



COVID-19 AND THE STRUCTURAL CRISES OF OUR TIME: THE RESPONSE OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

An Ecumenical Conversation

Featuring Dr. Lim Mah Hui (lead author) with eminent panelists

Moderated by Rev. Dr. Hermen Shastri



Dr. Lim Mah Hui

Former academician,
banker, and city councilor



Archbishop Julian Low

A Malaysian prelate of the
Catholic Church.



Prof. Dr. Mohd. Tajudin

Prolific writer and speaker in
politics, social, religious matters
and education



Prof. Datuk Seri Dr. Victor Wee

Past President of Buddhist
Gem Fellowship, accomplished musician
and advisor to MOF

The Covid-19 pandemic is not just a health crisis. It has exposed major structural flaws in our economic-political order: woefully inadequate and unequal health systems in coping with the pandemic; gross inequality worsened by the pandemic; a rapacious and unstable financial system lurching to the next financial crisis; and increasing political polarization between haves and have not.

It is time for nations to come together to envision an environmentally caring and economically just world. How can religious communities contribute to this endeavour?

DATE: 7TH MARCH 8PM-10PM

Zoom Webinar;

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/82799529624pwd=enROTmozenpwUFFJcklzb2pGZ3Y3QT09>

Meeting ID: 827 9952 9624

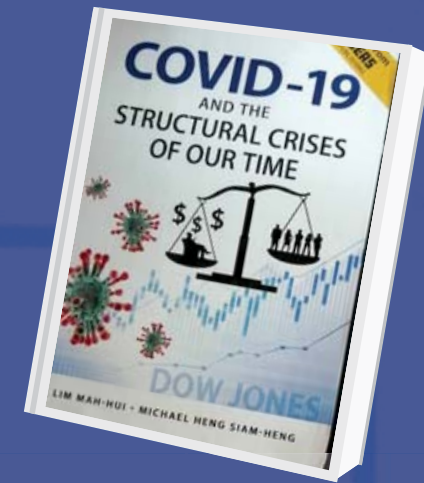
Passcode: CCM2022

About the book

Even as the world tries to climb out of the Covid-19 pandemic, other structural crises – environmental degradation and climate change, mounting debts and financial instability, inadequate health systems, widening economic and social disparities, and the rise of populism - are looming on the horizon. What is the relation between these multiple crises, how do we understand the causes, and what are the consequences?

Do we use these crises as wake-up calls to bring about needed changes or return to business-as-usual when the embers of the pandemic burn out?

The authors Lim Mah Hui and Michael Heng examine these burning questions in a historical and holistic manner using a multi-disciplinary approach.



About the Panelists

Professor Tajuddin is a public intellectual speaking and writing on a wide range of issues including architecture, politics, social issues, religion and education. He obtained his Master and Bachelor of Science in Architecture at the University of Wisconsin, and PhD from the University of Edinburgh. He has authored and published 52 books on architecture concerning Islam, the mosque, housing, community building and planning of administrative centres and won four National Book awards. He is currently a columnist in The Star and Sin Chew Daily.

Archbishop Julian Leow was appointed Archbishop of the Catholic church in Kuala Lumpur in 2014. The Archbishop studied at the College General Major Seminary in Penang and after serving as parish priest, left to study at the Pontifical Gregorian University where he obtained his Licentiate in Church History. The Archbishop has been a beacon of not only the church but also the voice of conscience for society at large in Malaysia.

Professor Datuk Seri Dr. Victor Wee is the Immediate Past President of Buddhist Gem Fellowship. He is also Secretary of the International Buddhist Confederation based in Delhi. He taught Buddha Dhamma in Malaysia and Singapore. He was a former Secretary General of the Ministry of Tourism and previously worked at the Economic Planning Unit. He was Deputy Head of the National Economic Action Council during the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis. Dr. Wee received his PhD in Economics from Bristol University.

Dr. Lim Mah Hui combines professional experience in three areas - academia banking and finance, and service in public sector. He has multi-disciplinary background in Economics, Political Science, Sociology and Finance. He taught in University Malaya and later in Temple University in U.S. Then he entered into the financial industry and worked in several major international banks in New York city, Singapore, Hong Kong, Jakarta and Manila. He returned to Malaysia in 2008 and has been active in research, public speaking and civil society work. He was a city councilor in Penang for six years representing civil societies. Dr. Lim has published widely. Among his books are *Nowhere to Hide: The Great Financial Crisis and Its Impact on Asia* (2010), also published by ISEAS, and *Local Democracy Denied?* (2020) published by Gerakbudaya.