

## THE CONSERVATION OF THE OLD CITY "TANJUNG PURA" AS THE TOURISM ASSET IN LANGKAT DISTRICT

Meyga Fitri Handayani Nasution<sup>1)</sup>, Arjuna Pangeran<sup>2)</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Jurusan Teknik Arsitektur Fakultas Teknik Sipil dan Perencanaan, Institut Teknologi Medan email: <a href="mailto:imvchev@vahoo.com">imvchev@vahoo.com</a>

<sup>2</sup>Jurusan Teknik Arsitektur Fakultas Teknik Sipil dan Perencanaan, Institut Teknologi Medan email: arjunapangeran26@gmail.com

Tanjung Pura, formerly was the capital of Malay Sultanate of Langkat, had various cultural heritage of Malay Sultanate and Dutch colonial. The diversity of cultural heritage objects in Tanjung Pura such as the historical buildings are very potential as a tourism assets in Tanjung Pura. Therefore, the conservation efforts need to be hold so the old town Tanjung Pura not only become a history. The special target of this research is a conservation of the region in Tanjung Pura to become an architectural and cultural tourism assets. The Results of the research are design concept, conservation concept, design of the area, and documentation such photos and pictures of the historical buildings in design program use. The result of measurements and sketches in the area are using design program, making analysis and design concepts for the area to be used as a tourist object attraction.

*Key words : City of Tanjung Pura, Conservation, Tourism Architecture.* 

#### INTRODUCTION

Issue about the conservation of historical areas, especially in the old town nowadays done by many countries in this world. Such as Japan, Netherland, Singapore and others. For example, Singapore at first replaced buildings and historical areas with new appearance of modernization, but the amount of tourists who got interested to came to Singapore were lacked made the government conscious to return back the historical city's look such as *Kampung Melayu*, Little India and China town Singapore, So, the current attractions in Singapore now are ancient buildings, postmodern and modern.

In Indonesia, several cities have implemented the conservation of historical areas and historical structures who considered as cultural heritage of architecture such as Samarinda, Donggala, Surakarta and others, even to small towns in Indonesia. The historical areas and buildings who still exist in Indonesia are not only the structures who left by the Dutch, there are also the relics of the former kingdoms that ever existed in Indonesia, include in the heritages is traditional houses. So the cultural heritages of architectures in Indonesia are very diverse, from the Dutch's colonial relics, the former royal's temples, palaces, worship place, traditional buildings such as traditional houses from each region in Indonesia, and also the structures who have the characterized of the certain ethnic such as China, Arab and India. Historical areas and structures in Indonesia are not only found in the big cities but also in small towns suh as districts and sub districts. One of the districts is the city of Tanjung Pura.

The Tanjung Pura city was the capital of Malay Langkat sultanate. As the capital, Tanjung Pura had its own administrative infrastructure facilities, such as palace, meeting hall, judicial office, jail, royal palace, mosque, school and others. Moreover, the entry of the several ethnic in Tanjung Pura such as Arab and India who came for trade, spread Islam religion, and build worships, then the Chinese came so there are shopping place and



worships, and also the entry of Netherland to the city of Tanjung Pura made appearing the Dutch houses and government offices also public facilities such as hospitals and post offices. Currently, the area and the historical buildings in Tanjung Pura are still functioning as they used to, but some of them have been broken, unkempt and disappear. All areas and buildings in Malay Sultanate Era and Dutch Colonial are historic relic of Tanjung Pura and worth to be preserve.

As mentioned before, besides being influenced by the Dutch, the growth of Tanjung Pura City also influenced by some ethnic immigrants, such as Chinese, Arabic and Indians. These can be seen from the architecture who can be found in Tanjung Pura, not only characterized by Malay but also the building structures with Chinese, Arabic, and Indian architectural, include the Dutch colonial's, in the Dutch architecture concerned about the culture and local conditions, so the appearing form always put in the characteristics of local culture, such as the use of the roof and Malay ornaments on the building. So if seen from the characteristics of the buildings in some areas of Tanjung Pura, it is estimated that there are classification of the city based on ethnicity, such as the Malay region, China area and the Dutch Colonial area. Cultural diversity who can found in Tanjung Pura makes the city as a cultural city. Moreover, Tanjung Pura is also knows as the city of education, cause of some national figures such as Tengku Amir Hamzah and Adam Malik ever studies in this Malay Langkat. Until now the Islamic education is still growing up in Tanjung Pura.

Current condition of the heritage buildings of Langkat Malay Sultanate slowly disappear. One by one of the buildings are damaged and torn down for build the new modern buildings. This condition is very worrying considering the city has very potential cultural heritage if developed and will be a regional asset.

Therefore, the cultural heritage in Tanjung Pura need special attention like preserving the areas and buildings for protecting, treating, and maintaining by making the good concept of structuring and treatment so that later Tanjung Pura can be a tourism attraction for local and overseas tourist to come to this town. Moreover needs to make data collection and documentation of each historical buildings who still have function for tourism's reference and also for historical education for next generations are not want to forget the history of their nation. Furthermore, hopefully that the results of this research can be used by the local government as an reference in making the conservation and maintenance of cultural heritage areas and buildings (Structures) in Tanjung Pura.

### RESEARCH METHODS

#### 1. Data Location retrieval and tools to be used

The research was done at Tanjung Pura Langkat district. The measurements conducted by GPS tools and illustrated by the design software such as Autocad and illustrator. Each zone area has historical buildings, then several buildings was taken to represent each region. Measurement on each buildings using a measuring tools then sketching each building. In addition documentation of each building using a digital camera.

#### 2. Data Collection Techniques

The data collected in this research is primary data survey and secondary data survey. For primary data obtained by directed observation in the field, measurement, sketching, documentation with digital camera ad video. While the secondary one



obtained by literature study from local library in Medan, Malay library, Tanjung Pura's Museum, and interview with historians in Tanjung Pura.

For taking historical buildings sample in each area is done by looking at conservation criteria such as age of buildings, aesthetics, landmarks of the areas, and architectural style.

#### 3. Research Procedure

Steps of implementation of this research:

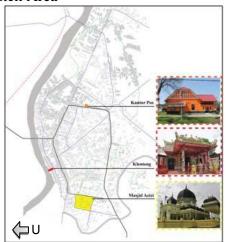
- a. The steps of secondary data survey is to collect the literature data from local library in Medan, Malay library in Medan, Tanjung Pura's Museum and interview with the historians from Tanjung Pura.
- b. Step of the primary data survey is direct observation in the field, Tanjung Pura:
  - Mapping the historical buildings
  - Separating zone areas based on characteristic of the building in each of the zone areas.
  - Collected data of each historical building in each zone area, measurement, sketching and documentation with digital camera to take details of the architectural so it can be easier in sketching.
- c. The representation is the primary data who can obtained in the field by using software design.
- d. The concept making is drafting concept for the urban area (Malay area and Chinatown area) it will be the tourism historical tourism object, the concept is poured in the sketching design such as pedestrian design, parking design, and others.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### 1. Regional Division at Tanjung Pura Town

From the surveys and direct observations by looking at the architectures (buildings) at Tanjung Pura, can be separated into 3 areas. And from those 3 areas, each one can be used as main vocal to represent each region, they are:

- a. Azizi Mosque for Malay Area
- b. Pagoda (Klenteng) for Chinatown Area
- c. Post Office for The Dutch Area

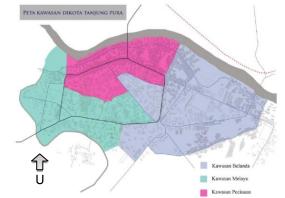


Picture 1: Building representing each region as main point.

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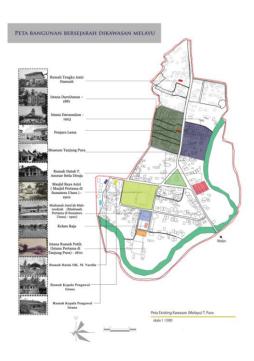
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After deciding one building in each area as main point and mapping historical building based on the characteristics, three areas in the Tanjung Pura are obtained as:



Picture 2: regional separate based on the main architecture.

## 2. Mapping and Data Collecting in Malay Area



Picture 3: Mapping in Malay Area

From the survey results that have been done in Tanjung Pura town, there are dead river which is currently not functioning and want to be functioned again by doing the dredging so that this river will be function again as flood control in Tanjung Pura town. Moreover to the re-functioning of the dead river, economically expected will be utilized by public as a new source income, which is the people can take advantage from this river flow as an alternative tourist attraction such as fishing or any other water attractions.

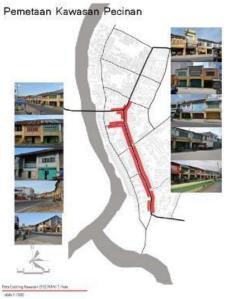
Conservation measures that can be done in Malay area is restructuring the buildings in this areas so that the old buildings who fall into the conservation will be more



dominant than new buildings. For residential areas, there needs to be a re-arrangement to eliminate the slum images by making urban drainage and re-functioning the king's pool at the rear of the mosque as a recreation area as a flood controller in this area. The arrangement of these residents can also be developed into a central area of Malay Langkat's Food Industry which is will be an impact on the conservation of Malay Langkat's special food.

The arrangement of resident of Malay society can be developed. So that the function of house is not only a place to live but can also be used as a home stay (cheap lodging), this change will be provide the economic value for the people where tourist who visiting this area will be able to see the life of Malay Langkat people by staying in people's homes to enjoy the culture of the community.

## 3. Mapping and Data Collection Building in Chinatown Area



Picture 4: Chinatown Area

The condition of the old shops buildings in Chinatown in Tanjung Pura has changed visually. The changes occur on the façade, structure and number of floors. From this conditions, there are 2 (two) alternatives from the conservation that can be done, they are:

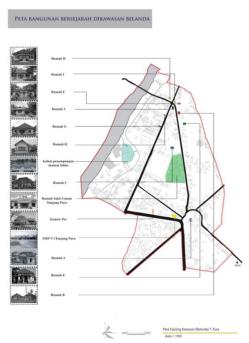
- a. Returns the façade of a store buildings who has changed into original form.
- b. Allowing the changed forms, but unchanged stores (shops) must be maintained and proposed to the local governments for permits to change the building only at the rear of the building, so that the facade in front of the store can be preserved.

Conservation that can be done in the old stores in Chinatown area is arrangement of the function off the house not only as a place of residence and ordinary stores (shops) but can be used as a home stay to provide economic value for this community where tourist who visit this Chinatown region will be able to enjoy the culture of Chinese society life and make this area as culinary tourism area.



Other conditions that need to be repair are the height of the street level and drainage system. The current height of the road has run into a huge alteration of the height causing the floor of the shops flooding. Because of that, it need to be a good drainage planning in this area and folders who in the past serve as a rain container will be restored to its original function.

## 4. Mapping and Data Collection Building in the Dutch Area



Picture 5: Dutch Area

In the Dutch area there are several colonial style buildings that are now damage to the façade, the environment and the structure of the building, it cause the building is not occupied (empty building) and have no owner of the building.

Based on these conditions, treatment and community participation can be included in the conservation action. Conservation actions that can be done on these buildings is rehabilitation. Environment in the Dutch areas must be done to improve the quality of conservation indirectly. (preservation of deterioration)

In the Dutch areas there is a pool container that is currently not maintained and not functioning because it has been occupied by people residences. This resulted causing floods in the Dutch areas and Tanjung Pura town. Usually caused of the water can not be collected from the river and rain. Because of these conditions, the container pool must be restored to original state so it can function properly. In addition, the container pool of this folder must be done conservation action for organize the environment by conservation of indirectly (preservation of deterioration)

## 5. Concept Preservation

From the survey conducted data of historical buildings in the three areas are:

- a. The Malay areas contains about 10 historical buildings who related to the Langkat Sultanate.
- b. Chinatown areas there are about 200 stores houses and 1 temple



c. The Dutch areas contains about 16 buildings recorded.

The results of data collection of cultural heritage buildings in the 3 areas are in the form of documentation of photographs. As for the area that will be used as a tourist attraction is the area of Sumatra cross that is from The Frand Mosque to the Sudirman street, it can be seen in picture 6. the yellow zone is a zone of conservation plan.



Picture 6: conservation areas planned

This area is taken because it it the center of Tanjung Pura town and there is a very interesting main point that is the Azizi mosque. Conservation is done on the area and the buildings in this zone.

#### For area conservation:

- a. Malay area as the center of activity of Islamic worship, education and historical tours and residences will experience the arrangement and supporting facilities. And the Chinatown area as the center of trade and commerce activities, historical tours, culinary tourism, Buddhist worship as well the residence also done the arrangement.
- b. The yellow zone is not passable by motor cycles, for the transportation line (Sumatera Highway) diverted by making alternative road.
- c. Dram up the drainage of the town so that there will be no floods, floods will be repaired and adjusted with the city folder system to be revived.
- d. Planning public place such as park, bazaar activities, green line, and others.
- e. Designing a good pedestrian in the area so that tourists will be comfortable to enjoy the history, architecture and culinary tour.
- f. Returns the old gate as the entrance to the area.
- g. Designing support facilities such as parking areas, bike lending, culinary areas and souvenir.
- h. Sei Batang Serangan Rives and Sei Batang Durian River which surrounds Tanjung Pura town will be improved and laid out prepared for water tourism transportation routes.



Picture 7: potential Area s a tourism object

#### KONSEP RANCANGAN PELESTARIAN



Picture 8: tourism area preservation concept

For building conservation in the yellow zone, will do:

- a. The shape of the historical building will be restored to its original form.
- b. Elevation on new buildings should not exceed more than historical buildings.
- c. Not allowed to make changes and or additions that remove the original form of the historical building.
- d. If necessary physical addition to conservation buildings should not be visible from original shape of the building.
- e. In ruble historical buildings will be fencing and arrangement of the surrounding landscape.

## **CONCLUSION**

Tanjung Pura town is a town that has a wealth of culture and history that needs to be preserved. The development of Tanjung Pura can be seen from the existence of old buildings that store so much history in the past. Unfortunately at this time one by one of historical sites began to disappear and damaged. For the conservation of Tanjung Pura is highly recommended that the cultural heritage of buildings do not disappear one by one. By restoring the face of the town it has its own uniqueness that can be attraction of the tourists to come to Tanjung Pura.

The conservation area that it taken is the road of the Grand Mosque until Sudirman street, for this area will be used as a historic area, cultural area and make it as a tourist area. It is



hoped that this conservation will improve the local economy. For the development of the town further will harmonized with the historical conditions of the town of Tanjung Pura.

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