

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**EXACT MATCH TECHNIQUE
FOR SEARCHING PUA KUMBU FABRIC
IN ONLINE MUSEUM**

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ABSTRACT

Pua Kumbu is the Iban traditional cloth that is used to decorate houses. Pua Kumbu is not just a blanket to the Iban of Sarawak but more appropriately simply called a cloth. It is a sacred ceremonial and ritual textile. The information about the textile is quite difficult to be obtained. At present the information is limited to small numbers Iban communities due to modernization. Furthermore, there are very few information provider and most of them are outdated or inactive. Mostly the information can be obtained from the website, book or blog. However, the web contents are not being updated for quite some time. The recent book of Pua Kumbu was published in July, 1998. Furthermore, there were several bloggers provide information about Pua Kumbu however most of them were inactive or some blog were open for invited readers. As a result, there are very limited information about Pua Kumbu can be obtained either from the web or hardcopies. This project provides means for preserve information and details about the fabric. The main function on this system is the collections of the fabric and the search technique. In this project there are two types of search techniques. There are general search technique and advance search technique. For general search technique, the result will be same as keyword search and for advance search technique the result will be from selection of category and position. This prototype system is able to select fabric from the database based on the characteristics that been choose by the user. Besides that, the selection of the fabric will be suitable to be display as the user chooses based on specific characteristics.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 RESEARCH BACKGROUND

Sarawak joins Malaysia on 16 Sept 1963 (Miqdad, 2010). Sarawak located on the island of Borneo. Sarawak is the largest state in Malaysia and Kuching is the administrative capital. The population in Sarawak is 2,357,500 peoples (Department of Statistics Malaysia, 2006). Sarawak is presently divided into eleven divisions (MySarawak, 2007). Sarawak is home to 28 ethnic groups with their own distinct language, culture and lifestyle (DiscoverBorneo, 2006). Generally, Sarawak have seven major ethnic groups namely Iban, Chinese, Malay, Bidayuh, Melanau, Orang Ulu and others (HamidahAbuSeman, 2012). Ibans is a largest percentage of Sarawak's population that is 30 percent (DiscoverBorneo, 2006). Sarawak has the highest number of Ibans in Borneo and they are native to Sarawak and still keep many of their traditional rituals and beliefs (HamidahAbuSeman, 2012). Ibans religion was traditionally animist but the majority is now Christian and some of them are Muslim (Donoe, 2012). The main festival for the Ibans is festival Gawai Dayak (Donoe, 2012). The Gawai Dayak festival will celebrate every year on the 1st of June. They will get together to celebrate and visit each other. The Iban traditional dance that is ngajat will perform accompanied by the Ibans' traditional music that are taboh and gendang. Pua Kumbu is the Iban traditional cloth that is used to decorate houses (Donoe, 2012).

Pua Kumbu is not just a blanket to the Iban of Sarawak but more appropriately simply called a cloth. It is a sacred ceremonial and ritual textile. The word pua in Iban means 'blanket' and kumbu means 'to wrap' (Audrey Low, 2008). The uses of pua kumbu are numerous and have great significance in the traditional life of the Iban. There are many sources of inspiration for motifs and designs on the pua kumbu. Dreams are an important source and motifs often represent elements from a person's dreams (Audrey Low, 2008). Dreams can be the source of inspiration or they can let a weaver know that the gods have given her permission to weave a potent design. However, there is no way to prove that person had a dream but a weaver is warned that she treads