

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**SPATIAL ORGANIZATIONS
OF URBAN MOSQUES IN KLANG
VALLEY, MALAYSIA:
CASE STUDIES**

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Thesis submitted in fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy

Faculty of Architecture, Planning and Surveying

February 2017

ABSTRACT

Klang Valley is the most populated region in Malaysia so the development of the urban mosques in the region has grown rapidly as to serve the Muslim communities and at the same time to reciprocate with the increase of the Muslim population in the region. Observations on the urban mosques in the city centres like Kuala Lumpur and its peripherals especially during the Friday congregations noted to be overflow every time. They are mostly multi-leveled structures due to the limited plot of the urbanism characteristics. To date there is no study on the spatial organizations and activities of urban mosques in Malaysia recorded on the The research problems are to investigate whether such urban mosques spatial organizations are designed according to the guidelines from the *Al Quran* and *Sunnahs*; equipped with ancillary spaces for services and activities; which needs proper management of the utilization of the spaces and the maintenance of the buildings. The design of the spaces at the mosques is bounded by the spatial organization which needs to be observed by the managements and the designers of the mosques. At the same time, the local communities' religious and social needs are to be addressed accordingly in order to build better Muslim communities. The aim of this study is to establish urban mosques design and development guidelines with three main theoretical frameworks identified from the literature which are set as the objectives to identify the problems related to the overspill of spaces by studies on the community and the management of the mosques; their activities and facilities provided; the spatial organizations provided as per guidelines from the *Al Quran* and *Sunnahs* ; and the type of spatial organizations developed. The on-site observation and participation approach with case studies and data content analysis were conducted on four urban mosques in the Klang Valley city centres with different groups of community. Singapore MBF mosques were used as the preferred models. Lickert Scale convenient user survey on 400 respondents was conducted as supplementary evidences. The findings revealed that the mosques were designed without proper guidelines from the Islamic Religious Councils or Departments, the Authorities of mosque developments in the country; neither the designers properly referred to the guidelines from the *Al Quran* and *Sunnahs*; the Local Building Authorities did not impose related Building By Laws pertaining to the public assembly building; and there were no local demography surveys executed before the mosques were planned and built. This research provides important factors related to the spatial organization of urban mosques for the Authorities to consider as guidelines.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The success of this research is the product of the invaluable supports, assistance and encouragement from numerous people (unable to mention all in a page) to whom I would like to express my utmost gratitude. Most importantly, *Alhamdulillah Rabbul Aalamiin*, thanking Allah Who had graced these memorable eventual endeavours.

First and foremost, I wish to express my heartiest appreciation and gratitude to my esteemed supervisors, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anuar Talib (the main supervisor/colleague); Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rahmah Abd. Rashid (the co-supervisor/friend), for their patience and invaluable guidance; time; supports and confidence given to me throughout this research. A special gratitude to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Dani Muhammad the Head of Post Graduate Studies of Academy of Contemporary Islamic Studies, UiTM, Shah Alam, for his kindness to holistically assess and validate this thesis on behalf of the Academy. I am indebted to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Masran Saruwono; Assoc. Prof. Sr. Dr. Faridah Ismail, for giving me the opportunity to complete my thesis within additional time; Sr. Dr. Noorizan Ahmad; Dr. Zaharah Yahya; Cik Tukiyyah and all the staffs of FSPU for their friendly administrative procedure and moral supports; En. Amad Hamdan Jemiran, the executive officer; the Dean and all the staffs of the Institute of Graduate Studies, UiTM.

My extended heartiest gratitude to various personalities from Singapore, for their time, kind co-operations, and contributions to the research: En. Zaini Osman and En. Abdul Samad Salihin of the Mosque Development Strategic Unit of MUIS, Singapore; En. Abdul Hadi of WAREES Investment Private Limited, Singapore; En. Mohamad Roslan Bin Abdul Rahman of Al-Istighfar Mosque; Tn. Hj. Mohd Ishak Bin Kasmani, of Masjid Al-Iman; En. Mohamed Ali Atan of Masjid Assyafah; En. Mohd Fairuz Bin Abd Manaf of Masjid An-Nahdah; En. Md Khalid Md Eusope of Masjid Assyakirin; Pn. Nur Azirah Bte. Abdul Aziz of Masjid Assyakirin; En. Abdul Matin Bin M A Majid, of Masjid Darul Ghufuran.

My heartiest gratitude to the following personnel of the four case studies in Klang Valley: En. Mohd Ibrahim Bin Hj. Mohideen, Tn. Hj. Yunus Hj. Mohd Yunus Bin Abd Rahman and the Imam I S.S. Ahmad Bin Mohd Sharif of Masjid India; the Executive Secretary/Imam I/Administrator Ustaz Hj. Ahmad Sirajuddin Bin Abdul Satar and the Administrator I Ustaz Hj. Mohd Khairuddin Malik of Masjid Saidina Abu Bakar As-Siddiq; the Executive Administrator Pn. Siti Faridah Binti Zainuddin and the Imam I Ustaz Ab Rashid Bin Abdullah of Masjid Tun Abdul Aziz; the Nazir II Dato Prof.Ir.Dr. Hj. Azhari Bin Md Salleh, the past Nazir II Tn.Hj. Zainal Abidin, the Imam II Ustaz Mohamed Basri Bin Che Harun and the Executive Secretary En. Rohaizad Bin Ramli of Masjid Al-Sharif.

A very special thanks and gratitude to my new found friend/personal assistant in Singapore, Hjh. Saadiah; students of architecture in Semester 05/2010 who assisted in the survey; my friend Emilda Rita, my brother Hassan, and my nephew Hanafiah who had assisted onsite for measured drawings; and finally my dear family, I wish them love and gratitude for being with me rain or shine throughout my endeavours.

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