Heritage building is very important in preserving the culture and to the tourism potential. Hence, the proper budget allocation to the prevention of fire loss is critical. Budget allocation is normally based on fire risk assessment. The assessment is interpreted based on the perception of stakeholders. Using structured interview and analytic hierarchy process (AHP) fire study identifies and explains the diversity of fire risk perception of stakeholders.

**ABSTRACT**

Heritage building is a listed building of historical significance and irreplaceable. It has no dimensional value but significant to cultural preservation. One of the risks to the survival of heritage building is fire. Most of them were built prior to the formulation of Uniform Building By Laws 1984, hence, the heritage buildings are not subjected to the provision of fire safety requirement provided by the By Laws. Allocation of funds for upgrading of heritage buildings susceptible to fire risk depends on the perception of stakeholders which are different from one stakeholder to the other. At least 5 parties involved in the assessment of fire risk of heritage building. Fire Rescue Department Malaysia personnel (fire officers), consultants (for example architect, engineer, quantity surveyor, interior designer) and contractors/renosters. Their perception may be different from one party to another.

**INTRODUCTION**

To assess perception on fire risk of the stakeholders
To explain the diversity of perception among the stake holders

**OBJECTIVES OF STUDY**

With the goal of minimizing fire risk in heritage buildings, which of the criteria given below in your opinion is more important than the other? Please circle your answer according to their importance ranking:

1. = Extreme Importance
2. = Strong Plus Importance
3. = Moderate Plus Importance
4. = Moderate Importance
5. = Weak Importance
6. = Minimal Importance

**METHODOLOGY**

The analysis generates weightage of criteria for each respondent as in Figure 4. Table 1 shows the weightage for each respondent. In the table the respondents are grouped as consultants, insurance practitioner, fire officers (Fire Rescue Department Malaysia personnel), and contractor /restorer. The table suggests three findings: First, the perception of fire officers and contractor/restorer was similar. To them active protection system and fire management are the more important criteria. Second, insurance practitioners perceived building characteristic and fire management as the more important criteria. Third, as a group consultants perceived fire management as the most important, however, the perception varies within the group. Consultant with management background perceived fire management as the most important criterion. Consultant with risk management background perceived passive and fire management are more important criteria. Consultant with design background perceived the criteria are equally important.

**RESULTS**

The study suggests the diversity of perceptions is influenced by the nature of criteria and the nature of work the stakeholders. Due to its nature all the stakeholders are aware of the importance of fire management. This includes housekeeping and maintenance fire, fire plan safety, and staff training on fire safety and appointment of fire marshals in the building. For example, everybody in office should be aware of who is the fire marshal of the floor and the fire safety plan. In contrast, not everybody is aware of the passive protection system. Therefore, fire management is perceived as the most important.

**CONCLUDING REMARKS**

1. Active protection system is perceived as important by fire officers and contractor/restorer. This could be explained since fire department conduct regular inspection particularly to ensure fire detection, communication and alarm automatic suppression systems, and fire hydrant are working. The contractor service is employed to ensure the systems are well maintained.
2. Insurance practitioner perceived building characteristics as important since insured amount is normally based on building content. Building fabric and material.
3. Consultant with design background perceived all criteria are important. This could be explained since design deals with the first three criteria: active and passive fire protection system, and building characteristics. As an occupant of building the consultant is also aware of the fourth criterion, fire management.

**REFERENCE**