



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**  
***WALKABILITY OF BUKIT BINTANG***  
***COMMERCIAL DISTRICT***

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**WALKABILITY OF BUKIT BINTANG  
COMMERCIAL DISTRICT**



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**With highest gratitude to my parents,  
Mrs Nor Asikin and Mr Salim,**

**And supportive husband,  
Mr Mohd Asrul**



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia  
in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

## **WALKABILITY OF BUKIT BINTANG COMMERCIAL DISTRICT**

By

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**December 2012**

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The aim of this study is to measure the walkability of Bukit Bintang Commercial District and factors influencing it. The concern includes not only the urban design qualities that may promote walking such as well maintained and good pavement of walkway, but also the psychological aspect, such as the pleasure and enjoyment of walking. However, the provision of walking environment is mainly focused on fulfilling only the technical requirements and less on the quality of the environment. Inconsistency of streetscape elements and lack of clarity in the movement pattern are some of the problems identified in Jalan Bukit Bintang.

The criteria and measurement is identified from theories and principles on walkable environment and reliable assessment format by good practices. Spatial Context; Urban Structure; Accessibility; Connectivity and Safety are identified as the main determining criteria for walkability in the context studied. In the measurement, field assessments were conducted by the researcher to evaluate the level of walkability. A

survey was conducted with 330 respondents to obtain their perceptions towards the walkability of Bukit Bintang Commercial District according to the specified zones.

The findings indicate that the walkability in Bukit Bintang Commercial District is generally at the medium level where it is able to meet some of the criteria needed to provide a walkable environment which are urban structure and accessibility. Results from the perception survey indicate that safety and connectivity of the paths strongly influence the perceived comfort of walking by pedestrians. It is therefore important to improve on the safety and connectivity of the public spaces to increase the level of walkability in the area.

The findings from this study will contribute to the identification of the factors that influence the walkability of Bukit Bintang Commercial District that can be utilized as a guideline to improve the existing condition of the area for the benefit of the pedestrian. The methods and techniques to assess the walkability of Bukit Bintang Commercial District based on the established walkability assessment methods developed by PERS and Gallin can be referred to as a guide to assess other areas. In general, the findings of the study will strengthen the urban design theory and practice with regards to determining the walkability of compact urban commercial districts in Malaysian cities.

Abstrak tesis dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia  
sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

**KEBOLEHAN BERJALAN KAKI DI KAWASAN KOMERSIAL BUKIT  
BINTANG**

Oleh

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Kajian ini adalah bertujuan untuk mengukur tahap kebolehan berjalan kaki (walkability) di Kawasan Komersial Bukit Bintang dan faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhinya. Ia berkaitan dengan bagaimana persekitaran itu mampu untuk menyokong dan menggalakkan aktiviti berjalan kaki. Perkara yang dititikberatkan termasuk kualiti rekabentuk bandar yang menggalakkan aktiviti berjalan seperti laluan pejalan kaki yang dijaga dan diselenggara dengan turapan yang baik, tetapi juga dari segi aspek psikologi, seperti keseronokan ketika berjalan kaki. Walau bagaimanapun, persekitaran berjalan kaki lebih tertumpu kepada memenuhi keperluan teknikal berbanding pada kualiti persekitaran. Ini telah mempengaruhi pengalaman pejalan kaki dan kemudahan untuk menggunakan ruang awam.

Ketidakselarasan unsur jalanraya, serta corak pergerakan yang kurang jelas adalah sebahagian masalah yang dikenal pasti di Jalan Bukit Bintang.

Kriteria dan pengukuran untuk menentukan kebolehan berjalan kaki di Kawasan Komersial Bukit Bintang adalah dikenalpasti melalui teori dan prinsip keperluan berjalan kaki dan kaedah penilaian yang dipercayai untuk pelaksanaan yang berkesan. Kontek Reruang, Struktur Bandar, Akses, Kemudahsampaian dan Keselamatan dikenalpasti sebagai kriteria utama yang menentukan kebolehan berjalan kaki dalam konteks kajian ini. Penilaian kawasan kajian kemudiannya dijalankan oleh penyelidik untuk menilai tahap kebolehan berjalan kaki. Soal selidik telah dijalankan terhadap 330 responden untuk mendapatkan persepsi mereka terhadap tahap kebolehan berjalan kaki di Kawasan Komersial Bukit Bintang mengikut zon yang telah ditetapkan.

Keputusan kajian menunjukkan bahawa kebolehan berjalan kaki di Kawasan Komersial Bukit Bintang secara amnya adalah pada tahap yang sederhana di mana ia hanya mampu memenuhi beberapa kriteria yang diperlukan untuk menyediakan persekitaran yang menyokong keperluan berjalan kaki seperti struktur bandar dan akses. Hasil daripada kajian persepsi mendapati keselamatan dan kemudahsampaian dianggap lebih mempengaruhi tahap keselesaan ketika berjalan oleh pejalan kaki. Oleh itu, ianya penting untuk memperbaiki aspek keselamatan dan kemudahsampaian ruang awam bagi meningkatkan tahap kebolehan berjalan kaki di kawasan tersebut.

Hasil daripada kajian ini dapat menyumbang kepada faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi kebolehan berjalan kaki di Kawasan Komersial Bukit Bintang yang boleh digunapakai sebagai garis panduan untuk memperbaiki keadaan sedia ada di kawasan tersebut untuk memberi manfaat kepada pejalan kaki. Kaedah dan teknik

untuk menilai kebolehan berjalan kaki di Kawasan komersial Bukit Bintang adalah berpandukan kepada kaedah menilai kebolehan berjalan kaki yang telah diiktiraf (dihasilkan oleh PERS dan Gallin) boleh menjadi rujukan sebagai garis panduan untuk menilai kawasan-kawasan lain. Secara amnya, hasil penemuan daripada kajian ini akan mengukuhkan lagi teori dan amalan reka bentuk bandar untuk menentukan kebolehan berjalan kaki di kawasan komersial yang padat di bandar - bandar dalam Malaysia.





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This thesis submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science.

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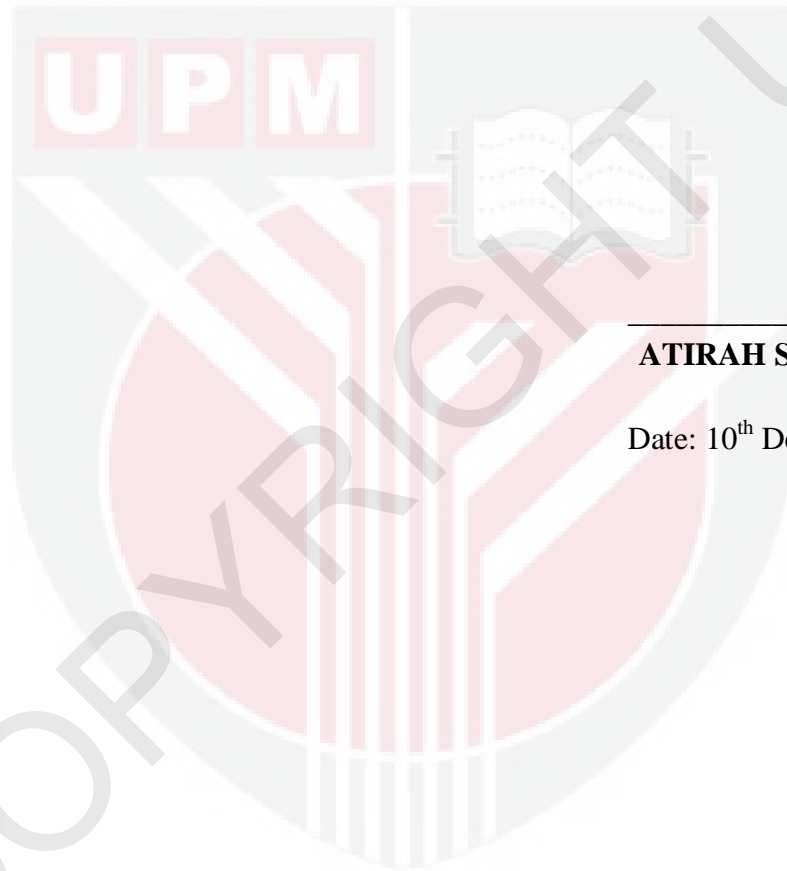
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## DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledge. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or other institutions.



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**ATIRAH SALIM**

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>DEDICATION</b>	ii
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	iii
<b>ABSTRAK</b>	v
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	viii
<b>APPROVAL</b>	ix
<b>DECLARATION</b>	xi
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	xiv
<b>LIST OF CHARTS</b>	xvii
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	xviii
<b>LIST OF ABBREVIATION/NOTATION/GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>	xx
<b>CHAPTER</b>	
<b>1 INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of Problem	3
1.3 Research Question	6
1.4 Research Aim and Objectives	6
1.5 Significance of the Study	7
1.6 Scope and Limitation of the Study	8
<b>2 LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1 Terms and Definitions	9
2.1.1 Walkable Environment	9
2.1.2 Walkability	10
2.1.3 Comfort	11
2.1.4 Pedestrian	11
2.1.5 Urban Walkway	12
2.2 Comfort and Walkable Environment	13
2.2.1 Comfort and Walkability	13
2.2.2 Criteria of Walkable Environment	17
2.3 Walkability Criteria	23
2.3.1 Spatial Context	23
2.3.2 Urban Structure	25
2.3.3 Accessibility	27
2.3.4 Connectivity	28
2.3.5 Safety	29
2.4 Perception of Comfort and Walkability	31
2.4.1 Walking Behaviour in Urban Walkway	31
2.4.2 Attitude and Choices of Walking	33
	11

2.4.3	Comfort of Walking	36
2.4.4	Factors Influencing the Perceived Comfort	37
2.5	Conclusion	40
<b>3</b>	<b>RESEARCH METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>42</b>
3.1	Research Design	42
3.1.1	Field Assessment	42
3.1.2	Questionnaire Survey	43
3.1.3	Study Area	43
3.2	Field Assessment	45
3.2.1	Justification of Walkability Measurement Methods & Adaptation to Malaysian Context	46
3.2.2	Criteria of the Study	49
3.2.3	Measurement Scale and Criteria	50
3.2.4	Data Analysis Techniques	58
3.3	Questionnaire Survey	58
3.3.1	Questionnaire Design	59
3.3.2	Data Collection Procedures	61
3.3.3	Sampling Method	61
3.3.4	Pilot Testing	64
3.3.5	Data Analysis Techniques	66
3.4	Conclusion	68
<b>4</b>	<b>RESULTS AND DISCUSSION</b>	<b>69</b>
4.1	Introduction	69
4.2	Respondent's Profile	69
4.3	The Walkability of Bukit Bintang Commercial District	71
4.3.1	Spatial Context	72
4.3.2	Urban Structure	81
4.3.3	Accessibility	92
4.3.4	Connectivity	103
4.3.5	Safety	115
4.4	Conclusion	127
<b>5</b>	<b>CONCLUSION AND RECOMENDATIONS</b>	<b>129</b>
5.1	Summary of Findings	129
5.2	Walkability of Bukit Bintang Commercial District	131
5.2.1	Creating a Safe Pedestrian Environment	132
5.2.2	Appropriate Width of Space for Walking	133
5.3	Effective Connection between People and Places	134
5.3.1	Responsive Streetscape Design	135
5.4	Increased Permeability and Choices of Path Offered	136
5.5	Walking as a Sustainable Means of Transport	137

5.5.1	Accessible Public Amenities along Pedestrian Walkway	138
5.6	Contribution of the Research	139
5.7	Recommendation for Further Research	140
5.8	Conclusion	144
<b>REFERENCES</b>		146
<b>APPENDICES</b>		150
<b>BIODATA OF STUDENT</b>		171
<b>LIST OF PUBLICATIONS</b>		172

