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DEFECTS IN HERITAGE MOSQUE IN MALACCA

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ABSTRACT

Malaysia is one of the countries with many historic buildings, especially in Melaka, once colonised by several foreign countries. Among the historic buildings that we can find in this country are worship centres by various religions, such as mosques for Muslims. Therefore, this historic building is a significant asset to our country because it brings a particular symbol to the identity of our country. However, defects are among the common things that will happen to old buildings that are not well maintained. The aim of this study is to analyse the ways to minimise the occurrence of defects in heritage mosques in Malacca. The data was collected from contractors involved in heritage mosques' conservation and preservation work in Melaka in the quantitative method using a questionnaire survey. The findings of the study highlighted the types of defects, factors affecting the occurrence of defects which were categorised based on its defective agent and the ways to minimise the defects and analysed by using SPSS software. All parties can use the findings to take severe actions in preventing defects from occurring in other buildings in the future and increase the life span of a building, especially heritage buildings.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

Heritage is essentially determined by the identity of people and the country itself. It is something that is being passed on from one generation to the next (Idrus, Khamidi and Sodangi, 2010). They also claimed that it is mainly through the protection of heritage buildings that we will pass on to future generations what is already defined as culturally significant. This would be not easy to do if the best practice approach to preserving heritage buildings is not fully preserved embraced (Idrus *et al.*, 2010). This research aims to identify and analyse the cause of defects in Malaysia's historical mosques, especially in Malacca. In addition, to classify the positions of the defects that have occurred in the heritage mosques in Malacca in the sense of a full investigation. The author will examine the critical deficiencies that have arisen in the historic mosques. Building in Malaysia is most vulnerable to faults due to climate action. Some of these heritage mosques in Malaysia are structurally sound and have undergone physical changes to acclimate to climatic and local lifestyle conditions. Building defects usually occur in most Malaysian heritage mosques. Issues and problems relating to building defects should be given serious attention and resolved promptly. They may affect the original architectural designs and materials that are long-term relevant to historic buildings.

The heritage mosques in Malacca are the subject of the case study of this report. Heritage mosques may also reveal the flaws that have arisen. It found some conservation work approaches implemented at the project site that does not conform with conservation, philosophy, and ethics as required by the international standard. To do so, it may also cause damage to buildings or defects to historic buildings in Malacca. The processes, methods and materials used to design and construct