

Timeline - the history, and banning/restriction, of the use of the word "Allah" and/or the use of the Bible in Bahasa Malaysia/Bahasa Indonesia in Malaysia.

1514	Written in Malay, The Kitab salat as-sawai of Christian catechisms.
1545	The Kitab salat as-sawai was published.
1612	The Gospel of Matthew was translated into Malay by a Dutch tradesman, Albert Cornelisz Ruyl.
1629	A. C. Ruyl translated the Gospel/Injil of Matthew into Bahasa Melayu. 'Allah' was used in the following example: "maka angkou memerin'ja nama Emanuel artin'ja Allahu (the Greek word THEOS) serta segala kita" (Matt. 1:23)
1631	Malay-Latin Dictionary was printed in Rome (The Dictionarium Malaicum-Latinm and Latinum-Malaicum). n Alla, vel alla-te-alla Deus.
1646	Van Hasel's translation: Luke and John (surviving copies in the libraries of the University of Amsterdam, Netherlands and the University of Cambridge, UK.
1662	The translation of Genesis by D. Brouwerius.
1733	Translation of the Book of Genesis by M. Leijdecker. "Pada mulanja dedjadikanlah Allah akan swarga dan dunja." (Gen. 1:1). This is the first complete Malay Bible containing the word 'Allah' for God.
1879	Translation of the Bible (Book of Isaiah) in Malay by H.C. Klinkert "Bahwa-sanja Allah djoega salamatkoe." (Isaiah 12:2). This is the second complete Malay Bible. (1890)Kebaktian Sa'hari Harian "Ia Elkhadir dan kakal Allah" (1895) Christian Doctrine : Pengajaran Mesehi – Terpendek "Saval: Siapa sudah jadikan kami? Jawab: Allah Taala Saval: Brapa ada Allah? Jawab: Satu sahja, dan tida boleh ada lebeh sari satu Allah"
1915	Kitab Sembahyang Dalam Gereja (Portions of the Book of Common Prayer in the Malay Language) published by Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (SPCK) London.
1938	Translation of the New Testament in Malay by W.A.Bode. Translation of the Gospel/Injil of John. "Maka pada awal pertama adalah Firman, dan Firman itu bersama-sama dengan Allah". (John 1:1)

<p>1981</p>	<p>The Alkitab was banned – Absolutely by order under the Internal Security (Prohibition of Publications) (No. 3) Order made on 2nd December 1981 (KHEDN : 0 59/3/9/Jld 4; PN (PU2) 24 pt. 11).</p> <p>“The printing, publication, sale, issue, circulation or possession of the publication which are described in the Schedule and prejudicial to the national interest and security of the Federation are prohibited absolutely throughout Malaysia.”</p>
<p>1982</p>	<p>The Alkitab was banned by order under the Internal Security (Prohibition of Publications) (No. 4) Order made on 22nd March 1982 (KHEDN: 0 59/3/9/A; PN (PU2) 24 Pt. 11).</p> <p>“The printing, publication, sale, issue, circulation or possession of the publication which are described in the Schedule and prejudicial to the national interest and security of the Federation are prohibited, subject to the condition that this prohibition shall not apply to the possession or use in Churches of such publication by persons, professing the Christian religion, throughout Malaysia.”</p>
<p>1983</p>	<p>Perintah Keselamatan Dalam Negeri (Tegahan mengenai penerbitan) (No. 3) Order made on 4th May 1983.</p> <p>“Perjanjian Baru” ditegah dan tertakluk pada syarat bahawa tegahan ini tidak dikenakan kepada pemilik dan penggunaan suratan itu di dalam gereja oleh Kristian diseluruh Malaysia dengan alasan “memudarat kepada kepentingan negara dan keselamatan Persekutuan. (KHEDN, O, 59/3/9/A; PN (PU2) 24 Pt. II)</p>
<p>1985/ 1989</p>	<p>Heads of Malaysian Churches met in Kuala Lumpur (1985) and Kuching (1989) where there was a unanimous decision to keep the name “Allah” and the Bible Society of Malaysia was honoured with this decision when it published the revised Malay Bible, the Alkitab Berita Baik (1996).</p> <p>See the Kuching Declaration entitled “An Affirmation to the Churches in Malaysia” (September 1989) which was revised and re-issued as “A Declaration To the Churches in Malaysia (30th January 2008).</p>
<p>1986</p>	<p>Circular letter was sent to all Christian publishers from the publication control division of the Kementerian Dalam Negeri. 4 words were prohibited from being used in Christian publications: Allah, Kaabah, Baitullah and Solat. The aim of this prohibition was to prevent any misunderstanding between Muslims and Christians.</p> <p>(Letter KDN : S.59/3/9/A Klt. 2 – (17) and dated 5 December 1986).</p>
<p>1988</p>	<p>Selangor Enactment No. 1 of 1988 i.e. Non-Islamic Religions (Control of Propagation Amongst Muslims) Enactment, 1988 in Schedule 1 (Section 9) stated a list of 25 words which are not to be used pertaining to a non-Islamic religion. Among the words are: Allah, Firman Allah, Ibadah, Kaaba, Wahyu, Mubaligh, Rasul, Iman, Salat, Imam, and Nabi.</p> <p>Other states with similar enactments are: Terengganu (1980), Kelantan, Perlis, Kedah, Perak, Negeri Sembilan, Melaka and Johor.</p>

1992	Enakmen Pentadbiran Undang-Undang Islam 1992 (Enakmen no.13, 1992) - Sabah fatwa prohibits the use of 32 words by non-Muslims in their teaching or the advancement of their teaching. Among the 32 words are: Allah, Firman Allah, Ibadah, Wahyu, Mubaligh, Iman, Rasul, Solat, Imam, Nabi and Injil. This was published in the Sabah State Government Gazette on 1st June 2003.
1998	The first letter to Herald from KDN – an admonition – not to use the word ALLAH.
2002	The second letter to Herald – a show-cause letter – to be answered within 14 days. Subsequently through appeal and representation to the Cabinet, Herald was granted the use of the word ALLAH in its publication.
2005	Letter from Kementerian Keselamatan Dalam Negeri allowed Christian publications to be distributed with condition that the front page has a “cross” containing the words “Penerbitan Kristian” (“A Christian Publication). The aim of the condition was to prevent confusion among the Muslims in Malaysia. Letter dated 22nd December 2005.
2006	Letter from Kementerian Keselamatan Dalam Negeri allowed the publication of Bible in Bahasa Melayu edition in Malaysia with the condition that it is stamped with the “cross” and the words “Untuk Penganut Beragama Kristian” and that the BM Bible is allowed to be sold only in Christian premises or shops. The aim of the decision was to prevent the confusion of the Muslims in Malaysia. Letter dated 11th May 2006.
2006	Letters from the Home Ministry to the Herald : The third letter – a reprimand. The fourth letter – a warning (January). The fifth letter – another warning (February).
2006	Home Minister sets condition against the use of the word “Allah” on the Catholic weekly “Herald” in renewing their publication licence. The Herald seeks redress through the courts against the power of the Home Minister to set conditions on the use of the “Allah” word.
2007	The sixth letter to Herald – a show-cause letter. The Herald files a Writ of Summons and Statement of Claim on 5th Dec 2007. An application for judicial review on the above condition.
2007 2008	Customs officers and Home Ministry officials detained the Alkitab at ports of entry and confiscated the publications, Sunday School children’s books and CDs. This has led to Sidang Injil Borneo (in Dec 2007). Jill Ireland binti Lawrence Bill (in July 2008) initiating a judicial review against the power of the Home Minister.
2008	Application for the Judicial Review for Herald 2009 permit condition was filed.
2009	Akta Keselamatan Dalam Negeri (1960) (Larangan Penggunaan Perkataan Tertentu Pada Dokumen dan Penerbitan) 2009, dated 16th Feb 2009.
Dec 2009	Herald won the case against the power of the Home Minister to set conditions on the use of the word “Allah” in the Herald publication. Judgment handed down on 31st Dec 2009. Government to appeal the High Court decision.

Jan 2010	<p>Various Attacks on Church</p> <p>Jan 8th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Metro Tabernacle, Desa Melawati, KL - Church of the Assumption, Jalan Templer, PJ, Selangor - Life Chapel, Section 17, PJ, Selangor <p>Jan 9th :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Jalan Othman, PJ, Selangor <p>Jan 10th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All Saints Church, Taiping - SMK Convent, Taiping - Malacca Baptist Church, Durian Daun, Malacca - Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Miri, Sarawak - Brick thrown at surau in Kampung Jawa, Klang <p>Jan 11th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sidang Injil Borneo (SIB) Seremban 2, Negeri Sembilan <p>Jan 13th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in Kota Tinggi, Johor <p>Jan 16th :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bottles thrown at mosque in Sarawak
Mar 2011	5000 Alkitab were detained in Kuching Port.
April 2011	Cabinet issued a 10-point solution
April 2011	<p>CFM considered that the 10-point solution to be an ad hoc and short term solution to the two consignments of Alkitab which have been impounded at Port Klang and Port of Kuching.</p> <p>CCM Youth rejected the 10-point solution. CCM Youth called upon all Christians to rally firmly behind their Christian leaders as they worked towards a resolution for the community.</p>
May 2011	<p>7th May - Utusan Malaysia has reported that some Christian group is plotting to turn Malaysia into a Christian State.</p> <p>12th May - Christian leaders had lunch with PM. (Dinner was planned way before the Utusan issue). There was no pact, pledge or conspiracy.</p> <p>“... in the context of discussing unity in the nation and the worrisome trend of wild rants by some segments causing disharmony and the Utusan fiasco, the Christian Federation of Malaysia (CFM) chairman, Bishop Ng Moon Hing, basically reiterated the Christian stand of respecting the position of Islam, as stated in the constitution, and stressed the Church’s duty and desire to work with the government to maintain peace and harmony.” (Rev. Dr. Eu Hong Seng, NECF Chairman)</p>
August 2011	<p>3rd August 2011 - JAIS raid on Harapan Komuniti Thanksgiving Dinner 2011. DUMC issued two statements on 4th & 12th August, detailing the raid.</p>
August 2011	<p>24th August 2011. CCM welcomes the apology tendered by the Malay Language daily, “Sinar Harapan”, over its article “Matlamat Gerakan Kristian” (Objectives of the Christian Movement) which was published on 23rd August.</p>
December 2012	<p>Lim Guan Eng raised the issue in his Christmas 2012 message urging the federal government to lift its ban on the word published in the Malay language bibles shipped in to Sabah and Sarawak.</p>

January 2013	The Sultan of the Malaysian State of Selangor, Sharafuddin Idris Shah, decreed that all non-Muslims in the state are banned from using the word 'Allah' as this is exclusive to Muslims.
February 28th 2013	Scheduled for Case Management but the date was vacated to March 14 th 2013.
March 14th 2013	Case Management - The Court of Appeal here has fixed April 25th for further case management on the Government and Home Ministry's appeal against a 2010 High Court decision that the word "Allah" can be used by the Catholic weekly newspaper Herald. The Court of Appeal has fixed May 8th to hear the appeals brought by seven parties including six Islamic religious councils and the Malaysian Chinese Muslim Association against a High Court ruling in rejecting their application to become intervenors in the church's judicial review application at the High Court.
April 25th 2013	The Court of Appeal here has fixed May 30 for another case management. This is to enable the government and the Home Ministry to file their affidavit-in-reply in response to a further affidavit filed by the church.
May 8th 2013	The Court of Appeal questioned the propriety of the procedure adopted by the High Court in 2009, to simultaneously hear the Roman Catholic Church's judicial review application over the usage of the word 'Allah', and the Islamic religious councils' intervener applications. A three-member panel led by Justice Datuk Seri Abu Samah Nordin ordered lawyers for the church, Islamic religious councils, Malaysian Chinese Muslim Association and senior federal counsel representing the government and home ministry to submit on that issue on May 23rd. Also directed them to file their submissions on that issue, on or before May 16th. The government's appeal is scheduled for case management on May 30th.
May 30th 2013	Case management for government's appeal.
July 2013	Kedah's decision to ban the use of the word "Allah" in non-Muslim holy books.
August 22nd 2013	The three-member of the Court of Appeal panel unanimously dismissed the Catholic Church's application to strike out the government's appeal. The next hearing is scheduled for September 10 th .
September 10th 2013	The Court Appeal hearing submissions from government lawyers, the Catholic Church and counsel representing Muslim groups. The Court of Appeal will deliver its verdict on the 'Allah' issue next month.
October 14th 2013	Decision to be made by the Court of Appeal.

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