

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**AN EXPLORATION STUDY OF THE
POTENTIAL OF WEAVING TECHNIQUES IN
METAL APPLICATION**

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Design report submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of

**MASTER IN ART AND DESIGN
(MASTER IN DESIGN TECHNOLOGY)**

FACULTY of ART and DESIGN

May 2006

Accepted by the Faculty of Art and Design, University Technology MARA, in partial fulfillment for the Master Degree of Design Technology.

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Acknowledgement

Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude especially to my current respected final year research supervisor, Dr Jeffrey Azha Saidin and also my lecturer Prof Madya Pn Mohainee Hj Khalid and Prof Madya En Alias Yusuf, for their guidance, advised and help in completing my research.

I would also like to thank all the honorable technicians of the Faculty of Art and Design, Fine Metal Department for their co-operations and help. And also to Cik Juita, Textile Department lecturer for her co-operation and lesson about weaving technique.

To my husband, Mohd Sufian, my children Afiq, Afiqa and Ayuni Qistina, to my parent and family members especially Abang Bad, I would like to be thankful for always being there for me with your unending support, help, faith and trust.

To my friends Adila and Emma, thank you for your support and advised during the MA programmed and a lot of thanks especially to my senior or advisor En Sophis for your advised and guidance in this research.

Last but not least to my fellow friends and lecturers, thank you for your time, co-operations, help and support.

Abstract

Weaving is one of Malaysian cultural heritage that facing declining nowadays, but there is room for innovation. It is necessary to explore creative design solutions in order to make this technique sustainable. The exploration of different techniques from different fields will encourage and promote traditional skills and handicrafts into becoming a commercially viable concern and to foster its growth from the cottage industry to reach the level of a small-scale industry. It is necessary to create a new invention in order to enhance the weaving technique with a new approach in terms of new material besides *pandanus* leave, *mengkuang* leave, bamboo or rattan. The combination of weaving technique with metal will creates an innovative design in metal application in the future.

To fulfill this purpose, this research utilized an exploratory research. The exploration weaving technique in metal application was done to get a result of the combination between technique and metal. An observation towards weaving technique aim to understand and learned how the process of the technique was done. A set of Questionnaire used to evaluate consumer's opinion and response on the knowledge about weaving technique on jewellery. Based on the questionnaire outcome the making of product prototyping was begun.

The finding of this research is 'Plain Weave', the simplest weave construction and 'Simple Coiling Weave' has a potential weaving technique to be applied on metal like copper or silver. Metal from wire is suitable to be applying using weaving technique compared with metal sheet because it is easy to form. The specific thickness of wire is the important criteria to make a product from weaving technique. The exploration is successfully fulfilled the aim and objective of this research. The product is a new finding in jewellery making in Malaysia using weaving technique. The outcome of this research is one of the solutions to preserve our cultural heritage with a new invention and design.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The issues relating to craft preservation has been on the agenda of national, regional, as well as international bodies. Heritage issues have remained in the domain of national governments and regional bodies. While recognizing that heritage issues are incorporated into the national cultural plan-of-action, the priorities set by national governments, more often than not, regard culture a comparatively lower priority. This naturally poses a constraint in terms of the funds allocated to meet the needs of the cultural programs which in turn, affects the efforts to preserve the arts and crafts tradition (Syed Zulfilda S M Noor , 2001).

Malaysian Handicraft Development Corporation (MHDC) was given the task to stimulate participation in, encourage and promote traditional skills and handicrafts into becoming a commercially viable concern and to foster its growth from the cottage industry to reach the level of a small-scale industry. There are skills training programs in handloom-weaving, mat making, wood-carving, pottery, rattan and bamboo-weaving, horn ware and batik. MHDC also undertakes product design, development and promotion and provides marketing advisory services (Syed Zulfilda S M Noor , 2001).

“Weaving, utilizing pandanus and mengkuang, although flourishing in the rural areas is facing a declining market elsewhere. In cities and towns, rugs and carpets are favored. Again, geometric patterns formed by interweaving coloured strips, predominate”.

(Syed Zulfilda S M Noor, 2001)

To attract customers, not only just one item craft producers have taken to creating