



Citation
PAM Gold Medal Award 2008
Yg. Bhg. Dato' Ar. (Dr) Haji Baharuddin
Bin Abu Kassim
25 April 2009

It is a great pleasure for me to deliver this citation on this special evening to honour Yg. Bhg. Dato' (Dr) Ar. Haji Baharuddin bin Abu Kassim upon the bestowment upon him of the PAM Gold Medal Award 2008, in recognition of Dato' Baharuddin's outstanding contributions to the architecture profession and to society in general.

Dato' Baharuddin's illustrious career in architecture spans more than 40 years. During this period he has exemplified true commitment, integrity and dedication to the profession. This is evident in the creativity and the outstanding quality of his works, and until today his works is still admired by all sections of society as well as tourist from all over the world.

Dato' Baharuddin studied architecture at the University of Manchester, obtaining a Diploma in Architecture and Town Planning in 1958. During his student days Dato' Baharuddin was greatly influenced by the works and also philosophies of Frank Lloyd Wright, Le Corbusier and Mies Van Der Rohe.

After graduation, Dato' Baharuddin was attached to the Federal Town Planning Department from 1958 until 1959 as an Assistant Town Planner. Dato' Baharuddin then joined JKR as an Assistant Architect in 1959, where he served until 1966. During this period our country was still searching for a new architectural identity, to symbolize an independent Malaysia, after more than 400 years of being colonised by the West. This presented the perfect opportunity for Dato' Baharuddin and team to implement their version of the Modern Malaysian architecture, resulting in one of their most famous and original work, the National Mosque.

For his outstanding contribution to the country during his career with JKR, Dato' Baharuddin was conferred the Ahli Mangku Negara by the Government of Malaysia in 1965.

Dato' Baharuddin is a RIBA member since 1960 and became a PAM Corporate Member in 1967.

In 1967 Dato' Baharuddin co-founded Jurubena Bertiga/Architects Team 3, together with Datuk Lim Chong Keat and Lim Chin See. Dato' Baharuddin with Jurubena Bertiga was entrusted to design some of the earlier skyscrapers in Malaysia. These buildings were the icons of a progressive Malaysia and have influenced the direction of the Malaysian

architecture. These skyscrapers also serve as the testimony to the capabilities of our local architects to carry out mega projects and technologically complex buildings, the epitome of the "Malaysia Boleh" spirit. Amongst these modern skyscrapers that has colored the Malaysian architectural landscape over the years, and mark the emergence of the Malaysian skyscrapers are the Pemas Building, Bank Pertanian, MAS Building, UBN/Shangri La Hotel and the Komtar Complex. The above mentioned buildings were important achievements of modern architecture in our country, and continue to be admired today for their enduring elegance.

Dato' Baharuddin and Jurubena Bertiga's forte is in the design of modern mosques in the spirit of the National Mosque. Therefore it was not surprising that Jurubena Bertiga was commissioned to design many more modern mosques throughout our country. Among the mosques are the Sandakan Mosque, Kota Kinabalu Mosque, Pulau Indah Mosque, Section 16 Petaling Jaya Mosque and the Labuan Mosque. All these mosques were unique in their own ways as Dato' Baharuddin was experimenting with the fluidity of reinforced concrete forms and later steel and metal in his mosque designs, over the commonly used masonry and concrete. The innovative spirit in Dato' Baharuddin and his commitment to excellence in architecture are exemplary and should be emulated by all practicing architects.

Despite his busy schedule, Dato' Baharuddin manages to make time to serve in various organizations. Among the positions that he held include Member of Board of Governors, Mara Institute of Technology, Member Selangor State Development Board, Council Member Pertubuhan Akitik Malaysia, Deputy Chairman National Art Gallery Malaysia, Member Petaling Jaya Town Board, Member Board of Pertubuhan Kebajikan Islam, Member Shah Alam Municipality Board, Member City Hall Advisory Board, Council Member University of Malaya, Chairman Traffic Advisory Committee City Hall, Board of Trustee Institute Sultan Iskandar (UTM) of Habitat and High Rise and Ahli Majlis University Teknologi Malaysia.

In 1975 Dato' Baharuddin was conferred the Dato' Paduka Mahkota Selangor (D.P.M.S) award for Public Service by H.R.H The Sultan of Selangor which carry the title Dato'. In 1996 Dato' Baharuddin was awarded with the Anugerah Usahawan Cemerlang Selangor and in 1998 Dato' Baharuddin was conferred the Honorary Doctorate of Architecture Award from University Technology Malaysia.

For his outstanding contributions to the profession, his tireless service to the community and his achievements over more than 40 years, we are proud to confer to Yg. Bhg. Dato' Ar. (Dr) Haji Baharuddin bin Abu Kassim with the PAM Gold Medal Award 2008.



PAM
GOLD MEDAL
AWARD 2008

DATO' AR
(DR) HAJI
BAHARUDDIN
BIN ABU
KASSIM



SATURDAY
25 APRIL 2009
DEWAN SYARAHAN
MASJID NEGARA