

Analysis Mosque's Characteristics Between Jamek Mosque and National Mosque in Kuala Lumpur

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***ABSTRACT:** Malaysia is a country that is predominantly Muslim, so it has many mosques. The mosque has a different architecture, so it provides a different atmosphere for its visitors. As we know that form and shape have their meaning formed to make architecture. This paper aims to compare the style and the detailed characteristics between the Jamek Mosque and the National Mosque of Malaysia. The method used qualitative research that seeks evidence of the elements in the interior and exterior of the Jamek mosque and the Malaysia National Mosque. This study analyzes the building form's consistency from the Jamek Mosque and the Malaysian National Mosque.*

Keyword: Style, Detail Characteristics, Mosque, Consistency

INTRODUCTION

Study Background

A mosque is a place of worship for Muslims. It is a symbol of Islamic architecture that plays an essential role in the importance of Allah SWT. With many Muslims, mosques are one type of public building located in most countries in the world. A mosque's function is not just a place for congregational prayer as its primary function, but more than that.

A mosque has an important role in Muslim life, such as social, educational, economic, and others. With other functions in worship, the mosque is made so that it is comfortable to use. Each mosque has a different characteristic building, both from the exterior and the interior.

Malaysian Mosque has a lot of cultural diversities and architectural styles. With the existence of a wide variety of architectural styles, it is a distinct cultural influence. Malaysia has a wide variety of mosques in its country. These mosques have architectural designs inspired by different cultures, different periods of colonialism, the attraction of foreign influences, the development of technological advances, and also the presence of political influences. There are many varied architectural styles for mosque designs in Malaysia. One of the main problems in mosque architecture is the relevance of stylistic ideas. The mosque's various architectural styles show specific design characteristics that reflect the ethnic culture, colonialism, the use of technology, and the political environment. In the mosque, there is a different architectural aspect in each corner.

Jamek Mosque is one of the mosques in Malaysia located between the Klang and Gombak River. The design of this mosque was built by Arthur Benison Hubback, inspired by the Mogul mosque in North India. It has two main towers with several small towers flanking around it. The plaster, red bricks, and marble stones used as building materials for the pillar-shaped gate are a combination of the Mughal style. The presence of Masjid Jamek in Kuala

Lumpur has a profound influence on the architectural culture of the area. Indirectly, Jamek Mosque's survival has become a symbol of architectural colonization and adds to the variety of architectural styles in Kuala Lumpur.

While the National Mosque of Malaysia is located in the center of Kuala Lumpur, this mosque is equally frequented by tourists and locals alike, with its architectural differences to have different characteristics.

Its unique modern design embodies a contemporary expression of traditional Islamic art calligraphy and ornamentation.

Study Formulation

Several factors can be seen about the differences between this Mosque. Therefore, The formulation of the problems in this study are as follows:

- Comparison on the consistency of styles in building forms and details (ornaments) of Jamek Mosque and National Mosque in Kuala Lumpur.

Study Objective

This paper analyzes the building form and the details of Mosque Style Characteristics between the Malaysian Mosque, which is the Jamek Mosque, and the National Mosque of Malaysia, comparing the different styles and elements of both Mosque. By analyzing with data collected by research, it was then developed based on the existing mosque ornament in the building being studied, such as the dome's character, the shape of the building, the tower, and the arch. This research is to increase insight into the different mosque architecture styles in Malaysia, namely the Jamek Mosque and the National Mosque of Malaysia, for developing the architecture about the style of Mosque.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The Study of Malaysian Mosque

Mosques in Malaysia have been around for a long time functioned as a cosmopolitan space where Muslims can connect with the divine and mingle with their religion, and where non-Muslims can benefit equally from the facilities services offered by mosques to the community (Aljunied, K. 2018). The Mosque is a place of worship and a place for any other activity of Muslims. Because there are many religious and cultural traditions that they take advantage of the aesthetic elements and also mosque architecture as activities in the Mosque

There are so many architectural design mosques influenced in Malaysia. It was traced and proven through a historical event that brought about the transformation of mosques in Malaysia. Around the early 15th century, traders from various countries were interested in trading in the State of Malacca. One of them was Muslim businessmen from the Middle East, India, and Indonesia. (Utaberta, 2010)

The Study of Classification Style

1. Modernistic Style

In the twentieth century, the term modernistic is the beginning of the evolution of

architecture in Europe which is a main idea and principle. This idea is related to an architect who rejects historical existence in any form, rejects ornament, and also celebrates an abstraction in a form and expression in architecture. (Rasdi, 2010).

The modernistic itself is the style of a mosque, in general using the principle of functionality, structural by processing basic geometric formations. It cannot be denied that even in this era, the mosque architecture. The modernist architectural style is influenced by modernism's language with the philosophy of functionalism, structuralism, and purism. These principles generally affect the simplicity of traditional forms such as domes, decorations, and others. It is characterized by its main structure using reinforced concrete and a shell system. Folding plates and curved claws provide a progressive picture and can be interpreted as a dynamic Islamic religion. (Utaberta,2009)

2. North Indian Style

There are many kinds of North Indian style, but one of the terms used is Moghul type architecture, which describes an architecture that imitates and develops colonial Malaya. North Indian-style architecture is easily distinguished from other architectural styles due to the use of domes, namely using small domes and large domes, having more than one tower, and the presence of multifoil arches over the decorated columns. (Rasdi, 2010) It has a characteristic. The mosque plan is similar to that of mosques with other styles, with a central dome and a curved veranda.

This style developed due to one of the possible colonialist 'Islamic Architecture' types that accepted their ritualistic version of Islam. Evidenced by government buildings such as the courthouse and train station have the same architecture. (Utaberta, 2009)

Study of Detail Characteristics the Element of the Mosque

1. Modernistic Style

Many local architects are involved in designing new mosques in Malaysia. Modern mosque architectural styles vary. The mosque style changes gradually with the times due to the development of materials, styles, and construction methods. In addition, there is also a contemporary mosque design and the increasing interest of local people in Islamic architecture. With the increase and development of science and technology, modern mosques are built on a larger scale, that is, to accommodate large congregations. Materials used, such as concrete, brick, steel, stone, and marble, are usually used to construct modern mosques. (Ahmad, G. 1999)

It has a horizontal expression by presenting a massive element. The modernistic style presents a regional model by developing current styles that can present Islamic architectural ideas. It has an onion-shaped or top dome because it is modern, so the structure of the dome has also been advanced, using a variety of shapes but simple designs. The use of tall minarets and high ceilings in mosques is a common feature found in modern mosques.

Modern mosques have the following characteristics:

1. A well-designed incorporation of landscape elements, including the arrangement of plants.

2. The presence of water features,
3. Usage of patterned walkways,
4. Garden lighting,
5. Building sign. (Ahmad, G. 1999) (Figure 1)



Figure 1. Characteristics of modern mosques 1. Landscape element, water features, patterned walkways, building signs

Source: Aufa Rahima

2. North Indian Style

In the character of the Mughal mosque it consists of many exterior elements, because the character of the North Indian style is more towards the exterior, The main characteristics of this mosque are, The mosque consists of a large courtyard which is very wide with a closed complex building, represented by a round dome that is extended vertically. The vertical section is strengthened by the presence of the Chhatris (dome-shaped pavilion) and ornamental towers, as well as by the other large functional towers on the Veranda.

The characteristics of Mughal Style :

1. Shaped Onion Dome (Figure. 2)
2. The roof of the mosque is flat, with an empty top. (Figure 2)
3. The use of a wide variety of arches (horseshoe, lobed, multi-foil, interlaced, cusped, trefoil, lambrequin) (Figure 3)

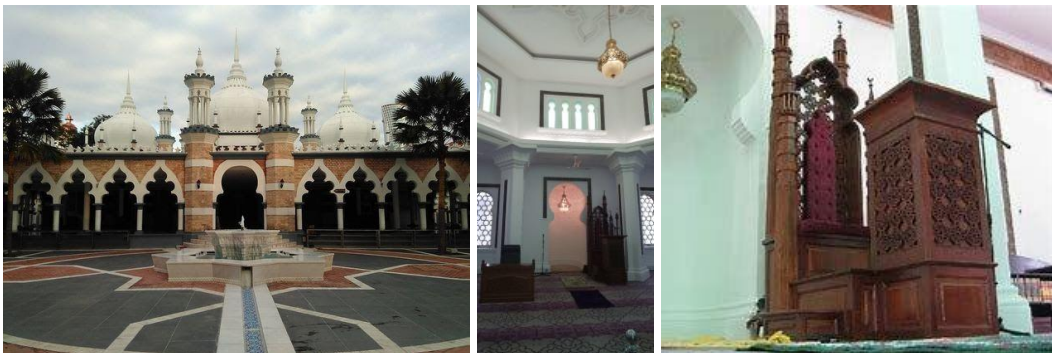


Figure 2. Minarets and Qubba

Figure 3. HorseshoeMihrab and Minbar

Source: Jay Hussain

METHODOLOGY

By knowing from the existing research in the form of styles and characteristics between these two mosques, namely the Jamek mosque and also the national mosque, it can be seen that they have different styles, the Jamek mosque has a north Indian style and the National Malaysian mosque has a modernistic style. From data collection to evidence analysis, this approach is characterized by a description of the character of the Jamek mosque and also the Malaysian national mosque because it can be seen from the real physical form and some research on these two building styles. The characters of both exterior and interior can be seen from the consistency of the building and the details inside.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 1

No.	Mosque		
	Elements		
		Jamek Mosque	National Mosque
1.	Roof	Triple Onion Shape Dome	Folded plate umbrella shape
2.	Mihrab	Simple horseshoe	Horseshoe with decorative pattern
3.	Minaret	2 larger minaret, Octagonal shape	1 minaret, Rectangular shape
4.	Column	Octagonal Shape	Rectangular shape, Circular shape
5.	Ceiling	Low and Simple Ceiling	High and Decorative

Source: Aufa Rahima

Roof

The roof of the Jamek Mosque has a triple shaped onion dome, which is like a characteristic of the North Indian style, with the use of a small and large dome shaped. The roof of the National Mosque has a folded plate umbrella which shows the characteristic of this mosque and shows a mixture of modern and traditional Malay architecture as well as an important role in national building. (Figure 4)

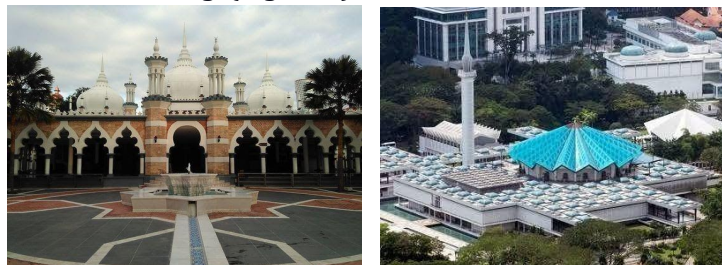


Figure 4. Onion shaped dome on the Jamek Mosque and folded plate umbrella shape on the National Mosque

Source: Jay Hussain and Joyce K

Mihrab

The mihrab in the Jamek mosque is in the form of a horseshoe with simple geometric shapes, the use of white paint in the interior suggests a simple traditional use of elements in the mosque. While at the National Mosque the shape of the mihrab is horseshoe with the use of decorative elements and also calligraphy. (Figure 5)



Figure 5. Mihrab Jamek Mosque with simple horseshoe and National Mosque with a horseshoe shape with a decorative element and calligraphy
Source: Jay Hussain and Fery Irawan

Minaret

Minaret at the Jamek mosque is located at the entrance, using octagonal shape following the shape of the column and also with a colored geometric motif, while the national mosque is rectangular with a simple white shape. (Figure 6)



Figure 6. Minaret of both Mosque
Source : Jinks Kunst and Chaya Manob

Column

Columns in the Jamek mosque are octagonal shape on the outside and inside with the use of large columns, while at the national mosque use rectangular-shaped columns in the outer area of the mosque with columns medium and large size, for the interior of the mosque it has circular columns with a larger size in the presence of decorative motifs



Figure 7. Column shape in Jamek Mosque and National Mosque
Source: Jay Hussain and Aufa Rahima

Ceiling

The ceiling at the Jamek mosque tends to be lower and simpler with the use of an octagonal shape with several chandeliers, while the national mosque tends to have a high ceiling which main dome circular shape and umbrella shape covering the entire room. On the walls are covered with geometric carving like woven bamboo, just like a traditional Malay house. (Figure 8)

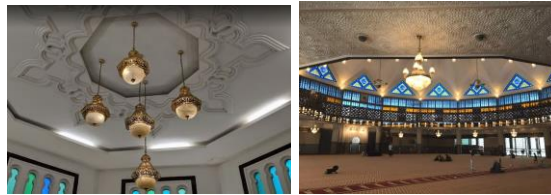


Figure 8. Simple ceiling in the Jamek Mosque and Decorative Ceiling in the National Mosque
Source: Jay Hussain and Aufa Rahima

Jamek Mosque

The design of Jamek Mosque is inspired by the Mogul mosque in North India. A dome shaped like an onion and a curved entrance. (Figure 9). Decorative on the outside, while on the inside there are no decorative elements. The sides of the walls are painted plain.

The mihrab also looks simple with a horseshoe shape around which there are no decorative elements. (Figure 10) The existence of a geometric shape shows how the shape of a traditional mosque plan is in the form of a square or rectangle and a symmetrical layout. The Jamek mosque design looks simpler with geometric shapes on the ceiling, columns, and horseshoe-shaped mihrab without any additional decorations. (Figure 9)



Figure 9. Minaret and Union shaped dome
Source: Jay Hussain



Figure 9. Column octagonal and minaret
Source: Jay Hussain



Figure 10. Mihrab horseshoe shape
Source: Jay Hussain National Mosque of Malaysia

Modern mosques have almost the same appearance, such as a large patterned dome, towers, ornate interior ornaments, etc. The architectural form of this mosque is a relocation of the architectural form of mosques in the past which is considered the triumph of Islam. The National Mosque of Malaysia is an important building that is used as a national monument, so the combination of the modern style of Malaysian architecture with an umbrella-shaped folding plate dome is a form of the sultanate umbrella, therefore this national mosque is an important building. (Figure 11)



Figure 11. Exterior of the National Mosque
Source: Aufa Rahima

Because this mosque is a mosque with a modernistic style, so the exterior of the mosque has a simple style while the inside has a decorative detail interior with calligraphy around the mihrab and ornaments in the mosque on each wall and also the columns in the mosque. (Figure 12)

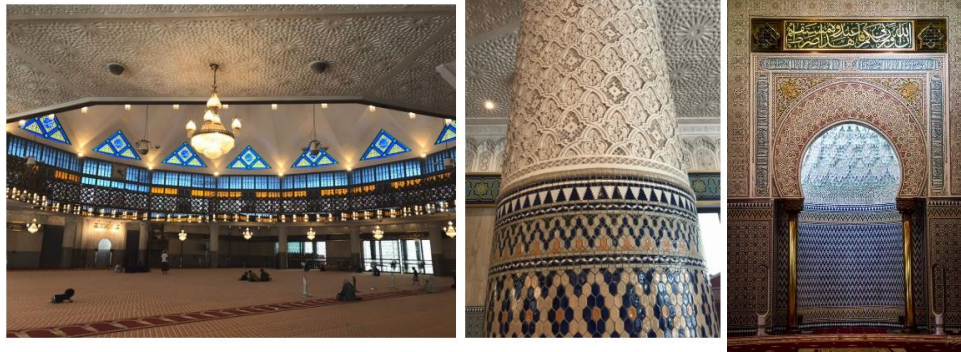


Figure 12. Interior of the National Mosque
Source: Aufa Rahima and Fery Irawan

The use of the folded plate is a combination of ways to show the modernism of traditional Malay architecture with an umbrella-shaped 'dome' folding plate which is an important building as a national monument. The folding plate and curved shell provide a progressive image that can be implied as a dynamic Islamic religion, to impress about the flexibility of Islam in its contemporary adaptations to modern-day problems life and a strong desire to present a progressive image of religion. The mosque was constructed of reinforced concrete faced with Italian marble monument.

CONCLUSION

These two mosques do not have consistency between their exterior and interior buildings, both of the mosques have their own distinctive styles.

The Jamek Mosque has a north Indian style or mughal style, which is decorative on the outside with an onion-shaped dome roof, octagonal columns, and a cusped ogee-shaped entrance. but the interior is very simple with geometric shapes. While the design at the National Mosque has a folded plate umbrella roof shape, it is a combination ways to showing the modernism of traditional Malay architecture and an exterior with simple geometric rectangular shapes and circular shapes on the columns, and the interior of the mosque has a very decorative design by displaying a spacious impression of the room the main thing. Inside of the main dome which is in the shape of a perfect circle, like a giant umbrella covering the entire room. The walls are covered with geometric carvings, so the appearance of the walls of this mosque is like woven bamboo like a traditional Malay house.

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