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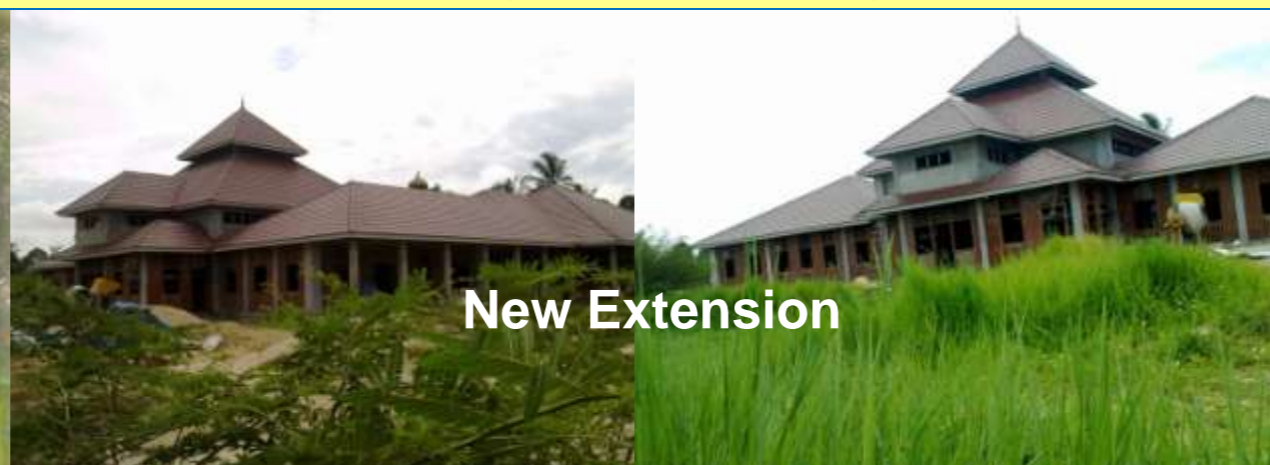
# Reliving The Traditional Masjid Architecture in Contemporary World - The case of Masjid Al Falah -KAED Community Project

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The brochure designed to inform the community



**PENGENALAN**  
Projek memperbesarkan Masjid Al-Falah di Mukim Belukar Luas ini telah direalisasikan secara bersama ADUN Kok Lanas, YB Datuk Haji Ali dan A.K. Masjid Al-Falah. Peruntukan sebanyak RM 1.08 juta telah bantukan oleh mantan Perdana Menteri, Tun Abdullah Badawi dalam bentuk geran. Luas tapak masjid asal adalah 5.06 ekar, tetapi dengan sumbangan khair daripada penduduk setempat, tapak masjid telah dibesarkan hingga menjadi 6.82 ekar. Selain daripada untuk menampung jemaah di Kampung Belukar Luas ini, pembesaran masjid ini juga bertujuan untuk menjadi masjid contoh di Kelantan yang menerapkan seni bina masjid.

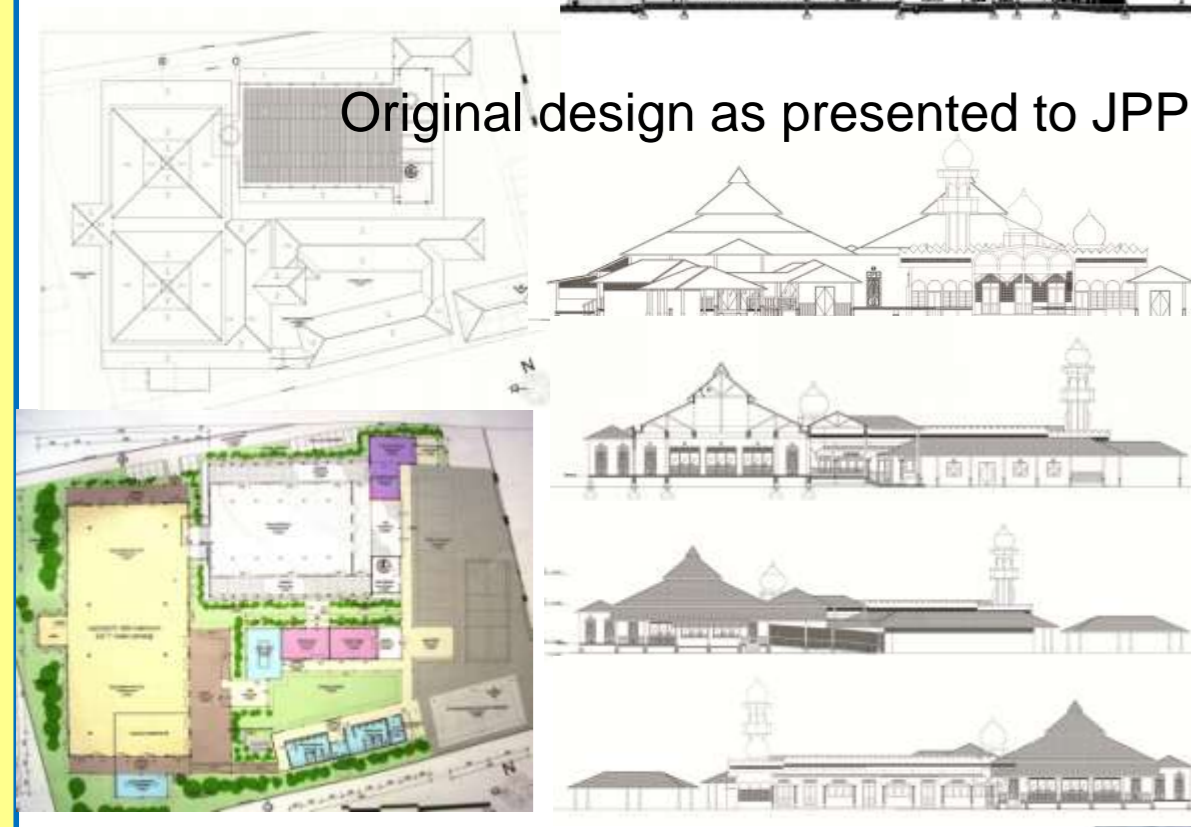
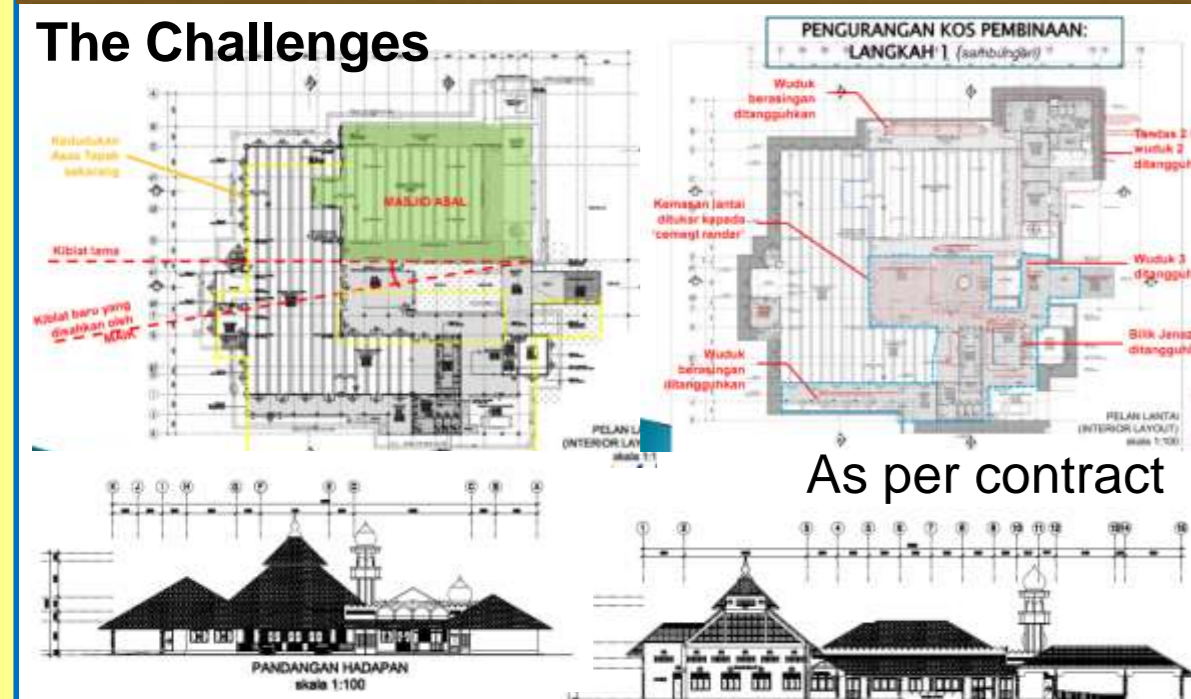
**KEMUDAHAN YANG DISEDIAKAN**  
Antara kemudahan yang disediakan adalah :  
1. Ruang solat yang boleh menampung sehingga 800 ma'mum pada satu masa.  
2. Tempat wuduk dan tandas yang dilengkapi dengan kemudahan OKU.  
3. Bilik kapan dan ruang mandi jenazah.  
4. Bilik 'PA System'.  
5. Bilik khas untuk imam atau DYMM Sultan Kelantan.  
6. Bilik telamu untuk kegunaan undangan khas yang dilengkapi dengan tandas sendiri.  
7. 3 bilik setor untuk mengasingkan barang-barang kenduri memisahkan berbeban dan kelengkapan lain.

**KONSEP REKABENTUK**  
Rekaan senibina masjid asal adalah berpandukan seni bina timur tengah manakala rekaan ruang tambahan berpandukan senibina tempatan. Rekaan seni bina tempatan adalah lebih sesuai kerana ia mempunyai respon positif terhadap cuaca di Malaysia. Khususnya pada rekaan bumbung. Reka bentuk bumbung 2 lapis bagi ruang tambahan adalah berdasarkan reka bentuk Masjid Teratai di Kelantan (juga Masjid Kampung Laut, yang terletak di Nilam Puteh). Rekaan bumbung dua lapis ini boleh memberikan solusi hujan, sistem pengudaraan dan pencahayaan yang lebih baik berbanding bumbung seni bina timur tengah yang mendatar.

**As per contract**

**Original design as presented to JPP**

**CADANGAN MEMPERBESARKAN MASJID LAMA MUKIM BELUKAR LUAS, KOK LANAS, KOTA BHARU, KELANTAN**



CADANGAN MEMPERBESARKAN MASJID LAMA MUKIM BELUKAR LUAS, KOK LANAS, KOTA BHARU, KELANTAN



Masjid Kg. Laut

## Abstract

Architecture academics, historians and traditionists relished in the nostalgic past of old traditional raised timber masjid architecture making a comeback to our rural landscape currently sprinkled with colonial, mughal-Indianised, Seljuk, hybrid and contemporary masjid architecture in Malay-sia. Through community work, opportunity that allows KAED team to design and construct this dream through means eagerly spread in front of us, a journey was made with Allah's grace to a village of Belukar Luas, Ketereh. The objective was to extend an existing little masjid of Indian reminiscence from a 200-300 jemaah capacity to additional 500 jemaah with Imam's office, Sultan's room, new entrances, new toilets, ablutions separate for different gender, disable friendly, elderly friendly, child friendly, women friendly and others. The vital mission was to accomplish the practical function of capacity then the intangible function of shaping the masjid to be in harmony with its natural surroundings of green rice fields, bluish hills and farming activities - a sustainable scene. Whilst listening to the Masjid committee's demands and expectations, the team embarked on literature review of traditional masjid of the region with case studies and visits to nearby oldest raised timber masjid of the country-the Masjid Kampung Laut. Contemporary traditional masjid was added on the visit list knowing very well that "modern" means "contemporary and comfortable" with selected spaces identified as needing a new feel. Several designs were drawn based on the "old" masjid using scale and proportion as well as experimenting on the building material and construction method. Cost and skills on the part of the contractor were the biggest hurdle and challenge in realising the dream. Cost cutting exercise participated by the Masjid committee, the contractor and the consulting team reduces the original design to an affordable schemes with much apprehension. Outside philanthropist and local qariahs donated to the construction in kinds and cash. The findings of the whole exercise, apart from costs, minor changes to design concepts, availability of material and local craftsmen, was the local acceptance as the paramount factor to the shaping of the masjid as it complete its phase. A job is done but not without its constraints and unexpected outcomes. The objective of the project is realised in the physical entity space for the additional 500. Findings made on the journey from theory to practicality met through contemporary changes that may have occurred during the establishment of the "old" grand masjid as well. No literature mentioned explicitly on its mode of construction or cost per se, but perhaps knowing the kindred spirit of the scholars then, accepting the phenomena of the unforetold, as destiny, could be a contributing factor to the "how" and "why" we inherit the serene architecture of traditional masjid today, *wallahualam*

The ideal of theory and the honesty of reality are always in constant battle in architecture where ideas, ideals, needs, expectations, perceptions, acceptance and resources are not always in a balance. The Masjid Al Falah extension project, for which KAED had the opportunity to be involved from initiation to completion, became a welcome ground to test the theory of perception and acceptance in reliving the traditional masjid architecture of the old Malay world versus the existing adopted architecture of the Middle Eastern, Indian and Eclectic west; while facilitating the functional capacity requirements of the community.

- The objective in undertaking the tasks were two folds:
- (1) To produce the facility to meet the functional requirements of the Masjid Committee with additional space for 500 jemaah (practical functional reality-tangible); and, at the same time
  - (2) To test the acceptance of the traditional "Nusantara" masjid architecture from current Indianised form, by the community (the nostalgic theory-non tangible).

- The project was initiated in two prongs to meet the above objectives simultaneously. As there were no project brief for the masjid but simply verbal requirements by the Masjid Committee, the team, carried out (i) a quick research through :-
- interviews** on the masjid committee while conducting site analysis; getting feedback and further data from meetings with the relevant authorities and stake holders of the project; carried out **case studies** of the local masjid available in the locality from traditional ancient to contemporary vernacular; and conduct **literature review** on the subject matter from quality of space, meaning of form, method and construction details; and.
  - (ii) Design development through :-
- producing alternative drawings, sketches as well as a model** for communicating ideas and proposals; draw out **construction drawings** for construction; coordinate with other specialist drawings of the structural system and the mechanical and electrical requirements; and **managed construction** through periodical supervision, till handing over, upon completion.

The processes were analysed and in a nut shell drew the following findings:  
The working model makes the best communication tool to transmit information among consultants and the stake holders as drawings and sketches were subjected to different understanding and perception; The idea of traditional masjid for the community met no objection by the community, who had no preference to type of masjid as long as it can serve the functions stipulated and aesthetically pleasing. Bridging theory and practice met challenges of cost, craftsmen, building material as well as awkwardness in female gender in the team, apart from exposing the real situation of competency and capacity of the builder chosen by the community.

The project opens avenue to questions and issues in realising theory to reality, especially in working with the community with mixed background and exposures, without a project brief. The project had met its physical objectives of capacity to the community's delight and its intangible values of traditional essence in scale, colour, material and ornamentation, that warmed the qariahs. The shaping of the architecture to ideal standards on real tradition for sustainability, still remain elusive due to limited resources in funds, skilled craftsmen, material and while at the same time, needed to meet the concept of 'comfort' and 'contemporary aesthetics' as expected by the same community, on the ideals of the IIUM team.

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The supervisor Project Architect, The new extension, IIUM Graduate Architect, Sept 2011

Existing Masjid Al Falah

Masjid Committee

The Project under construction 2010-2011

January 2011

April 2011

July 2011

Sept 2011