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REVIVING OF ADAT BERSIRAM TRADITION AND ADAPTIVE REUSE OF MASJID LAMA KAMPUNG TANJUNG BERINGIN, SERI MENANTI, NEGERI SEMBILAN DARUL KHUSUS

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ABSTRACT

Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin was built in 1892 by Raja Melewar and the villagers. The mosque is left abandoned for many years without proper care, hence this building has present of defects and missing parts. Restoration an old building with different function has been applied a long time ago with the intention of reviving the building. There are many approaches to revive an old building, such as, adaptive reuse. The aim of this study is to revive the tradition that takes place at Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin, Seri Menanti, Negeri Sembilan Darul Khusus through adaptive reuse. The objective of this project is to identify factors causing the functional deterioration of Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin, to identify the significance of the mosque in order to revive its function, and to revive the function of the mosque through suitable approach.

This study will discover the right process of adaptive reuse and a documentation on the fabric of the site as well as its previous functions as one of its significant value. Perhaps, this study will be beneficial to the people. Specifically, this study analyses eight methods have been used in analysing the site on its motifs, defects, functions, and the design of the mosque in order to fulfil the objective of the study. This study finds the intricate carvings in the mosque that might have related to the reign of Raja Melewar and also related to the adat bersiram tradition that takes place in the mosque. Lastly, this study suggest that adaptive reuse is the best conservation works in hopes it will bring back from the edge of death of this mosque.

RESEARCH INTRODUCTION

Adaptive reuse means a renovation work and reuse of existing structures for new purposes. This happened often on a religious building, castles, and many more. This can be seen in Osaka Castle, Japan has turned to museum, Carcosa Seri Negara, Kuala Lumpur has become a hotel today and even Malaysia's castles like Istana Lama Seri Menanti, Negeri Sembilan and previous Istana Negara, Kuala Lumpur that has turned to museum to attract more tourist. However, old building that have undergone for adaptive reuse approach are often have conflicts with the user or perhaps with its own identity, especially religious building that have a different function. Usually the conflicts can be related with the sanctity of that building. As we know, religious building is used to perform religious practices which we often see it as a sacred building.

METHODOLOGY

The research using two different methods, which is, primary data and secondary data.

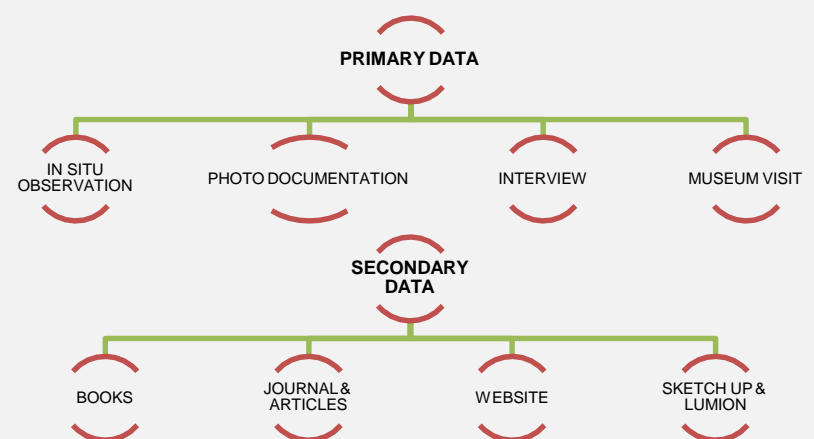


Figure 1: Research Methodology

PROBLEM STATEMENT

1

- The mosque is left abandoned for many years and lack of documentation. It is hard for a researcher to get any information regarding this mosque.

2

- Since the mosque was left without proper care, hence this building has present of defects and missing parts.

3

- There are missing parts in the mosque, which is the ceiling of the mosque are mostly detached missing due to decayed and very old.

4

- The mosque has not been used for about 55 years and perhaps the last ruler used for *adat bersiram* was Tuanku Munawir.

5

- There is no evidence or people who know the exact location of previous site of the mosque.

6

- The detail event of *adat bersiram* that takes place in the mosque also could not be found since the event happened hundred years ago. Only verbal story from the villagers is the reliable sources.

SITE LOCATION

The mosque is located at Lot 2450 in Kampung Tanjung Beringin, Seri Menanti, see Figure 2. Historically, this mosque is the first mosque established around the Pekan Diraja Seri Menanti.



Figure 2: The location of Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin
Source: Google Earth (2019)

AIM & OBJECTIVE

OBJECTIVE

To identify factors causing the functional deterioration of Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin

To identify the significance of Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin in order to revive its previous function of *adat bersiram* as part of the coronation process of Negeri Sembilan royalty

To apply adaptive reuse towards improving the function of Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin

AIM

To revive the *adat bersiram* tradition as part of coronation process and Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin, Seri Menanti, Negeri Sembilan Darul Khusus through adaptive reuse.

FINDINGS

From the interview session conducted with Mrs. Rokiah from Jabatan Warisan Negara, Kuala Lumpur. Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin was gazette as National Heritage in 2012. Meanwhile, the interview with Mr. Rosiswandy, the Assistant Curator at Muzium Adat Negeri Sembilan, Jelebu, found that there are many names regarding *adat bersiram*. The names are, *Adat Mandi Berlangir*, *Mandi Limau*, *Berlimau Langir*, *Adat Bersiram Tabal*, *Adat Mandi Safat*, and *Istiadat Mandi – Mandian*.



Figure 3: Current condition of the mosque

BUILDING CONSERVATION WORKS

Conservation encompasses all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance. It includes:



CASE STUDY

The uses of a building may change from time to time though, when the main purpose shifted into a new purpose in order to meet the current needs and at the same time preserve its authenticity. In those days, some historical buildings have been reused into a museum or concert hall, library, houses, offices, restaurants (Ariffin, et al., 2017). According to Mine (2013), there are two possible method to adaptive reuse a building, first, to preserve the originality of spatial and volumetric organization of the building which has been applied to Sephardic Synagogue, Amsterdam. Secondly, method of restoration that change the originality of spatial and volumetric organization of the building, can be seen in Carmo Monastery, Lisbon, Portugal & Demirci Mosque, Turkey.



Figure 4: Sephardic Synagogue, Amsterdam



Figure 5: Demirci Mosque, Turkey



Figure 6: Flow of the royal *adat bersiram*

ROYALTY OF NEGERI SEMBILAN

Tuanku Muhriz ibni Almarhum Tuanku Munawir is the 11th Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia. Tuanku Muhriz is the only son out of six children of the late Tuanku Munawir ibni Almarhum Tuanku Abdul Rahman, the Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan from 1960 to 1967.

However, he was bypassed by the Council of Undangs to become Yang di-Pertuan Besar when his father died in 1967 for his uncle, Tuanku Jaafar. Tuanku Jaafar was elected by the Undangs as the 10th Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan (Kerajaan Negeri Sembilan, 2019).



Figure 7: The chart of family pedigree of Yang Di- Pertuan Besar Negeri Sembilan
Source: Brendan (2008)

ADAT BERSIRAM

Adat bersiram in Negeri Sembilan Darul Khusus, it started with the placement of Alat Kebesaran Diraja at the lawn of Istana Besar Seri Menanti. Then, they all must wait for the arrival of four Undang. Yang Di – Pertuan Besar and the Tengku Ampuan will sit on a carriage called Maharaja Diraja to drawn by Pegawai 99 to Panca Persada. The carriage will be drawn from the palace's lawn to Panca Persada. When the Yang Di – Pertuan Besar and the Tengku Ampuan sit on Panca Persada, Orang Empat Istana will take the silver tray and bowl and round the king and queen for seven rounds.

After the Orang Empat Istana finished their ritual, the Yang Di – Pertuan Besar and the Tengku Ampuan will dipped their hands into silver tray and bowl that contain lime powder.



Figure 8: Adat bersiram of Yang Di – Pertuan Besar Negeri Sembilan
Source: Warisan Permaisuri (2014)

DESIGN PROPOSAL

The site of Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin is in irregular shape. The site is to be use as a place to display a Maharaja Diraja (royal carriage) and Panca Persada (stage for royal *adat bersiram*) as illustrated in Figure 9. These two important replicas in royal *adat bersiram* is needed in the site to give the image of previous events during the reign of Raja Melewar.

Moving to the interior of the mosque, it will be a museum for *adat bersiram* Yang Di – Pertuan Besar Negeri Sembilan. This museum will provide an exhibition regarding the event, from the garments, equipment, and tools used during the event as illustrated in Figure 10.

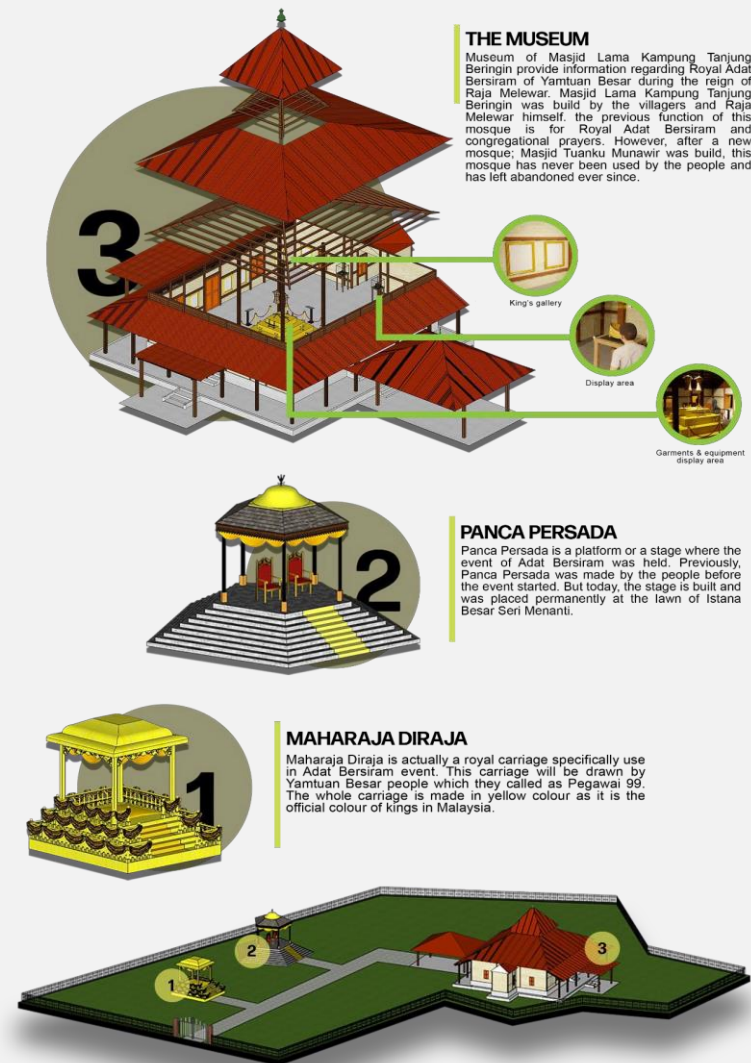


Figure 9: Proposed placement of Panca Persada and Maharaja Diraja on site

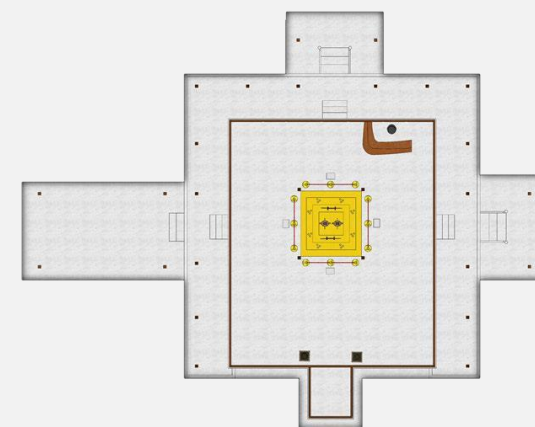


Figure 10: Spatial design of the proposed museum

3D IMAGES



Figure 11: Maharaja Diraja on site



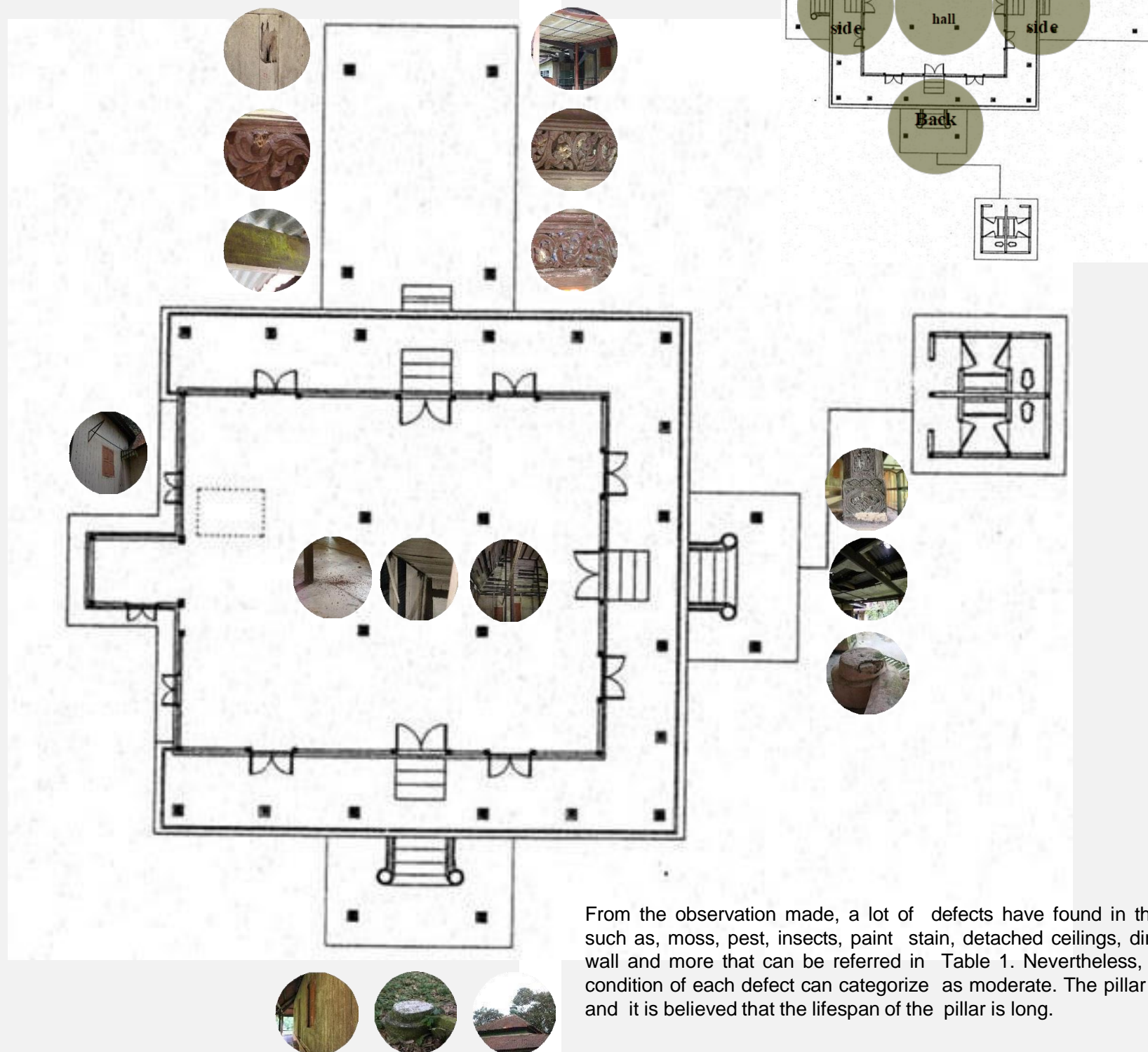
Figure 12: The display area in proposed museum of Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin



Figure 13: The display area at mihrab area

DEFECTS





Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin has been abandoned for over than 50 years without proper care from the residents or Seri Menanti and state authorities. Refer Table 1 for further details about the defects.



From the observation made, a lot of defects have found in the building, such as, moss, pest, insects, paint stain, detached ceilings, dirt, decayed wall and more that can be referred in Table 1. Nevertheless, the overall condition of each defect can categorize as moderate. The pillar still stable, and it is believed that the lifespan of the pillar is long.

Table 1: List of defects found in the mosque

No.	Location	Types of Defects	Defects
1.	Roof structure (right side)	Moss	
2.	Entrance pillar (right side)	Pest	
3.	Entrance pillar (right side)	Paint stain	
4.	Entrance pillar (right side)	Pest & insects	
5.	Entrance pillar (back)	Paint stain	
6.	Prayer hall	Bat's waste	
7.	Prayer hall	Bat's nest	
8.	Prayer hall	Detached ceiling	
9.	Mosque's wall (right side)	Decayed wall	

10.	Mosque's wall	Dirt	
11.	Entrance stair (back)	Flaking paint & fragmented stone	
12.	Entrance porch (back)	Detached ceiling	
13.	Entrance stair (left side)	Moss	
14.	Front window	Detached roof	
15.	Mosque's roof	Rusted roof	
16.	Entrance porch (right side)	Decayed ceiling	

CONCLUSION

The first objective of this research is to identify factors causing the functional deterioration of Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin, Seri Menanti, Negeri Sembilan Darul Khusus. This can be seen in this mosque. The mosque has been abandoned for quite a long time and never been used ever since. Hence, during the observation it can be seen that the mosque has a lot of defects occurs on the fabric of the building.

Secondly, the objective is to identify the significance of Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin in order to revive its function. From the observation made, it can be found that a lot of significant value can be found on the site. For example, the motifs and the fabric of the building. The motifs were carved by the villagers and the design of the mosque is basically a traditional mosque design but a bit different since it is quite big for traditional mosque.

The third objective is to revive the function of Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin through suitable approach. The intention of this research is to find whether the method of adaptive reuse is suitable for preserving an old building, especially old mosque since it could create criticism among the region.

Preservation through adaptive reuse is seen to be more closed to the one region as it can revive the building into different use. All four case studies have proven that it is not only for house of worship but also can be used as a tourist attraction and a place beneficial for the people, like library in Demirci Mosque, Turkey. Looking at the condition of Masjid Lama Kampung Tanjung Beringin, it is suitable to use this approach as it can help to prevent the building from deteriorate and at least have a proper care.

FUTURE RESEARCH AREA

These are the potential research area that provides a natural guide to future research

1

This research can be deepened more in doing the experiment on the material found on the site to get a specific data like, the exact year of the mosque, alternative material that can replace the original material.

2

More architectural works need to be done, using advanced equipment such as, Building Information Modelling (BIM), 3D building scan, technical drawing, and more. This is to ensure that all the detail information is in one place and easy to access if there is in need to refer in the future.

3

Study on organizations related to the field area is needed to avoid wasting time when the study is conducted. The researcher should know the role of each organization in their respective fields.

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