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**THE POTENTIAL OF HISTORIC FORTRESS AS A NEW  
TOURISM ATTRACTION IN KELANTAN**

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## ABSTRACT

This research looks on the possibilities of historic fortresses as new tourism attractions in the Malaysian state of Kelantan. Kelantan has a rich cultural legacy and historical significance, making it an attractive heritage tourism destination. Kelantan can use its ancient strongholds to attract tourists and create economic growth by focusing on their restoration and promotion. The study looks at the historical background and architectural relevance of strongholds in Kelantan, with a focus on prominent ones. The study examines the existing state of fortresses as tourism destinations and suggests viable solutions for their growth using qualitative analysis, interviews with local people, and government. According to the findings, mediaeval strongholds have a huge potential to become significant tourism attractions in Kelantan. Visitors are drawn to these fortifications because of their distinctive architectural elements, historical narratives, and cultural relevance. Furthermore, by maintaining and presenting these landmarks, Kelantan can promote cultural heritage while also generating long-term tourism revenue. The study also provides some significant recommendations for improving historic fortress tourism potential. Improved infrastructure, interpretative signage, guided tours, interactive displays, and cultural activities that engage tourists and produce a memorable experience are just a few examples. Collaboration between government agencies, local communities, and tourist stakeholders is critical for effective attraction preservation, promotion, and marketing. Kelantan can diversify its tourism offers, prolong visitors' duration of stay, and attract both domestic and foreign tourists seeking unique cultural experiences by capitalising on the potential of historic strongholds. This research serves as a valuable resource for policymakers, tourism authorities, and local communities in formulating strategies to harness the tourism potential of historic fortresses in Kelantan and drive sustainable development in the region.

**Keywords:** Tourism, Historical attraction, Local communities and government action.



## ABSTRAK

Penyelidikan ini melihat kemungkinan kubu bersejarah sebagai tarikan pelancongan baharu di negeri Kelantan. Kelantan mempunyai warisan budaya yang kaya dan kepentingan sejarah, menjadikannya destinasi pelancongan warisan yang menarik. Kelantan boleh menggunakan kubu lamanya untuk menarik pelancong dan mewujudkan pertumbuhan ekonomi dengan memberi tumpuan kepada pemulihan dan promosi mereka. Kajian ini melihat latar belakang sejarah dan kaitan seni bina kubu kuat di Kelantan, dengan tumpuan kepada yang menonjol. Kajian itu mengkaji keadaan kubu sedia ada sebagai destinasi pelancongan dan mencadangkan penyelesaian yang berdaya maju untuk pertumbuhan mereka menggunakan analisis kualitatif, temu bual dengan penduduk tempatan, dan kerajaan. Menurut penemuan, kubu abad pertengahan mempunyai potensi besar untuk menjadi tarikan pelancongan yang ketara di Kelantan. Pengunjung tertarik kepada kubu ini kerana unsur seni bina yang tersendiri, naratif sejarah dan kaitan budaya. Tambahan pula, dengan mengekalkan dan mempersembahkan mercu tanda ini, Kelantan boleh mempromosikan warisan budaya di samping menjana pendapatan pelancongan jangka panjang. Kajian ini juga menyediakan beberapa cadangan penting untuk meningkatkan potensi pelancongan kubu bersejarah. Infrastruktur yang dipertingkatkan, papan tanda tafsiran, lawatan berpandu, paparan interaktif dan aktiviti kebudayaan yang melibatkan pelancong dan menghasilkan pengalaman yang tidak dapat dilupakan hanyalah beberapa contoh. Kerjasama antara agensi kerajaan, komuniti tempatan dan pihak berkepentingan pelancong adalah penting untuk pemeliharaan, promosi dan pemasaran tarikan yang berkesan. Kelantan boleh mempelbagaikan tawaran pelancongannya, memanjangkan tempoh penginapan pelawat, dan menarik pelancong domestik dan asing yang mencari pengalaman kebudayaan yang unik dengan memanfaatkan potensi kubu bersejarah. Penyelidikan ini berfungsi sebagai sumber yang berharga untuk penggubal dasar, pihak berkuasa pelancongan, dan komuniti tempatan dalam merangka strategi untuk memanfaatkan potensi pelancongan kubu bersejarah di Kelantan dan memacu pembangunan mampan di rantau ini.

Kata kunci: Pelancongan, Tarikan sejarah, Komuniti tempatan dan tindakan kerajaan.

## CHAPTER 1

### 1.1 INTRODUCTION

The tourism industry is the main driver in the service sector. The tourism sector has played a major role in stimulating the economy during the Eighth Malaysia Plan period (Omar, 2016). The types of tourism found in Malaysia are ecotourism, agrotourism, health tourism, and educational tourism. The background of the study, a problem statement, research objectives, research questions, the significance of the study, definitions of key terms, and an overview are all included in Chapter 1. The first chapter contains these sections. The background of the investigation is about the general research topic that wants to be studied. Next, the problem statement focuses on issues related to the research topic. Third, the objective of the study explains the direction of the study. Next, the research question explains the questions presented to get answers to the research objectives. Research objectives and questions are essential for a study that wants to be done. Next is the importance of the study to explain the significance of the study to fill the gaps in the study. Finally, an overview describes the fundamental research in this chapter.

## 1.2 BACKGROUND OF STUDY

### 1.2.1 Tourism Industry

The tourism industry has been defined as “the range of businesses and organizations involved in delivering the tourism product” (Prosser, 2012). As one of the top service sectors and a key driver of economic expansion in the global economy, the tourism sector is also one of the leading service industries (Jong, 2018). A thriving and established tourism sector acts as a driver for regional and national growth, influences the foreign exchange rate, expands job possibilities, and fosters social advancement that benefits both the local population and visitors (Ayob, 2018).

In addition, tourism as an open system, is distinguished by a high degree of networking with the environment. The numerous interactions with the various aspects of the outside world not only have an impact on the tourism system itself but also have an impact on the environment, which can be broken down into technological, sociocultural, political, economic, and ecological dimensions. Tourism, with all of its components, is extremely vulnerable due to the numerous interrelationships (Haedrich, 2010).

### 1.2.2 The Provision of Tourism Industry in Malaysia

The tourism industry in Malaysia is the most appealing sector of the economy, and its importance to social and economic progress has grown significantly (UKEssays, 2018). The Ministry of Tourism, Arts, and Culture (MoTAC) oversees the tourism sector in Malaysia. Previously, Malaysian tourism was under the control of the Tourist Development Corporation of Malaysia (TDC) (Mokhtar, 2020). The National Archives of Malaysia, the National Library of Malaysia, the Department of Museums of Malaysia, the Department of National Heritage of Malaysia, the Department for Culture and Arts of Malaysia, Istana Budaya, the Academy of Arts, Culture, and Heritage (ASWARA), and the Malaysia Handicraft Development Board are just a few of the organizations that fall under the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, and Culture of Malaysia (Yazid, 2020).

Other than that, MOTAC has launched the "New Version" Malaysia Tourism Quality Assurance (MyTQA) Programme located at Panggung Sari, Malaysian Handicraft Complex. The MyTQA Program, which was first introduced in 2014, is an initiative to give recognition to tourism products and accent to players in the tourism industry the need to prioritize the quality of services provided and the need to upgrade the quality of tourism product facilities in Malaysia (MoTAC, 2022). The MyTQA program will serve as a reference for the public to choose the best tourism products to visit. The emphasis placed by each tourism product on the aspects of the facility, safety practice, staff and business operator, appearance and experience, marketing and promotion, and sustainable practices makes tourism products that

have received MyTQA recognition more reliable to be visited by tourists (MOTAC, 2022).

Additionally, six (6) successful tourist products including such as Pavilion Shopping Mall in Kuala Lumpur, Gunung Mulu National Park, Lambir Hills National Park, UK Farm, Farm in the City, and KL Tower Mini Zoo received MyTQA Certificates of Recognition (MOTAC, 2022).

In conclusion, it is obvious that the government of Malaysia's tourism industry has made substantial preparations to develop the business and generate more tourism products to attract tourists to Malaysia.

### **1.2.3 The Senarios of Tourism Industry in Kelantan**

One of the states of Malaysia's East Coast Economic Region (ECER), Kelantan is situated in the eastern portion of Peninsular Malaysia. Natural wonders, beaches, recreational woods, waterfalls, and cultural attractions abound in this state. The state's tourist destinations are located in rural and non-urban areas (Bhuiyan, 2019). Kelantan is divided into nine districts with Kota Bharu as the town centre. Figure 1.1 below shows the district in Kelantan.







Figure 1.1: Kelantan Map

Source: Kelantan Tourism Information Centre (TIC, 2017)

In addition, in 1991, Kota Bharu was declared as Cultural City and the tagline “Kota Bharu Kota Budaya” (Hassan, 2018). However, it was formally designated as an "Islamic City" by the state government in 2005. Therefore, the city's image is moving in the direction of constructing a city that may be connected to Islamic identity (Ghani, 2018). However, if tourists wanted to experience Islamic culture in Malaysia, Kota Bharu would be the best place to start because Islamic practiced are more prominently displayed there than in any other Malaysian city, both physically and spiritually. As an Islamic city, it serves as a symbolic icon in the urban development of the Islamic state of Kelantan. (Ahmad, 2018).

There are many tourism products in the Malaysian state of Kelantan.

Element	Products	Location	Example
Natures	Waterfall	Jeram Linang	
		Lata Beringin	
		Stong Hill	
		Fish Cave	



	Beaches	Seven Lagoons	
		Moon Light Beach	
		Senok Beach	
		Irama Beach	
		Malawi Beach	
	Museum	War Museum	

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		Kite Museum	
		Jahar Place	
		Sultan Ismail Petra Arch	
		Wat Phothivihan (The Sleeping Buddha)	
		Wat Machimmaram (The Sitting Buddha)	
Shopping		Rantau Panjang (Duty Free Zone)	

		Bukit Bunga	
		Siti Khadijah Market	
		Buluh Kubu Bazaar (Kelantan Batik Centre)	
		Tok Guru Bazaar	
		Wakaf Che Yeh Night Market	
	Heritage	Street Art	

	Islamic Heritage	Al-Muhammadi State Mosque	
		Kampung Laut Mosque	
		Bejing Mosque	
		Razaleigh Mosque	
		Ar-Rahman Mosque	

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	Traditional Games	Kite	
		Dikir Barat	
		Top Spinning	
		Congkak	

Based on tourism products in the table above, that had in Kelantan, shows that Kelantan is famous for its historic, and cultural heritage and is full of nature. So, we can see that Kelantan is indeed famous as a cultural and Islamic city.

### The current of Kelantan Tourism Industry

According to Tourism Information Centre (TIC), the number of tourists visit to Kelantan was around 5 million people in year 2017 that recorded the lowest percentage among other states in Malaysia (TIC, 2017).

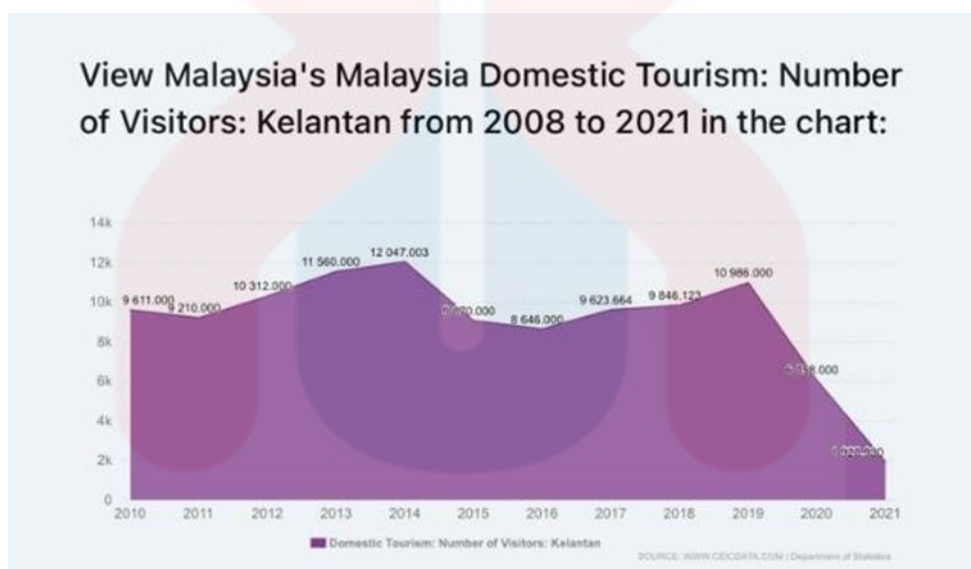


Figure 1.2: View Malaysia’s Domestic Tourism: Number of Visitors: Kelantan from 2008 to 2021



Source: CEICdata, 2021





Kelantan had a population of "1,920.930" people in 2021, according to census statistics. This is a decrease from the previous projection of "6,058.000" Person for 2020.



Malaysian domestic tourism: Total number of visitors: Kelantan data is updated yearly, with an average of "9,410.500" Person from December 2008 to December 2021, based on 14 observations. The data peaked in 2014 at "12,047.003" Person and fell to a record low of "1,920.930" Person in 2021 (CEIC, 2008-2021).

Despite a decrease in tourists to Kelantan in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, i.e., inbound tourism stopped when the country closed borders and limited travel to control the COVID-19 virus, the number of domestic tourists declined following the Movement Control Order (MCO) (Statista, 2022). But Kelantan still has a uniqueness in some places to attract tourists to travel there.

Product	Location	Example
Nature	Gunung Reng Jeli	
	Jeram mengaji	

	Min House Camp	
	Jambatan Terapung	
	Jambatan Guillemard	
	Lata Keding Bukit Kudung	

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Other than that, there are some historical tourist products in Kelantan, such as the fortress, that are not well received by tourists.

Product	Location	Example
Fortress historical	Kuala Gel Melawi, Bachok	
	Pengkalan Chepa	
	Jalan Tok Hakim, Kota Bharu	
	Kampung Baru Nelayan, Tumpat	

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### 1.3 PROBLEM STATEMENT

Investment funds are one of the factors needed to boost the tourism industry in Kelantan (Awang, 2021). The problem is that Kelantan's tourism sector suffered a loss of RM2.6 billion in 2020 after the spread of the COVID-19 epidemic, the spread of this epidemic caused a lack of tourist arrivals to Kelantan (Bernama, 2021). In addition, floods also often occur in the state of Kelantan, resulting in large losses reaching tens of millions of ringgits (Agendadaily, 2022). This presents a big challenge in the tourism sector in 2022 because the dependence on domestic visitors is very high in attracting foreign tourists to travel in Kelantan (Agendadaily, 2022).

Kelantan's tourism products are less commercialized to attract tourists, especially from abroad (Bernama, 2019). There are many colonial historical monuments that will all be lifted to the ground to be used as Kelantan historical monuments (Sulong, 2021). However, this product is not one of the ones that attracts tourists to Kelantan. Therefore, this study attempts to examine the potential of historic fortress as the new tourism to attract the number of tourists in Kelantan. This support with Sultan Muhammad V, the state government to focus on the new tourism sector in Kelantan (Idris, 2022).

## 1.4 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The aim of the study the potential of historic fortress as a new tourism attraction in Kelantan:

1. What are the types of existing of historic fortress that available in Kelantan?
2. What are the perception of local communities towards the historic fortress in Kelantan?
3. What are the government's action or strategies to enhance the development of historical forts as a new tourism attraction in Kelantan?

## 1.5 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The aim of the study is the potential of historic fortress as a new tourism attraction in Kelantan. In specific, this research aims to achieve the following objectives below:

1. To identify the types of existing of historic fortress that available in Kelantan.
2. To examine the perception of local communities towards the historic fortress in Kelantan.
3. To determine government's strategies or policies to enhance the development of historical fortress as a new tourism attraction in Kelantan.

## **1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY**

This research focuses on the potential of the historic fort as a new tourist attraction in Kelantan. This study will increase the researcher's understanding and purpose to study the importance of this study. This study was also done to give the community an insight that the forts in Kelantan need to be looked after and restored.

### **1.6.1 National Tourism Policy 2020-2030**

The National Tourism Policy (2020-2030) states that cultural heritage tourism aims to strengthen cultural heritage preservation and conservation as a valuable asset to display the identity of historical heritage in Malaysia's creative tourism industry (MALAYSIA, 2020-2030). This study aims to raise the words of the National Tourism Policy related to the cultural heritage of tourism by preserving and looking after historical assets as valuable assets to Malaysia because historical investments are significant to tourism assets.

## **1.6.2 Non-Governmental Organization**

Local and international visitors are drawn to the significance of protecting national heritage. The preservation of colonial relics has inspired travellers to experience the distinctive works of earlier civilizations. Several historic forts, like the British Fort at Pengkalan Chepa, have been designated national treasures that the government must conserve. The NGO must also take the initiative for the fort's restoration and conservation (Iberahim, 2022). This study is significant to give knowledge to the whole country that Kelantan has a great history that should be preserved. So, certain parties must take care of and preserve this cultural heritage well. Therefore, the state government needs to be concerned about the conservation of war forts in Kelantan as one of the tourist attractions.

## **1.7 DEFINITION OF THE KEY TERMS**

### **1.7.1 Historical**

According to Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406) described history as a note or record of human life or human civilization that takes actuality, cause, and effect into account. According to Collingwood (1889–1943), history is the study of actions taken by humanity in the past (Mandala, 2022).

### **1.7.2 Fortress**

In the fourth edition of Hall's Dictionary, a "fort" is a wooden and earthen fence used to fend against invasions and assaults. Additionally, it designates a fortified defence position guarded by walls and fences. During World War II, this fort was built to control and fend off enemy attacks. One of the landmarks with heritage and historical significance is this battle fort (Nur Athmar Hashim & Mohd Mokhtar, 2021).

### **1.7.3 Heritage**

The architectural heritage includes both contemporary monuments with significant symbolic or cultural value as well as inherited historical structures and monuments having a cultural or historical character that justifies their preservation for future generations: dwellings or structures created by a sort of global aristocracy of architects (Benhamou, 2020).

### **1.7.4 Culture**

Culture is the grouping of art, beliefs, knowledge, customs, and habits people ascribe to in life. It is often something we do not think about, as it is just a habit formed by the society that we live in. Culture can be defined as the societal criterion people encounter within their community (Schank, 2021).

## 1.8 CHAPTER SUMMARY

Chapter 1 explains information about the forts in Kelantan that can be used as tourism products in general. This chapter describes the background of this study. It explains the background of tourism in Kelantan and the fortresses that exist in Kelantan. It tells a whole story about tourism that exists in Kelantan. Next, the problems of studying the forts that exist in Kelantan are explained in this chapter. The issues that exist in this study have been described in this chapter. It also explains the importance of this study for future generations. Next, the results of previous studies will be stated in chapter 2.

## CHAPTER 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

The chapter first discusses the background of studied. In background of studied, researcher has stated regarding types of fortress in Kelantan. Then, continued with the problem statement that found about misperception tourism sector in Kelantan challenges to overcome. The problem statement by researcher to found out and revealed about problem political issue. The second part is discussing on the case studied about the local community perception towards the historic fortress in Kelantan. The third part is focus on the research questions and research objectives. For this chapter, it was attempts to review the relevant literature and research related to definition and development for the potential of historic fortress as a new tourism attraction in Kelantan. This literature review also provides exposure on the development done for the program related to the main topic.

### 2.1.1 Types of war fortress

There are previous studies that look at the different types of forts that exist in Malaysia and around the world. In Malaysia there are fort that name as pillbox. In preparation for a Japanese invasion, the British soldiers manned hundreds of pillboxes around the coast of Malaya during World War II. Each pillbox, which was created by both the British and the Japanese, has room for two men firing machine guns. Soldiers used to crouch on the ledge back then. They were only a few inches above the concrete ceiling. British would attempt to take a position with a machine gun pointed outward with only one clear directive to observe the enemy (The star,2022). There is also a previous study of war fortresses abroad. The most extended artificial structure to date is China's Great Wall. It was erected as a military defence wall in the ninth century BC. The history of building this wall dates back to when the central area of China asked its citizens to construct a wall to link the defences on the state border line to stop tribes from the north of China from invading (Ismail, 2022).

At Padang Kota Lama, George Town, is the largest intact fortress still standing in Malaysia. The fort dates back to the earliest days of British settlement on the island. When Captain Francis Light landed on Penang Island in 1786, the cape where he landed was called Tanjung Penaga in Malay. There, he established the British settlement and trading port of George Town. To defend the site, he built a simple stockade out of Nibong palms



(Timothy, 2005). Malacca is home to a fortress known as the St. John Fortress. The personal fortress of St. John the Baptist was this fort. The 18th century saw its construction. When Malacca was primarily attacked from the interior, it possessed cannons pointed in that direction. The Dutch also constructed the fort as a defense against attacks from locals who were angry with the Dutch for invading the region around Malacca (Wijnen, 2022).

### **2.1.2 Perception of local communities towards the historic of fortress.**

During the military fort's 40-year history, there is evidence that Fort Union National Monument in New Mexico played an essential role in the connection between the established civilian community and the military (Moore, 2012). Historically, study into Fort Union elements has concentrated on the fort's influence on the local economy (Moore, 2012). Locals such as Vicente Romero transitioned from subsistence farming to supplying the Army with hay, bread, and beef in large numbers necessary for the Army's main supply depots throughout the Southwest, according to studies such as those done by (Moore, 2012). Romero enlisted the assistance of 116 men to deliver supplies from his mill to the fort. Many of the interpretive programmes conducted in local areas focus on New Mexico history rather than just the fort's military history. In addition to community events, the park includes performances of traditional Spanish music, depictions of historical characters, and lectures (Moore, 2012)

Fortification, according to evidence, is one of the most important aspects for local communities, as well as other various points of view. The building of a Confederate fort to protect the Cumberland River approaches to Tennessee and Kentucky in 1861 was regarded as "Civil War Fort Donelson" by both Southern supporters and people of the border state of Kentucky (Stoddard, 2017). Because forts were often built on the outskirts of settlements, bringing people of many different cultures into contact and sometimes conflict during the centuries of American expansion, there are a large number of published studies that describe forts that promote an understanding of multiple perspectives (Marcus, 2017).

The Hudson Bay Company's fur-trading headquarters prior to America's final possession of the Oregon Territory in 1848, Fort Vancouver National Historic Site in Vancouver, Washington, is a great example (Davison, 2010). For many decades, the fort's and surrounding territories' polyglot civilization brought together Scottish, Irish, Hawaiian, Chinook, and other indigenous tribes of people (Stoddard, 2017). Many forts were similar sites of intercultural meetings and trade, and they give an important opportunity for educators to drive student inquiry into the meeting of multiple cultures (Marcus, 2017).

### 2.1.3 Government's Action to do for all the Historic of Fort

There are also research results that can be seen related to the government's measures or strategies to preserve and protect historical holdings in the country. An element of a defensive diplomatic tool is a defence asset. If Kuto Besak Fort is adequately restored, it will be a valuable piece of Indonesia's defence heritage, serving as both a cultural monument and a defensive historical icon for the Indonesian people. Kuto Besak Fort belongs to all stakeholders because it is a significant piece of national history (Francoise, 2022). The state government has consistently encouraged Rajasthan Heritage to restore and discuss its heritage assets. With the assistance of the state government, a proportion of tourism is needed to construct hotels and complexes due to the state's abundance of forts, palaces, and monuments in several cities around Rajasthan, including Jaipur, Jodhpur and Mount Abu (Sonker, 2021).

The strategic location of the Xining Guard Post in Northwest China and its importance in protecting China from the attacks of Songshan and Xihai, Mongolia, the Chinese authorities extended the Great Wall around it. Intervals of about fifty years, during which new walls were built and repaired. The Ming Great Wall is now a famous traditional Chinese tourism and wall maintenance destination (Du, 2016).

## 2.2 CHAPTER SUMMARY

In conclusion, in this chapter, the researcher has studied the literature related to the main components of this study. Various previous research sources have been used to explain this study's definition. Chapter 3 then focuses on research techniques. Regarding the core subject of studying the potential of historic forts as a new tourist attraction in Kelantan, the research methodology will be presented in chapter 3.



## CHAPTER 3

### RESEARCH METHOTODOLOGY

#### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

In the previous chapter 2, it had been discussing the literature review. The literature review has been divided for a few parts to clearly about historic fortress in domestic and international. It also begins an introduction by a researcher. Next, continued with the part type fortress in world. The type of fortress has been stated based on the review and research article. It also continues with the local community's perception towards the historic of fortress. Next part is discussing based on the strategies for government of historical and the third part is chapter summary about historical. For this chapter, it going to attempts about the methodology that relevant to the main topic. This methodology also gives the analysis based on the main topic.

### 3.2 RESEARCH DESIGN AND STRATEGY

Research design can be defined as a method used by a researcher to conduct a scientific study in a methodical way. A suitable conclusion is reached by the total synchronization of recognized components and data (Hyun,2018). Quantitative and qualitative research designs are the two categories into which research design will be separated.

A qualitative research design has been used in this research. Qualitative research design is an approach to exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem (Creswell, 2014). This process of research involves emerging questions and procedures, data typically collected in the participant's setting, data analysis stimulating building from particulars to general themes, and the researcher making interpretations of the meaning of the data (Creswell, 2014).

For the study, the objective is to examine the perception of local communities towards the historic fortress and to determine the government's strategies or policies to enhance the development of the historical fortress as a new tourism attraction in Kelantan using a qualitative research design. As a result, the studies of qualitative research design

are found to be adequate.

### **3.3 POPULATION AND SAMPLING STRATEGY**

There are various sampling methods that can be used in qualitative research. These consist of convenience sampling, quota sampling, snowball sampling, and purposive sampling. Purposive sampling was chosen for this study because it is a non-probability sampling technique that happens when "items picked for the sample are chosen by the researcher's opinion." Many times, researchers think they can get a representative sample with an accurate evaluation, saving them time and money (Black, 2010). The most popular sampling method is called purposive sampling and it involves grouping people based on predetermined criteria that are pertinent to a particular research issue.

The sample size will depend on the goals of the study, time and resource restrictions, and may or may not be raised before data collection. Therefore, when done simultaneously with data collection, purposive sampling and data analysis were most effective. This method is perfect for exploring a former stronghold in Kelantan that is being turned into a new tourist destination.

<b>Population</b>	<b>Number of villages</b>
Pantai sabak	6
Kota bharu	10
Bachok	8
Pantai melawi	6

Using this case study approach, it is impossible to examine the total population of Kota Bharu and Bachok. A collection of people is referred to as a "population" if they have at least one characteristic in common that sets them apart from other people (Best & Kahn, 2006). The first population is too big for the study's intended audience, while the second sample is too diverse for the findings to be broadly applied. Having a target population is crucial because of this. An individual group to which findings may be extrapolated is referred to as the target population. To find more about Fort in Kelantan study's target population is needed. A sample of the intended population must be chosen as the foundation for research investigations in order to address the size issue. A tiny portion of the population was chosen for observation and study in the sample. (Best & Kahn, 2006).



By examining the characteristics of the sample, one might come to particular conclusions about the characteristics of the population from which the sample was drawn. The method need to start with a specific perspective that want to analyse in order to achieve the objectives of our study, and then look for study participants that reflect those varied perspectives. We research the Kelantan operators as a result.

In research, there is an adage that states, "The more data displays, the better." However, for practical purposes, it is advised (Crouch & McKenzie, 2006) that fewer than 20 people be included in qualitative studies in order to foster a close relationship between the researchers and participants and, as a result, facilitate the sharing of "open" and "honest" information. By doing so may be able to lessen some of the biases and the hazard that qualitative research has with it. Because of this, only six operators were chosen. This study had a purposive sample technique for operators that have a range of experiences with historic fortress in Kelantan when conducting interviews on the potential of historic fortress as a new tourist attraction.

### 3.4 DATA COLLECTION METHOD

Data collection refers to various techniques for gathering information about particular study variables in order to use them in the data analysis phase in order to produce study results, find the answers to research questions, or test hypotheses.

The quality of obtaining results can be overshadowed by the data gathering phase of a research study because it reduces the likelihood of errors that could come later in the process. In order to get the right results, a good study design must also be combined with a lot of quality time spent on data collection. This is because incomplete or inaccurate data make it impossible to guarantee the accuracy of the findings (Kabir, 2016). Though a competent data collection approach aids in the planning of successful research, It cannot always ensure the research project's overall success (Olsen, 2012).

Here by is the data collection based on our research. Data can be gathered from either primary or secondary sources. Primary data research entails gathering information from actual sources, such as consumers, users or non-users, or other research participants, expressly for the subject at hand. Any material from published sources that has been explicitly obtained for the current study challenge is referred to as "secondary

data research."

Primary data is the sources that have not been available yet and are more reliable, authentic, and objective. It is the fresh data that can be collected by the interview method (Saunders et al., 2019). The researcher has been interview the village head and people who are active in the Bachok, Kota Bharu, Pantai Melawi, Pengkalan Chepa, Pantai Sabak also had been done interview session with TIC, MOTAC and staff at museum Kelantan.

Secondary data is information that has previously been gathered from other sources. It is generally historical in nature and has been researched by another researcher. Secondary data sources include MOTAC websites, books, online articles, newspapers, journals, and other publicly accessible sources. Secondary data is preferred by researchers since it is freely available and easy to get. As a result, it can save researchers time and money while collecting data. The researcher had been videotaped the conversation and took field notes. It is beneficial to transcribe the data and back up the material for the researcher to take notes. The researcher recorded via portable devices and took notes. using pens and paper. The best thing is that the researcher had listened to the interview session with unlimited repeat.

### 3.5 DATA ANALYSIS PROCESS

Qualitative research aims to understand the research issue from a humanistic or idealistic perspective. To understand people's experiences and interactions, qualitative methodology is used. Across disciplines, the integration of qualitative research into intervention studies is becoming a more popular research methodology (Vibha Pathak, 2013). The researcher used the interview method in a qualitative study. The researcher got an idea of the motivation of the respondents during the interview, allowing for further discussion.

### **3.5.1 Qualitative Data Analysis**

For the study, the researcher used coding to analyze the data. A qualitative data analysis technique known as coding assigns labels to specific data characteristics that the researcher can use to find common themes throughout the collection. Researchers have used coding to organize data based on their study. Additionally, a summary of the data is displayed using this method. Coding serves as the basis for collecting, analyzing and interpreting data. The researcher has already used this data analysis procedure to collect data from the information obtained from the interviews conducted for this study.

### **3.5.2 Narrative Analysis Approach**

In this study, the researcher used narrative analysis. A narrative analysis approach describes data from interviews and texts with study participants. Researchers have asked residents about the fort that still stands and their little knowledge about it. Researchers have used this method of analysis to collect data for this study. The researcher has been able to manage all data and information about the purpose of this study.

### 3.6 CHAPTER SUMMARY

The study's methodology is described in Chapter 3. Research is conducted using a qualitative research design. The researcher has chosen the qualitative research appropriately for the desired goal of the investigation. The forts in Kelantan have the potential to become a brand-new tourist destination, and this study will assess that possibility using a qualitative approach and coding techniques. To acquire information more efficiently, the researcher employs the interview method.

## CHAPTER 4

### FINDING AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.0 INTRODUCTION

This research looks on the possibilities of mediaeval fortresses as new tourism attractions in Kelantan, a Malaysian state noted for its rich cultural legacy and historical significance. Kelantan's historic strongholds have the potential to attract tourists looking for authentic cultural experiences due to its intriguing historical narratives and unique architectural features. Kelantan can diversify its tourism offers, encourage economic growth, and conserve its rich cultural history by using these fortifications as tourism destinations. This research digs into the benefits and challenges connected with establishing historic strongholds as tourism attractions by a comprehensive review of historical data, site visits, and interviews with local communities and government. The findings of the study contribute to a better understanding of the significance of historic fortresses as tourism attractions in Kelantan, as well as valuable insights for policymakers, tourism authorities, and local communities in developing strategies to maximise their potential and drive sustainable tourism development.

## **4.1 FINDING RESEARCH**

### **4.1.1 The types of existing of historic fortress that available in Kelantan.**

For the last two months, the study used the secondary data about the fortress in Kelantan through websites and previous studies, so here are the types of the historic fortress that are available in Kelantan based on six secondary data which are in Bachok, Pengkalan Chepa, Kota Bharu and Gua Musang.

#### **1. Kuala Gel Fotress Bachok, Kelantan**

Based on the researcher's observation and search about the types of forts in Kelantan, there are several forts that the researcher has seen and noticed about the defences that have the potential to become tourist attractions. The first is the existence of Kubu Kuala Gel, Melawi Bachok. Kubu Kuala Gel exists and is highly maintained by the government. Kubu Kuala Gel lives in the Bachok area. The researcher observed that the fort's structure was perfect and robust because it was well-maintained. The fort looked clean and good. The researcher found that the fort was well looked after and maintained by the government. In support of the existence of the Kuala Gel Bachok Fort, secondary information, which is information from the internet, provides information about the fort. Kuala Gel Bachok Kelantan Fort protected the Malay region from Japanese invasion. It was built in 1940 because world politics became increasingly unstable (Ismail, 2021). Kuala Gel Fort is a



British legacy after the Second World War. The built structure is solid and durable. The thickness of the fortress built is reliable and stable (NEGARA, 2022).



Picture 4.1: Kuala Gel Fortress Bachok Kelantan (researcher collection).

## **2. Three-Branch Fort in Pengkalan Chepa Kota Bharu, Kelantan.**

Next, the researcher also observed that there is still the existence of a three-branch fort in Pengkalan Chepa Kelantan. This fort still exists and is well maintained by the Kelantan government. This fort is still intact and in good condition in the town of Pengkalan Chepa. The structure is still excellent and robust based on the researcher's observations. The government carries out its responsibility to take good care of the treasures of the state of Kelantan. The government will take care of this fort. Both domestic and international tourists visit the fort to witness it in person. It is now considered one of Kelantan's main draws for visitors.



Picture 4.2: Branch Three Fortress in Pengkalan Chepa Kelantan (researcher collection).

### 3. **Fortress in Pantai Sabak Pengkalan Chepa Kota Bharu, Kelantan**

Other than that, secondary data activities that have been done is fortress at Bachok, which is fortress in Pantai Sabak, Pengkalan Chepa. The fort located at Kuala Pak Amat Beach, Sabak was built on 8 Dec 1941, which is the location of the first Japanese landing to conquer Malaya. However, this fort has been submerged due to beach erosion. The fort found in Cabang Tiga Pengkalan Chepa, is one of the 25 forts along Sabak Beach to Bachok Beach, most of which have almost been submerged due to beach erosion (Ismail, 2020). This fort was built by the British to accommodate the Indian and Punjabi troops, but after the Japanese occupation, it was made into a defensive fort, but the shape was not suitable, which was small, and eventually it was used as a place to store weapons and booty of the people (Sarapa, 2020). The Kelantan Museum once 'conserved' a fortress located on Sabak Beach in the early

80s which was used as one of the attractions of the resort beach. However, since the early 90s, the beach has suffered severe erosion which has also sunk the fortress there. The Kelantan Museum has now made a replica of the fortress placed in the Second World War Memorial area for public viewing (Ismail, 2020).



Picture 4.3: Fortress at Kuala Pak Amat, Sabak , Pengkalan Chepa (Bernama, 2020)

#### **4. Kubu Jalan Tok Hakim Kota Bharu, Kelantan**

Based on the search for secondary information conducted by the researcher, there are also other types of fortresses in other districts in Kelantan. Information found on the internet shows the existence of a fortress in Kelantan. There is also another fortress that exists in the state of Kelantan, which is Kubu Jalan Tok Hakim. This fort also exists in Kelantan. The shape of the battle fortress on Jalan Tok Hakim is a nonagon shape with nine sides, and each height is different, caused by changes in the shape of the earth. It is built using cement and is 30 cm thick, which can withstand attacks from mortars and light weapons ( Hashim, 2021). This fort still exists and is intact in Kelantan, and it also has the potential to become a tourist

attraction for the state of Kelantan. The government must care about its existence for this fortress to be exploited as a tourist destination.



Picture 4.4: Kubu Jalan Tok Hakim Kota Bharu, Kelantan (Hashim, 2021).

## 5. Fortress in Kampong Pantai Mek Mas Kota Bharu, Kelantan

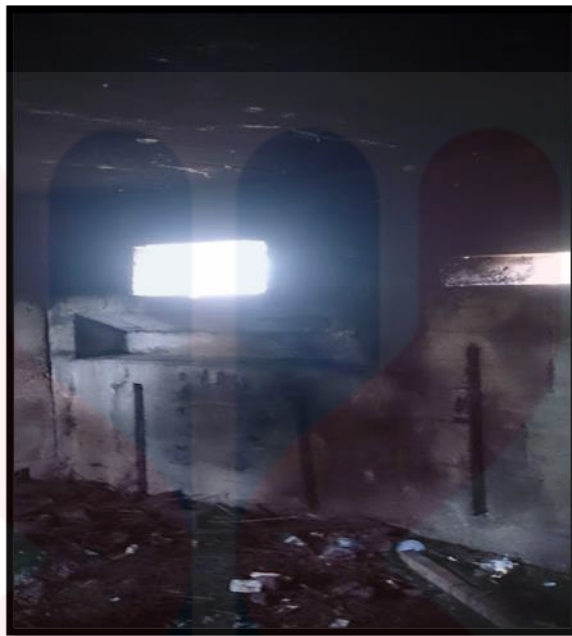
Next, based on the research of secondary data that has been found, one of the fortresses that is still intact in Kampong Pantai Mek Mas, Kelantan. This fort was built around 1941-1945 based on oral history, the Gurkha soldiers assigned to defend this fort were chained so that they could not escape when attacked. They were killed by Japanese soldiers who managed to capture the fort (Yusoff, 2019). However, many forts in Kelantan were built along the coast of Kelantan but most of them have been swallowed by the sea due to erosion during the monsoon. Some are already many kilometers away in the middle of the sea. In short, no party has taken the initiative to take care of this historical material (Yusoff, 2019).



Picture 4.5: Fortress in Kampung Pantai Mek Mas, Kelantan (Yusoff, 2020)

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Picture 4.6: the inside of the fort (Yusoff, 2020)



Picture 4.7: The interior has only one pillar (Yusoff, 2020)

**6. Fortress Kampung Bertam Baru, Gua Musang, Kelantan**

Based on secondary data activities that have been done, in Gua Musang, Kelantan there is a fortress that is still strong and is now one of the historical treasures in that area, it is called, fortress Kampung Bertam Baru, Gua Musang, Kelantan. The fort is believed to have been built in 1942, when the Japanese army conquered Malaya, and a sign was placed as a reminder of the fort left over from the colonial era. This fort, located near the police station in Kampung Bertam Baru, has never been forgotten by the locals and is still kept by the villagers as a memory to build new generations (Muhamad,2022). This fort is guarded, and colonialists left a reminder of the fort there. A flag was raised at the National Day ceremony with the space cleaned for future generations, which evoked memories of the old communist regime (Muhamad, 2022).



Picture 4.8: Fortress in Kampung Bertam Baru, Gua Musang (Muhamad, 2022)

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Picture 4.9: Among the local residents who guard the old fort in Kampung Bertam Baru (Muhamad, 2022)

#### **4.1.2 The perception of local communities towards the historic fortress in Kelantan.**

Next, the researcher also conducted interviews to obtain the local community's perception of the historic fort in Kelantan. The researcher has prepared some questions to ask the residents who live near the fortresses that still exist and are strong. The researcher conducted interviews with residents in Kelantan to obtain the local community's perception of the historic fort in Kelantan. The researcher interviewed seven respondents in Bachok Kelantan and Kota Bharu Kelantan. The following is to examine the local community's perception of the historic fort in Kelantan given by the residents based on the questions prepared by the researcher.



## 1. Fortress in Bachok Kelantan

In the interview session, this is the first respondent. He is 62 years old and lives in Bachok Kelantan. Based on interviews conducted by the researcher with residents around the Kuala Gel Fort, Bachok Kelantan, the respondents know about the existence of the fort and see the history of the forts in Bachok Kelantan, especially the Kuala Gel Fort, Bachok Kelantan. Respondents thought that Kubu Kuala Gel is well maintained but does not have historical signs about the fort causing many tourists not to know the history of the fort. It also has the potential to become a tourist attraction because many people, regardless of foreign or domestic tourists, come to see the fort. In the interview, the researcher also agreed that if Kubu Kuala Gel, Bachok Kelantan, continues as a tourist attraction, many will visit Malawi Beach Bachok Kelantan. The government inaugurated the Kuala Gel Fort area in 2022. So, the government always ensures the fort is always clean and awake. Each answer given to the residents contains answers to questions prepared by the researcher to determine the local community's perception of the historic fort in Kelantan.

Next, this is the second respondent interviewed by the researcher, who is 65 years old. This second respondent lives in Bachok, Kelantan. Based on the interview conducted by the researcher with the residents around Kubu Kuala Gel, Bachok Kelantan, the respondents know about the existence of the fort and also see the history of the forts in Bachok Kelantan, especially Kubu Kuala Gel, Bachok Kelantan. Respondents think that the fort always comes with tourists who want to see the fort and that the fort has excellent potential for tourism because many people see the fort. The fort carries a lot of history in

Kelantan. Many tourists will visit the Melawi beach in Bachok when the fortress continues to guard. Based on the interview, respondents hope that the government will continue to look after the fort because the fort is one of the historical heritages owned by the state of Kelantan.

Next is the third respondent. The researcher interviewed the third respondent, Bachok Kelantan, who was 70 years old. The respondent lives in Pantai Baru Bachok, Kelantan. Respondents know about a fort at Batu Bachok Beach in Kelantan. Based on the interview, the respondents think the fort is still intact and beautiful, but now it is half damaged due to coastal water. If the fort that still exists is damaged, it has no potential to be used as a tourist attraction because it is already damaged. Tourists may want to avoid seeing the fort. The government did not care about the damaged fort, and no action was taken. Respondents suggested that the Pantai Baru Fort be improved to become a tourist attraction in Kelantan because the fort in Kelantan has the potential to become a new cultural and historical heritage in the field of tourism.

Based on the last interview to determine the local community's perception of the historic fort in Kelantan, which is the fort at IOES UM, Bachok. The last respondent is worked as a security guard IOES UM, Bachok. He is knowledgeable with the background of the Bachok fortification. Each fort, according to him, was constructed at a distance of around 1.5 km and was positioned in a tiered fashion towards the region surrounding the shore. Despite the fortress walls being covered in lush grass, the stronghold is nonetheless robust and beautiful. Although the stronghold has a tremendous deal of potential to become

a commodity that attracts tourists, the government does nothing about it. In his opinion, he concurred that this stronghold serves as a tourist destination in Kelantan since it is still powerful and attractive enough to do so he recommended that the government take steps to prevent the fort from being abandoned since it is still robust and could be used as a tourist destination, bringing in more visitors because it is adjacent to the University.

## **2. Fortress in Pengkalan Chepa, Kelantan**

The researcher interviewed the next respondent to determine the local community's perception of the historic fort in Kelantan. This is the first respondent in Pengkalan Chepa, Kelantan and is 29 years old. This fort is located in Pengkalan Chepa Kelantan. The name of this fort is Branch 3 Fort. Respondents responded about the fort in the area and knew the existence and history of Branch 3 Fort. Respondents thought this existing fort could be a tourist attraction believing that this fort has excellent tourism potential. This is because many people still come to see the fort. Branch 3's fortress is in a crowded area causing many people to come to see it. During the interviews, the respondents agreed that the fort should be a tourist attraction in Kelantan. Also, respondent suggested that the government hold an event around the fort to attract the attention of many tourists to see the existence of the fort. This is because there are many shops, mosques and markets.

The second respondent is a resident who sits in the area of three branches of Pengkalan Chepa interviewed by the researcher. The second respondent is 21 years old and

lives in Pengkalan Chepa Kelantan. This fort is located in Pengkalan Chepa Kelantan. The name of this fortress is Branch 3 Fort. Respondents know about the existence and history of Branch 3 Fort. Respondents think there is an issue of lack of government supervision, causing a few members of the public to want to enter and rest there. This is an issue about the fortress that the researcher has interviewed. Respondents believe that this fort has excellent tourism potential and agree that this fort is used as a tourist attraction because the fort is located in the middle of the town area in the Three Branches of Pengkalan Chepa. The government needs to make a regular schedule to see and monitor the fort so that no untoward cases occur.

Next respondent based on the interview section with the head of a village in Pengkalan Chepa determined the perception of the historic fort in Kelantan. The named of fort is Kubu Goh Tengah, Pengkalan Chepa. Based on the interview section, he knows the history of Goh Tengah fortress, there were some Japanese soldiers who died in the fortress during the war. The stronghold is still standing and stunning, but the government has neglected it and made no attempt to turn it into a national treasure or a popular tourist destination. If the government makes an effort, the stronghold has a high chance of becoming one of the items used as tourist attractions. Based on the information by respondent during interview session, the fort in Kelantan will be a popular tourist destination because it has an interesting history. Therefore, that suggestion is the government needs to know about the existence of the fort in Pengkalan Chepa and make maintenance on the fort so that it looks more awake and is not filled with garbage. Besides that, to promote this fort as one of the tourism sectors in Kelantan, the government needs to build a fence around the fort.

**4.1.3 The governments strategies or policies to enhance the development of historical fortress as a new tourism attraction in Kelantan.**

Deducing from the interview with government at museum they all have told each of those fortresses can be potential as a tourist centre. It is because the fort is among the relics of world war 2 in Kelantan. The museum has also planned to continue renovating the fort that can still be saved from the erosion on the beach. They also told that there were some of the forts that could not be saved and had been eroded due to coastal water. In addition to that there were also forts that had sunk and been swallowed by the water during the monsoon season.



Interview section at Museum Kelantan (researcher collection, 2023)

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After that, the strategies that has be done from the government is they has improved the fortress in the kuala gel, melawi. The fort in Kuala Gel also has become a tourist attraction in kelantan. Their strategies that had make this fortress more known by the tourist is adding more landscape and improve the location services. Example they make the beach area of fort more attractive. They also make a lot of promotion to promote the fort in Kuala Gel to let all of the tourists known about the fortress in Kuala Gel. we can see an example in melaka where there is a fort like A-Famosa which has become an attraction for tourists to melaka. This is due to the fact that the government in Melaka has taken care of the historic building and they have also done a lot of repairing and preserving the fort so that it is more attractive to tourists.

Besides that, the fortress in Kelantan can also be used as one of the economic sources in Kelantan. this is because the fort can be a focal point for tourism because the fort is one of the historical evidences of the 2nd world war that happened in kelantan. Therefore, foreign tourists can see for themselves the original fortress in kelantan. Next, from a tourism point of view, historical buildings and monuments are able to attract tourists. Whether local tourists or tourists from abroad who visit this country. This building is also a dominant factor for tourists traveling in this country besides the Petronas Twin Tower. Therefore, historic buildings do not need to be demolished but need to be preserved and renovated.



The government of Melaka's strategic strategy, meanwhile various plans and development plans have been formulated by the State Government to improve the performance of the Service Sector and especially the Tourism Industry, among which is the launch of the Malacca e-Bazaar promotion "Buy Now, Travel Later" in collaboration with the Tourism Promotion Division (BPP) and Lazada. The State Government is also empowering the Health Tourism Sector in the state and targeting tourists from Indonesia and several other countries to seek health treatment.

The role of the Melaka museum, among the museum's main exhibitions, covers aspects of administration, housing, social, industry, tourism, infrastructure and agriculture. It was done in such a way to show the involvement of the people and the government in developing the State of Malacca. Among the objectives is to showcase the achievements and progress of the State of Melaka in various fields of economy, politics, social, education, tourism, industry and so on as well as the relationship between the government and the people.

## **4.2 DISSUCION**

### **4.2.1 What are the types of existing of historic fortress that available in Kelantan?**

In Malaysia, there are different types of forts in each state, and each has its own fort history. Based on secondary data, the fort in Malacca has two forts, namely St. John's Fort

and Middleburg Fort. In Penang, there are two forts namely Bunker and Fort Cornwallis, in Johor Bharu there are five forts located on the left and right of the road from Kota Tinggi to Mersing and according to sources there are many more forts but are in the forest area (Serenade, 2015). Besides that, there are 26 fortresses throughout Kedah. Most of them are in Kota Setar and Kubang Pasu districts. It was built in several important and strategic areas such as around the Alor Setar airport field, Sungai Petani, Sungai Bukit Pinang Bridge, and the Kedah Sea coast area (Daud, 2015).

Meanwhile, in Kelantan, there are approximately 12 fortress that still exist and most of them are located in the coastal area in Bachok (Aefast, 2012). Even the forts located in the Bachok beach area are different from other places, this is because they are arranged with a distance of 1 or 1/2 km between the forts and others. The British had assumed that the area would be the focus of the enemy when they wanted to attack, given that the area was close to the South China Sea. Besides that, in Kelantan, also have a few fortress in different district which in Tumpat, Kota Bharu, Pengkalan Chepa, and Gua Musang (Hashim, 2021).

Based on secondary data activities that have been done, most of the forts in each state were built by the British army as a defensive fortress in the form of a building or fortress that made a settlement with a large amount of cargo. This is intended as a defensive bastion from the Japanese military attack during the Second World War that took place from 1941 to 1945 in Malaya (Hamzah, 2007). In Malaysia, there is also a type of monitoring fort which is the construction of a multi-story fort that functions as a place to observe or monitor the environment which is also provided with a hole or space to be facilitated with 'machine gun'



weaponry (Hamzah, 2007). One floor is also equipped with a bed and can be said to be a temporary accommodation for members assigned to conduct reconnaissance. While the lowest floor serves as an office space with an area of approximately 225 square feet and is complete with a toilet and bathroom. Based on a reading from a writer, there are 4 such forts that were built and used by the Malaysian armed forces during the East-West Highway construction project in the early 1970s that crosses the Titiwangsa Range and connects two states, namely in Grik in the state of Perak and in Jeli in the state of Kelantan (Hamzah, 2016).

Based on previous research, there is also a fortress in Kelantan that has been flooded and buried in the sand. However, one of the potential strongholds to be used as a tourist attraction in Kelantan is the fort on Jalan Tok Hakim. This is because this structure is located on the dam of the Kelantan river and is used as a recreational area. Nevertheless, this structure is marginalized, even visitors do not even know of its existence because it has been sheltered by large trees and filled with rubbish (Muhammad, 2021). According to previous researchers, this area of the fortress is also exposed to piles of rubbish by visitors who have no awareness of historical heritage (Hashim, 2021). In addition, the condition of the smelly area also causes many visitors not to pass through this area other than the fortress that is under the sidewalk bridge that was built for the purpose of leisure and relaxation to surrounding residents since the area is an accommodation area and close to the city center of Kota Bharu. The condition of being abandoned and not awake, causes this location to be a strategic place for drug addicts. The area in the fortress is used as a place for these addicts to carry out their operations so that they cannot be sniffed out by the authorities (Anuar,

2021).

So, most of the defensive fortresses of the past are left alone without any parties taking the initiative to develop them as places or historical artifacts which can be promoted as tourist stops. There is no denying that there are a few places that have been given attention by certain parties, but not very diligent in preparing the fort as a visit site that can be entered because the preparation is only outside while the inside of the fort is filled with rubbish or water reservoirs that breed mosquitoes (Hamzah, 2007).

#### **4.2.2 What is the perception of local communities towards the historic fortress in Kelantan?**

Melaka is a state full of heritage history that is very guarded and dignified, so many tourists know that Melaka is a historical state. The community's perception of historical heritage in Melaka is highly emphasized and taken care of. Melaka has been chosen as a good tourist destination because the perception of tourists towards Melaka is that Melaka has a heritage city with various historical heritage sites. Historical heritage buildings in Melaka, such as A-Famosa, Stadhuys, and traditional shophouses, are well preserved and maintained to protect the historical value of Melaka. Therefore, many tourists like and choose Melaka as their holiday destination (Choy, 2013). Therefore, Melaka is very famous for its unique historical heritage and can attract many tourists to travel to Melaka. Meanwhile, the Kelantan community's perception of history in Kelantan is not as strong as in Melaka. Kelantan is less concerned about the existence of the forts in Kelantan as a historical heritage. Only a few fortresses are preserved and

maintained by the local government with the forts in Kelantan. Tourists' perception of the fort is also reduced. Many tourists come to know, study and see the forts in Kelantan, but most are abandoned and poorly maintained. Therefore, tourists are less interested in learning about the history of Kelantan because tourists are not exposed to the narrative that exists in Kelantan.

Next, Johor has its historical heritage site, which causes many tourists to come. Johor Lama has its history and uniqueness. Tourists can feel the atmosphere of the village, learn about the history of Johor Lama, and experience the uniqueness of Johor Lama. Visitors can learn about and see historical sites such as old tombs, archaeological sites, the high city river with history along the river and the Johor Lama museum (Mahadi, 2022). The perception of visitors about Old Johor is that the history of Johor will attract many tourists to know about Old Johor. The majority of travellers come to Johor Lama to personally experience it. Therefore, Old Johor is a concern for tourists to travel here. Meanwhile, the perception of the people of Kelantan towards the forts that exist in their area and that the fort is not well maintained makes the residents less concerned about the fort. That is because the government does not care about the fort causing the fort to be damaged and destroyed. Researchers have studied the fort at Pantai Baru in Bachok. Many tourists do not know about the existence of a fort there, and the existing fort has been partially damaged due to flooding. The fort was left poorly maintained. Therefore, some communities in Pantai Baru also care less about the fort there and let it fall into disrepair.

Therefore, the Kelantan government needs to increase the development of the historic fort as a new tourist attraction in Kelantan and raise the perception of the local community towards the historic fort in Kelantan can be used as a new attraction for the tourism industry in Kelantan. The historical heritage in Kelantan must be restored and preserved for the sake of the tourism industry in Kelantan.

#### **4.2.3 What are the government's action or strategies to enhance the development of historical forts as a new tourism attraction in Kelantan?**

According to an interview with museum officials, each of those defences has the potential to be a tourist destination. It's because the fort is one of Kelantan's World War II treasures. The museum also aims to continue repairing the fort, which can still be saved from beach erosion. The museum also indicated that several of the forts could not be saved since they had been eroded by the coastal sea. Other forts had sunk and been eaten up by the water during the monsoon season. Indeed, the Melaka government has prioritised the preservation and repair of historical strongholds such as the renowned A Famosa. A Famosa is a well-known Melaka fortification with substantial historical and cultural value. It is a Portuguese colonial relic that serves as a symbol of Melaka's rich heritage. Therefore, the same effort can be made to upgrade other historic buildings in Malaysia. "Dalam pemuliharaan Tapak Warisan Dunia Pertubuhan Pendidikan Saintifik dan Kebudayaan Pertubuhan Bangsa-bangsa Bersatu" (UNESCO). (AB. MANAP, 2023)

Following that, the Malaysian government initiated efforts to improve the Kuala Gel fortress. The Kuala Gel fort has also become a popular tourist attraction in Kelantan. Their plans for enhancing visitor awareness of this stronghold include adding more landscape and improving location services. They, for example, renovate the beach area of the fort. They also do a lot of promotion to advertise the fortress in Kuala Gel so that all tourists are aware of it. We may see an example in Melaka, where a fort like A-Famosa has become a tourist destination. This is because the Melaka government has taken care of the ancient edifice and has done a lot of restoring and conserving the fort to make it more appealing to tourists. For example, “Kelantan antara negeri yang menerima agihan peruntukan tertinggi di bawah pelaksanaan projek infrastruktur negara bernilai RM2.33 bilion menerusi Bajet 2022. Projek tersebut adalah salah satu inisiatif Kerajaan Persekutuan dan Majlis Pembangunan Wilayah Ekonomi Pantai Timur (ECERDC) membangunkan sektor pelancongan Kelantan.” (Media, 2021)

The governments of Kelantan and Melaka both engage in marketing and promotional operations to enhance awareness of the historical fortifications as tourist sites and attract visitors. They use comparable techniques, such as internet platforms. Both governments promote the ancient fortifications through online platforms such as official websites and social media outlets. They contribute fascinating information, images, films, and virtual tours to highlight the strongholds' unique features and historical value. Online platforms have a global reach and enable prospective visitors to learn about and arrange their travels.

The role of the Melaka museum, among the museum's main exhibitions, covers aspects of administration, housing, social, industry, tourism, infrastructure and agriculture. It was done in such a way to show the involvement of the people and the government in developing the State of Malacca. Among the objectives is to showcase the achievements and progress of the State of Melaka in various fields of economy, politics, social, education, tourism, industry and so on as well as the relationship between the government and the people. “Its Chief Minister, Datuk Seri Sulaiman Md Ali said, it is important that the value of this history can be shown to future generations and that any damage or destruction of a relic, can be extended to the relevant parties so that it is repaired and not abandoned.” (Farhana, 2020).

Lastly, the government needs to provide provisions for historical relics found in a certain place. The provision to some extent can help some forts in Kelantan to be repaired better so that they can be used as a tourist attraction in Kelantan. For example, in Melaka there is a famosa that has been turned into a tourist attraction. The famous A Famosa, building has attracted many tourists from within and outside of Malaysia. Therefore, the government in Kelantan needs to take more allocations to make the forts in Kelantan a tourist destination.

### 4.3 CHAPTER SUMMARY

Based on the research results conducted by researchers in several areas in Kelantan, the respondents involved with the study's findings have their own opinions about the potential of historic forts as a new tourist attraction in Kelantan. All respondents are willing to provide their information and ideas about the forts that exist in Kelantan. The interview session conducted in this study obtains information and data about the objectives of the study that has been undertaken. It shows information about the existence of forts in Kelantan. In addition, the interview session showed the community's perception of the forts in Kelantan and the government's actions to conserve and preserve the forts in Kelantan. As interviewed and observed from the study conducted in several areas in Kelantan, both respondents gave positive and negative responses and feedback about the forts found in Kelantan to the researcher during the interview session. All questions were answered appropriately by the respondents.



## CHAPTER 5

### SUGGESTION AND CONCLUSION

#### 5.0 INTRODUCTION

In this chapter discussed the recapitulation of study, the finding and the discussion about the potential of historic fortresses as new tourism attractions in Kelantan. Furthermore, this chapter also deliberated the limitations of the study and suggested several recommendations for future study.

#### 5.1 LIMITATION

This study is to learn about the potential of a historic fortress as a new tourism attraction in Kelantan. In doing this study, some limitations occur while doing the survey.

### **5.1.1 Problems during the data collection process and lack of data.**

The researcher experienced problems in the data collection process to further strengthen the researcher's study. The data that has been collected is sometimes not compatible with the research done. In addition, there is not much data about the forts that exist in Kelantan, making it difficult for researchers to find out about the forts that exist in Kelantan. It becomes one of the limitations for researchers to obtain information about the forts in Kelantan. Next, the data obtained from internet sources such as websites or articles are incompatible with the study, which causes the researcher to lack data to conduct the study.

### **5.1.2 The problem of getting cooperation from respondents for the interview session.**

This difficulty occurred when the researcher conducted an interview session with residents in Kelantan to study the local community's perception of the historic fort in Kelantan. This difficulty occurs when some respondents do not want to cooperate in an

interview with the researcher. This is because they do not know how to conduct an interview session or they are busy, which causes them to refuse to be interviewed by the researcher when the researcher meets the residents there. In addition, there are not many respondents who can be interviewed because there are not many people who can be interviewed in the area of the fortress. Therefore, the researcher lacks respondents to be interviewed to collect data from the interview process. Researchers have lacked respondents to collect data to study the local community's perception of historic forts in Kelantan.

## **5.2 RECOMMENDATION**

Based on the research that has been done found that there are many obstacles throughout the study, therefore, in this study it is necessary to strengthen the fortress in Kelantan. This study will determine if the fortress in Kelantan has the potential to become a new tourist attraction. So, the local community and the local government suggested to strengthen the fortress as one of Kelantan's historical tourist attractions.

### **5.2.1 Local Community Awareness**

The local community, especially the villagers in Kelantan, needs to have knowledge and awareness about the importance of preserving the fortress which has its own heritage and

historical value. This fortress must be looked after and maintained in a certain period so that it does not suffer damage that can affect the structure of the fortress. For example, the local community must organize a joint activity to clean the fortress area and inside the fortress once a month. This Immunity in every area of the fortress is a very important historical heritage and must not be allowed to become a garbage dump or a den of vice.

### **5.2.2 Promoting the Fortress as a Tourism Area**

In order to strengthen the preservation and conservation of the Fort in Kelantan, the government such as the Ministry of Tourism needs to promote the area of the fortress as a Heritage tourism area for domestic and foreign tourists. The Ministry of Tourism can also make the fortified area in Kelantan a must-visit place for tourists following a package organized by the Ministry of Tourism. This can indirectly maintain the strength of the fortress as well as improve the economy of the community in Kelantan. At the same time, the villagers can also improve their standard of living. This is also capable of making the fortress area a heritage eco-tourism area that has the most important historical value in the formation of the Malaysian nation.

### **5.2.3 Building or Providing Basic Facilities**

Responsible parties such as the District Council, the Kelantan State Ministry of Tourism and other responsible bodies are also recommended to cooperate in building or providing basic facilities such as the provision of benches, providing toilet facilities, and also free telecommunications or wifi facilities for tourists to relax. For a while as well as providing historical information for the fortress when tourists visit the fortress in Kelantan. At the same time, the authorities also built a parking lot. This is because it can avoid traffic jams and tourists who bring vehicles that are easy to park. In addition, the entrance to the fortress site is also decorated with a natural landscape in accordance with the theme of the history of war. This can attract the attention of tourists well. The authorities also provide information boards about the construction of the fort until the war. In addition to that, the provision of prayer hall, toilets or bathrooms, souvenir shops, stalls or homestays/chalets, and other hospitality and the maintenance of the fortress area must be carried out by the government in a prudent and well-maintained manner. To increase the influx of tourists to the fort in Kelantan.

#### **5.2.4 Gazetteing the Fortress as a National Heritage Treasure**

Steps need to be taken by the government to declare this fort a national treasure that should be well protected and preserved. This is because the Fort in Kelantan played an important role in the history of the country by acting as a strong defense to break the attack of the Japanese army during the 2nd World War. In addition, the uniqueness of the construction process of this fort is one of the factors to make it a national heritage site. This is because

the Fort in Kelantan was built using only materials such as sea sand and river stone, a mixture of cement and iron, and the shape is like a horse's foot circle but with 9 sides. Even so, the fortress has an intact and strong resilience and suffered damage despite being attacked by the Japanese army during World War 2. Therefore, this publication can indirectly preserve and preserve the Kelantan Fortress from damage. The effect. The fort will continue to be preserved in addition to being able to make it a reference point for research and become a national tourism area.

### **5.3 CONCLUSION**

Historic strongholds have substantial and intriguing potential as new tourism destinations in Kelantan. According to the findings of the study, these strongholds have unique historical and architectural value that can pique the interest of both local and international tourists. Kelantan has the opportunity to develop a compelling tourism experience that promotes local pride and fosters economic prosperity by exploiting the cultural heritage associated with these locations. To preserve and promote these fortifications as tourist attractions, different parties, including government agencies, local communities, and tourism sector actors, must work together.

Strategic activities such as improving infrastructure, introducing informative signage, providing guided tours, constructing interactive displays, and organising cultural events can improve the overall visitor experience and assure tourism development's

sustainability. Kelantan can expand its tourism offers beyond its existing attractions by highlighting the historical significance and cultural heritage of these fortifications. This strategy has the potential to attract a broader range of tourists looking for authentic cultural experiences, as well as encouraging longer stays in the region.

Finally, the possibility of historic fortresses as new tourism destinations in Kelantan represents a significant opportunity for the state's tourism economy. These fortifications can contribute to the sustainable development of tourism while also preserving and celebrating Kelantan's rich history and heritage, with careful planning, preservation, and good promotion.



**APPENDIX**

SOALAN	KUBU 1	KUBU 2
<p>Do you know about the history of the existence of the _____ fortress found here?                      Adakah tuan/puan tahu tentang sejarah kewujudan kubu _____ yang terdapat disini?</p>		
<p>What is your opinion about the existence of _____ fortresses that are still here?                      Apakah pendapat tuan/puan tentang kewujudan kubu-kubu _____ yang masih ada disini?</p>		
<p>Do you feel that this existing fortress has the potential to be used as an attraction product in the tourism industry?                      Adakah tuan/puan merasakan bahawa kubu yang wujud ini berpotensi untuk dijadikan sebagai satu produk pelancongan dalam industri pelancongan?</p>		
<p>Do you agree if these forts that still exist are used as tourist attractions in Kelantan?                      Adakah tuan/puan setuju jika kubu-kubu yang masih wujud ini dijadikan sebagai tarikan pelancongan sejarah di Kelantan?</p>		

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<p>Do you have any suggestions to develop the forts in _____ as historical forts for tourism attractions in Kelantan? Adakah tuan/puan mempunyai cadangan untuk membangunkan kubu-kubu di _____ sebagai kubu bersejarah untuk tarikan pelancongan di Kelantan?</p>		
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SOALAN	KUBU 3	KUBU 4
<p>Do you know about the history of the existence of the _____ fortress found here? Adakah tuan/puan tahu tentang sejarah kewujudan kubu _____ yang terdapat disini?</p>		
<p>What is your opinion about the existence of _____ fortresses that are still here? Apakah pendapat tuan/puan tentang kewujudan kubu-kubu _____ yang masih ada disini?</p>		
<p>Do you feel that this existing fortress has the potential to be used as an attraction product in the tourism industry? Adakah tuan/puan merasakan bahawa kubu yang wujud ini berpotensi untuk dijadikan sebagai satu produk pelancongan dalam industri pelancongan?</p>		
<p>Do you agree if these forts that still exist are used as tourist attractions in Kelantan? Adakah tuan/puan setuju jika kubu-kubu yang masih wujud ini dijadikan sebagai tarikan pelancongan sejarah di Kelantan?</p>		

<p>Do you have any suggestions to develop the forts in _____ as historical forts for tourism attractions in Kelantan? Adakah tuan/puan mempunyai cadangan untuk membangunkan kubu-kubu di _____ sebagai kubu bersejarah untuk tarikan pelancongan di Kelantan?</p>		
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SOALAN	KUBU 5
<p>Do you know about the history of the existence of the _____ fortress found here? Adakah tuan/puan tahu tentang sejarah kewujudan kubu _____ yang terdapat disini?</p>	
<p>What is your opinion about the existence of _____ fortresses that are still here? Apakah pendapat tuan/puan tentang kewujudan kubu-kubu _____ yang masih ada disini?</p>	
<p>Do you feel that this existing fortress has the potential to be used as an attraction product in the tourism industry? Adakah tuan/puan merasakan bahawa kubu yang wujud ini berpotensi untuk dijadikan sebagai satu produk pelancongan dalam industri pelancongan?</p>	
<p>Do you agree if these forts that still exist are used as tourist attractions in Kelantan? Adakah tuan/puan setuju jika kubu-kubu yang masih wujud ini dijadikan sebagai tarikan pelancongan sejarah di Kelantan?</p>	

<p>Do you have any suggestions to develop the forts in _____ as historical forts for tourism attractions in Kelantan? Adakah tuan/puan mempunyai cadangan untuk membangunkan kubu-kubu di _____ sebagai kubu bersejarah untuk tarikan pelancongan di Kelantan?</p>	
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SOALAN		
<p>Is the fortress in Kelantan a potential tourist center? Adakah kubu di Kelantan berpotensi sebagai pusat pelancongan?</p>		
<p>What is the plan from the authorities to make the fort one of the tourism products in Kelantan? Apakah perancangan daripada pihak berwajib bagi menjadikan kubu sebagai salah satu produk pelancongan di Kelantan?</p>		
<p>In your opinion, what are the actions taken by the government to make this fort one of the tourist attractions in Kelantan? Pada pendapat Tuan, apakah Tindakan yang diambil oleh pihak kerajaan untuk menjadikan kubu ini sebagai salah satu tarikan pelancong di Kelantan?</p>		

<p>What are the recommendations for the government to keep this fortress in Kelantan from being abandoned? Apakah cadangan bagi pihak kerajaan untuk menjaga kubu di Kelantan ini daripada terbiar?</p>		
<p>Can the fortress become one of the economic sources in Kelantan, if the fortress in Kelantan becomes one of the tourist attractions like the fortress in Malacca? Adakah kubu dapat menjadi salah satu sumber ekonomi di Kelantan, sekiranya kubu di Kelantan menjadi salah satu tarikan pelancong seperti kubu di Melaka?</p>		

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