

Issues of

Human Computer Interactions and System Developments

Sofianiza Abd Malik



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**ISSUES OF HUMAN COMPUTER
INTERACTIONS AND SYSTEM
DEVELOPMENTS**

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Editors

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4. WHAT IS AGE?

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ABSTRACT

This article is about a discussion on age. In the article, the authors argue that age is culturally-related measure. Comparison of ages in different countries including Malaysia is presented in the article.

4.1 CONTENTS

Age is deceptively difficult piece of information. On the one hand it is one of the most reliable and easiest items of data that we can have about a person (at least in countries with well-developed systems of registering birth). On the other, it is one of the most arbitrary, but established in law. There is a need for clarity in discussions and descriptions of work with this group of people in the literature. For example, comparison between Malaysian and UK older people.

People who think about these things (Laslett, 1991) often come to the conclusion that each individual is defined by a set of ages, only one element of which is chronological age. Other 'ages' include psychological age, emotional age, mental age (in the sense of 'how old you feel') and these are at least as important as the chronological age, while being much harder to measure.

It would also be wrong to treat age and culture as orthogonal. In fact the researcher is going to argue that age is culturally-related measure. There