



PRESERVING THE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE OF MELANAU TRADITIONAL HEALING RITUALS

The traditions and customs of indigenous knowledge, particularly traditional healing rituals within the Melanau community, are being forgotten as they are less practiced nowadays. Today, several types of traditional healing rituals are no longer practiced by the Melanau community due to the availability of modern medicine and religious conversion. The Melanau traditional healing rituals that are still practiced today are the dakan/bilum rituals, and there are only two Melanau traditional healers who know how to perform these rituals. Preserving the practices of indigenous knowledge, mainly Melanau traditional healing rituals, is challenging due to rapid modernisation.



SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER

This talk is organised in collaboration with



25 NOVEMBER 2023

BORNEO CULTURES MUSEUM
2nd Floor, Arts & Crafts Room

TIME
2.30-3.30PM

SARAWAKHEARTH.COM



BORNEO CULTURES MUSEUM

HEIRLOOM SHOWCASES TALK

Preserving the Indigenous Knowledge of Melanau Traditional Healing Rituals

25 NOV 2023 // 2.30-3.30PM

Muhammad Faiz bin Arshad, a postgraduate student at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), is currently in his pursuit of a Master of Social Sciences in Anthropology.

His academic focus revolves around delving into the indigenous knowledge surrounding sago cultivation and exploring the traditional healing rituals of the Melanau people in Sarawak. Faiz's research contributes to a deeper understanding of local cultures and practices, particularly those related to agriculture and healthcare within the Melanau community.

Faiz's commitment to academic excellence is evident through his successful grant applications, including the UNIMAS Graduate Research Assistant for Fundamental Research Grant Scheme (FRGS). Under the guidance of Associate Professor Dr. Ahmad Nizar Yaakub, Faiz has garnered notable recognition, winning prestigious awards such as the Gold Award at the Malaysia Technology Expo 2022, the SDG International Innovation Award & Expo (Category: Zero Hunger), and the Gold Award for the Social Sciences & Humanities Cluster in the Innovation Technology Expo (InTEX22).

This talk is organised in collaboration with :



MUHAMMAD FAIZ BIN ARSHAD, UNIMAS



ORIGINS OF THE CARPENTRY

OF THE BROOKE RAJAHS' TIMBER FORTS IN SARAWAK
26TH NOVEMBER 2023 BORNEO CULTURES MUSEUM
2PM - 4PM | SUNDAY GRD FLOOR, FUNCTION HALL

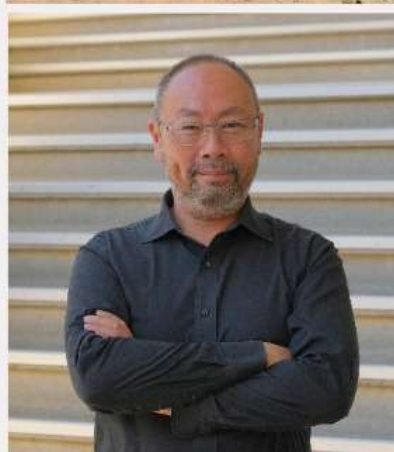
The timber frames of Sarawak's forts in the second half of the nineteenth century were prefabricated before being shipped out to remote locations and erected there. Vernacular approaches are evident in the roof framing as their intermediate roof beams suggest the involvement of Malay carpenters. The wall framing uses crossed top plates and scarf joints, common in colonial-period timber buildings constructed by ethnic-Chinese carpenters in Southeast Asia. These joinery details can also be seen in Australia – flat-packed 'Singapore Cottages' were originally imported from Singapore during the 1850s to address Melbourne's housing shortages. It has been suggested that it is a Chinese tradition due to Chinese carpenters being used to erect the Cottages and forts. However, the Cottages and forts' details and construction contrast with Chinese carpentry, suggesting complex origins. This presentation is informed by new research that expands the forts and Cottages' carpenters and carpentry origins.



Fort Alice in Sri Aman Photographed by Dr. John Ting

Registration Link:

<https://forms.gle/zhZPmZGG4qCo1Gv46>



Speaker:

DR. JOHN TING

Dr. John Ting is an architect, researcher and educator at the University of Canberra, Australia. He is also a registered architect, delivering modern, environmentally responsive and adaptive residential and heritage projects in Australia and Malaysia. He researches Sarawak's architectural and construction history and prefabricated timber buildings in nineteenth century colonial Southeast Asia and Australia.

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