

Tackling Social Exclusion Through A Catalytic Public Space in Tanah Abang, Central Jakarta

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Abstract—Urbanization has been a major global issue in the 21st century. The rapid urbanization drives a massive amount of population movements to urban areas and its peripheries, and drastically increases urban density. Whereas, this phenomenon leads to degradation on the spatial discourse, since most urban spaces nowadays are formed by economic-driven factors, and leaving the importance of social relations behind. Urbanization and economic growth in urban areas – especially in nation’s capital like Jakarta – resulting a high gap or social inequality. This leads to social exclusion where the urban poor are marginalized and alienated from their city. The proposed object is a mixed function between outdoor public space and community center, to create a social space that could triggers interaction between social classes and increases social relations. Using urban catalyst studies, this project tries to produce an activity generator that functions a social catalyst.

Keywords—Interaction, Public Space, Social Exclusion, Urban Catalyst.

I. PENDAHULUAN

URBANIZATION is becoming a real problem in today’s society. Although it brings a lot of positive changes in human life, when it comes to the spatial discourse, urbanization causes some degradation on the production of space process. Most urban spaces are formed by economic-driven factors, and leaving the social relations behind. As Henri Lefebvre stated, that *space is a social product* [1], social relation plays a significant role in shaping an ideal space in urban areas.

The current state that presents in Jakarta’s condition, according to Lefebvre, is described by abstract and differential space. While in abstract space, the space is formed by other forces besides social relations, or in most cases, by capitalism or economic-driven factors, which leads to homogenization, and social fragmentation. And differential space refers to a space that serves as a resistance to the forces of homogenization presents in abstract space. It tends to preserve spaces from the elimination of existing differences (local, culture, history, natural landscape) in urban areas [1].

Firman argues that the existence of kampong and modern city reflects the spatial segregation and socio-economic disparities [2]. This leads to social exclusion or social marginalization, a process that deprives individuals, families, and groups of the resources required for participation in the social, economic, and political activity of society as a whole [3]. This mostly caused by ascension of individualism in urban society, poverty, low education, and several other causes.



Figure 1. Inequality in Jakarta (Kebon Melati).



Figure 2. Proposed Site (Jl. Teluk Betung I, Tanah Abang, Central Jakarta).

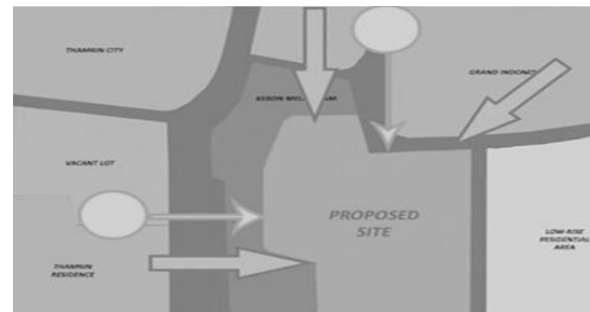


Figure 3. Climate Analysis.

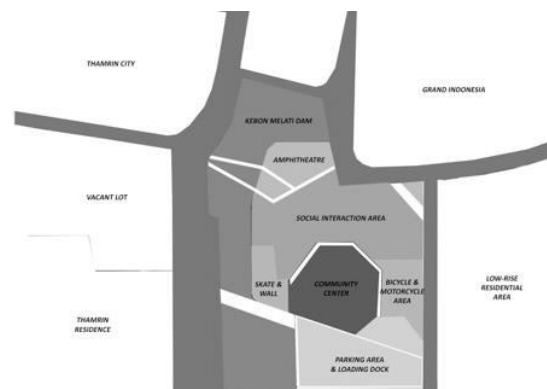


Figure 4. Zoning



Figure 5. Activities.

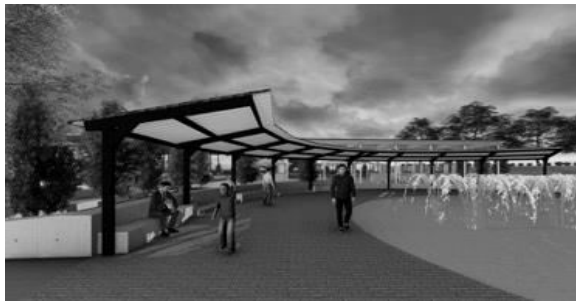


Figure 6. Strolling.



Figure 7. Gathering.



Figure 8. Exercising.

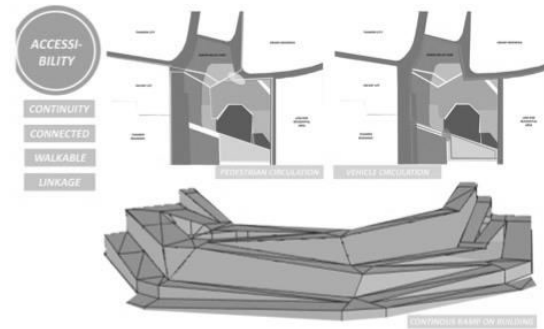


Figure 9. Accessibility Concept.

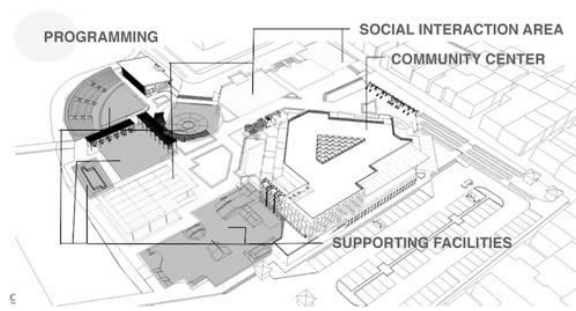


Figure 10. Massing Concept.

In Jakarta, the life condition of poor residents in poor settlement is getting worse, beside they are excluded in various fields, they also often get a discriminative treatment. In reality, the physically separation is seen from the restriction of settlement area which is divided two in the poor settlement area and non-poor settlement (Fig 1). Besides, social interaction in low intensity is one of other forms of restriction to them whom categorized poor [4].

This project is a mixed function of an outdoor public space and a community center aims to create a social space that could triggers interaction between classes in the neighborhood, and to stimulate movement. This project is also meant to be a linkage between economic-driven urban spaces and middle-low community residential, so that these spaces are not seen as a boundary, but could also functions as a social catalyst.

The proposed site is a 18.350m² vacant lot located in the heart of the city addressed as a mixed zone according to Jakarta's 2030 Spatial Planning and planned to be a public park (Fig 2). This area is a strategic linkage between Grand Indonesia shopping centers, office buildings, Thamrin City and Thamrin Residence Apartment, and low-rise residential

area, with Kebon Melati reservoir lies alongside the western part of the site.

II. DESIGN PROCESS & EXPLORATION

A. Environment-Behavior and Urban Catalyst Approach

To affect human perception toward space, design approach that applied in this project is environment-behavior approach. This study include the systematic examination of relationships between the environment and human behavior and their application in design process. Environment-behavior studies encompass more than just function. Behavioral factors go deeper, to the psychology of the user, how he or she perceives building form, social interaction needs, subcultural differences in lifestyles, and the meaning of symbolism of buildings [5]. This project focuses on how to create interaction between social classes, to perform a more inclusive city. In order to achieve that, we need to understand the relational dialectics between people of different classes and space through behavioral approach, to finally understand what needs to be provided in the proposed space.



Figure 11. Outdoor Areas (Continuous Ramp, Amphitheatre, Main Entrance).



Figure 14. Community Center Areas (Information Center, Indoor Cafe, Daycare).



Figure 12. Outdoor Areas (Car Entrance, Skate & Wall Climbing, Foot Reflexology).

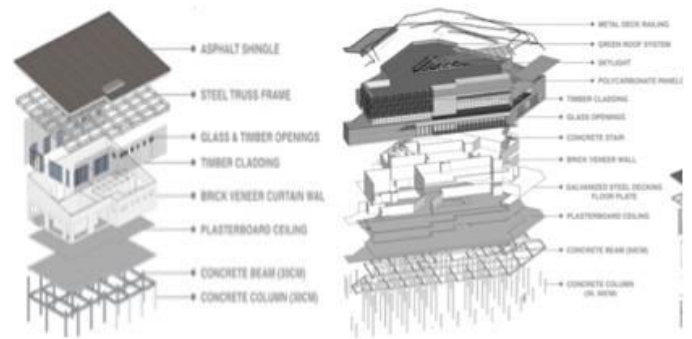


Figure 15. Structural Axonometric.



Figure 13. Community Center Areas (Multifunction Hall, Hallway, Multipurpose Studio).

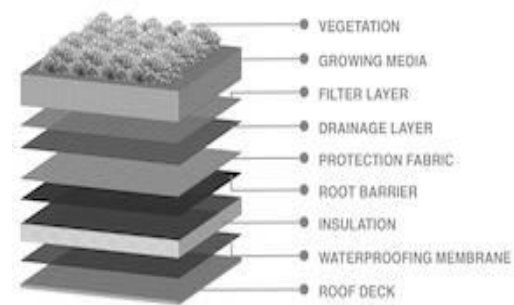


Figure 16. Green Roof System.

In addition to the environment-behavior approach, urban catalyst concept is also applied in this project. It functions as an activity generator, which causes activity between two or more persons or forces without itself being affected, in this context, this project doesn't need to change the social classes that happen to exist in the society, but could trigger interaction between those classes. The concept of urban catalyst is a new redevelopment strategy that drives and guide urban development. Catalysts are facilities -- usually buildings -- that generate urban development in their immediate surroundings, thereby meriting community support, possibly in the form of public subsidies [6]. A Catalyst is an urban element that is shaped by the city and then, in turn, shapes its context [7].

B. Force-Based Framework and Programmatic Forces

The methods that applied in this project are Force-Based

Framework and Programmatic Forces. Force-Based Framework focuses on the design of the physical environments and the application of principles [8]. This method considers microclimate and surrounding physical environment on the design decision. On the other hand, programmatic forces use programs in relation to site as the generator of design decisions since they are so relevant to architectural syntax and expression [8]. This program expresses particular activity to be performed in design proposal.

C. Method Implementation

From climate analysis, The west and north side of the area receive the highest amount of heat from the sun, while the wind by shopping mall and office on the north side, mixed-use apartments and a reservoir on the west, and low-rise residential on the east and south side. These factors helps to

determine the zoning and massing concept of the project (Fig 4).

Main entrance is divided into 2, for pedestrian and vehicles. The main pedestrian entrance located on the north side of the area, where the main road lies, to ease user who uses public transportation. There are also pedestrian entrances on both west and east side for the residents of kampong and apartments nearby. The west entrances for pedestrian and vehicles are equipped with bridge, since it lies across the reservoir. The amphitheatre and community center entrance applies best orientation, facing southeast.

D. Activities & Facilities

Activities in the proposed object is majorly divided into 2, main activities and supporting activities. Main activities are those which related to the aim for this project (Fig 5), while the supporting activities are administration & security, praying, service and maintenance. The main activities are based on site survey, literature study, and precedent study.

Strolling and exercising could be done by any age groups, and mostly in outdoor area. Strolling is also one of the main activity in the object, since it performs the aim of the project, to trigger interaction between people (Fig 6). Facilities that perform values of strolling are green open space, jogging and pedestrian track, and foot reflexology area. Gathering could also be done universally, regardless to age groups and social classes. This activity also plays an important role in order to achieve the goal of this project. It could be expressed in social interaction area, green open space, kids playground, daycare, multifunction hall and studios (Fig 7). Selling is another way to create social interaction. Selling could trigger communication and helps to achieve the goal of the project. Besides, selling activities could enhance the economic level of surrounding neighborhoods, especially the middle-low community in Kebon Sayur Kampong and street sellers around the area. This activity is accommodated in bazaar area. Perform & Watching is accommodated in amphitheater, and also possible in the multifunction (Fig 8). In Addition, library and outdoor chairs are provided for reading activity.

III. DESIGN RESULT

A. Massing Concept

This project consists of 2 masses and outdoor areas (Fig 10). The outdoor areas are including amphitheatre, water feature, foot reflexology, outdoor food court and bazaar, social

interaction area, kids playground, skate & wall climbing area, green open space, and pedestrian & jogging track (Fig 11, 12). The main building functions as a community center, and consists of multifunction halls, studios, public library, daycare, cafe, administration office, praying room, and topped with garden roof (Fig 13, 14). While the supporting building provides toilets and changing room for performers of the amphitheatre.

B. Building Structure and Materials

Both masses uses concrete beam and column as the main structure, brick veneer wall, and plasterboard ceiling (Fig 15). For the community center building, galvanized steel is used for floor plate decking, and layers of green roof structure (Fig 16). The stairs also use concrete material, and the building façade fills with timber and stone cladding, and double-glazed windows. This building also uses skylight as a passive lighting.

IV. CONCLUSION

This project came up with an idea to tackle social exclusion that exists in Tanah Abang area. By using environment-behavior and urban catalyst approach, this happen to be an activity generator that could triggers interaction in the community to support a more inclusive neighborhood despite all differences. It could also add a social value that is barely seen in surrounding economic-driven spaces.

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