

# Facade Identification of colonial buildings in the city of Bandung

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**Abstract** Colonial architecture was present in Indonesia through the work of Dutch architects and was intended for the Dutch who lived in Indonesia around the beginning of the 17th century until 1942. At first, Europeans came to Indonesia to trade, then they built houses and settlements in several cities close to ports in Indonesia. Their houses generally have walls made of boards and wood with roof coverings made of palm fiber, but conflicts often occur, so the fortress begins. Inside, several buildings were built from brick materials imported from European countries. After that, they built many houses, churches, and public buildings with urban planning and architecture similar to their home countries. The story of colonial houses in Bandung began around 200 years after the Dutch East Indies government built a connecting road between Bandung and Batavia, Bandung was nominated as the capital of the Dutch East Indies, by moving Batavia to Bandung. The preparatory steps include building government buildings and settlements with a good spatial plan. So that at that time, the city of Bandung experienced intensive development. Gemeentewerken Bandung with the command of Ir. F.J.L. Ghijsels built 750 modern buildings for the current size, as part of the preparation for the capital's move. The development also made Bandung save a lot of Indo-European-style architectural works. This made Bandung at that time nicknamed The Most European City in the East Indies. The method used in this study is qualitative with more emphasis on the analysis of several colonial buildings in the city of Bandung, especially the front facade consisting of the shape of the facade, doors, windows, roofs and ornaments. analysis by taking several examples of colonial buildings in the city of Bandung then in the analysis of the front view of the building.

**Keywords** Architecture, Colonial, Conservation

## 1. Introduction

A city is a place to carry out all activities that record the life cycle and activities in it from time to time. A city is a place in which there is an identity of the city itself. A city also often tells a lot about the formation of the city and its development. In a long city journey there is a history of social integration. One characteristic of the cities in Indonesia is the social integration of society such as the Colonialism Zone with the buildings of the Dutch colonialism inheritance, the Chinatown area which is generally located in commercial centers and markets which are generally marked by typical buildings of Chinese descent and The Arab village area is similar to Chinatown with a location close to the commercial center of a city, it also shows a portrait of social segregation that is ethnicity, while the Dutch national area which is usually located in the city centers and government centers in the city of Bogor. Based on this background, it is interesting that we discuss the identification of the facade of colonial buildings in the city of Bandung.

The role of an architect, but the architect must be able to consider ways that his work has value and meaning for users who have characteristics. This is implemented in exterior buildings, interior design and furniture. In designing, architect in colonial phase designed to integrate eastern and

western cultures in his design to adapt European architectural forms that were adapted to architecture in the tropics and diverse cultures

this research is expected to be able to contribute to science, especially in the field of architecture in particular regarding the history of architecture in the city of Bandung, by providing an analysis of the characteristics of the colonial building facade in Bandung as an object of study.

## 2. Methodology

The method used in this study is qualitative with more emphasis on the analysis of several colonial buildings in the city of Bandung, especially the front facade consisting of the shape of the facade, doors, windows, roofs and ornaments. analysis by taking several examples of colonial buildings in the city of Bandung then in the analysis of the front view of the building. The research methodology in this discussion uses direct observation that is linked to the study literature data. Some related literature is the result of related case studies, such as the results of studies on the development of colonialism in Indonesia, especially on buildings and Regions. The results of the literature study are associated with conditions in the city of Bandung. Kartono said that

cultural systems, social systems, and technological systems can influence the appearance of architecture. Changes in architecture are influenced by many aspects, but changes in just one aspect of people's lives can affect architectural forms [1] (Handinoto.(2004). *Daendels dan Perkembangan Arsitektur di Hindia Belanda Abad 19. Dimensi*)

### 3. Discussion

Architectural typology of colonial buildings is a response to western culture to locality in Bandung. In 1923, Dutch Maestro Architect Hendrik Petrus Berlage visited cities in the Dutch East Indies. He criticized the architecture of "plagiarism" of buildings in Europe. This triggered a discussion of new architecture pioneered by C.P. Wolff Schoemaker with Maclaine Point, who played a role in the development of further indo-European architecture.

Development of the City of Bandung reached its peak, when Dutch architects tried to innovate in building art that was different from what was commonly done in their home countries with a subtropical climate. This relates to the national & international architecture movement, namely efforts to find the identity of Dutch Colonial Architecture in Indonesia with reference to the traditional archipelago architecture (Java). The search for architecture that is responsive to local climatic and geographical conditions as a new building art (Indis Architecture). This type of architecture must be a perfect engineering when an elegant western building tries to be responsive to local conditions. According to C.P. Wolff Schoemaker, Indo-European Architecture has the following characteristics:

- Building figures are generally symmetrical
- Has relatively similar strong vertical and horizontal rhythms
- Building construction adapted to the tropical climate

Looking further at colonial houses in the city of Bandung, one building can be divided into three parts, namely:

#### 3.1. Head

Visually, the roof is a suffix from the face of the building, which is often inserted with an attic, so that the roof moves backward from the view of the human eye. The need for this part to be treated in terms of function and shape, comes from the fact the building has a bottom (base) that sounds related to the earth, and a top part that tells the boundaries of the building to end in a vertical context. Colonial houses in Indonesia generally have a head of a building in the form of a shield roof with a wide *teritis* and seem to 'shade' the body and legs of the building. This is caused by rainfall in Indonesia which is quite high. Following is the identification of the facade of colonial buildings in several building samples in Bandung.







|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | The form of a combination gable roof with a roof frame height above 3 meters  |
|  | The combination of a conical roof with natural materials using <i>sirap</i>   |
|  | The combination of the saddle roof by using local material in the form of wood that is attached to the <i>ampig</i> of the roof as a combination of local culture |
|  | The combination of a shield roof with a height of more than 3 meters using a typical clay roof tile material at home in Indonesia                                 |

Table 1. Personal Analysis Data

#### 3.2. Body

Colonial house building bodies generally consist of rectangular windows and wall details that give the impression of 'bulky' or thick.

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | Characteristic of the architecture of the facade of colonial buildings in Indonesia is one with asymmetrical wall and symmetrical wall on the detailing profile |
|  | The main entrance to the colonial buildings can usually be very clearly seen from a larger formation or directing people to go to the main door                 |

|   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
|    | <p>Wall profile, either from symmetrical detailing profiles or natural stone patches</p>  |    | <p>There is a characteristic that is quite thick in colonial buildings, one of which on the floor there are some special features as a differentiator and generally found on the main floors such as the front room and the middle room in the building</p> |
|    | <p>The door with a <i>krapyak</i> design that is the arrangement of wood that forms a circulating window is basically a local design but many of the colonial building designs are in Bandung so as to create a combination of local and colonial</p> |    | <p>The foot of a colonial building is usually firm and sturdy which is indicated by the use of natural stone and orientation materials that lead to the main entrance such as stairs</p>  |
|   | <p>The door design with wood profil detail</p>  |    | <p>Natural stone patches at the foot of the building are generally patches of <i>teplek</i> or natural stones which are arranged and generally painted in black or white and colored on the trim between natural stones</p>                                 |
|  | <p>Asymmetrical elements in building facades are usually found in certain parts such as building angles</p>   |  | <p>In addition to the symmetrical on the detailed profile of the walls in colonial buildings, there are also combinations of locality elements such as the play style of the <i>krawang</i> wall as well as sample images</p>                               |
|  | <p>Asymmetrical elements in the corner of colonial buildings in Bandung are also generally widely used placement of doors and windows</p>   |  | <p>On the porch area there are generally columns that in addition to giving a firm and differentiating effect on the front area. there are columns that have details doric ionic and plain columns without detail</p>                                       |
| <p>Table 2. Personal Analysis Data</p>  |   |  | <p>Colonial building floors in Bandung use more floor tiles and terrazzo</p>  |

Table 2. Personal Analysis Data

### 3.3. Legs

About one meter from the ground there is a difference in wall material with the body of the building, the part that functions as the foot of the building. In general, finishing walls using stone or painted to resemble stone.

Table 3. Personal Analysis Data

### 3.4. Special Details In Colonial

Dutch-style building elements that are widely used in colonial architecture of the Dutch East Indies (Handinoto, 1996: 165-178) include:

- a) Gevel (gable)
- b) Tower
- c) Dormer
- d) Windwijzer
- e) Nok acroterie
- f) Geveltoppen
- g) Decorative types on body building
- h) Balustrade

### 5. Conclusion

From the discussion above it can be concluded that some of the characteristics of the colonial building facade in Indonesia are as follows :

|      |  |
|------|--|
| Head | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The average shape of a roof is saddle, shield and combination</li> <li>2. The roof covering material uses local materials such as wood shingles and clay tiles</li> <li>3. The height of the dominant roof frame height of more than 3 meters in addition to making the overall impression of the building looks high but serves so that air circulation is quite good inside the building because the outside air can be filtered by a high roof frame</li> </ol> |
| Body | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Building bodies generally have a playing with wall / concrete in the form of asymmetrical elements</li> <li>2. The main entrance area has a distinguishing element from the whole facade of other buildings in the form of different materials or more dominant wall formation as a guide</li> <li>3. The corner of the building there are curved wall areas as aesthetic</li> </ol>   |

|      |  |
|------|--|
|      | elements of the building facade  |
| Legs | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Material floor coverings are generally made of tiles and terrazzo</li> <li>2. Patch elements starting from the foot to the body are generally in the form of natural stone patches that give the impression of a bulky or sturdy building</li> <li>3. There is a dominant column at the entrance area of the building or part of the terrace which adds to the monumental and sturdy impression of the building</li> </ol> |

Table 4. Conclusions

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