

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**ACCESSIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE
VISUALLY IMPAIRED AT MALAYSIAN
RAILWAY STATION**

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ABSTRACT

Major problem happens to people with visual impairment in terms of restrictions that make it hard for visual impairment persons to access or navigate. These accessibility restrictions happen in urban transit, where previous research finds there are no sensory markings on the ground to help them find their route with guidance tiles that are poorly constructed for people with visual impairment. Usage of technology provided for the person with visual impairment regarding the location along the train station is still challenging due to inaccuracy and misguidance. The main focus of this research is alternatives to consider to make visually impaired navigation easier. The research aims to identify the alternative route, cues, and architectural elements that the person with visual impairment use in navigating location inside the train station. The focus issue is that the guidance tiles are poorly constructed for people with visual impairment. The study objective is to identify alternative routes and investigate alternative cues and architectural components of the visual impairment used to navigate location inside the train station. Throughout the research, the person with a vision impairment will benefit from the alternatives given to them. The study should be useful to this group of individuals as a tools in navigating inside the railway station. The result will encourage more people with visual impairment to utilize public transportation as one of their daily activities and easier navigate the location inside the train station.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The overall summary of the research will propose in this chapter. It will guide the readers to the research's approaches so that readers recognize the preliminary picture of the research.

1.2 Research Background

Since its development in the early nineteenth century, Malaysia's train system has expanded significantly (Yusoff et al. 2019). It has grown in lockstep with the country's progress (Yusoff et al. 2019). The management of the infrastructure developer is continuously improving the design of facilities at public amenities to provide simple access for the visual impairment. However, the group still does have a limited amount of accessibility to them. Significant Malaysia's rapid growth in railroad technology has affected Klang Valley's many different rail routes (Yusoff et al., 2019). Despite the growth of the train system, people with visual impairment consequently have several obstacles that prevent them from traveling independently (Amin et al., 2021). Access to transportation and the physical environment have become among the main challenges for disabled people in Malaysia (Amin et al., 2021).

The visually impaired person faces significant mobility challenges (Martinez, 2021). The mobility challenge happens when the place is so noisy and congested, making it difficult for people with impairments to understand (Martinez, 2021). He further claims that the major challenges inside the train station are searching the station, purchasing tickets at the counter, getting to the platform, and choosing the proper station to doorway. The correct environment for safe travel along designated pedestrian routes is crucial to the reliability of transportation facilities for visually impaired persons (Yusoff et al. 2021). Blind people often realize that a part of the tactile pedestrian route is missing while walking. They had no choice but to walk on the regular pavement, which is certainly a major issue for them. In addition, the tactile pavement restoration that was replaced with new, regular pavement lacked good tactile design. (Kanniah, 2018).