

Material Culture on Architecture: Understanding Meaning of the Culture through Architectural Practices

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Abstract

Materiality on architecture is seen as one of ways to understand meaning of culture. This is commonly associated with the constitution of social and cultural identities that in particular cases become important aspect in redefining a place. In this sense, the materiality is also seen as mass production on architecture that is generated by the march of the working classes through institutions of contemporary life as production from below by sharing meaningful practices.

This materiality phenomenon can be found on reproduction and implementation of cultural ornament. As conducted at Pekanbaru City Indonesia, this research can identify that the new emerging regime of the city has decided to implement Malay culture as main preference of daily life, including on architecture. Through this paper, the architectural practices are identified as transformation expression of city buildings through implementation of Malay architecture since 2000. Thus, after 15 year of implementation, material culture in the city can be recognised not only use to understand meaning of Malay culture, but also seen as a way to deliver power and socio-cultural practices. In doing so, this qualitative approach research was collecting and structuring field data through several methods such as observation, fieldwork study, interviews, and focus group discussion.

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