A Study on Architectural Changes in Banjarese Vernacular Houses in Sungai Jingah Region Banjarmasin

As a foundation for a contemporary vernacular house model recommendation

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Abstract

The uniqueness of vernacular architecture of the Banjarese people is influenced by their social and cultural factors. The cultural concept as a way of life of the society has build social behavior and it ultimately shapes the form of architecture. Settlements and dwelling houses are always in the state of transformation along with the dynamic changes in communities. In this study, such transformation of settlements and dwelling houses focus on its formation in Sungai Jingah. One of a few region in Banjarmasin where the homogenous community, the Banjarese people, is more or less affected by modernity and the way of the world today. As a result of an observation on vernacular houses in Sungai Jingah, this study first aim is to describe some changes in building form, spatial arrangement and construction system in those houses.

Changes in building form are in the form of the houses, basic configuration form, the width of façade, number of variants and complexity of roof shape, ornamentation, building orientation, the dependency on, and site constraint. Changes in the spatial arrangement are in the number and kinds of rooms, accessibility, relation between rooms and sectors, spatial hierarchy, houses nature, space projection, spatial flexibility, and the use of the transitional space. Changes in building construction are in the substructure and foundation, main structure system, upper structure system, floor elevation and in the variation of building material.

Furthermore, this study attempts to show the process of learning from tradition to produce innovation. As the invention could not be produced without any context and tradition, an architect should learn from principles, templates and precedents. The principles would guide on the functional and imageries requirements needed by a certain type. The templates would give exemplars of configurations of spaces, forms and other elements. From the precedent, the architect could learn on conceptual, programmatic and formal level within a certain formal configuration. Finally, this study aims at designing a guide lines and an exemplary works that would show the process of learning from tradition to produce invention using an adaptation method of 'Both-And', traditional and modern. It is hoped that through these process we could reinterpret the vernaculars to fit into our modern society and environment more wisely to achieve masterpiece.