

## Design of Syari'ah Resort in Barus, North Sumatera With a Religious Architecture Approach

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### ABSTRACT

Islamic architecture is a form of structural art that takes inspiration from the Qur'an, the Sunnah of the Prophet, the Prophet's Family, Companions, Scholars, and Muslim scholars, as well as the physical and metaphysical features of buildings. The concept of Islamic Architecture can maintain harmony between nature and local culture, and sustainable designs must be used, protecting the environment from the planning stage onwards. Barus, which is the entrance to the Islamic Archipelago Civilization, has the potential to be developed into a favorite destination for pilgrims. The beautiful environment around Barus is an added value for this area because the beaches are still beautiful, and the people still adhere to their local wisdom. The object of study is to explore and implement religious-oriented design for resort hotel. The method we use is qualitative explorative research by reviewing some relevant-theory and synthesizing concept. The study formed the design statement: Barus as the "Zero Point of the Spread of Archipelago Islamic Civilization," which will attract domestic and international visitors, boost the local economy, and provide jobs for the local community. It is necessary to include a bit of Mandailing Batak culture as the majority ethnic group in Barus. The main objective of this sharia resort design is to create sharia-oriented atmosphere through the use of religious architecture and upholding positive human relations. Mosques, galleries, viewing towers, separate swimming pools for men and women, and other facilities are available at this resort, which will make visitors' vacations keep connecting to from Islamic concepts.

**Keyword:** Religious Tourism, Sustainable Architecture, Syari'ah Resort.



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### 1. Introduction

The design and construction of both secular and religious buildings in Islamic countries are influenced by the diverse styles that make up Islamic architecture. From houses to mosques, arches are a defining feature, frequently found in the arcades lining courtyards. Semi-circular arches were the first kind of arches, and they were derived from Roman and Byzantine sources ( Rahman, 2015).

Resorts are generally a place for resting or recreation on holidays. With the current advances in transportation, it will provide access for tourists from all over the world to stay at resorts located in remote areas such as Barus. Barus offers a new natural environment and a more interesting cultural experience as well as more

complete resort facilities such as accommodation and facilities related to recreational activities. (Hassan, Ahmad, Aymen, & Ku Azhar Ku Hassan, 2010).

Islamic religious experts have concluded that there are five main objectives of Islamic law, namely maintaining religion (faith), preserving the soul, preserving reason, preserving property, and maintaining honor (Asyhari, 2005). This goal can be achieved by fostering or establishing a relationship with God, namely worship, fostering relationships with others and their environment (mu'amalah and akhlaqul-karimah) so they can obtain a harmonious, physically and mentally healthy life, prosper in the world, and obtain forgiveness in the hereafter.

Barus is the zero point of the spread of Islamic civilization in Nusantara. The tomb of Mahligai evidences this in Barus in the 7th century. Barus leaves many features of cultural identity. If it is successfully investigated, its historical traces can be used as the basis for the bearer of a region or country (Hakim, 2019). Barus has religious tours in the form of tombs of figures who developed Islamic civilization in the Nusantara. However, this religious tourism is less developed because of the lack of information that can be obtained about religious tourism in Barus.

Nusantara also began to be forgotten by the public. The tours that can be offered by Barus are unspoiled historical relics, namely ancient tombs of Islamic development figures in Nusantara, including Mahligai Tomb, Papan Tinggi Tomb, and Tuan Syech Machdun Tomb (Tanjung, 2018). In addition, Barus has beautiful beaches. The Barus development process focuses on optimizing the potential of areas that are currently neglected. This is done by encouraging the development of creative areas and equipping the area with tourism-supporting facilities (Silitonga & Anom, 2016).

Resort Design with an Islamic Religious Architecture Approach in Barus will be an attraction for tourists who will visit to enjoy the natural beauty of the West Coast and religious tourism in Barus. The design of this resort is also expected to make tourism in Barus more noticed by the government and the public, and tourists to know Barus better as the Zero Point of Islamic Civilization in Nusantara. So it will increase the tourism sector as one of the new growth for Indonesia and is expected to create greater economic benefits in the form of foreign exchange and foreign tourist arrivals, income from local tourists, and the creation of employment opportunities which will improve people's welfare.

### *1.1 Theme*

The theme raised in this Syari'ah Resort Design is Religious Architecture. According to archidose.org, Religious architecture is closely related to its use in buildings of religious or spiritual value. In the past, many cultures prioritized religious expression, so many churches and temples were architecturally expressive and had a dominant impact on society. This type of religious architecture is complex because there are no basic furniture rules like house architecture, and all religious activities include all the different activities that currently change over time.

Islamic architecture has the concept that the designed environment must guarantee the safety of the world and the hereafter, both in its physical and non-physical existence, object and subject, born with mind and body with soul (Terbit, 2019).

Islam can be spread and accepted by the community through da'wah. In social life, da'wah has a significant role in organizing a religious life so that a harmonious and happy society is created (Dianto, 2018). Da'wah plays a role in realizing the condition of the people in a direction that is blessed by Allah SWT by applying the theocentric and anthropocentric paradigms, or in a religious language called *Hablum min Allah wa Hablum minannas* (Konservasi, Daya, & Ksda, 2011). *Hablum min Allah* is the concept of how humans relate to Allah by following all his orders and staying away from his prohibitions, while *Hablum minannas* is the concept of how each individual maintains good relations with other individuals or groups of humans (Gufron, 2018).

So this resort has the theme where humans can have good relations with fellow human beings without having to be constrained in carrying out good relations with God in the same place.

## 2. Method

The method used in this resort design process is the five-step Mc. Ginty, namely the beginning, preparation, submission of proposals, evaluation, and action.

The method that will be discussed in this chapter is the location selection method and the problem-solving approach. In the design problem-solving process, there are problem identification, problem formulation, design objectives, data collection, analysis, drafting, pre-design, and final design.

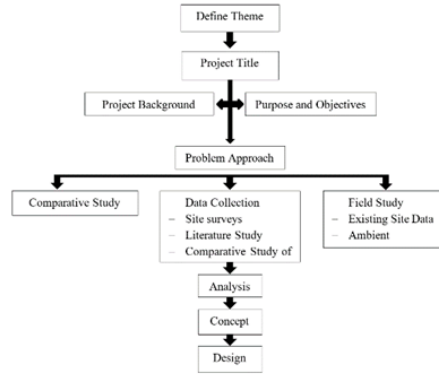


Figure 1. Diagram Method  
Source: Personal Document

### 2.1 Location and Site

Syari'ah Resort Design is located in Barus. Barus is a sub-district in the Central Tapanuli district, North Sumatra, Indonesia. The design is located on Jalan Sibolga-Barus, Barus District, Central Tapanuli Regency, North Sumatra, Indonesia. This place 291 km from Medan and can be reached approximately 7-8 hours driving.

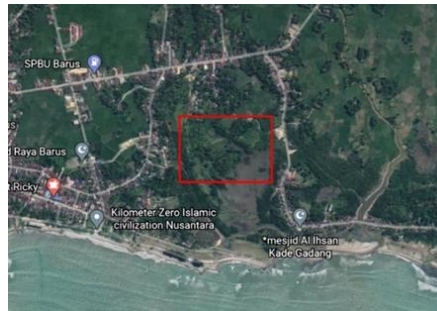


Figure 2. Design Location  
Source: Google Earth

## 3. Discussion

Site orientation facing south to maximize the view seen from the building.

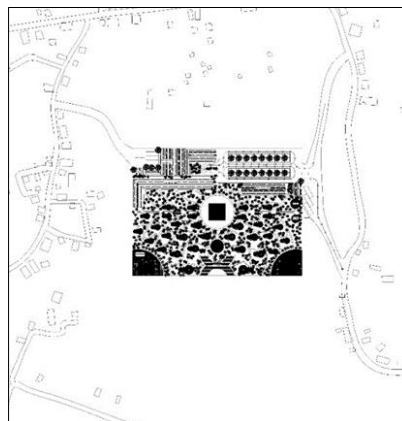


Figure 3. Site Plan  
Source: Personal Document

### 3.1 Site Boundaries Include

The Northside is directly adjacent to Jalan Sibolga-Barus and residents' houses. The East side is directly adjacent to Jalan Sibolga-Barus and residents' houses. The South side is directly adjacent to the West Coast. And The West side is directly adjacent to the Jalan Kapten Bongsu Pasaribu and the residents houses.

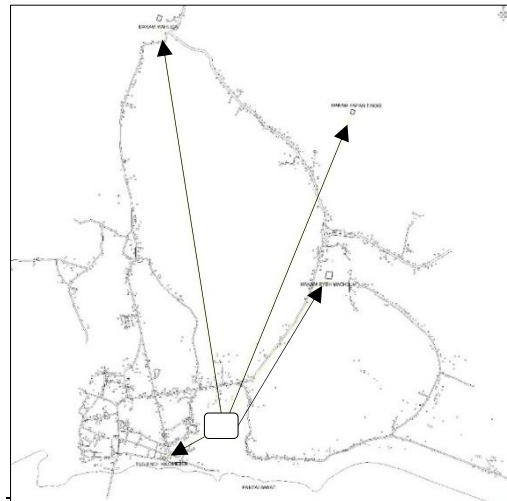


Figure 4. Religious Tourism  
Source: Personal Document

The spiritual tourist attractions in Barus are as follows :

Zero Kilometer Monument (< 1km), Tomb of Sheikh Machdum ( $\pm$  1km), Tomb of Papan Tinggi ( $\pm$  2km), and Tomb of Mahligai ( $\pm$ 2.5km).



Figure 5. Latest Site Condition  
Source: Personal Document



Figure 6. Site Plan

Source: Personal Document

The arch is applied in every cottages building as one of well-known features in Islamic architecture such as the Al Aqsa Mosque where the form was reduced to a mere cosmetic element, degrading the arch. The development of the profile for simply cosmetic purposes may be responsible for its later appeal. The semicircular arch's replacement also demonstrated how Umayyad art and architecture gradually broke away from its Byzantine and classical foundations.

### 3.2 Facilities

The facilities available at the resort include 99 guest rooms which symbolize the 99 names of Allah SWT., consisting of 32 cottages hotel rooms and 67 standard hotel rooms, galleries that exhibit the history of the zero point of the spread of Islamic civilization in Nusantara. At the center of buildings complex there is a the mosque that close to all available resort facilities. This mosque can accommodate up to 80 worshipers and has four 30 meter high minarets which symbolize 30 juz in the Qur'an.



Figure 7. Facilities

Source: Personal Document

Note :

1. Cottages
2. Convention Hotel
3. Mosque
4. Watchtower
5. Gallery
6. Lobby, Medical Room and Store
7. Office
8. Storage
9. Restaurant
10. Ballroom, Gym and Spa
11. Security
12. Housekeeping and Laundry Room
13. Swimming Pool

- 14. Parking
- 15. Loading Dock

Then there is a tower of view as high as 66,66 meters or 6.666 cm, which symbolizes the number of verses in the Qur'an. From this tower, you can see the natural beauty of the land and sea. Also can see spiritual tourist points in the form of graves of figures spreader of Islam in Nusantara. Then there are also two swimming pools that are intentionally made separate between the men's swimming pool and the women's swimming pool.



Figure 8. Swimming Pool  
*Source: Personal Document*

Then there is a restaurant with a direct view to the west coast, there is a lobby, ballroom, gym, spa, medical room, store, office, storage & utility, housekeeping, laundry and security.



Figure 9. Cottages  
*Source: Personal Document*

The design of the Cottages is inspired by the traditional Batak mandailing clothing, namely the ampu that the groom usually wears on his head. Cottages are divided into 3 (three) types, namely Presidential Room, Deluxe Room and Superior Room.

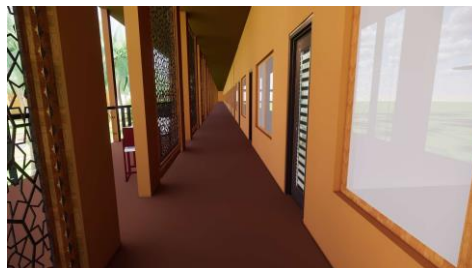


Figure 10. Corridor Covention Hotel  
*Source: Personal Document*



Figure 11. 3rd floor outdoor Convention Hotel  
*Source: Personal Document*



Figure 12. The Resort  
*Source: Personal Document*

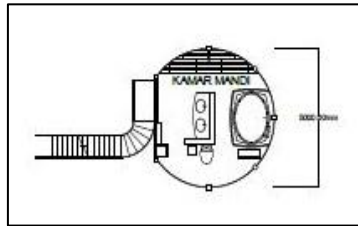
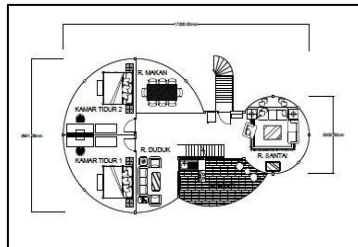


Figure 13. Cottages Plan  
*Source: Personal Document*



Figure 14. Roof  
*Source: Personal Document*

The roof used for each resort building is inspired by the traditional Batak Mandailing house, namely Bagas Godang, which uses various kinds of traditional Batak Mandailing ornaments that have various meanings.

The roof used in the design of the building mass uses several types, namely concrete roofs, tile roofs and leaf roofs or commonly called thatched roofs and tile roofs. The wall structure in the design of the building mass comes from local materials, namely concrete and wood in the cottages. The wall material apply is adjusted to the shape of the building design. The foundations used in the design of the building mass include pedestal foundations, tread foundations, and continuous foundations. The materials implement in the design of the resort in Barus, South Tapanuli use local materials such as wood. However, some buildings still use concrete. The choice of color at the resort in Barus, Tapanuli Setalan relatively uses natural colors, such as the color of the wood, namely brown.

#### **4. Conclusion**

The Syari'ah Resort, located in the currently neglected Barus District of Central Tapanuli Regency in North Sumatra, is projected to operate as a magnet to attract domestic and international tourists to the area. Barus will be known as the starting point for the spread of Islamic civilization in the archipelago if a resort is built there. The purpose of this Resort is to keep healthy relationships between people and to help people grow closer to Allah SWT, who created them, The design approach express the principle of *Hablum Minallah* and *Hablum Minannas*. This Syari'ah resort offers various facilities that support the Resort's vision, such as lodging, a mosque that is located in the center of the Resort and easily accessible from all corners of the Resort, and a viewing tower that can display beauty. Barus displays religious tourism attractions such as the tombs of Islamic religious figures, galleries detailing the early history of Islamic Civilization in the archipelago, swimming pools, and others. In addition to creating new jobs, the development of this Resort will boost tourism in Barus. It is hoped that this draft will serve as a guideline for future governments, particularly in Barus District.

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