

**A COMPENDIUM OF URBAN AND
REGIONAL PLANNING STUDIES
IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT
OF MALAYSIA**

MARIANA MOHAMED OSMAN
SYAHRIAH BACHOK
MOHAMMAD ABDUL MOHIT
MANSOR IBRAHIM



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INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

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CHAPTER 6

MALAYSIA URBAN INDICATORS NETWORK (MURNINET) IN THE CONTEXT OF *MAQASID AL – SHARIAH*: AN OVERVIEW

Nurul Aida Binti Salim, Azila Ahmad Sarkawi and Alias Abdullah

INTRODUCTION

In the year 2004, a set of indicators that can measure the sustainability of development which is known as Malaysian Urban Indicators Network (MURNInet) system was constructed through eleven (11) planning sectors such as demography, housing, urban economics, utilities and infrastructure, public facilities, environment, sociology and social impact, land use, heritage and tourism, transport and accessibility as well as management and finance. It is an effort on the part of the government to ensure fulfilling their national aspiration in realizing the concept of sustainable development in this country. These dimensions are promised for obtaining balances in planning and development towards developed area based on scores achievement. For a better understanding of MURNInet, the writer will explain on how the system was formulated and the need for urban indicators.

Question arises whether the Malaysian Urban Indicators Network (MURNInet) offered by the Town and Country Planning Department genuinely meeting the requirement of *Shariah*. Hence, this paper will evaluate the definition of *Maqasid al-Shariah* based on various authors' opinion. Apart from what constitutes the *Maqasid al-Shariah*, there is also a discussion regarding the *Shariah* objectives and its importance together with the level of *Maqasid al-Shariah* itself to develop appropriate framework for the understanding of the *Maqasid al-Shariah* question.

Both MURNInet and *Maqasid al-Shariah* are significant to each other as their ultimate goal is to achieve sustainable development. As we move towards the 21st Century, rapid growth of population around the world is affecting the long term outlook for humanity. Since 1991, urbanization rate in Malaysia has increased rapidly from 54.3% to 65.4% in 2000 (Hamzah Jusoh and Azmizam Abdul Rashid, 2008). It gave a huge impact to most of urban areas and amenities such as urban economic, utility and infrastructure, environment, public services, community facilities and urban population's quality of life. In addressing this issue, MURNInet and *Maqasid al-Shariah* are able to ensure the capacity to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Brundtland Report, 1987). For this matter, a thorough discussion on the Malaysian Urban Indicators Network (MURNInet) in the context of *Maqasid al-Shariah* together with the relationship between *Maqasid al-Shariah* and MURNInet towards sustainable development will be discussed and most importantly, the built