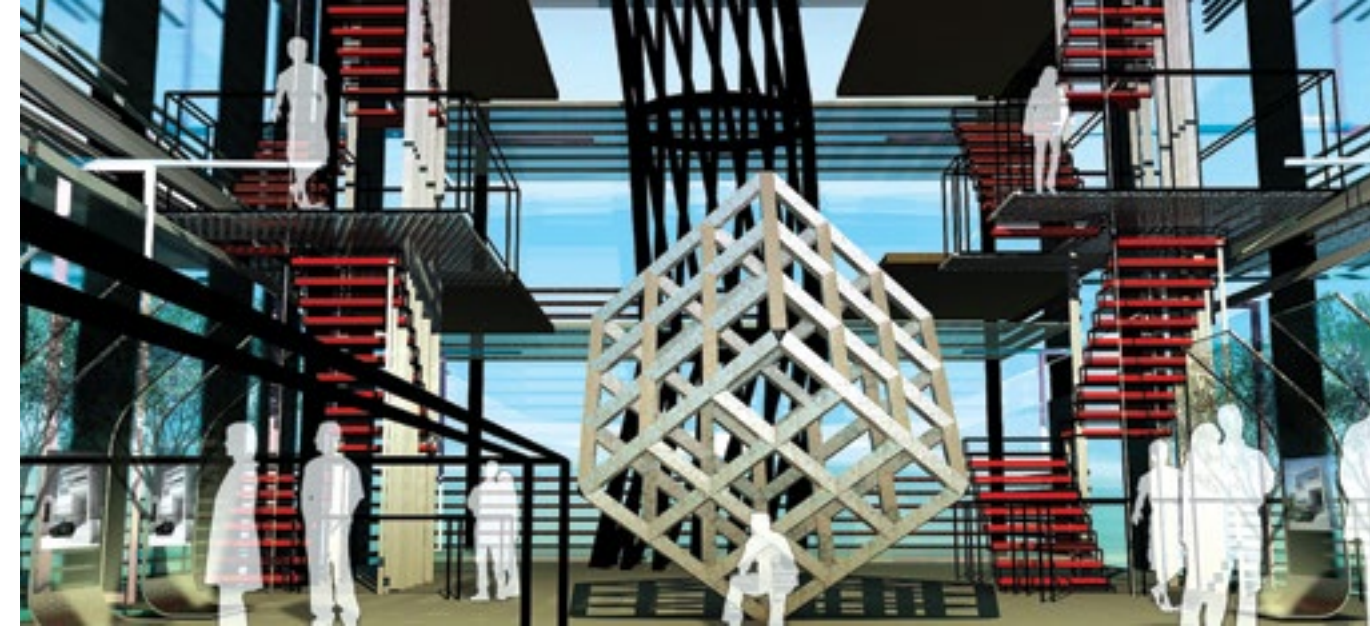


# Textile & Fashion Library

Azizah Salim Syed Salim

The proposed textile and fashion library along Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman (TAR) in Kuala Lumpur comprises two significant elements: rethinking and upgrading of the existing historical Odeon cinema and the new wing which forms the main library. The proposal creates the necessary dialogue between the new and old within the neighbourhood. The library building will act as a connector between Jalan TAR and Jalan Masjid India which is famous for its textile and fashion production.



Taking into account the urban design guidelines, the proposed library demonstrates a novel architectural design pertaining to a complex public building within an urban setting.

In terms of urban planning, the main design intention is to fill in the open space by following the pattern of the existing urban structure. This is achieved by locating the new building along the outer perimeter and creating a central courtyard for recreation and a stage for communal events.

The main library is divided into two main elements namely the 'ramp of knowledge' and the educational centre. The foyer acts as an urban passage for the neighbourhood where the public can walk freely through the library complex. The library is distinguished by the innovative design for the exhibition hall located at the highest level which portrays a powerful structure that defies gravity. This results in a strong and dynamic impression for those passing by.

The whole library complex is a dynamic figure of open and enclosed areas and is meant to be the missing link along Jalan TAR. This makes up the significant and attractive educational institution for the community which the neighbourhood so lacks today.

■ Nor Izyan Saleh