

Intensive Human Rights Law and Litigation Training 2026 (Sarawak)

22 to 24 Oct 2026 | The Waterfront Hotel Kuching, Sarawak

Registration is CLOSED



The Bar Council Constitutional Law and Human Rights Committee and the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia ("SUHAKAM") will be organising the third edition of the Intensive Human Rights Law and Litigation Training series, with this edition being held in Kuching, Sarawak. The training is funded by the European Union and supported by The Advocates Association of Sarawak (Kuching branch).

This Sarawak edition of the training will focus on the rights of indigenous peoples, with an emphasis on legal frameworks, litigation strategies and advocacy tools relevant to Native Customary Rights ("NCR"), fundamental liberties, constitutional protections and international human rights standards.

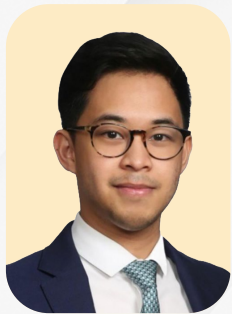
Who Should Attend?

Young lawyers with fewer than five years of experience, with priority given to Sarawakians or Sarawak-based participants.

Why Should You Attend This Training?

- (1) Gain a comprehensive understanding of the legal, human rights and cultural dimensions of indigenous peoples' rights in Sarawak;
- (2) Learn about the constitutional, statutory, customary and international frameworks governing indigenous rights and NCR;
- (3) Develop practical skills in handling indigenous-related litigation, including procedural requirements, evidence gathering and strategic litigation methods;
- (4) Engage with case studies, interactive workshops and discussions facilitated by subject-matter experts;
- (5) Strengthen networks with peers, SUHAKAM officers, community advocates and legal practitioners working on indigenous rights issues; and
- (6) Be empowered to contribute to human rights works in Sarawak, including pro bono support for civil society organisations.

Trainers



Abang Iwawan
Member, Bar Council;
Co-Deputy Chairperson,
Bar Council Constitutional Law
and Human Rights Committee

Abang Iwawan is the Managing Partner of Abang & Co, where his practice focuses on contentious and non-contentious infrastructure-related matters. He has acted as sole arbitrator and counsel in arbitration and litigation, with broader experience spanning advisory and transactional mandates across the energy, utilities and public infrastructure sectors. He is also an accredited mediator.

Abang Iwawan is an elected member of the Bar Council, Co-Chairperson of the Bar Council Arbitration and Construction Law Committee, and Co-Chairperson of the Bar Council Mediation Committee, which oversees the Malaysian International Mediation Centre ("MIMC"). He also serves as Co-Deputy Chairperson of the Bar Council Constitutional Law and Human Rights Committee.

Beyond private practice, he is active in policy work on sustainability and business and human rights. He was recently appointed by the Legal Affairs Division of the Prime Minister's Department (Bahagian Hal Ehwal Undang-Undang Jabatan Perdana Negeri, "BHEUU") to serve on the Monitoring, Evaluation, Training and Learning Committee for the implementation of *Malaysia's National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights*.



Gabriel Gumis Humen
President, Native Court of
Appeal, Sarawak

Gabriel Gumis Humen has served as President of the Native Court of Appeal, Sarawak, since 1 Apr 2025. He holds a Bachelor of Laws degree from Universiti Malaya and has extensive judicial experience in both the civil and native courts, including handling appeals involving civil matters and applications to be identified as members of native communities.

He previously served as a Resident Native Court Magistrate and as a Judicial Commissioner of the High Court in Sabah and Sarawak. He was also Registrar of the High Court in Borneo for over 10 years. His other appointments include Chairman of the Industrial Court of Malaysia (Sarawak Branch) and Chairman of the Social Security Appeals Board.



Kee Hui Yee
Member, Bar Council;
Co-Chairperson, Bar Council
Family Law Committee

Kee Hui Yee is a partner at Kanesalingam & Co and an elected member of the Bar Council. She is also Co-Chairperson of the Bar Council Family Law Committee, Co-Deputy Chairperson of the Bar Council Mediation Committee, and an accredited mediator with MIMC.

Her practice centres on dispute resolution, with a strong focus on cross-border corporate, commercial, family and probate matters. Alongside her commercial practice, she undertakes pro bono work in public and constitutional law and has represented the Malaysian Bar as *amicus curiae* in public interest litigation.

Hui Yee is also a member of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association, Commonwealth Lawyers Association and LAWASIA.



Sonya Liew Yee Aun
Co-Deputy Chairperson,
Bar Council Constitutional Law
and Human Rights Committee

Sonya Liew Yee Aun obtained her LLB (Hons) degree from the University of London in 1998 and was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1999. She began her legal career as a legal clerk at a conveyancing firm in 1998. Upon obtaining her Certificate in Legal Practice, she joined a corporate law firm, where she focused on corporate litigation. In 2001, she obtained her LLM degree with Distinction from the University of Strathclyde, Scotland, focusing on information technology and telecommunications law. She was also Training Officer at the Ethnic Minorities Law Centre in Glasgow, Scotland, in 2001.

She subsequently practised at corporate law firms, handling matters in corporate litigation and information technology law. In 2006, she established her own law practice in Malaysia, which has since developed to handle corporate matters, including intellectual property and online and privacy issues, whether contentious or non-contentious. From 2013 to 2016, she served as a member of the Information Tribunal for the State of Selangor, following the Freedom of Information (State of Selangor) Enactment 2011.

Sonya has spoken at conferences and seminars pertaining to telecommunications law, corporate law, intellectual property and the protection of privacy. She has also conducted numerous training sessions on these areas, including freedom of information. Additionally, she has written articles and research papers in relation to intellectual property and information technology.

Terms and Conditions

Event Policy

The organiser reserves the right to modify, cancel or postpone the event, should circumstances arise that make such action necessary.

Cancellation

Cancellations must be made in writing.

Substitutions are allowed. Kindly inform us in writing with the relevant details at least **three** days in advance.

If you have failed to inform the organiser on your cancellation for three consecutive times, you may be blacklisted for future events.

Transferral

You are allowed to transfer your place to another participant, but you must notify the organiser with the necessary details at least **three** days in advance.

Attendance

CPD points for the CPD Scheme will not be awarded to lawyers and pupils in chambers from Peninsular Malaysia who arrive more than 15 minutes late, are not present throughout the event, or leave before its scheduled end.

Privacy

The personal information that you provide to the Malaysian Bar, whether now or in the future, may be used, recorded, stored, disclosed or otherwise processed by or on behalf of the Malaysian Bar for the purposes of facilitation and organisation of this event, research and audit, maintenance of a participant database for the promotion of this event, and such ancillary services as may be relevant.

Disclaimer

- Materials (if any) will be emailed only. No printed notes will be provided.
- No recording of the event is permitted via any means at any time.
- No part of the event content may be used / reproduced in any form without the written and explicit consent of the Malaysian Bar and speaker(s).



Supporting Partner



Kuching Branch

Co-organised by the Bar Council Constitutional Law and Human Rights Committee and Human Rights Commission of Malaysia ("SUHAKAM")

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