

# Coworking Space and Library with a Humanist Architectural Approach

Afra Akwila Hangin <sup>a</sup> \*, Wiwit Setyowati <sup>a</sup> \*, Andi Purnomo <sup>a</sup>, Isna Pratiwi <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Departement of Civil Engineering, Universitas Negeri Semarang, Indonesia \* <u>afraakwila@students.unnes.ac.id</u>, <u>wiwitsetyowati@mail.unnes.ac.id</u>

**Abstract.** Semarang City is one of the big cities, of course, has a population growth rate that increases every year. To improve the quality of the needs of community activity spaces, we currently need a container that can accommodate individual and group activities. Coworking Space and Library is a building that was built to be a social and informative forum for the community, especially in Semarang City. The Coworking Space and Library was built to overcome the decline in the level of reading and social life of the community using the Humanist Architecture Approach, it is hoped that this can give the impression of safety and comfort and function as expected. The method used is the descriptive method, carried out by collecting and analyzing data to obtain planning and design concepts. The Humanist Architecture Approach prioritizes the five basic human needs according to Abraham Maslow and the elaboration of the theory by Jhon Lang, namely Physiological Needs, Safety Needs, Belonging Needs, Esteem Needs, and Self Actualization Needs. The application of this theory can solve the problem of the achievement of the Coworking Space and Library building in Semarang City.

Keywords: Coworking Space and Library, Humanist Architecture, Semarang City, Abraham Maslow Theory

### I. Introduction

Semarang City as one of the big cities certainly has a population growth rate that increases every year, as evidenced by data obtained from the Population and Civil Registration Office in 2022 recorded as many as 1,688,981 people and in 2018 recorded as many as 1,668,578 people, this shows that population growth continues to increase in Semarang City. This increase has an impact on the activities and interests of individuals and groups in general as well as the need for space to accommodate community activities.

Coworking Space based on the definition of the Oxford dictionary is a work environment outside the office or can be used as a coworking environment in which it provides desks, chairs, and Wireless fidelity (wi-fi) to separate meeting rooms. Coworking is flexible, although sharing with other users is also available in special booths for those who work in quiet and private places [1].

Coworking Space is an activity space for individuals and groups, where everyone can collaborate with other people and is equipped with supporting facilities. Even though it is relatively new, the growth of coworking spaces in Asia is quite significant, namely 10-15%

every year [2]. According to Kwiatkowski dan Buczynski in [3] Five Coworking Space philosophies are: Collaboration, Openness, Community, Accessibility, and Sustainability. Based on the definition and potential of coworking space, it can be seen that its main goal is not just to rent out space, but rather as a community forum and place for collaboration for users to develop networks and develop new ideas. Uzzaman in [4].

Libraries are intuition that collects printed and recorded knowledge and is managed in a special way to meet the intellectual needs of its users [5]. A library is also a room or building that is part of an institution or body which has the task of collecting, providing, and managing various kinds of book collections [6].

The library is well organized and systematic, the purpose of the library is to help the community develop creative thinking skills and be able to adapt to the environment in addition to being a source of information, the library also functions as a place of research and recreation for the community. A library is a room or building used to store books and other publications, which are usually stored based on a certain arrangement that readers use instead of for sale.

Coworking and Libraries are places for creativity and as a place for the aspirations of society in general, basically Coworking and Libraries have quite an important role in everyday life and as time goes by the need for creative spaces are increasingly needed, according to [7] and Sinaga in [8]. Among them:

a. Community and Education Center

The library provides various informative tools and facilities that can support education and help develop people's thinking power.

b. Recreation and Collaboration Center

As a means of collaboration that is highly appreciated by coworkers to find and come up with ideas

c. Communication and Informative Center

This function is related to efforts to provide an informative center that can provide the latest, interesting information and can also be a means of communication between communities and society as well as individuals.

Humanist architecture is basically an architectural concept that makes humans the main goal of architectural design. The term humanism is related to the Latin word *humus* which means human (God's creature) and *humanus* which shows more down-to-earth and human nature. This meaning was originally to show that humans are different from other creatures created by God. Humanism considers rational individuals to be the highest value and considers individuals to be the ultimate source of value [9]. In simple terms, humanism can be interpreted as something related to humans. In architecture, it can be interpreted that human nature is a principle that is used as a basis for consideration in decisions about architectural concepts.

Humanist architecture has prominent characteristics, namely the Humanist aspect which is the basis of architecture, one of which is the use and empowerment of every element that forms architecture in order to achieve the meaning of human values. [10]. An understanding

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of humanist architecture is an understanding of the concept that is completely returned to the needs of humans as users.

Humanist architecture is always related to humans and their environment. Humanist Architecture according to Maslow in [11] compiled by Aruma and Hanachor is as follows:

I. Physiological Needs

This level represents basic needs which include the need for clothing, food, and shelter [12]. Physiological needs are the most important aspects that must be fulfilled in human life. All humans have the right to receive adequate fulfillment of these needs because basic needs that are not met will affect the lives of each individual [13].

2. Security Needs (Safety Needs)

This need emphasizes a person's sense of security, peace, and assurance in carrying out activities. A guaranteed sense of security will provide more comfort to human life.

3. Need for Trust and Love (Belongingness & Love Needs)

This need refers to the human need to be loved and trusted to obtain peace in life. Feelings of love and trust include broad aspects such as closeness and acceptance of the environment towards each individual. The trust and love obtained by each individual will foster self-confidence in making every decision.

4. The need to be appreciated (Esteem Needs)

This need refers to a person's level or achievement in a particular field of work. At this level, humans need certain achievements to show their rank in the environment. Selfesteem can come from within oneself (internal individual) and from outside (environmental recognition). By being appreciated, an individual will provide positive feedback to his environment.

5. Self-Actualization Needs

This level, which is the final and highest level, needs to refer to a person's desire to develop their work capacity well, which often appears in things that are appropriate to achieving a person's self-image and ideals. At this level, humans also think further about how they can increase their work productivity at a higher stage.

The planning process of the Coworking Space and Library in Semarang City takes a humanist architectural approach, this approach is related to Abraham Maslow's theory of five basic human needs. Through this Coworking Space and Library, it is hoped that it can meet the needs of users as a facility that supports all memorable activities and activities for its users, the relationship between Abraham Maslow's theory and the planning of Coworking Space and Library is as follows:

Humanist Architecture	Design Achievements
Physiological Needs	It is a basic need in the hierarchy. The need for survival, such as
	the presence of air, food, and shelter [14].

#### Table I. Abraham Maslow's Humanist Architecture

Humanist Architecture	Design Achievements
Safety Needs	The need for safety is related to other human needs, most
	importantly related to Psychological Needs. If you are in a place,
	humans must feel safe from various kinds of physical disorders that natural factors, such as natural disasters can cause. Human
	elements such as evil and environmental factors around us. [14].
Belonging Needs	This need emphasizes the need for humans to love and be loved and have each other as fellow humans.
Esteem Needs	The need for strength, mastery, competence, confidence, and independence. While the other is the need for appreciation from others such as status, fame, dominance, and pride, considered important and appreciated by others. [15].
Self-Actualization Needs	A need that leads to a person's desire to develop their capacity well to achieve one's self-image and ideals. [15].

Source: [16]

### 2. Methods

Explain detailed methods effectively which shows the originality of the author. The methods should be written clearly so that the work can be reproduced. If the methods have already been published, the author must write the reference and describe the modifications.

The method used is a descriptive method, namely by searching and collecting data. Data collection is carried out by means of library studies, data from related agencies, field observations to find out existing sites, comparative studies, and conducting analyses based on Humanist architectural theories as well as looking for data related to regulations related to the planning of Coworking Space and Library buildings.



**Figure 1.** Site Location Source: Google Earth, 2024

# 3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Physiological Needs (Shelter, Access to Buildings)

A permanent shelter for its users, this building is designed so that its users avoid rain and direct sun heat, the shelter is designed according to user standards and needs.

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Source: Author, 2023

Building Access is the achievement of the circulation of visitors or building users to various spaces without interfering with the activities of other users. In each room, an information board will be given to make it easier for visitors to access the space provided.



Figure 3. Access to Building (Lobby) Source: Author, 2024

# 3.2. Safety Needs (Privacy & Stability)

(Privacy) The division of space zones for every need of visitors, in the reading room there is a large opening that is useful for ventilation and natural lighting this is to save energy use during the day.

(Stability) is designed so that the atmosphere in the building is more conducive by paying attention to every component in the building such as human circulation, directional markers, information boards, and Networking facilities as support.



Figure 4. Working space and Reading room Source: Author, 2024

## 3.3. Belonging Needs (Communal Space)

Communal space is designed as much as possible and requires a large enough space because it will be used as a space for interaction and socialization of visitors. In the communal space, a variety of furniture will be used to support and become an attraction for users/visitors.



Figure 5. Communal Space Indoor and Cafeteria Source: Author, 2024

## 3.4. Esteem Needs (Building From)

The use of materials, furniture, and interior design in the Building From Coworking Space and Library concept is designed as much as possible by paying attention to the layout of each room. Using transparent materials will give an aesthetic impression to the building and become natural lighting, paying attention to furniture and placing bookcases can add a trendy impression to the building.



Figure 6. Interior Buildings Source: Author, 2024

# 3.5. Self Actualization Needs ( Development Opportunities)

Development Opportunities individually and in groups will develop if supported by adequate facilities. The building is designed as much as possible and the application of design leads to the shape of the building mass and the appearance of the façade, so this building must attract the attention of the community, and also the building is more prominent than the surrounding buildings. The addition of secondary skin material is not only reduces the sun's heat entering the building but can also be an aesthetic point of a building by placing a secondary skin according to applicable architectural rules.

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Figure 7. Facade Buildings Source: Author, 2024

#### 4. Conclusions

Based on the above explanation, it can be concluded that the application of Humanist Architecture in the Coworking Space and Library building in Semarang City is expected to be a means of socializing and inspiring the community. The discussion of the application of Humanist is related to Abraham Maslow's theory of five basic human needs and can be described as follows:

Humanist Architecture		Design Achievements
Physiological Needs	Shelter	A permanent sanctuary for users Coworking and Library.
	Access to Buildings	Circulatory access to various spaces for users without disturbing other users' activities.
Safety Needs	Privacy	The division of space zones and there are special spaces for various activities so that visitors feel safe and comfortable when doing activities.
	Stability	Stability in the building is needed so that the atmosphere is more conducive. The division of spaces such as reading rooms, Coworking Space Library, and Food Court must take into account the distance and building standards.
Belonging Needs	Communal Space	It is a public space that is open and accessible to its users, several parts are indoor, outdoor, and semi- outdoor.
Esteem Needs	Buildings From	Prioritizing the interior of the building by paying attention to the layout of the spatial arrangement, so that when visitors enter the building, they will show their pride as visitors/users.

## Table 2. Conclusion of the Humanist Architecture Concept

Humani	st Architecture	Design Achievements
Self Actualization	Development	This application leads to opportunities for Development
Needs	Opportunities	both individually and in groups, buildings are designed to
		be as attractive as possible in order to bring out the
		image of this design.

#### Source: Author, 2024

The application of these theories to the design of the Coworking Space and Library in Semarang City is expected to solve problems and polemics in the community, so that it becomes a forum for socialization, an informative and inspiring facility, thus the presence of a safe and comfortable Coworking and Library and a permanent building is expected to provide a positive impact for visitors and the surrounding environment.

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