The Implementation of Feng Shui in The Chinatown District of Asia Mega Mas Medan

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Abstract. As a science derived from life experiences, Feng Shui is often used in many aspects of life, such as urban landscape planning and spatial configuration. Various regions in the world, especially in China, use the principle of Feng Shui in designing the area because they believed by applying Feng Shui principles in life, it could provide a good fortune in the future. Medan, as one of the cities in Indonesia has a chinatown, which is called Medan Chinatown, namely the Komplek Asia Asia Mas. Komplek Asia Mega Mas Medan is both a residential and business area. The purposes of this study are to examine the use of Feng Shui as a basis in designing the area and to discover the advantages of Feng Shui application that is applied to the Chinatown district of Komplek Asia Mega Mas Medan. The methodology used in this study is a qualitative approach. The process of collecting data and information is done by doing various observations and interviews. The results of this study will provide benefits to the development of the theory of Feng Shui which is integrated with the business area in Chinatown and provides benefits to the local government in managing the business center in the Chinatown area.

1. Introduction
Feng Shui is not only used in a small scope such as decoration and house ornament but can be applied to a wider scope such as managing the area. Semarang's Chinatown Region in Indonesia applies the science of Feng Shui to the arrangement of its area [1]. Configuration of city spatial planning by the science of Feng Shui has a spiritual impact and enhances communication between communities which results in harmony in the environment Medan City, North Sumatra Province, Indonesia has a Chinatown area in Medan Area District, namely the Mega Mas Asia Complex. This complex is often known as the Chinatown City of Medan because it is famous for culinary tourism and a population dominated by Chinese. The Mega Mas Asia Complex is a complex with a housing typology in the form of shop-house which was built in 1992 (completed in 1996) to support the activities of flats in the complex area. The construction of the Mega Mas Asia complex may use the Feng Shui method because of its location which is located in the economic center of Medan and dominated by ethnic Chinese residents.

2. Literature Review
According to Feng Shui, the ideal city is a city flanked by mountains that is lower in the East and the higher mountains in the West, a larger mountain in the North and a river flows toward the south [3]. The ideal region in the Feng Shui theory focuses on five aspects: (1) physical condition and within the mountains, (2) to the topography and geography, (3) the flow of the river, (4) suitability and (5)
orientation [2]. Also the circumstances surrounding (atmospheric) region also raises the energy flow becomes more pronounced or more stagnant [4].

A rectangular area in Feng Shui theory is believed to be a form of balanced because people refer to the belief rectangular shape as the shape of the earth [5]. Physically order of urban space by Feng Shui theories follows the elections for positions that affect the orientation of the city, has a perimeter wall and the axis of the city. [5]. In some cities in China have a symmetrical shape regional order. This is because Feng Shui is the theory that focuses on balancing element (good) and yin (bad) [6].

Feng Shui in business has a role in the four aspects of business life such as the naming of the company/business/business, company location, interior/decoration of the company and employee environment [7]. Feng Shui teaches people to adapt to the natural environment as much as possible and avoid conflicts [7]. All aspects of life that follow the theory of Feng Shui are believed to give the effect of fortune that is prosperous to society [8]. Feng Shui enriches and strengthens the cultural values on the various aspects of life in China such as prosperity, harmony, moral concerns, and aesthetic view [7].

3. Methodology
This study used a qualitative descriptive approach in which researchers pooled the results of observation, the data related to the area, and interviews with residents and business people in Asia Mega Mas Complex. Complex Location Asia Mega Mas is chosen because of its location in the Chinatown area of Medan city that has a concept of the spatial environment in the areas design, a function as a residential and business district, and the characteristic of using the principles of Feng Shui in the design department. The results obtained will be connected with the study of the theory of Feng Shui at the regional and spatial environment as well as the benefits of Feng Shui in the community.

4. Results and discussions
4.1 The shape of the building structure and outer space in terms of aspects of urban space policy
The form of buildings in the Asia Mega Mas Chinatown in Medan is dominated by rectangular shapes with the typology of shophouses. Regarding the building mass composition (building shape) of the plot, the development intensity of the Mega Mas Asia Complex has a building base coefficient (KDB) of 80%, building borderline (GSB) 0 meters, building height ± 18 meters. The plot of each building unit in the Mega Mas Asia complex in Medan is rectangular in size 4 (four) meters wide and 20 meters to 22 meters long. The shape of the building follows the shape of a plot with a width of 4 (four) meters and a length of 16 to 18 meters. On average, every 15 to 18 buildings are arranged in long lines without any distance between buildings and arranged in layers with different orientations. Among the buildings, there are two rows of the arrangement of the fire hall within two (2) meters to three (3) meters. Each building has an orientation facing the side street (figure 1).
All buildings in the Mega Mas Asia Complex Medan have characteristics by the provisions of the trading zone (K-1) building according to the regional regulations of Medan City [9]. The difference in the shape of the building only in plots that are not rectangular in form without changing the shape of the typical facade of Asia Mega Mas Complex building.

Based on the percentage of Building Base Coefficient (KDB) of 80% in each complex building, there is remaining land in front of each building that is designated as parking space. There is also a parking-lot at some points in the complex area. Every building in the Mega Mas Asia Complex in Medan has no vegetation area or any remaining land not built. The vegetation area is only at several points of separation of the main roads in the Mega Mas Asia Complex, Medan. Also there is one area that is green open space (RTH) of 200 m² (Figure 2).

The entire building in the complex has a building base coefficient of 80% so that the remaining land should be allocated to the vegetation area. However, all remaining land is made into paving block pavement which is similar material to the road in the complex area. This resulted in the apparent absence of boundaries between land that is part of a residential complex with a road in the area.
4.2 The Concept of the Spatial Environment of Asia Mega Mas Chinatown in Medan

In a radius of 100 km from the center of Chinatown Region Asia Mega Mas Medan, there are various series of rows of hills called the Bukit Barisan and stretches to the tip of Sumatra Island. The Bukit Barisan is located at a distance of ± 80 km southwest of Medan City. Also the mountain closest to the city of Medan, namely Mount Sibayak, is located in the Southwest with a distance of ± 71 km (figure 3).

![Figure 3. configuration of mountains and hills around the area.](image)

An area that will be maintained is positive energy (flow) when it is flanked at the front, left and right by the mountains which are considered to protect the contents of the region [3]. The Mega Mas Asia Complex is located around the center of the city. Mountain that is located in the surrounding area have a great distance and Also does not surround the area so that it could not give protection to the contents of the region and maintain the positive flow of energy (Qi) flows.

The temperature in the Asia Mega Mas Complex has the same temperature condition as the entire city of Medan with an average temperature ranging from 24 °C - 32 °C. Medan has a dry season that began in February and the wet season which begins in October. As a result of the different seasons that occur, the rainfall level in Medan City can change two to four times during the change of seasons. Consideration of climatic conditions for temperature and precipitation at the regional level are some aspects to consider in determining the location of an ideal region [2]. The climate in Asia Mega Mas Complex Regions quite comfortable to live because the maximum temperature during the day is not too hot (32 °C) and at night a decrease in the maximum temperature is still in the category of cool (24 °C). Based on climate considerations, the Mega Mas Asia Complex Area can be said to be an ideal place to occupying because it can provide comfort for the residents in the area.

The Asia Mega Mas complex area does not have fertile land because land in the complex area is dominated by pavement such as paving blocks. The vegetation found in the area is not comparable to solid areas such as buildings and pavements. The impact of the situation, making the circulation of air in the area dry and hot. The location of an ideal area must have loose, fertile soil, smooth air circulation, biological habitat, biochemical cycle, and has control of humidity [2]. However, the design of the Asia Mega Mas Complex does not pay attention to this aspect because of the purpose of the Mega Mega Complex is to support the activities of Perumnas Housing by building shop-house. Soil conditions are not utilized in the design of the area but the extent of available land to maximize the land available for commercial needs.

The science of Feng Shui stated that people tend to choose the South as the orientation of the settlements to be built [2]. Based on observations, it is not by the conditions of the facts in the complex area of Asia Mega Mas. This is due to the absence of mountain and hilly elements, which are the basis for consideration in determining settlement orientation. Another reason for the consideration of the orientation direction of the complex is caused by Perumnas Housing which has orientation directions facing the A.R Hakim road so that the Mega Mas Asia Complex which is a housing complex supporting the Perumnas activities has to follow the orientation of the apartment (Figure 4).
4.3 The Feng Shui Utilization Study in the design of the Asia Mega Mas Chinatown area on the spatial environment of commercial areas in Medan downtown.

The Mega Mas Asia Complex is an area of shopping buildings lined up facing the side of the road. The complex area has a shape that resembles the letter "F" to surround the Perumnas of the Sukaramai flat. As a result of the placement of the position, the Asia Mega Mas Complex was built around the South, West, and North of Sentraland Apartments. The Asia Mega Mas Complex area has no gates or fences that significantly limit the complex area. The Asia Mega Mas complex has an orientation direction eastward from Jalan A.R. Hakim and has wheelbase road axis from the east to the west through Jalan Asia Raya, Jalan Asia Mega Mas and Jalan Asia (Figure 5).
In accordance to the science of Feng Shui, the order of urban space influenced by the orientation, surrounding walls, and the axis of the city [6]. Asia Mega Mas Complex orientation is influenced by access to the region. Jalan A.R Hakim is a road that is located in the east of the complex area and is the most easily accessible road compared to Jalan Asia due to differences in road width. In Asia Mega Mas Complex area, there are no dividing walls and pavement protect the contents of the complex region. Complex buildings that are adjacent to buildings outside the area are allowed to blend without a separation wall. Nevertheless there are differences in experience that is felt when entering the complex area caused by differences in the atmosphere of the facade of the buildings inside the area with buildings outside of the area. Also different experience occurs caused by pavement material where the paving block complex is different from the road outside the area that uses asphalt. At first, the area has a complex axis that surrounds the area through Jalan Asia Raya, Jalan Asia Mega Mas, and Jalan Asia Permai. Also there is access to the Asian road through the East Asia Road Mega Mas. Due to the high-intensity level of Jalan Asia Heading to Jalan A.R Hakim and vice versa, the axis of the complex area slowly changes and no longer surrounds the complex area. As a result of this, the complex area to the south of the Asia Mega Mas junction with Asia Road is becoming increasingly less accessible (figure 6).
Figure 6. Change in axis within the area.

Feng Shui is a theory that prioritizes balance / symmetrical elements of Yang (good) and Yin (bad) [5]. Although the shape of the Asia Mega Mas Complex is irregular, the arrangement of buildings in each area of the area is symmetrical following the axis of the complex area. Also buildings in the complex area of Asia Mega Mas have the same facade facing each other and which reinforce the symmetrical shape of the area.

Around the Asia Mega Mas Complex, there is a mountain configuration closest to the area, namely Mount Sibayak which is on the Southwest side at a distance of 70 Km from the area of the complex. The atmosphere (atmospheric) area causes the energy flow to be more pronounced or more stagnant [4]. The location of the Mega Mega Asia Complex in Medan, which is in the center of the crowded city of Medan, results in a mountainous configuration that is too far away. The position of the mountains has a distance that stretches more than 70 km and is located on the Southwest side of the complex area. These conditions result from the complex area of Asia Mega Mas Complex can’t visually see where the mountain despite the sunny weather. Configuration of mountains with complex areas that are too far has an impact on the absence of an experience being protected by mountains or hills that are located around the complex area, and the flow of positive energy (qi) becomes more stagnant.

Based on the layout and configuration of the mountains which are as far as 70 km to the southwest Complex Asia Mega Mas, then the next South Asian Jalan Permai Raya and Jalan Asia is an area that most feel the presence of Mount Sibayak. Location of settlements surrounded by mountains of unequal size on each side is believed to provide fortune and help the movement of positive energy flow (qi) to the surrounding environment [3]. In contrast to the facts on the ground, business activity in the area that gets the closest mountain configuration effect is not as dense with that is at the farthest point from the nearest point of the mountain.

4.4 The Use of Feng Shui in the planning of the Asia Mega Mas Chinatown

The names of stores in the Mega Mas Asia Complex mostly have meanings of prosperity and well-being. The community believes that naming the name and numbering of the business that is occupied can have an effect of luck, which affects the results of the business. Feng Shui plays an important role in determining the name of the company that is suitable / in accordance with the business [7], so that
naming the business as much as possible has beneficial meanings such as prosperity, profit, and luck. On the naming of business, business people are more focused on the purpose of seeking fortune through business naming compared to determine unique business.

The Mega Mas Kompek area has a variety of buildings with different functions such as buildings that function as universities, restaurants, banks to houses of worship. Business activities in the Mega Mas Asia Complex are more common in areas that are not close to worship houses.

The location determination is one of the aspects considered in the science of Feng Shui is to do business. Business locations are sought not to be close to places of worship, hospitals, graves because they provide a strong negative aura [7]. Around the building that functions as a house of worship, business activities are not as busy as in areas where there are no religious buildings (Figure 7). Residents in the Asia Mega Mas complex area believe in various prohibitions regarding business locations that are close to places of worship.

![Figure 7. Building functions of a house of worship.](image)

In the architectural field, such as the design of business premises and the design of non-permanent kiosks, many people do not know the sciences of the application of Feng Shui related to this. Many of them do not discuss in advance regarding the shape or design of the place of business to Feng Shui expert. The community argues that the science of Feng Shui is only centered on suggestions and prohibitions such as having to put gold cat ornaments to attract customers, the location of a business is not in a location close to negative auras such as houses of worship and not in the position of skewers or facing the road.

As one aspect that is considered Feng Shui in running a business, the environment of a business can be improved if it is in accordance with the science of Feng Shui [7]. People who are doing business in Asia Mega Mas Complex Regions do not know much about improving the quality of the work.
environment through Feng Shui. But people still trying to establish a connection and a healthy working environment to create comfort in the work. People believe that a healthy work environment can improve employee productivity and performance.

4.5 Public and resident’s perceptions of the use of Feng Shui in the Asia mega region of Chinatown in Medan

People believe the use of ornament, color selection, and numbering of houses in line with the science of Feng Shui can give the effect of good luck and prosperity for the residents. As well as the use of a small Ba Gua mirror is placed above the front door of the building, the public trust with such placement can fend off bad things that will happen to the family. Also to the colors of the buildings in the complex electoral Asia Mega Mas, people tend to choose to use a color closer to red as the color orange because it is considered matching the color around the original building and approached the red color which brings lucks (Figure 8).

![The Initial color of the building in Asia Mega Mas Complex](image1.png)

![Recolored building with the resident’s preference](image2.png)

**Figure 8.** Color building of the Asia Mega Mas Complex.

Some people also believe that the dwelling with house number 4 (four) is believed to provide unfortunate for residents and housing that have a home number eight (8) to give the effect of luck. In Asia Mega Complex there are no buildings that have a house number 4 (four), each series of buildings which should have a house number 4 (four) is replaced with a figure 3A (three A). In contrast with the number 8 (eight), this number experiences many repetitions in various series of buildings found in the Medan Asia Mega Mas Complex such as buildings with house numbers 8A (eight A), 8B (eight B), and so on. People believe in aspects of life that follow the theory of Feng Shui can have the effect of fortune that is prosperous to the community [8]. The results of these beliefs affect people’s minds to follow every aspect of what they know as decorations, ornaments, suggestion or ban in order to avoid disaster and earn prosperities.

5. Findings

Each building in the Asia Mega Mas Complex is dominated by a rectangular shape that can maximize the use of space and land. The remaining land in front of the Mega Mas Asia Complex building is used for parking needs of vehicles so that visitors who carry out buying and selling activities in complex
buildings can facilitate parking of vehicles. As a result, the circulation of vehicles in the complex area Asia Mega Mas not experiencing problems of congestion caused by vehicles parking on the street.

An area will be maintained its positive energy (qi) that flows when surrounded by mountains which are considered to protect the contents of the region [2]. In the Asia Mega Mas Complex, the location of mountains and hills is in the Southwest as far as ± 71 km, and its configuration does not surround the area so it cannot provide protection against and maintain the flow of positive energy (qi) of the area. River flow is an element that flows positive energy (qi) to all areas of the area [2]. Outside the Asia Mega Mas Complex area, there is only the Deli River which is in the west as far as 3km. In the area itself, there is no flow of the stream and passing through the entire region. So that there is no element that can deliver positive energy (qi) to each area of the complex. Fertility and air circulation are necessary elements in the ideal region [2]. Nevertheless, the Asia Mega Mas Complex area covers the entire area with paving block pavement which minimizes the vegetation area. The impact of this resulted in air circulation feeling dry and hot. South direction is a direction that is considered ideal for settlement orientation [2]. Based on the fact of the discovery, the Asia Mega Mas Complex does not face south but faces east. This is because the complex area is supporting the activity of flats so that the orientation of the area follows Perumnas's orientation.

The complex shape Asia Mega Mas area resembles the letter of "F" due to the complex region surrounding the Housing flats. The layout of the space in the complex area surrounds the Perumnas Flat so that the orientation of the complex follows the orientation of the Perumannas' facing east. In the Asia Mega Mas Complex, there is also no wall around the whole region. Even so, there are differences in experience that felt between the complex area and the area outside the complex caused by the use of paving blocks on the road and similar building styles throughout the complex building. The Asia Mega Mas Complex area has an unbalanced or asymmetrical shape. However, each building located in the area is arranged with the same building style and facing each other so that a balanced experience arises between the left and right sides if standing at a point in the area of the complex.

The circumstances around (atmospheric) region can virtually affect the flow of positive energy flowing in the region [4]. Even though the complex area cannot see the position of the mountain visually, but the existence of a location surrounded by mountains can maintain the flow of positive energy flowing [3]. In Asia Mega Mas Complex, an area which is at the closest position to the mountains has a business activity quieter than the area which is at the farthest point to the existence of the mountain.

Various businesses in the complex area have business names that are meaningful so that it can be said that the community in the complex area trusts the science of Feng Shui because they believed it could give good luck. Even so, it can also be found some business names that have no beneficial meaning but are unique. Also in areas that have buildings with functions of houses of worship, they are more dominated by houses and have a smaller number of business activities compared to areas that do not have houses of worship. The community believes that business locations are sought not to be close to places of worship, hospitals and graves that are believed to provide a strong negative aura [7].

Feng Shui as an applied science that can provide effects on living welfare in the form of luck [8]. The majority of the people in the Asia Mega Mas Complex believe in the science of Feng Shui and have an understanding of decorations, colors, and numbers, although not deeply. People trust by following the science of Feng Shui even though in small contexts such as putting up decorations and decorations can give effect to luck and avoid bad luck.

6. conclusion
The Asia Mega Mas Complex which is located in Sukaramai 2 Village, Medan Area Subdistrict, Medan City has the form of a rectangular building structure arranged in a row around the Sukaramai Flats Housing. The outer space of the Asia Mega Mas Complex is dominated by road circulation and vehicle parking. The vegetation area is located on the island road along the road that is in the Asia Mega Mas Complex and several green open space plots. The utilization of rectangular shapes in the Asia Mega Mas Complex area can maximize land use aimed at facilitating circulation and parking of vehicles. Through this utilization, consumers and customers who bring a personal vehicle can easily park the
vehicle and can easily access the circulation due to the utilization of a regular shape of the building structure. At the Asia Mega Mas Complex, the concept of the spatial environment of the region is not affected by mountain configuration, river flow, weather, location suitability to the ideal orientation according to Feng Shui. The fact of the condition area dominantly did not meet the criteria for the ideal area according to Feng Shui theory. In shaping the spatial environment in Feng Shui commercial areas, the Asia Mega Mas Complex area form tend to follow objects around the area. In the area, Feng Shui utilization complex in forming a spatial environment was not influenced by orientation, axis, and circumference walls. But indirectly, the orientation direction and main access can be related to the region axis. Besides that the situation around the area virtually does not have a significant influence on the regional environment. Overall, the people in the Asia Mega Mas Complex believe that Feng Shui can have good effects. Despite not knowing the application of Feng Shui is a complex science, society tries to follow the advice and ban that has been trusted by generations and information surrounding communities such as the placement of decorations, colors, and numbers that can not give the effect of luck.

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