

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**SENIOR CITIZENS SHARING
COMMUNITY WEB PORTAL**

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ABSTRACT

Senior citizens in Malaysia are defined as those who are 60 years old and above. Malaysia is expected to be an ageing nation by 2030 because 15 percent of its population will be at least 60 years old. Loneliness among senior citizens is identified as a major public health issue. The main problem it happened because they are living alone and no longer go to work. Community portals have great potential to improve the everyday lives of senior citizens as it has usually been developed and deployed for many purposes, such as marketing and management. The portal is envisioned to be a communication hub and publishing platform for community generated content. Unfortunately, there is a lack of online community portal specifically for senior citizens in Malaysia. Therefore, Senior Citizens Sharing Community Web Portal is developed to avoid loneliness among senior citizens and provide a platform for them to discuss and exchange information between members of the community. This web-based portal practised a friendly community portal for users and covered most of the community portal characteristics such as login page, home page, timeline, user profile, forum, and comments, messaging and chat, and activity logs. The target user for this project would be senior citizens in Malaysia age 60 years old and above who have internet connection and devices. The language used in this project is Malay as it is easy to understand by most of Malaysian. This project used Web Development Life Cycle (WDLC) methodology and it only covered five out of seven phases in this methodology which are project planning, requirement analysis, design, development, and testing. This project used MySQL for database and PHP as language to code features and functions. This project will benefit senior citizens in Malaysia because they can share, discuss, and get useful information on any issues in the forums and comments section and have personal conversations between members of the community in the message section. Elderly can fill their time browsing the forum and chat with other members in the community to avoid loneliness.

Keywords: Senior citizens, community web portal, online platform, loneliness among senior citizens, WDLC, PHP portal

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides the background and rationale for the study. This chapter includes background information, problem statement, project objectives, scope, and project significance.

1.1 Project Background

Currently people live in a modern world where everything revolves around technology (Giselle, J., Luis, J. & Maria, J. R., 2016). According to ND Century Code (2017), Information Technologies (IT) means the use of hardware, software, services, and supporting infrastructure to manage and deliver information using voice, data, and video. One of the examples is community portals. Community portals are developed and deployed for many purposes, such as marketing and management (Marcus F., Victor M. G. & Kenneth L. K., 2008). The portal is envisioned to be a communication hub and publishing platform for community generated content to assist in the establishment of a vibrant new precinct, bringing together residential, educational, retail, health, recreational and business opportunities (Marcus F., Victor M. G. & Kenneth L. K., 2008). It also has great potential to improve the everyday lives of senior citizens.

Based on the definition made at the World Assembly on Ageing 1982 in Vienna, senior citizens in Malaysia are defined as those who are 60 years and above (Athira Yusof, 2019). According to Alliance for a Safe Community Chairman, Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye (2019), Malaysia is going to face serious problems and challenges as Malaysia are expected to be an ageing nation by 2030 because of 15 per cent of its population will be at least 60 years old. Moreover, chief statistician said the percentage of those aged 65 and above rise