

# **ANALYSING THE LAWS ON EVICTION OF SQUATTERS IN MALAYSIA**

By

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The students/authors confirm that the work submitted is their own and that appropriate credit has been given where reference has been made to the work of others.

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## ABSTRACT

The issue of squatters is not to be considered as isolated matter in Malaysia, as observations and studies have identified numerous social issues and problems to derive from it. Steps and measures taken by the government and the authorities in charge seem to change nothing but little damages to eradicate this problem. There is an undeniable urgent need to address squatters' issues fairly and equitably as they may also be part of the underprivileged masses where the government has a major role to play in addressing their problems. However, most incidents and cases that had happened show that the law does not recognize at all any act of squatting, as the act is also baseless in equity.

As it is an offence under the Malaysian law, it has not been treated as social or social-economic problem. The harsh law and the fact that these squatters are not being attended as they should have been is most probably the major reason of why this matter is still an issue in our country. Thus in the end of the research, we proposed for the laws to be amended where appropriate, that is, by recommending for the reconstruction in terms of the procedure of eviction of squatters and the welfare system in Malaysia, revamping the housing policy and amending the law of forced eviction of squatters and lastly for the act of squatters to be criminalized, to be more precise. These are to provide a balance between the rights derived from the existing land law applied in Malaysia and the humanitarian point of view. A balance between these two would fill in the gaps and lacunae that exist in our law.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgment	ii
Abstract	iii
Contents	iv
List of Cases	viii

### CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.0	Introduction	2
1.1	Background of Study	3
1.2	Research Questions	7
1.3	Research Objectives	8
1.4	Research Methodology	9
1.5	Scope of Research	10
1.6	Limitations	11
1.7	Significance of Research	12
1.8	Literature Review	13
1.9	Research Plan	19

### CHAPTER TWO: MALAYSIAN PERSPECTIVE ON THE ISSUE OF SQUATTERS' EVICTION

2.0	Introduction	21
2.1	Squatters' Definition	23
2.2	The Procedures and Laws in Evicting Squatters in Malaysia	24
2.2.1	National Land Code 1965	24
2.2.2	Essential (Clearance of Squatters) Regulations 1969	26
2.2.3	Land Acquisition Act 1960	29

2.2.4	Order 89 of the Rules of High Court 1980	30
2.2.5	Specific Relief Act 1950	31
2.2.6	Issuance of Notice and Actions Taken Thereafter	32
2.3	The Problems Created by the Present Malaysian Law in Evicting Squatters	34
2.4	Housing Policies in Malaysia in Providing Resettlement of Squatters	36
2.5	Notable Cases	40
2.5.1	Sidek and Ors v Government of the State of Perak [1982] 1 MLJ 313	40
2.5.2	Bohari bin Taib & Ors. v Pengarah Tanah Galian Selangor [1991] 1 MLJ 143	42
2.5.3	Yusuf bin Awang & Ors v Datuk Bandaraya Shah Alam & Anor. [2008] 1 MLJ 732	43
2.5.4	Muhammad Saleh bin Hashim & Ors v Percon Corp Sdn Bhd (2003) 6 MLJ 483	45
2.5.5	Kampung Hakka, Mantin	46
2.6	Issue of Foreign Workers in Occupying Land Space in Malaysia	47
2.7	Humanitarian Point of View: Suruhanjaya Hak Asasi Manusia	50
2.7.1	SUHAKAM's Role and Significance in Malaysia	50
2.7.2	SUHAKAM's Views on the Issue of Squatters.	52
2.8	Conclusion	53
<b>CHAPTER THREE: THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD PRACTICE IN HANDLING THE SQUATTERS ISSUES</b>		
3.0	Introduction	55
3.1	Singapore Law	56