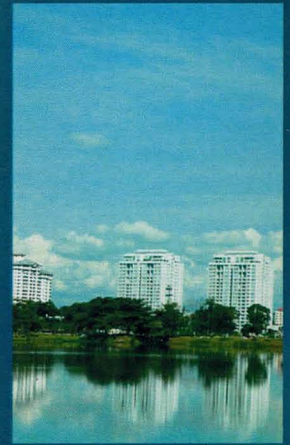
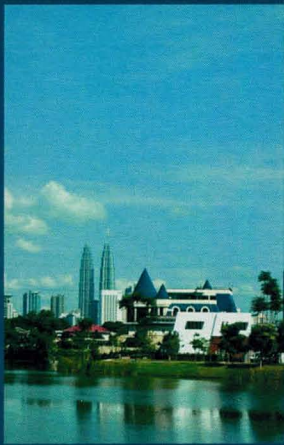


# Visioning Malaysian Landscape

---



---

**Mazlina Mansor  
Ismawi Hj. Zen  
Jamilah Othman  
Nor Zalina Harun**



**IIUM PRESS**

INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

# VISIONING MALAYSIAN LANDSCAPE

Mazlina Mansor  
Ismawi Hj. Zen  
Jamilah Othman  
Nor Zalina Harun



IIUM Press  
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

Published by:  
IIUM Press  
International Islamic University Malaysia

First Edition, 2011  
©IIUM Press, IIUM

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without any prior written permission of the publisher.

Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Mazlina Mansor, Ismawi Hj. Zen, Jamilah Othman & Nor Zalina Harun: Visioning Malaysian Landscape

ISBN: 978-967-418-053-9

Member of Majlis Penerbitan Ilmiah Malaysia – MAPIM  
(Malaysian Scholarly Publishing Council)

Printed by :  
**IIUM PRINTING SDN. BHD.**  
No. 1, Jalan Industri Batu Caves 1/3  
Taman Perindustrian Batu Caves  
Batu Caves Centre Point  
68100 Batu Caves  
Selangor Darul Ehsan

## CONTENTS

Editor's Preface	ii
List of Tables	v
List of Figures	vi
Abbreviations	vii
<b>CHAPTER 1: SPECULATIVE EXPLORATION ON PLANTS AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON PLACE NAMES OF TRADITIONAL MALAY SETTLEMENTS</b> Ismawi Zen	<b>1</b>
<b>CHAPTER 2: SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES OF HISTORIC SETTLEMENTS IN MALAYSIA</b> Nor Zalina Harun	<b>29</b>
<b>CHAPTER 3: MACROPHYTES AS PHYTOINDICATOR FOR EUTROPHICATION</b> Rashidi Othman	<b>40</b>
<b>CHAPTER 4: URBAN DRAINAGE: A LESSON FROM PUTRAJAYA</b> Izawati Tukiman	<b>46</b>
<b>CHAPTER 5: BEHAVIOUR OBSERVATION AS A STRATEGY TO UNDERSTAND GREENSPACE</b> Mazlina Mansor	<b>58</b>
<b>CHAPTER 6: BUSKING AND THE LANDSCAPE OF URBAN PLAZA</b> Jamilah Othman	<b>68</b>
<b>CHAPTER 7: LAPTOP AND THE DISCOVERY OF KNOWLEDGE IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE STUDIO</b> Jamilah Othman	<b>80</b>
<b>CHAPTER 8: THEORIES OF ACTOR NETWORK THEORY (ANT) IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b> Mohd Ramzi Mohd Hussain	<b>86</b>
<b>CHAPTER 9: UNDERSTANDING THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF MALAYSIAN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS</b> Nurhayati Abdul Malek	<b>97</b>
<b>CHAPTER 10: AN URBAN LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT MODEL FOR URBAN PLANNING SYSTEMS IN MALAYSIA</b> Ismawi Zen	<b>105</b>

# AN URBAN LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT MODEL FOR URBAN PLANNING SYSTEMS IN MALAYSIA

Ismawi Zen

Department of Landscape Architecture, Kulliyyah of Architecture and Environmental Design  
International Islamic University Malaysia

## ABSTRACT

Malaysia inherits its planning system from the British, its former colonial masters. The system served the mother country well but proved to have fallen short in a country with different socio-cultural mix and climate. The research proposed a more inclusive system that takes into account the multi-racial as well as the core culture of the country and the environmental characters in place that have been shaped by eons of human interactions with nature. Thus the system is parametric in nature so that the right mix and balance are achieved as the urban environment evolves.

**Keywords:** planning system, parametric model, urban environment

## INTRODUCTION

“We need, today, an understanding of natural process and its expression and, even more, an understanding of the morphology of man-nature, which, less deterministic, still has its own morphology, the expression of man-nature as a process”.

IAN McHARG (1966) [1]

Referencing Gutkind (1952), Laurie (1975) detailed four stages in man's changing attitude toward his environment over the known period of civilization [2]. The first stage being the I-Thou tradition that is characterized by fear of the unpredictable force of nature. The next stage is when man becomes more confident in himself and works with nature; understanding its process and his limitations to manipulate it, thus the I-Thou relationship still persists. These first two stages seem to be a state of equilibrium between nature and man. With the growing confidence resulting from the advancement of technologies, man sees nature as a frontier to be conquered and in many instances, subjugated. Laurie described the next stage, which he called I-It relationship as symbolized by automobile-oriented, spreading urban region with hinterland of felled forests, worked-out mineral deposits, and polluted rivers. This is the relationship that was reviled by McHarg so vividly in the earlier parts of his classic: *Design With Nature*. Perhaps McHarg was one of those pioneers that Gutkind prophesied as signalling man's