

ITP: **Indonesia/Malaysia 2011**

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Paper Title: **A Comparative Study on the Personal Jurisdiction of Religious Courts in Malaysia and Indonesia**

Abstract: The paper is an in-depth comparative study of the personal jurisdiction rules for religious courts in Indonesia and Malaysia, and the controversy surrounding the jurisdictional question that has appeared after several high-profile Malaysian cases. We examine the differing approaches, as well as the results in some of those controversial cases, and discuss some reasons why the two countries have experienced such different public reactions to the jurisdiction of religious courts. We conclude by examining some reform proposals for Malaysia, finally proposing our own, multi-step approach.