

ROOTED FUTURE

RESURFACING LOST IDENTITY

In this post-modern world where architects continuously crave to find different forms of inspiration, looking back at forgotten culture might be one way to learn and create a rooted and substantiated design.

After 350 years of colonization, Indonesia gained its independence in 1945. Immediately following the event, the first president, Sukarno, promulgated the idea of revolution to all aspects of Indonesians life, including its architectural agenda. Sukarno, once educated as civil engineer and architect, desired to reject the colonialist architecture that has been embedded deep inside Indonesian architecture identity for centuries by adapting the modernization trend in the world at the time. International style was applied to all the building projects after the independence. Ironically, this sudden "injection" of the international style has prolonged the oppression of the rich local culture that had also been suppressed since the start of colonization.

Indonesia, an archipelago country containing over 18,000 islands, have multifarious and rich culture across many regions. Each region, having their own distinctive ethnic group and custom, owns highly characteristic indigenous architecture form. These are called *Rumah Adat* (Traditional Home) (figure 3). The president's political preference of producing "modern" style buildings to align Indonesia closer to Western countries exacerbated the decline of *Rumah Adat*. The current trace of *Rumah Adat* can only be seen in tourist areas and governmental buildings. However, much of these governmental buildings adaptation of *Rumah Adat* have often been a forceful ornamental implant on to a modern building. There have not been much design efforts in integrating this cultural masterpiece to the modern living.

This proposal seeks to resurface the root of the *Rumah Adat* in Indonesia. By travelling to various regions in Indonesia (figure 1), I intend to sketch, diagram, study, photograph and experience firsthand these variegated *Rumah Adat* in each of the different regions. As an architecture student trained under the western lens, I would like to both dissect and study the eastern world tectonics, especially through the cultural, social, and climate forces that give each of these houses its unique characteristic form (figure 2). The travel will start from the tip of the western island of Indonesia, Sumatra, moving counter-clockwise to Java, Kalimantan, Sulawesi, and finally Papua. By the end of the travel, using the technique I learned through 7 years of formal architectural training, I would like to conduct a formal analysis and produce a systematized catalogue of these *Rumah Adat* with its each distinctive architectural element. By identifying and categorizing these repertoires of architectural language developed in the different parts of the world, it might generate different sources of inspiration. Potentially, this will serve as the basis of my thesis for the completion of my Master of Architecture degree - **to design an abstraction technique that extrapolate and re-appropriate the rooted architectural language to produce something novel.** By framing it in this context, the travelling would benefit more through the process of bridging the research to its actual design implementation.

ITINENARY

SUMATERA NORTH SUMATERA WEST SUMATERA	DAYS 1-5
JAVA WEST JAVA EAST JAVA WEST NUSA TENGGARA	DAYS 6-14
KALIMANTAN CENTRAL KALIMANTAN EAST KALIMANTAN	DAYS 14-18
SULAWESI CENTRAL SULAWESI SOUTHEAST SULAWESI NORTH MALUKU	DAYS 19-26
PAPUA WEST PAPUA	DAYS 27-30
BUDGET ESTIMATION	
AIRFARE	\$4000
LODGING (\$100/DAY)	\$3000
FOOD (\$20/DAY)	\$600
TRANSPORTATION	\$1500
GUIDE FEE	\$500
CONTINGENCY & MISC	\$400
TOTAL	\$10000

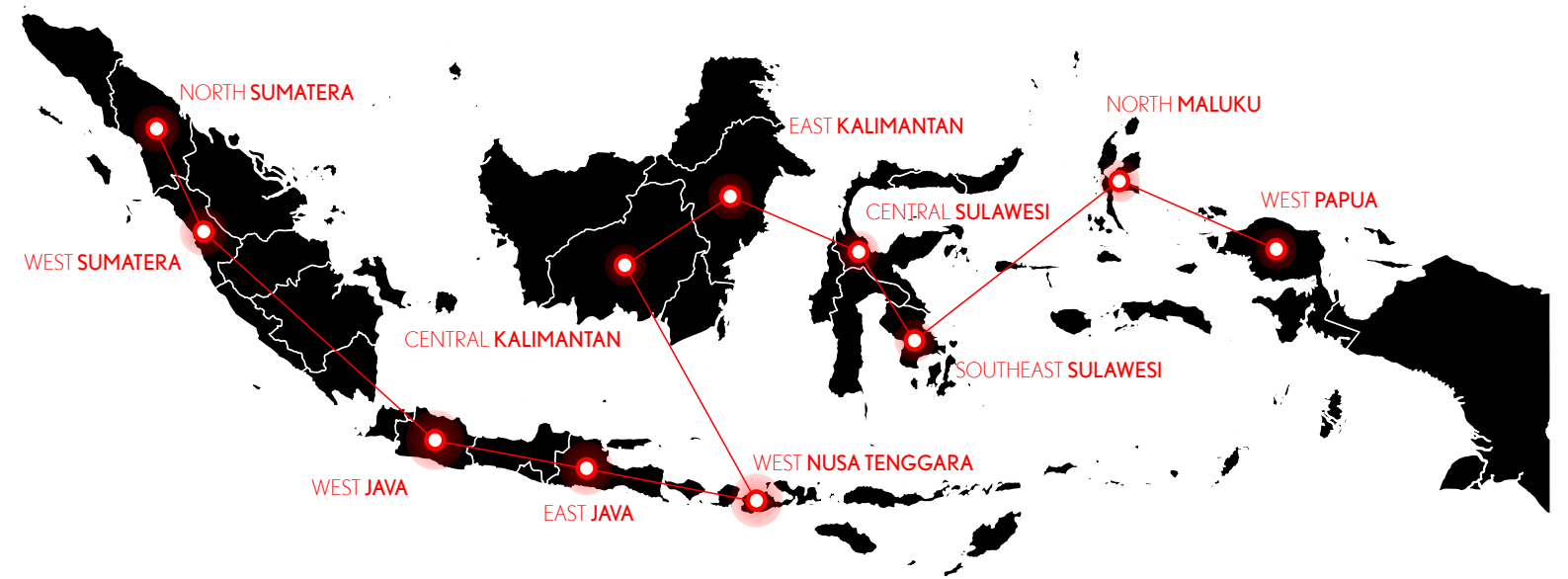


figure 1 - Travel Route Across Indonesian Archipelago



figure 2 - Various Unique Characteristic of Traditional Home from Multiple Regions in Indonesia



figure 3 - Catalogue of Traditional Home across Indonesia