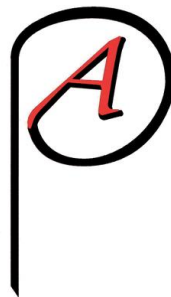


# Progressive Atheists Inc.

Est. 10 Jan 2010 Reg: A0054119U Member of AAI

*"Your participation is PA's future"*



## April 2015

*... we seek to go beyond divisive racial, religious, tribal, and sectarian constructs, and instead, contribute to a universal humanity.*

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### MEMBERSHIP

**Term 2015:** 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

\*\*\* ONLY \$20 Annually \*\*\*

**Purchase Membership Online:**

<http://progressiveatheists.org/product-category/membership/>

### CONTACT PROGRESSIVE ATHEISTS INC.

**President:** [president@progressiveatheists.org](mailto:president@progressiveatheists.org)

**Vice President** – Andrew: 0438 043 050

**Secretary:** [secretary@progressiveatheists.org](mailto:secretary@progressiveatheists.org)

**Website:** [progressiveatheists.org](http://progressiveatheists.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/ProgressiveAtheistsInc](http://www.facebook.com/ProgressiveAtheistsInc)

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/ProgAtheistsInc](http://twitter.com/ProgAtheistsInc)

# Progressive Atheist Inc. | Headlines

**Event:** **PATASCON 2015:** *Breaking Through With Reason and Humanism.*

May 31, 2015, Sunday

Unilab Bayanihan Center

8008 Pioneer street, Kapitolyo, Pasig City

Website: <http://patas.co/patascon2015/>

## SPEAKERS:

1. **David G. McAfee**, author of *Mom, Dad, I'm an Atheist: The Guide to Coming Out as a Non-believer and Disproving Christianity and Other Secular Writings.*
2. **Bob Churchill**, International Humanist and Ethical Union's Communications Director.
3. **Red Dela Dingco Tani**, founder of the Filipino Freethinkers.
4. **Bill Flavell**, international freethought groups consultant and speaker.
5. **Rodion M. Herrera**, Head Astronomy Lecturer at Voyager Philippines.
6. **Willie Poh Kaw Lik**, Lecturer at the Multimedia University in Malaysia, humanist, web developer, part-time philosopher, and TEDx speaker.
7. **Prof. Eric Julian Manalastas**, UP Dept of Psychology faculty member specializing on LGBT psychology.
8. **Diogenes of Mayberry**, author of *Manifest Insanity, Or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Think for Myself.*
9. **Atty. Lily Freida Cabaddu Macabangun-Milla**, Director of International Affairs at the Commission on Higher Education.

AAI Director and Progressive Atheists Inc. member and founder **Elida Radig** will also be attending this conference. Elida will be in the Philippines for one week and plans to speak with many atheists from around the world. This is a great opportunity for Australian atheists to share ideas, make contacts and further progressive atheism.



## **Feature Article: Another Blogger Hacked to Death: Is Free Thinking Becoming Fatal in Bangladesh?**

A young man named Oyasiqur Rahman Babu was hacked to death on the morning of March 30, 2015 in Bangladesh, allegedly by religious fundamentalists. This is the second such killing in a month.

Rahman reportedly died quickly after being attacked on the street by three assailants, who disfigured his face with machetes. Although he worked mainly for a travel agency, Rahman appears to have maintained a robust online presence, writing under the pseudonym Washiqur Babu on Facebook and other platforms. Until his death, his legal identity was unknown amongst most members of the online communities to which he belonged.

Read more: <https://globalvoicesonline.org/2015/03/31/another-blogger-hacked-to-death-is-free-thinking-becoming-fatal-in-bangladesh/>



Image taken from: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/blogger-washiqur-rahman-hacked-to-death-in-bangladesh/article7048494.ece>

## Report: NSW Election Campaign;

In the latest election survey of NSW state election candidates Progressive Atheists ask a total of 23 questions. Seven questions related to chaplaincy and special religious instruction in government schools. Other questions related to taxation, laws and practices that support religious privilege or stymie progress due to religious beliefs, such as those that relate to abortion, marriage and voluntary euthanasia.

The results of the survey were in line with previous results. The party that seems to champion the removal of religious privilege the most were the Greens. Minor parties and Labor were next. Unfortunately we didn't get a large response from Liberals, Nationals and some other minor parties. But we did receive a substantial response from the Christian Democratic Party, lead by Rev Fred Nile.

You can view the questions, tables showing results, the raw data and all written comments from candidates on our website:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/campaigns-projects/elections/new-south-wales-state-election-campaign-2015/>

## Campaign: Progress for Apostate Asylum Seekers

Progressive Atheists are in the process of collecting information and contacts that will assist us to provide support for atheists overseas who are seeking to flee due to fear of persecution or harm. If you are able to assist us with this project, or are indeed someone who has survived such an experience we would welcome your assistance. To offer assistance or request assistance email: [contact@progressiveatheists.org](mailto:contact@progressiveatheists.org).

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The Progressive Atheists' organisation and some of its members are actively involved in global campaigns to help and free the victims.

There is a lot more that we can do but we need your help.

Want to assist with this campaign? Email Progressive Atheists at [campaigns@progressiveatheists.org](mailto:campaigns@progressiveatheists.org)

# Purpose Statement

Progressive Atheists Incorporated (PA Inc) is an organisation of like-minded individuals who want to affect a progressive social transformation within their local community.

We seek to fulfill the following purposes:

1. To foster functional democracy within PA Inc, its processes, procedures and activities;
2. To provide effective accountability of those entrusted with PA Inc leadership;
3. To act in solidarity with other progressive movements, organisations and groups that share our commitment to voicing issues affecting atheists, women, minorities, people with disabilities, people who identify as LGBTI, seniors, youth, other species and the environment;
4. To improve communication among progressive groups and organisations in our community in order to galvanise a united front for promoting secularism;
5. To strive for a secular society that grants personal and political freedom from religion, whilst retaining personal freedom of religion and personal freedom of conscience;
6. To create a safe and inclusive environment within which people are encouraged to discuss their ideas honestly, debate social and cultural values, develop ethics, promote social justice and contribute to universal human rights;
7. To go beyond divisive racial, religious, tribal, and sectarian constructs, and instead, contribute to a universal humanity.

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To make a donation for a banner to be used outside the Saudi Embassy, please donate on the Progressive Atheists website:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/products/donations/raif-badawi-campaign/>

After the NSW State election in March 2015, we would love to hear about your winning local member for the next 4 years; their policies, their exposure in your electorate, their main foci and what they can do for you!

Please send a long or short report to us at [elections@progressiveatheists.org](mailto:elections@progressiveatheists.org).

# Progressive Atheists Inc.

Est. 10 Jan 2010 Reg: A0054119U Member of AAI

## Progressive Atheists Inc. Open Meeting

Progressive Atheists Inc. Open Meeting | 25 April 2015

Our next Progressive Atheists Inc. Open Meeting will be held on Saturday 25 April 2015, 12 pm – 4 pm for lunch and discussion at Clover & Rye Café: 410 Bridge Road, Richmond, VIC. All who support our purpose are welcome.

## Progressive Atheists Purpose Statement:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/about-us/purpose-statement/>

## Melbourne Atheists MeetUp Group | See the Event Calendar

Keep in touch with atheists around Melbourne via the Melbourne MeetUp:

<http://www.meetup.com/Melbourne-Atheists/events/calendar/>

## Membership Term 2015 | 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

Progressive Atheists Membership is \$20 per annum / \$10 concession.

## JOIN US | Purchase New Membership Online:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/about-us/membership/application/>

## For other methods to renew and join please see our website:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/about-us/membership/>

## Email our Membership Officer:

[membership@progressiveatheists.org](mailto:membership@progressiveatheists.org)

OR ASK the person who gave you this bulletin

## Progressive Atheists Inc. 'Proudly Atheist' T-shirts & Badges

**T-shirts ONLY \$15 for members!**

Badges \$2.50 each ~ 2 designs / 3 colours

**Order your t-shirt or badge on our website:**

<http://progressiveatheists.org/products-for-sale/>

**Sales Rep. Elida Radig:** [sales@progressiveatheists.org](mailto:sales@progressiveatheists.org)

## **PROGRESSIVE ATHEISTS INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

www.progressiveatheists.org | Est. 10/1/2010 | Reg: A0054119U

- Membership in PA Inc is open to any individual who is an Atheist (someone who does not believe in any supernatural force, being or in the after-life)
- Agrees with PA Inc's Mission Statement
- Agrees with PA Inc's Purpose Statement
- Paid her/his Annual Membership and other agreed dues to PAI. PA Membership year is concurrent within the Financial Year. The current annual membership is \$20.

To become a member or renew your membership, please fill out the attached form and mail it to:

25 Banksia St, Blackburn,  
VIC 3130

Payment may be made to Progressive Atheists Inc. by Cheque, Cash or Money Order. Please visit our website for more information:  
[www.progressiveatheists.org](http://www.progressiveatheists.org).



APPLY TO BE A MEMBER OF / RENEW MEMBERSHIP WITH  
PROGRESSIVE ATHEISTS INC. FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL  
YEAR

APPLICANT:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name) of \_\_\_\_\_ (address)  
desire to become a member of Progressive Atheists Inc, OR, renew my  
existing membership. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree  
to be bound by the rules of the Association for the time being in force.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

Date: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Phone No. ) \_\_\_\_\_ (Email)

PERSON NOMINATING THE APPLICANT & PERSON SECONDING THE  
NOMINATION:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ nominator, a member of the Association,  
nominate the applicant, who is personally known to me for membership  
of the Association.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

Date: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ seconder, a member of the Association, second  
the nomination of the applicant who is personally known to me for  
membership of the Association.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

Date: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

Accepted: \_\_\_\_\_ Paid Financial Year: \_\_\_\_\_