

# New Approches in Applied Arts and Design

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## Creativity and Sustainability

Mandana Barkeshli



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# New Approaches in Applied Arts & Design - Creativity and Sustainability

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## CHAPTER EIGHT

### AN ANALYSIS OF DECORATION ELEMENTS IN MASJID AL AZIM, MELAKA, MALAYSIA

*Norzalifa Zainal Abidin*

#### **ABSTRACT**

This chapter is a study carried out to record and analyzes the decoration elements of one of the prominent traditional Mosques in Melaka, Malaysia. Masjid Al Azim is the State mosque of Melaka. It was designed based on the traditional concept of the traditional mosques in Melaka. However, the innovation use of materials and the large size of the complex indicate the usage of the mosque as a State Mosque. It is quite a good effort from the Architect designer to enhance the physical decoration elements with reference to the old traditional Melaka Mosques. The analysis is based on visual records of the decoration elements which are divided into three typologies which are Arabesque, Calligraphy and Geometric patterns. The characteristics of these decorations will be discussed and highlighted later in this chapter. Some examples of visual records will also be shown. Hence, by having these records, further reference can be made to capture the range selection of decoration which can be considered in any mosque design.

[Keywords: decoration elements, traditional mosques, visual record]

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Masjid Al Azim is the State mosque of Melaka in Malaysia and was built in 1990. It was designed based on the traditional concept of the traditional mosques in Melaka. This case study is to show the decoration elements which are applied to this mosque. Reference was made based on the decoration applied in the other existing traditional mosques of Melaka. The physical characteristics of the decoration applied in Masjid Al Azim is identified, documented and discussed. The selected decorations are chosen due to their common categories and typologies: Arabesque/Floral, Calligraphy and Geometrical patterns. By identifying the characteristics of these decorations in this case study, further identification of the common physical attributes of the decoration were summarized.