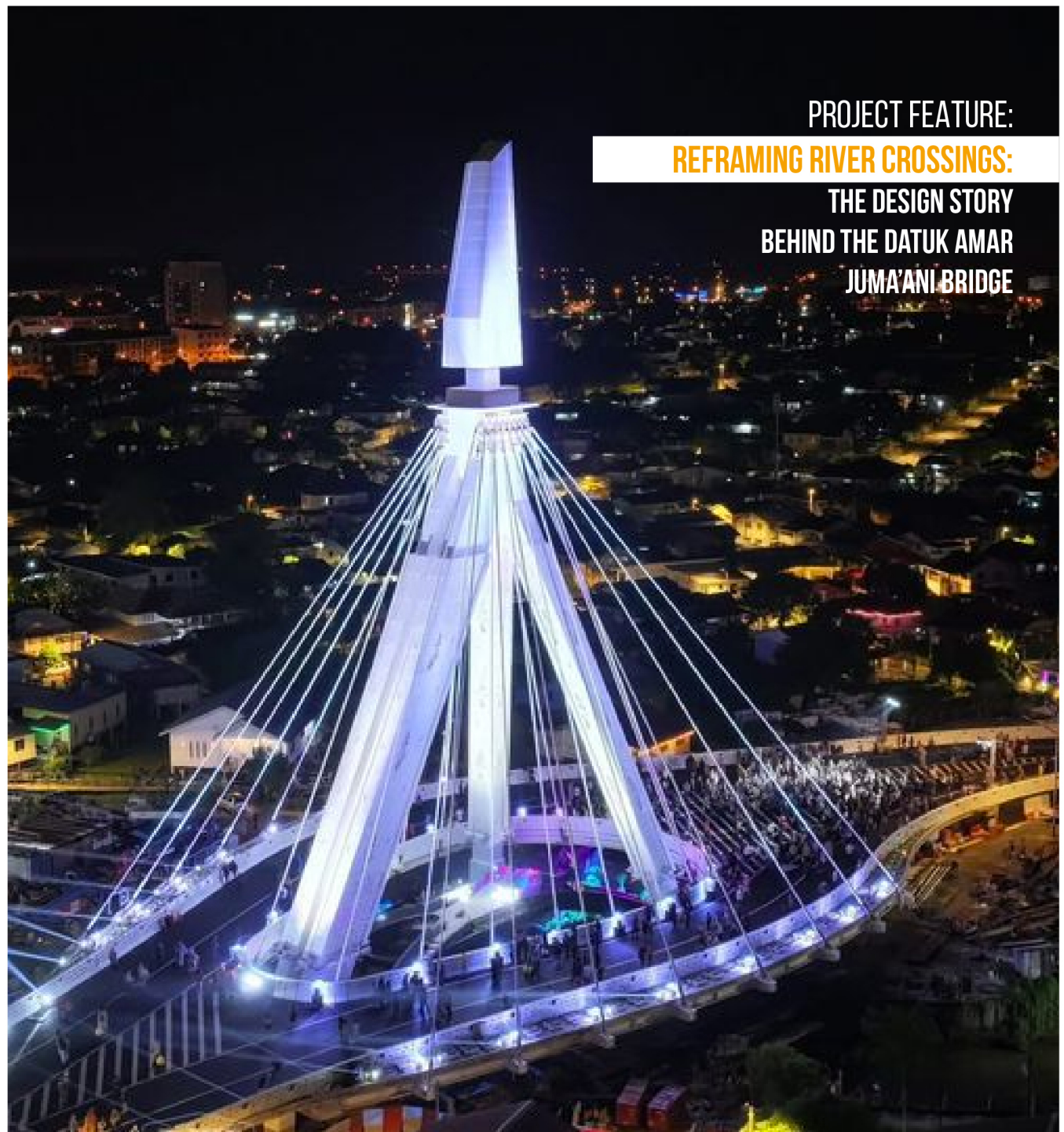


INTERSECTION



PROJECT FEATURE:

REFRAMING RIVER CROSSINGS:

THE DESIGN STORY
BEHIND THE DATUK AMAR
JUMA'ANI BRIDGE

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THE L.S.D. OF THE S.B.O.

By Ar. Chai Si Yong

Article extracted from Borneo Architecture Journal (BAJ)



Damai Resort Workshop on 11 June 2015, where representatives from PAMSC had an intense discussion with representatives from various local councils

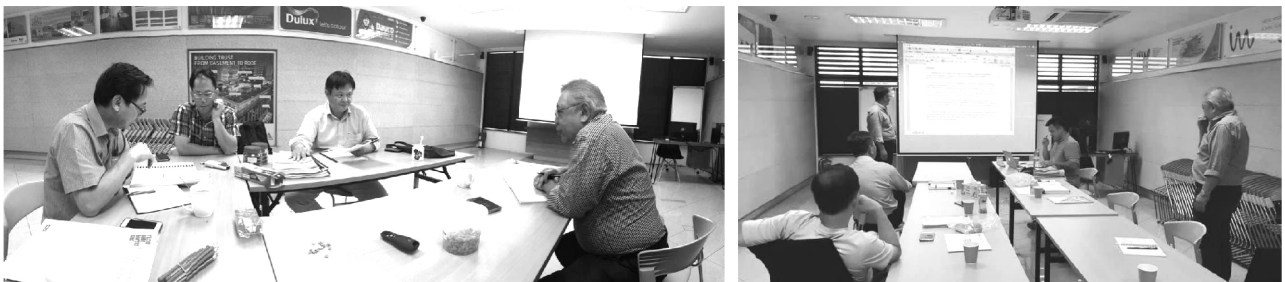
Ar. Philip Chang (most right) has left us in 2023

The recent tabling and passing of the Sarawak Building Ordinance(S.B.O.) at the Dewan Undangan Negeri (D.U.N.) has brought a big wave of optimism, and relief to many of us. But we must remind ourselves that this is only the beginning. The law is not fully “alive” yet. I have decided to record the S.B.O.'s evolution from my own eyes, in a series of 4 articles detailing our interaction with BOMBA, the Ministry of Local Government and PAMSC - the people, the events and the lessons.



In architecture school, our lecturers liked to remind us that this profession is a marathon. Designs take years to gain acceptance, and even longer to get built. Now, many years later, I find myself repeating the same thing to my younger colleagues — good projects take time, and anything worth doing will test your stamina. Min tells me runners call this type of training - “L.S.D.”: Long, Slow, Distance.

The real marathon starts now; with bylaws and regulations to develop, interpretations to align, and many more discussions ahead. And before we start this next long run, we should remember the participants of first marathon that got us this far.



Our meet up at PAMSC Queen's Court were usually served with 3-in-1 coffee or tea and peanuts

On good days, we had bun & pastry from Mickey Cake House and clearing all the packet drinks in the fridge, left over from the CNY Open House

In fact, the review of the S.B.O. started more than 10 years ago, long before I joined the team in 2015. I remember it was a workshop held at the Damai Resort, in a room was filled with senior architects & council officers — many now retired — passionately debating every clause. It was tense, noisy, and sometimes quite funny if you stood at a safe distance. As expected, no conclusion could please everyone, and that was when the group decided we needed a deeper, more structured review of the S.B.O.

I was the “young tech guy”, and automatically assigned the job of projecting the clauses onto the screen while everyone else argued over them. I typed, scrolled, highlighted, and edited live like some kind of architectural court stenographer. But this method worked. Seeing everything on the screen helped us park unclear issues and return to them later. Discussions became clearer, decisions were made faster, we were more productive.

We began meeting every fortnight. Everyone had reading homework (which most pretended they did), and slowly these meetings evolved into regular porridge & salted egg lunches at a corner coffee shop (at Queen's Court) — sometimes every two or three days. Over kopi and kuih, the conversations grew beyond the S.B.O., we talked about the future of practice, our challenges, and ideas that later became part of today's Practice & Government Liaison Committee. This was the fellowship of the

giants whose shoulders we stand on till this day, the unsung heroes who started this journey who quietly and doggedly laid the groundwork because they believed it mattered for future generations.



When we have enough “quorum” for the discussion, we usually ends with porridge and salted eggs at the corner kopitiam

Sometimes, Ar. Desmond Kuek & Ar. JH Bong will come and join us for the lunch, pretending to be part of the discussion

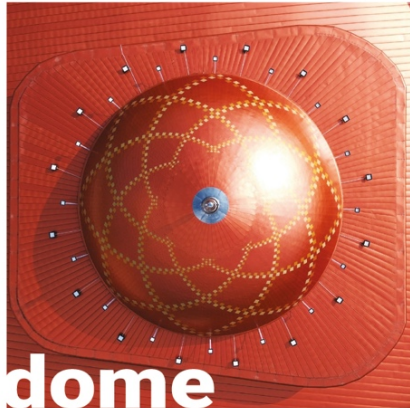
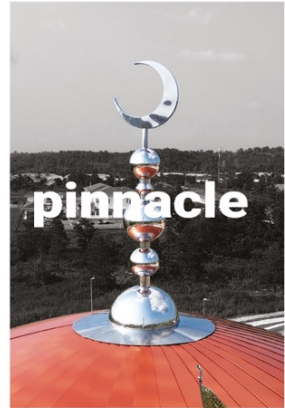
Many of the fellowship have left us, through retirement, or maybe they were just tired - tired architects subsisting on packages of peanut and bottled water arguing about phrasing, and the placement of commas in a clause. Some of them like Uncle Philip has left for good.

So while we congratulate ourselves this week on the successful tabling and passing of the S.B.O by our Deputy Premier, YB Datuk Amar Prof. Dr. Sim Kui Hian - I would like us to remember those who laid the groundwork, and remind ourselves to carry on their work in the same spirit

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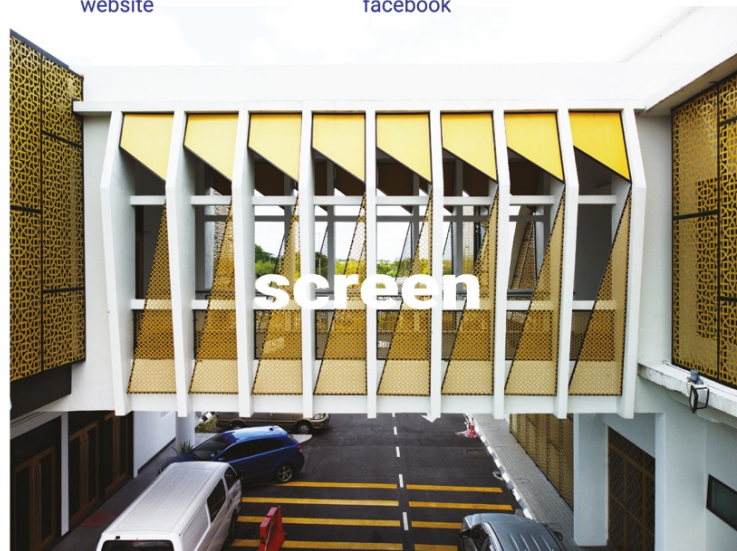


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APPRECIATION DINNER HOSTED BY MPH LG

By Ar. Ivy Jong



Ar. John Lee, Ar. Stephen Liew, Ar. Ivy Jong, YB Datuk Amar Prof Dr Sim, Ar. Chai Si Yong and Ar. Desmond Kuek.

YB Prof Datuk Amar Dr. Sim Kui Hian, Deputy Premier of Sarawak, hosted an appreciation dinner on 2nd December 2025 to recognise those who supported the Ministry of Public Health, Housing and Local Government during the recent DUN session.

PAMSC was invited in acknowledgement of its involvement in the amendment to the Sarawak Building Ordinance (SBO). On 24th November 2025, the Building (Amendment) Bill 2025 was passed during the 19th Sarawak Legislative Assembly (DUN), marking an important update to the Building Ordinance 1994 in line with the state's current and future development needs.

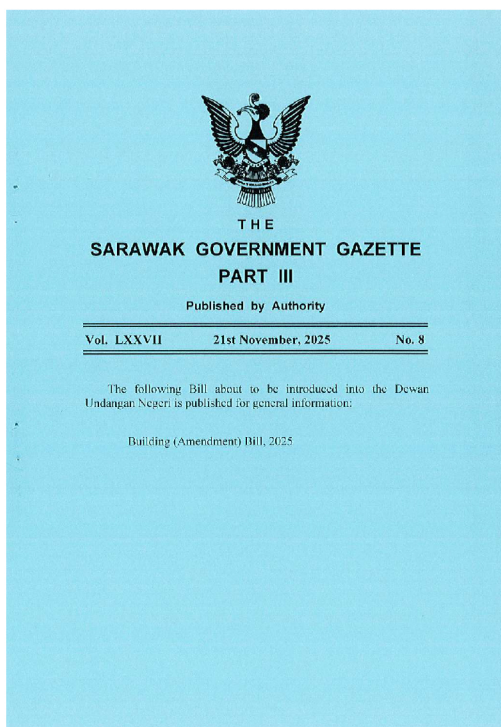


Several PAMSC members who have been working with the ministry on the SBO review attended the dinner. The review itself began more than a decade ago, led by the late Ar. Philip Chang (fondly remembered as Uncle Philip).

With the revised SBO setting out new frameworks—including the establishment of the Sarawak Building Board—many hands will be needed for its implementation. PAMSC members are encouraged to join the Practice and Government Liaison Committee to contribute towards shaping the architectural practice landscape in Sarawak.



Group photo with members of the ministry.



Passed:
Building (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (1)

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PAMSC DESIGN FESTIVAL 2025 IS HERE : 5-6TH DECEMBER 2025

By PDF 2025 Organizing Chairman : Ar. Aneem Soraya bt Hj. Menji

PAMSC is proud to present the PAMSC Design Festival 2025 (PDF2025), happening on 5–6 December 2025 at Imperial Hotel, Kuching. As part of the #PAMSCRoadTo50Years journey toward PAMSC's 50th Anniversary in 2026, this festival brings together architects, students, and industry professionals for two days of design inspiration and collaboration.

Day 1 features a hands-on Architectural Perspective Sketching Workshop by Amin Zakaria, alongside the University Students' Best Project Exhibition. In the afternoon, the GBI Talk titled "Kick-Starting Green" will be delivered by Ar. David Ong and Ts. Ngoh Wan Fei, offering real insights into sustainable design. The day concludes with the Members' Networking Night.

Day 2 hosts the full-day Design Forum, featuring leading regional voices including Andra Matin, Duangrit Bunnag, Maurizio Meossi (Zaha Hadid Architects), SHAU Architects, and Dr. Tan Loke Mun, moderated by Ar. Wooi Lok Kuang.

Join us at PDF2025 for meaningful dialogue, networking, and inspiration. Stay tuned to PAMSC's social media for updates and registration details.



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5-6 DEC 2025

8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

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PDF 2025 PROGRAMME

TIME

DAY 1 (5TH DECEMBER 2025) FRIDAY

8:00
9:00
10:00
12:00
13:00
14:00
15:00
16:00
17:00
18:00
19:00
20:00
21:00
22:00

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UNIVERSITY STUDENT EXHIBITION AND ARCHITECTURAL WORKSHOP

ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

GBI TALK

REGISTRATION
REQUIRED



PAMSC MEMBERS' CUM NETWORKING NIGHT

PAM MEMBERS AND GUESTS.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED



TIME

DAY 2 (6TH DECEMBER 2025) SATURDAY

8:00
9:00
10:00
12:00
13:00
14:00
15:00
16:00
17:00
18:00

LAUNCHING OF PDF 2025

TRADE EXPO

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DESIGN FORUM

REGISTRATION
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MODERATOR
Ar. WOUI LOK KUANG
WOUI ARCHITECT
MALAYSIA

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POINTS
will be applied



6 DEC
2025

DAY 2

8:30 AM TO 5:00 PM
IMPERIAL HOTEL, KUCHING



GBI TALK

KICK-STARTING GREEN
Real Stories and Strategies
from GBI Professionals

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5 DEC
2025

DAY 1



GBI CPD
POINTS
will be applied

2:00 PM TO 5:00 PM

IMPERIAL HOTEL, KUCHING



ROLE OF GBI FACILITATOR

Ar. DAVID ONG YAW HIAN
GBI Accreditation Panel (GBIAP)

Graduated from University of New South Wales with Bachelor Degree in Architecture (Hons), Ar. David Ong (APAM, LAM, MGBIC) has more than 20 years in practice as a Professional Architect in Malaysia engaging mostly in Planning, Commercial and Residential projects in Sarawak. He is currently the Principal of David Ong Architect and Director of Greenscapes Sdn Bhd.

Ar. David is a Past Chairman for Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM)-Sarawak Chapter and a former PAM Council Member (served from 2005 – 2007). He has been actively involved in the GBI Technical Committee since 2010 and was one of the team leaders in the development of the GBI Non-Residential New Construction (NRNC) -Hospital Rating Tool. He also represented PAM-Sarawak Chapter in the Sarawak Ministry of Local Government and Housing to assist in the development of Green development agenda for the State.



GBI SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS & EXPECTATIONS

Ts. NGOH WAN FEI

Ts. Ngoh Wan Fei received her Degree (Honours) in Technology Management in Construction from University Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM). After she graduated, she joined Greenscapes Sdn Bhd as a technical coordinator for green building projects under the Green Building Index (GBI) rating system and was promoted to director in year 2017.

Ts. Ngoh is actively involved in the GBI Technical Committee since 2023, serving as a trainer for the GBI Facilitators Course (GBIFC) and contributing to the development of the GBI NRNC: Data Centre V2.0 tool.

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UNIVERSITY STUDENT EXHIBITION AND

ARCHITECTURAL WORKSHOP

by **AMIN
ZAKARIA**

Amin Zakaria is a Malaysian designer and visual artist specialising in digital architectural illustration. With seven years of experience, he excels in Morpholio Trace and Concepts App to produce expressive architectural visuals. A passionate urban sketcher, Amin captures old buildings through detailed drawings that celebrate heritage and architectural storytelling.

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BEST PROJECTS
EXHIBITION**

**ARCHITECTURAL PERSPECTIVE
SKETCHING WORKSHOP**

PART A : One-Point Perspective

PART B : Two-Point Perspective

PART C : Expressive Finishing

* Drawing material will be provided



**5 DEC
2025**

DAY 1

8:30 AM TO 12:00 PM

IMPERIAL HOTEL, KUCHING



PAMSC MEMBERS' CUM NETWORKING NIGHT

Register now for a chance to win exciting lucky draw prizes!



**5 DEC
2025**

DAY 1

6:00 PM TO 10:00 PM

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KUCHING**

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Non-Member/Others - **RM 378/pax** (Inclusive of 8% SST)

Closing date of registration: **28 November 2025**

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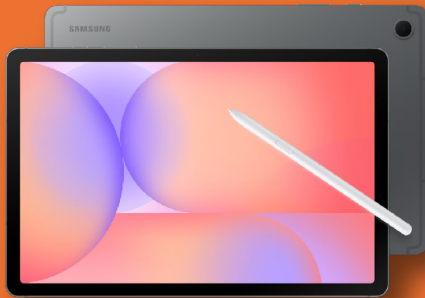
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REFRAMING RIVER CROSSINGS: THE DESIGN STORY BEHIND THE DATUK AMAR JUMA'ANI BRIDGE



Photos courtesy of Hj. Azrai's collection and JKR Sarawak fb page
PAMSC NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2025

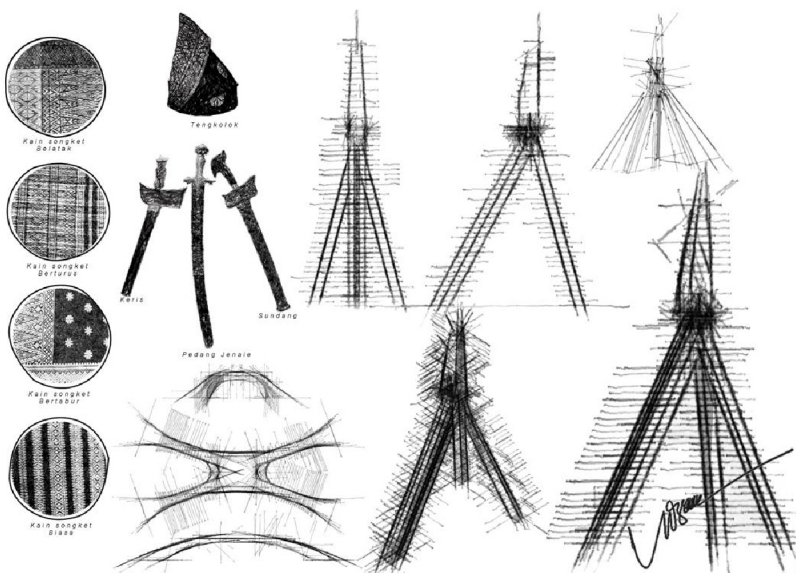
In our July 2025 Intersection issue, we revisit the work of Haji Mohamad Azrai bin Karim, whom many readers will remember from his PAMSC talk, “Braveheart.” This article traces the development of the Datuk Amar Juma’ani Bridge at Sungai Bintangor, examining the ideas, constraints, and design thinking that guided its creation.

The bridge was officially opened on 5 August 2025 by the Sarawak Premier, Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Openg, who spoke of its broader role beyond improving connectivity. He noted how new public infrastructure can enhance nearby community assets, strengthen economic potential, and contribute to Kuching’s riverfront identity. Named in honour of his late wife, Puan Sri Juma’ani Tuanku Bujang, the RM50.6 million bridge is expected to catalyse future development in the Satok area and offer new opportunities for local communities and tourism.

Set within the historic Malay settlements of Kampung Nombor and Kampung Bintangor, the project began with early discussions among community leaders to ensure cultural sensitivity and spatial relevance. PAMSC visited the home office of NBL Architects Sdn Bhd, where its Managing Director, Haji Azrai, shared the background of the project. With an academic foundation that spans aeronautical studies and architecture at the University of Dundee, he approaches design through a blend of analytical discipline and contextual understanding. For him, architecture must respond to real urban issues, acknowledge local demands, and, importantly, provide functional value rather than symbolic form alone.



Haji Mohamad Azrai
bin Karim



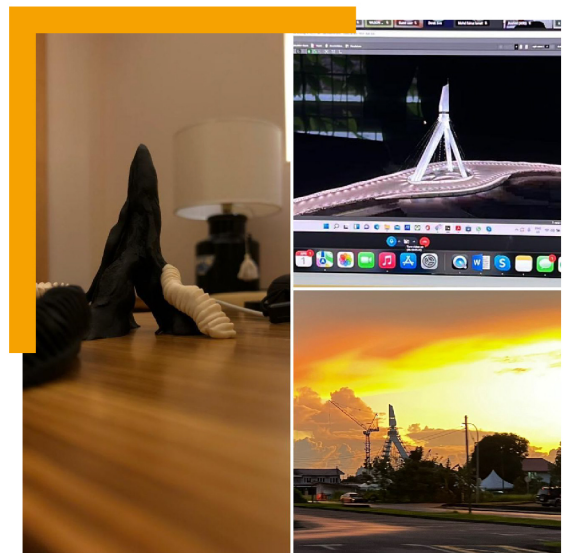
Design concept sketches
illustrating the inspiration
from the Keris

The design concept drew inspiration from the Keris; a traditional Malay weapon, interpreted as a contemporary structural form. Initial exploration involved physical models before moving to digital studies to determine scale, structural and design feasibility. The intention was not to replicate a cultural object literally, but to create a bridge that could belong to its setting while aligning with Kuching's broader aspirations for a modernised urban landscape. The inclusion of a pedestrian route beneath the deck reflects consideration for the daily routines of villagers who depend on the river crossing.

A number of deliberate design decisions shaped the final outcome. Instead of the usual combination of steel barriers with pole-mounted lights, the team customised perforated concrete barriers with integrated lighting, developed in collaboration with the supplier. This created a cleaner visual profile, improved night-time illumination, and avoided the clutter of standard roadside fittings. The bridge mast incorporates Malay motifs that soften its plain finish and embed cultural reference subtly rather than ornamentally.

The earliest challenges, however, were not aesthetic. The old bridge structure was positioned below flood level, obstructing water flow from Sungai Bintangor to Sungai Sarawak. This contributed to recurring floods in Kampung Bintangor during the rainy season. The new bridge required a higher deck and a more complex curvature, derived from multiple centre points, to allow uninterrupted river discharge. Adjusting the levels while maintaining the correct crossing angle added significant technical complexity early in the process.

Community engagement was a critical component of the project. The closure of the old bridge during construction affected nearby residents, and dialogue



Physical models study before moving to digital studies to determine scale, structural and design feasibility

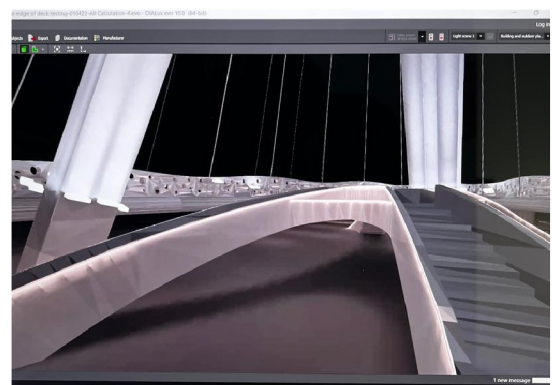
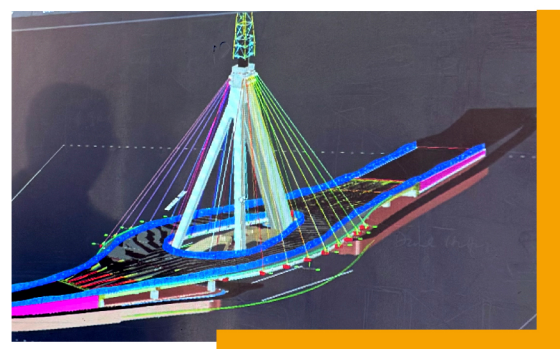


Illustration of the pedestrian crossing at the base of the mast



BIM modelling of the cable stayed bridge with oblong shaped-dual carriageway deck

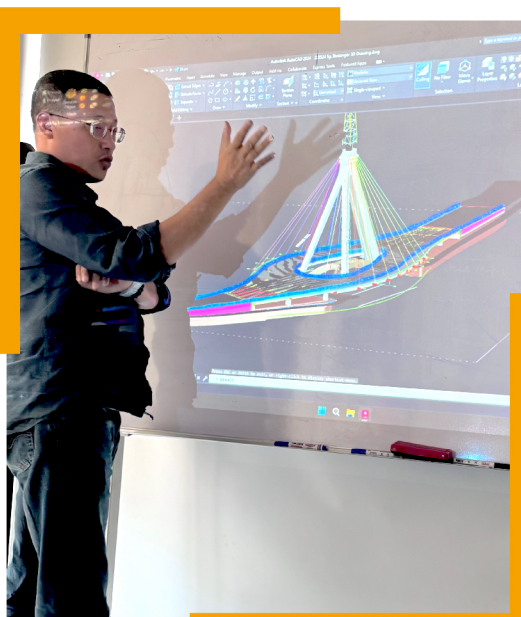
sessions were held to explain the project's intentions, address concerns, and keep communication transparent. These engagements helped maintain community support during a period of prolonged disruption.

Structurally, the bridge uses a three-point support cable-stayed system. The difficulty lay in achieving this within a layout that accommodates a curved dual-carriageway deck. Haji Azrai personally coordinated the arrangement of the cables, working closely with structural engineer and cable stayed specialist, Tony Gee to refine the hierarchy and geometry needed to support the structure. The resulting cable arrangement along an oblong-shaped deck is among the earliest applications of this configuration for a cable-stayed bridge.

Some early features such as a clock and a lift-accessible viewing platform within the mast, were removed due to cost and technical constraints. They were conceived to offer panoramic views of Sungai Sarawak and the surrounding kampungs but were omitted to preserve design clarity within the project's limits.

Construction began in December 2019 but encountered delays caused by the pandemic and issues involving underground utilities. Partial opening was achieved in February 2025. Today, the Datuk Amar Juma'ani Bridge stands not only as a new piece of infrastructure but as part of the larger transformation underway in the Satok area. The Sarawak Premier has emphasised that planned developments will continue to respect existing land ownership and the identity of local communities.

For Haji Azrai, the bridge exemplifies how architects can shape public spaces by addressing genuine issues while offering a meaningful contribution to the city's landscape. His view is that architects must be willing to ask critical questions, challenge the brief responsibly, and adopt a visionary role in the development of Sarawak. The Datuk Amar Juma'ani Bridge demonstrates how thoughtful design, grounded in context and community needs, can achieve both functional improvements and cultural resonance; an approach that sets a clear direction for future architectural work in the state.



Passionate with the design detailing and cable arrangement to achieve his design intent.



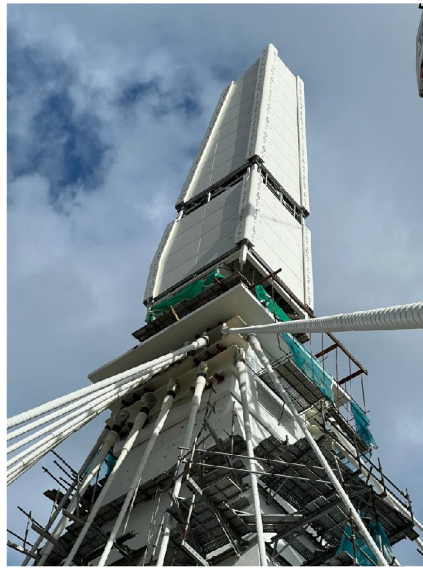
Cladding installation on the top part of the mast



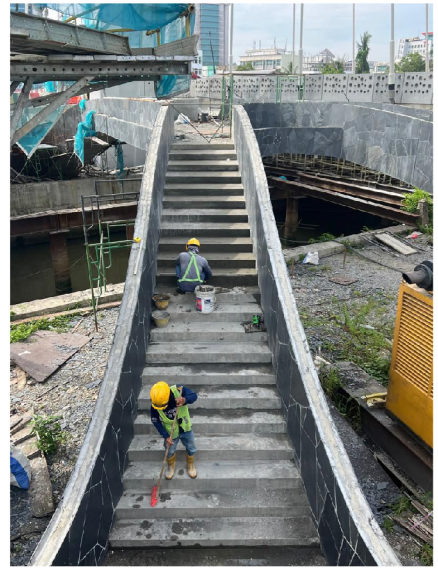
A landmark under construction



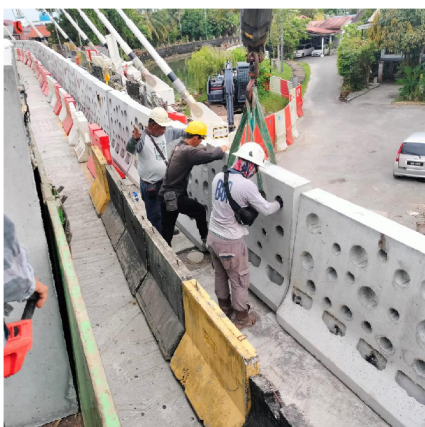
Nearing completion



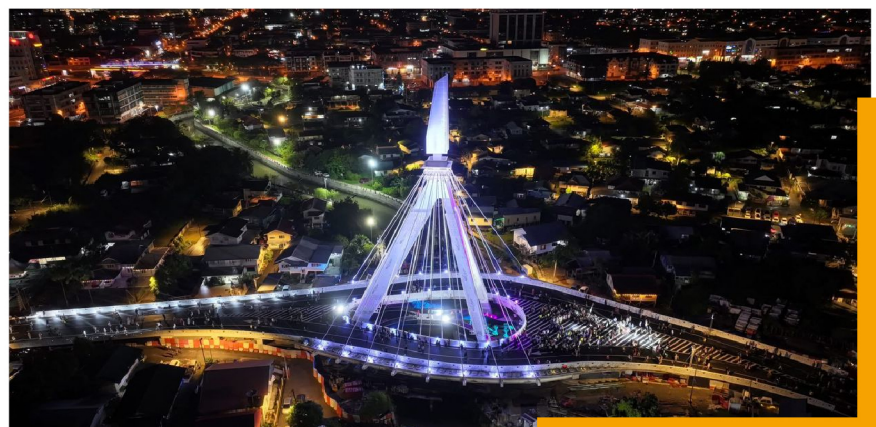
The top of the mast representing the "Hulu" or handle of the Keris.



Pedestrian bridge



Customised perforated concrete barriers with integrated lighting installation developed in collaboration with the supplier for night time illumination.



Completed ; the aerial view of the bridge on the opening ceremony by the Premier of Sarawak - photo by JKR Sarawak

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PAMSC PRACTICE WORKSHOP: 2025 DISCOURSE - MEMBERS' FEEDBACK ON HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, ESPA & ELA2 SUBMISSION PROCESSES

By Ar. Afiq Shazwan

PAMSC PRACTICE WORKSHOP:

**GATHERING MEMBERS FEEDBACK ON
ISSUES RELATED TO HOUSING DEVELOPMENT,
eSPA & eLA2 BUILDING PLAN SUBMISSION**

08 NOV
2025
SATURDAY

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM



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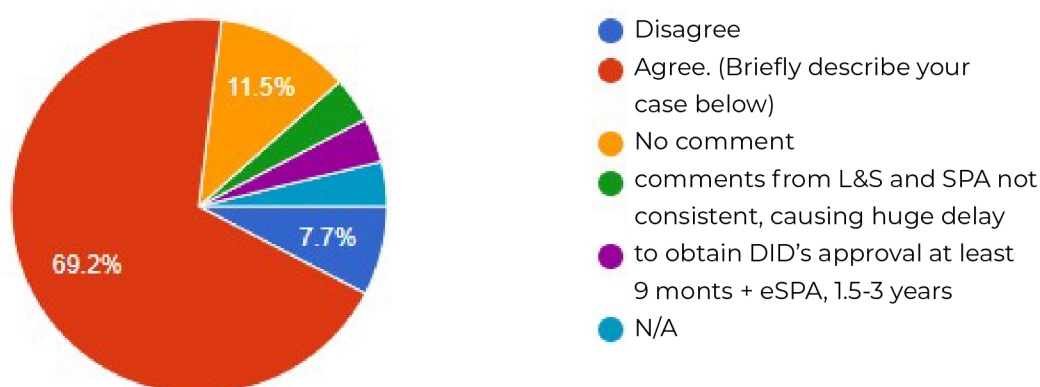


Organised by:



PAMSC organised a Practice Workshop on 8 November 2025 (Saturday) at PAMSC Saradise, bringing members together to discuss issues related to housing development submissions, the eSPA system, and the eLA2 building plan process. The half-day session, held from 8.00am to 12.00pm, was attended by 47 members.

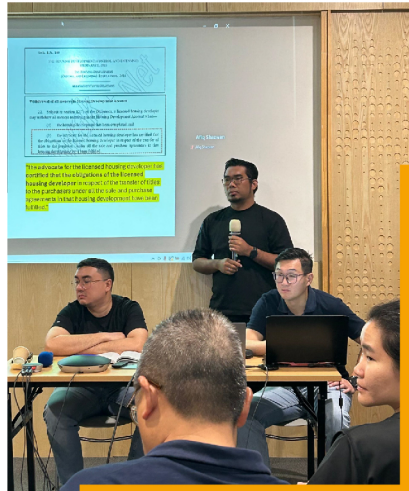
The approval process is too long.



Ahead of the workshop, a survey was conducted to gather preliminary feedback. The results, summarised in the accompanying pie chart, show that a clear majority of respondents agreed that the eSPA approval process is too long. Members highlighted several recurring issues, including:

- Inconsistent comments between Land & Survey (L&S) and the State Planning Authority (SPA).
- Slow responses and delays in acceptance of submissions or replies to queries.
- Lengthy approval timelines, particularly from DID, compounded by unclear eSPA procedures.

Frequent coordination issues involving SAINS and Divisional offices.



The open sharing during the workshop allowed members to compare experiences, clarify procedural uncertainties, and identify key areas that require improvement.

All feedback collected from the survey and workshop will be compiled and forwarded to the relevant ministries and agencies for further discussion. PAMSC will continue to advocate for a more efficient and transparent submission process to support the architectural profession and the development industry in Sarawak.



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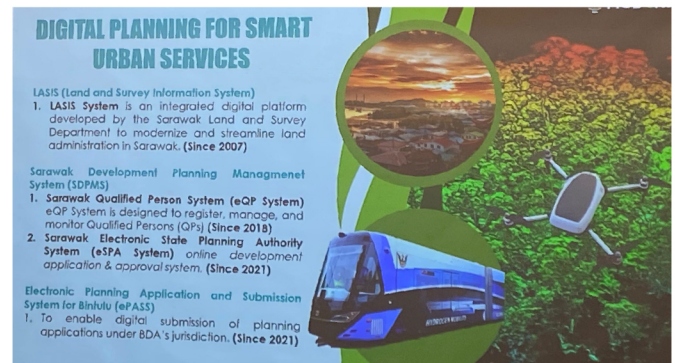
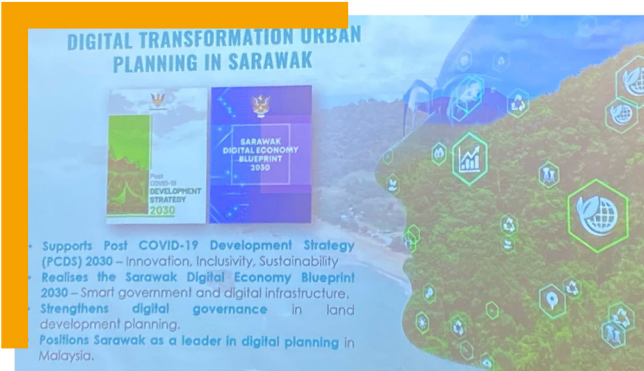
SYNDICATION SESSION ON 3D SUBMISSION FOR AVTC AND SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS THROUGH ESPA

By Ar. Afiq Shazwan



On 4 November 2025, PAMSC representatives attended a syndication session organised by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development (MUDeNR) to discuss the upcoming implementation of 3D submission requirements for development applications. The session was held at the Theatre Hall, PUSAKA, Wisma Sumber Alam, and was chaired by YB Datuk Haji Len Talif Salleh, Deputy Minister of Urban Planning, Land Administration and Environment.



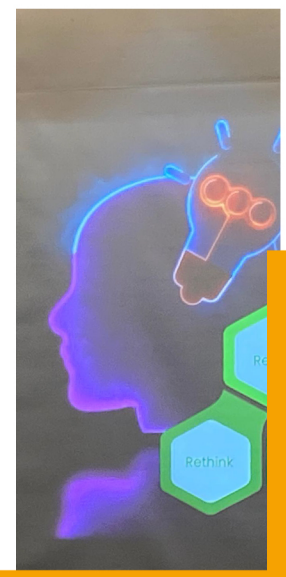


The briefing focused on Sarawak's ongoing digital transformation in urban planning, particularly the integration of 3D planning data into existing government systems. Key agencies such as the Urban and Country Planning Division and the Land and Survey Department presented updates on the state's digital platforms, which include LASIS, the Sarawak Development Planning Management System, the eQP system, and the Sarawak Electronic State Planning Authority (eSPA). The government also highlighted that 3D scanning of all major cities in Sarawak has been completed.

Under the 13th Malaysia Plan (RMK13), the state aims to fully adopt 3D submissions and leverage AI technologies for planning processes starting in 2026. This marks a significant shift toward a more transparent and data-driven planning environment.



| TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION COMPARISON: eSPA SYSTEM (SARAWAK) VS OSC 3.0 SYSTEM (PENINSULAR MALAYSIA) | | |
|--|---|--|
| Technology Aspect | eSPA System (Sarawak) | OSC 3.0 System (Peninsular Malaysia) |
| System Core Focus | Spatial-driven planning and development control system with GIS-centric database | Document-driven development control system focused on digital submissions and workflow routing |
| Layout Plan & Perspective Submission Format | Layout Plan (Autocad) & 2D perspective drawings (PDF/JPEG) | 2D digital drawings (PDF) only |
| GIS Integration | Fully integrated with Spatial Database; spatial overlay checks and automated zoning validation | GIS layers not natively integrated; manual verification by technical agencies |
| Automation & Rule Engine | Uses auto-validation logic to verify zoning, land use, and submission completeness | manual review remains dominant |
| Digital Twin Integration (NEW) | Developing Digital Twin model for urban simulation, 3D analytics, and visual planning (NEW) | ✗ None — still at document-centric stage |
| Data Analytics | Real-time dashboard analytics for decision support, KPI tracking, and project monitoring | no spatial or predictive analytics |
| Integration Ecosystem | Connected to eQP System, LASIS and ePASS supports cross-agency data sharing | not system-to-system |
| Interoperability Readiness | Designed for system-to-system interoperability (API-based) with land, utility, and environmental systems | Minimal interoperability; focuses on unified document flow |
| Future Development Direction | Toward eSPA 4.0 – AI-enhanced spatial decision support, digital twin integration, 3D-GIS analytics, blockchain traceability for submissions | OSC 4.0 (planned) to include AI-assisted validation and improved API integration |



Land and Survey outlined upcoming mandatory requirements for 3D model submission.

Stage 1, beginning in Q3 2026, will require all high-rise developments of five storeys and above, regardless of building use, to include 3D data as part of their SPA submissions.

Stage 2, to be introduced two years after Stage 1, will expand the requirement to almost all forms of development except standard landed residential buildings below three storeys. Amendments to previously approved developments that involve major external changes will also fall under this category.

The department clarified that submitted 3D models are not for approval or endorsement, but for visualisation within the government's 3D city model. The models must be prepared at LOD3, allowing authorities to assess height, massing, visual impact, and shadow studies more accurately.

PAMSC representatives took note of these changes and will continue to engage with MUDeNR and Land and Survey to ensure the architectural industry is well-prepared for the transition to 3D-based planning submissions.


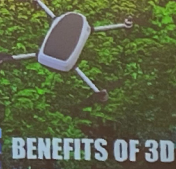

Unified model for multi-agency review (L&S, BDA, JTS, NREB, MUDeNR).

Real-time spatial validation height, plot ratio, setbacks.

Accurate visualization of topography and infrastructure interface.

Enhanced coordination and data sharing between agencies.

Faster processing and improved transparency for QPs and applicants.



BENEFITS OF 3D SUBMISSION IN eSPA



Complexity of Modern Developments
Vertical and mixed-use projects need better spatial understanding.

Improved Visualisation
Enables realistic view of site context, terrain, height, and shadow effects.

Better Decision Making
Supports spatial impact analysis and environmental assessments.

Digital Integration
Prepares for GIS, BIM, and future Digital Twin applications.

Efficiency and Transparency
Reduces review time and enhances communication among agencies and public.



WHY 3D SUBMISSION IS NEEDED?

3D SUBMISSION

3D SUBMISSION IMPLEMENTATION IN OTHER COUNTRY

BAYSIDE CITY COUNCIL, AUSTRALIA

- Required for all applications for planning permission within the Council's Major Activity Centres

PARRAMATA CITY COUNCIL, AUSTRALIA

- Mandatory for new developments over 4-storeys

CITY OF SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

- Mandatory for building of over 4-storeys

CITY OF OTTAWA, CANADA

- Required for mid-rise and/or high-rise building application

GOVERNMENT OF JERSEY, BRITISH ISLAND

- Mandatory for planning applications involving new building over 200 sqm or any scheme proposing the construction of more than one building

CITY OF PERTH, AUSTRALIA


- Required for all significant development applications as part of their approval process

CITY OF PASADENA, USA

- Required for new development projects

Development Planning

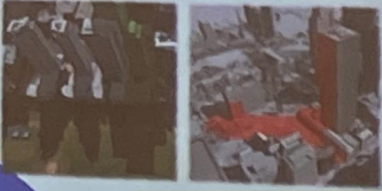
View Sheds



3D City Model | City of Perth

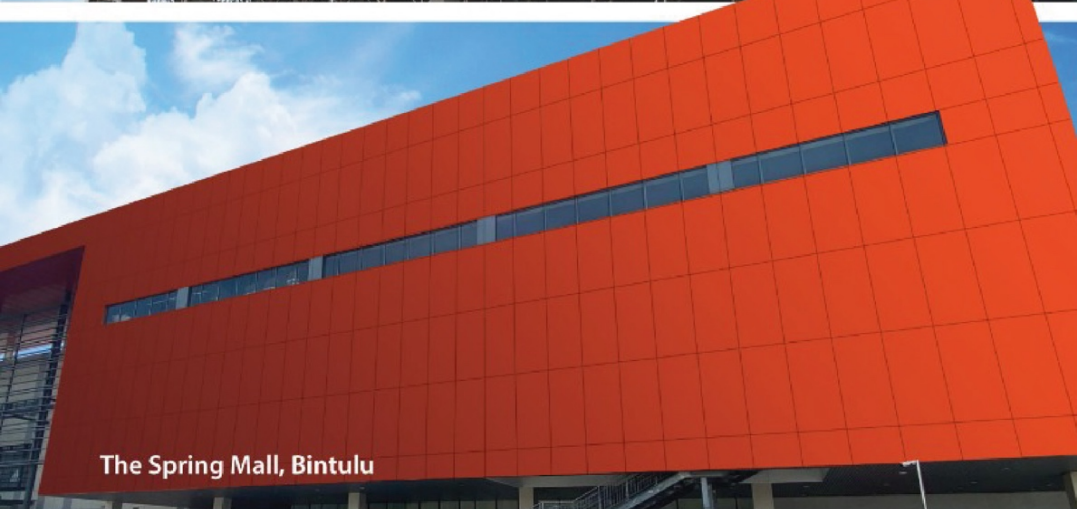
Development Planning

Live Shadow Analysis





Wisma Melayu Sarawak



The Spring Mall, Bintulu

APPLICABLE GBI CREDITS

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| NRNC | EQ4, MR3 |
| RNC | EQ2, MR3 |
| INC | EQ4, MR3 |
| NREB | EQ4 |
| IEB | EQ4 |
| INTERIORS | EQ2, MR3 |

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CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE INTER-PROFESSIONAL GAMES (IPG) 2025 - PAMSC STRONG PERFORMANCE

By Rudy Azli Othman

Photos courtesy of UPC IPG photographer Winny, and PAMSC



The closing ceremony of the 2025 UPC IPG Games was held on 8th November at the Sarawak Club, Kuching, and was officiated by YB Datuk Amar Professor Dr. Sim Kui Hian. The event marked the culmination of a spirited series of competitions that brought together professionals from across Sarawak in the true spirit of camaraderie and healthy rivalry.

In 1984, eleven professional bodies in Sarawak came together to form the Ultimate Professional Centre Sdn Bhd (UPC), creating a shared platform for networking, collaboration, and fellowship among the state's professional communities. Today, these same bodies continue that spirit of unity through the annual Inter-Professional Games (IPG), a tradition that brings together members from diverse disciplines under one roof, and onto one playing field.



The professional bodies participating in the 2025 Games are:

- Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia, Sarawak Branch (RISM)
- Institution of Engineers Malaysia, Sarawak Branch (IEM)
- Advocates Association of Sarawak (AAS)
- Malaysian Medical Association, Sarawak Branch (MMA)
- Pertubuhan Arkitek Malaysia, Sarawak Chapter (PAMSC)
- Sarawak Institute of Agricultural Scientists (SIAS)
- Malaysian Institute of Planners, Sarawak Chapter (MIP)
- Malaysian Institute of Accountants, Sarawak Branch (MIA)
- Persatuan Farmasi Sarawak
- Institute Kimia Malaysia, Sarawak Branch (IKM)
- Sarawak Veterinary Association (SVA)

Overall Results – IPG UPC Games 2025

- Overall Champion (YB Datuk Dr Wong Soon Kai Trophy): IEM
- 2nd Place: RISM
- 3rd Place: MMA
- 4th Place: PAMSC
- 5th Place: MIA
- 6th Place: AAS
- 7th Place: MIP / SPS
- 8th Place: SIAS / IKM / SVA





PAMSC proudly secured **4th place** overall, an improvement of two spots from the previous games where the team placed 6th. This progress reflects the dedication, teamwork, and competitive spirit of our members across all categories.

PAMSC Results by Event

Darts – 3rd Place

Pickleball – 4th Place

Futsal – 2nd Place

Golf – 7th Place

Bowling – 3rd Place

Badminton – 6th Place

Congratulations to all PAMSC representatives for their hard work, commitment, and strong showing throughout the games. With emerging young talents joining our experienced players, PAMSC looks forward to an even better placement in the next IPC UPC Games.

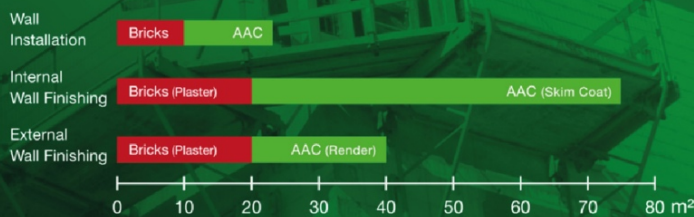
Here's to teamwork, sportsmanship, and the continued rise of PAMSC, may we be champions soon!



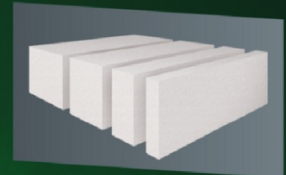
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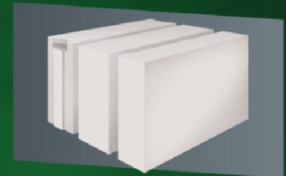
Increase Wall Installation Speed AAC Block vs Brick (m²/ worker/ day)



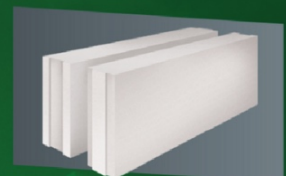
Save up to 25% of Foundation Cost Brick vs AAC Block



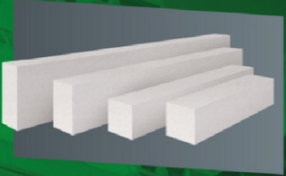
Starken Standard Block



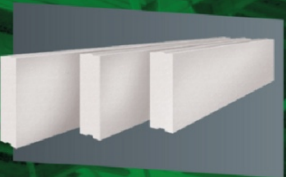
Starken Jumbo Block & Starken Jumbo Block EZ



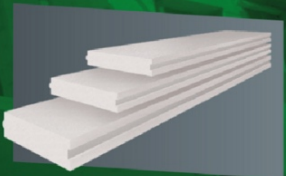
Starken Interlocking Block



Starken Lintel



Starken Wall Panel



Starken Floor Panel

PAMSC PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES 1/2025

— A TALK BY AR. HIJJAS KASTURI



PAMSC, in collaboration with Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), successfully held the PAMSC Public Lecture Series 1/2025 featuring the distinguished Professor Emeritus Ar. Hijjas Kasturi. This event continued the earlier partnership established in 2019 and was also part of the Kuala Lumpur Architecture Festival (KLAF) 2025 programme line-up.

Event Details

Date: 18 October 2025 (Saturday)

Venue: CTF1, UNIMAS

Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Attendance: 360 participants





The lecture offered a rare opportunity to learn from one of Malaysia's most influential architectural figures. Ar. Hijjas shared his foundational philosophy: a building must first be functional; beauty then arises from sculpting the form and creatively applying technology. This balance between purpose and expression, he explained, is what gives architecture its timeless quality.

When asked what continues to excite him about architecture after decades in the field, he replied simply, "Every day is something new." The clarity of this statement reflects the curiosity, discipline, and drive that continue to guide his work.



A Pioneer of Malaysian Architecture

Born in Singapore in 1936 to a family of diverse cultural roots, Hijjas received a scholarship from the Australian Government to study architecture at the University of Adelaide. His move to Malaysia in 1967 marked a turning point for architectural education when he founded the first professional architecture programme at the MARA Institute of Technology (now UiTM).

A decade later, he established Hijjas Kasturi Associates Sdn Bhd (HKAS), a practice that went on to define Malaysia's modern architectural landscape. In Sarawak, several major landmarks bear his influence, including:

- the DBKU Building
- the Sarawak State Legislative Assembly (DUN)
- Wisma Saberkas
- the MBKS Building



Ar. Hijjas was also a close friend of the late visionary Chief Minister of Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud. Through this relationship, Hijjas contributed significantly to realising Tun Taib's vision of creating iconic landmarks that would position Sarawak prominently on the architectural map. Their shared aspirations helped shape a modern architectural identity for the state, one that continues to inspire contemporary works in Sarawak today.

His return to Sarawak for this lecture was more than a professional engagement; it felt like a homecoming of ideas, legacy, and influence. His work continues to guide new generations through its clarity of form, purposeful expression, and thoughtful integration of culture and technology.

The session provided students, academics, and practitioners an invaluable opportunity to learn directly from a living legend whose contributions continue to shape Malaysian architecture with enduring relevance.



Photos courtesy of UNIMAS

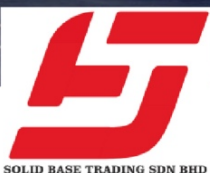


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VICTORY FOR UITM KAMPUS SAMARAHAN AT THE 36TH ARCHITECTURAL STUDENT WORKSHOP: MARTABAT

Reported by Ar. Mitchell Tony Mos
Photos by Constantine Claudius Embagos.



23–26 August 2025 — Thirty-five students from Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Kota Samarahan, Sarawak participated and acclaimed victory at the 36th MARTABAT Architectural Student Workshop, hosted by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM). The workshop, themed around cultural identity and heritage, brought together participants from 18 universities, including international delegates from Indonesia and Thailand. Through various competitions, the UiTM Kota Samarahan team showcased creativity and innovation, marking a proud achievement for the faculty and strengthening their presence on the national architectural stage.



UiTM Kota Samarahan achieved remarkable success at the 36th MARTABAT Architectural Student Workshop 2025, emerging as Champion in the Perlambangan Bangsa Statue and Bawa Darjat Traditional Tandu competitions. The team also secured Third Place in the Film Watan Short Film category and Seventh Place in the Martabat Bangsa Installation competition. With consistent excellence across diverse categories, UiTM Kota Samarahan was proudly ranked as the 3rd Best University overall out of 18 participating institutions, including international entries; a testament to their resilience, teamwork, and strong cultural identity. This achievement proves that being a university from Sarawak is never a barrier to excellence.

Traveling all the way from Borneo to join the nation's largest architectural student workshop, UiTM Kota Samarahan demonstrated that there is no excuse for underperformance. Instead, the journey became a symbol of determination and resilience, proving that talent, creativity, and teamwork can shine on any stage, no matter how far the road.





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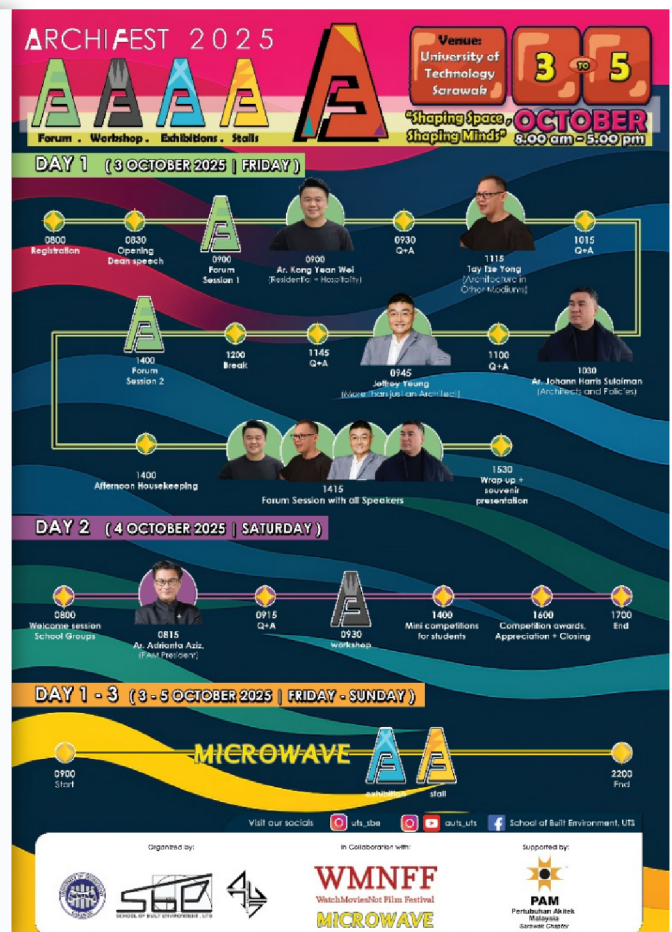


UTS ARCHIFEST 2025

“SHAPING SPACE, SHAPING MINDS”

Event Report Contributed by Ar. Brendan Tong

GRADUATES



The School of Built Environment of the University of Technology Sarawak (UTS) has successfully hosted by their Archifest 2025 Festival on campus from 3rd to 5th October 2025. With support provided by both Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM) and its Sarawak subsidiary, PAMSC, artistic collaborative partner Microwave Sibu, the event, being the first of its kind for UTS, was envisioned as a three day celebration of arts and architecture under the event tagline “Shaping Space, Shaping Minds”. The outcome manifested in a grand congregation of Architects, graduates, students and industrial

stakeholders from all over the Central Region of Sarawak, converging on the campus to interact and share their insights, interest and knowledge from their respective realms. Key highlights of the festival included a forum, a sharing by PAM President, and the art – centric and fun activities carried out in between.



The Forum on Day 1

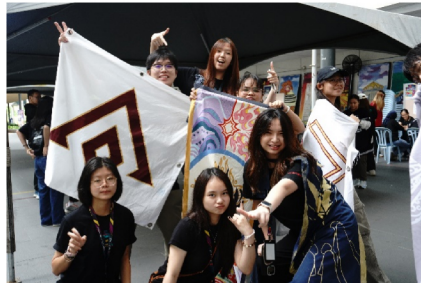
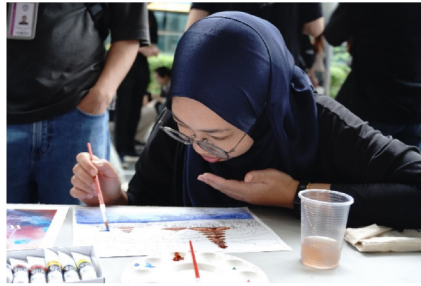
In the spirit of the festival, the forum sought to promote a variety of artistic and industrial opportunities Sarawak currently offers, as well as to showcase local talents to a young aspiring audience. For this, Ar. Kong Yean Wei of MNSC, Ar. Johann Harris Sulaiman from ArchiNexus, Mr. Tay Tze Yong from Intodesign, and Mr. Jeffrey Yeung from Elements were flown in from Kuching to awe an audience of 120 people with their various endeavours. Ar. Kong started the session with a sharing of his life experience from his days as a plucky graduate, to his current position as a registered Architect working at MNSC Architects, thus inspiring the audience with how he overcame the challenges he encountered along the way. Mr. Tay followed up with a sharing of the sculptural and installation oriented projects which Intodesign is best known for, and impressed participants with his creative and innovative approach to design, as well his ability to translate complex forms through simple sketches. Being the Chairperson of the Government and Liaison Committee (GLC) of PAMSC, Ar. Johann was invited to rally a call to solidarity amongst the young audience, and share the process, achievements, and struggles the committee experienced in order to ensure the voice of Sarawakian Architects were taken in account by enacted laws, rules and policies. Last but certainly not the least, Mr. Jeffrey demonstrated how he tapped into his vast experience working on substantial projects in Hong Kong, Japan, Australia and the UK in his endeavour as a Developer and Project Manager for projects such as KTS Garden and Chimes Residential Project. The session concluded with a dialogue between the speakers and the audience, which became an opportunity for a more in depth sharing and discourse with the predominantly student oriented audience on the prospects of an Architectural degree, as well as the future of arts, architecture and development in Sarawak.



A Sharing by PAM President on Day 2

The President of PAM, Adjunct Prof. Ar. Adrianta Aziz dropped in on Day 2 to provide his talk entitled “Architecture as a Career”, with an aim to inspire a new generation of talented young Architects and designers to help realise PAM’s goal of propelling Malaysia into the realm of architectural eminence. Sharing his dimension of success through his trademark inspirational audio-visual performance, Ar. Adrianta made great effort to awe the 100 pax audience of primarily secondary school students from Sibu, Kanowit and Song schools, who found his speech resonating deeply and personally with both their own struggles and their ambitions. It is to his testament then that the students refused to let him leave for his other commitments long after the end of his talk, and engaged him offstage en-masse to get his insights into their own preferred career paths and educational decision, with which Ar. Adrianta was more than happy to oblige with his opinion and advice.





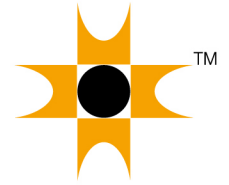
Scenes from the Festival

Throughout the three day festival, the UTS campus was abuzz with trade and activities, patronised by both the Architectural community and the curious public. The Microwave Sibu Organization ran their annual “WatchMoviesNot” event amongst the festival, and organized cinematic screenings of many classic and contemporary films such as Charlie Chaplin’s “The Kid”, and Malaysian film “You Are My Son”, which was principally filmed in Sibu. A large diaspora of creative entrepreneurs also set up stalls on the campus selling wares from fusion desserts to hand made crafts. Not wanting to be outdone, the Architecture Students of UTS (AUTS) club took charge of architecture oriented game booths that were set up in between all the festivities, and engaged the public with interactive activities they created.

The 2025 UTS Archifest Festival has been a roaring success, and it would be impossible to carry out the event without all the sponsors, support and assistance bestowed upon the organizing team by their many stakeholders. Hence, UTS would like to take this opportunity to thank PAM and PAMSC for their wondrous and immense support, as well as speakers Adjunct. Prof. Ar. Adrianta Aziz, Ar. Kong Yean Wei, Ar. Johann Harris Sulaiman, Mr. Tay Tze Yong, and Mr. Jeffrey Yeung, for taking precious time off their busy schedule to contribute their insights and sharing to the festival’s audience.



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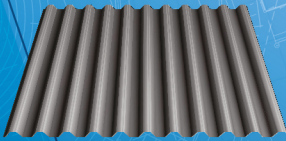
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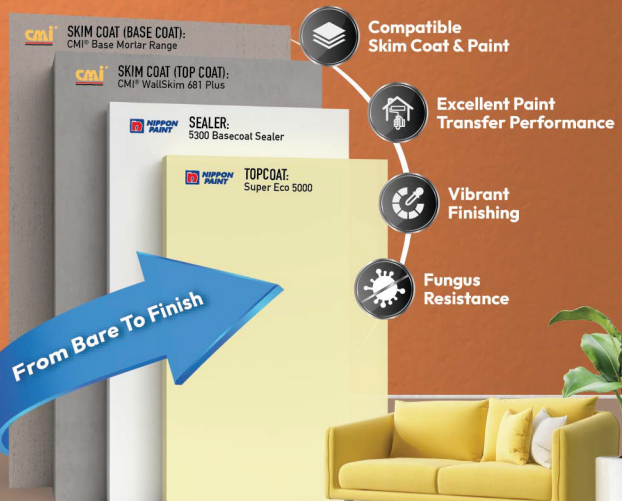
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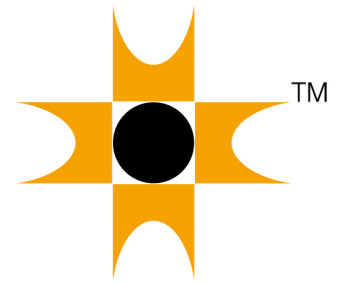
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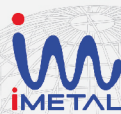


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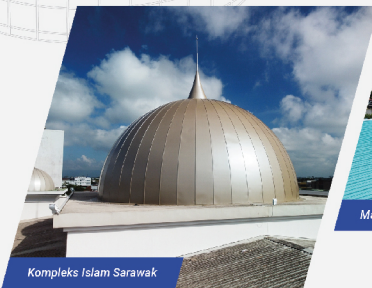
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