

**'THE SUBSTITUTION OF WAX WITH NON-WAX
RESIST AGENT FOR HAND DRAWN BATIK
(EXTENDED TO SCREEN PRINTING)'**



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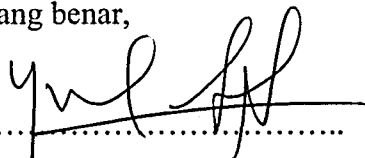
Prof.,

LAPORAN AKHIR PENYELIDIKAN “THE SUBSTITUTION OF WAX WITH NON-WAX RESIST AGENT FOR HAND DRAWN BATIK (EXTENDED TO SCREEN PRINTING).”

Merujuk kepada perkara di atas, bersama-sama ini disertakan 3 (tiga) naskah Laporan Akhir Penyelidikan bertajuk “The Substitution of Wax with Non-Wax Resist Agent for Hand Drawn Batik (extended to Screen Printing)” oleh kumpulan Penyelidik dari Fakulti Sains Gunaan dan Fakulti Seni Lukis dan Seni Reka untuk makluman pihak Prof.

Sekian. Terima Kasih.

Yang benar,



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WAN YUNUS WAN AHMAD
Ketua
Projek Penyelidikan

ABSTRACTS

Malaysian batiks and wax are co-existing together for a long time. The word batik has come to be used as a generic term, which refers to the process of printing fabric, by using wax as a resist agent that started over 1,500 years ago. Other source claimed that the batik using wax started about 2,500 years ago. The known disadvantages printing using wax are undesirable odour, smoke and unhealthy working environment. The replacement of wax with non-wax physical resist agent reduces the odour and smoke thus produces a safer working environment. The application of the starches based resist agents can be carried out both on canting and hand screen printing techniques. However, canting, the applicator of wax has to be modified to suit to the new kind of resist agents. The resist agents are starches based which are easy to source and inexpensive. In term of design wise, there is no difference with wax based resist agents but the method of canting still need fine tuning to attain the standard of traditional canting design. This is however, very encouraging because it offers alternative to the canting and hand screen printing of batik. Furthermore, the non-wax resist agents can be cured at high temperatures whereas the wax based will melt. The normal fixation methods for batik with wax is immersion in sodium silicate for certain number of hours before washing and followed by boiling to remove wax. By using non-wax resist agents; the choice of fixation is now wider as it can be carried out using traditional sodium silicate, dry heat or steam. On some type of fabrics, soaking and rubbing the starches out in cold water can remove the non-wax resist agents.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Malaysian batiks are always about designs and fashions. The batik exhibition and competition whether nationally or internationally organized were geared towards designs and fashions. Very little attention is geared towards improving the batik printing techniques. In other word batiks are about arts and aesthetics and not much about improving technology.

Martini [1] always think of batik is more about style than it is about fashion which can go out of date. “(As a designer) I did not like fashion very much but I wanted to promote style. (Unlike style) fashion lasts for a few months. Batik is more about style,” he said. Batik's versatility, he said, could make it acceptable to European and American designers “because it is not heavy and you can do so many things with it.”

Abdullah [2], 1st Place Winner of the Piala Seri Endon 2003, said “she is always trying out new ways to improve and enhance batik-making,” but however, admitted that “there are really no new techniques left to the process”. One of their greatest achievements was the double layer technique, which were two layers of coloring. She featured it in her winning entry, which was inspired by tree roots.

Italian designer Martini [1] again believes Malaysia needs to produce batik on a large scale and hence need to be industrialized. The current batik designs are special designs expressly meant for one piece and every piece is different from the other which is the trademark of Malaysian batik. It does not work in global market but only work in boutiques which cater for exclusive markets only.

Batik is all about resist printing, and resist printing is the oldest form of textile printing [3]. It refers to a printing method in which the design can be produced by