MALAYSIAN JOURNAL OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE WON MoHE 2016 CREAM AWARD FOR BEST ISI-JOURNAL CATEGORY

The Journal publishes original research articles in the field of library and information science (LIS) as well as related domains that encapsulate information and knowledge. It also encourages contribution on professional policies, practices, principles and progress in the LIS fields. The journal aims to provide a forum for communications amongst LIS professionals especially within the Asia Pacific region, to introduce new concepts, methodologies, systems and technology. The journal is being indexed and abstracted by Science Citation Index (ISI), SCOPUS, LISA (Library and Information Science Abstracts), Library Literature, LISTA, Journal of Academic librarianship, Malaysian Citation Index (MYCite) and Asian Citation Index. Based on JCR 2015: MJLIS Impact Factor 0.476 (Q3), ranked 62 out of 86 journals in the category Information Science, Library Science. Based on SJR 2015: MJLIS SJR 0.361 (Q2), ranked 88 out 193 journals in the category of Library & Information Sciences.

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MALAYSIAN JOURNAL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE WON MoHE 2016 CREAM AWARD FOR BEST ISI-JOURNAL CATEGORY

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ASIAN JOURNAL OF BUSINESS AND ACCOUNTING WON MoHE 2016 CREAM AWARD FOR BEST SCOPUS-JOURNAL CATEGORY

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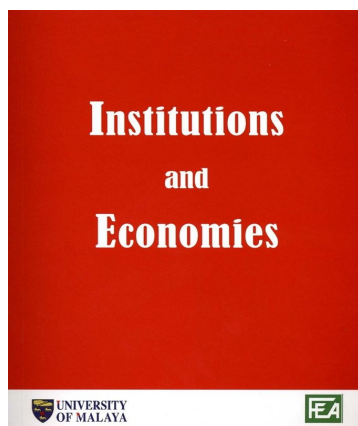
INSTITUTIONS & ECONOMIES WON MoHE 2016 CREAM AWARD FOR BEST SCOPUS-JOURNAL CATEGORY

Institutions and Economies is published by the Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya. Institutions & Economies is targeted at advancing the study of institutions and the functioning of firms, organizations, networks and civil society in the demand and delivery of goods and services. Institutions & Economies is indexed in Scopus, Malaysian Citation Index (MYCite), EconPapers, Ideas and UDLedge. The journal specifically promotes research on the role of institutions in allocating and coordinating social and economic needs of societies.

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GREEN HOUSE PROJECT

This special project, the brainchild and vision in promoting community engagement projects by our Vice Chancellor, Tan Sri Professor Dr. Mohd Amin Jalaludin, has resulted in the building of a low cost model house incorporating green technology using construction materials costing less than RM 20,000. The launching ceremony of this low cost green house was officiated by YB Dato' Seri Idris Jusoh, Minister of Higher Education, Malaysia on 2 June 2016.

The Centre for Innovative Construction Technology (CICT) in the Faculty of Engineering, UM, has been exploring enormous research on the use of local waste materials for more than 10 years in line with the government's initiative in transforming local industrial wastes in to assets. Among the research findings which have shown great potential include partial and full cement replacements using materials like palm oil fuel ash (POFA), palm oil clinker (POC) ash, rice husk ash (RHA), and coal bottom ash (CBA). In the case of full cement replacement, such materials need to be combined with activators to give binding properties to the concrete. Moreover, the effectiveness and reactivity of the binder depends on alkali activators. This type of cement-free concrete is commonly termed as 'geopolymer concrete'. In addition, local waste materials such as POC, oil palm shell and slag were found to be good alternative as coarse and fine aggregates in concrete.

Utilization of these materials promotes the recycling of wastes and avoids the depletion of natural aggregates and sand. Further, the main concern on minimizing CO_2 emission can be realized by reducing the usage of cement in concrete as the manufacture of cement consumes huge amount of energy. The production cost of concrete can also be significantly reduced by promoting the use of these industrial wastes and this in turn could reduce the cost of building materials. This will help in addressing sustainability and green technology issues as well as reducing the cost of construction.

Through this project, the usage of different local waste materials in the construction of low cost house (LCH) was demonstrated. On the LCH, Prof. Dr. Noor Azuan Abu Osman, Dean of Engineering said, "The design was based on masonry structure system, focusing on the application of load-bearing interlocking brick system. Waste materials such as POC, slag, POC ash and quarry wastes were introduced in the brick system as well as the foundation of the low cost house. The construction of the green LCH was successfully completed in 3 months. The single-storey house has a built-up area of 808 square feet, consisting of 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a combined living room/kitchen area with targeted total construction material cost of below RM 20,000".

YB Dato' Seri Idris Jusoh congratulated the UM Team for their innovative approach in the construction of this LCH which will give a practical solution to the government's initiative to provide affordable housing in the country. Special thanks to Faculty of Built Environment, VINCI Construction Grands Projets Sdn Bhd and CKYIBS (M) Sdn Bhd for their assistance in realizing this project.

Figure 2. View of low cost green house

Figure 1. Signing of plaque by YB Dato' Seri Idris Jusoh, Minister of Higher Education, Malaysia

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GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY THROUGH ENGLISH

This project addresses the findings of previous research whereby employers considered many of Malaysian graduates are unemployable on account of low English Language proficiency; more specifically poor communication skills in English. The overall aim of the project is to provide graduates with the appropriate English proficiency for employment. It builds on previous work undertaken by the Ministry of Education, and applies to English education to the more general proposals outlined in the Malaysian Education Blueprint (2013); which emphasises the need for the study of English to reflect wider 21st century shifts in educational practices. Key aspects of the approach are adoption of international standards in the form of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (henceforth the CEFR) which requires a shift towards skills-based, outcome oriented learning, and communicative language teaching. A major consideration is to improve learning outcomes in accordance with the principle of equity. Equity is essentially a moral issue, but it also emerged as a practical issue, since waste of national talent due to the lack of equity is one of its practical consequences.

For universities, it is already too late when students are admitted due to insufficient time for the necessary improvement. The solution is to cover all stages of education, including teacher education, and build on the findings of a comprehensive Baseline Study undertaken by Cambridge English in 2013. The plan is for a systemic reform of the English Language programme over ten years, specifying target levels on the CEFR scale for each stage of education to facilitate progress monitoring. In accordance with international research findings, the focus will be on producing high calibre teachers with good English proficiency and teaching expertise, using quality materials designed for differentiated learning in supportive English-rich learning environments.

This approach is highly innovative in the Malaysian context, and at the global level involves the implementation of international best practice, taking advantage of the experience with the CEFR in other countries. The appointment of Cambridge English as the international partner provides for independent internal expert review, and the rigorous and appropriate application of the CEFR in the reform. Although the CEFR is in principle neutral with respect to teaching and learning styles and approaches; by going far beyond learning about the target language and explicitly involving using it, the reform addresses the needs of graduates by concentrating on interaction in the target language, which necessarily leads to collaborative and autonomous learning.

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Figure 1. Ministry of Education and Cambridge English signing ceremony

A STUDY OF CONFLICT BETWEEN HUMAN AND SELECTED WILDLIFE SPECIES (MACACA FASCICULARIS AND SUS SCROFA) IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA

Peaceful always been related to 'no war'. However religious teaching may refer peace as 'live without any conflicts with environment' although both aspects are actually complementary to each other. Peaceful coexistence between human and wildlife species can be achieved if human can relate the effects of their activities to their surroundings. Among increasing issue of human-wildlife conflict in Malaysia is the lack of awareness among public. This needs to be stressed not only in formal education but also in religious teaching to minimise conflict between human and wildlife. Wildlife Department (PERHILITAN) had listed 29 species of wildlife that have potential to cause conflict with human. However, long-term record indicated that two species (i.e. long-tailed macaque, *Macaca fascicularis* and wild boar, *Sus scrofa*) need serious attention due to higher frequencies of conflict and highest interference record. Unfortunately, data on human-wildlife conflict is not well documented and public reports have been constantly used as main source of record. Thus, the

aims of this study are; i) to properly record cases of human-wildlife conflicts in Peninsular Malaysia, ii) to prepare mapping of the distribution of human-wildlife conflict areas in Peninsular Malaysia, iii) to analyze the correlations between human-wildlife conflict and sustainable development through environmental ethics, religious teachings and indigenous cultural values, and iv) to formulate appropriate strategy on peaceful coexistence between human and local wildlife. In addition to assessing strategies and action plan adopted by various parties in resolving human-wildlife issues in Peninsular Malaysia, a series of surveys involving interviews will be conducted with local communities and governmental/non-governmental agencies. Field visits will be conducted to various areas regarded as hotspots of human-wildlife conflict in Peninsular Malaysia. The site selection is based on secondary data provided by Wildlife Department (PERHILITAN) which will be used to analyse specific area that experience severe human-wildlife conflict. These areas will be visited to examine the degree of conflict and their relationship with environmental setting and physical condition. During the visits, scientific observation and interviews with local communities and NGOs will be carried out. The focus of analysis will be on inter-item correlation, reliability analysis, exploratory factor analysis, confirmatory factor analysis and factorial invariance. Primary data will be analysed using SPSS (quantitative data) and Atlas.ti (qualitative data). Information gathered from this analysis will be used to formulate appropriate strategies in conservation of wildlife species and reducing human-wildlife conflict.
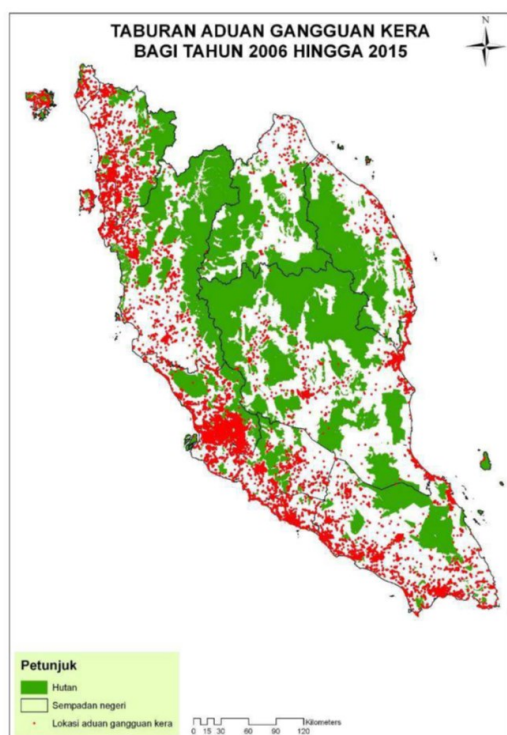

Figure 1. The hotspot for conflict between human and Long-tailed Macaque

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EMPOWERING WOMEN AND YOUTH IN PROMOTING PEACE

Women and youth tend to be made vulnerable as they are seen as "passive" actors in society building. By allowing these two groups to engage in the peace building process they can effectively become agents towards a better world through this initiative. Unfortunately, women and youth are still suppressed, indicated by the unprecedented accumulation of innocent deaths and health problems of civilian populations, where both are the primary victims. Studies have shown that the greatest victims of societal conflict are women and children, and that they make up the most number of casualties in war. Both constitute as being the most vulnerable in society, due to their lack of empowerment and the inability to defend or support themselves in the absence of men. As result , UN Resolution 1325 was established to empower women to overcome their vulnerabilities and to become a substantial factor in the resolution of conflicts, (Chiukin et al, 2006). It is from here that we established our footing to move forward.

This research is intended: 1) to examine the unique role of women and youth in peace effort and reconciliation process; 2) to evaluate the good practices and lessons learned that can be drawn from women and youth organizations/initiatives in building peace globally and locally; 3) To analyze policies in order to ensure the full participation of women and youth in building peace and 4) To develop training courses for women and youth in promoting peace.

We shall incorporate a dynamic methodology in addressing these issues. The first is a comprehensive literature review of contemporary studies on the subject of women and peace towards peace building and how these studies can be improved upon. The second is a re-evaluation of the concept of 'multi-culturalism' and 'co-existence' and to modify these terms for practical application. And finally, the third is to establish workshops and organizations aimed to support women and youth through peace-building education and programs that can easily overcome their obstacles to participate in civic duty.

Our expectations from this project is to create a greater awareness within society of its marginalized groups and their talents towards the civilizational building process. We hope that this comprehensive study will facilitate women and youth rights and incorporate them into peace building initiative, as they are often left on the sidelines during times of conflict and duress. Our project will also create steps towards producing new leaders and cultivating new solutions through government supported organizations targeting women and youth. As such, this research is innovative precisely because it focusses on marginalized groups within society and attempts to incorporate them into the peace building process through practical means facilitated through the methods and applications proposed in this project.

Figure 2. Presentation of certificate by Professor Datin Dr. Raihanah Haji Abdullah in Women's Empowerment for Culture of Peace Seminar

Figure 1. Panelists of "ASSALAM: PEACE VS VIOLENCE" forum

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BUILDING PEACE THROUGH INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION AND INTERFAITH/DIALOGUE ETHNIC RELATION

Education is the key to unite nations, bringing human being closely together. In many parts of the world, civil society suffers because of violent conflicts and wars.

The ultimate goal of peace education is for individuals to cultivate peace among themselves (intrapersonal peace), individuals (interpersonal peace), groups (intergroup peace), and countries, societies, and cultures (international peace). To do so, peace education needs to focus on establishing a cooperative, not a competitive, relationship among all relevant parties.

Besides that, interfaith and intercultural/ethnic dialogues are necessary in understanding our differences and commonalities, in hope of respecting and allowing various different populations to exist side by side. Conflict resolution can only occur through dialogue and education, not through the ongoing wars occurring today.

In the Malaysian context, multiculturalism can be said to exist on all levels: culture, language, ethnicity, and most importantly, religion.

Therefore this study focuses on intergenerational program in building peace. The objectives are (1) to develop new curriculum model of peace education based on the multiple-ethnic cultural contexts, (2) to develop new modules of peace education and (3) to implement selected programs of Intercultural Education for improvement.

Ten studies are currently undergoing under the project now: (i) Design and Evaluation of a Module Based on Psychosocial for Peace among Multicultural Juvenile Detainee in Prison Schools (ii) Coping Skills, Psychosocial Adjustment and Peace among Parents of Multiethnic Individual with Learning Disabilities (iii) Acculturative Stress Model to Manage Stress among Refugee Children (iv) Spiritual and Peace: An Ethnography Approach (v) Preference of a Video-Based Teaching for Multi-Ethnic Evaluation (vi) Management Model for Peace Education at Secondary School (vii) Big Data for Peace Building Through Education (viii) Curriculum for Peace Education (ix) Preferable Index of Intercultural Peace (ICP) and (x) Psychosocial Adaptation on Peace Reactions among Autistic Children of Multiple Ethnicity.

To date, the project has conducted several activities for peace education involving case studies, awareness campaigns and communal activities. With regards to case studies, we are currently conducting studies in formal (i.e. higher and secondary education) and informal learning settings (i.e. prison schools, parent training programs, refugee and autistic children).

In terms of communal activities, the project has carried out several programs, such as the Peace Education Treasure Hunt program in Taman Medan Petaling Jaya Selatan on 7 May 2016. These activities aimed in promoting awareness of the peace values among the people of diverse races, cultures, religions and ages.

The team is also linking with potential partners which include the University of Birmingham UK and Para Hikmah College Makassar Indonesia.

Figure 2. Opening ceremony of the Peace Education Treasure Hunt program in Taman Medan, Petaling Jaya Selatan on 7 May 2016

Figure 1. Participants in Peace Education Treasure Hunt program

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