



UNIVERSITI  
MALAYA

QUANTITY  
*Surveying*  
FACULTY OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT

GIG1005 SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF QUANTITY SURVEYING  
FACULTY OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT  
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

# ASK ME PROJECT REPORT

**Voluntary Tourism Ambassadors  
for KL Heritage Buildings**

IN COLLABORATION WITH:

**TOURISM  
MALAYSIA®**

**WARISAN**  
جاڤاتا وابتنا نجا

LECTURER:

**Dr. Nurshuhada Zainon**

Chan She Shu Yuen Clan  
Bangunan Sultan Abdul Samad  
Masjid Negara  
Masjid Jamek  
Central Market  
Sri Mahamariamman Temple  
Bangunan Ibu Pejabat Keretapi

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# INTRODUCTION



University of Malaya (UM) acknowledges the importance of students' engagement in the community as holistic personal and professional development. Our researchers have demonstrated that, community involvement among undergraduates leads to improved academic and behavioral outcomes. Hence, UM has introduced a well-designed community engagement effort to allow our undergraduates identifying and understanding the adaptation, differing values and priorities, and differing frames of ways they view the community or a population group. Through the subject GIG1005: Social Engagement (2 credits), UM had made compulsory for all undergraduates to undertake this subject. It is aimed to facilitate and encourage more opportunities to bring students' volunteerism into the community - an aspect of the lifelong learning plan to achieve transformation within our students' generation and to harness their skills to 'give back to the community'. University students need to learn how to be an engaged volunteer in the community to help make the world a better place for everyone. Students need to conduct their social engagement programme, and, in the end, they are expected to write a report and make a presentation on their experience with the society.



# 1. CHAN SHE SHU YUEN CLAN ANCESTRAL HALL

## QR CODE



## ABSTRACT

Consist the information regarding the history, background, feature, construction and function of Chan She Shu Yuen Clan Ancestral Hall.

## GROUP 1

1. BIC170001 Adleen Aqilah Binti Roslan
2. BIC170009 Kelvin Ting Yi Hao
3. BIC170017 Lim Sheng Shuen
4. BIC170025 Norsafiqkah Binti Nordin
5. BIC170035 Nurul Ashikin Binti Amir Samsul
6. BIC170043 Tan Yi Xian
7. BIC170050 Yu Jia Wen
8. BIC170051 Zufizah Jasman

## 1.1 Location and Information

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Chan She Shu Yuen Clan Association Kuala Lumpur & Selangor (CSSY) was established in 1896 (during Emperor Guangxu of Qing Dynasty) as a Clan Consanguinity Organisation. The founders of CSSY consist of four (4) Southern China immigrants, the late Honorable Chan Sow Lin, Chin Choon, Chin Sin Hee and Chan Choy Thin.

It all started in 1897 when Honorable Chan Sow Lin managed to tender seven (7) attached shop lots land from the British Colonial Government. The construction of CSSY Ancestor Hall started in 1899 and the magnificent building was completed in 1906. Occupation approval was eventually granted by the British Resident of Selangor; Sir Henry Conway Belfield (1902-1910) on behalf of the Sultan of Selangor; Sultan Alauddin Sulaiman Shah Ibni Al-Mahrum Yang Di-Pertuan Muda Musa (1898-1938) in 1908.

### History of Chan She Shu Yuen

The Chan She Shu Yuen building is called temple and also an association of the surviving clan. The building is over a hundred years old as per stated on the name plate at the gate proclaimed that it was founded in 1896.

The association's founders were tin mine tycoons, Chan Sow Lin, Chin Choon, Chin See Hee and Chan Choy Thin who garnered seven attached shop lots from the British colonial government and got to work building what would become Chan See Shu Yuen Temple – construction of the original building took ten years to complete. The building also modelled after the Chan Clan Association located in Guangzhou China. It was opened in 1908. This temple and association served the Cantonese with the same surname that have come to Malay Land (Tanah Melayu) to settle in to start their new life.

It was built as a Clan Consanguinity Organization. Consanguinity as we understand is a long form for “kinship” which in this case, of those from the “Chan clan”. In other words, the Clan association is a sort of “club” for those with the same surname – which in this case “Chan”, “Tan” and “Chen” that use the same Chinese characters. Many long years ago, this association would have played a critical role to help new immigrants belonging to the same clan settle in, to find work and so on.

On 30th October 2016, CSSY and Chen Shi Shu Yuan (Pinyin) of Guangzhou signed a MOU namely; “Two-Nation, Two-Consanguinity Organization, One Family”. This is the line with the “One Belt, One Road” effort to promote more cultural exchange and foster better relationship among the neighboring countries. For more than a century, the Chen's descendants of CSSY had kept the tradition alive and uphold its core values generation after generation. Celebration and paying homage for the birth commemoration of Chen's Great Grand Ancestors, Honorable Shun Di, Honorable Chen Shi and Honorable Chen Yuan Guang, Spring and Autumn Festival Praying are the main occasion for CSSY.

## Background

Chan She Shu Yuen Temple is one of the largest and oldest surviving Buddhist temples in Malaysia. Located at the southern end of Jalan Petaling, it is characterized by a typical open courtyard and symmetrical pavilions, and decorated with colorful paintings, woodcarvings and ceramic fixtures. The temple was built between 1897 and 1906 and some of its magnificent features are pottery-tiled roof and gables as well as specially crafted ceramics depicting mythological scenes.

Chan She Shu Yuen Temple serves a dual function as both a shrine and a community center. When it opened its doors in 1906, its main purpose was to provide help for newly arrived immigrants from China, specifically those from the extended Chan clan. The temple was originally built as a clan association, representing families bearing the related names of Chan, Chen, or Tan and is dedicated to the family ancestor. The clan founders are depicted at the central altar of the temple.

These days it is a Buddhist place of worship open to all. It is best known for its intricate carvings, showing stories from Chinese legends, and for its exterior tiles, from which it gets its informal name, the Green Temple. The association continues to pay respects to the Chen's great grand ancestors and encourages their descendants to adhere to their values of morality, filial piety, loyalty, honesty, trustworthiness, wisdom and hard work with the aim of living with dignity, prosperity and contributing to society wherever they live.



## Chan She Shu Yuan Features

### **Architecture Design**

CSSY building was modelled after the Chan Clan Ancestral Hall in Xi Guan, Guangzhou China as a design blueprint, which combined the characteristics of a family temple and an ancestral hall features, incorporating the ancient Cantonese-style art and Southern China architecture, which has an elusive of Han and Bai Yue elements.

The Chen She Shu Yuan building was built between 1897 and 1906. All the materials and craftsmen were imported from southern China which is where this clan originates. The Ling Nan architectural design was closely modelled on the Chan Clan Ancestral Hall in Xiguan, Guangzhou, China and the style is typically Cantonese, incorporating Han and Baiyue elements.

CSSY ornamented and elegant Palace-alike architecture which displays the splendor art of the traditional Chinese glamour and its significance, is definitely a rare piece of heritage site found and well preserved outside of mainland China. Due to its fine blended of Chinese cultural and great artistic value, CSSY building has become one of the most historical sites within the heart of Kuala Lumpur today. In 2006, the Government of Malaysia through the National Cultural Heritage Act 2005 had declared this historical premise as one of the historical cultural relics and a protected heritage ancient building.

### **Roof**

This temple is also known as the green temple due to its green roof. Along the roofline are many detailed pottery figurines of ancient Chinese drama personalities and mythological characters. It was believed that the dramas performed by these figures would provide endless entertainment for the clan ancestors to watch.

Along the roof, many beautiful and unique potteries carving together with painted sculptures demonstrating various ancient Chinese drama personalities, devas and ethnic Chinese mythological figures were presented. It was believed that these dramas would be performing incessantly, so that there would be endless dramas for our ancestors to watch.



### **Sculpture**

Beautifully crafted art pieces can be found in the interior. Meanwhile, decorating the edges of Chan See Shu Yuen Temple are blue ceramic vases and small statues of peasants (guardians of the temple) armed with poles crowned with lanterns; on either side of the entrance gate are shrines to the male and female guardians.



### **Design**

Behind a glass wall in the main temple are statues of the Chan See Shu Yuen Temple's three main deities, including Chong Wah, an emperor of the Sung Dynasty; above them is a mural of a brilliant yellow sun. Meanwhile, decorating the edges of Chan See Shu Yuen Temple are blue ceramic vases and small statues of peasants (guardians of the temple) armed with poles crowned with lanterns; on either side of the entrance gate are shrines to the male and female guardians.



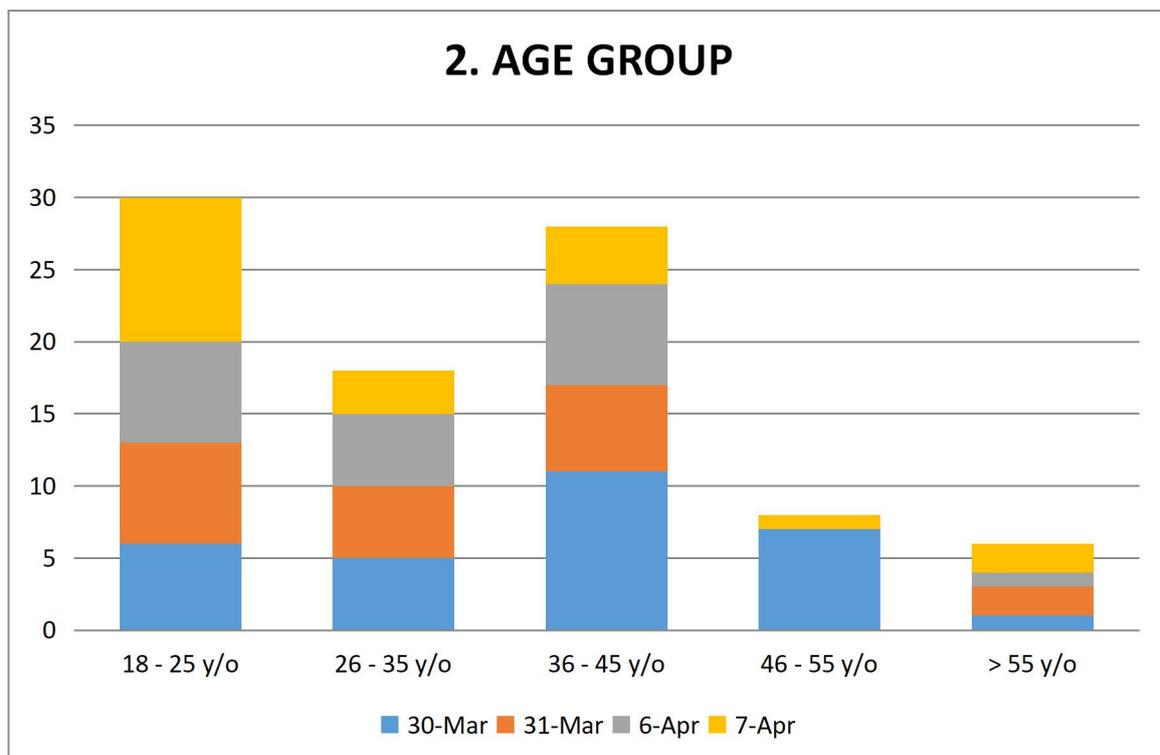
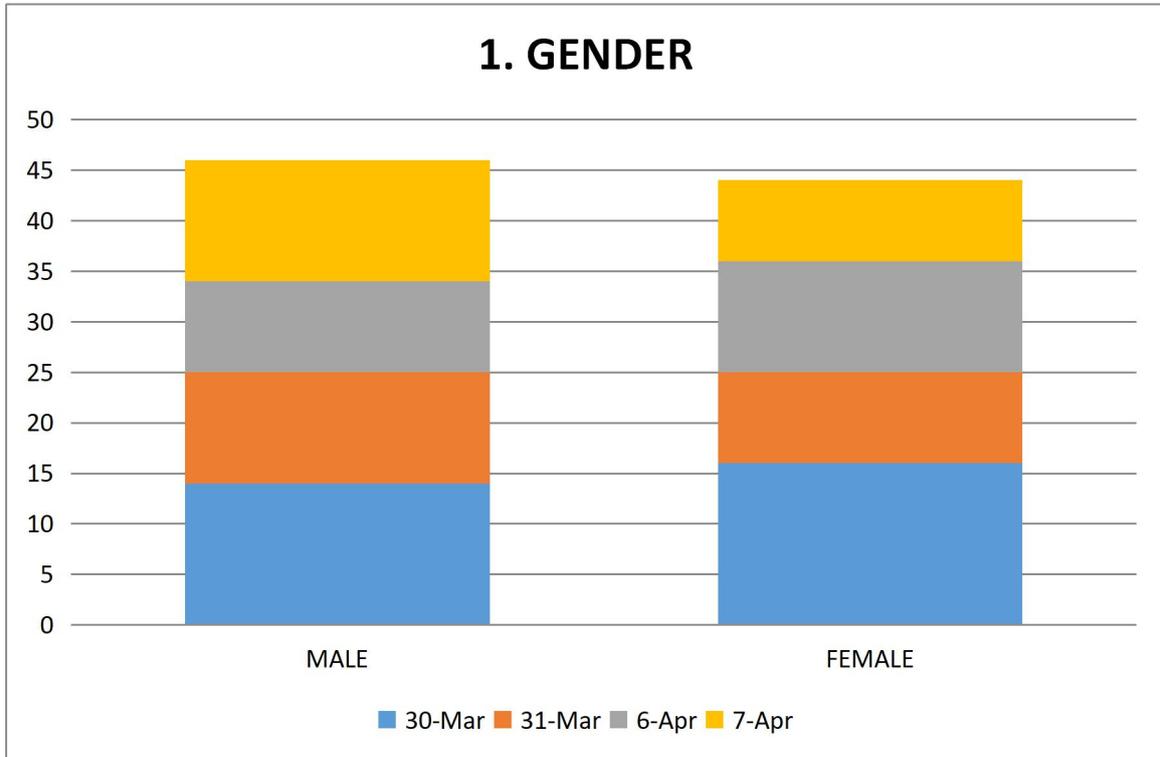
### **Function**

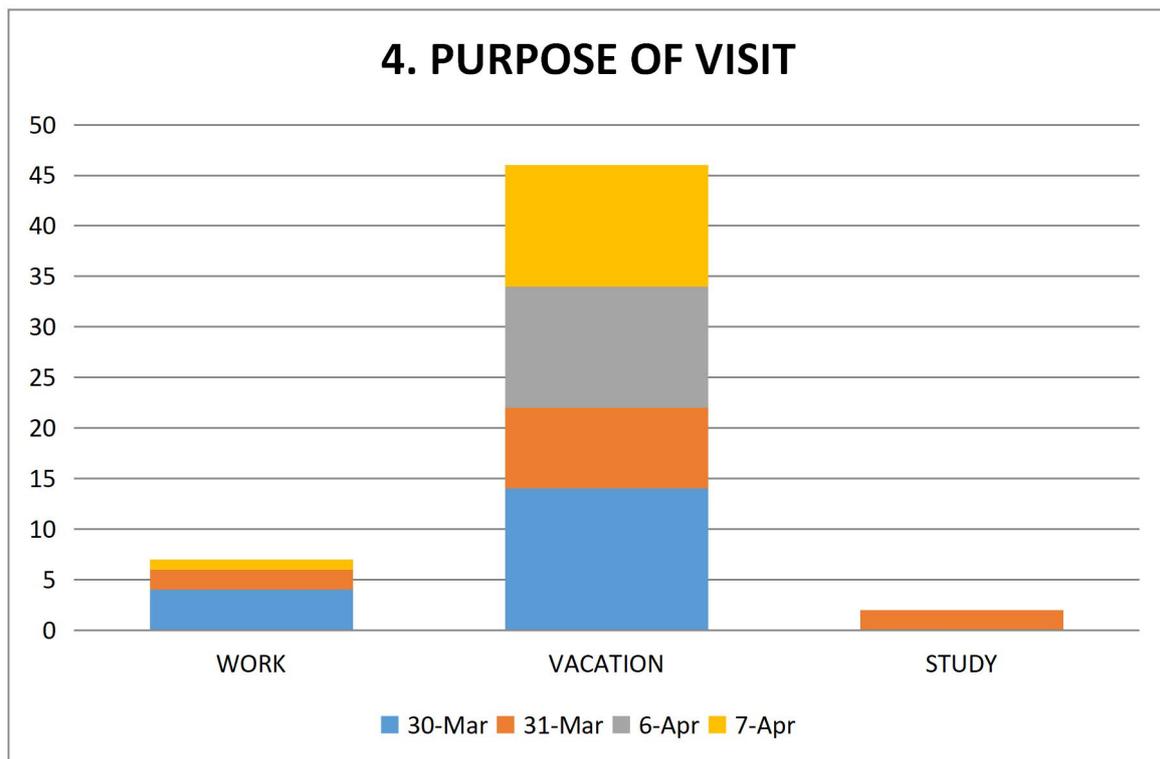
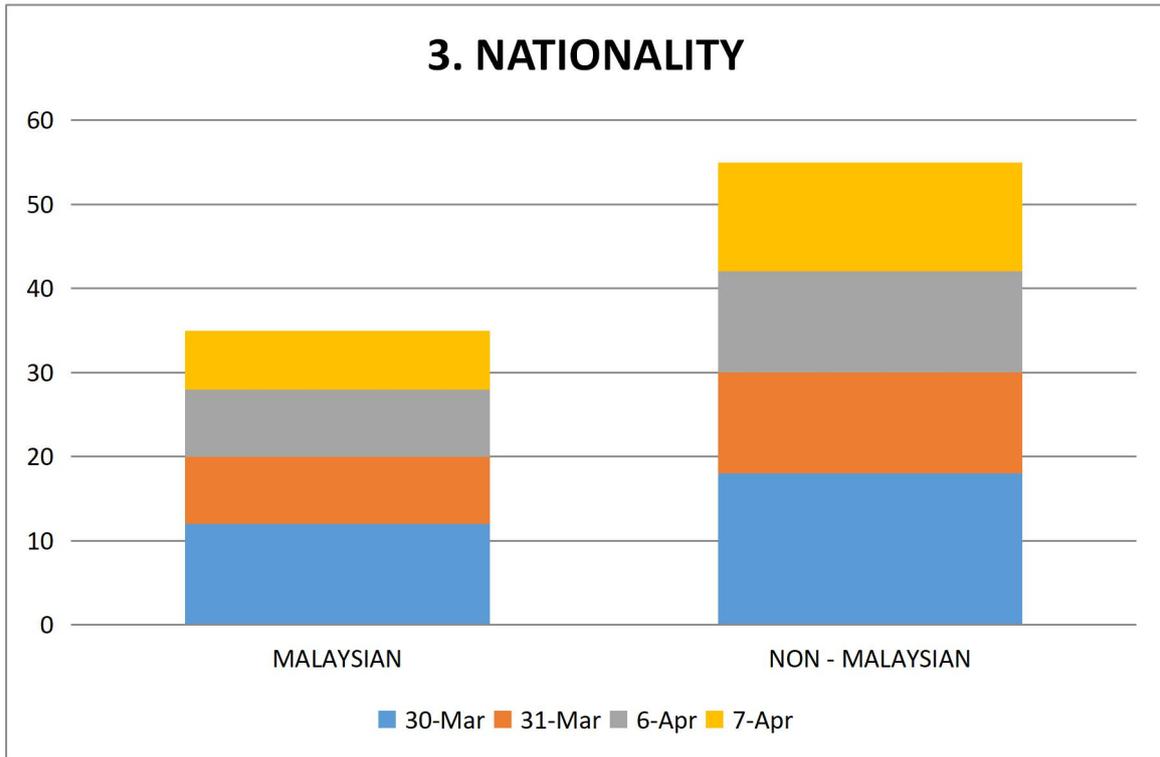
Chan She Shu Yuen Temple serves a dual function as both a shrine and a community center. Originally built as a kongsi (clan house) for families with the surnames Chan, Chen or Tan, the clan founders are depicted at the central altar of the temple. Other than the temple's beautiful architectural design, you can also see black-and-white pictures (some are hand drawn) of deceased clan members above the altars on the right and left of the main temple during your visit to the temple.



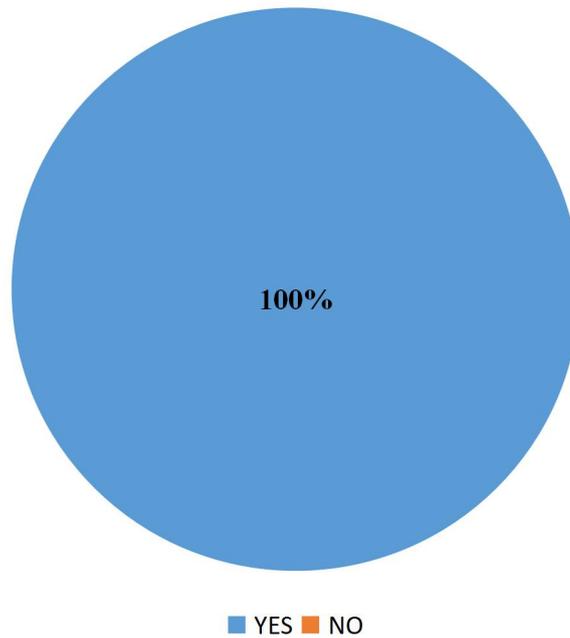
## 1.2 Feedback Survey

### CHAN SHE SHU YUEN CLAN ANCESTRAL HALL

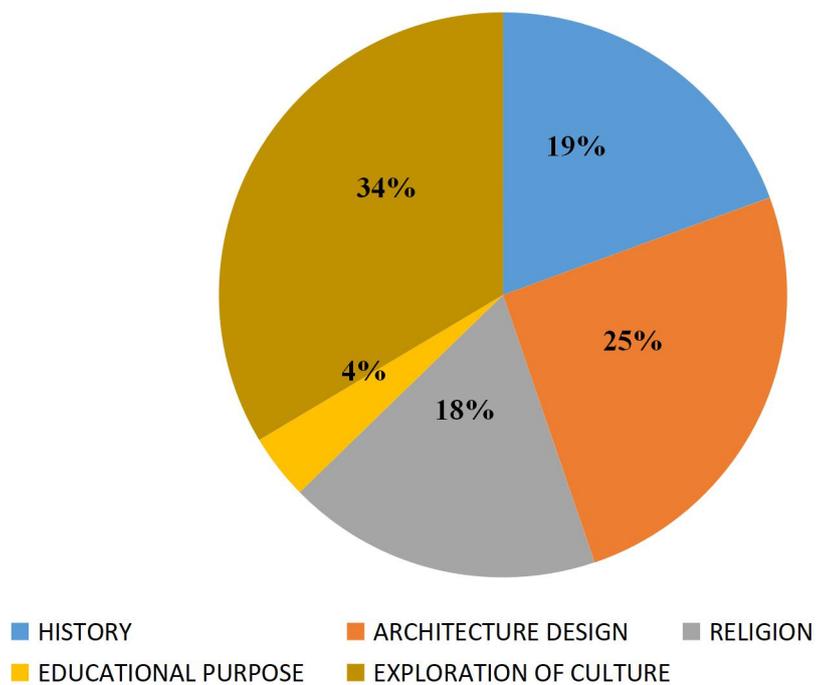




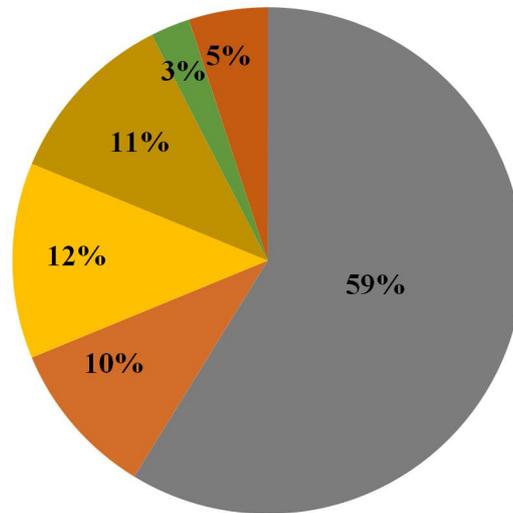
## 5. INTEREST TOWARDS THE BUILDING



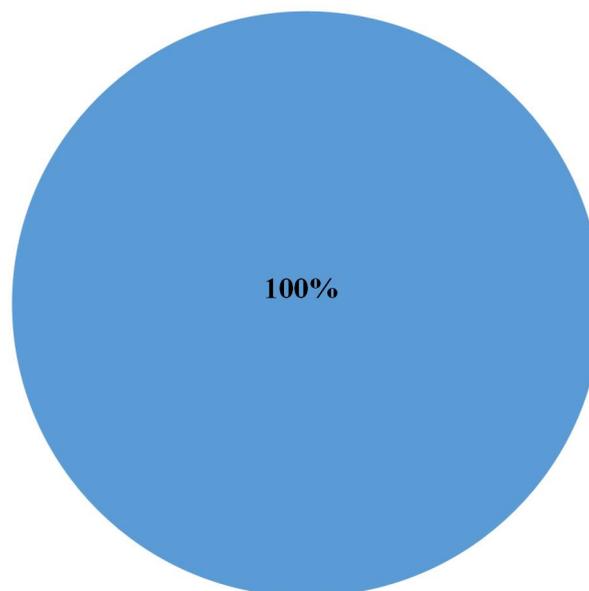
## 6. REASON OF VISITING THIS BUILDING



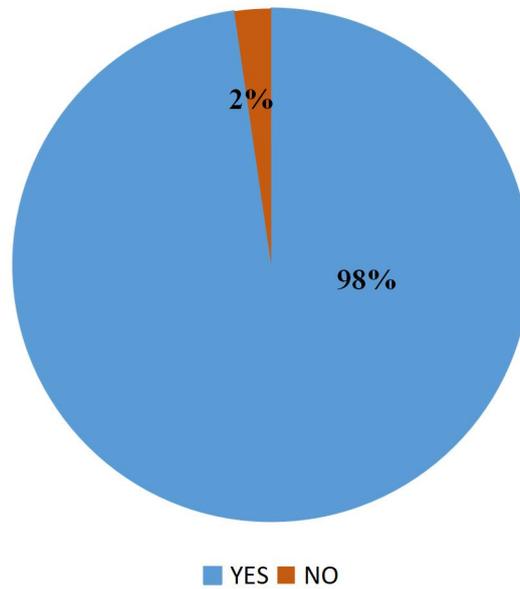
## 7. RESOURCES USED TO FIND OUT ABOUT THIS PLACE



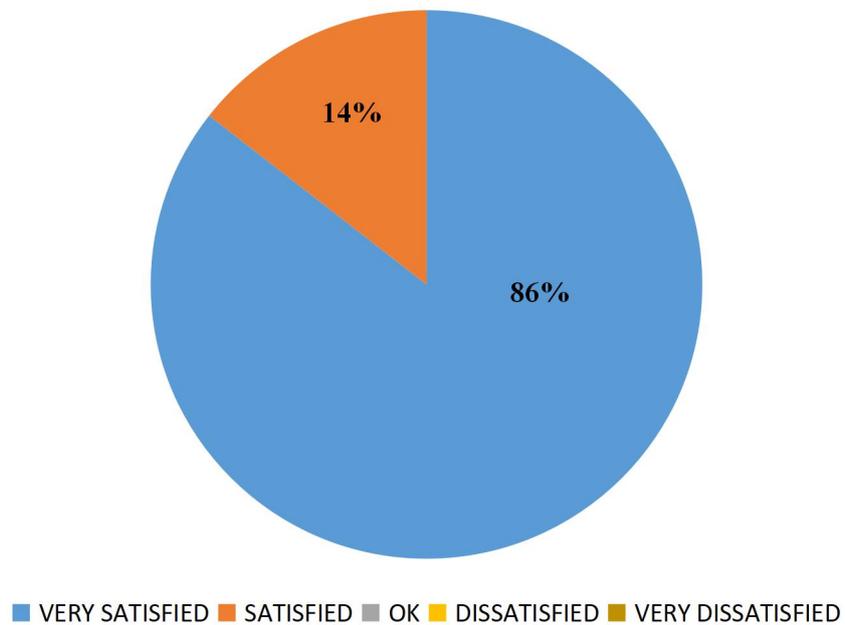
## 8. IS 'ASK ME' PROJECT HELPFUL?



### 9. EFFICIENCY OF QR CODE IF PLACED AROUND THE LOCATION



### 10. SATISFACTION RATING TO 'ASK ME' PROJECT



## 1.3 Transformative Jurnal

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**ATAS:** ZUFIZAH, AQILAH, ASHIKIN, SAFIQKAH, JIA WEN  
**BAWAH:** YI XIAN, KELVIN, SHENG SHUEN

**C**han She Shu Yuen Clan Association is one of the heritage building that have in Kuala Lumpur. My group have been here for 4 days to do our social engagement project which is "ASK ME".

By doing this project, I have gain more knowledge about this heritage building which was established in 1896 but the building constructed done during 1906. From my own perception, one of the best thing that I will remember is I have the experience to explain and talk to the tourist from all over the world such as tourist from China, New Zealand, Canada and many more. Furthermore, indirectly I can built my soft skill which is communication skill that I know that it should improve more from myself.

Other than that, I think one of the best is all of my group members give their 100% commitment even though this event is held on weekend and we help to each other when it comes to solve the problem that arise during these 4 days. From my point of view, this project should be extend for the next session student because it helps a lot for both side which is we as a student and also the tourist that come to our country to know something that make Malaysia interesting place to visit.

**(ADLEEN AQILAH BT ROSLAN - BIC170001)**

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On 30&31 March and 6&7 April, these four days, 'Ask Me' project was held in 7 heritage building in Kuala Lumpur. The aims for this 'Ask Me' project are to assist the foreigner and the tourist, let them know more about the history of each buildings, and give us an opportunity to spread the related information of the heritage building based on our knowledge in construction as what we have learnt in our course. In order to make this project successful and also efficient, we were divided into 7 group and executed the works in respective places during these 4 days.

This project has a lot of benefits for me after carrying out the work in Chan She Shu Yuen Clan. First of all. I have learnt how to work in a group efficiently. When the tourist approached us, it was very important that we did our work according to our position like one of the teammates was explaining the history of the Chan She Shu Yuen Clan another one was recording the entire process and also recording the feedback of this project in the form. Without the teamwork, it might be a disorder situation and we might fail to provide any help to the tourist as expected.

Secondly, I have learnt how to communicate with the stranger without any fear and became more confident. Keeping smile and talk smoothly to the stranger was always a hard task for me before this. During this project, I started to explain the history of the Chan She Shu Yuen Clan and also the important information to the tourist with confidence. This was because I found that it was very important to have self-confidence since you wanted to pursue other people to believe what you wanted to express.

Thirdly, I have learnt more about the uniqueness of the heritage building in Malaysia. However, I was on duty in the Chan She Shu Yuen Clan but I can know more about other heritage building through the report that prepared by another group. Through reading the complete reports from them, I found that every building has its own history and story that attracted me to visit all of these places.

Finally, I think this project is meaningful for me because it taught me the knowledge and let me gain a lot of experience that I never get in class.

**(KELVIN TING YI HAO - BIC170009)**

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Throughout this "Ask Me" Project, I have learnt how to approach and communicate with other people especially the foreigner tourists. From the first day that I am still feeling shy to approach the tourists until the last day that I'm feeling proud to introduce and explain our heritage building in Malaysia to the tourists. To be honest that I've never been to those heritage buildings even though I've lived in Malaysia for 21 years. I think that this project is a really good platform for us to know more about the heritage buildings in Malaysia.

Other than that, I've learnt more about the culture in Chan She Shu Yuen Clan even though I'm a Chinese. For example, the reasons and the ways they are having prayers in the Chan Clan as I'm seldom went to temple for prayers. An old lady in the clan told us that we

need to preserve our culture and practice it so that this culture will not become extinct in the younger generation.

**(LIM SHENG SHUEN - BIC170017)**

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First of all, I would like to thank Dr Nurshuhada for giving us gold opportunity to do this awesome Ask Me Project. She is the best coordinator we ever worked with. Besides that, she always support us throughout the project. Ask Me Project has given me a lot of new experiences where I never expect before. This project gives me chance to improve my soft skills such as communication skills, social skills, leadership skills and many more. As example, during day 1, I only communicate with around 3-5 tourist as I do not have the confidence level to talk to all of them who visited the clan house. I always has the feeling that I afraid to talk to foreigners. But, after this project has been implemented, I realized that my confident level has gained from day to day.

Besides that, this project also teach me be an optimistic and open minded person. This is because I has a trauma to go to any temple as I vomited whenever I smell the ingredients that they used to pray. Since that, I never look or pass by any temple I found. During this project, I managed to deal with it by changing my mindset by saying to myself that I have to focus to gain more useful knowledge about that heritage building. The staff who work at the clan house was very kind and she welcomed us to come there again. In my opinion, this project has achieved it original objectives as all of us able to study and guide tourists by explaining the constructions and the background of the heritage buildings. Heritage buildings has become main attractions for international tourists to visit Malaysia. By conducting this useful project, the visitors who came to Malaysia without any tour guide will able to gain useful knowledge about the building from us.

We got a lot of positive feedbacks from local and international visitors that visit the clan house. We felt very happy when the tourists said that we helped them a lot. They hope this project will be continued in the future and also in other countries. I never expect this project to be an awesome and fun experience. This is one of the best project I ever joined before. In addition, I also appointed for a new job scope that I never do before, where I was assigned to become the bureau of publicity. I was so glad that I managed to handle and finish up all tasks given. Commitments given by all classmates were also very unexpected as all of them managed to go to all assigned places along the project. All in all, I proudly say that this project is successful as it achieve its main goals.

**(NORSAFIQKAH BINTI NORDIN - BIC170025)**

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I have always wanted to do a voluntary project about tourism. This project give me the opportunity to encounter and talk to the visitors and foreigners. Interacting with them has enhance my soft skills and my leadership. Seeing their happy faces when we're welcoming them, when we are helping them with the direction and when we are suggesting the divergence of delicious food that Malaysia offered, is great. I believe that teamwork is the key to this project. Every member give their best to commit their task and always cooperate within the team. This project has given us the opportunity to know about the information

that cannot be founded in the Internet. It has been pleasure to visit and explore the uniqueness of heritage building in Malaysia. I hope this project can be continued by the next batch of students.

**(NURUL ASHIKIN BINTI AMIR SAMSUL - BIC170035)**

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**F**rom my experience of conducting ASK ME Project in 4 days, I found that this project is indeed a beneficial one, not only to us but also to the tourists and the community. Since historical buildings is one of the most popular tourism spot, there should be a proper platform to clear tourists' doubts. I feel grateful as this kind of volunteerism has helped us to gain confidence and sharpen our communication skills, at the same time giving a good impression, image and reputation to our country, Malaysia. Most of the tourists, local and overseas, felt appreciated as this ASK ME Project is able to deeper their understanding on the culture of Malaysia. Based on their sincere feedback, they wish that ASK ME Project can last for a longer period and continue to serve the society.

Undoubtedly, ASK ME Project is a successful event. It could have been even better if the ASK ME team is distributed over the larger areas especially in the popular landmarks. Together with the effort of community, ASK ME Project should be introduced, encouraged and promoted so that the spirit of volunteerism can be embedded in the mind of youngsters. Meanwhile, boosting the sectors of tourism in Malaysia.

**(TAN YI XIAN - BIC 170043)**

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'Ask Me' project is a platform that allows me to engage with the community through activity which is act as a tourist ambassador and promote our country. First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to my lecturer of Social Engagement course, Dr. Nurshuhada binti Zainon. She gave us the idea and proposal of this 'Ask Me' project. She guided and encouraged us during these four days. Without her help and guidance, our project may not be held successfully. I also would like to thank to Chan She Shu Yuan for giving us permission to carry out our volunteering project there.

From this project, I get to know the history of the heritage building in Kuala Lumpur. My group is at Chan She Shu Yuan which is a clan ancestral house. This building is built for more than 100 years. Initially, the construction of this building went into hardship however they manage to cope it. I also learnt that every architecture design in the clan house has its own meaning. For example, the dark blue pottery pens erected on the left and right of the entrance wall symbolising the great literatures started here. This info has increased my knowledge.

Through this project, I am more willing to approach the tourists. From first day when I am not confident enough to explain to them until the fourth day when I can approach them and explain to them the facts about the clan house confidently, it can clearly prove that this project had improve my soft skills. When I communicate with tourists, some of them will tell me about their country such as the travel destination. This made our conversations more interesting.

Not only that, I knew more about the area in Pasar Seni. Since the Chan She Shu Yuan is in Pasar Seni, I went to there by LRT and walking. I saw other heritage buildings along the journey like Sri Mahamariamman Temple. I also knew more about the food there too. This is because we had our breakfast at the restaurant in Pasar Seni. My friend also recommended some delicious food to me at Petaling Street there.

Through this project, I also learnt the importance of teamwork. We have survey form, FAQ, make video and give out goodies these jobs. Team leader distributed it evenly, so everyone has their own job. This can reduce our burdens.

In conclusion, this project really helps me in improving my communication skills and knowledge. I hope that this kind of project can be continued in next time.

**(YU JIA WEN - BIC170050)**

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**W**e start our day on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019, we do it for two consecutive weekends, thus we were there in this following dates 30<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 and 6<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> April 2019, from 9am to 4pm. On the first day, our journey start form University Malaya, we took T890 rapid bus to the nearest LRT station of KL Gateway–Universiti. After, we took train (LRT) from the KL Gateway – Universiti to Pasar Seni (Central Market) station which the journey took us about 15 minutes to arrive at Pasar Seni, and the cost is around RM 2.90 per journey. From the Station we took the MRT connection exit at Gate A and walk pass the shoplots around Petaling Street. At first junction, we turn left, bringing us to Jalan Panggung, where the famous coffee shop “Ali, Muthu & Ah Hock”, this kopitiam is one of the oldest coffee shop at Jalan Panggung, also a special and has the real meaning of Malaysia, where the main ethnic and race in Malaysia of Malay, Indian and Chinese. We had our breakfast in here, before we started our day at the Clan house (Chan She Shu Yuen). The price of the food is fairly average. We had Roti Bakar Set (Toast Bread with Butter and Kaya), which, comes with 2 soft-boiled eggs and a cup of coffee or tea on your preferences. The price is RM5.90 after tax. Then we walk straight ahead until we arrive at the junction, and we turn right, and walk ahead to the Clan Association.

Overall journey from University Malaya to the Clan house minus the time at the kopitiam is approximately around 30 minutes depending on the train schedules as well the speed of walking. On the first day, we met the people from the office, to test our knowledge about the Clan House before we start our “Ask Me” Project. After correcting some facts, we were ready to engage with the tourist. It was fun and very informative as well encouraging project, as we tend to know more about the Clan House, as well get the fact right, learn the Chinese culture, as well the Buddhist religion and beliefs. It was a rather wonderful experience to promote our country to the foreigner, tell them about our culture, and our diversity. As well we know more about our heritage buildings, the history of our own country, the history of how and why it is been built.

This project has been one of the valuable experiences in my life. Personally, I have made more interaction with my other classmate in a way that we had breakfast together, regardless our race, ethic, religion and gender, which what I always wanted and hope for my classmates. Also, we had our bonding session, heart to heart talk, which is wonderful. Let

just say even guys in my class also love to talk and have a heart to heart session. It makes the 53 of us closer than before. We argue and joke around together. I would like to thank to our department (QS UM) for giving our batch this opportunity. We love it, and it was beyond enjoyable, literally and practically fun!

**(ZUFIZAH JASMAN - BIC170051)**

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## 2. SULTAN ABDUL SAMAD BUILDING

### QR CODE



### ABSTRACT

Consist the information regarding the history, background, origin and design, incident happened, feature, construction, nearby landmarks and usage of Sultan Abdul Samad Building.

### GROUP 2

1. BIC170002 Amirah Binti Mohd Amin
2. BIC170008 Intan Juhaidah Binti Juhan
3. BIC170010 Kong Siew Mun
4. BIC170018 Low Yee Peng
5. BIC170026 Nur Adlina Binti Ahmad Putra
6. BIC170036 Ong Jia Qi
7. BIC170044 Tan Zi Xuan
8. BIC170052 Nadirah Azra Bt Muzamil

## 2.1 Location and Information

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### Background & History



The **Sultan Abdul Samad Building** is a late-nineteenth century building located along Jalan Raja in front of the Dataran Merdeka (Independence Square) and the Royal Selangor Club in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The building originally housed the offices of the British colonial administration, and was known simply as Government Offices in its early years. In 1974 it was renamed after Sultan Abdul Samad, the reigning sultan of Selangor at the time when construction began.

The building houses both the offices of the Ministry of Communications and Multimedia and the Ministry of Tourism and Culture of Malaysia (Malay: *Kementerian Komunikasi dan Multimedia, Kementerian Pelancongan dan Kebudayaan Malaysia*). It once housed the superior courts of the country: the Federal Court of Malaysia, the Court of Appeals and the High Court of Malaya. The Federal Court and the Court of Appeals had shifted to the Palace of Justice in Putrajaya during the early 2000s, while the High Court of Malaya shifted to the Kuala Lumpur Courts Complex in 2007.



Photo of Sultan Abdul Samad

## Origin and design



View of Sultan Abdul Samad Building

The government offices of the British colonial administration was originally located in the Bluff Road (present day Jalan Bukit Aman) area on a hill overlooking the Padang now called Merdeka Square. However, due to the need for more office space and complaints from the public about the necessity of going up and down the hill, the State Engineer of Selangor Public Works Department Charles Edwin Spooner proposed the building of government offices lower down at the plain. The initial suggestion was rejected due to cost, but the British Resident of Selangor William Edward Maxwell accepted a second proposal that cost less.

The building was originally designed by A.C. Norman and his assistant R. A. J. Bidwell in a Classical Renaissance style, but Spooner disliked the design. It was then reworked by Bidwell under Spooner's guidance in a style variously described as Indo-Saracenic, Neo-Mughal, or Moorish. Later A. B. Hubback who had just starting working for the colonial government in Malaya as a senior draughtsman also worked on it. Although the building is formally credited to A.C. Norman (only his name appears on the foundation stone as the architect) and his ground plan was kept, the actual design is to a large extent the work of R. A. J. Bidwell, with contributions from A. B. Hubback who also designed the fixtures of the building.

The building has two stories, with the floor plan roughly in the shape of the letter F with an extended top bar representing the frontage. The facade of the building faces the Padang and stretches over 137.2 metres (450 ft) along Jalan Raja, at that time the largest building in Malaya. The building has 3.5 metres (11 ft) wide verandas on both floors. A central clock tower is 41 metres (135 ft) in height, and designed to echo the Big Ben but in an Indo-Saracenic style. Two lower towers flanked the clock tower, each containing a staircase. The design of these two towers may have been influenced by Muir Central College of Allahabad in India. All three towers are topped by a copper-clad onion dome. The style of the building is sometimes referred to as the "blood and bandages" style – red bricks with white plastered arches and banding.

## Incident

In 1971, Kuala Lumpur suffered a huge flood after a heavy rainfall. Part of the building was not spared. In 1978, a massive renovation was undertaken. The renovation took six years to complete with a total cost of RM 17.2 million. There was also a fire which damaged part of the building. A large bronze memorial plaque commemorating fallen judicial officers and lawyers who served as volunteer soldiers in WW2 disappeared about this time. The plaque was either looted or else was damaged in the fire but was never repaired or replaced. There is now a move supported by the Malayan Volunteers Group to try to get the bronze memorial plaque restored.

The location of this building was very strategic. It was located in the center of the city. Nowadays, some of the importance events such as Merdeka (National Day) etc. will held in front of the building. The design of the building is very aesthetical and still remain the old day origin design, some of the couple will choose there as their location for shooting their wedding photos. Many of the tourists also like to have a photo with the building also. Malaysia is an Islamic country, this building's design style exactly represent the style of our country.

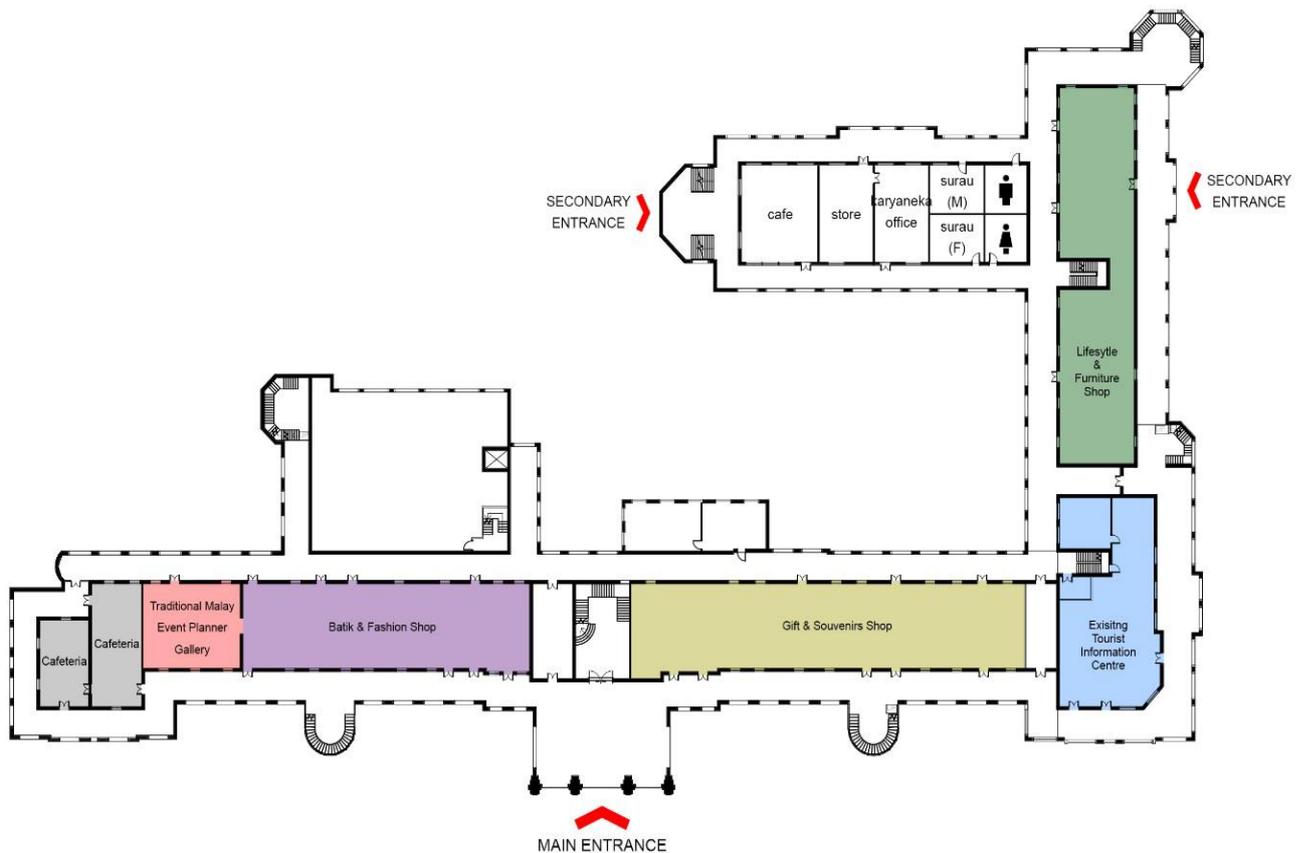
## Construction



Among the interesting factors behind the history of the construction of the first Government Public Building under the Federal Government of the Federated Malay States involved the establishment of a factory located in Brickfield to supply building materials such as 4 million bricks, 2,500 barrels of cement, 18,000 pints of lime, 5,000 lb copper, 50 tonnes of iron steel and 30,000 cubic feet of wood.

Spoooner also made many alterations and additions while the building was being constructed with the help of A. B. Hubback. Some of these, such as an extra two and a half feet of brickwork on the lower walls, were necessary to strengthen the building due to it being built so close to the river. The height of the clock tower had also caused much concern to the public, who thought that the tower may collapse due to the ground vibrations caused by a loud signal gun fired daily at noon and 5 pm, the built tower however proved to be sturdy. A problem arose with the clock first delivered as it was not in harmony with the building, and it was replaced by a second one. The clock was manufactured by Gillett & Johnston Ltd of Croydon.

## The Design Concept



This two - storey building has the distinctive structure of the 41.5m Clock Tower in the center of the building 'F' appearance of its own identity and landmark. It is also the first civilian standing building on a triangular site located between the Jalan Raja and the Dutch Road (Federal Court Road) which runs west along the Gombak River and Sungai Klang and overlooking (Clarke St), the High Court Road.

Among the responsible officers were Arthur Charles Alfred Norman as Government Actor, Charles Edwin Spooner as State Engineer and Director of PWD, R.A.J. Bidwell and A.B. The Hubback provides the plan, and drawings, thus enabling the Building to be inaugurated by Sir Frank Swettenham K.C.M.G. (Resident Generals) on 4th. April 1897.

## Construction cost

The initial estimation construction cost for the Sultan Abdul Samad's building is \$152,000. After the building has been fully constructed on the April 1897, the construction cost is \$152,824. The construction period takes 2 years and 7 months after the putting of the foundation stone on place that had been made by H.E Sir Charles B.H Mitchell K.C (Gabenor Negeri – negeri Selat) on the 6th October 1894.

## Demolition And Renovation work

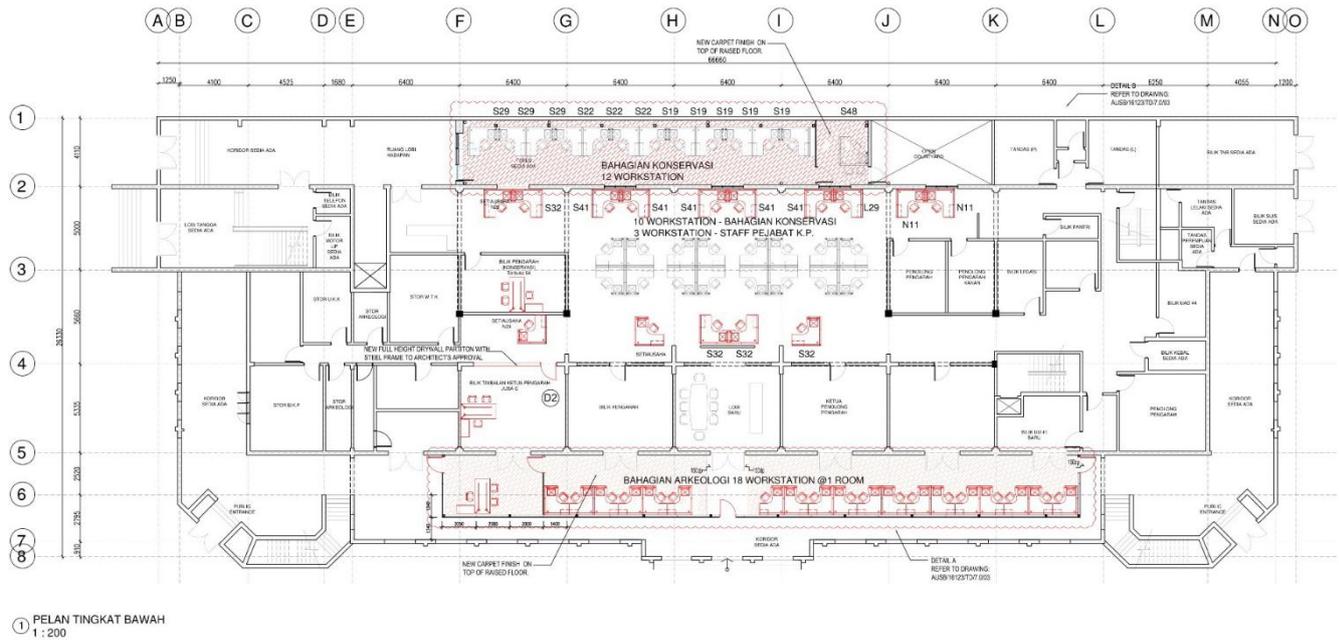


Diagram 1.

Based on diagram 1, the space that has been coloured red is the part where the new carpet finish is to install on top of raise floor slab which is located in the Conservation Department and the Archeology Department room. There are some new furniture and some table partition to be added. Not that only, there some part of timber post that has been refurbish which is to make good existing timber post.

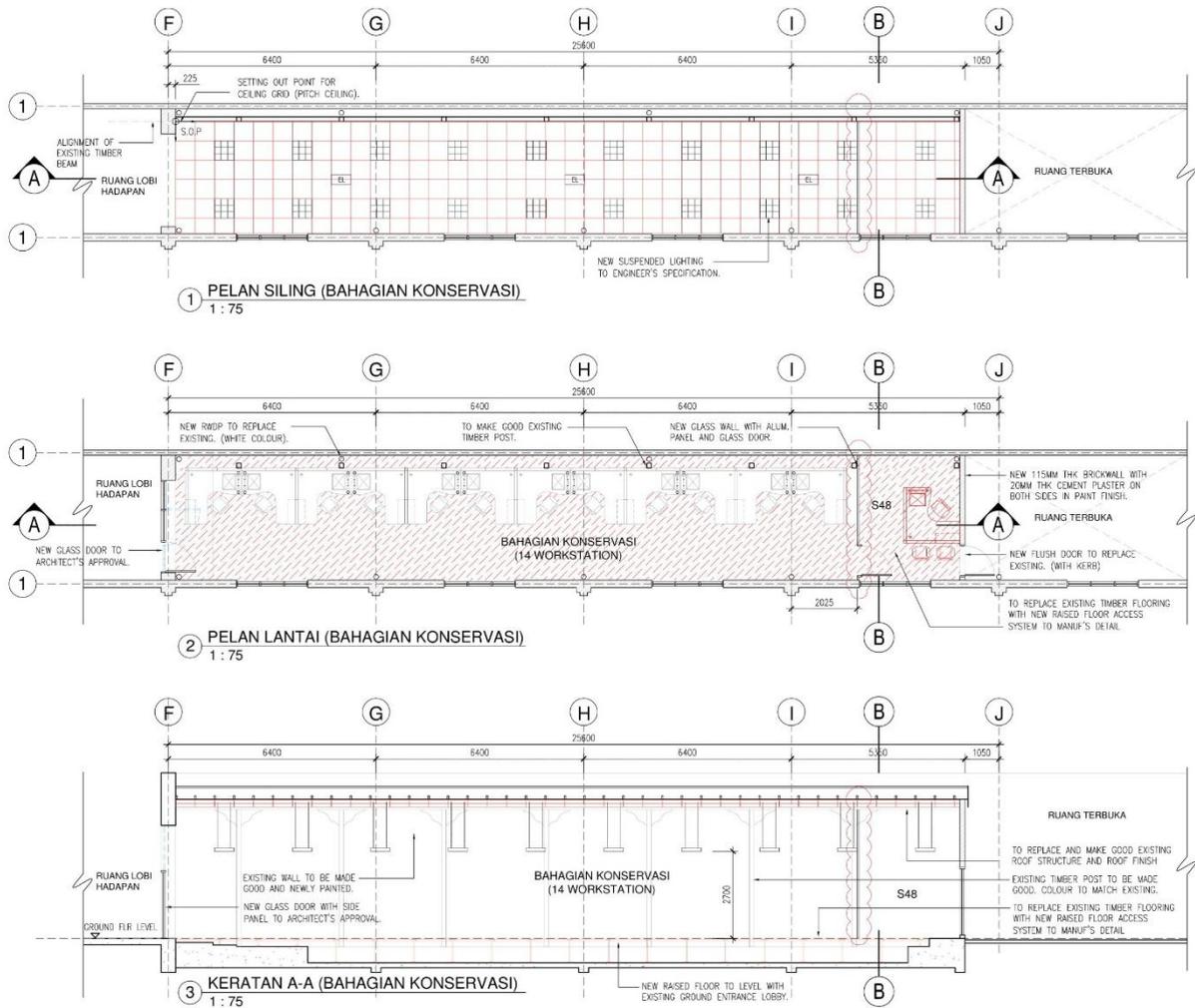


Diagram 2.

According to diagram 2, New 115mm thk brickwall has been constructed with 20 mm thk cement plaster on both sides in paint finish. Also, new flush door is to replace from the existing (with kerb). The floor finish is replaced with existing timber flooring with new raised floor access system according to manuf's detail. The existing rain water drain pipe is replaced with white coloured one. New glass Wall is to install with aluminium panel and glass door. There are also work involving the alignment of existing timber beam. An addition to that, new suspended lighting is installed according to engineer's details. All of the demolition renovation on the above is located in the Conservation department's room.

## Blending Craft & Heritage



The ambience and grandeur of vernacular Malay house architecture plays a monumental role as the design approach and concept for the interior space. Decorative carving panel of timber door and architrave, wall paneling, beams and columns are express and used intensively throughout the spaces.

The blending of both craft and heritage together creates exclusiveness and richness which is expressed through intricate carvings of geometric and floral forms.

## Features

### Clock Tower



Just like London's four-faced clock tower, Malaysia has its own clock tower to boast of. The clock tower is situated besides the beautiful and historical Sultan Abdul Samad building. The clock tower is 41.5m high and it is topped by a shiny copper dome. The clock tower houses a one-ton bell clock that strikes on the hour and half-hour. The historical clock on the tower was made by Gillet and Johnston Manufacturers in Croydon, England. This giant clock has been around for over a century and consists of a pulley system, weights and gears to function. It has to be manually maintained to keep it moving everyday.

The task of doing it is not easy but thankfully a team of staff from the Survey and Mapping Department or JUPEM has volunteered to do the daily winding, cleaning and oil the mechanism of the clock. It takes about 3 hours a day for a team of two to do the job. At one time, the time zone in West Malaysia was half an hour later than East Malaysia. The standardization of time between Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore was done here on January 1, 1982.

In the eye of visitors, the chimes of the clock indicate time. But to the locals who have stood by the country throughout its year battling foreign inhabitation, the clock's chime is enough to bring back memories and send a tingly feeling down your body. For this very clock has marked independence at the struck of midnight on 31st August 1957. Since then, every year on the country's anniversary of independence, the chimes represent the nation's hope that freedom and peace will continue in the future.

On the nights of important occasions such as Independence Day, the tower will twinkle its way to your eyes with its beautifully-colored lights. On a building that boasts such amazing architecture and designs, some have attested that the sight looks a lot like the scene of an Arabian night.



The administrative council knows how beautiful the building is and how much people would love admiring it, so Jalan Raja is closed at nights of special celebrations to allow the public the ease of getting closer to the structure. There aren't many of such buildings like this in Malaysia, one that shows the rich past that Malaysia and the English once shared. So do drop by the Sultan Abdul Samad Building for a dose of history and a treat for the eyes.

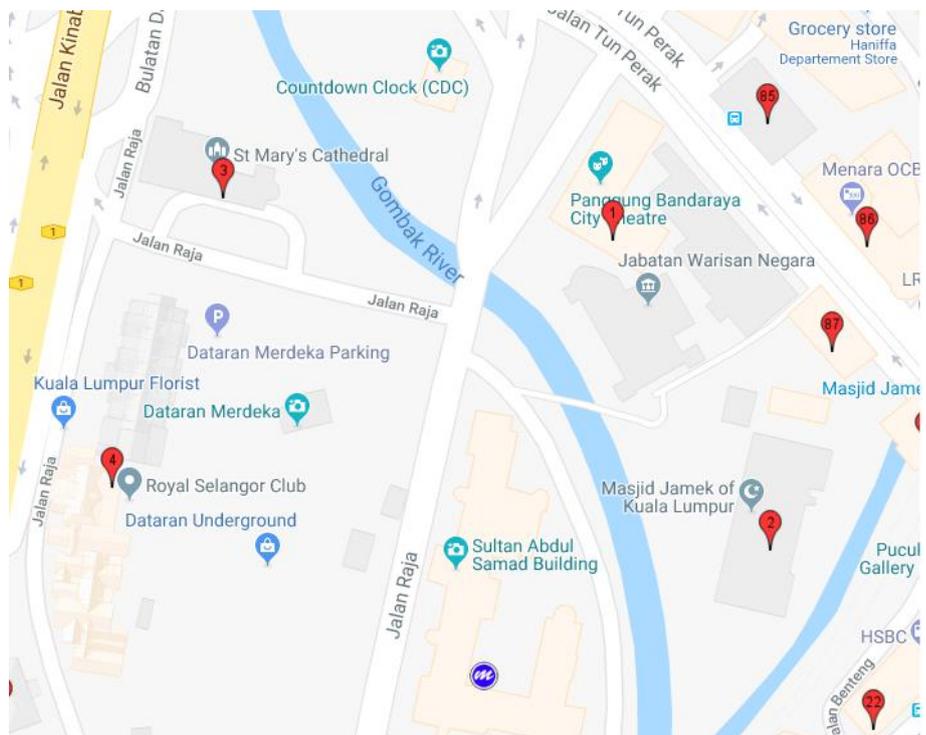
## Flagpole



A 95-metre flagpole, one of the tallest in the world, marks the location where the Malayan flag was raised for the first time with a flat, round black marble plaque. It is located at the southern end of the Merdeka Square in front of the building.

## Nearby Landmarks

- Masjid Jamek
- Cathedral of St Mary - St Mary's Anglican Church
- Countdown Clock (CDC)
- Dataran Merdeka
- Panggung Bandaraya City Centre
- Jabatan Warisan Negara
- Royal Selangor Club



## Usage of Sultan Abdul Samad Building

In 1897, the completed structure was used as the Administration Centre for the Federated Malay States. This building housed many offices such as the Public Works Department, the District Offices, the Mines Department and the Government Secretariat Offices. A few years later, Kuala Lumpur then became the capital of the Federated Malay States. Extensions are made to this building to provide more space. In 1907, a building with a similar style was added at the south to house the General Post Office.

The field in front of the Sultan Abdul Samad Building which are known as Merdeka Square or *Dataran Merdeka* are also one of the important place in Malaysian history. This is where the British Union Jack was lowered for the last time at midnight on 30 August 1957. When the clock starts chiming, the Malayan flag was hoisted for the first time. In the morning of 31 August 1957, the Declaration of Independence were made at Merdeka Stadium and Tunku Abdul Rahman became the first prime minister of Malaya.

Since then, thousands of spectators will gather in the morning of Merdeka Day (31 August) to watch the performances at Merdeka Square and the colourful parade along the streets in the city which also includes the street in front of the Sultan Abdul Samad Building. In 1974, offices from various departments of the Federal Government and the State Selangor Government offices moved elsewhere. The building was then renovated. In 1978, the building housed the Court of Appeal, the Federal Court and the High Court. Years later, the courts were then moved to the Palace of Justice in Putrajaya. After undergoing Now, the building houses the offices of the Ministry of Information, Communications and Culture of Malaysia.



Figure 1: The building in 1902, which known as the Government Offices.



Figure 2: Sultan Abdul Samad Building during the day



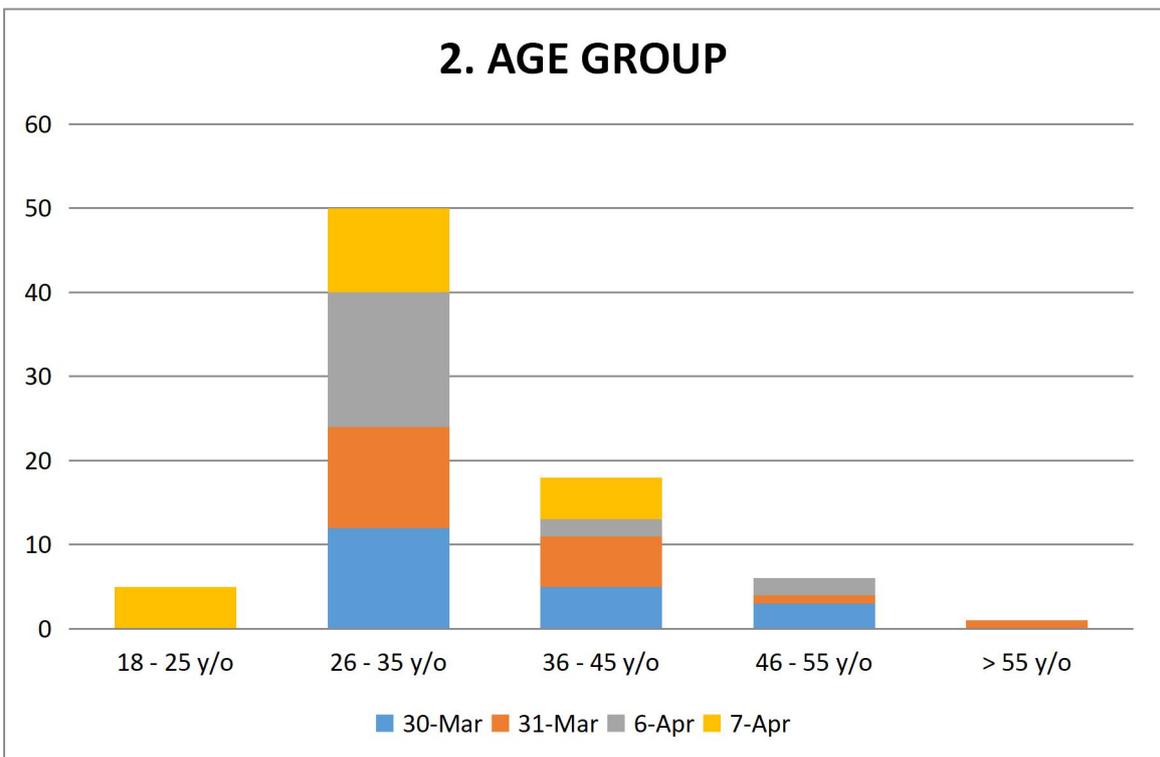
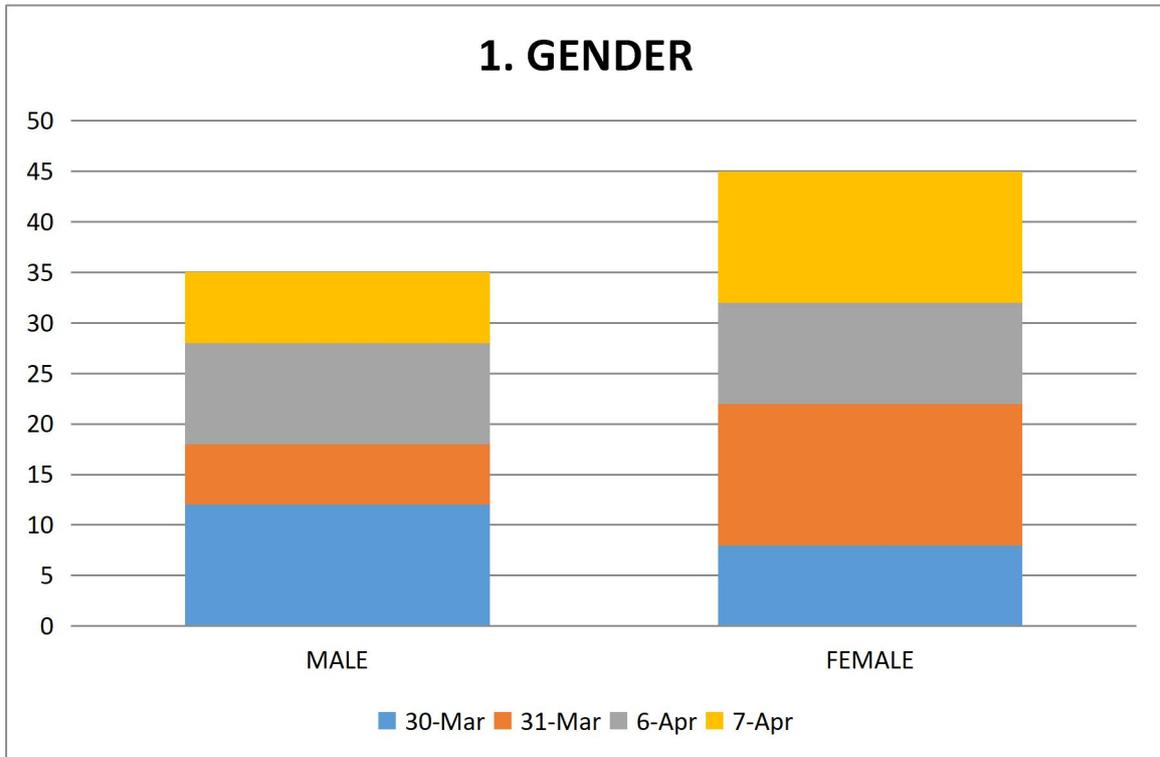
Figure 3: Sultan Abdul Samad Building at night on National Day.

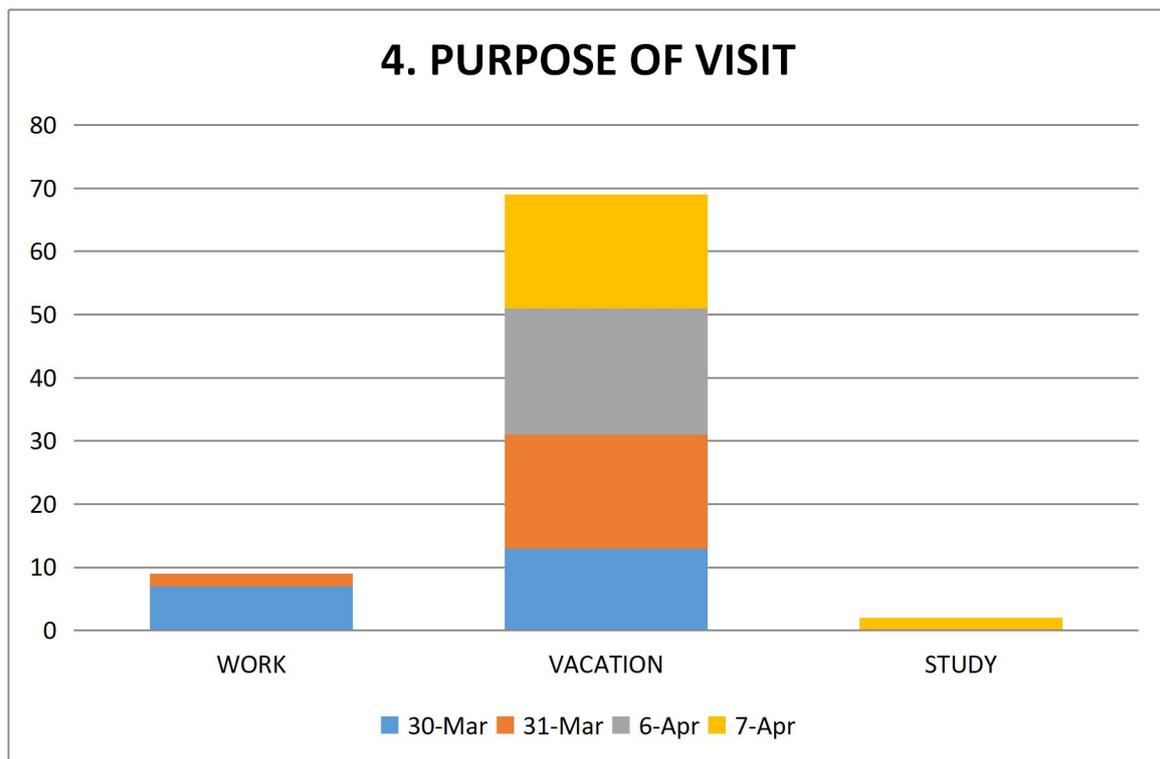
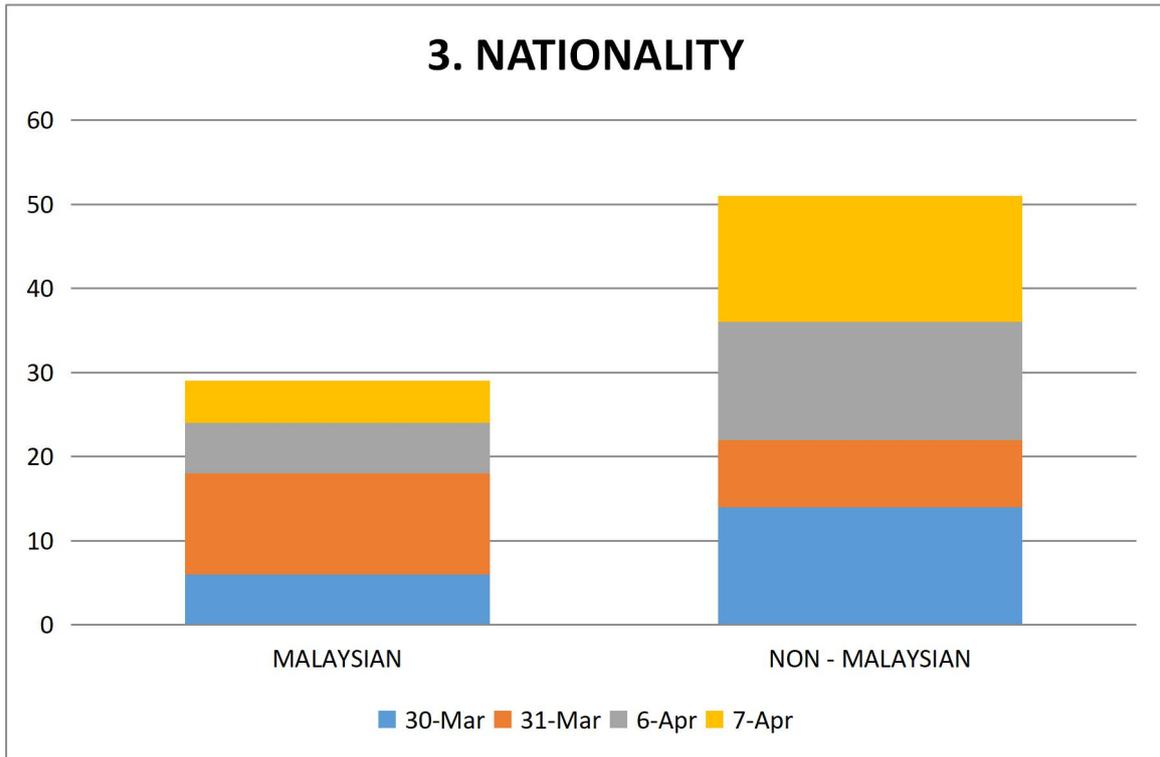


Figure 4: National Day celebration in front of Sultan Abdul Samad Building and Merdeka Square

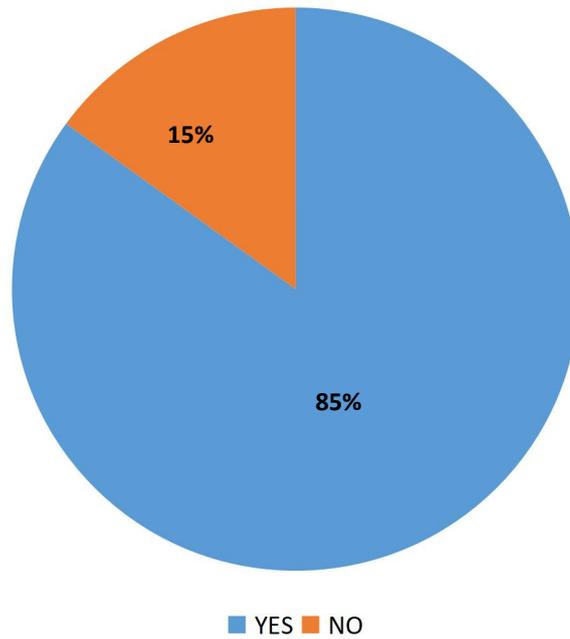
## 2.2 Feedback Survey

### SULTAN ABDUL SAMAD BUILDING

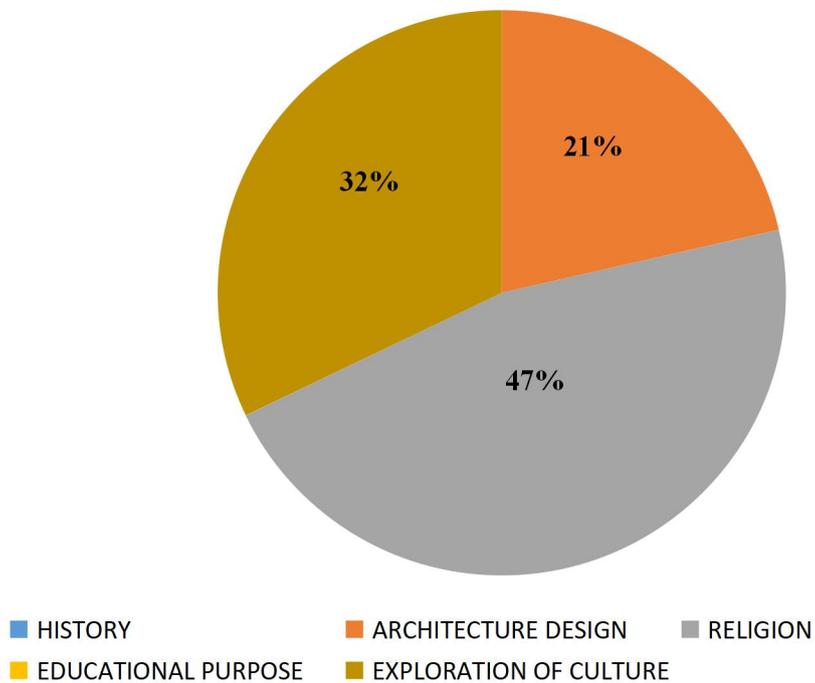




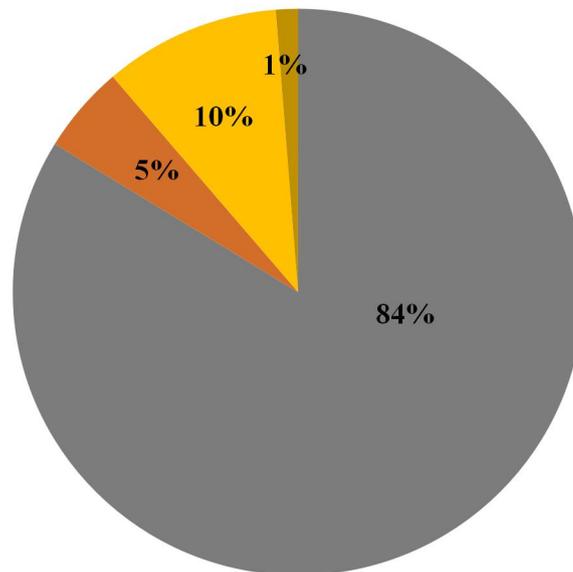
## 5. INTEREST TOWARDS THE BUILDING



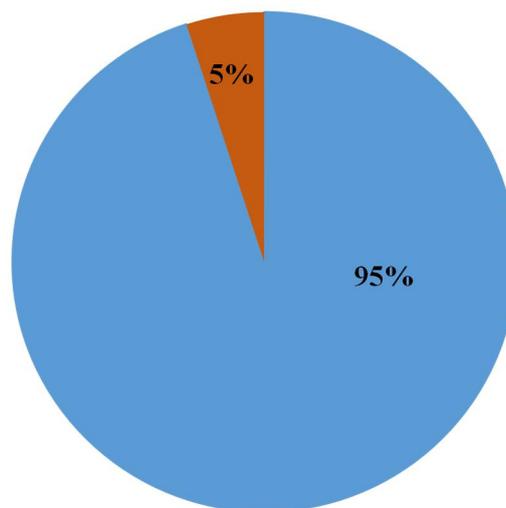
## 6. REASON OF VISITING THIS BUILDING



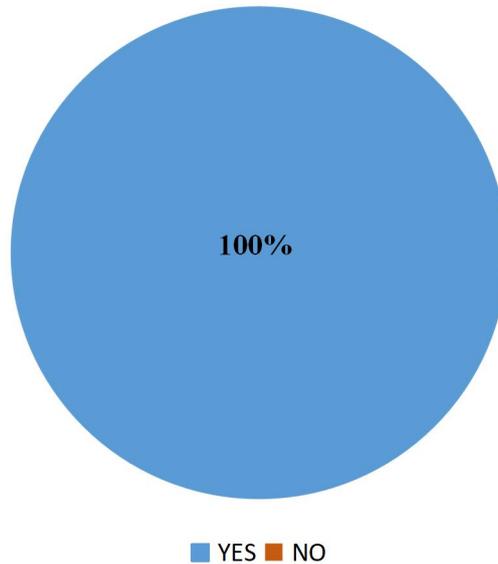
## 7. RESOURCES USED TO FIND OUT ABOUT THIS PLACE



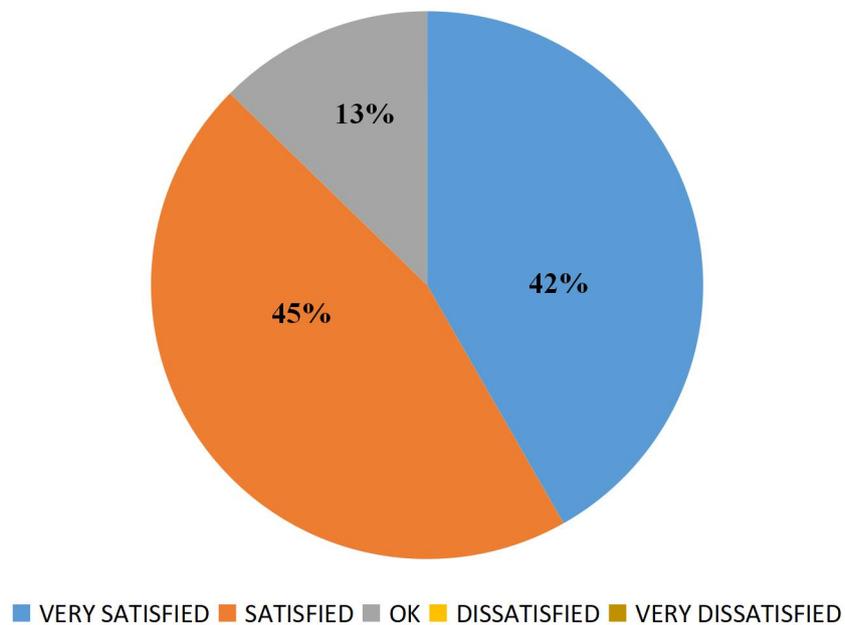
## 8. IS 'ASK ME' PROJECT HELPFUL?



### 9. EFFICIENCY OF QR CODE IF PLACED AROUND THE LOCATION



### 10. SATISFACTION RATING TO 'ASK ME' PROJECT



## 2.3 Transformative Jurnal

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**DARI KIRI:** AMIRAH, YEE PENG, JIA QI, ZI XUAN, INTAN, SIEW MUN, ADLINA

Finally come to the end of the project, I am feeling so good about the project. I have gain a lot of knowledge and also experiences.

First, I learn how to communicate well with all the tourist from different country with different language such as Malay, English, Mandarin and Cantonese. I also learn to construct my own sentences before I speak with them. My speaking skills improve day by day in those 4 days.

Besides that, I became more familiar to the area around that place. Previously, I am a person who feel difficult to recognise all the route. But in this project I need to know all the route heading from Sultan Abdul Samad Building, so I learn to remember all the route so that I can tell the tourist correctly. I feel so great to know the route in that area.

Subsequently, I also have the opportunity to study the history, construction method, features, characteristic, and the spiritual behind the story. All the heritage building is so iconic to Malaysia especially Independence Square (Dataran Merdeka) which place in front of Sultan Abdul Samad Building. When you tell the history of your country to others, you will feel proud and appreciate.

From this project, my knowledge have been increased and my eyesight have been widen. Some of the tourist have asked some question that I do not know how to answer it. After their question, I will do some research on that question. For example, Ottoman Empire and so on. I feel I love Malaysia more after this project. In this project we are not only increase the knowledge for the tourists themselves but also ourselves. This is the most we gain from this project.

Last but not lease, we have enhance the relationship between our group members, we have learn how to distribute the jobs equally and also spend our time together. This

make our bonding strong and also tolerate with each other even though we are different races. Thank you so much to our lecturer, Dr. Nurshuhada for create and grab this golden opportunity for us. Thanks to the authorities that gave so much support to us.

**(KONG SIEW MUN - BIC 170010)**

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**F**irst and foremost, I am so thankful to our lecturer Dr Nurshuhada Zainon for coming up with the idea of doing the 'AskMe' Project and also the Department of Quantity Surveyor for supporting this project. To be honest, when I first heard about the proposal, I have mixed feelings. Although I am excited, I also felt kind of worried because this project needs a very good communication skills. Moreover, I was chosen to be one of the committee members so it was our job to deal with all the administrations of respective buildings and to make sure that the whole project run smoothly. Besides that, we also need to make sure that the students completely understand what they have to do from the beginning until the end of the project. Thankfully, due to all the cooperation given by my classmates, we managed to carry out this project without any major problems.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2019, which is the first day of our fieldwork, I feel so nervous. Actually our task is not that hard. We only need to be around the Sultan Abdul Samad Building and assist the local or foreign tourists if they need any help. However, we noticed that not all of them would right away come to us so we need to be the one to approach them instead. In my opinion, that was the hardest part. However, as time goes by I feel better and I managed to have a conversation with the tourists and help them with their needs.

Throughout the four days of the fieldwork, we have encountered many kind of people from various countries such as China, India, Korea, Vietnam and United Kingdom. Some of them would ask about the purpose of the Sultan Abdul Samad Building, why they cannot enter the building and also what is the building used for now. There were also people that ask about the directions to the LRT station and the locations of the bus stop. This is why we were reminded to get to know the places and transportation around the building first to make sure that we are fully prepared for these kind of questions.

This project really means a lot to all of us. Besides improving our communication skills, we could also learn the history behind the construction of these heritage buildings. Each of the heritage buildings have their own story and some of them were even involved in the Malaysia's Independence Day in 1957. Therefore, as Malaysians we should be proud of these heritage buildings and get to know the history so that we can share them with other people.

**(AMIRAH BINTI MOHD AMIN – BIC170002)**

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**A**sk Me Project is a project that has been held to help the locals and the tourists to know and learn about the heritage buildings around Kuala Lumpur. Throughout this project, I have been exposed to a lot of new things. Before this project being held, we have been exposed to the structure of the buildings, history of the buildings, how they constructed the

buildings and the function of the buildings. We were been briefed by the expertise of the buildings about the info of the buildings. Therefore, we have learnt a lot of new things and been exposed to the heritage buildings in KL which we may not been exposed to before.

During this project, the locals and the foreigners are able to ask us anything they want to know about the buildings. This has increased our soft skills in communicating with strangers bravely and confidently. We may also improve our language as we have been meeting a lot of foreigners from all around the world. This can also give good impressions to our country as the foreigners thought that Malaysians are very friendly and helpful. Most of the locals also may not been exposed to the information about the buildings. Therefore, this can increase their knowledge on the heritage buildings in Malaysia. Besides giving the information about the heritage buildings, we also helped the foreigners and locals to show the way to their destinations or if they have any enquiries.

In conclusion, this project is very helpful to be implemented in the future as it may help a lot of people especially the foreigners to know more about our country.

**(INTAN JUHAIDAH BINTI JUHAN - BIC170008)**

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First, I would like to thank for the guidance of Dr. Shuhada throughout this Ask Me Project, leading to the succeed of this project. Also, I would like to thank my cousemates especially my groupmates and my group leader Kong Siew Mun for leading us during the project.

The purpose of Ask Me Project is we need to give the information of the building to the tourists. Sultan Abdul Samad Building is the heritage building that we responsible to introduce and give the information to the tourists. Before this project, I had no idea about Sultan Abdul Samad Building although I am a Malaysian. However, throughout this project, I got to know more about this building such as its history, construction method and the usage of this building.

Besides, I also learned to how to approach the tourists and talk to them. I am an introvert person so it is difficult to me to talk to the strangers. However, throughout this project, I had learned some confidence to talk to the tourists and give the information about Sultan Abdul Samad Building to the tourists. I am very happy that I became braver to talk to the strangers.

Moreover, the relationship among our groupmates had been strengthened as we spend time and work hard together. During this project, we took care each other and having an enjoyable time together although it is a little bit tired. We got to know well to each other and I am very grateful that I was in the same group with my groupmates to achieve our goals.

Although sometimes we are rejected by the tourists, I was very happy that when the tourists think that our project is helpful and informative to them. I wish I can join this kind of project again which is unable to learn during the lecture.

Last but not least, I very appreciate this opportunity to join this project. I had learned a lot throughout Ask Me Project. Since heritage building is the treasure of Malaysia, we need to know about the information of the heritage building in Malaysia. I also hope that the heritage buildings in, Malaysia can be taken care in well and preserved these building for our country. Lastly, I would like to thank all who had involved in this project to make this project can run successful.

**(LOW YEE PENG - BIC 170018)**

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**A** special gratitude to Dr. Nurshuhada Zainon and Dr. Nur Mardhiyah Aziz for their continuous guidance and support in making this program a success, Nurul Ashikin binti Amir Samsul, our very efficient project group leader and Kong Siew Mun as group leader. Also, for Jabatan Warisan for letting us to do our project at Bangunan Sultan Abdul Samad.

Ask Me Project has encouraged me to bring volunteerism into the community. Throughout this project, in my own experience of volunteering at Bangunan Sultan Abdul Samad which is one of the historical building in Malaysia, I reckon I have been exposed to new things and learned many interesting things that had not crossed my mind. Personally, I was afraid at first because I am introvert person but after spending my weekends doing this project, now I learn to communicate better with people. I also met tourists from many countries such as China, India, Iran, Vietnam, United States and many more. What I learned, we must welcome and be friendly to visitors and share the historical information about this building. What I feel is, we as Malaysian are responsible to deliver the knowledge about the heritage building.

Throughout this project, I manage to improve the engagement with my friends as we work together and spend time together. We help each other throughout the whole day. Although it was tiring and the weather quite hot, but we feel happy and satisfied when we accomplish our mission to help the tourists. . This project could never been done without a great support and teamwork within our team members.

Last but not the least, this course gave me a great impact because it gives us a platform to understand more about our history. I really hope that Ask Me Project can be done in future as it is very helpful to be implemented as well as we let the foreigners to know about our history.

**(NUR ADLINA BINTI AHMAD PUTRA - BIC170026)**

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**F**irst and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Nurshuhada for guiding us throughout this social engagement project and giving us advice on how to carry out this project successfully. I would also like to thank all my lovely coursemates throughout the whole project especially my group members and my group leader Kong Siew Mun who has led us well during this project.

The heritage building which our group is responsible for is Sultan Abdul Samad Building. Before this social engagement project, I know nothing about Sultan Abdul Samad

Building. Although I am a Malaysian and I have been living in Kuala Lumpur for almost two years, I do not know the presence of this beautiful building. Through this project, I get to know more about Sultan Abdul Samad Building. I know about the history, the construction and the features of the building.

Furthermore, throughout this project, I learn on how to approach strangers and talk to strangers. At first, I was very shy to approach them as I have no experience in approaching strangers and sharing the information like this before. But later, I become more confident and braver as I saw all my group members are trying their best to approach the tourists. Besides, I also manage to improve the engagement with my group members as we work together and spend time together. Although it was a bit tiring, we feel happy when the tourists approach us and want to know more about the building. We feel satisfied when the tourists think that our project is really helpful and they take photo with us. I like the way we spend time together and achieve our goals which cannot be achieved without everyone.

Last but not least, I had absorbed plenty of new and useful experiences throughout this social engagement project. I hope that the heritage buildings in Malaysia can be known by everyone. Moreover, I hope that I can have the chance to involve in this type of project again.

**(ONG JIA QI - BIC170036)**

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**S**ultan Abdul Samad Building is a building that I never heard before going through the project. Before going through the project, when I saw the building in a picture or video, I know it but I did not know the name of the building. After this "Ask Me" project, finally I know this building. This is the biggest achievement that I earned when undergoing the project. I believe that not only me, most of the Malaysian also may not know what is the name of the building. We just know some popular building like KLCC, KL Tower, Tun Razak Exchange and etc, because we did not care about the heritage buildings.

As our lecturer said before, as a Malaysian, we must know the heritage buildings of our country and take care of them, as these are our responsibilities. When our country has those heritage buildings, we must be very proud of them and appreciate them. This is due to the fact that it is very hard to have a heritage building because we need to take care of it over hundred years. When we know all of the histories of the heritage buildings, I think we will be more appreciate and be thankful that we live in a country that full of heritage buildings and histories that are still in a good conditions. This is the biggest gain from this project.

Besides, there are a lot of funs when undergoing this project. The day before starting the project, I was reading all the information and try to remember all the fact like I am going to have a test. The next morning, I was very confidence to tell the tourist about the building. However, the first question of our project is "where can I but chocolate?", my brain like suddenly stuck and luckily I am a person who love to travel everywhere. So I had been there about half year ago and I knew that there is a shop nearby. From this, I knew that the facts of the building are important but they are not the most important. The most important is our general knowledge. Moreover, I found that the tourists are more interested to our history story rather that the facts of the building like what materials are used for the

building, how many bricks are used and etc. This also test our general knowledge about Malaysia and luckily, office of tourism Malaysia is nearby, so when we faced some problems, we can go there to seek for help.

After that, I also learnt about how to communicate with other people. Some of them like Japanese, they do not know English very well and I also could not speak in Japanese, I did not know whether they understand what I was talking about so I have to talk plus acting. It was quite fun. Usually, we meet the tourists are all backpackers and I think they are more knowledgeable than us. Sometime listen to their stories are more interesting than our history. I had learnt a lot through a conversation with the tourists from other country.

Moreover, I was a very shy person which means that I seldom be the first to talk to others. I am the person that when you talk to me then I will talk to you. However in this project, for the first day I thought everyone will walk to us and asked us about the building but it is wrong. They will just simply passed by. Thus we must be the first to talk to them like “may I help you?” to start the conversation.

In conclusion, I had really learnt a lot through this project. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Dr. Shuhada for giving us such amazing idea about the “Ask Me” project and guiding us throughout the project. I was really surprised that Dr. Shuhada came every session when we did our duty. Besides, I also want to thank to our group mates that we faced the problems together and we uphold the spirit of “leave no man behind”. Finally I would like to say congratulation to my course mates that we finally make it! Thank you.

**(TAN ZI XUAN - BIC 170044)**

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**F**irstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Shuhada for guiding us throughout this social engagement project and giving us advice on how to carry out this project successfully. I would also like to thank all my lovely course mates throughout the whole project especially my group members and my group leader Kong Siew Mun who has led us well during this project.

Our group has been given the task to study about the Malaysian’s heritage building which was the Sultan Abdul Samad building. It was such a privilege for me to actually learn and gain more knowledge about the Sultan Abdul Samad Building. At first, I would not know the history and why is it called as the Sultan Abdul Samad building. As I go through and did the study based on the building, I was soon to find the actual answer. The building has its own uniqueness. Every architecture design has its own story. As an illustration, the design concept of the building comes from the letter F and the façade of the building has the combination of British, Indian and Islamic concept. Even though, we have to endure the hotness of the Malaysian climate, this social engagement project gave me the experience and opportunity to visit and view the site properly.

Another reason why I think it was such a wonderful experience is because I get to communicate with the tourist. At first, as a human being, I get too shy and not very confident to approach strangers. Ask me project helps me to endure it and as time goes by, I get to adapt with it. However, not all tourist are friendly. Some can be kind of rude and

some can be very curious and generous on wanting to know about the building. Not all the strangers that we approached are tourist, some are local people. I noticed that the locals usually came to take pictures instead of wanting to know the function and the history of the Sultan Abdul Samad building. On the other hand, as we all know that each people has different type of interest and there are some local was very concern about the heritage building in Malaysia. The most questions that has been asked to us was “can we actually enter the building?” and “What about the building and its history?” etc.

Lastly, I get to learn the importance of teamwork because without teamwork, the project would not carry out smoothly. I’m going to miss this moment and cherish the memories that lays within. I’m actually glad to be a part of this Ask me Project and I hope this kind of voluntary project will be continue so that the youth should concern and learn more about our heritage building.

**(NADIRAH AZRA BINTI MUZAMIL - BIC170052)**

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### 3. MASJID NEGARA

#### QR CODE



#### ABSTRACT

In this document, it will consist the information regarding the history, background, feature, construction and renovation of Masjid Negara.

#### GROUP 3

1. BIC170037 Ramsiyah Binti Rudae
2. BIC170003 Atiqah Husna Binti Mursidi
3. BIC170011 Lee Jiayi
4. BIC170019 Mohamad Haika Ikmal Bin Mohd Azaki
5. BIC170027 Nur Aina Aqilah Bt Mohd Arif
6. BIC170042 Tan Jia En
7. BIC170045 Teng Guan Yi
8. BIC170701 Wen Yi

### 3.1 Location and Information

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**NATIONAL MOSQUE KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA**

#### History

National Mosque is built between 1963 and 1965, it is a national legacy. Malaya gained its independence from the British government on 31 August 1957. Major development programs in areas of economy, social and architecture were actively implemented in line with the new government. The programs were also to portray new progressive culture and achieved democracy. Therefore, on 30 July 1957, in the meeting of the Federal Executive Council an idea to build a national mosque a symbol of the country's independence was mooted. In another meeting on 5 March 1958, Chief Ministers of the eleven states in the Federation of Malaya, a proposal was made to name the mosque Masjid Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, in recognition of Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman's efforts in guiding the country to gain the independence. However, Tunku refused this honour; on the contrary he named it Masjid Negara in thanksgiving for the country's peaceful independence without bloodshed. On Friday, 27 August 1965, the mosque was declared open by the third Yang di-Pertuan Agong, the late Tuanku Syed Putra of Perlis. The mosque underwent major renovations in 1987, and the once-pink concrete roof is now clad in green and blue tiles. Today, Masjid Negara continues to stand sleek and stylish against the Kuala Lumpur skyline.

## **Background**

National Mosque is located in a strategic area of Kuala Lumpur. It near to old Malayan Railway Station, Earth Resource Building, Islamic Arts Museum, Post Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur Bird Park and Lake Gardens. The mosque was opened in 1965. It has a capacity for 15,000 people and is situated among 13 acres (53,000 m<sup>2</sup>) of gardens. It was designed by Malay origin, built by Chinese and Indian. The construction of the mosque symbolizes the spirit of Malaysian's unity and tolerance due to the donation from Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, Christians and others. Besides used as a praying place, National mosque used for various academic activities that include official ceremonies, public lectures, seminars, training workshops, conference, etc. There are many outdoor exhibition areas that can be used for exhibitions around the National Mosque without interrupting the praying process. The mosque also provides sports facility that can be used by its members to exercise.

## **Construction Informations**

### **The Architects**

#### **1. HOWARD ASHLEY**

He is a Scottish architect who has been practicing in Malaysia since 1952. He had worked for the Public Works Department of Malaysia for 11 years. He had been awarded the pan pacific award citation and received it for his significant contributions. National Mosque and Federal Building in Petaling Jaya are among the projects that he had involved.

#### **2. BAHARUDDIN ABU KASSIM**

He is a Malaysian architect who has an education background of Architecture from University of Manchester. He worked for Public Works Department of Malaysia as assistant architect later to senior architect. He once worked with Jurubina Bertiga International Partnership (JBIP) and ATSA Architects Sdn Bhd. He was also an appointed consultant architect by Malaysian Government for high commission project in New Delhi, India and Islamabad.

#### **3. DATO Dr IKMAL HISHAM ALBAKRI**

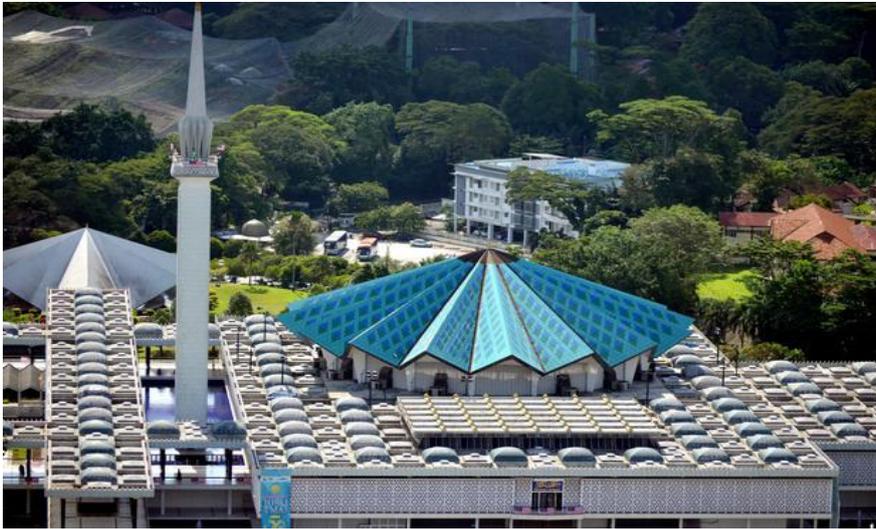
He is a Malaysian Architect who has an educational background of Architecture from Sheffield University. He became executive director of the Group of Architects Sdn Bhd. He also appointed as President of the Malaysian Institute of Architects from 1967 to 1969 & 1973 to 1975.

### **Features of Attraction**

#### ***'BLUE UMBRELLA'***

The "blue umbrella" dome of the mosque is the most recognizable mosque in the country. The first reaction of the Prime Minister when he saw the design of the mosque was "Where is the dome?" as he was expecting a traditional semi-spherical dome. Although the earliest reactions to the design sketches weren't ones of awe but of confusion, this unconventional "umbrella" dome remains the most striking feature of the beloved Malaysia landmark after fifty years later.

The main dome of National Mosque is designed in the shape of an 18-point star to represent the 13 states of Malaysia and the five central Pillars of Islam. In the middle of the roof are engravings of Quranic verses on aluminum, inspired by Istanbul's Blue Mosque. The appearance of a partly opened umbrella roof concept symbolized the aspirations of an independent nation and gives one the impress.



*Figure 1 Blue Umbrella of National Mosque*

### ***'73 METER MINARET'***

Minaret is one of the most obvious elements in mosque building. The height of the National Mosque minaret is 73 meters. This minaret is attached to the grand prayer hall and rises from the middle of the reflecting pool. The close umbrella spire at the top of the minaret fuse with the design of the National Mosque. In Islamic Architecture, minaret is built to call for azan (call for prayer), an electrical loud speaker is placed on the minaret to ensure the azan could be heard at maximum radius. Other than that, minaret could be a landmark for one particular mosque.



*Figure 2 Minaret of National Mosque*

### **'MAUSOLEUMS'**

Mausoleum is a large, open, pavilion-like structures designed to create well-define space to shelter warrior's tombs underneath it. This mausoleum was built in 1965, the architectural style is based on a combination of Islamic and Modernist Principles. It is one of the earliest post- Independence Modernist landmarks in Kuala Lumpur. Security for the tombs is provided as well, and for visitor and well-wishers who come to offer prayers is protected by the shelter.



*Figure 3 Mausoleum/Warrior's Tombs of National Mosque*

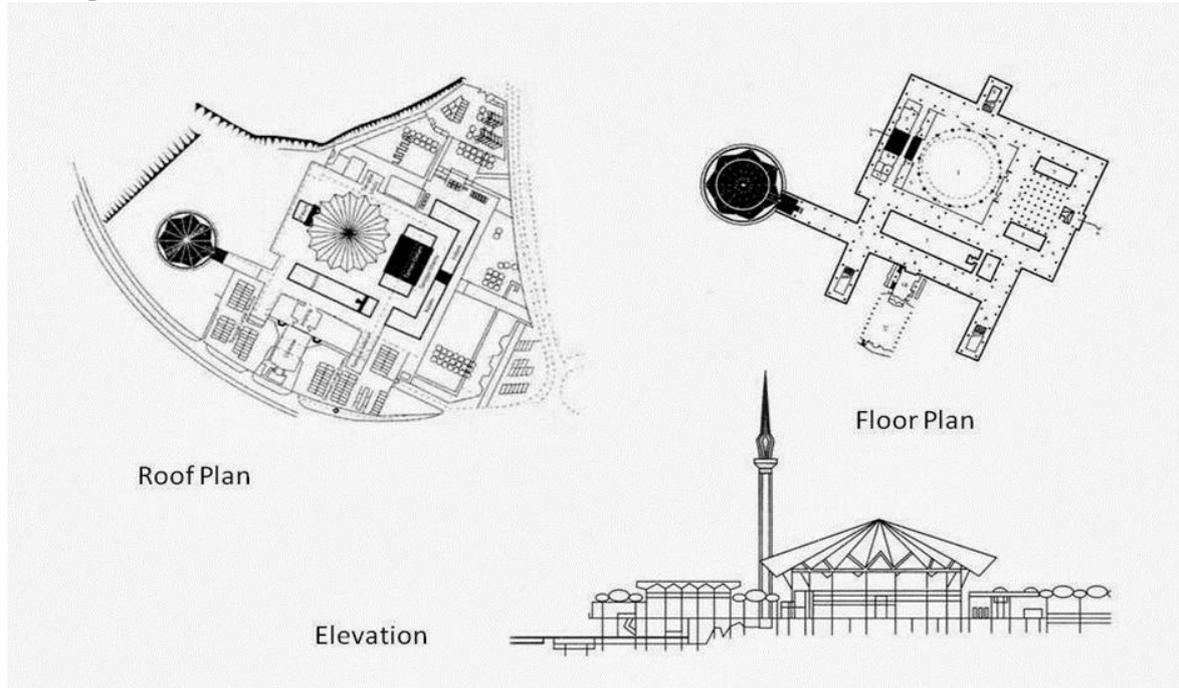
### **'COURTYARD GARDEN'**

Courtyard garden is designed to give a cooling effect to the prayer hall. Within the courtyard, reflecting pools and fountains spread throughout the compound, waters both a welcome respite in hot lands, and important for the ablutions (ritual cleansing) done before prayer. The octagon geometry shape symbolized fullness and regeneration.



*Figure 4 Courtyard Garden at National Mosque*

## Building Structures



*Figure 5 Some of plans & elevations of National Mosque*

## Columns

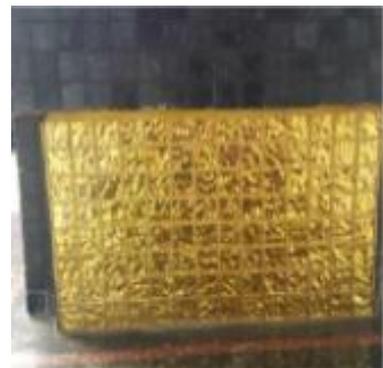
There are total 154 concrete columns which used to support the mass concrete roof. All the column is overlaid with unglazed black mosaic tiles and laminated golden aluminum mosaic tiles at the top and base. The bottom part of the pillars in the prayer hall are paved with terrazzo pieces and the top part were carved concrete with repetition organic designs.



*Figure 6 Two main types of columns design at National Mosque*

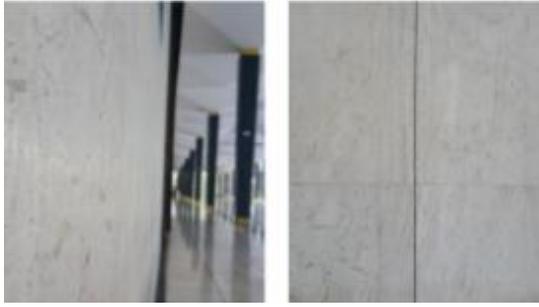


*Figure 7 Laminated golden aluminum mosaic tiles on columns design*



## Walls

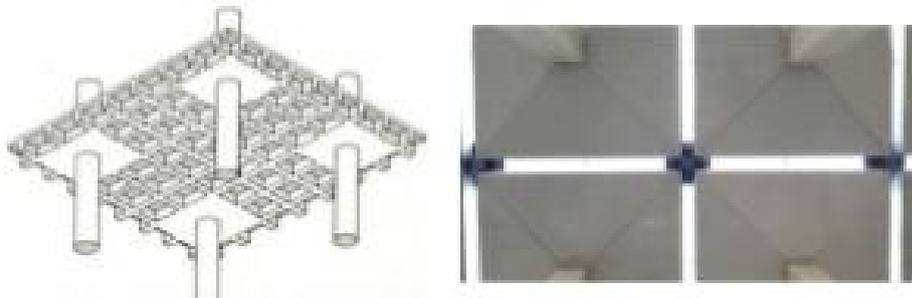
The walls are built from reinforced concrete and covered with the beautiful Italian marbles. The reinforced concrete is concrete in which wire mesh or steel bars are embedded to increase its tensile strength. Reinforced concrete is stronger than the normal concrete and it can withstand the weather in Malaysia.



*Figure 8 Reinforced concrete walls covered with Italian marble*

## Floors

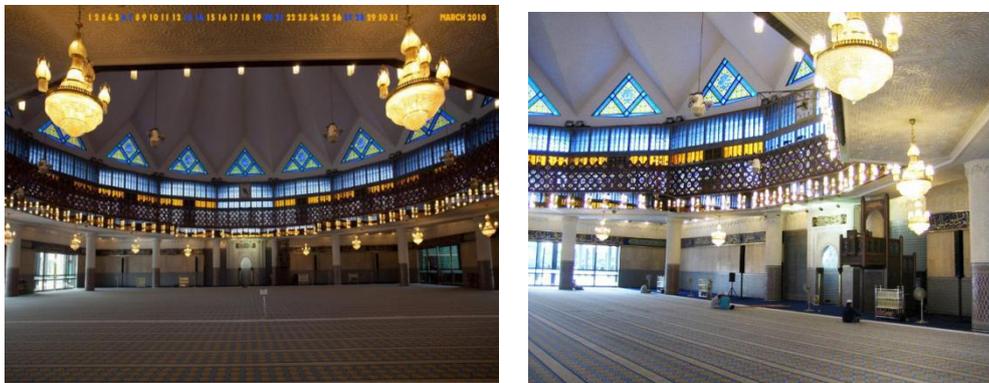
The Verandah floors are layered with black terrazzo tiles. This type of tiles might cost more initially but they last for generations. The maintenance fees for the terrazzo tiles is low, this is one of the reasons that they used it as the flooring. While the roof along the verandah was built in waffle slabs.



*Figure 9 Waffle slabs along verandah*

## Roof/Dome

The concrete dome was renovated in 1987 by overlaying the green and blue tile on the pink concrete which was inspired by the famous mosques in Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Turkey, Spain and the United Arab Emirates. Beneath this big 'umbrella', it is the main prayer hall of this mosque. In the main prayer hall, there are triangular blue-stained glass panel with the Quranic which showed a similar technique of painting in Europe churches and cathedral.



*Figure 10 Interior of the Dome*

## Façade

The mosque shows no luxurious decorative elements at its facades. The four facades are made from plain white concrete walls with geometric concrete screen. It provides an additional layer between interior and exterior. It creates interesting light and shadows when the light is passing through the façade.



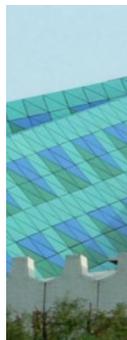
*Figure 11 Concrete wall façade*

## List of Materials Used

- Finishes for interior walls are the combination of Italian marbles at the top part of the wall and glazed ceramic tiles with geometrical patterns at the bottom part of the interior walls (Figure 13)
- The “folded-plate” dome is made from the concrete with mosaic tiles as outer finishes (Figure 14)
- Centrepiece of the dome is made from of aluminium rosette (Figure 15)
- Stained glass was used for triangle windows at the top part of the main prayer hall to give sense of calm and tranquil by enhancing the natural light passing through the main prayer hall (Figure 16)



*Figure 12*



*Figure 13*



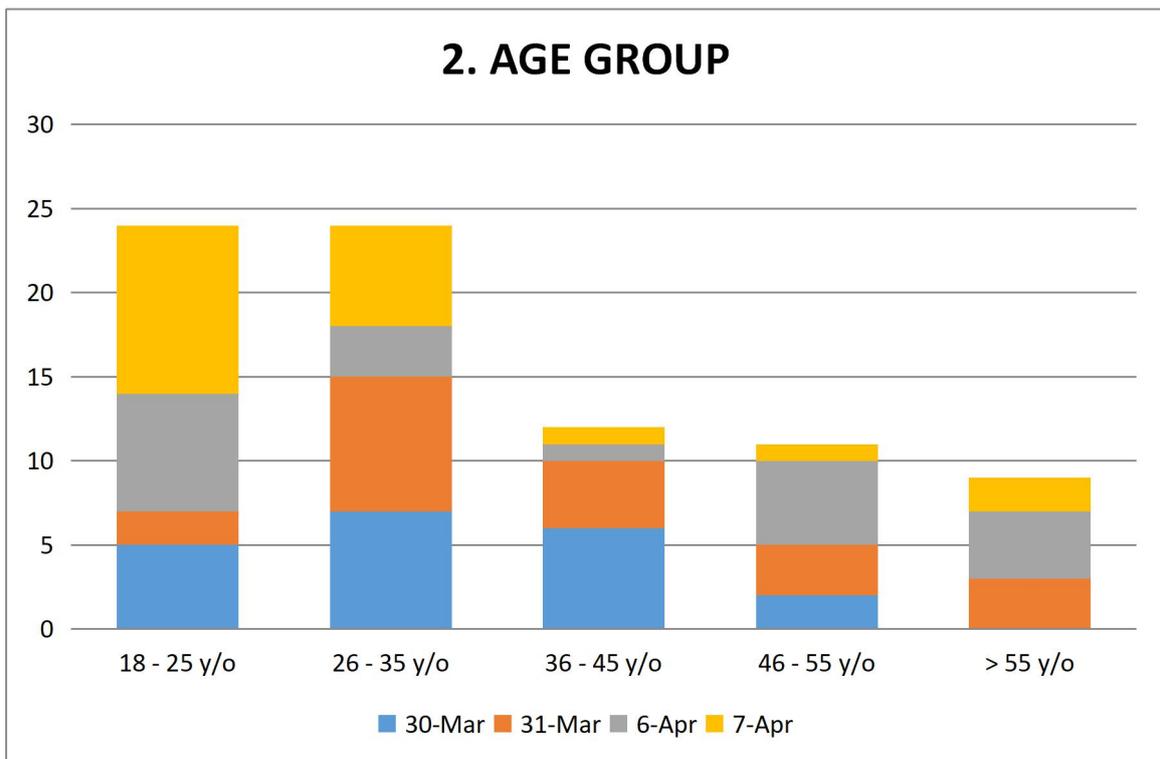
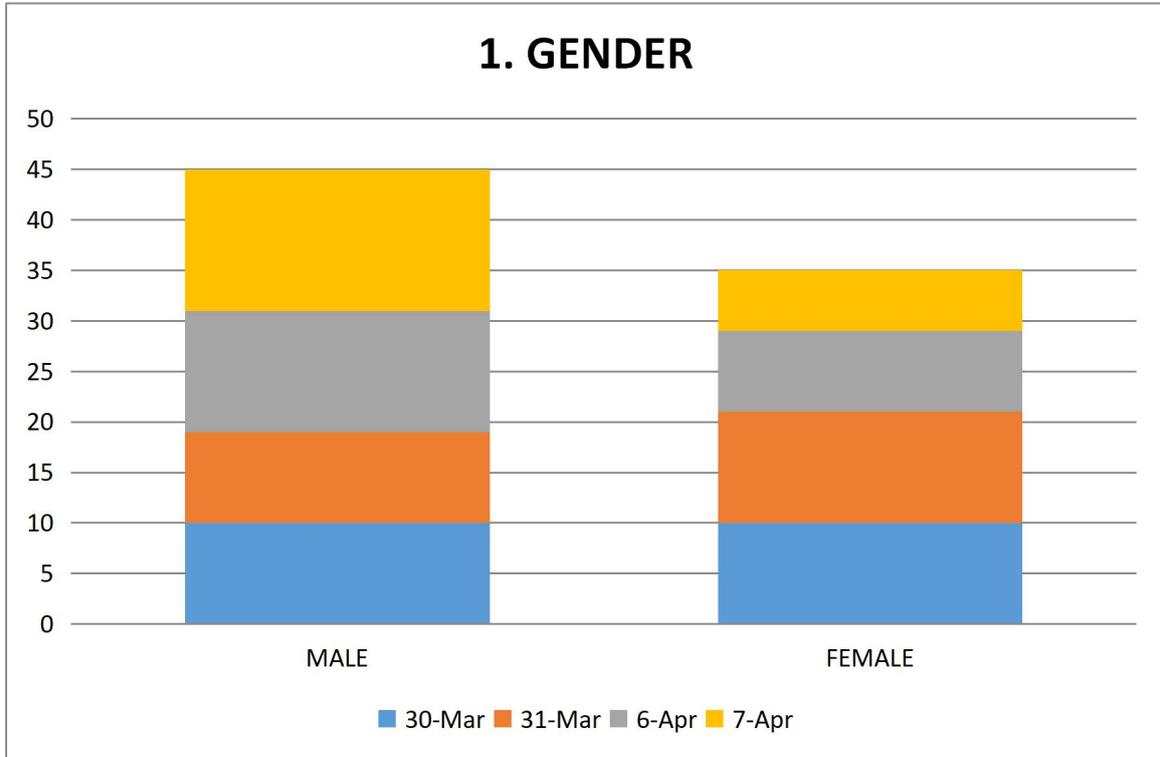
*Figure 14*

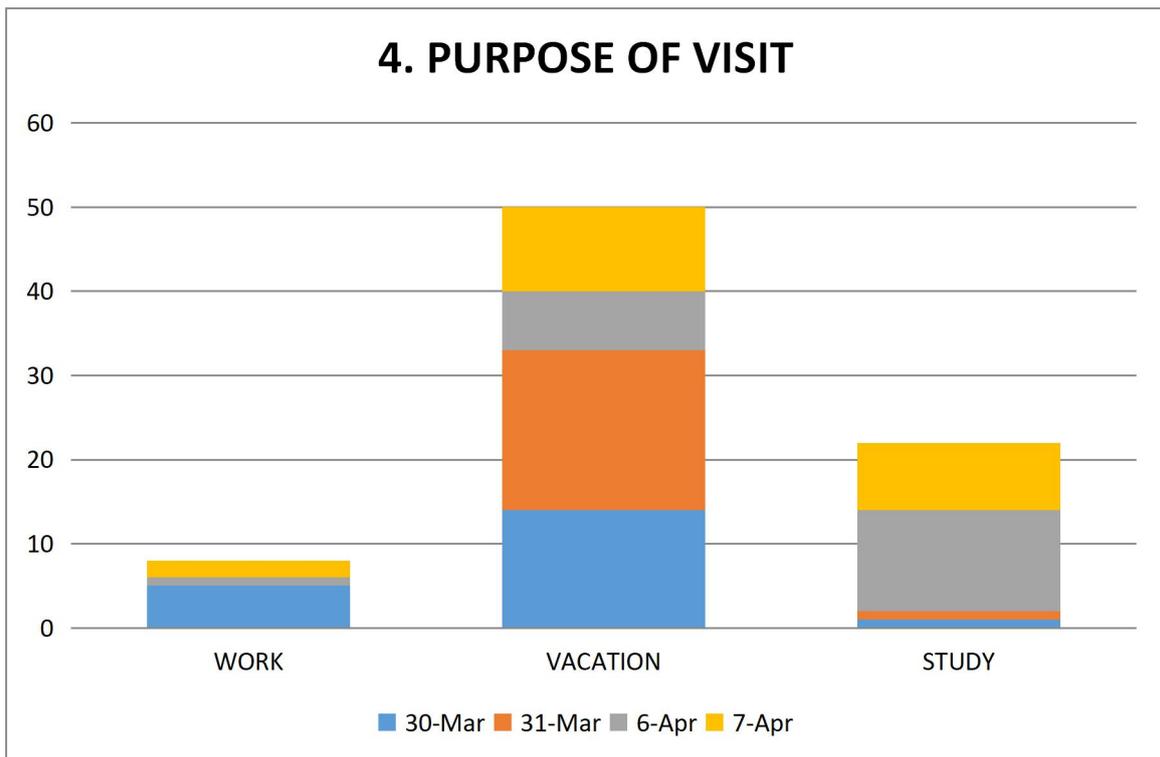
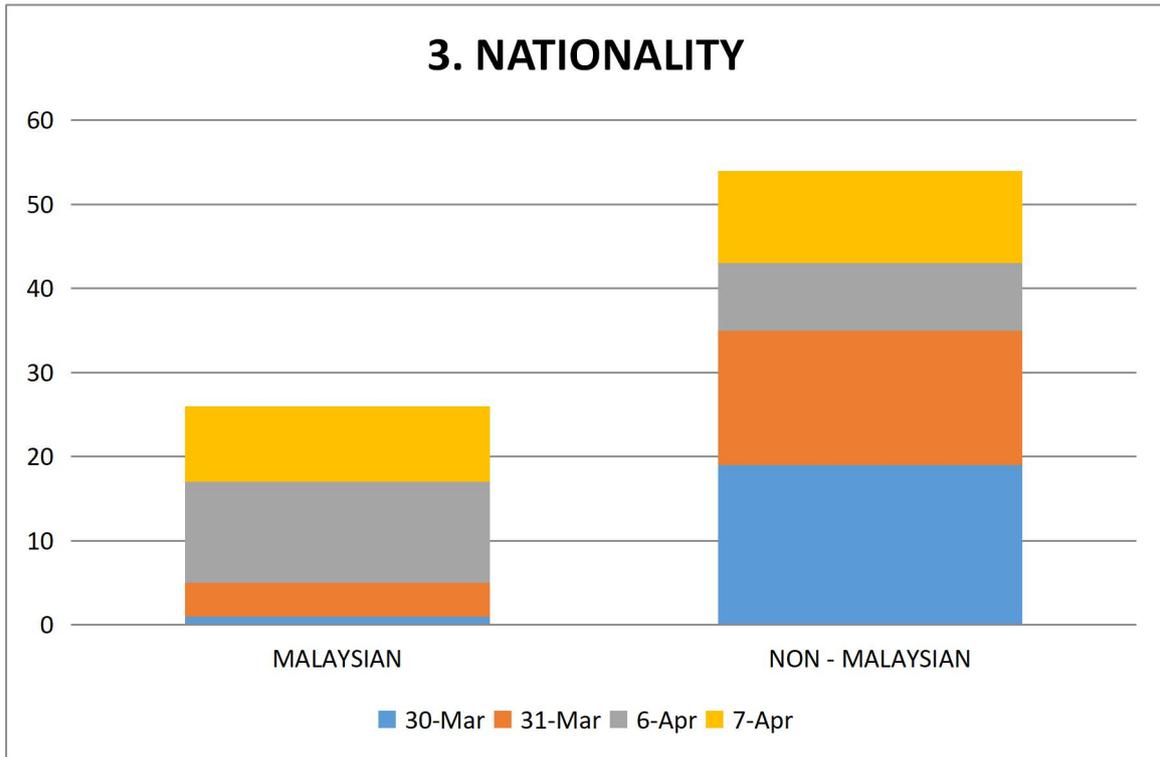


*Figure 15*

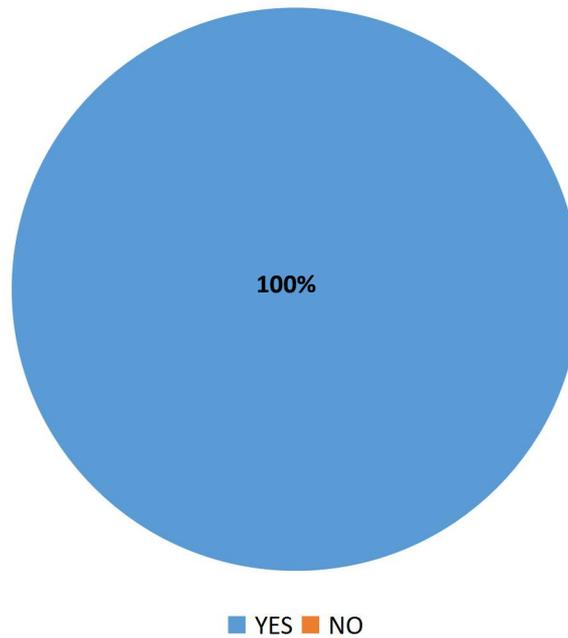
### 3.2 Feedback Survey

## NATIONAL MOSQUE

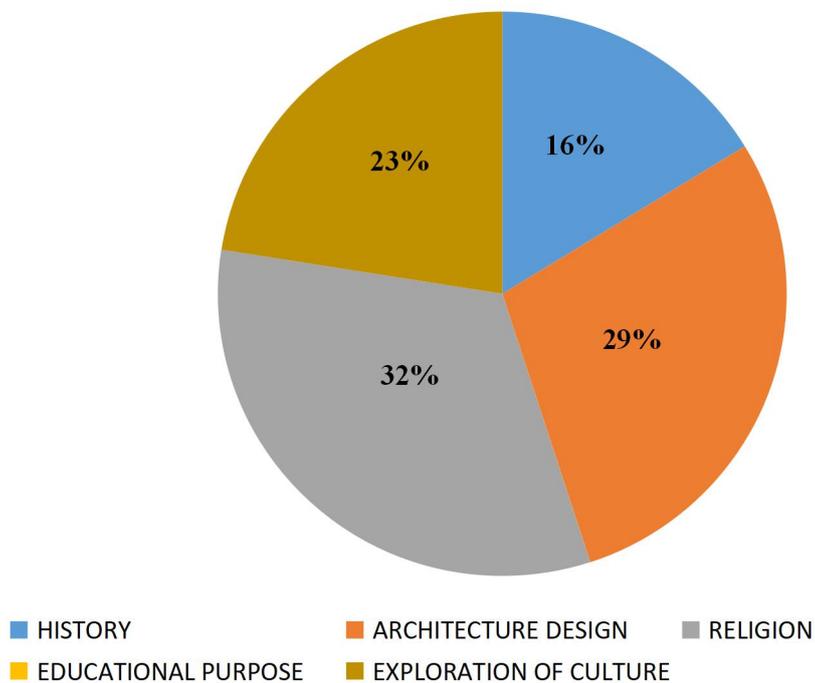




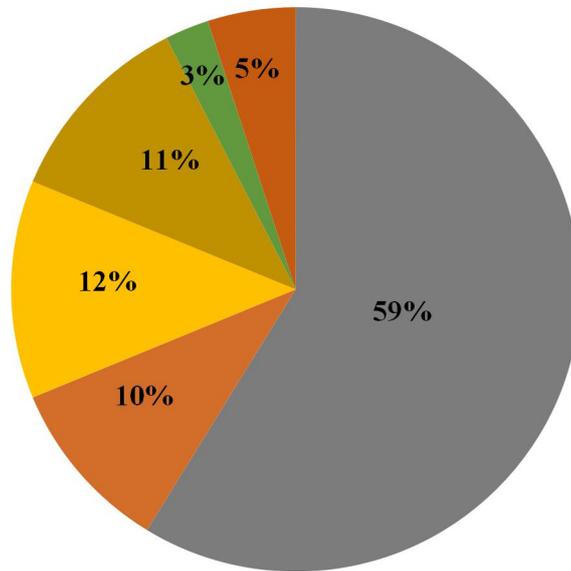
## 5. INTEREST TOWARDS THE BUILDING



## 6. REASON OF VISITING THIS BUILDING

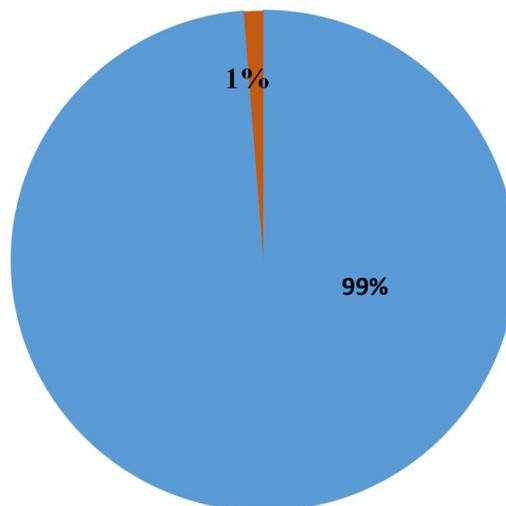


### 7. RESOURCES USED TO FIND OUT ABOUT THIS PLACE



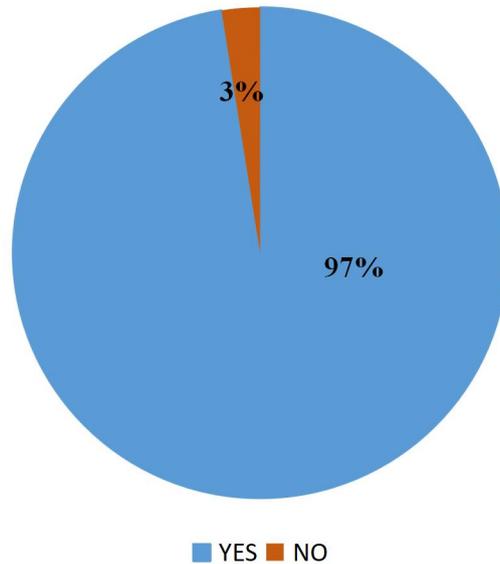
- INTERNET
- MAGAZINE
- TOURIST AGENT
- WEBSITE BY TRAVEL INFORMATION
- FACEBOOK
- FRIENDS
- TV TRAVEL PROGRAMME
- WEBSITE BY DESTINATION TOURIST BOARD

### 8. IS 'ASK ME' PROJECT HELPFUL?

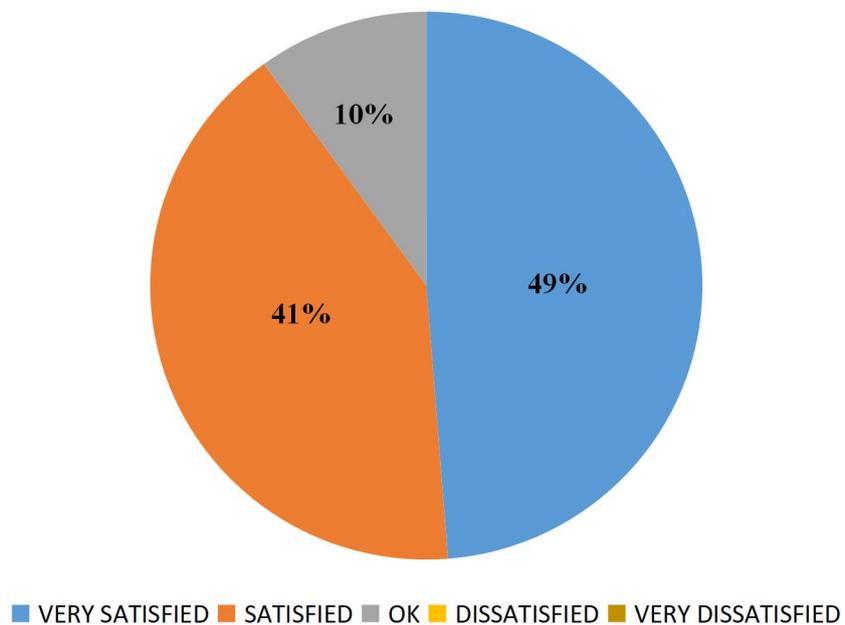


- YES
- NO

### 9. EFFICIENCY OF QR CODE IF PLACED AROUND THE LOCATION



### 10. SATISFACTION RATING TO 'ASK ME' PROJECT



### 3.3 Transformative Jurnal

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**ATAS:** ATIQAH, RAMSIYAH, JIA YI, WEN YI  
**BAWAH:** AINA, HAIKA, GUAN YI, JIA EN

The most memorable thing during the project was I get to communicate with many tourist from different countries. There were tourist from Japan, Spain, Italy, France, China and many more. I still remember before the project started, I was so afraid that I cannot communicate and explain well to the tourists. Moreover, I do not have the courage to approach tourists since I rarely talk to tourists before. But after the first tourist I've approached, it increase my confident level to talk with them comfortably. It turns out all the tourists were very friendly and they do need help to explain more about the building they visited. Other than that, I also learnt that most of the tourists come not just to take pictures and videos, but they also interested to know more about Islam religion. There were several tourists asked about the principles of Islam and why Muslims have to perform prayer. By answering those kinds of questions, I realized that instead of explaining about the building itself, I also gave them more knowledge about Islam religion. During the project conducted, I received many good feedbacks from the tourists. This kind of project is good to be conducted because it gave different kind of experience which was very exciting.

**(RAMSIYAH RUDAE - BIC 170037)**

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Firstly, I would like to say thank you to Dr Shuhada for introducing this 'Ask Me Project' and personally it giving me an opportunity to do a society work. Along 4 days of this project, I have gained of my knowledge on Masjid Negara's history because before this I did not know historical of this building and where it is located. In 'Ask Me project' also I can learn about to being able to work in group that is not easy to because we're mixed from another culture and religion but in this project we make it possible and we're easily communicate each other.

Next, I also can developed my soft skill and have more confident in communication with other people especially with tourist, before this I afraid being talk with stranger and has no confident in speaking. The unforgettable moment is I can help spread more about Islam to non-Muslim tourist and it can help to reduce negative thinking about Islam because they ask about Islam and want learn more about Islam. As conclusion, 'Ask me Project' is a great project decided to improve the tourism in Malaysia and also can help student to develop their soft skill.

**(ATIQA HUSNA BINTI MURSIDI - BIC170003)**

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**F**irst and foremost, I want to say thank you to this project for giving me a chance to explore the building of other religious. This is the very first time I visit to a mosque, it is indeed a very beautiful mosque.

I had learnt and gained many new experiences throughout this project. We had to study the information about the National Mosque before we conduct this project. We not only gained the knowledge of the National Mosque from the perspective of architecture and construction but we also get the chance to exchange the culture of other religion. We get to know and share culture with the tourists and our own team member during this activity.

Our confidence level can be boost up because we need to approach the tourists to explain and answer their questions. Not only the confidence level will be improved but also our soft skill. We get the chance to talk to strangers which we won't be doing without this project. We need to spontaneous in the situation when we don't know how to answer the questions asked by the tourists. However, most of the tourists asked questions which is not relating to the building, for instances how to get to the National Art Museum. I remember there was one tourist asked us which university is the best university in Malaysia. Lastly, this Ask Me Project is indeed a very meaningful activity for us.

**(LEE JIAYI - BIC170011)**

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**R**ecently, 'Ask Me Project' under the subject Social Engagement was held on 30-31 March 2019 and 6-7 April 2019. The areas for this project are Chan She Shu Yuen Temple, Masjid Jamek, Central Market, Bangunan Ibu Pejabat Kereta Api, Bangunan Sultan Abdul Samad, Masjid Negara dan Sri Mahamariamman Temple. There are fifty-three students from Faculty Built Environment involved in this 'Ask Me Project'. Each group consist of 7-8 members. The place that my team and I carried out this project is Masjid Negara.

For me, this project is very good to be done because it can create the good bonding between the team members. For instance, every member needs to work together asking the tourists and record their conversation. All members are helping each other, and it looked very wonderful. The first thing that we did was discussing on how to approach the tourists. We need some useful strategies in order to make the tourists give a few questions to us. After that, we split into two group which are gallery and outside gallery. By using this split method, we managed to get many information in a blink of an eye. On the other hand, the communication skill that we already have more increase from time by time.

Besides that, this project also enhances our knowledges about Masjid Negara. We know more detailed through the reading some articles, books and from the staff on duty. We met many people from different ages and countries such as China, Australia, Korea, Romania, Kazakhstan, Italy, USA, Spain and Malaysia. At the same time, we learned their languages. From the survey that we already done, many tourists came to Masjid Negara for seeing the architecture and structural design, cultures and learn about the religious. Some of the tourists are first time visiting the Masjid Negara and they are really impressed to see this amazing Masjid Negara.

As a conclusion, in order to attract many people, come to this heritage building, we need to take care it very well. 'Ask Me Project' need to be continue because many tourists can know very well about the building. This project gives them the information that they are needed, and they are as happy as a king to get it.

**(MOHAMAD HAIKA IKMAL BIN MOHD AZAKI - BIC170019)**

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**F**or this Ask Me project that is conducted for the Social Engagement project, I have become more open minded about foreigners who have different beliefs of religion than me. As I grow older, I've been exposed to other countries' perspective toward Islam which is a little bit negative. I've watched in news that some people in other countries thought Islam is bad and about the Islamophobia. I thought Islam is hated in most countries and makes me scared having foreigners approaching me in daily life and make me think twice of wishing to go abroad. Furthermore, there is a recent news about the Christchurch attack. But having myself involved in Ask Me project, I've discovered that not all people think of Islam like that. Besides for visiting Masjid Negara as it is a heritage building, some of them are also interested to know about Islam. This makes me realized that not all people have negative thought about Islam. So now I've become much more interested of wanting to explore another country in the future.

**(NUR AINA AQILAH BINTI MOHD ARIF - BIC170027)**

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**T**he building for our group is National Mosque which is located at the heart of Kuala Lumpur city. It was definitely a great experience to join this kind of meaningful project. Without this project, I think I won't get the chance to explore the building of other religion. The mosque is stunning and bigger than expected. The building architecture is amazing and well worth a visit, especially its star-shaped domed roof covered in tiles of blue and green. Since this is a mosque, a dress code is in place. Like me, I am a non-Muslim. Therefore, before entering, I need to be covered fully with loose clothes and bring scarf to cover my hair. At first, I felt like very hot since I was not used to covering my whole body including the hair during the hot and sunny weather. Therefore, I quite amazed with my Muslim friends.

Through this project, I get the opportunity to improve my communication skill when communicating with the tourists. Also, I learn to be confident since it is not an easy way to approach someone whom you are don't familiar with. Not only that, I get the chance to know more about the Islam, which is the main religion in Malaysia. This is because some of

the tourists come here not only because of the architectural design, but also to know more about the Islam.

Last but not least, I would like to thank all of my teammates throughout this project. Without them, this mission won't be completed.

**(TAN JIA EN – BIC170042)**

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**D**uring this social engagement project, our team including Remy as leader, Atiqah, Aina, Haika, Jia En, Jiayi and Wenyi were assigned to in charge in National Mosque. The date of our ask me project is on 30 and 31 March and 6 and 7 April. Before going to be a professional voluntary tourism ambassador for the 'Ask Me' project, we needed to find and understand the complete information about the building such as history, background, feature, infrastructure and construction info. It gave me a great opportunity to study and learn different race's religions and culture.

Besides, this ask me project would not be a success if without my awesome teammates. Remy always give the right instruction and others also done his/her own part nicely. Apart from that, we were having chance to communicate with tourist from the other side of world. Some of them are local but many of them are foreign tourist from China, Japan, Korea, USA, UK, Canada, French, Europe and many more different countries. We got such a great response from them and this ask me project was indeed useful to them.

As a result, they would know more about the Malaysia National Mosque and felt the warmness and friendly of us. It also was a rare experience for me because can interact with foreign tourist directly and learn how to introduce this famous mosque to them. Putting in a nutshell, ask me project is really amazing as it can let people to explore somethings new.

**(TENG GUAN YI - BIC170045)**

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**I**n this activity, our group went to Masjid Negara. I think my spoken English is improved, we communicate with tourists, do the survey, and introduce the basic background to them. Through the communication, I feel more confident than before. I am proud of myself as well, I feel like a professional tour guide! It is my pleasure to serve others. I also learn more about Islamic culture, for a foreigner and a non-Muslim, it is a great experience. I learn the background of Muslim culture and religion, their habit, and daily life. It is a national mosque in Malaysia, its improvement and extension are related to a country's history. Also, I know we should respect other people even though you do not understand them.

While preparing the information about Masjid Negara, I learn more about the history of Malaysia. For an international student, I can better involved in lives. When I do project with my group members, I find ability to cooperate with others has improved. I know how to do project together with my members and how to arrange the tasks. As a result, through this project, a lot of my skills has improved.

**(WEN YI - BIC170701)**

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## 4. MASJID JAMEK

### QR CODE



### ABSTRACT

In this document, it will consist the information regarding the history, background, feature and construction of Masjid Jamek.

### GROUP 4

1. BIC170028 Nur Hidayah Binti Humaili
2. BIC170004 Chia Jia Er
3. BIC170012 Lim Bao Qiong
4. BIC170020 Mohd Zulhafiqh Bin Julian
5. BIC170033 Nurul Aiman Afiqah Binti Mohd Marman
6. BIC170036 Siti Nur Asyikin Binti Somad
7. BIC170046 Teng J-Sheng
8. BIC170702 Tan Shihao

## 4.1 Location and Information

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### History of Masjid Jamek

Masjid Jamek started built in 1908, it is one of the oldest mosque in city. It was sit at the confluence of the Klang and Gombak River. It serves as Kuala Lumpur's main mosque until the National Mosque, Masjid Negara was built in 1965 near the railway station. A couple of mosques previously existed in the Java Street and Malay Street area serving the Malay communities, but Jamek Mosque would be the first large mosque to be built in Kuala Lumpur. The architectural inspiration was from the Mogul influences of Northern India, Islamic and Moorish. It was designed by architect Arthur Benison Hubbock. This historical building has similar style with Kuala Lumpur Railway Station and Ubudiah Mosque in Kuala Kangsar.

"Jamek" is a translation from Arabic word means a place where people congregate to worship. It is also referred to as "Friday Mosque" by the locals. This mosque can fit approximately 8000 worshippers. On 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1908: Selangor Sultan, Sultan Sir Alauddin Sulaiman Shah laid the foundation stone and this mosque is officially opened on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1909. The total construction cost for Masjid Jamek was up to RM32625. This fee was funded by part of Malay community with contribution from British Colonial government While on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017, it is renamed to Masjid Jamek Sultan Abdul Samad (Sultan Abdul Samad Jamek Mosque) by Selangor's Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah due to the mosque was originally built on land that was part of the state of Selangor. The location on the bank of the Klang and Gombak rivers and its surrounded palm trees provide a tranquil setting that complement the Masjid Jamek exquisite domed tower.

The original name of Kuala Lumpur was created from the word "Kuala Berlumpur" (Muddy Estuary). In Bahasa Melayu, a place where a river meets another river or other water body is a "kuala" or 'estuary'. Figure 1 shows the meeting of two rivers. In the days when rivers were their 'highways' of their time, a kuala was significant as it was a natural landmark where villagers from Malay villages upstream of each river would meet for trading or gatherings and sometimes a mosque would be built nearby. Such is the case for the meeting point of the Klang and Gombak rivers. The area was long inhabited with scattered villages along the various river tributaries. But it was not until tin began to be mined in the 19th century that it began to attract people from further afield. One figure of prominence was Sutan Puasa, an entrepreneurial Mendailing Malay who arrived in the 1830s. The traditional seat of the Mandailings was on Bukit Rasam (later Bukit Mahkamah) and Bukit Nanas, with the former under the sway of Sutan Puasa. By 1850 the rudiments of streets evolved that would later become Leboh Pasar Besar and Jalan Tun Perak.

But this kuala was destined for bigger things with the arrival in 1857 of the Royal Chieftain of Klang, Raja Abdullah with his tin-prospecting entourage that included 87 Chinese miners. Coming to the confluence of the two rivers, they came upon much mud silted in the waters. The Chieftain's advisor inspected in the mud and confirmed the presence of tin ore. It would be the starting point in time and space of more systematic mining activities fanning the Klang Valley. Tin was exported commercially for the first time

from Kuala Lumpur in 1859. Malay place-naming systems favour natural significance and thus came the name “Kuala Lumpur” – the meet of two rivers and also estuary or confluence of mud. Later, circa 1909, a semi-circular set of steps making the landing site of Masjid Jamek marked the tongue of this “muddy estuary”. Figure 2 below shows the wood that they maintained to show the location of their port back then.



*Figure 1 : Meeting point of the two rivers*



*Figure 2 : Wood to tie their boat*

## Construction Background

History has literally been dug up at the confluence of the two rivers that inspired the name of Malaysia's capital Kuala Lumpur. A staircase adjoining Masjid Jamek, long forgotten in the face of modernisation and development, has been unearthed after works for the River of Life project in the area commenced. At a glance, it seems a disconnected structure but further digging showed there was more to it than it seems.

Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM) heritage conservation committee member and architect Mariana Isa said the staircase was part of the original mosque design from more than a hundred years ago.

"In all early photographs and drawings of the mosque, designed by Federated Malay States' Public Works Department assistant architect A.B. Hubback, the staircase is featured quite prominently. The mosque was officially opened by Sultan of Selangor Sultan Alauddin Sulaiman Shah in 1909," she said.

The site had originally been a Malay cemetery that was relocated to Jalan Ampang in order to build the mosque. The mosque was built to cater to the growing population as well as to replace a nearby mosque that was demolished to make way for a road widening project.

A perspective painting of the mosque that had been in the possession of Hubback's grandson Dr Peter Barbor showed that the steps were imagined to be a place of human activity as well as a landing spot for *sampans*, an important mode of transport in the past.

"It would not be impossible to believe that people would also perform their ablutions at the steps with the river water."

"It was not until other land transportation such as the train system began developing that the steps slowly started to disappear," she said, adding that the mosque was built using funds collected among the Malays, the Sultan as well as the British government.



*Figure 3: In photos as early as the late 1930s, the river bank had been shored up and the lower half of the steps concealed under the soil.*

The recently unearthed steps adjoining Masjid Jamek leads to the discovery of lost history. The perimeter walls, originally designed to directly touch the water, was also half hidden behind a bank of soil.

“It was around the time when the LRT was being built that the concrete river bank was built and with it the steps all but disappeared except a few at the very top,” said Mariana, who is also a committee member of the recently established Malaysia branch of non-governmental organisation International Council on Monuments and Sites.

Mariana also said that the spot, a confluence between Sungai Gombak and Sungai Klang, had an earlier historical importance as the place the first settlers landed. DBKL Project Implementation and Maintenance deputy director-general Datuk Mohd Najib Mohd said they were excited with the discovery of the staircase.

“It was unexpected and the plan has shifted a little to include it as part of the River of Life (RoL) rejuvenation plans in the area. This area already has quite a nostalgic air but this staircase can increase this value and also connect us to the city’s past,” he said.

“The Malaysian Historical Society has been asked to help us study the steps. It is about 80% intact while the rest seems to have been damaged during a river deepening project many years ago.

“We are looking into putting some kind of protective coating over the staircase to maintain it. Meanwhile, the contractors doing work near the staircase are not allowed to use machinery and are instead digging manually,” he said.



*Figure 4: Moghul architecture; Masjid Jamek, Kuala Lumpur’s oldest mosque at the confluence of the Klang and Gombak rivers. It was built in 1908 and officially opened by the Sultan of Selangor on Dec 23, 1909.*

Mariana said Masjid Jamek belonged to the people and nothing from the original design should be removed to retain its full historical value. “Not even a single pillar should be removed. I had been upset when some of the coconut trees that had been growing in the mosque’s compound were removed.

“Coconut trees had been growing there even during the time the place was a cemetery. This place is like a time capsule that should be preserved as a whole,” she said, adding that it was the little things that made the place unique.”

“The mosque had been the identifying icon of Kuala Lumpur in the times before skyscrapers came about in the city.”

“It was replicated to represent Malaya during the British Empire Exhibition back in 1924. It even made it into an international architecture publication,” she said, adding that the site should belong to the people.

Masjid Jamek shows the combination of ancient Moorish, Islam and Mughal architectural styles, verdant surroundings, and distant views of KL’s other iconic landmarks. Masjid Jamek consists of 3 domes surrounded the prayer hall, the largest dome is located at the central and reach 21.3 meters high. The prayer hall is located beneath the domes. It has 2 main minarets with height of 26.8 m at the corners and its pattern of red and white banding of the minarets was made up of red brick and marble which was inspired by the Mogul or North Indian Islamic architecture. This designed pattern has been described as blood and bandage. These minarets were identical in design with chatris which has the umbrella shaped cupolas usually domed and open sided. A large number of small chatris top the entrances and corners of the mosque. The minaret which is nearest to the river was underpinned

This building was refurbished in 1984. It has been enlarged with extension built and originally open air forecourt roofed over. While In 1993, the central biggest domes collapsed due to heavy rain and had been repaired. Due to the recent River of Life project, the adjoining staircase used as landing area for those arriving Masjid Jamek by sampan in the past has been unearthed.



*Figure 5: The 100 year old Jamek Mosque is still standing strong and used by the muslims till today. A closer view of the mosque. Notice the arch and bricks used in building the mosque.*

Prior to the construction of Masjid Jamek in 1908, the site at the junction of the Klang and Gombak rivers was used as Kuala Lumpur's Muslim burial ground. It is the oldest known Muslim cemetery that had existed in the town, which served the pioneer Muslim communities nearby such as those who lived in Kampung Rawa (Rawa Village) and Kampung Melaka (Malacca Village). The cemetery which appears in Kuala Lumpur's 1870 map, was officially gazetted by the British Administration in 1893. The size of the cemetery however was gradually reduced from original 2.25 acres through decades to make way for development.

A large number of the graves were exhumed to accommodate the construction of Masjid Jamek's original structure in 1908, while the rest remained within the compound of the mosque. The old gravestones appear to be a mixed Malay-Acehnese and Indian Muslim influence and most of them were made of sandstone, granite and marble. They are using Jawi scripts or alphabets mentioning their name and year of death.

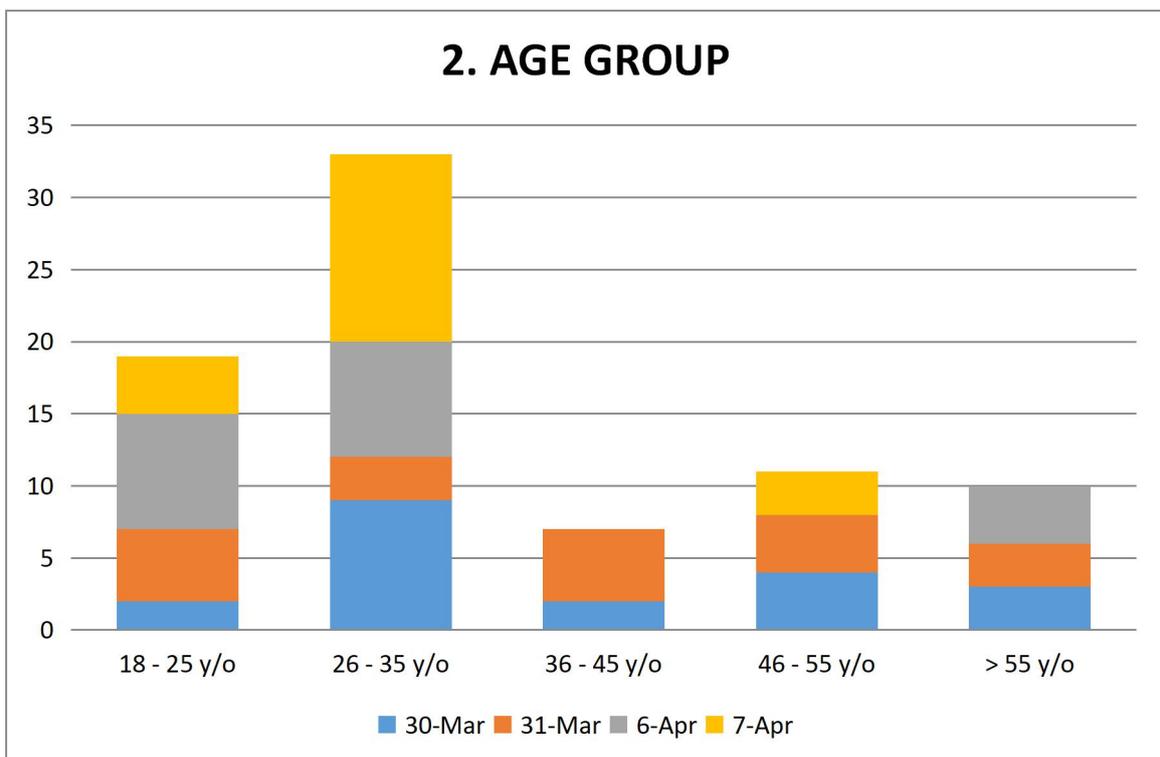
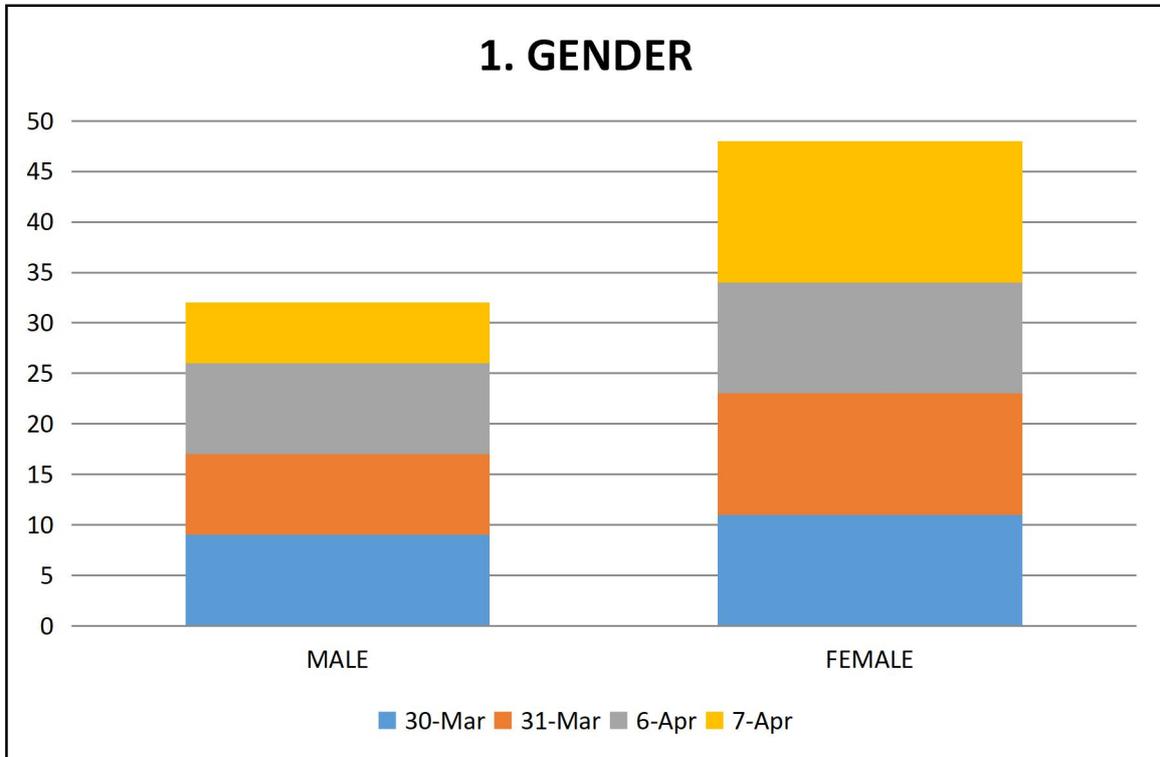
In 2015 a contractors digging up the vicinity of the century-old Masjid Jamek in Kuala Lumpur for the River of Life project stumbled upon several gravestones believed to be from the early 18th century. More than 45 gravestones found, mostly granite and a few marble as well as sandstone ones dating back almost 200 years were found buried near the construction site from December 2015 to March this year. It is learnt that the project conservator had alerted workers who are currently constructing a water fountain at the site to be on the lookout for more artefacts to emerge. The site where the first gravestones were found. Construction workers who were building a water fountain here discovered the gravestones.

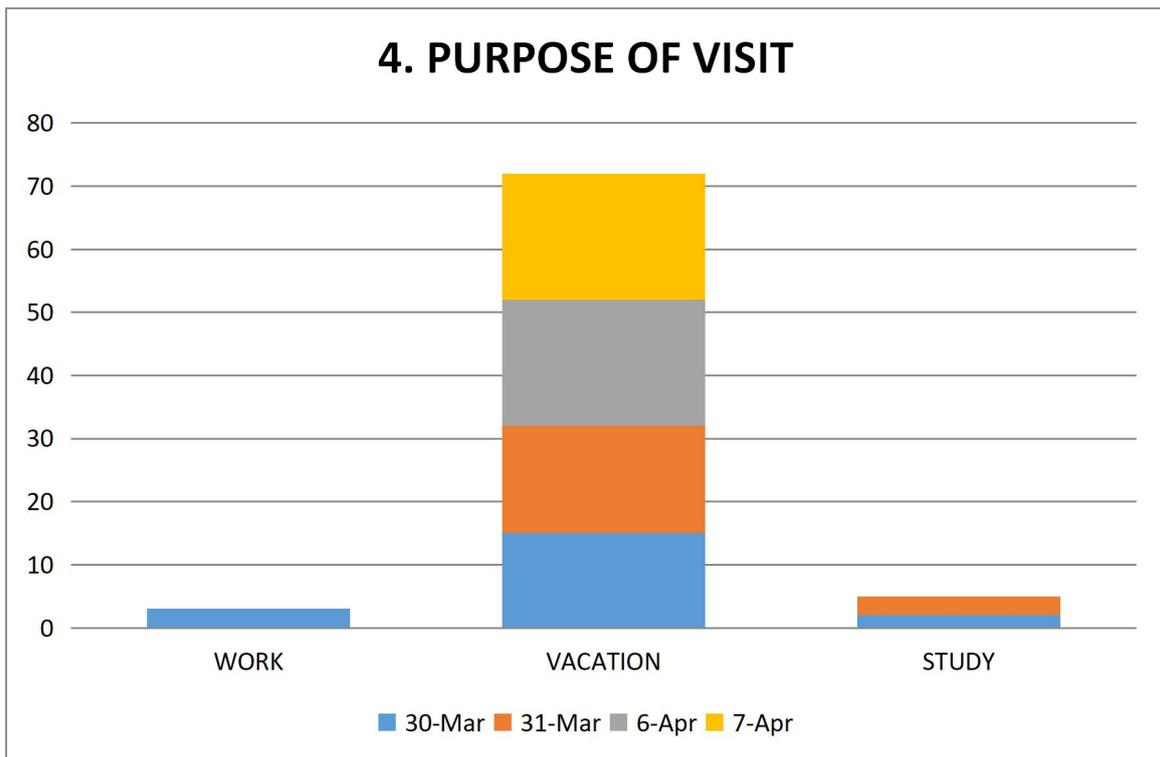
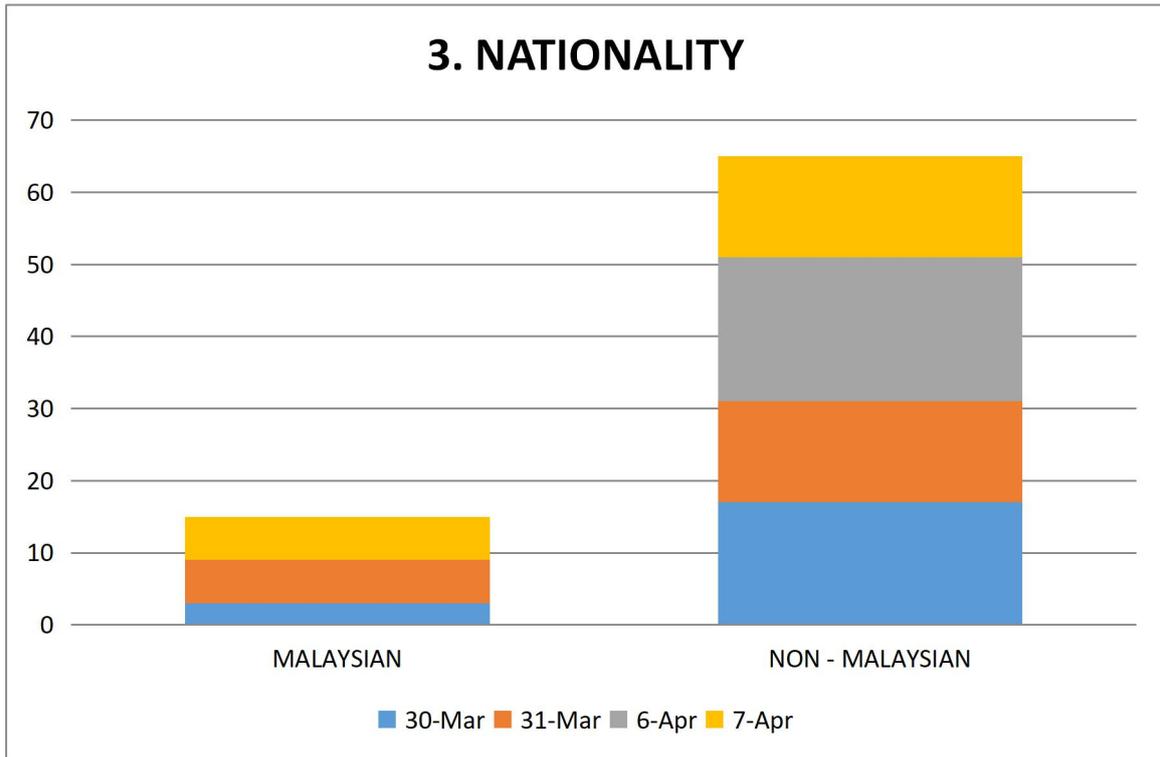


*Figure 6: The 200 years old gravestones*

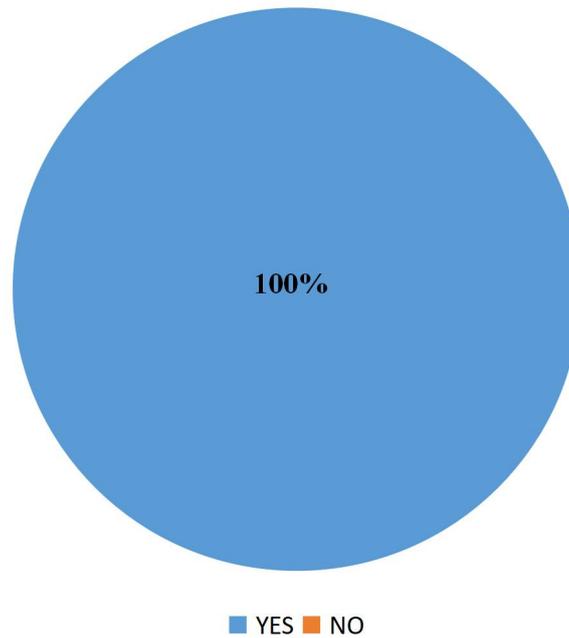
## 4.2 Feedback Survey

### JAMEK MOSQUE

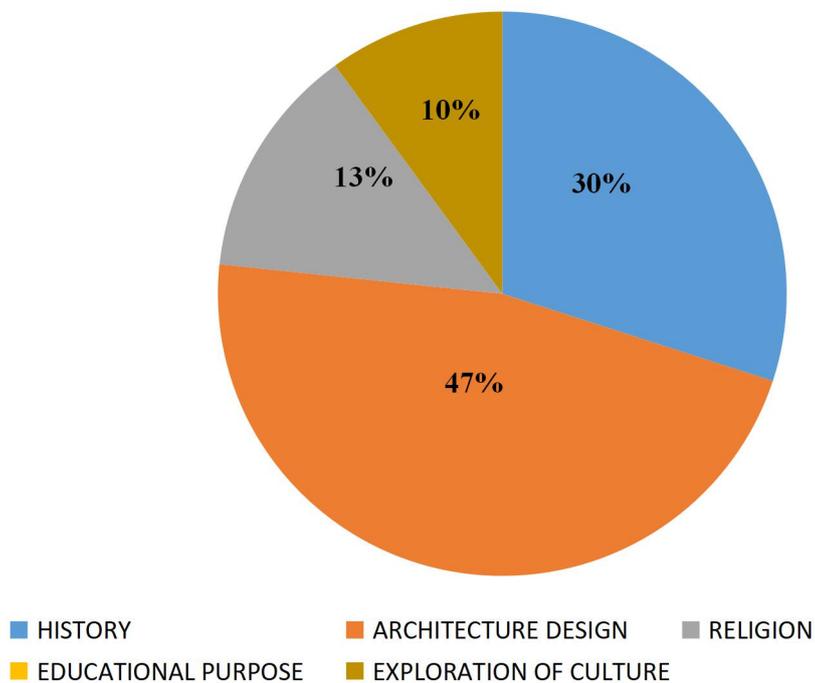




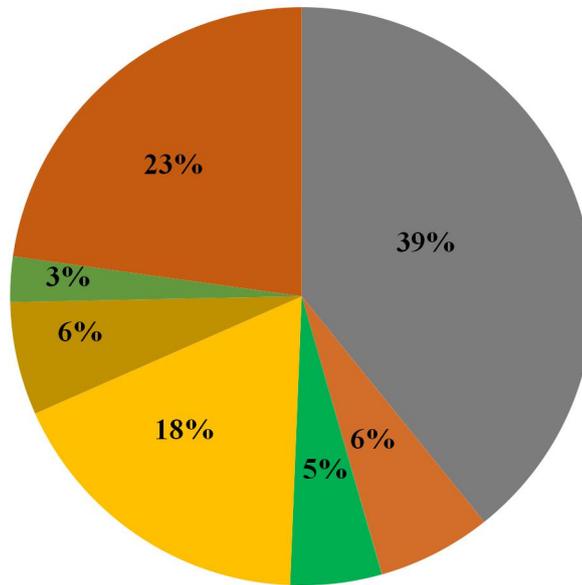
## 5. INTEREST TOWARDS THE BUILDING



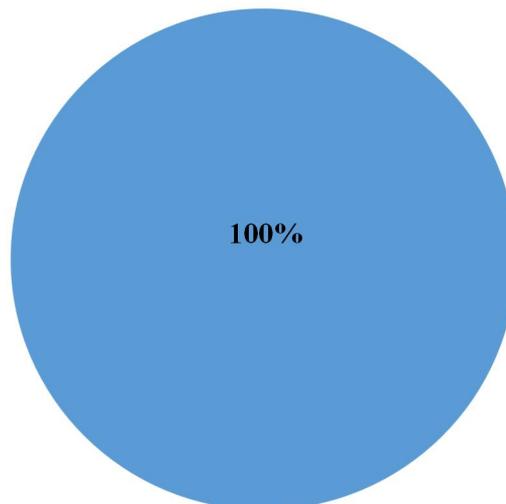
## 6. REASON OF VISITING THIS BUILDING



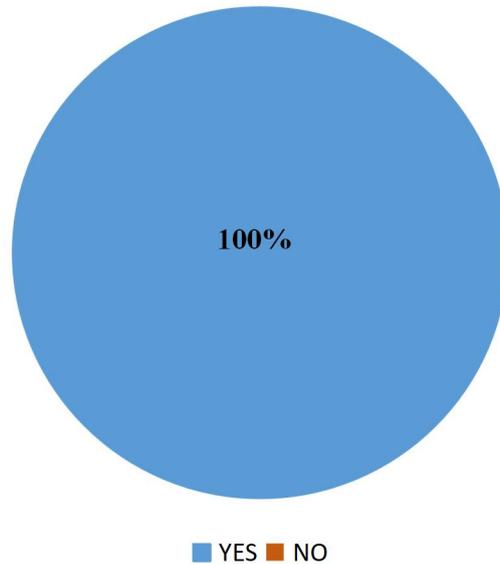
## 7. RESOURCES USED TO FIND OUT ABOUT THIS PLACE



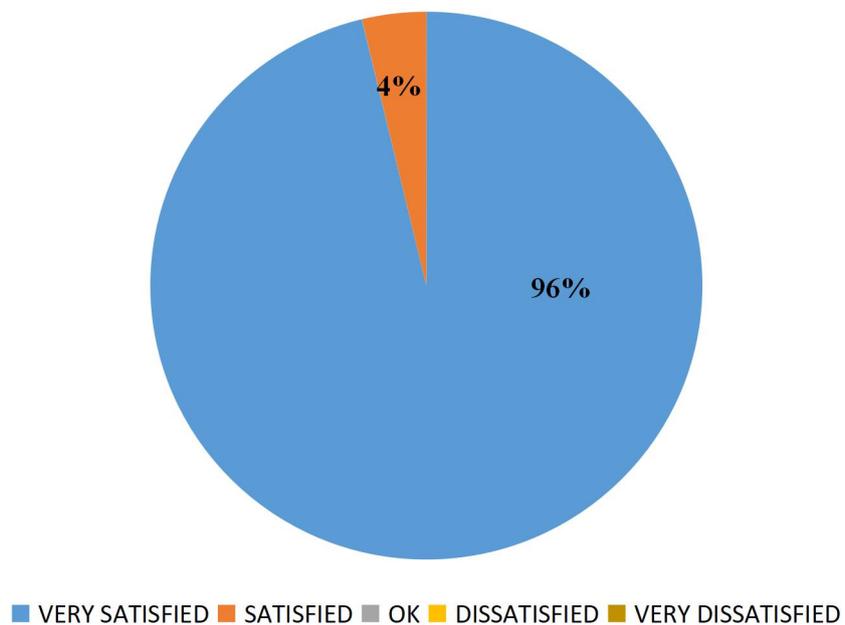
## 8. IS 'ASK ME' PROJECT HELPFUL?



### 9. EFFICIENCY OF QR CODE IF PLACED AROUND THE LOCATION



### 10. SATISFACTION RATING TO 'ASK ME' PROJECT



### 4.3 Transformative Jurnal



**ATAS:** JASON, BAO QIONG, ZULHAFIQH, SHI HAO

**BAWAH:** ASYIQIN, HIDAYAH, JIA ER, AIMAN

I am very thankful for the opportunity given to become part of the volunteer in *Masjid Jamek*. Thank you to Allah SWT who gives me strength, health and patience to complete this activity and end the volunteerism at *Masjid Jamek* for four days beginning on 30<sup>th</sup> March to 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019, as required by the Social Engagement subject. I would like to thank my lecturer, Dr. Nurshuhada for come out with this wonderful activity for the Social Engagement subject, as it is really an unforgettable experience. I also would like to thank Ustaz Yahya, as the Ketua Imam of *Masjid Jamek*, for the opportunity given to collaborate with the tourist guide at *Masjid Jamek*. Lastly, I would like to thank my teammates for giving cooperation to complete this activity till the end.

In my opinion, 'Ask Me' Project is one of the effective methods for the tourist to know more about the History of heritage building in Malaysia. In addition, it can increase the personality and identity of University Malaya's students. From 'Ask Me' project, I learnt a lot of new knowledge and improved my soft skills. The knowledge I got from this project was extremely beneficial as I can told and explain to the tourist on how Kuala Lumpur got the names. It is really make me proud to be Malaysian when I can explain to the tourist the history of my country. I learnt about history of *Masjid Jamek* and increase my knowledge and understanding in Islamic related things. I am very fortunate as *Masjid Jamek* has its own tourist guide. They really help us by giving the best briefing on how to approach the tourist and the best information to explain to the tourist. I will not be able to do anything without the knowledge given by them. Furthermore, my communication skills are getting better especially in English.

Since the first day of the project, I am really excited to approach the tourist even my English was broken English. But I manage to challenge myself and the tourists are happy hearing the History of *Masjid Jamek*. Last but not least, I hope this kind of activity can be

continued as it is very valuable to the tourist who came to Malaysia, because they really interested and want to know more the history of other heritage building in Malaysia.

**(NUR HIDAYAH BINTI HUMAILI - BIC170028)**

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**A**t first, I would like to thank to Dr. Nurshuhada for proposing the Ask Me project for our Social Engagement project. I really appreciate for having this chance to have more exploration to the historical building in our beloved country. I had learnt a lot when carrying out this project. Throughout the project, I had enhanced my knowledge on the historical building and also the soft skills. When I was collecting and preparing the information about the historical building, which is *Masjid Jamek*, I had better understanding about the history, the transportation nearby *Masjid Jamek* and also the construction background of the building. Besides from learning from word, I also acquired more knowledge by visiting the building physically. I am not only sharing my knowledge with the tourist, but also learning from the tourist guide over there.

Moreover, I also learnt that there will be tourist guide at the mosque for every weekend to brief the tourist the history of this building. The tourist guide had enlightened us about the birthplace of Kuala Lumpur and the unique characteristics of the mosque such as the carpet in line pattern, the function of the pulpit. After this, I had obtained more knowledge about the culture of different races in Malaysia.

Besides, I also acquire soft skill by introducing the historical building to the tourist. We had bumped into tourist from different countries such as Thailand, Indonesia and also local tourist. By carrying out conversation with them, we can improve and enhance our communication skill in English. This project provides us a precious chance for practicing our English speaking skill with the native speaker or non-native speaker.

I found this project is meaningful due to it is really helping the tourist to have better understanding about the historical building by not only visiting the place but also gain knowledge from the local people. By doing so, the tourists are a step closer to know more about our culture. From the interview with them, most of them found this project is helpful and workable around the tourist spots. I had interviewed the tourist guide over there, in his perspectives, this project is helpful in enriching the tourists' knowledge and spreading the information to a larger population.

In term of the proposed QR code, I opined that it is a more effective way for tourist to gain information about the historical building which achieve hundred percent in accuracy and which is being confirmed and recognised by the related authorities. Instead of searching all over the websites, it is better for tourist to gain all the information by just one click.

Other than that, cooperation among the teammates is the important factor to succeed this project. Group leader had distributed the task accordingly hence the event is carried out fluently. This project provides a chance for us to have more spending time together and elevate the relations between each other.

**(CHIA JIA ER - BIC170004)**

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I am Lim Bao Qiong (BIC170012), which participate in Ask Me Project. I am at the *Masjid Jamek* which located near Masjid Jamek LRT station for 4 days which is 30th & 31st March and 6th & 7th April 2019. There are 8 members in my group. We divided our group members into different job scopes, some of us taking photos, some of us taking videos, and some of us directing the visitors.

*Masjid Jamek* has their own volunteers for weekend. The volunteers there bring us around the *Masjid Jamek* and explain to us the history and attractions of *Masjid Jamek*. According to him, *Masjid Jamek*, also known as Friday Mosque, is recognised as the oldest Islamic place of worship in Kuala Lumpur. Overlooking the Klang River, it offers breathtaking photo opportunities for travellers due to the combination of ancient Moorish, Islam and Mughal architectural styles, verdant surroundings, and distant views of KL's other iconic landmarks. Built in 1907 by British architect Arthur Benison Hubback, *Masjid Jamek* served as the main centre of worship for the local Muslim community until the National Mosque (*Masjid Negara*) was officially opened to the public in 1965. Surrounding the main prayer hall are three domes, the tallest of which measures at 20 metres, flanked by two brick minarets that stand over 25 metres tall.

I am very happy to know all the history of *Masjid Jamek* in details. Now, I have a better knowledge about the heritage building of Malaysia and can explain to tourists well. My communication skills also improve a lot through this project. I am able to communicate and explain well the history of *Masjid Jamek* to tourists from different country such as Thailand, Korea, China, France and others. I feel happy and proud that I can help the tourists to solve their problems when visiting to *Masjid Jamek*. This project really helps me a lot in communication skill.

**(LIM BAO QIONG - BIC170012)**

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Overall journey along the execution of this project gave me a tremendous experiences. This will allow my confidence level to step up by socializing with foreigners. Plus, it is very useful to apply such skills in a presentation at class or even in future works as a quantity surveyor. As we all knew that the reality in construction industry meetings will have a blaming game, if I dont have such confidence and fast reaction in replying those blames towards me that I have not commit, I will end up depress and quitting my job. This ask me project really raise my skills in social conversation and I also enjoyed meeting new people from various country that I have never been. And also the positive vibes they (visitors) gave upon welcoming us to their country gives me a hope on working harder to earn money and go there to actually learn other cultures. Last but not least, it is good to have additional knowledge regarding the place we have been allocated that is *Masjid Jamek* that are not mentioned in our matapelajaran Sejarah syllabus during school days.

**(MOHD ZULHAFIQH BIN JULAN – BIC170020)**

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On the weekend of 30<sup>th</sup>,31<sup>st</sup> March and 6<sup>th</sup>,7<sup>th</sup> April 2019, I joined the Ask Me Project which is mandatory. The project is all about helping tourist either the local or the foreigner to gain more knowledge of the place my group and I in charged off. I did my Ask me Project

under social engagement subject in *Masjid Jamek* which is located in Kuala Lumpur. It is near to Merdeka Square and Sultan Abdul Samad building. I learned a lot of new knowledge regarding the history of the building and the Islamic information. The knowledge is all explained by the Mosque Volunteers in the *Masjid Jamek*. They are very kind to us while giving us tours of the mosque and explaining about Islam in logical thinking.

I learned that even though *Masjid Jamek* is the oldest mosque in Kuala Lumpur, there is still Masjid India which has been built earlier than *Masjid Jamek*. However, *Masjid Jamek* still get the title of the oldest because it is originally only a wooden mosque located at the current Burger King location. Then, it is moved to the current location when British allowed the local to build the new larger mosque. The current location is previously a burial ground for the Muslim. Other than that, I learned about most of the things in Islam can clearly be viewed in logical way such as why the men and women need to be separated when praying. It is because it can affect their pure intention and divert their focus. While explaining to the foreigner, I learn many new things such as their language, religion and some of their culture. The tourist is so friendly and when communicating with them, it also indirectly improve my communication skills and knowledge.

I am proud and thankful to have the chance to be a tour guide and a volunteer in *Masjid Jamek*. I realize that even the locals themselves have no idea about the history of *Masjid Jamek* and I am happy to be the one to open their eyes to be interested of the origin of *Masjid Jamek*, where the architectural design is inspired from and why the location is near the river. In conclusion, being a volunteer helps me to increase my soft skills and knowledge, makes me more patient, improve my understanding towards people of different races and nationality and most importantly making me realize that true happiness is by spreading the happiness towards others by helping other people.

**(NURUL AIMAN AFIQAH BINTI MOHD MARMAN - BIC170033)**

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**W**e started our Ask Me Project on 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2019. The first day was quite intense because at *Masjid Jamek*, they have their own tourist guide and they were doubting our knowledge about *Masjid Jamek*. So, we were given a tour and a short brief by one of the tourists guide to get our facts right. He explained about the history and the architecture of *Masjid Jamek*. After that, he let us approached the tourists by ourselves. At first, we were quite shy and not confident enough to approach the tourists. But as the time passes and after we have met several tourists, our confidence became better.

During the second day, we met a different tourist guide there. This time around the tourist guide is a female around 50-60 years old. We were given a brief and tour once again by her. But this time, she gave us more information compared to the day before. Not only about the history and architecture that she shared but also about Islam itself. This is because she was afraid that some tourists will ask also about the religion to us which in our team, we have four Chinese students. So, they need to have the knowledge about Islam. The next weekend, we carried out the same things as before which we approached the tourists and asked them a few questions. Of course, there were several tourists that do not want to be guided there but many of them actually warmly welcomed us.

To conclude, I personally think that this type of program should be continued also by other faculties. This is because this program is not only helping the tourists and increase our knowledge about heritage buildings but also help to promote our country. Moreover, as we talking to the tourists from all over the world, it actually helps to improve our communication skill. I hope that one day this program is not only conducted under social engagement subject but also opened to the public who wants to volunteer.

**(SITI NUR ASYIKIN BINTI SOMAD – BIC170036)**

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On 30 & 31 March and 6 & 7 April, these four days, “Ask Me” project was held in 7 heritage building in Kuala Lumpur. The aims for this ‘Ask Me’ project are to assist the foreigner and the tourist, let them know more about the history of each buildings, and give us an opportunity to spread the related information of the heritage building based on our knowledge in construction as what we have learnt in our course. In order to make this project successful and efficient, we were divided into 7 group and executed the works in respective places during these 4 days.

I carried out this project in *Masjid Jamek* where this is the first mosque that I visit. I have learnt a lot of the knowledge about Islam. For example, the way of how they pray, how many praying a day and when they need to pray. All the guide who work in *Masjid Jamek* are volunteers. They contribute to their religion without asking rewards. For the Muslim, Allah is the God. The only God. Mosque can be in any architecture design. From what I get from one of the guide, he showed us the photo of another mosque in Malaysia which is in different architecture design. For example, the design of Chinese Temple but without dragon on the roof, lion statue beside the entrance and no statue and portrait in the mosque. The most significant to recognize a building as a mosque is the Menara which is used to call all Muslim come for prayer.

Furthermore, I have learnt how to communicate with the stranger without any fear and became more confident. Keeping smile and talk smoothly to the stranger was always a hard task for me before this. During this project, I explained the history of the *Masjid Jamek* and also the important information to the tourist with confidence. Moreover, *Masjid Jamek* is the place where Kuala Lumpur started. All the development of Kuala Lumpur started because of Tin mining which follow the trend of industrial revolution. British colonized Tanah Melayu to get the natural resources such as tin and the rubber which is very important for the revolution.

Finally, I think this project is meaningful for me because it taught me the knowledge and let me gain a lot of experience that I never get in class.

**(TENG J-SHENG - BIC 170046)**

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In this event, Ask Me Project probed provided an opportunity to let us know and learning history of *Masjid Jamek*, otherwise to be a useful experience to further understanding in Islamic culture and civilization. We are voluntary to explain and introduce about *Masjid Jamek* history and told some amusing stories of Kuala Lumpur to people who are come from different country.

For this very rich and meaningful experience, we have learning a lot of new knowledge and get improve our soft skills by this work. We together exploring certain aspect of the different culture, even the construction style like how different of mosque between China and Malaysia, also such as imagination and emotion of this place.

The main thing for us shall be help tourism solve query about this special mosque. For instance, someone want to know about the history, the building style or what kind of things they should pay attention when they visit here, then we will brief told them. Actually we also do not know about *Masjid Jamek* too much, *but we are fortunate to get help from Masjid Jamek own volunteering group. They giving us the best briefing of Masjid Jamek. Through their explanation, we know Masjid Jamek* also known as Friday Mosque, is recognised as the oldest Islamic place of worship in Kuala Lumpur. Overlooking the Klang River, it offers breathtaking photo opportunities for travellers due to the combination of ancient Moorish, Islam and Mughal architectural styles, verdant surroundings, and distant views of KL's other iconic landmarks. Built in 1907 by British architect Arthur Benison Hubback, *Masjid Jamek* served as the main centre of worship for the local Muslim community until the National Mosque (*Masjid Negara*) was officially opened to the public in 1965. Surrounding the main prayer hall are three domes, the tallest of which measures at 20 metres, flanked by two brick minarets that stand over 25 metres tall.

However, sometimes we know something does not mean we can explain it to others very well. Naturally, the most challenge arise, we need good at communicate skills. At first time, we will be nervous and shy, but with more and more try and practice, it is not that hard, likewise deal with any other problem we can easy do it also. Ours communicate skills get better, especially for me, because my first language is not English, and normally we need talk in English with tourism. It has greatly improved my English oral. And through taking with tourism we can know a lot of different culture and interest story from them also.

**(TAN SHIHAO - BIC170702)**

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## 5. CENTRAL MARKET

### QR CODE



### ABSTRACT

In this document, it will consist the information regarding the history, background, feature, construction and activities done at Central Market.

### GROUP 5

1. BIC170045 Vestene Wong Chee Yen
2. BIC170005 Darsini Uthaya Sooriyan
3. BIC170013 Lim Jia Ying
4. BIC170021 Muhammad Fakhrie Arieffin Bin Md Nor'Azam
5. BIC170029 Nur Liyana Binti Jaafar
6. BIC170032 Nursabrina Binti Haizal
7. BIC170039 Soh Wee Hao

## 5.1 Location and Information

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### History of central market

Central Market began life as a wet market in 1888, built by Yap Ah Loy, the Chinese Kapitan of the city. It served as a prominent landmark in colonial as well as modern-day Kuala Lumpur. When the market continued to expand, a permanent structure was built to house all the vendors. By 1930s, the structure was further improved to the current façade.

When the wet market was relocated in 1980s, the Malaysian Heritage Society successfully petitioned against the demolition of the building. Through an allocation of RM9million granted by the Federal Government, the building underwent another facelift and was transformed into a centre for Malaysian culture, arts and handicraft. The façade has remained unaltered to retain the charm of yesteryears.



Figure 1: Central Market during 1980s

On 15th April 1986, Melewar Leisure Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary of Kumpulan Melewar Berhad took the ownership of the building to promote Malaysian culture through the sales of local art and craft products. In 2004, the Kha Seng Group acquired this iconic building. Under the company Central Market Sdn Bhd, the building and its accompanying Annexe was transformed into an award-winning tourist attraction and shopping destination without compromising their enduring significance as the centre of the nation's culture, art and heritage.

Central Market Sdn Bhd invested RM10million in extensive upgrading work whilst making a conscious decision to maintain the market's unique charm and character. Many positive changes were introduced including the initiation of zoned shopping areas and the upgrading of stalls and kiosks, thereby creating a net lettable area estimated at over 70,000 square feet of retail space. Over the last 20 years, the tenants of Central Market have unreservedly contributed to the tourism industry by selling and promoting Malaysian arts and handicrafts and souvenirs to both the foreign tourists as well as local visitors. Hence Central Market has not only been promoting the Malaysian Culture but has also created business opportunities for many deserving entrepreneurs.

Malaysia is well known for her multi-racial culture where people of different races live in peace and harmony. To reflect our colourful culture, Central Market Kuala Lumpur features zones with shops, stalls and kiosks that highlight the 3 main races found in Malaysia.

These zones are Lorong Melayu, Lorong Cina and Lorong India and serve the purpose of giving visitors an insight into the cultural variety in Malaysia. Another zone known as Lorong Kelapa, is a charming lane where an amazing variety of traditional Malay snacks can be found, from all kinds of keropok (crackers) and kuih (cakes) to sweets and fried goodies like Kuih Bijan, Kuih Loyang, Epok-Epok (mini curry puffs) and many more.



Figure 2: Main Entrance of Central Market



Figure 3: Stalls in Central Market

## **Background**

Central Market Kuala Lumpur or also known as Pasar Seni is located at Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock (Foch Avenue) and the pedestrian-only section of Jalan Hang Kasturi (Rodger Street), a few minutes away from Petaling Street. It was founded in 1888, formerly called as Pasar Besar Kuala Lumpur and originally used as a wet market. There were many daily necessities being sold there and the buyers are usually the residents of that area and the miners. But now, the current building has changed its style to Art-Deco style and it was completed in 1937.

But the building has been renovated and upgraded into what we can see today in 2019. An LRT station has been built on 15 April 1986 near Central Market. The presence of public transportation like LRT has facilitate many visitors that visit Central Market. Central Market has been classified as a Heritage Site by the Malaysian Heritage Society and it is now a landmark for Malaysian culture and heritage. Central Market building has two main levels which consist of many shops that sell variety of handcrafts and Malaysians artworks.

## **Features**

The Central Market Kuala Lumpur is arranged in a stall concept, representing the traditional market that has existed in Kuala Lumpur since the 1800s. Two-storey and single-storey buildings of Central Market resembling the kampong-style houses representing different ethnic groups living harmoniously in Kuala Lumpur. This market has become a place where local and international communities visit to pay a view, appreciating, buying and selling artworks. Also, the visitors can scroll through sections that exist within the Central Market - Lorong Melayu, Straits Chinese and Lorong India which is located on the west wing. The second floor hosts a food court, offering an array of food.

As for the architectural style, Central Market features Art-Deco architecture which was completed in 1937. It has been classified as a Heritage Site by the Malaysian Heritage Society and it is now a landmark for Malaysian culture and heritage.

Central Market Kuala Lumpur is located nearby the **KJ14 SBK16** Pasar Seni station which is served by the LRT Kelana Jaya Line and the MRT Sungai Buloh-Kajang Line. The station is in fact named after the market. Double-decker KL Hop-on Hop-off sightseeing tour buses stop at the opposite of Central Market Kuala Lumpur (In front of Geo Hotel - Stop No. 9) are very recommended for tourists and travellers. The free bus service Go KL-Purple Line starts at Pasar Seni Bus Hub which is next to Pasar Seni station where it is 5 mins walking distance from Central Market.

### **Things to do in Central Market**

As we know, Central Market is one of the Heritage Building in Kuala Lumpur and one of the favourite tourist attraction. The building which was previously a place for trading on wet grocery like meat, chicken and vegetable has shift their main focus to trading more on handcraft product and souvenirs. There are many activities we can do and enjoy at Central Market.

The main activity to enjoy here is to buy souvenirs. The souvenirs offered are attractive and colourful. This can be a present from Kuala Lumpur to bring back to your hometown. The most important part is those souvenirs are very cheap and you can negotiate to get a best price with the vendor.

Moreover, Central Market is a paradise for handcraft and art product buyer or collectors. In this market, there are many shops that offer variety of shape and unique handcraft and art product. Those products can be bought at a good price with a good quality. That is worth for money product to have.

The most interesting part is food. Central Market has many choices of dishes to be tasted. Variety of food from traditional Chinese, Indian and Malay food are sold around and inside the Central Market. Most of the stalls are located along the Kasturi Walk beside the Central Market. The most iconic Malaysian's dishes that you can get around are chicken rice, ais kacang, roti canai and some traditional 'kuih-muih'.



Figure 4: Central Market Food Court



Figure 5: Kasturi Walk

Central Market offers very good scenery and Art-Deco architecture style which give different and unique environment. This can be utilized by going for photoshoot around the building.

The Central Market committees also take their initiative by organizing Weekly Cultural Show. This show is performed on the stage at the main entrance. The show time will be on every Saturday at 8:00 pm. The show will be different every week. So, do come when you feel like to. There are also Cultural and Heritage Tour Programme that carried out by the Central Market committees. This programme will offer a tour around Central Market and participation in 3 interesting workshops. The workshops are DIY batik printing or DIY Gelwax (which one available on that day), Mengkuang bookmark and button badge customisation. It will be available every day at 10:30am and 2:30pm. The tour will take around 2 hours for every session. The price also very reasonable at RM15 per person.



Figure 6: Weekend Cultural Show



Figure 7: Cultural Dance Showcase at Central Market Stage

Many other activities and things you can do around Central Market but those listed above are the most recommended. Most of the activities not just affordable, but very interesting to do. Do bring your family and friends to this place to share the happiness together.

### **Technical information**

Before 1888, central market was only a large square open area that sold wet stuff without any building façade. In 1890, it became a 'box' shape and some refurbishment afterwards. There is another change on the central market's layout where the shape is changed to 'I' shape in 1909. In 1986, all new structures were in reinforced concrete with raft foundation for the pavilions and bored piling used for the restaurant side. It forms a trapezoidal shape until today. The trapezoidal shape is 401' length x average 200' width x 26' high. It is the largest single room in Kuala Lumpur.

The first roof for central market which was constructed in 1890 is made up of zinc sheet with pitched roof design, then during extension in 1907, roof material has changed from zinc sheet to asbestos sheet and re-roofing process with the same material have taken place in 1923. In 1936, whole building has been demolished and a new central market roof is made up of concrete with flat roof design added with a glazed colorex tinted skylight running along the middle atrium. In 1986, adaptive reuse has taken place, and a pair of

barrel-vaulted roofs made up of colorex-tinted glass, steel trusses and metal sheet has been added on the roof to enhance natural lighting and it is remained until today.

In 1888, British government has designed Central Market with concrete tile and floor re-rendering process with the same material taken places in 1912, and it remained until 1986, and after that, the floor has been tiled with two types of tiles which are terracotta tile and ceramic tile till today.

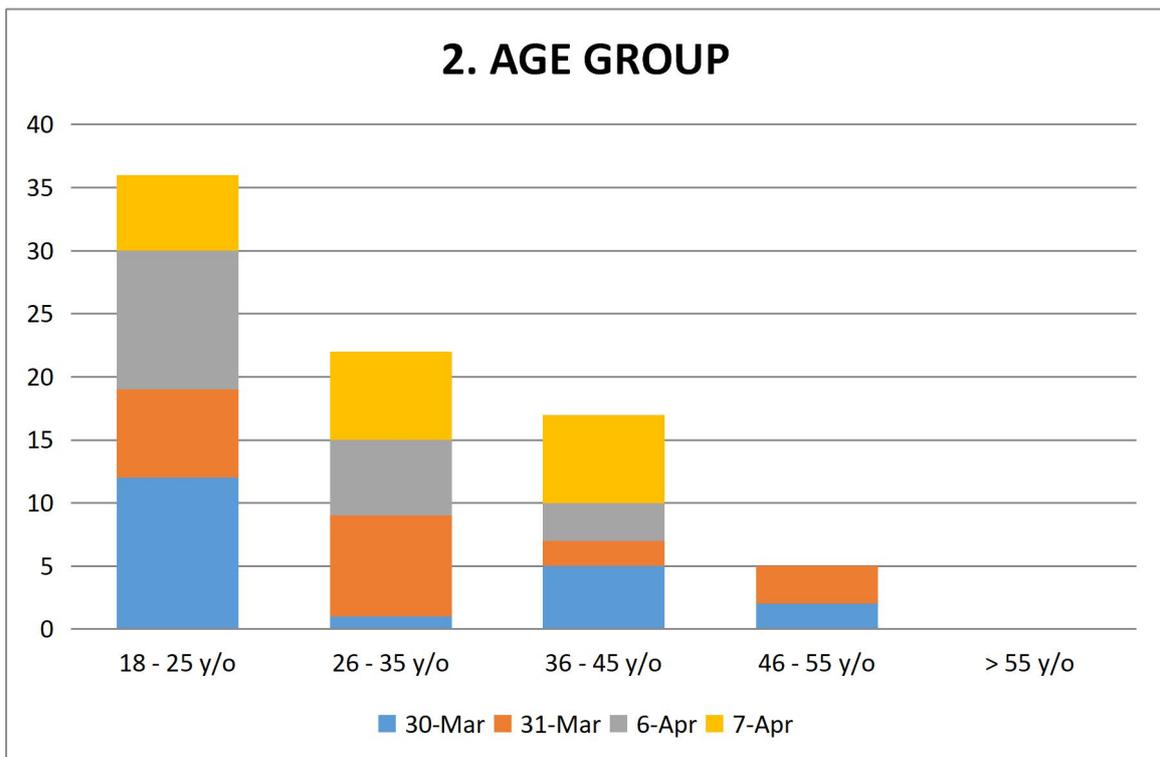
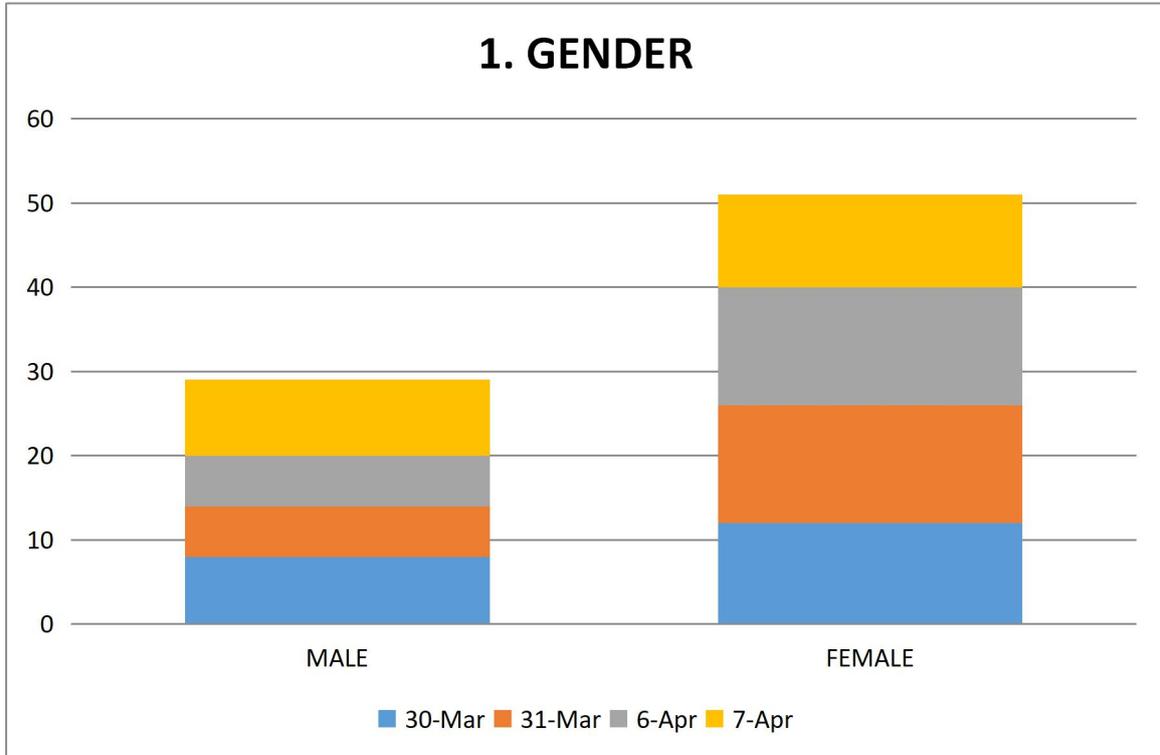
Central Market's walls have been fully made up from timber since British government has built the Central Market building in 1888 until the construction of new central market in 1936 where all peripheral wall is made up from 4 inches brickwork and remained until. However, the shop's wall in the cluster is excluded from previous statement as the shop's owner have been given permission to design their shops according to their own style and therefore the shop's wall currently made up from various types of material such as timber, glass and brick. 1986, natural ventilation louvers under the parapet wall were sealed with colorex tinted glass as it uses fully mechanical ventilation afterwards.

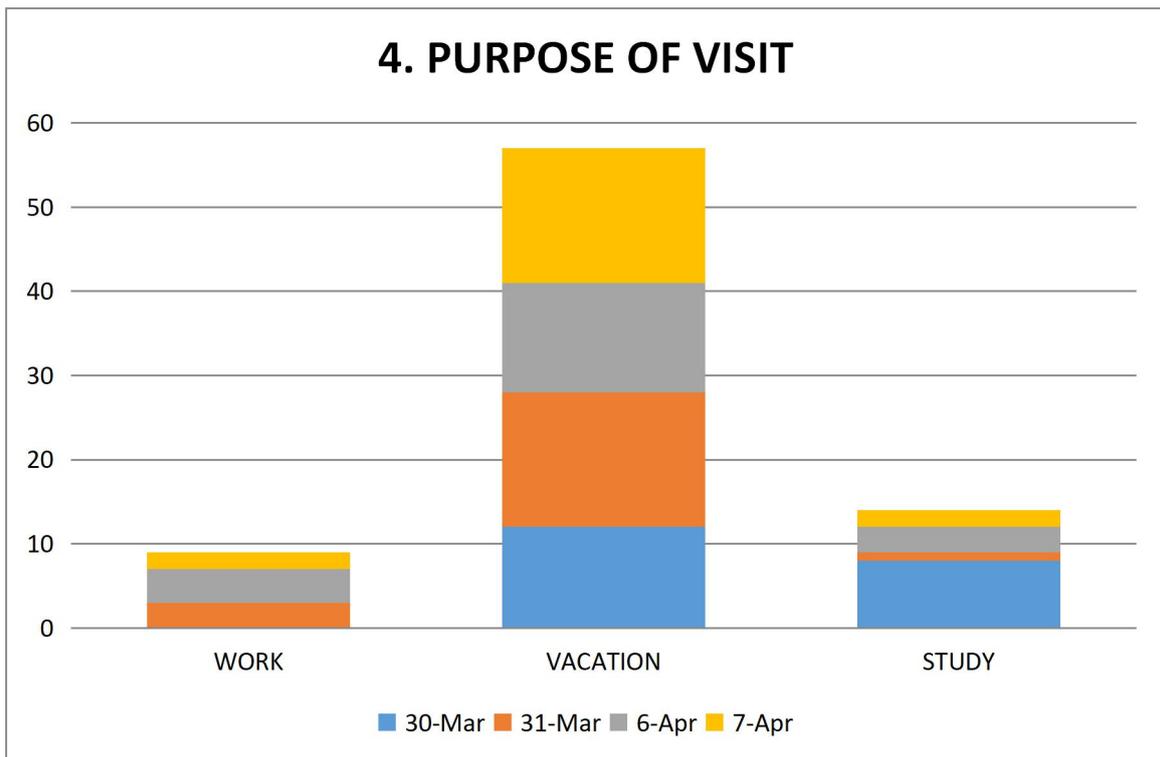
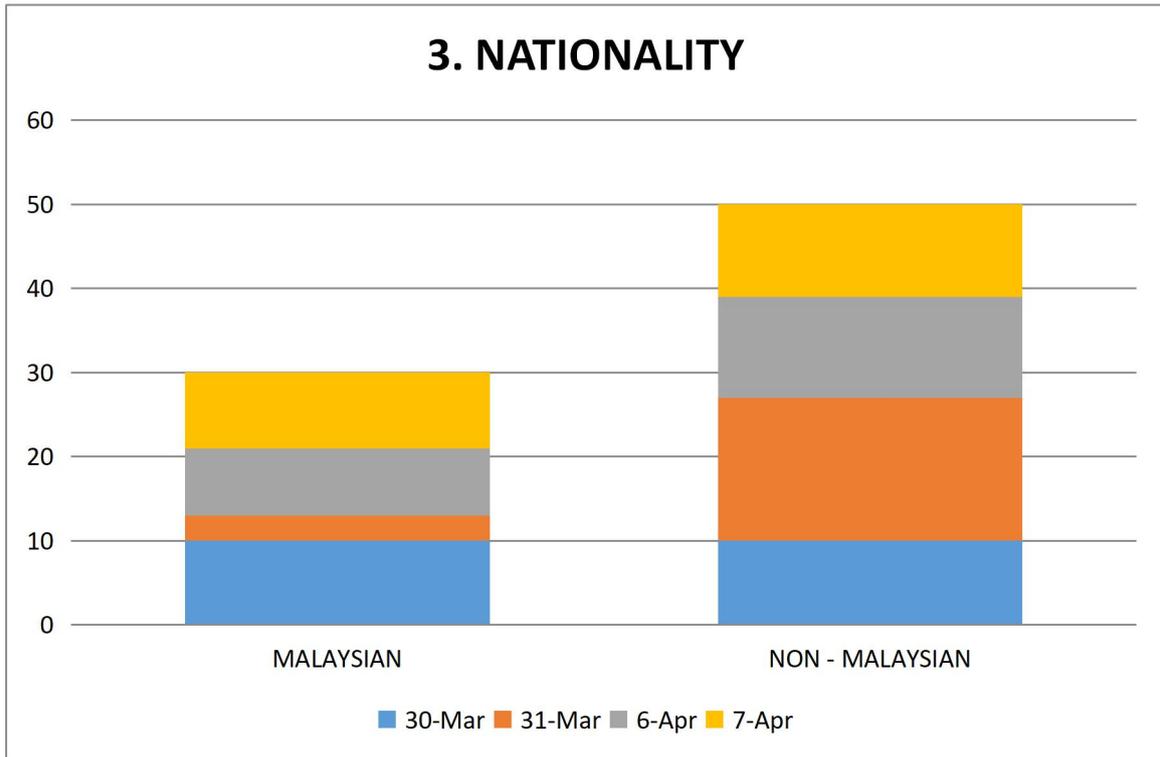
Windows and doors before 1936 are made up of timber and have changed to colorex tinted glass in 1936 during restoration of central market. The doors and windows of Central Market consist of 508 square meters blue-green coloured Calorex glass. Twenty-four step-headed and metal grilled entrances with two main ones at either end of a central roof-lit mall open out to the surroundings on four sides. Metal grilles with a stepped motif infill over all the entrances are the only decoration apart from four plaster mouldings on the main entrance. All windows are fixed window. The doors and windows of Central Market are glazed with 3/16" distinctive blue-green coloured Calorex rolled plate glass, which lets in only around 20% of the sun's heat and 60% of daylight. Inside, the central skylight running the entire 401' length of the building was glazed with Calorex of a lighter tint. This must have been the earliest use of heat resisting glass on such extent in Malaysia. In fact, Central Market may have been Kuala Lumpur's first energy-efficient building. The doors and windows are installed with metal grill.

During adaptive reuse rehabilitation in 1986, three sky bridges, six double storey clusters and a mezzanine floor have been built in the central market, some new columns have been built to support some new structures including water tanks, all columns and beams are made up of concretes after 1986 and before that, are made up of timber. There are three bridges linking the pavilions to the restaurant side across the central mall. Other vertical access is via the main stairs or the hydraulic passenger lift facing the stairs, these two access are placed in the central atrium. Stairs in each pavilion except for one with a fire escape stairs lead directly up to the shops at mezzanine floor. The central mall is kept clear with its strong axial glazed skylight, breached at the centre.

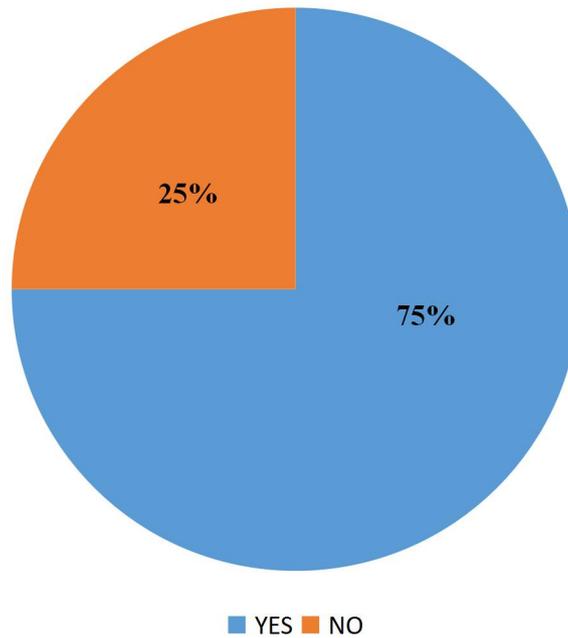
## 5.2 Feedback Survey

### CENTRAL MARKET

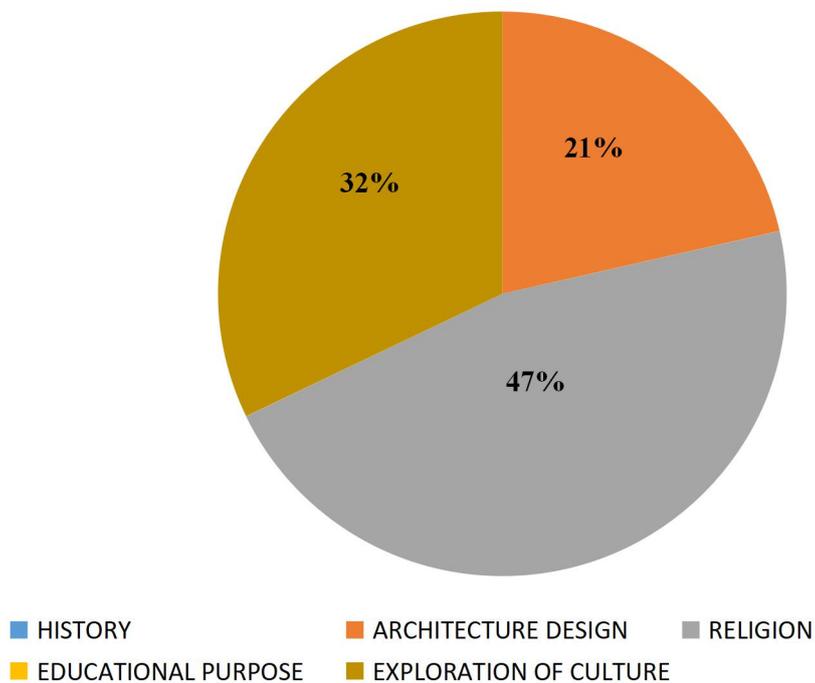




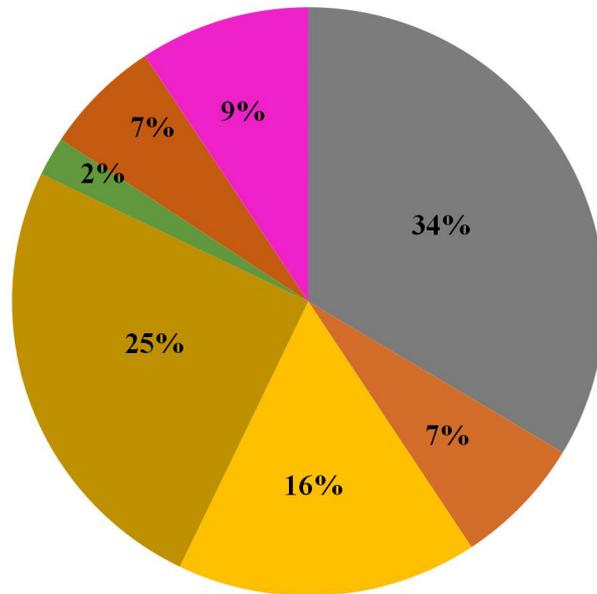
## 5. INTEREST TOWARDS THE BUILDING



## 6. REASON OF VISITING THIS BUILDING

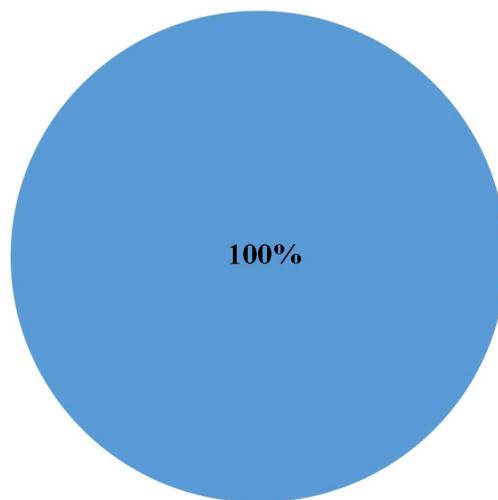


### 7. RESOURCES USED TO FIND OUT ABOUT THIS PLACE



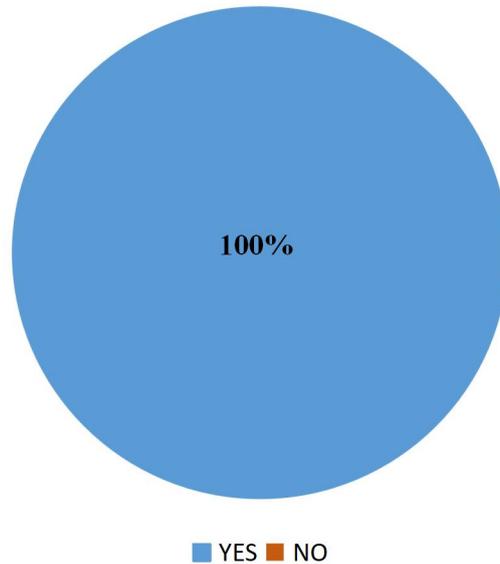
- INTERNET
- MAGAZINE
- TOURIST AGENT
- WEBSITE BY TRAVEL INFORMATION
- FACEBOOK
- FRIENDS
- TV TRAVEL PROGRAMME
- WEBSITE BY DESTINATION TOURIST BOARD

### 8. IS 'ASK ME' PROJECT HELPFUL?

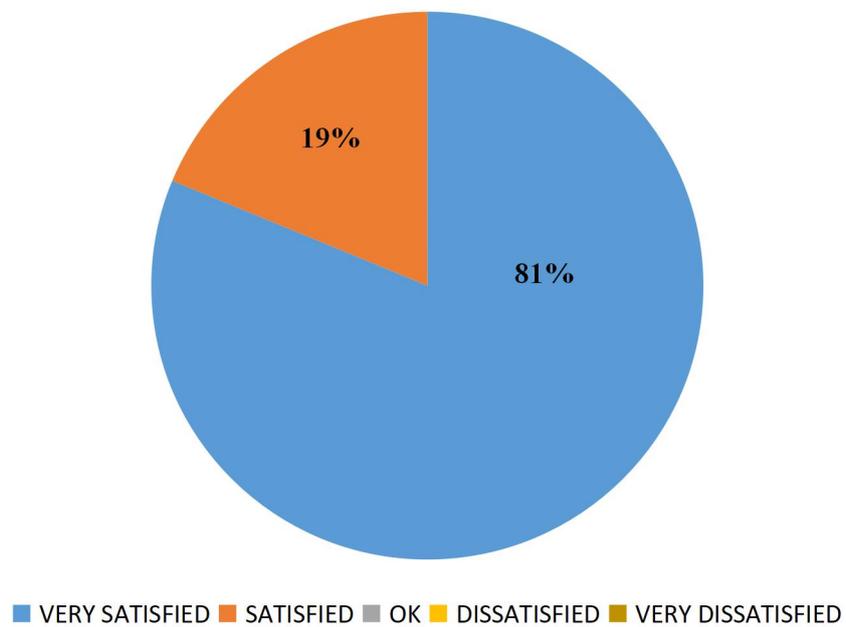


- YES
- NO

### 9. EFFICIENCY OF QR CODE IF PLACED AROUND THE LOCATION



### 10. SATISFACTION RATING TO 'ASK ME' PROJECT



## 5.3 Transformative Jurnal

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**ATAS:** DARRSINI, LIYANA, VESTENE  
**BAWAH:** WEE HAO, JIA YING, FAKHRIE

Throughout the 'Ask Me' project, I think the most significant thing is that I learnt a lot on communicating with people from different countries and making new friends with tourist group. Not only they're very friendly, but they also educate us with many interesting facts on historical places. As a result, I gained a lot of knowledge from this. I get to learn soft skills outside by approaching people. I also encounter tourist from all around the world and assist them in directions and let them know the history of central market. They felt very grateful and some of them even asked to take photos with us. Apart from that we gave out goodies to children and made them feel so happy. I remember we gave out a gift to one of the Japanese child and their family just walked passed us without saying thank you as it was too crowded. A few moments later the family came to approach us again and asked the child to thank us and even gave us a blow kiss. It was very sweet and cute. Overall, the project has exposed me to outside world and improve my communication skills.

**(VESTENE WONG CHEE YEN – BIC170045)**

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First of all, I am very thankful for this opportunity to be able to participate in this 'Ask Me' project. The 'Ask Me' project implementation went smoothly for 4 days. We had a lot of fun approaching tourist for our project from different countries such as Philippine, Thailand, Japan and Indonesia.

They were very friendly and kind in helping with our survey. They also interested to know more about the heritage building. There are some tourist who visited all the places that we conduct 'Ask Me' project.

'Ask Me' project was a successful project as we learnt new information about the uniqueness of the heritage building in Malaysia. As my team was in charge of Central

Market, we prepared a complete report regarding the building that we found online and based on the tour guide that we meet on that day during the project.

All of the group members prepared similar report for all the building. Through reading the complete reports from them, I found that every building has its own history and story that attracted the tourist to visit all of the places.

Though this project, I learnt a lot of new things regarding communication and confident in speaking or in delivering a message and information. We also meet a lot of new people's that helped us a lot in conducting this project.

Finally, we hope that even Malaysian should participate in this kind of project in order to know more about the heritage buildings in Malaysia as the Malaysian that we approach seldom ignore us. This kind of project is important as the heritage and historical value of the building shall be maintained and managed.

**(DARRSINI UTHAYA SOORIYAN - BIC170005)**

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**A**sk Me Project is very fun and interesting project. I gain a lot of precious experience throughout these 4 days. First and foremost, I got the chance to communicate with different races of Malaysian people as well as tourists from various country such as Germany, Indonesia, Singapore, Japan, Philippines, Thailand, and Taiwan.

This event is very interesting and exciting as we are not able to expect what kind of questions will the tourists ask. For example, we did not expect that we will be asked direction towards Masjid Negara instead of asking us the history of Central Market. Although we have lesser chance to share the history of the building, we get to know the area around Central Market well and we can show the correct direction to the tourists. I am very happy and grateful that some tourists are concerned about us. They ask us to explain to the history of Central Market when they know that this is our main objective for this project.

Throughout the event, we have made some tourist guides and they are friendly and willing to share about what they know about Central Market. What they share to us is useful and we can share that information to other tourists as well.

Lastly, this event was tiring but we learn a lot of knowledge and engage with people that we have no chance to do so in our university life. Ask Me Project is a very meaningful project.

**(LIM JIA YING - BIC 170013)**

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**'ASK ME'** project is a project which a group of people to volunteer on a place. This group of people will help any clueless tourist or person that visit the place. Basically the objective for our version of 'ASK ME' project is to help explain or share information on 7 selected heritage building across Kuala Lumpur. My group and I was assigned to be at Central Market. But I as the head of logistic department need to distribute lunch meal to

everyone. After sent all the food, I need to go to Central Market to start the project with my teammate.

In my point of view, this project gives benefits to the volunteers and the public. As for the volunteer, this project will help us to increase our confident level to approach or share our knowledge in public or to any new friends. Moreover, our communication skill eventually become better as we learn how to initiate conversation with different type of people. The benefit for the public are they can know about the building or surrounding of the building without referring to the internet. They get the information straight from a face to face session which will help them to understand the history or the facts better. Besides, the project helps us to know people from other countries like Philippine, Indonesia, United Kingdom and Thailand.

Sometimes, the people not ask about the history or facts of the building but they ask about the directions to go to other places like *Masjid Jamek* or ask us to call a taxi for them. At first this confused us as we do not prepare for it. As time passed by we realised that this also help us to know the direction or the road name around Kuala Lumpur. Most of them were very friendly and easy to initiate conversation. Their excited faces when we share some information encourage us to share more information with them.

This project was very successful as all the volunteers, management team, advisor lecturer, and the building's management team were very helpful and cooperate full-heartedly. It is encouraged to continue the 'ASK ME' project as the outcome and the feedback is good. Most of the respondents happy to see volunteers at the buildings again and supportive to this project.

**(MUHAMMAD FAKHRIE ARIEFFIN BIN MD NOR'AZAM - BIC170021)**

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On 30 & 31 of March and 6 & 7 April, Quantity Surveying second year students have done social engagement project around historical buildings that are located in Kuala Lumpur. My group was assigned at Central Market. Firstly, I am so grateful to be a part of this project as I have experienced many new good things. Through Ask Me Project, I learned how to communicate with strangers and this have boost my confidence level more. I have overcome my fear with the tourists because before this, I am very afraid if they approach me to ask anything. I also had the chance to interact with the tourists from other countries and help them within my capabilities. My group help them with directions, suggestion for the famous restaurant and also booking a Grab car for them. I am pleased to help them because if I travel to another country, I will also depending on the help from the locals to guide me to my destinations. I am not just learnt about the history of Central Market, but also the building surrounds it. I come to appreciate our historical buildings more throughout this project because I knew the uniqueness of the building and also its contributions to Malaysia's history.

Meanwhile from the perspective of a QS students, this project has helped me a lot in opening my eyes about conserving the historical building. The Government of Malaysia is now focusing on the conservation and preservation of the historical building. So QS will be involved directly with this work. This project is considered as an early exposure for us about

historical building. I hope this project will be continued by others in future as it benefits the community.

**(NUR LIYANA BINTI JAAFAR – BIC170029)**

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**'ASK ME'** project, in our version, is a project which a group of people to volunteer in helping tourists or local people in knowing more about heritage buildings in Kuala Lumpur. Basically the objective is to explain or share information on 7 selected heritage buildings across Kuala Lumpur. In a group of 7, we was assigned to be at Central Market.

'ASK ME' project is very fun and interesting project. I gained a lot of precious experiences throughout these 4 days. First of all , it always been my desire to do and try this kind of volunteering activity , through this activity , I got chance to communicate with different races of local people as well as tourists from various country such as Germany, United Kingdom, Indonesia, Singapore, Japan, Philippines, Thailand and Taiwan.

This event is very interesting and exciting as we are not able to expect what kind of questions will the tourists ask. For example, we did not expect that we will be asked direction towards Masjid Negara instead of asking us the history of Central Market. Although we have lesser chance to share the history of the building, we get to know the area around Central Market well and we can show the correct direction to the tourists. I am very happy and grateful that some tourists are concerned about us. They ask us to explain to the history of Central Market when they know that this is our main objective for this project.

We hope that Malaysian should participate in this kind of project in order to know more about the heritage buildings in Malaysia as the Malaysian that we approach seldom ignore us. This kind of project is important as the heritage and historical value of the building shall be maintained and managed.

This project was very successful as all the volunteers, management team, advisor lecturer, and the building's management team were very helpful and cooperate full –heartedly. It is encouraged to continue the 'ASK ME' project as the outcome and the feedback is good. Most of the respondents happy to see volunteers at the buildings again and supportive to this project.

**(NURSABRINA BINTI HAIZAL - BIC170032)**

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**O**n 30 & 31 March and 6 & 7 April, these four days, 'Ask Me' project was held in 7 heritage building in Kuala Lumpur. The aims for this 'Ask Me' project are to assist the foreigner and the tourist, let them know more about the history of each buildings, and give us an opportunity to spread the related information of the heritage building based on our knowledge in construction as what we have learnt in our course. In order to make this project successful and also efficient, we were divided into 7 group and executed the works in respective places during these 4 days.

This project has a lot of benefits for me after carrying out the work in Central Market. First of all, I have learnt how to work in a group efficiently. When the tourist approached us, it was very important that we did our work according to our position like one of the teammates was explaining the history of the Central Market, another one was recording the entire process and also recording the feedback of this project in the form. Without the teamwork, it might be a disorder situation and we might fail to provide any help to the tourist as expected.

Secondly, I have learnt how to communicate with the stranger without any fear and became more confident. Keeping smile and talk smoothly to the stranger was always a hard task for me before this. During this project, I started to explain the history of the Central Market and also the important information to the tourist with confidence. This was because I found that it was very important to have self-confidence since you wanted to pursue other people to believe what you wanted to express.

Thirdly, I have learnt more about the uniqueness of the heritage building in Malaysia. However, I was on duty in the Central Market, but I can know more about other heritage building through the report that prepared by another group. Through reading the complete reports from them, I found that every building has its own history and story that attracted me to visit all of these places.

Finally, I think this project is meaningful for me because it taught me the knowledge and let me gain a lot of experience that I never get in class.

**(SOH WEE HAO - BIC 170039)**

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## 6.SRI MAHAMARIAMMAN TEMPLE

### QR CODE



### ABSTRACT

Containing the history, features and technical informations regarding to Sri Mahamariamman temple, Kuala Lumpur.

### GROUP 6

1. BIC170031 Nuraida Najwa Bt Norazly
2. BIC170006 Fabian Wee Lee Liang
3. BIC170014 Lim Joey
4. BIC170022 Muhammad Hakimi Bin Mohd Nadzri
5. BIC170024 Nishavini A/P Jeyabalan
6. BIC170040 Syaza Syahirah Binti Mior Abdul Aziz
7. BIC170046 Wan Nur Adibah Binti Wan Zakaria

## 6.1 Location and Information

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### History of Sri Mahamariamman Temple

1873 was an eventful year. Imperial Japan adopted the Gregorian calendar, Jules Verne published his critically-acclaimed novel "Around the World in 80 Days", Napoleon died, as well as an event that's closer to home, the establishment of the Sri Mahamariamman temple. The history of it is that this large and elaborate Hindu temple was founded by Tamil immigrants from southern India who arrived in Malaya as contract labourers to build railways and roads or work in the rubber plantations. It was built by Tamil community leader K. Thamboosamy Pillai as a shrine for the Pillai family and it finally had its doors open to the public in the 1920s. What was once originally sited somewhere near Kuala Lumpur Railway Station, this historic temple has shifted to its present location along Jalan Tun H.S Lee in 1885, the place in which this temple is situated right now in our present time.

This elaborate depiction of history is portrayed and decorated in a South Indian style with a structure which is similar as the shape of a human body, with its head positioned towards the west and the feet pointing east. An astonishing 75-feet high Gopuram, which is a monumental tower, symbolizes the feet and is adorned with an impressive gateway at every tier. Every gateway is decorated with 228 Hindu deities that are sculpted into the structure and each of the sculptures are taken from the scenes of one of the major Sanskrit epics of ancient India, "Ramayana". History is being told through these sculptures which tells the story of Rama, the legendary prince of Kosala Kingdom.

Named after the chief deity Sri MahaMariamman, a sculpture of her that is embellished with gold and precious stones is installed at the inner sanctum of the temple. Sri MahaMariamman, also known as Parvati, is the South Indian Mother Goddess whom worshippers often sought for protection against sickness and unholy incidents. She is popularly worshipped by overseas Indians, especially Tamils as they look upon her as their protector during sojourn to foreign lands. Since the initial Indian immigrants came from the South, this would explain her popularity in the Indian community in Malaysia in the early 1500's.

Around the inner sanctum also lies four smaller shrines dedicated to Lord Ganesha and his brother Lord Murugan. Being the sons of Parvati, they are widely worshipped among the Hindu pantheon. Lord Ganesh, being the God of Beginnings, is widely revered as the remover of obstacles, the patron of arts and sciences and the deva of intellect and wisdom while his brother Lord Murugan is the God of War.

Being the oldest and most popular Hindu temple in Malaysia, it garners a lot of attention especially during the festive season mainly Thaipusam and Deepavali. A silver chariot, sporting 240 bells and a pair of horses, is housed within the premises and becomes a prominent feature during the annual Thaipusam festival. On January or February every year, large numbers of Hindu devotees converge to the temple to participate in the ritual in which the chariot will be used to transport the statues of Lord Murugan and his consorts Valli and Teivayanni through the city streets en-route to Batu Caves, which is located on the northern edge of the city.

All in all, this temple is a significant monument of the Hindu community. Its rich history as well as delicate design has turned it into not only a praying temple, but also a sight for tourists worldwide. With every historical site in Malaysia, it is not only acknowledged but it is also embraced in our community as it acts as a foundation of our identity as Malaysians.

### **Feature of Sri Mahamariamman Temple**

#### 1. Gopuram



Significant renovation took place in 1968 with the construction of the impressive 75ft, deity-clad 'Raja Gopuram' tower – said to be the threshold between the material and spiritual world. Indeed, walking through this entryway into the temple is like flicking a switch – outside, on the streets, the air practically steams and the sound of traffic is deafening: inside, there's a sense of serenity, the floor is cool, the atmosphere is charged and the air is scented with flowers, camphor, 'dhoop' and 'agarbattis' (incense). Erected by sculptors from India, there are 228 Hindu idols – frozen in dozens of scenes from the Ramayana – adorning the five tiers of the polychromatic gopuram (entrance gate). Besides the intricate carvings of Hindu deities and gold and precious stone embellishments, the temple is also adorned with hand-painted motifs depicting stories from early Hinduism

## 2. Main Prayer Hall



The South Indian-style temple's early construction was financed by Thambusamy Pillai, a pillar of old KL's Indian community. The garbagraham, or sanctum sanctorum, is an inner chamber where the chief image of deity Sri Maha Mariamman is located. This hall, where incense spirals up into the air, is where priests perform puja (prayers) – low, deep surging and subsiding chants which disciples take up, filling the hall with sound. The main prayer hall features a richly-decorated onion-domed ceiling where three shrines are located; four smaller shrines are located peripherally around the main temple building. All in all, these shrines house effigies of Lord Ganesha, Lord Muruga, Lakshmi (Goddess of Wealth) and more images. The temple was under wraps recently for renovations and now looks even more dazzling than ever.

Within the temple is a main prayer hall with richly decorated ceilings. The location of three shrines in the main temple is marked by an ornately embellished onion dome which can be seen from outside. There is also four smaller shrines located peripherally around the main temple building Pillaiyar is in the shrine on the left and Lord Muruga, his brother, is on the right. Pillaiyar is also found at the entrance as he is the remover of obstacles. The eight idols adorning the pillars inside the temple are of ashta Lakshmi. Once every 12 years, in keeping with Hindu tradition, the temple is reconsecrated.

### 3. Silver chariot



A prominent feature during the annual Thaipusam festival is the temple's large, silver chariot, sporting 240 bells and a pair of horses, dedicated to Lord Murugan (Subramaniam). It's used to transport the statues of Lord Muruga and his consorts, Valli and Teivayanni, through the city streets en-route to Batu Caves, on the northern edge of the city. A procession that takes place in January or February every year, large numbers of Hindu devotees converge on the temple to participate in the ritual which is usually preceded by about half-an-hour's chanting, accompanied by music. For the rest of the year, the 21ft chariot – built at a cost of RM350,000 – is kept in a 'vault' (in actuality a building at the side of the temple that can be seen as you walk along Jalan Hang Lekir – the first street on the left back along Jalan Tun HS Lee from the temple).

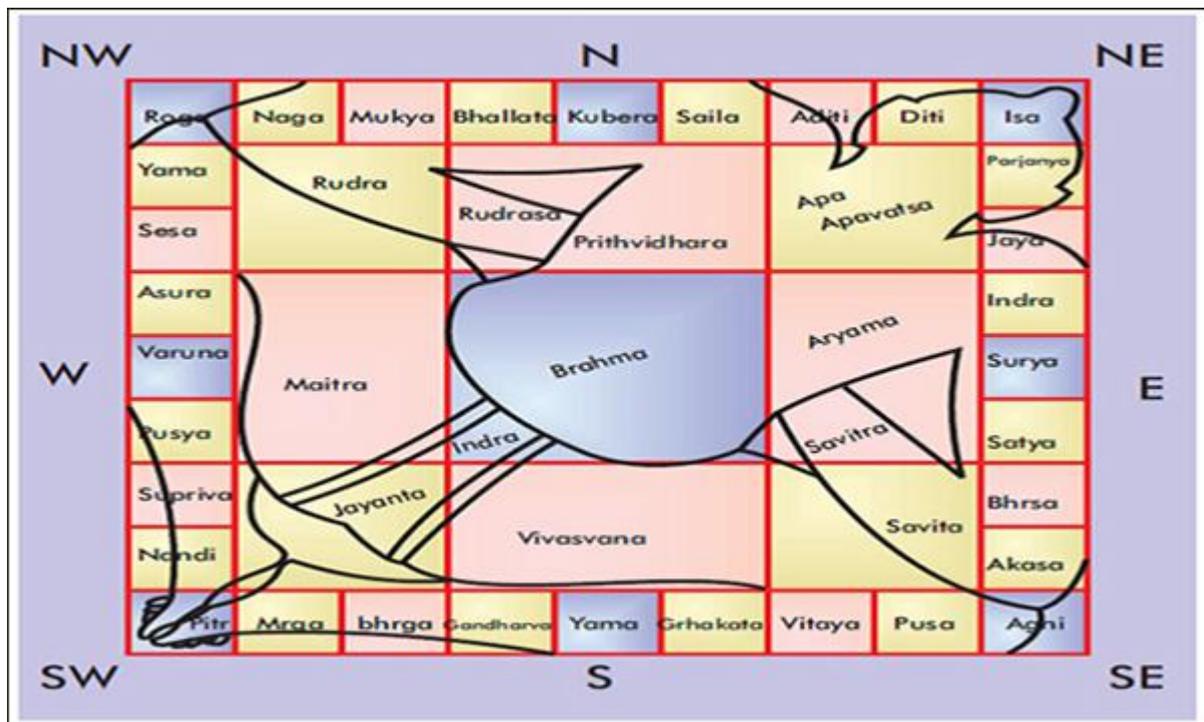
A silver chariot is housed within the premises. This chariot is a prominent feature during the annual Thaipusam festival. It used during this occasion for transporting the statuettes of Lord Muruga and his consorts (Valli and Teivayanni) through the city streets to Batu Caves. It made its debut in 1893 and was built at a cost of RM350,000 using 350 kilograms of silver.

The chariot was made in India and shipped here in 12 parts to be assembled. It is 6.5 metres tall and has 240 bells and a pair of horses on it. Before the silver chariot, a wooden one was used which was made 1930 by Indian craftsmen at a cost of RM50,000.

## Technical Specifications of Sri Mahamariamman Temple

Ancient builders of Hindu temples created manuals of architecture, called Vastu-Sastra (literally, science of dwelling, Vas-tu is a composite Sanskrit word Vas means reside, tu means you); these contain Vastu-Vidya (literally, knowledge of dwelling). Vastu sastra is a traditional Hindu system of architecture which literally translates to “Science of architecture”. These are text found on the Indian subcontinent that describe principles of design, layout, measurements, ground preparation, space arrangement, and spatial geometry. Vastu Shastras incorporate traditional Hindu and in some cases Buddhist beliefs.

There exist many Vastu-Sastras on the art of building temples, such as one by Thakkura Pheru, describing where and how temples should be built. By 6th century AD, Sanskrit manuals for constructing palatial temples were in circulation in India. Vastu-Sastra manuals included chapters on home construction, town planning, and how efficient villages, towns and kingdoms integrated temples, water bodies and gardens within them to achieve harmony with nature.

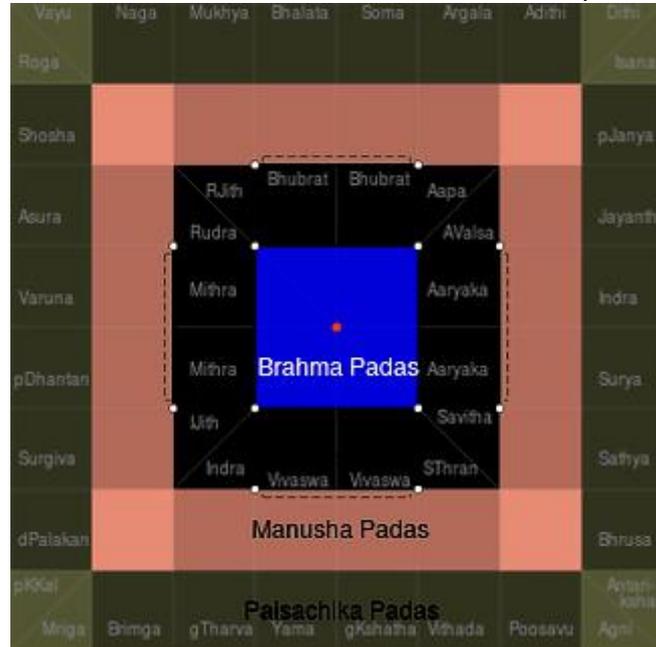


*vastu-purusha-mandala*

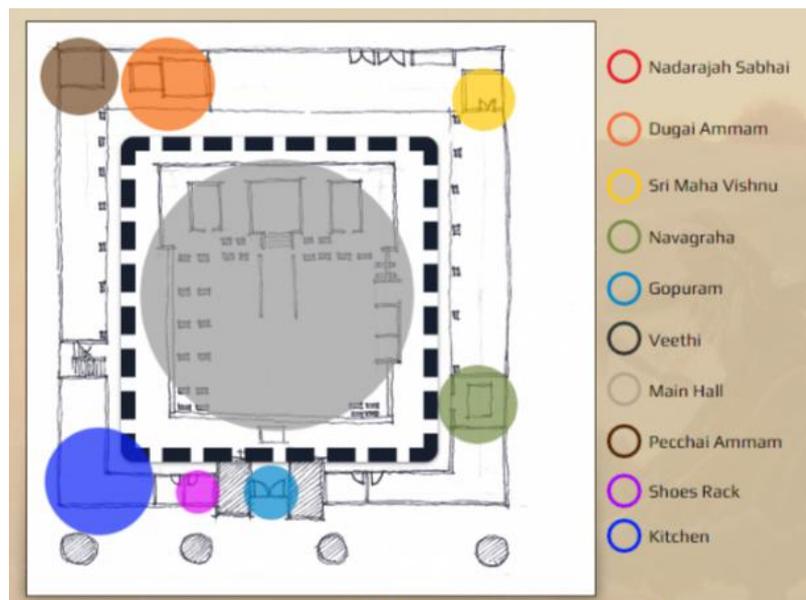
A Hindu temple design follows a geometrical design called vastu-purusha-mandala. The name is a composite Sanskrit word with three of the most important components of the plan. Mandala means circle, Purusha is universal essence at the core of Hindu tradition, while Vastu means the dwelling structure. Vastupurushamandala is a yantra. The design lays out a Hindu temple in a symmetrical, self-repeating structure derived from central beliefs, myths, cardinality and mathematical principles.

The four cardinal directions help create the axis of a Hindu temple, around which is formed a perfect square in the space available. The circle of mandala circumscribes the square. The square is considered divine for its perfection and as a symbolic product of

knowledge and human thought, while circle is considered earthly, human and observed in everyday life (moon, sun, horizon, water drop, rainbow). Each supports the other. The square is divided into perfect 64 sub-squares called padas. Each pada is conceptually assigned to a symbolic element, sometimes in the form of a deity. The central square of the 64 or 81 grid is dedicated to the Brahman and are called Brahma padas.

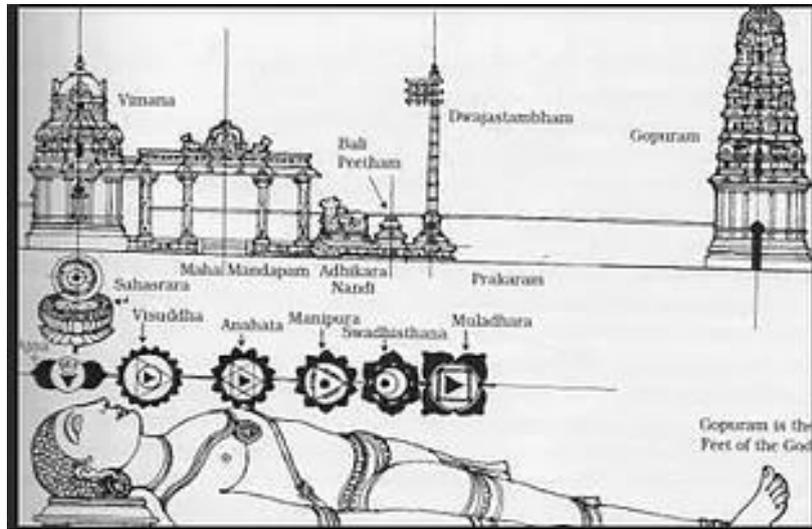


A Hindu temple is a symbolic reconstruction of the universe and universal principles that make everything in it function. The temples reflect Hindu philosophy and its diverse views on cosmos and practice as one’s journey towards moksha, awareness of self, the discovery of higher truths, true nature of reality, and a consciousness that is liberated and content. Truths. Hinduism has no traditional ecclesiastical order, no centralized religious authorities, no governing body, no prophet nor any binding holy book; Hindus can choose to be polytheistic, pantheistic, monistic, or atheistic. Within this diffuse and open structure, spirituality in Hindu philosophy is an individual experience. It defines spiritual



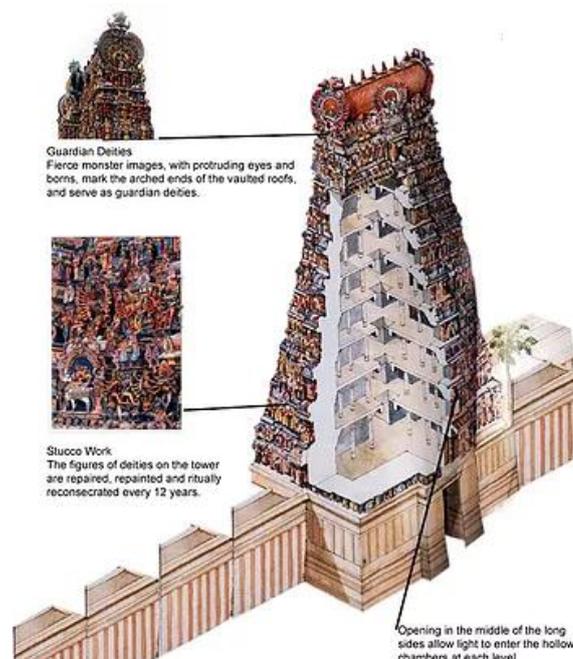
Temple layout plan

## 1. Gopurum



Gopuram is the main entrance to the Hindu temple. It resembles a human body lying on its back with the head facing west and the feet pointing east. It is the tallest structure of a Hindu temple. The design work of the Rajagopuram idols consists of five tiers and is known as '5 Nilai Gopuram'. The design of the Pyramid Gate embodies every detail of the Hindu culture and contains over 228 Puranas.

## 9. Main Prayer Hall



This Temple resembles the form of a human body lying on its back with the head positioned towards the west and the feet towards the east. The temple's 5-tiered gopuram corresponds to the feet of the body.

At the rear is the garbagraham or sanctum sanctorum, which corresponds to the head. It is a freestanding structure with its own roof and walls and has one entrance that faces east. The inner sanctum where the chief deity Sri Maha Mariamman is located. Main prayer hall with richly decorated ceilings. The location of three shrines in the main temple is marked by an ornately embellished onion dome which can be seen from outside. There is also four smaller shrines located peripherally around the main temple building

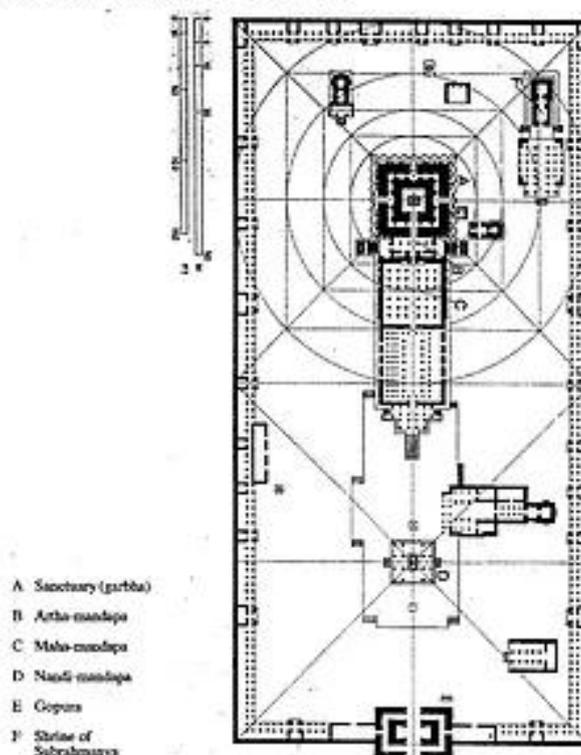
### 3. Vetthi



Large temples are built in concentric circle with the main shine in the centre. These circles are called veethi (or piraharam), situated one with other. Malaysian temples usually have one veethi. One veethi the human body; Three veethi – the physical, spiritual and astral bodies; Five veethi – the five different ‘sheaths’ or bodies that encase the soul and god who resides in the soul these bodies are made up of food, air and breath, the mind, knowledge and bliss.

### 4. Inner Structure

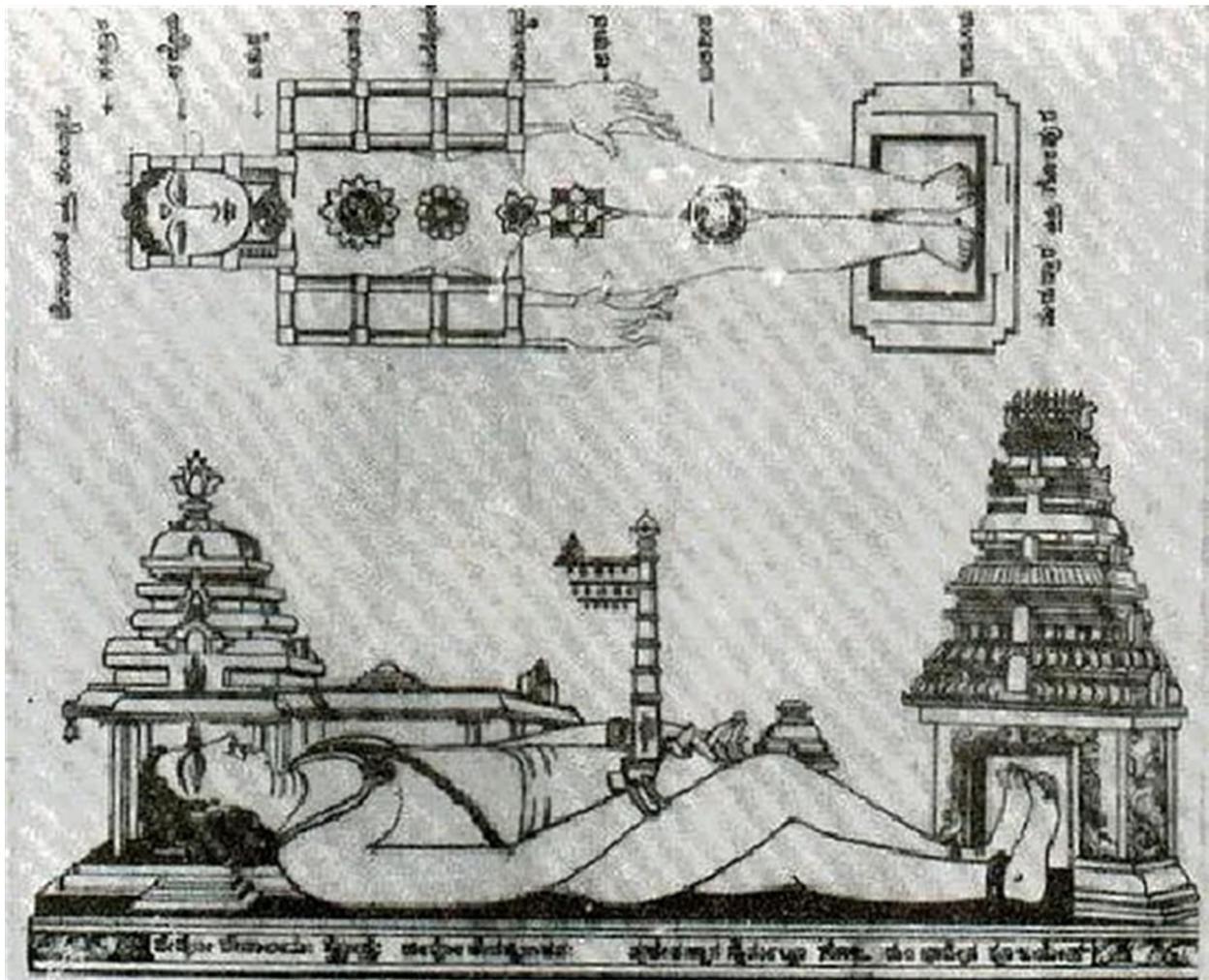
TEMPLE ARCHITECTURE IN SOUTH INDIA



The inner structure of a temple, according to the agamic texts, can be of two types; one resembles the end the other the body. The latter, however, is more common. This connection between the human body and the temple is explained in various ways. The inner structure has six main sections:

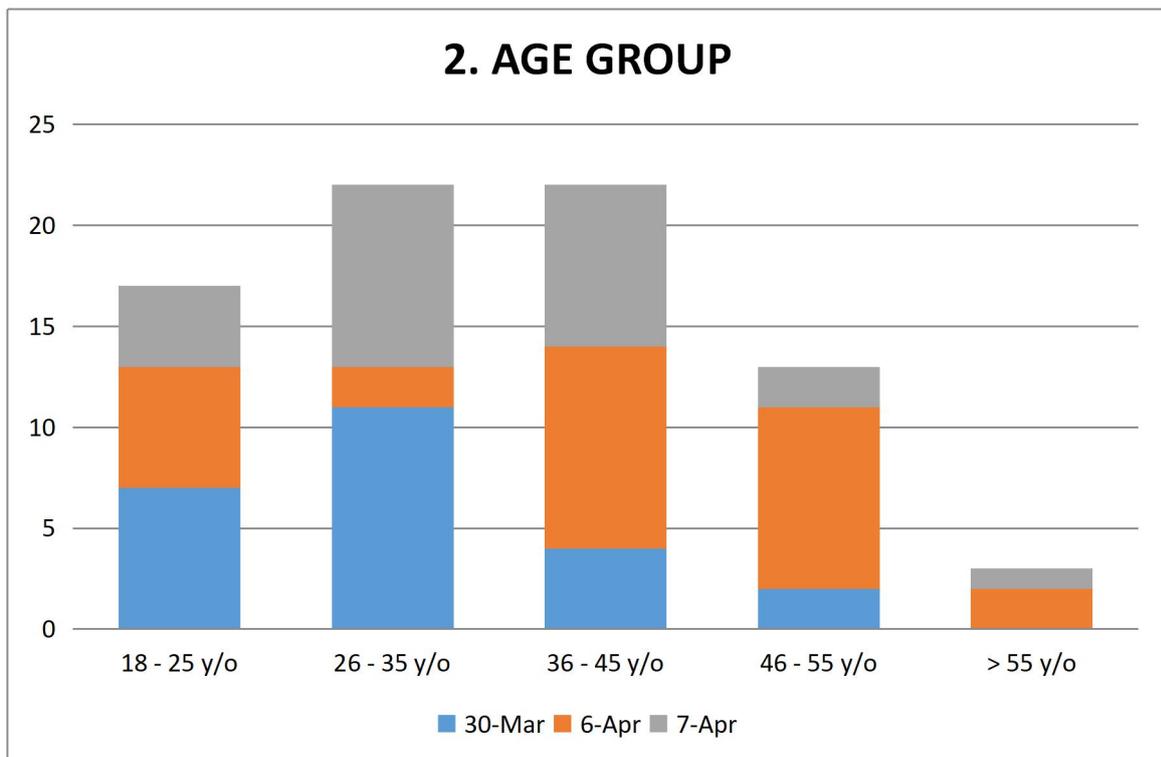
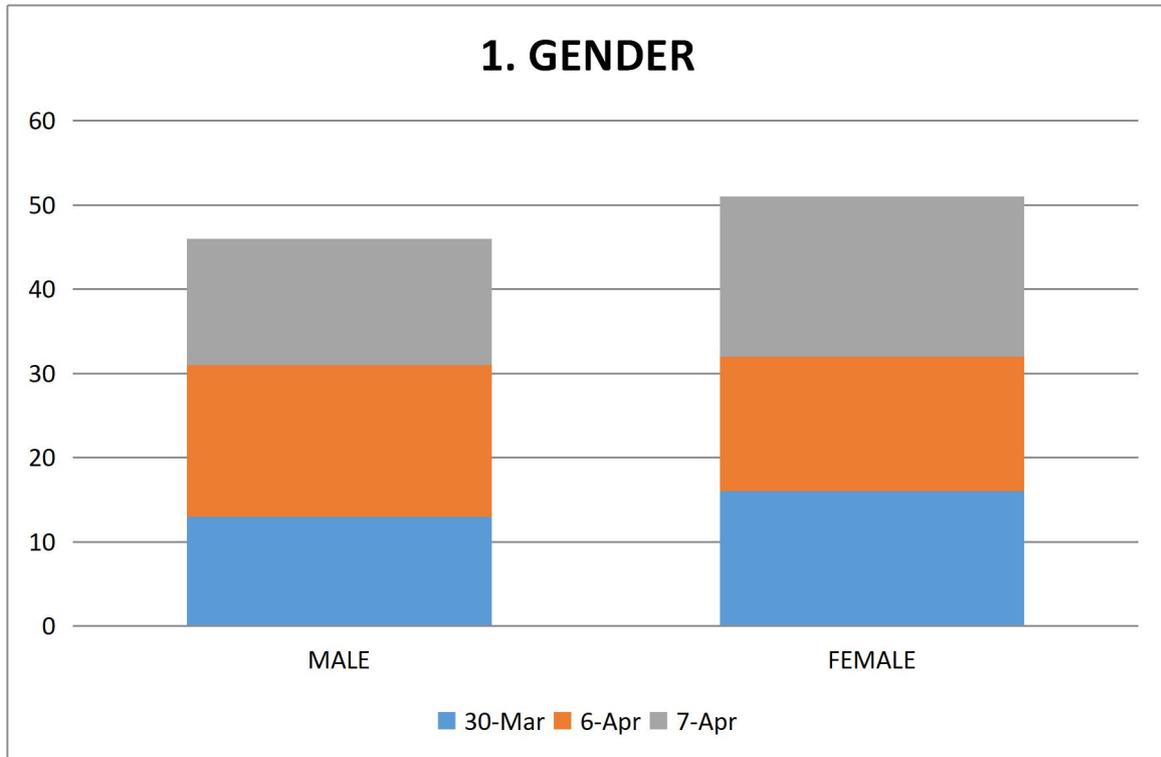
The conception of the body as a temple is explained as resembling a person lying on his back with his head and trunk touching the ground but the legs raised together at right angle to the body. In the human form which is a collection of various limbs, the head, neck, chest, the pulse or blood vessels (naadi) and feet are singled out in this correlation of the human form and temple. These sections relate to the six abodes (atharam) which are the six points of concentration in yoga.

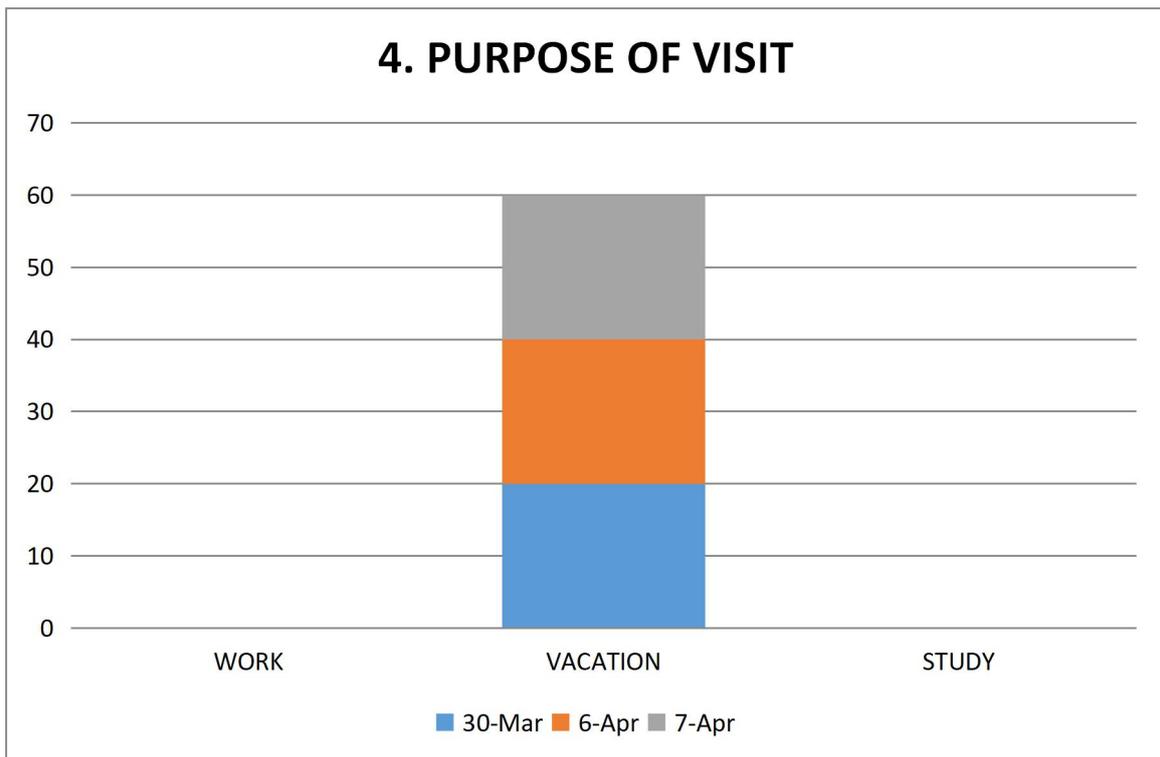
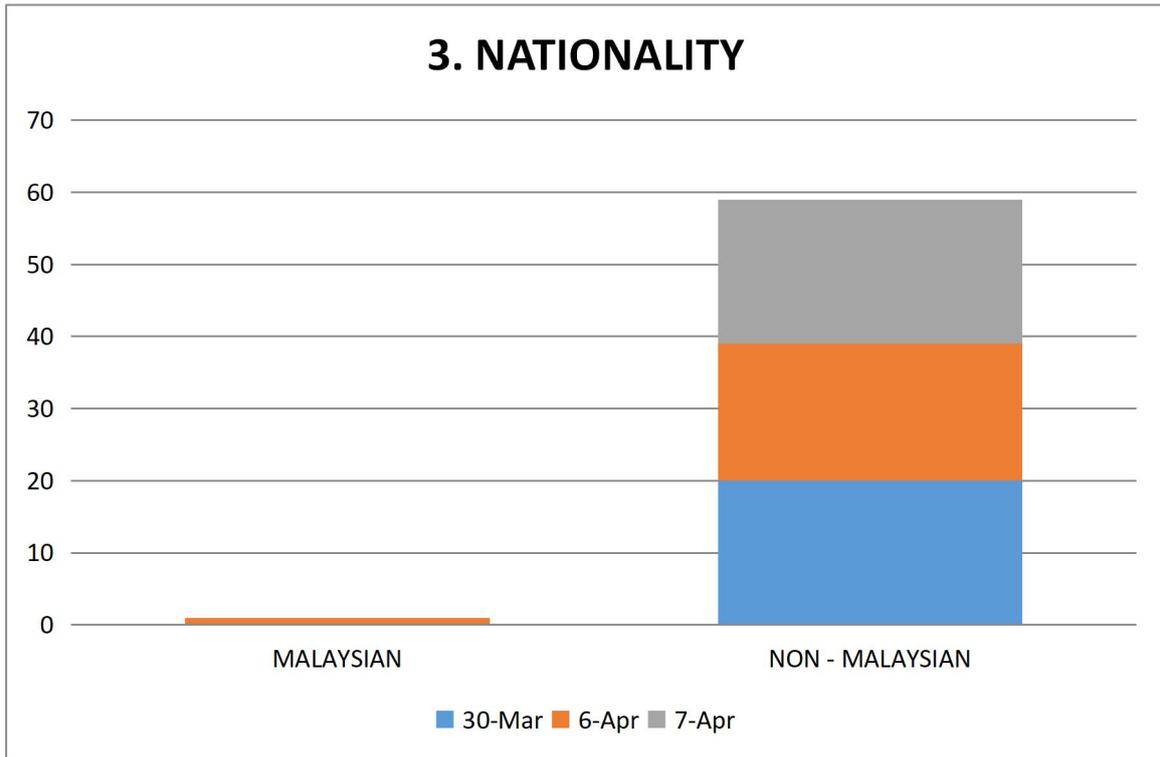
Abode	Part of the body	Temple section
Muladharam	Thighs	Sabha mandapam
Svashishtanam	Navel	Alamkara mandapam
Manipurakam	Stomach	Snapanam mandapam
Anakatham	Chest	Maha mandapam
Visutthi	Neck	Artha mandapam
Aknjai	Head	Garbha-graham



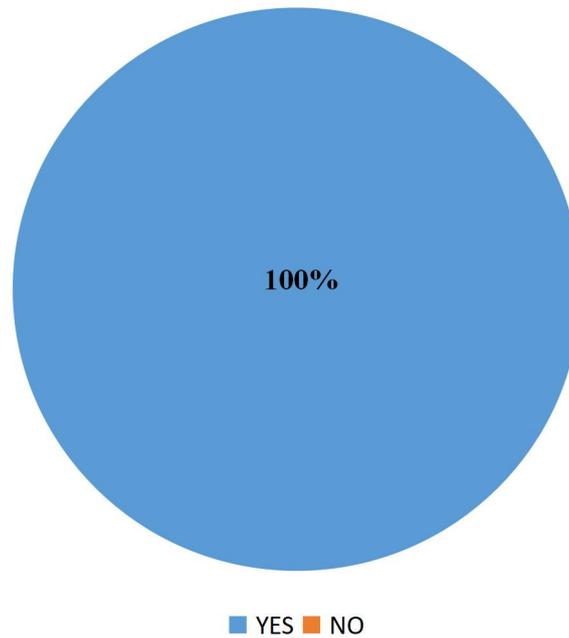
## 6.2 Feedback Survey

### SRI MAHAMARIAMMAN TEMPLE

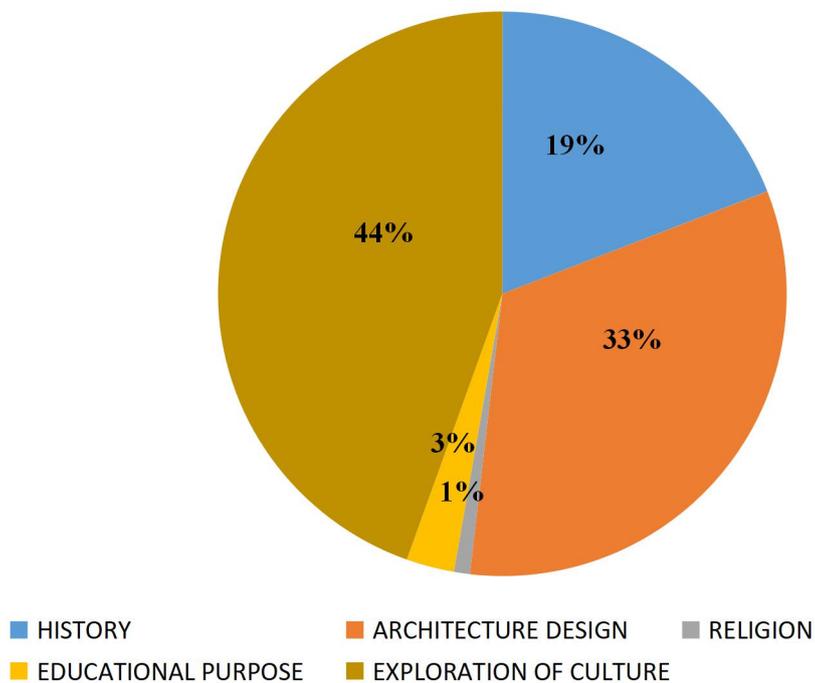




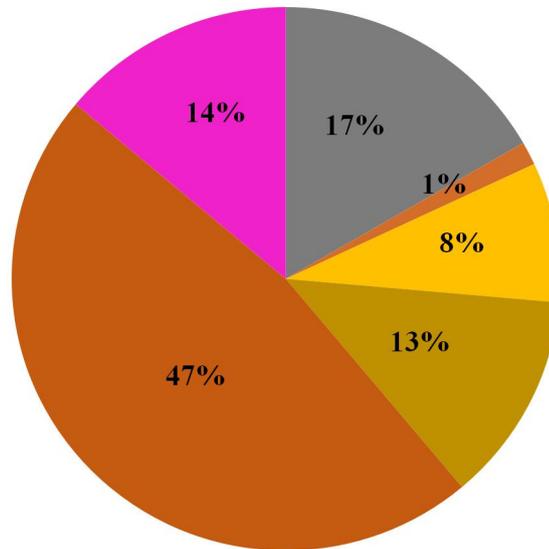
## 5. INTEREST TOWARDS THE BUILDING



## 6. REASON OF VISITING THIS BUILDING

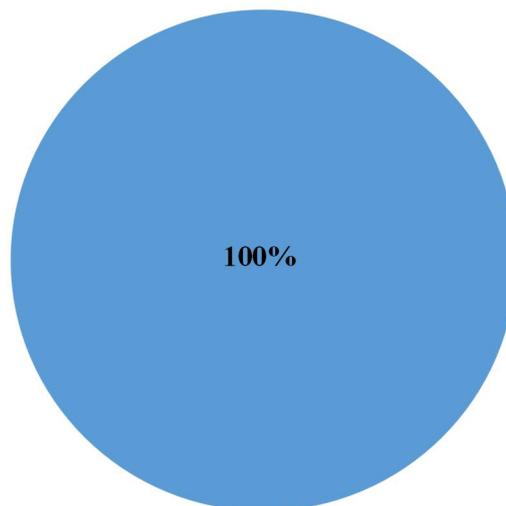


### 7. RESOURCES USED TO FIND OUT ABOUT THIS PLACE



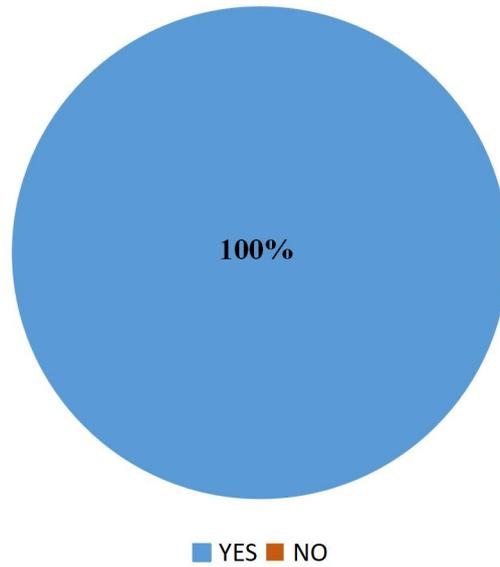
- INTERNET
- MAGAZINE
- TOURIST AGENT
- WEBSITE BY TRAVEL INFORMATION
- FACEBOOK
- FRIENDS
- TV TRAVEL PROGRAMME
- WEBSITE BY DESTINATION TOURIST BOARD

### 8. IS 'ASK ME' PROJECT HELPFUL?

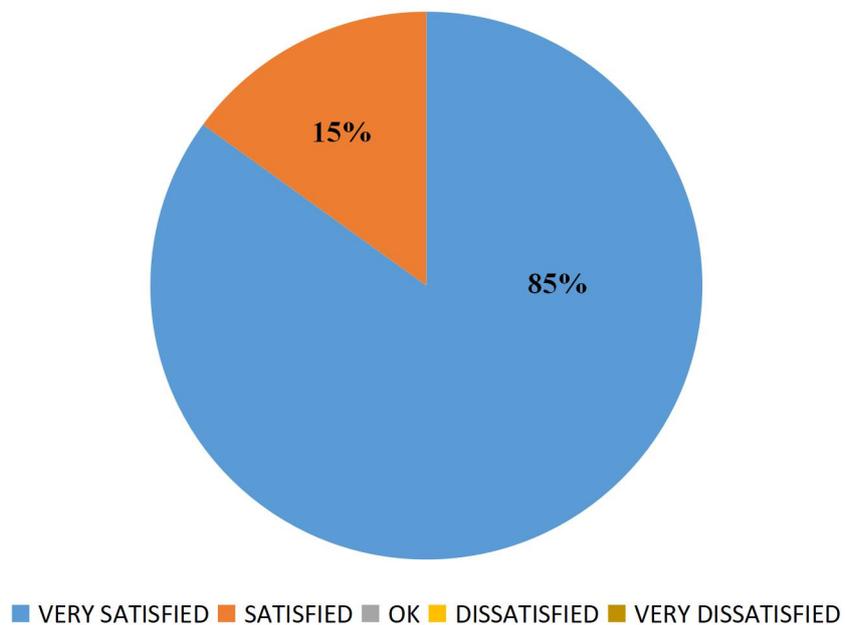


- YES
- NO

### 9. EFFICIENCY OF QR CODE IF PLACED AROUND THE LOCATION



### 10. SATISFACTION RATING TO 'ASK ME' PROJECT



## 6.3 Transformative Jurnal

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**DARI KIRI: AIDA, JOEY, FABIAN, HAKIMI, NISHA, SYAZA, ADIBAH**

**A**ssalamualaikum and greetings. First and foremost, I would like to show my gratitude to Dr Nursyuhada Zainon for coming up with a spectacular idea in doing this project and for the unlimited guidance and opportunity for letting us be involved in this Social Engagement course in collaboration with Jabatan Warisan Negara. We were separated into 7 groups with different locations given by Jabatan Warisan Negara. The main objective of doing this project is to enrich the knowledge in heritage buildings among local people and share to tourists about the variety of religions in Malaysia.

My team and I were in charged for Sri Mahamariamman temple which located in Jalan H.S Lee, Kuala Lumpur. This temple was one of the heritage buildings and known as the oldest Hindu temple in Malaysia. We are required to do some research and interviewed local people to get to know about the temple, so that we are able to share the information and knowledge to visitors who came to the temple. I would like to thank you to local people who help us in correcting and share extra information about the temple which enhance our knowledge.

Expressing how grateful we are for being a part of volunteering work, personally I did learn a lot especially in understanding Hinduism culture and religion. Their culture and religion is interesting and meaningful. Besides that, this project helps me in improving my leadership skill since I appointed as the group leader for this group. I got to improve my soft skills, as it helps me to approach and communicate with locals and mainly tourists from all around the world. However, we managed to complete these 4 days successfully with the commitment and support given by the team members and we hope to continue volunteering for a long term.

**(NURAIDA NAJWA BT NORAZLY - BIC170031)**

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**R**ecently, I had been through my social engagement project which named “ASK ME”. This project had been going on for continuously two weekends which falls on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 as well as 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019. The purpose of this project is to introduce the history of heritage building in Malaysia to the tourists. We had been separated into seven group which going to seven different location based in Kuala Lumpur.

Before we can start introducing to the tourist, we had done thousands of research about the heritage building assigned to us. Luckily, my group was assigned to Sri Mahamariamman Temple which located within two minutes walking distance from LRT Pasar Seni Station. Every of my group member search online for information on the building including me. We equip ourselves with knowledge regarding the history, features, technical specification and architecture design of the building. After the information collected, we shared the information among our group members so that we can know the building better.

On the actual day, we went to the temple at 8am morning. After reaching temple, assigned tasks were given to us by group leader. Each of us taking different task such as taking footage, explaining different parts of information, asking feedback, recording data and other. To be honest, the first days was a little messy because we are shy to approach the tourist. However, there are many people like temple staff that are willing to teach us more on the things that we don't know much. They more likely to correct and teach us instead of us explaining to them. We are lucky to have an Indian groupmate as she knows their culture far more than others. She willing to explain everything to us.

After we get the lessons from the temple staff, we were more confident to approach the tourist. However, I had discovered that most of the foreign visitor were shy to ask us. Mostly our audience were Malaysian that come from another state. The second day and third day were going smooth as usual. On the fourth day, there was a marriage ceremony held at the temple. The crowd are attracted to the ceremony so we could not do our task. Although we are sad that we could not introduce more to the tourist, but we had a chance to witness the traditional wedding ceremony. It was quite a special experience for all of us.

Finally, I had learned a lot from the ASK ME project. I had gained more knowledge on one of the oldest Indian temples in Malaysia. We also glad to share more knowledge to the tourist regarding the historical building. It is nice for us to contribute in the event that could help promoting Malaysia to the foreign tourist.

**(FABIAN WEE LEE LIANG – BIC170006)**

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**M**y location for Ask Me project is in Sri Mahamariamman Temple. It is located in the Chinatown area of Kuala Lumpur. It is just a mere 5 minutes walk from the MRT and LRT Pasar Seni Station. The decor is vibrant and detailed, showing Hindu deities and stories on the walls. It is advisable to visit the temple in the morning as there will be devotees praying and you can soak in the atmosphere. However, if you prefer an emptier or less congested period, you could pay a visit in the afternoon as there will be less people hanging around. Tourists could also have some photo shooting in the afternoon. Before entering the temple, we are required to leave our shoes outside the entrance and a small fee of 20 cent is being

charged. Every weekend, the marble floor is very clean. Ladies with shorts are required to wear a sarong before getting into the temple.

Through this project, I have learned a lot of the culture of Hindu and the ways they pray. Besides, my knowledge on Hindu religion has improved tremendously. For instance, the local taught us that the purpose of smashing the coconut in the middle of the entrance. The coconut represents the egotism and ignorance of human being. Smashing the coconut could break the egotism and ignorance within oneself. Furthermore, I really enjoyed socialising with the local and tourists especially those from Germany. They are really friendly and humorous.

All in all, engaging the community has created the awareness within myself that it is really essential to volunteer ourselves as the society really needs help. This project has improved my interpersonal and communication skills through the conveyance of messages and information to the tourists. Besides, I have learned about the local as well as the foreign culture during this project. This project made me realised that socialising is really not a difficult task to me who is an introvert. I will not feel shy anymore to approach or start a conversation with an unknown.

**(LIM JOEY - BIC 170014)**

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**M**y friends and I was assigned at Sri Mahamariamman Temple. The temple is located in the heart of Kuala Lumpur and close to the LRT station of the art market. The position of the temple adjacent to the LRT of the art market has facilitated the movement from. There are many things that I have learned through "ASK ME" activities, especially the customs and cultures of Hindus. I learned about the god of worship, the origin of the god and the ways of Hindus worshipping their gods. The temple is a sacred place, anyone who wants to enter the temple needs to open shoes, temple worshipers are also prohibited to wear a hat while in the temple. Any food with animal meat is not allowed into the temple.

During the "ASK ME" project, the experience of communicating with tourists came from abroad. This has helped me improve my skills to communicate in English and has increased my confidence to speak in English. I feel that a project like "ASK ME" should continue in the future as it can help the country's tourism sector and indirectly improve and improve our economy.

**(MUHAMMAD HAKIMI BIN MOHD NADZRI – BIC170022)**

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**T**hroughout the ASK ME Project, first of all I have found out that there are a quiet of heritage buildings around Kuala Lumpur area, capital city of Malaysia.

I was assigned to Sri Mahamariamman Temple to conduct this project in a team for four days where I have chance to learn not only about the history of the building and architectural values, but also on spiritual / religious topics. I was triggered to read more on the Hinduism as the tourist approach our team in that way mostly and it bring an interest to get to know more about Hinduism.

When I work with bunch of team which have different religious background, at first I thought there will some difficulties to engage with them and to make them fully understand about the Hinduism. But they have proved that I'm wrong where they are very supportive and ready to listen with open arms. It's been a great cooperation from them until the end of project.

I believe that I have improved my soft skills where I had been engaging with people with different race, background and countries around the world. They also had put me stranded when they shared their experience and knowledge on the Hinduism. As well, I also see this is an opportunity to become friendlier and welcome them to Malaysia as it set their perception at a good rate on the Malaysians.

Overall, this is not a project just for a subject meanwhile it insist the importance of the history and the ancestors / founder which reflects the identity on who are we now. This continuity of this kind of project allows the next generation to practice in keeping the history of each building alive.

**(NISHAVINI A/P JEYABALAN – BIC170024)**

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**F**irst of all I would like to personally say thank you to Dr. Shuhada for conducting this 'Ask Me Project' and giving us the opportunity to engage with the society. I am a member of Group 6 and I had the task of talking to tourists and locals about the history, architecture and interesting facts about the Sri Mahamariamman Temple. Throughout the whole 4 days of this project, I have greatly increased my knowledge on Malaysian history, the Indian culture and gained a plethora of information about Hinduism.

Being able to help people from all walks of life and seeing them happy to learn more about our country is the memory that I'll hold onto the most out of all of our experiences during this project. Learning about other people's background by engaging in a conversation with them has widened my knowledge on how people are from all around the world. Through this project, I have talked and made friends with people from Germany, Ireland, South America and even Czech Republic. Almost everyone that interacted with us were kind and friendly. Even despite my stutters during conversations with the tourists, they were still very kind and patient. Most of the tourists were interested on how Malaysians live in harmony when we live in a country made up of different races and religions because to them, it's very much a peculiar concept in their own country.

Learning about different cultures has also helped to me appreciate Malaysia even more. Before, I wouldn't be interested to go around Kuala Lumpur for sight-seeing but now I came to learn of all the many exciting places that I could visit during my free time. The locals are also very friendly and helpful whenever we asked questions. As a Muslim with very little knowledge on Hinduism, the local temple goers shared information about their religion and through this, it has changed my perception on what Hinduism really is and at the same time I get to learn about their culture.

Engaging in conversations with different people has also helped improve my confidence in speaking. Being a shy person with really bad anxieties, I get to learn how to overcome my

fear of talking to people. With this newfound confidence, I know that I will be able to start off conversations and make new friends with ease.

All in all, 'Ask Me Project' is a wonderful project dedicated to help improve the tourism in Malaysia while also helping students to develop useful soft skills that will be used in the near future.

**(SYAZA SYAHIRAH BINTI MIOR ABDUL AZIZ - BIC170040)**

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**M**y group had been assigned to Sri Mahamariamman Temple. From Ask Me Project, I got a lot of skill such as communication skill, which have increase my confidence to talk to foreigners. For me as a Muslim, I got a new knowledge about another religion. It taught me to respect another races as we live in Malaysia, a country that have different races and religion.

One of the memorable experience is when our group decided to take breakfast together before we do our task. It is really nice memory as we get to strengthen our bonding. I also got to interact with foreigners from many countries which really excites me because I have a dream to travel around the world. They really supportive and encourage us to travel and explore more not just in our country but also to another country.

A tourist from South America share about his experience during his travelling around the world. He said that our country a very beautiful because our building has many influence from the religion. There are also a couple of tourist from Germany that really excited when we explained about the temple, they said that they were really glad to meet us. We were very happy during the explanation as we also excited when we get tourist that really supportive and thrilling to hear our story.

Ask Me Project got many positive feedback from either local or foreigners as well as suggestions to make this project more convenient for committee and the tourists. A couple of tourist from Indonesia suggest for us to do a brochure for the tourist's reference. One of local also suggest for us to do research not just from the internet, we also have to ask from the local like a proper research study for the places that we had been assigned.

This project really encourage me to be confident and knowledgeable about our country. We have a very colourful and peace country, so we have to be thankful to be born in this country.

**(WAN NUR ADIBAH BINTI WAN ZAKARIA – BIC170046)**

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## 7. BANGUNAN IBU PEJABAT KERETAPI

### QR CODE



### ABSTRACT

In this document, it will consist the information regarding the history, background, feature, construction and renovation of Bangunan Ibu Pejabat Keretapi.

### GROUP 7

1. BIC170049 Yap Jia Jee
2. BIC170007 Foo Yi Xuan
3. BIC170015 Lim Liang Xin
4. BIC170016 Lim Ming Zun
5. BIC170023 Ng Theng Fong
6. BIC170041 Tan Chi Shin
7. BIC180701 Liang Tengyu

## 7.1 Location and Information

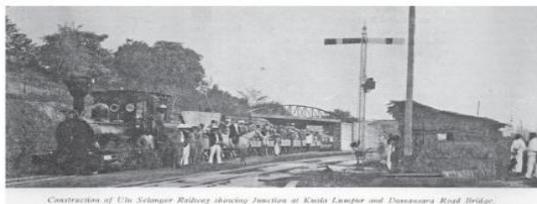
### History

Kuala Lumpur Railway Station was completed and operated on 1 August 1910. After the demolition of Resident Station and the isolation of Sultan Street station, the Kuala Lumpur station became the main railway station in Kuala Lumpur. A railway hotel, the Station Hotel (later renamed as Heritage Station Hotel in 1996), occupied the northern sections of the central station and the upper floors of the station, boasting 170 rooms and an ornate lobby housing Charlies Restaurant & Bar as off the late-2000s. In 1995, access to KTM Komuter services was introduced at the station.



Resident Station, Kuala Lumpur, 1891

SULTAN STREET STATION



*Construction of Ulu Selangor Railway showing junction at Kuala Lumpur and Damansara Road Bridge.*

After the diversion of long-distance intercity rail traffic less than a kilometer south to Kuala Lumpur Sentral on 15 April 2001, the original station's importance diminished. While intercity trains continue to pass the station, they no longer stop there, relegating the station to being a stop for Komuter and goods services. As a result of declining passenger traffic and patronage, redundant station facilities, such as manned ticket counters for intercity services, station offices and rented businesses spaces, were decommissioned or slowly vacated. The Heritage Station Hotel ceased operation in 2011 following declining patronage and a series of mismanaged renovations in the late-2000s; the hotel was briefly reopened in 2014 before closing the same year.



Kuala Lumpur Railway Station

While the side platforms of the original station, which have already been raised to a leveled height for smooth embarking and disembarking for intercity coaches, were readily usable from KTM Komuter trains, the configuration of the island platform and access to services in the first 15 years of the Komuter's service meant that the original station could not be maximised for use as a transportation stop for electric trains until 2009 renovations raised the last of the original platforms. The station was officially reopened on 31 August 2007 as a railway museum (where exhibitions are placed in the main hall and platform of the station).



The interior of the station's main hall was refurbished in 1986, which saw some of its original interiors altered and modernised. The area is now used to house exhibits (such as this model of a carriage) after the station was designated a railway museum.



The original platforms of the station (pictured before 2009 platform renovations) retain older architectural elements, such as the large steel-framed pitched-roofed train shed.



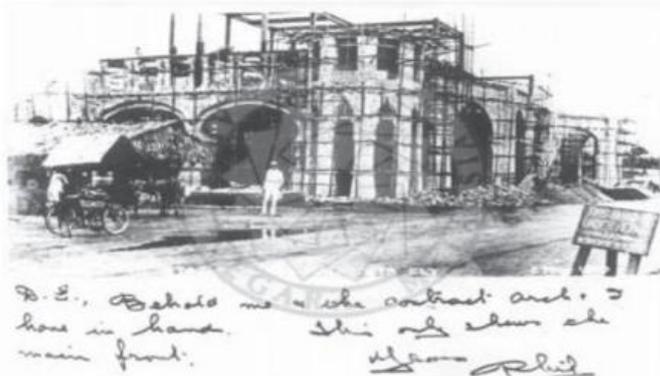
The station extension added during the 1986 renovation takes on modernist design cues with mild inspirations from both the old station and the neighbouring Dayabumi Complex. The mismatched pillar in the foreground is of a 2006 addition of canopy roofs.

## Background

Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad (KTMB) or Malayan Railways Limited is the main rail operator in Peninsular Malaysia. The railway system was first built to transport tin in the era of British colonial. KTMB was previously known as the Federated Malay States Railways (FMSR) and the Malayan Railway Administration (MRA). Keretapi Tanah Melayu (KTM) is then named until now since 1962. In 1992, KTM organisation was corporatized into KTMB but was still fully owned by the Malaysia government.

The Malayan Railway Headquarters Building which is also named as KTM Headquarters is a historical building in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It used to house the offices of the Federated Malay States Railways and is now the main administrative office building of Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad (KTMB). It is located at Jalan Sultan Hishamuddin, beside the Kuala Lumpur Railway Station. The building is owned by Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad and the Federal Government.

Together with the railway station, the headquarter was designed by a British architect, Arthur Benison Hubback, from the Department of Public Works. It was first designed in 1913, where the plan was prepared and the tender was issued out on 14<sup>th</sup> May 1914 with an estimation of \$508,000. It was then awarded to Ang Seng Contractor and the construction began in 1914.



The completion day for the 27 month construction finished 6 weeks ahead of schedule & begun train services on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1910.

However, from 1914 to 1918, First World War happened and the work was interrupted. Finally, it was able to be completed in November 1917, with an increased cost to \$780,422. After then, the north wing of the building had suffered serious damage twice. The north wing was bombed for the first time in Second World War. In 14<sup>th</sup> November 1968, the second floor of the north wing was broken into major fire. It underwent major renovations in 1986, but still preserving the designs and structure. Years then, this building was declared as national heritage under National Heritage Act 2005 (Act 645) by Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture of Malaysia in 2007.



This Railway Headquarters Building (KTMB) was a big compliment to the Railway Station Building across the road and it reflects the crest of the historical development of the Railway in Malaysia. These two buildings include the building for the railway station, hotel and administrative office, which bring up two most beautiful Kuala Lumpur landmarks. Both buildings were built during the peak period of rapid development of the rail transport technology in Malaya.



Kuala Lumpur - stationboard

## Features

When originally completed in 1910, the Kuala Lumpur railway station consisted of a main terminal building at the front and three platforms serving four railway tracks at the back. The main structure, which contains a main hall, ticket counters, railway offices and the railway hotel, is primarily designed in a "Raj" styling, mixture of Western and Mughal architecture but mainly towards Mughal architecture. Dominated by horseshoe, ogee arches and large chhatris at the corners of the building accompanying smaller variations at the front, the station is comparable to the Sultan Abdul Samad Building and surrounding structures constructed around the Merdeka Square during the period.



Chhatris – elevated domed shaped pavillions

In addition to the main station building, a three-storey addition at the north wing was added early in its operation, adopting more Westernised vernacular designs with surrounding verandah and segmental arches of various widths. The façade of the station is completely plastered, as opposed to buildings of similar styles that opt for exposed brickwork, and painted in light color throughout its service.



Arched entranceways – evenly curved & some pointed arches at the top

The building is pure white and exotic, featuring arches, domes and minarets. The design of the whole station is like a square castle. The train road is in the middle. There are “city gates” on both sides for trains to enter and exit the station.



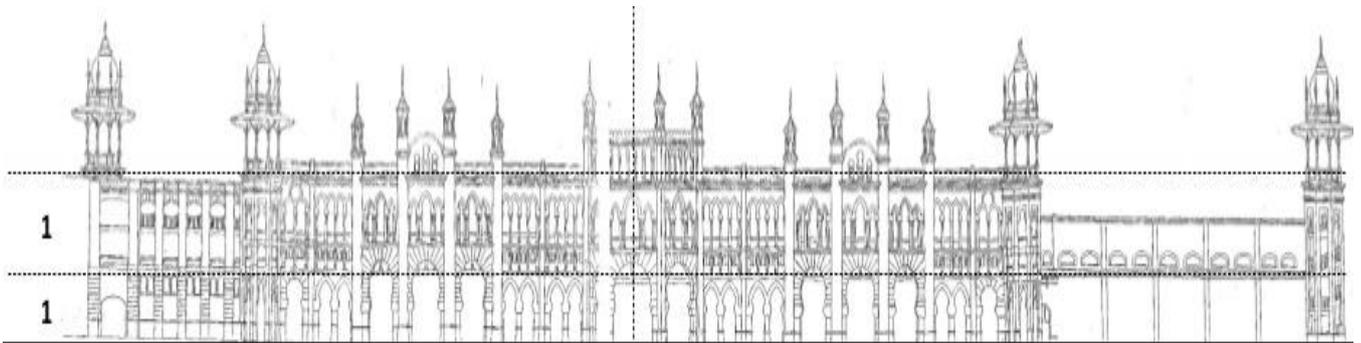
Towers with spires on top

There are 97 large frontal Gothic arches on the ground floor. Built at a time when air conditioning is not prevalent, the building has wide verandah to offer a cooling effect in the tropical climate. On the first floor are 94 large arched windows and four circular arches. The second floor has 171 Gothic arches as well as circular arches, 4 large and 12 smaller ones. There are five large cupolas, or domes, placed at various locations on the roof. These are accompanied by entwined columns in four corners. Hubback drew inspiration from Orthodox Greek designs from the 14th century for these.



Deep continuous covered verandah

## Construction



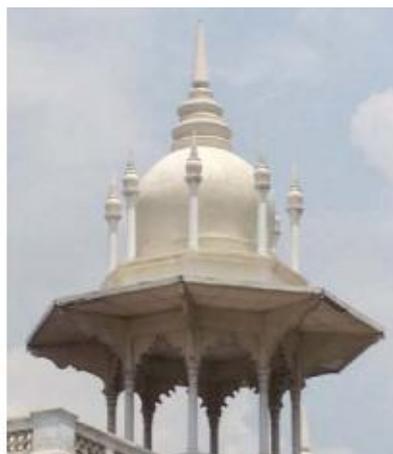
Front elevation of Kuala Lumpur Railway Station

### **Façade Walls**

A wall is a structure that carries load, provides shelter and security to a building or an area. Normally, the earlier station buildings or small station buildings used an open plan concept made with timber which only provides walls at the ticketing area and an office. Later, more station buildings being made with bricks and also combination of both such as Kuala Lumpur Railway Station.

### **Domes**

Dome defines as hemispherical structure evolved from the arch, usually forming a ceiling or a roof. Kuala Lumpur Railway Station has domes located at every corner of the building and some of them are together with the staircases. The dome also known as chattri, a dome raised by eight multifoil arches surmounted with finial and pinnacles surrounded at the edge of the dome-based. Chhatris which means umbrella usually refers to a small, canopied structure placed at the junctions of fortification, or as a decorative elements at roof level on mosque, tomb or other building.



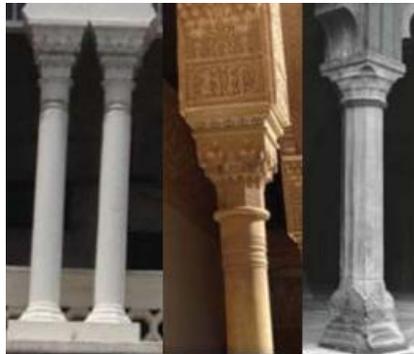
Dome chhatris with finial and 8 pinn

Sequence for construction of dome:

1. As for replacement of domes using concrete, using a sprayed technique on a permanent steel former after making large scale templates of the original mouldings.
2. Reinforced the dome.
3. Put the dome in a cradle.
4. Hoist the dome that inside the cradle.
5. Installation of pinnacle.
6. Complete the construction of dome.

### Column

Column is a supporting pillar especially one consisting of a usually round shaft, a capital and a base. For the column in Kuala Lumpur Railway Station, the architect has introduced the muqarnas or stalactite column molding. This influenced from Islamic Architecture as it can be seen in the columns of the Alhambra Palace, Granada in Spain and in Taj Mahal, India.



Muqarnas capital seen on Kuala Lumpur Railway Station

### Tower

Kuala Lumpur Railway Station normally used tower minaret, clock tower and staircases tower. It has staircases tower whereby an octagonal tower that contains starwell mounted with chhatris. The staircases towers are located at every corner of the building and keyhole arches are used for the design of the staircases balustrades. This station is more like a minaret tower connecting the edge of projecting porticoes. The tower mounted with dome on top of the eight columns.



Staircases tower at Kuala Lumpur Railway Station

**Arches**

Arch is a construction that spans an opening and usually s pointed arch, pointed horseshoe arch, horseshoe arch and so on. Four types of different arches were used in this station. One of it is horseshoe arch. Then the second type of arch is pointed horseshoe arch located at the ground floor while a series of quadruplet of pointed horseshoe arches were located at the first floor of this building. The third arch used is Ogee arch and it is located at the ground floor of the projecting porticoes. The forth type of arch is multifoil arch and has been implemented at the chhatris or pavilions which are located at every corner of the building.



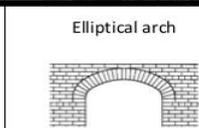
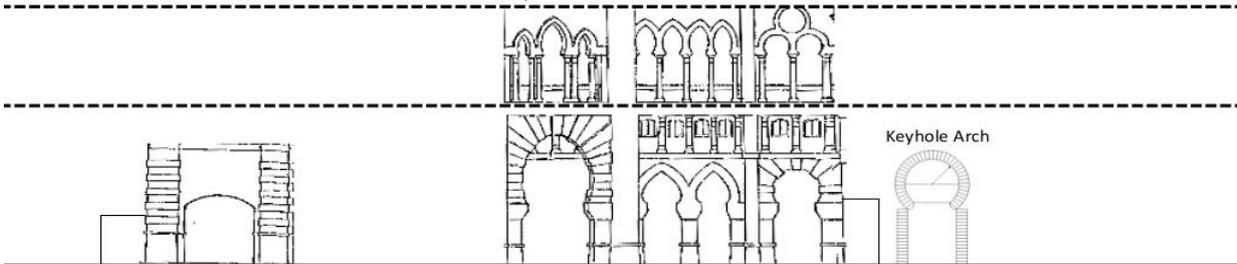
Ground floor shows ogee arches, horseshoe arches and pointed arches while 1st floor shows double horseshoe arches & pointed horseshoe arches. Top roof is using multifoil arches.

**KUALA LUMPUR RAILWAY STATION  
BUILDING ELEMENTS: ARCHES**

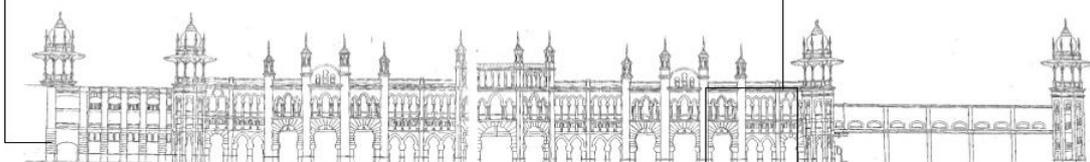
**ARCHES**



@ also called the Moorish arch and the Keyhole arch, is the emblematic arch of Islamic architecture.

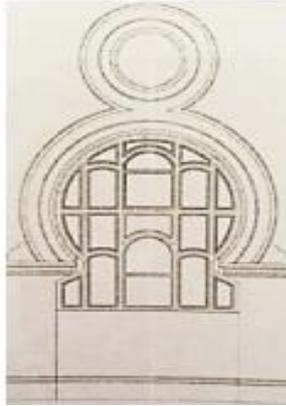


Ogee Cyma Reversa Arch



### Window

Window is an opening, generally on the external wall of a building which to transmit ventilation and light. In Kuala Lumpur Railway Station, horseshoe shaped windows were applied on its façade.



The horseshoe shaped window

### Balustrade

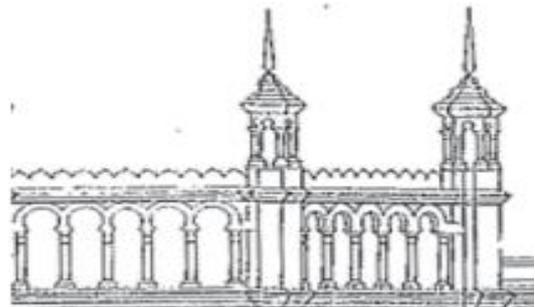
Balustrade also found as one of the façade elements in a building. Balustrade is a row of small columns topped by a rail which normally found in a staircases, terraces and sometimes in parapet wall. In Kuala Lumpur Railway Station, keyhole arches are used at the balustrade of the stairway.

### Parapet

The other façade element, the parapet is as a low wall or railing to protect the edge of a platform, roof or bridge. In Kuala Lumpur Railway Station, there are two types of parapet walls located at the projecting porticoes. One is the arch parapet with miniature chattris on both sides act as pinnacles. The second type, a battlement having a series of horseshoe arches forming colonnade with chattris at the



Parapet wall with miniature chattris acts as a pinnacle



A battlement having a series of horseshoe arches forming colonnade with chattris at the

## Renovation

The station has undergone several major changes in its modern history. The north wing was converted for office use by 1967, closing off the arched verandah with windows. In 1986, the station was more extensively refurbished, with the interior and relevant windows replaced with modern counterparts while the exterior was repaired and preserved, and additional new facilities and buildings, including air-conditioned waiting halls, tourism information counters and snack bars. Parts of the station's original interior designs and frames are still present in the Heritage Station Hotel.



New windows installed

The refurbishment also saw an additional extension built on the south wing of the building, sporting "Raj" stylings that dominates much of the building, and the addition of a frontal façade for the north wing that sports similar architectural elements, masking hints of Western designs from the front. These changes resulted in the building sporting two additional chhatris, two on the corner of each wing, alongside the original four. The 1986 renovation also extended the old station's frontal facade, with the existing northern wing masked by a "Raj"-styled edifice.



Extended the frontal facade

Other modifications made onto the old building included the rear wall of the station carved open and extended to accommodate a new station entrance, taxi stops, several office and retail spaces, while additional double-storey retail spaces were constructed over one of the two adjacent frontal access roads to the main building. The 1986 remodelling also saw platform extensions to the north and a new station building in the area, which connected to the General Post Office at the then newly completed Dayabumi Complex (constructed 1982 to 1984).



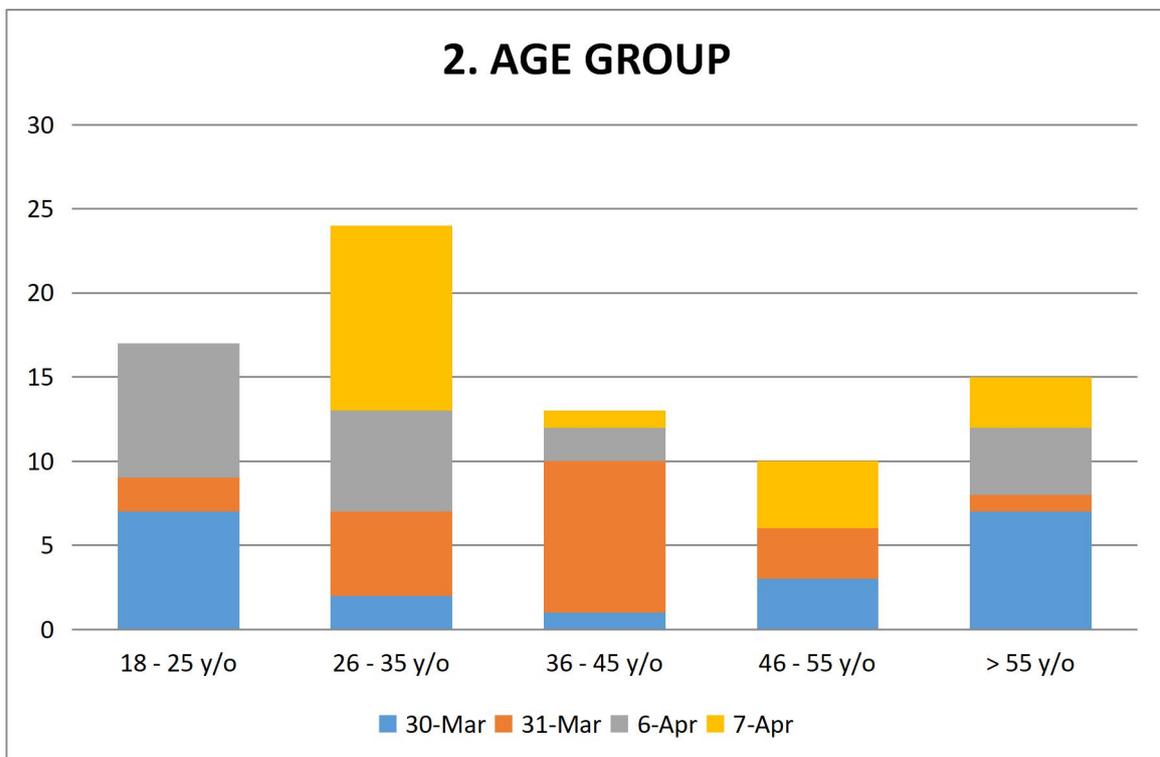
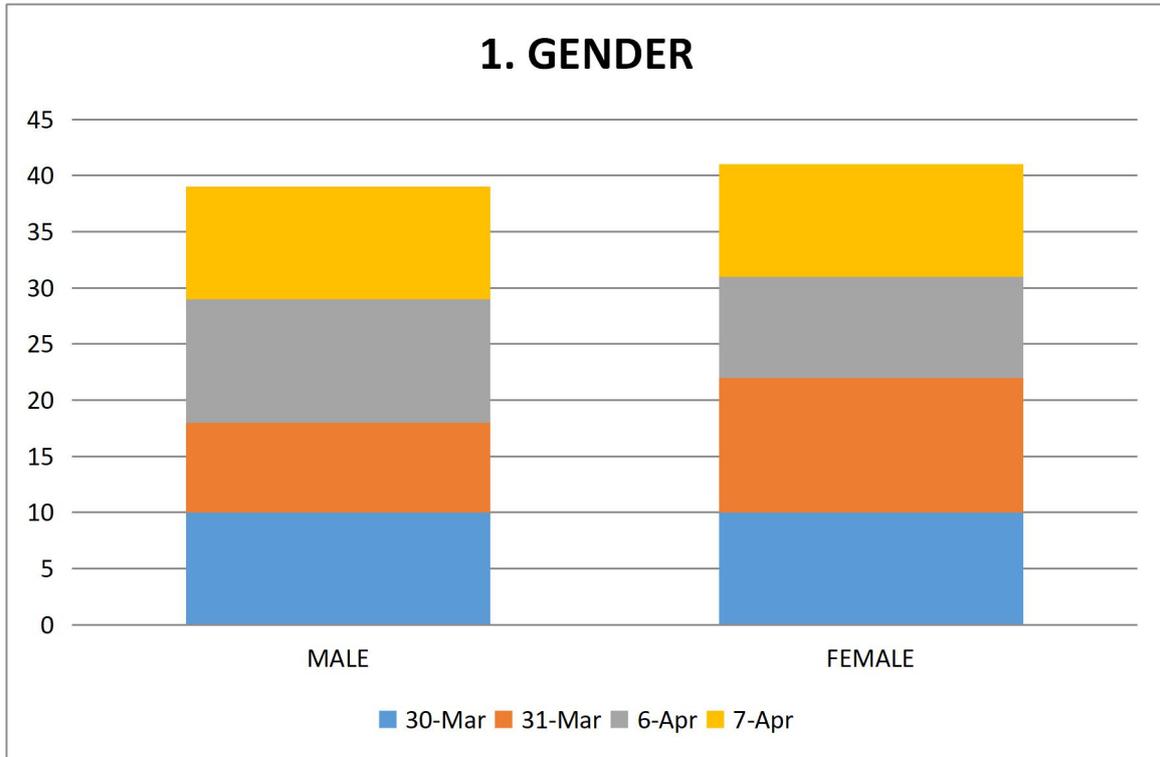
New rear entrance

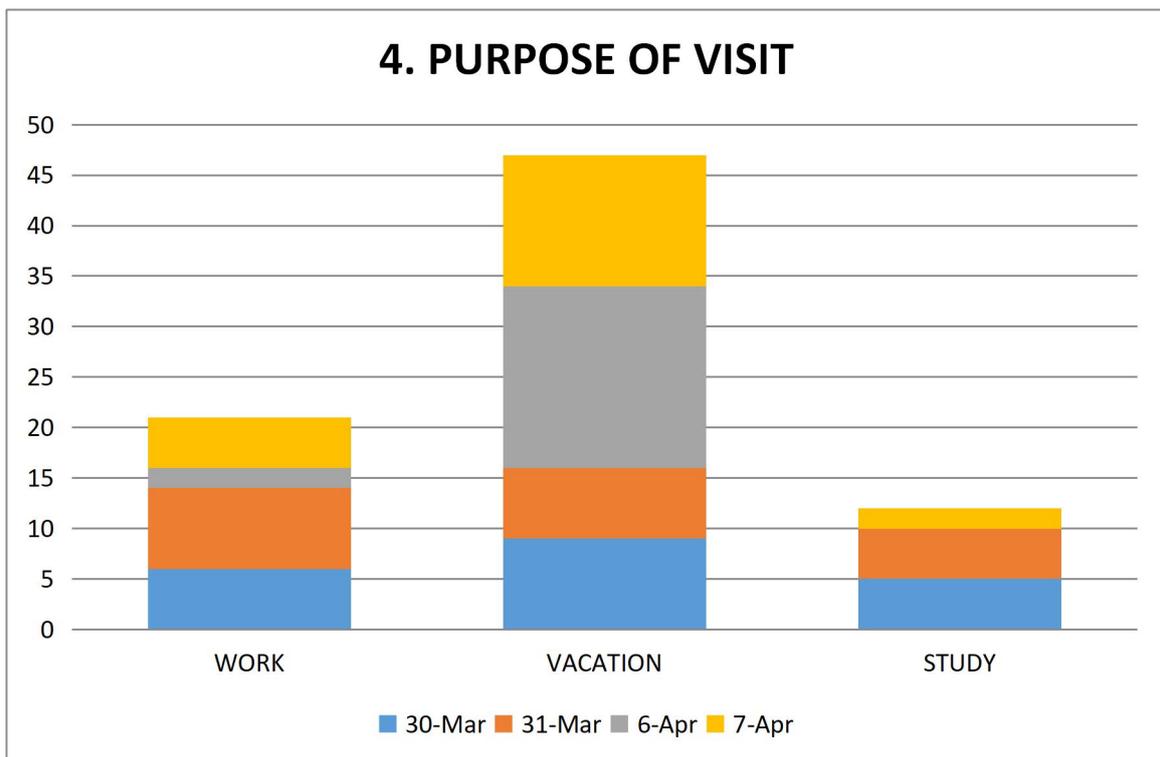
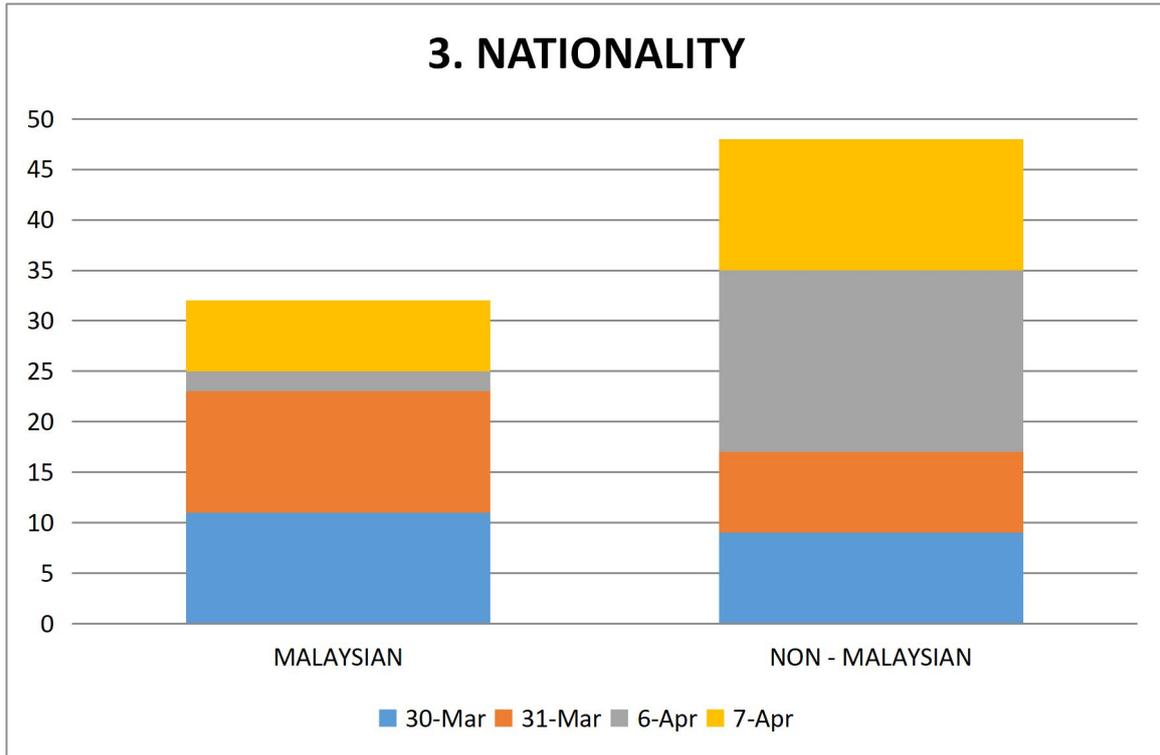


New platform canopy

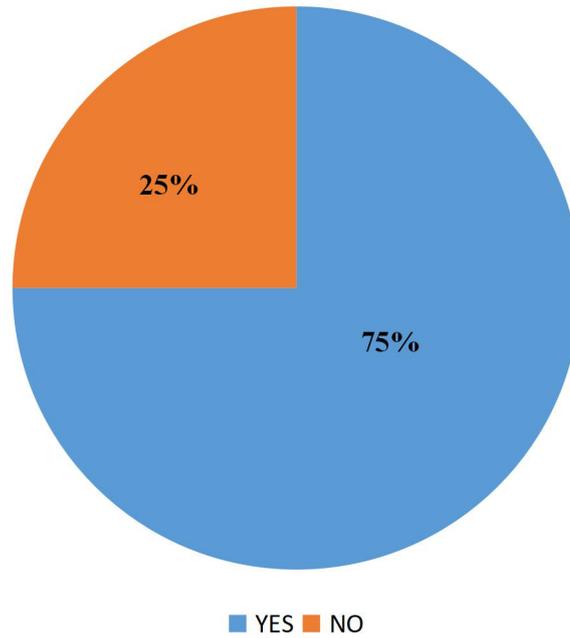
## 7.2 Feedback Survey

### BANGUNAN IBU PEJABAT KERETAPI

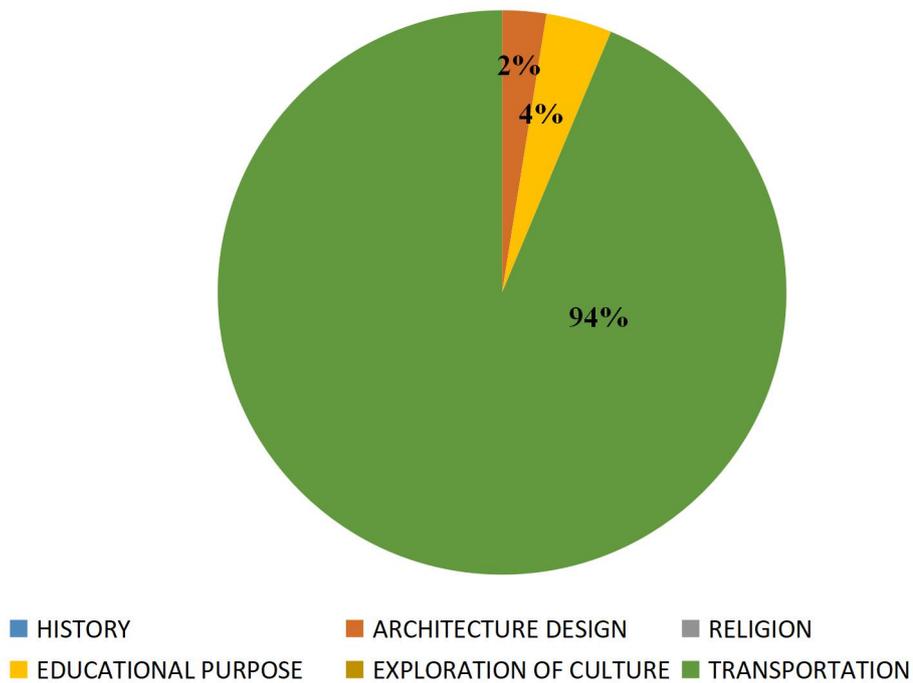




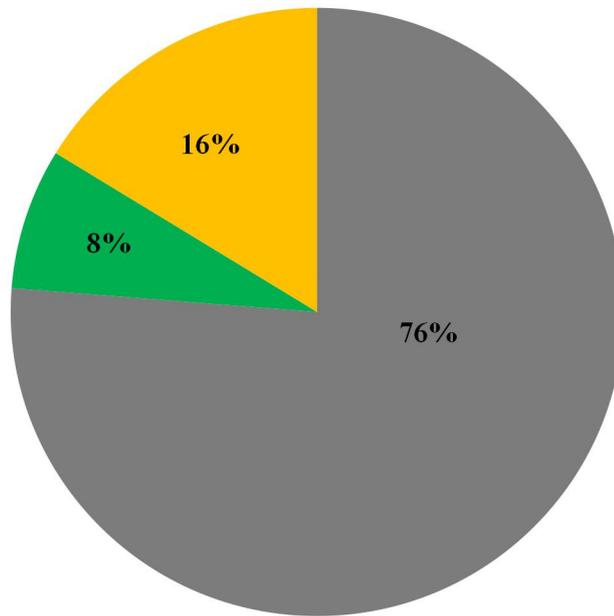
## 5. INTEREST TOWARDS THE BUILDING



## 6. REASON OF VISITING THIS BUILDING

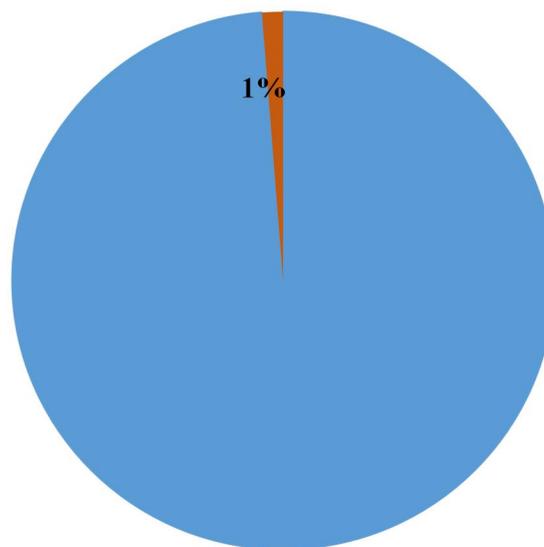


### 7. RESOURCES USED TO FIND OUT ABOUT THIS PLACE



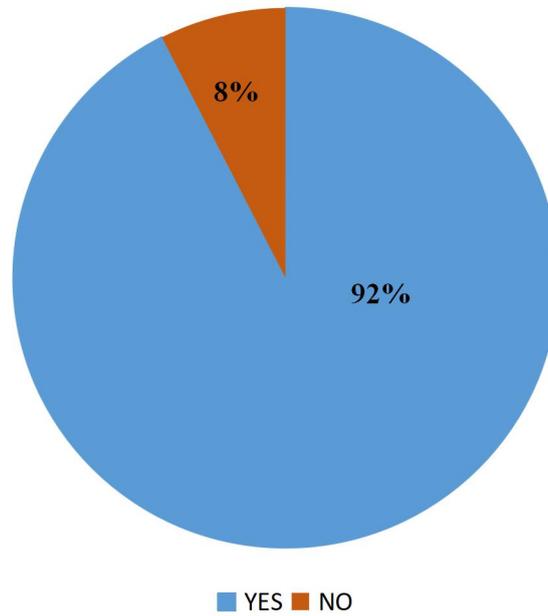
- INTERNET
- MAGAZINE
- TOURIST AGENT
- WEBSITE BY TRAVEL INFORMATION
- FACEBOOK
- FRIENDS
- TV TRAVEL PROGRAMME
- WEBSITE BY DESTINATION TOURIST BOARD

### 8. IS 'ASK ME' PROJECT HELPFUL?

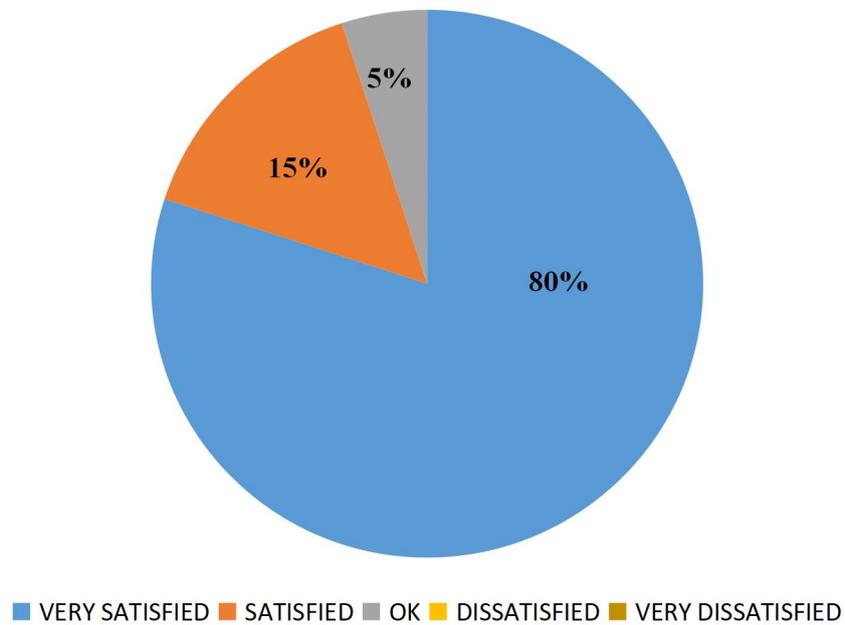


- YES
- NO

### 9. EFFICIENCY OF QR CODE IF PLACED AROUND THE LOCATION



### 10. SATISFACTION RATING TO 'ASK ME' PROJECT



## 7.3 Transformative Jurnal

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**ATAS:** CHI SHIN, YI XUAN, JIA JEE, LIANG XIN  
**BAWAH:** TENGYU, MING ZUN, THENG FOUNG

**W**hen I first heard about doing this Ask Me Project, I was against with it as I am not an outgoing people and it will be pretty hard for me to be a voluntary tourism ambassador, to approach the tourists and communicate or answer whatever questions they throw out for us spontaneously. I even stressed-out when told to be the group leader for my team but thankfully all my group members are very capable.

Even though this project is quite time and money consuming but to be honest, I got a little bit improvement in term of communication and courageous. Due to the role as a group leader, I need to be a good role model for them. Therefore, I have to start the first step in approaching the tourists which was ever the hardest mission for me but somehow I manage to cope with it and started to use with it. Most of the tourists were very friendly and willing to spend their time to listen to us in explaining the history of the building to them. There were also times when we got rejected by the tourists especially in giving them the free souvenirs but this would not stop us in accomplishing our mission.

There are some of them especially Malaysian who are giving advice or suggestion to conserve the Kuala Lumpur Railway Station in a good condition just like other heritage buildings in Malaysia as this building carries a lot of history in it. Besides, this project also provide us a chance to get to know about the heritage buildings in Malaysia. If it is not for this project, I will not purposely go and check out for the information regarding the heritage buildings in our country and probably will not even know the heritage buildings in Malaysia.

As a wrap up, this project personally help me to gain confidence in communicating with people, step out of my comfort zone to get to know more about people with different personalities, different races or even different countries. It also make me more appreciate

the power of different languages as it really ease us in conveying information to the tourists. Heritage buildings are the symbolic in our country, therefore people should really take good care of it.

**(YAP JIA JEE - BIC170049)**

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**M**y group was assigned to carry out the project in Ibu Pejabat KTM. It was an unforgettable memories for me as this was my very first time to become voluntary tourism ambassador. Throughout the 4 days, I learnt to solve problems arising spontaneously, I learnt to communicate with people in terms of building designs, and I learnt that the Kuala Lumpur KTM station is actually a moorish building which makes it more remarkable and worthy to be kept as one of the heritage building. I enjoyed the time with my teammates as well. When we were carrying out our project, the atmosphere was full of laughter and happiness as the people who asked us questions were all friendly and curious to know more about the building.

However, as it is one of the KTM station, people came here mainly to take KTM or ETS to travel to other places, instead of to know about the building. Therefore, the questions we received mostly were about how to on board the train, how to go to some specific places and others. We still try our best to help others to solve their questions even though sometimes we did not know the answer. I am thankful for having this opportunity as I able to gain some new experiences.

**(FOO YI XUAN – BIC170007)**

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**I**n these 4 days of Ask Me Project, I learnt to be a ‘tour guide’ and had a lot of fun with my groupmates at the Kuala Lumpur Railway Station. This is the first time ever I have the chance to meet and interact with so many tourists from all over the world. There are tourists from England, Holland, Germany, Japan, Vietnam, Indonesia, Taiwan, China and Hong Kong. We even shared our information with Malaysian who came from different states and everyone has a good time. There is no problem for us to communicate with the tourists as most of them understand English, Mandarin and Malay. Most of them are friendly and love to know more about the history of the heritage building. Almost everyone who went to the station just wanted to take the train to Batu Caves and did not know that the railway station is a heritage building. Most of them approached us to ask about the direction.

When we introduced them with the building, they were surprised and wished to know more about the building. We had fun sharing the information that we prepared earlier and they too shared their stories with us which I think that it was really interesting and I’d enjoyed listen to it. We do receive some feedback from a former KTMB officer, who worked at the railway station many years ago when the station is still busy with people. “There are so many histories happened here and it is the beginning of a lot of advances, therefore we have to preserve and upgrade the facilities of the station”, he said.

Most of the tourists noticed the unique architectural design of the station and thought it was Muslim style design but we explained to them that it is actually Moorish Architecture. A Taiwanese family who came for vacation are happy and agreed with us when we told

them that there will have a QR code for them to scan and receive useful information about the heritage building that they are visiting. Everyone was happy when we gave them the little souvenirs and I think that it was a wonderful experience for both of us.

Although we had a very great time with all them but I think that railway station is not a strategic place for us to carry out this project as most of them came there just to take the transportation. However, it is lucky for us that we have time to approach them and explained to them about our project while they are all waiting for their train. Finally, I am really grateful to have an opportunity to gain this great experience through this Social Engagement Project.

**(LIM LIANG XIN - BIC170015)**

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This “Ask Me” Project aka Voluntary Tourism Ambassadors for KL Heritage Buildings is a very useful yet meaningful project. I appreciate the cooperation from all parties who involved in this project such as Kuala Lumpur Tourist Guides Associations (KLTGA), Jabatan Warisan, stakeholders, lectures and all students. All in all, we have made this project successfully and the responses from all visitors from different countries has been recorded.

My group destination is Bangunan Ibu Pejabat Keretapi. The lesson I gained throughout this “Ask Me” Project are the eminence of communication skills with other people, the power of correct information and knowledge to convey and share with other people, solve the problem and question spontaneously and the importance of teamwork spirit from teammates. The “Ask Me” Project is aligned with Malaysia Sustainable Development Goals 4, 8 and 11. It is our honour to give the impact to the Malaysian heritage tourism and attract the attention from people around about the significance in taking care heritage buildings in our country, Malaysia.

**(LIM MING ZUN - BIC170016)**

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In the past two weeks which is on 30&31 March and 6&7 April, our department had organized a social engagement project and the project is called ‘Ask Me’ project. This project was held in 7 heritage building in Kuala Lumpur and it purposely provide useful information to assist the foreigner and the tourist. It also let people to know more about the history of each buildings, useful and related information of each heritage building based on the background and also construction info of that particular building. So, we have divided into 7 different groups and execute the works in different respective places. Well, I have been assigned to Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad which is located in Jalan Sultan Hishamuddin, 50621 Wilayah Persekutuan, Kuala Lumpur.

This project had really benefit me a lot as I learnt something new that was not been teaching during the class. First and foremost, I have learnt how to communicate with people more confidently. It really improve my soft skills as I tried to talk with others. It’s a quite challenging things that I have to talk to people which is from different country. And also, it makes me to speak fluently. I used to be shy and afraid to use languages other than Chinese

to speak with others. So, this project had made me to speak more confidently with others within these few days of “training”.

Furthermore, I have enjoyed to work as a team. As the quotes from Helen Keller, alone we can do little, together we can do more. This quotes inspired a lot people and it truly applicable to everyone of us. We have assigned a few jobs or tasks to complete such as record video, do the survey form, communicate with people, searching information of that particular building and so on. Our team do really separated jobs to each member and our team really work out in a good way. I am proud to be one of my team member and I like my team!

Last but not least, it really helps me to learn a lot of useful information. Previously, I was not familiar with KTMB (Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad) before. We have assigned to tell the information regarding this building to the others so we did work out on it. We have search information and try to get to know more about this building. It was quite interesting to know KTMB is actually one of the heritage buildings and its informations.

**(NG THENG FOUNG - BIC170023)**

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I am Chi Shin from Group 7. Our group is carrying out the ‘Ask Me’ project at Malayan Railway Headquarters which was initially the main train station before being replaced by Kuala Lumpur Sentral. It is a building with its architecture heavily influenced with the Moorish style and its design really amazed me when I first saw the building. I am very grateful to have this opportunity to become one of the voluntary tourism ambassadors for this heritage building. Throughout this project, we had met a lot of friendly tourists from different countries such as United State, China, Taiwan, Germany and Japan. By doing this project, I have learnt how to approach and socialize with strangers better. It helps me to improve my soft skills by communicating with people from different cultures.

Besides, I have also gained more knowledge about the history, the design and the features of this heritage building during the preparation of information about this building. Our group is also very lucky to meet an ex-employee of the Malayan Railway Station coincidentally and he did give us a lot of useful information about the building based on his own experience. Based on this information, we are able to promote this building better to foreign tourists as well as local tourists. The tourists are pleased to know more information about this unique building from us and we are also ready to answer all questions asked by them. In my opinion, this project is very meaningful as it can raise awareness among the tourists and also the authorities to help in preserving and conserving this precious heritage besides promoting Malaysia’s heritage building to tourists from other countries.

**(TAN CHI SHIN - BIC170041)**

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Through this social practice, I learned a lot. I explained the history of the building to the passengers in the railway station and discussed with the team members, which made my introverted personality become cheerful and began to talk and chat with strangers. Moreover, the satisfaction gained from participating in the volunteer activities helped to

shape my beautiful mind. This collective volunteer activity made us realize the strength of the team and the advantages of cooperation. It also made me realize that practice is the only criterion for testing truth. Teachers consciously call on us to participate in volunteer activities in our ability, so we each have a deeper understanding of labor and dedication, let us personally experience the hard work and dedication to meet the spirit, let us pay attention to practice, pay attention to their work, at the same time know how to return to the community. This not only strengthens our concept of labor, but also helps us establish a correct outlook on life and values.

Of course, the ultimate goal of all kinds of practical activities is to give back to the society. Therefore, we should straighten out our position and never carry out so-called voluntary work with a utilitarian mentality. In that case, we will become slaves of labor, wasting our time to the so-called fame and fortune. As long as I keep a normal heart, I will earnestly learn theoretical knowledge in school, strengthen social practice, integrate into the society, do my best to exercise myself, make contributions to the society as soon as possible, and repay the cultivation of the society.

**(LIANG TENGYU - BIC180701)**

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