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# ISTANA KUALA CEGAR

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nostalgic splendour behind a humble facade

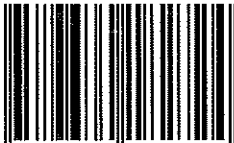
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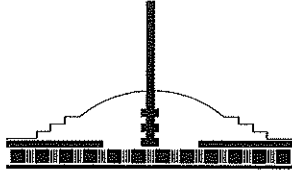
ISBN 978-967-418-272-4



**IUM Press**

International Islamic University Malaysia  
P.O. Box 10, 50728 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Tel: +603-6196 5014 Fax: 603-6196 4862  
Email: [rescentre@iium.edu.my](mailto:rescentre@iium.edu.my)



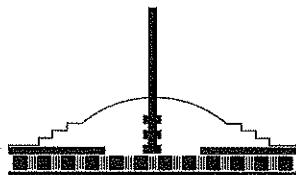


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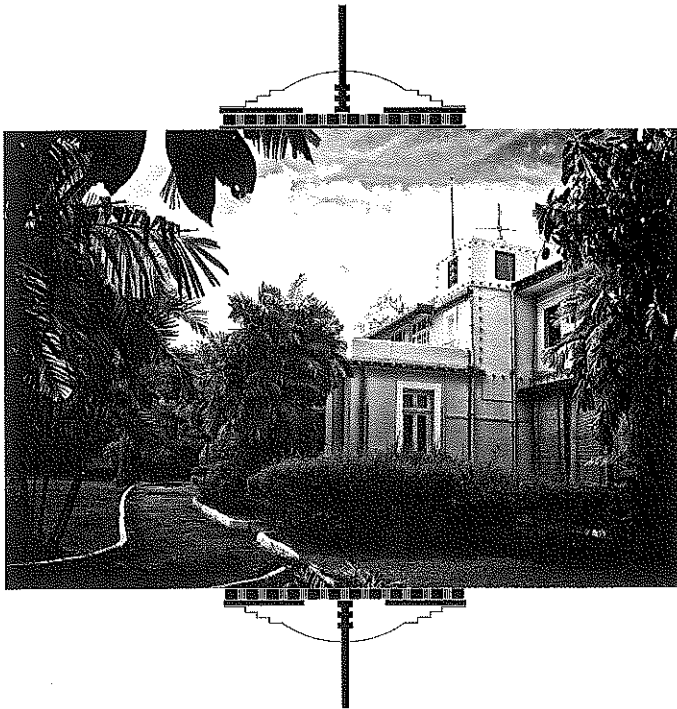
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Abdul Razak Sopian  
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IIUM Press

*“Pergi ke Bendang menaiki rakit  
Bendang terletak di Kota Lama  
Berdirigah di Anak Bukit  
Istana Kuala Cegar diberi nama”*



Published by:  
IIUM Press  
International Islamic University Malaysia

First Edition, 2013  
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Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Istana Kuala Cegar : nostalgic splendour behind a humble facade /

Abdul Razak Sopian ... [et al.]

Includes index

Bibliography: p.60

ISBN 978-967-418-272-4

1. Castles--Kedah--Design and construction. 2. Historic buildings--Kedah.

3. Istana Kuala Cegar (Kedah)--History. I. Abdul Razak Sopian.

728.8109595112

ISBN : 978-967-418-272-4

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,  
68100 Batu Caves, Selangor Darul Ehsan.  
Tel : 03-6188 1542 / 1544 / 1545  
Fax : 03-6188 1543  
Website : [www.iiumprinting.com](http://www.iiumprinting.com)

## DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to all students who have contributed to the making of this book.

*Pulau Pandan jauh ke tengah,  
Gunung Daik bercabang tiga,  
Hancur badan dikandung tanah,  
Budi yang baik di kenang juga.*

Thank You.

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## **PREFACE**

This book attempts to explore the unique identity of Istana Kuala Cegar in the auspicious rural compound of the Istana Anak Bukit (Anak Bukit Palace). The book reveals historical developments beginning with earlier palaces in Kedah dating from the early 12th century. It illustrates the emergence of different palaces and their influences in Kedah, which in turn contributed to the materialization of Istana Kuala Cegar.

Istana Kuala Cegar is a unique Art Deco style building that clearly depicts Western influences as assimilated along with cultural traits by the Royals of Kedah. This book focuses on the development of palace architecture in Malaysia in an attempt to set a complete overview for Malay palace architecture and consequently centres on Istana Kuala Cegar in its immediate context. The architectural development and attributes of the palace are the main objects of discourse with a view for the context, space planning, construction techniques and other detail of interest.