



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

***PREFERRED ICONOGRAPHY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NEW GARDEN  
IDENTITY***

**MINA KABOUDARAHANGI**

**FRSB 2012 18**

**PREFERRED ICONOGRAPHY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NEW GARDEN  
IDENTITY**



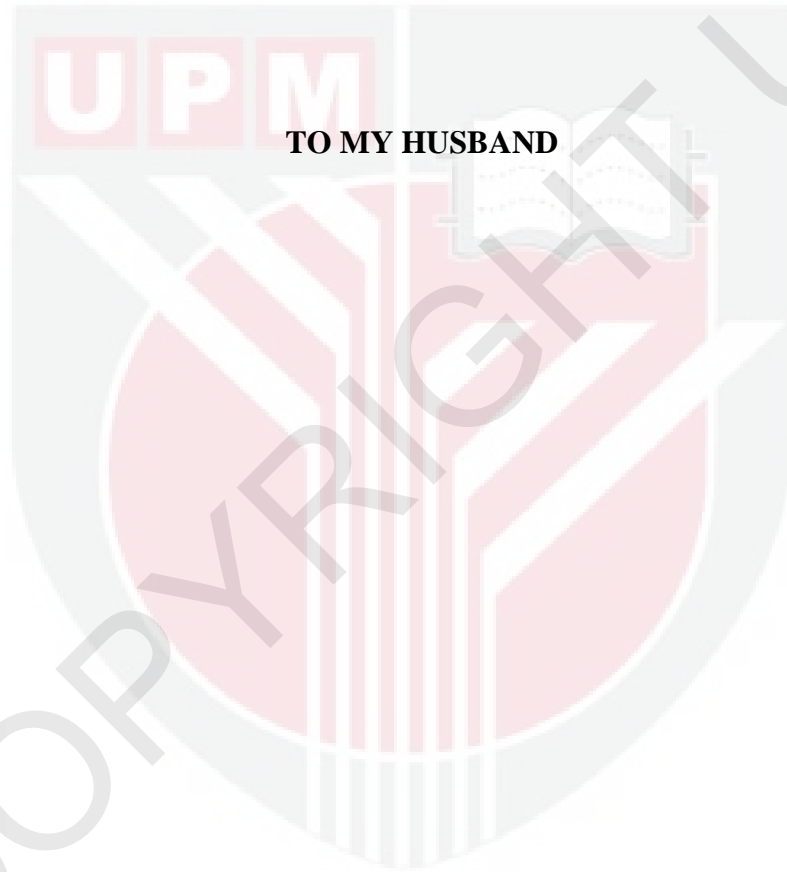
**MINA KABOUDARAHANGI**

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,  
in Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

**February 2012**

**DEDICATIONS**

**TO MY HUSBAND**



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**PREFERRED ICONOGRAPHY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NEW GARDEN IDENTITY**

By

**MINA KABOUDARAHANGI**

**February 2012**

**Chair: Associate Professor LAr. Osman Mohd Tahir, PhD**

**Faculty: Design and Architecture**

Globalization is fast transforming our world into one featureless place, leaving most nations with a lacking sense of identity. Some of the key areas affected by globalization include landscapes and gardens. Generally considered as symbols of national identity, the establishment of a nationally defined garden can contribute greatly to the development of a distinct national identity. Well-established gardens throughout history have proven to boast a nation's identity through time, philosophy, tradition, and the cultural background of its people. These historical gardens are easily recognized through particular images that illustrate their distinctive iconographies. However, the iconography of new developing gardens is still unclear. If these new gardens do not reflect the specific cultures or values and needs of its users, then a unique set of problems will arise, particularly a low level of appreciation and acceptance.

Exploring garden iconographies, this study surveyed related garden preferences and has made suggestions for the development of a new garden identity. Malaysia — a fast developing country with great potential for and an interest in garden development — was selected as a case study. In accordance with this subject, photo preference surveys explored the preferred iconography for new Malaysian gardens and determined the factors affecting these preferences. Meanwhile, face-to-face interviews with Iranian and Malaysian landscape experts clarified the issues and challenges pertaining to garden development. It is important to note that the findings of this study can be used to contribute to the formation of Malaysian gardens with a distinct Malaysian identity. It can also be extended or adopted by other nations hoping to achieve or enhance national identity through garden development.

Abstrak thesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Uiversiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan Ijazah Doktor Falsafah

## **IKONOGRAFI PILIHAN UNTUK PEMBANGUNAN IDENTITI TAMAN**

**BAHARU**

Oleh

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**Februari 2012**

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Phenomena globalisasi begitu cepat mengubah dunia kita kepada suatu tempat tanpa ciri tertentu dan menyebabkan banyak negara kehilangan identiti. Diantara perkara utama yang mendapat kesan globalisasi ialah landskap dan taman. Secara amnya taman dianggap sebagai simbol identiti nasional dan pembentukan taman berciri nasional dapat memberi sumbangan besar kepada pembangunan identiti nasional tersendiri. Taman yang telah lama wujud dalam sejarah telah terbukti dapat melonjak identiti negara melalui masa, falsafah, tradisi, dan latar belakang budaya rakyatnya. Taman-taman dalam sejarah ini mudah dikenali melalui citra tertentu yang menggambarkan ikonografinya tersendiri. Walau bagaimanapun bagi taman yang sedang membangun ia mempunyai ikonografi yang kurang jelas. Sekiranya taman-taman baharu ini tidak mencerminkan budaya atau nilai dan keperluan tertentu pengguna, maka suatu set masalah yang unik akan timbul terutamanya penghayatan dan penerimaan yang rendah.

Dengan memberi perhatian kepada ikonografi taman, kajian ini meninjau kecenderungan terhadap taman berkaitan dan memberikan beberapa cadangan bagi pembentukan suatu identiti taman yang baharu. Sehubungan itu, Malaysia sebagai sebuah negara yang pesat membangun serta mempunyai potensi besar dan berkepentingan dalam pembangunan taman, telah dipilih sebagai kajian kes. Selaras dengan kajian ini, kaji selidik preferensi foto telah dijalankan bagi menerokai ikonografi kecenderungan dan menentukan faktor yang mempengaruhi kecenderungan terhadapnya. Selain itu, temubual bersemuka dengan pakar landskap dari Iran dan Malaysia telah dilaksanakan bagi menjelaskan isu dan cabaran berhubung dengan pembangunan taman. Hasil kajian ini diharapkan dapat menyumbang kepada pembentukan taman- yang beridentitikan Malaysia. Penemuan ini juga boleh dilanjutkan atau dicadangkan kepada negara lain dengan harapan untuk mencapai identiti kebangsaan melalui pembangunan taman.

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I would not have achieved my goals without God's mercy and all the lovely people that I have mentioned above.

## Approval Sheet

I certify that an Examination Committee has met on (date of viva voce) to conduct the final examination of Mina kaboudarahangi on her PhD thesis entitled “ Preferred iconography for the development of a new garden identity” in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the PhD degree.

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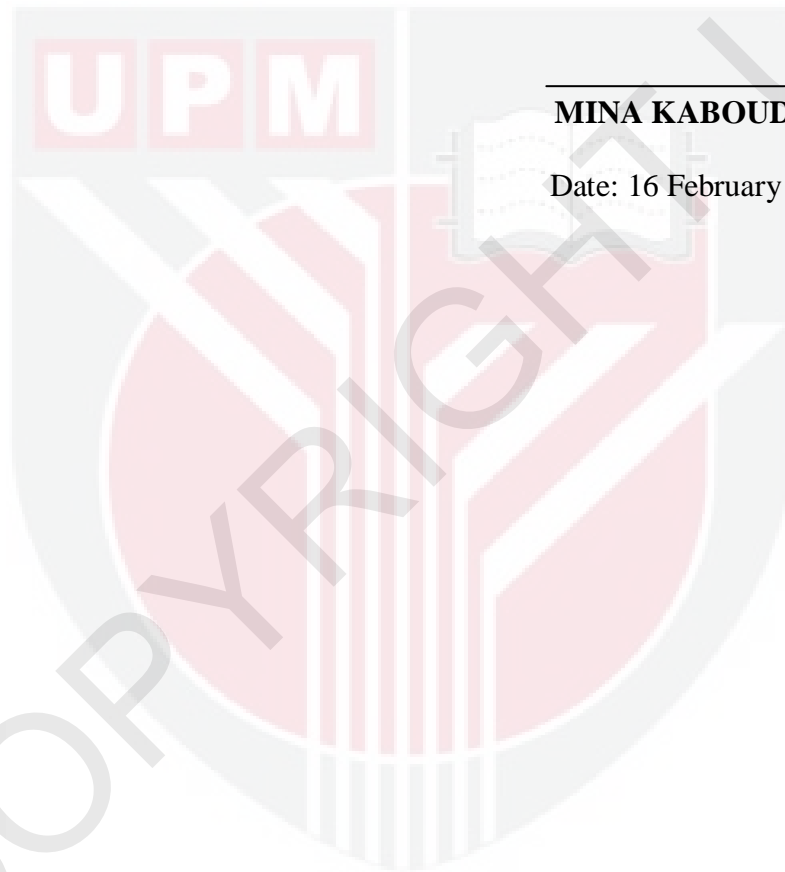
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## DECLARATION

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



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**MINA KABOUDARAHANGI**

Date: 16 February 2012

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