USD200                        |

### BUTIRAN PEMBAYARAN | PAYMENT DETAILS

Nama Akaun / Account Name:  
UNIMAS HOLDINGS SDN BHD  
No Akaun / Account No:  
21112800001803  
Nama Bank / Bank Name:  
RHB BANK  
Kod Swift / Swift Code:  
RHBBMYKL  
Rujukan / Reference:  
UHSB/G-FPBK2024/115



BAHASA PERSIDANGAN | CONFERENCE LANGUAGE: BAHASA MELAYU & ENGLISH  
PEMBENTANGAN: 10 MINIT + 5 MINIT Q&A | PRESENTATION: 10 MINUTES + 5 MINUTES Q&A

IMBAS ATAU KLIK UNTUK DAFTAR:  
SCAN OR CLICK TO REGISTER:  
<https://forms.gle/5H9zszNSEHb6xqHy7>

### HOS | HOST



### ANJURAN BERSAMA | CO-ORGANISERS



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# FTIM and University of Macau Host Successful Interpreting Workshop for Secondary Students

The Federation of Translators and Interpreters of Macau (FTIM) and the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at the University of Macau successfully held two sessions of “Interpreting Experience Workshop for Secondary School Students” in December 2024. The initiative aimed to familiarise high school students with the interpreting profession while also offering guidance on academic and career planning. Over four days, students from Pui Ching demonstrated their interpreting potential through a mix of theoretical insights and practical exercises.

This initiative, led by Chan Chi Weng, Keith, a master’s student from the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at the University of Macau, received guidance from Professor Victoria Lai Cheng Lei, President of FTIM. Postgraduate students Chen Xintong, Lo Chi Leng, and Lam Hei Tong from the Chinese-English Translation Program assisted as teaching aides. The instructor team skillfully combined theory with practice, helping students understand interpreting’s core skills and strategies. Keith Chan hoped the program would allow high school students to explore beyond traditional classrooms, experience university learning, and deepen their understanding of interpreting studies and the profession.

The workshop offered insights into interpreting theories, immersed students in practical experiences, and gave an overview of university life. Students learned essential interpreter skills such as language proficiency, content analysis, responsiveness, and mental resilience. Interactive activities like “Memory Challenge,” sight translation, and shadowing enhanced listening and response abilities. Students practiced in simultaneous interpreting booths, using equipment and simulating real-world scenarios like business dialogues. This hands-on experience focused on accurately conveying meaning while maintaining fluency. The final session saw students applying their knowledge, demonstrating strong learning outcomes and professional potential, embodying a professional interpreter’s environment over two days.

"We were thrilled as we stepped into the booth," the students shared. "Simultaneous interpreting is a tough nut to crack, but it's intriguing," they admitted, adding, "We gave it our all!" They highlighted that "the speed of the video and structural differences between English and Chinese were the toughest hurdles." Mr. Ng Hung Chau, Head of the English Department at Pui Ching Middle School, praised, "All the students delivered outstanding performances." Looking ahead, he said, "Our students are eager for similar activities." Event organizer Keith Chan emphasized, "We've shown our role in nurturing language talents and advancing education in Macao."

FTIM President Victoria Lei noted the workshop gave students insight into interpreting, a typically abstract field. "This experience helped students assess their interests and abilities," she said. Highlighting local school involvement, Lei remarked, "Including schools like Pui Ching strengthened university-community ties." She emphasized, "This partnership ensures local students stay connected with globally relevant professions." Through such initiatives, Lei indicated the FTIM and University of Macau play a pivotal role in inspiring and educating future interpreters, enriching their growth and the broader field.



Group photo from the first week of training



Group photo from the second week of training

## ***FIT Asia Bulletin***

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Editor-in-Chief: Xing Yutang

Editors: Liu Junhuan, Zhang Fan



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**FIT Asia**

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