

SOCIAL INCLUSION-BASED INTERIOR DESIGN OF THE SOLOK CITY LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES OFFICE

Ridhatul Muslimah¹, Risfi Windya Sari², Nurul Fitri³, Wahyu Hidayat⁴, Wulandari Eka Putri⁵

¹²³⁴⁵ Department of Islamic Library and Information Science, Faculty of Islamic Studies, Literature and Da'wah, Mahmud Yunus State Islamic University, Batusangkar, Indonesia

Corresponding Author:

Ridhatul Muslimah

Mahmud Yunus State Islamic University, Batusangkar, Indonesia

Email : ridhatulmuslimah@gmail.com

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Abstract

In today's increasingly connected and inclusive era, a physical environment that supports society's diverse needs has become increasingly important. In this context, the Solok City Library and Archives Service is an agency that must pay attention to social diversity considering that libraries are a means of lifelong learning for the community which should not be ignored. The aim of this research is to focus more on how the social inclusion-based interior design of the Solok City Library is reviewed from the elements and principles of inclusive design for the development and improvement of library quality. The benefits of this research are expected to increase user participation and interest in using the library as an inclusive institution supporting various user activities. Descriptive qualitative research is used by researchers to achieve research objectives, through data collection methods in the form of interviews, observation methods, and complemented by literature studies related to the research subject. The results of the research show that interior design based on social inclusion plays a very important role in creating a safe, comfortable and user-friendly environment, however the Solok City Library has not yet fully fulfilled the aspects of interior design based on social inclusion, including accessibility for disabled users, friendly light, layout that makes it easier for users to move, as well as other aspects. In order to create an interior design based on social inclusion, it requires special attention from Solok City Library managers, so that this research can provide a strong basis for improving library interior design, this research can be used as evaluation material for libraries.

Keywords: Interior Design, Public Library, Social Inclusion.



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INTRODUCTION

Today's digital age is filled with fast-paced information. Information plays an increasingly important role in our lives (Wulur & Mulyanti, 2023). Like a wellspring of knowledge, information shapes the way we think, interact and make decisions. It is not merely a tool for satisfying our curiosity; it also forms the foundation of technological development, innovation and social progress. There is no denying that easy access to information has transformed the world dramatically (Rusdiyanti et al., 2023). We can keep up to date with the latest developments in various fields, learn new skills, or communicate with people all over the world with just a few taps of a finger (Nugraha & Sufanti, 2023). However, the abundance of information also presents new challenges, such as how we select and understand valid and relevant information (Zen & Sitanggang, 2023). Libraries, as a means of accessing various types of information including scientific, historical, cultural and entertainment content must be able to fulfil their role in facilitating the dissemination of information, which demands speed, precision and accuracy (Arifah, 2020; Vellania et al., 2023).

Libraries, as providers of information services, are involved in the collection, processing, presentation, dissemination, management and preservation of information (Endarti, 2022; Pramana et al., 2023; Syukrinur, 2022). One public library that is particularly interesting to study is the Solok City Library and Archives Department, located in West Sumatra, specifically in the city of Solok. The library comprises two floors with a total area of 919 m², with the ground floor serving as the library reading room and the first floor as the office space for the Library and Archives Department. Library development plans must take into account aspects that support the library's mission; one such aspect is interior design (Nita & Afrina, 2023; Nurtasany et al., 2023). Interior design involves the planning, arrangement and design of interior spaces within buildings to meet basic residential needs, identify and organise activities, and foster the expression of ideas, actions, appearance, emotions and personality (Rahmadhana & Heldi, 2023). Libraries today are no longer simply a collection of books, as people used to assume, but instead emphasise a comfortable and inviting atmosphere (Rahman & Jumino, 2020; Wiyarsih et al., 2023).

An engaging public library is not just about aesthetic interior design; it must also serve as a hub for social inclusion that supports access and participation for people from all walks of life (Maswakang et al., 2023; Sabriyanti & Batubara, 2023). By focusing on attractive interior design and strong inclusivity, libraries can appeal to and remain relevant for a wide range of people, encouraging public interest and participation in literacy and learning (Dani et al., 2023; Novianti et al., 2023). The implementation of the concept of social inclusion is highly relevant to public libraries. The reason for this is that public libraries are places where all individuals, regardless of their differences, can access information and lifelong learning resources (Sudarmin et al., 2023). In the context of social inclusion, a library can be described as an institution that provides facilities and services to all sections of society, recognising and valuing the potential of every individual, without discrimination. As such, the library plays a role in fostering personal development and promoting healthy social interaction amongst members of the community (Mahdi, 2020; Swandari & Jemani, 2023).

The researcher conducted this study as a follow-up to previous research. Azwar's research (2023) concludes that library interior design has a significant impact on user comfort; therefore, these two factors must be given special attention. The interior design aspects that require consideration include lighting, space, temperature, layout and other elements of interior

design. The focus of this study distinguishes it from previous research, as this study is specifically concerned with library interior design based on social inclusion. Whereas previous research has generally focused on library interior design (Azwar, 2023). Research by Prasetyo & Utami (2020) found that libraries undergoing a transformation towards social inclusion focus not only on service provision but also on their interior design, specifically by transforming the library into an open space that is accessible to all sections of the community, which in turn will enhance the human capital of that community. The above study examines library interior design and services from the perspective of social inclusion; this study, however, focuses solely on interior design based on social inclusion, without considering service aspects (Prasetyo & Utami, 2020).

The study by Harahap et al. (2020) emphasises that when designing a library, it is advisable to align with the principles of inclusive design, which encompass seven principles, including equitable use, adaptability in use, intuitive and easy-to-understand use, clear communication of information, tolerance for error, minimal physical effort required, and dimensions and scope for access and use (Harahap et al., 2020). Based on the three relevant studies cited above, it is clear that interior design holds particular importance in libraries and warrants special attention, particularly in those that have undergone or are currently undergoing a transformation based on social inclusion. Furthermore, when implementing interior design in libraries, it is essential to adhere to the principles of inclusive design to ensure that aspects of social inclusion are effectively realised within the library.

Based on the above discussion, it is clear that there remains a gap in the research. Most previous studies have focused primarily on interior design for the general comfort of library users or on combining services with interior design based on social inclusion. This study is distinctive in that it focuses specifically on interior design based on social inclusion, particularly at the Solok City Library and Archives Department. Consequently, the research question is: what is the interior design of the Solok City Library and Archives Department, and has the library implemented the principles of social inclusion? The objective of this study is to analyse the social inclusion-based interior design at the Solok City Library and Archives Office.

RESEARCH METHOD

A systematic approach or method for collecting, analysing and describing data that can answer research questions, thereby enabling the achievement of the research objectives, may be described as a research method. The descriptive qualitative approach is used by researchers as a scientific method for collecting data relating to the subject under investigation; this method allows for a more in-depth exploration of the phenomena within the research subject. (Sugiyono, 2013). Qualitative research, as an approach aimed at gaining a comprehensive understanding of the phenomena experienced by research subjects—an approach that is descriptive in nature and conducted without human intervention—has become a widely used scientific method (Sidiq & Choiri, 2019). This descriptive qualitative approach enables the researcher to provide an in-depth analysis of how interior design elements and social inclusion are incorporated within the library. Through this qualitative approach, the researcher can explore individuals' views, experiences and perceptions regarding how the library's interior design brings the concept of inclusivity to life. This method therefore enables researchers to understand complex and contextual qualitative aspects, thereby providing deeper and more detailed insights.

The research was conducted at the Solok City Library and Archives Department. As the focus of this study is on library interior design based on social inclusion, the researcher concentrated solely on libraries, utilising data collection methods including interviews and observation, supplemented by a review of the relevant literature to enrich the insights and understanding presented in the research findings. The first step in the data collection process undertaken by the researcher was to interview relevant parties regarding the research subject at

the Solok City Library and Archives Office. Sugiyono (2013) suggests that the interview method is appropriate when researchers wish to gain a deeper understanding of the research subject from the respondents concerned. The informants in this study were the Head of the Library Management and Reading Promotion Division, a Senior Librarian and a Junior Librarian.

The observation method was carried out following the interviews; this was done in order to reconcile the interview findings with the actual interior design of the library, based on the researcher's observations. Sidiq & Choiri (2019) concludes that observation is a method of data collection through the human senses including hearing, sight, smell, taste and so on enabling conclusions to be drawn from the results of such sensory perception. This observational research involved examining all aspects of the library's interior design, such as the room layout, the room temperature, the lighting, and so on. The researcher employed a literature review as a data collection method to explore the research topic in greater depth using various academic sources. The academic sources utilised by the researcher included books and journal articles available online.

LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Interior Design of a Public Library

One of the most valuable assets in community life is the public library, a place where residents can access a wide range of information sources, including books, magazines, journals and other media, at an affordable cost or even free of charge, thereby giving the general public the opportunity to access the various collections and information sources available there (Hasbi et al., 2023; Sasmita, 2023). The aim is to enhance their knowledge, which in turn is expected to contribute to improving the quality of life and the overall development of the community (Dewangga et al., 2023; Yudisman, 2020).

In the design of public libraries, elements such as room layout, lighting, furniture selection and the integration of technology play a key role in creating a comfortable and functional environment (Rekha Awdina & Heldi Heldi, 2023). Interior design is a process aimed at creating a pleasant and comfortable atmosphere by arranging spaces to be efficient and effective in terms of layout, ventilation, lighting, colour, as well as sound (noise) and strategic positioning (Azwar, 2023). Elements of interior design include:

- a. Space (Layout): greater attention must be paid to the layout of the library to clarify and emphasise the functions of the various areas. A good layout will make it easier for library users to find and use library resources (Afrina et al., 2022; Srizalni & Irianto, 2023).
- b. Variety (Diversity of Space Types): the library must offer a variety of space types to accommodate a range of activities. This variety meets the diverse needs of library users (Sari et al., 2022).
- c. Hierarchy: the library's interior design should reflect the hierarchy of users of the space. For example, the main reading area should be easily accessible and comfortable, whilst special collections areas may be situated further away (Dhaniswara et al., 2023).
- d. Personal Space: providing a private area for library users, such as a dedicated individual study space, is essential; this allows users to focus on their activities or studies without distraction (Syafi et al., 2022).
- e. Lighting is also a key element in library design. This includes natural light through windows, efficient artificial lighting, and lighting in reading areas to ensure comfort and clear visibility of the text (Handayani & Rulian, 2021).
- f. Air temperature: this factor is equally important in library interior design. Libraries must have an efficient cooling or heating system to ensure that visitors feel comfortable whilst inside the library (Laila et al., 2023).

2. Social Inclusion

Social inclusion is a process of empowering individuals and groups so that they can participate in and contribute to the life of the community. In community life, it is not uncommon to find differences that lead to inequality (Ningrum, 2019). In other words, social inclusion is an effort to ensure that all individuals in society have equal opportunities to participate actively in social life (Tania et al., 2023). Social inclusion refers to all efforts and policies that promote equal opportunities for individuals from all backgrounds and socially marginalised groups (Kurniasih & Saefullah, 2021).

3. Libraries Promoting Social Inclusion

A concept that ensures all members of the community, including those with diverse backgrounds, needs and abilities, can access and use library resources can reflect social inclusion within libraries. A concept that ensures all members of the community, including those with diverse backgrounds, needs and abilities, can access and use library resources can reflect social inclusion within libraries (Iqbal & Soleha, 2022).

The shift towards an inclusive library model represents an active effort by libraries to support the community with the aim of enhancing their knowledge and skills. In this way, libraries can serve as a valuable information hub for the local community (Widyawati & Winoto, 2022). The need for social inclusion in public libraries is a key factor in promoting social inclusion within the library sector, given that public libraries are open to all sections of society, unlike school and university libraries, which are intended for the members of those respective communities (Wiranda et al., 2022). The high level of community engagement fostered by libraries can provide positive activities that enhance skills, equip people for life and ultimately improve the quality of life for the community (Suprihatin, 2021).

4. Principles of Inclusive Design

Inclusive design emphasises an approach that ensures libraries are designed to meet the needs of all individuals, encompassing physical accessibility, user-friendly services, and information resources. Inclusive design can be described as a design method aimed at creating facilities and products for the public (as library users), without restrictions based on physical ability, age group or gender. Therefore, the primary aim of inclusive design is to create user-friendly solutions, without restricting or excluding anyone. In other words, this approach focuses on equality, accessibility and comfort for all users, regardless of their differences (Harahap et al., 2020). Therefore, the primary aim of inclusive design is to create solutions that are user-friendly, without restricting or excluding anyone. In other words, this approach focuses on equality, accessibility and comfort for all users, regardless of their differences (Tanuwidjaja et al., 2020).

Interior design guidelines based on social inclusion must take into account the following principles of inclusive design (Rahmawati, 2023):

- a. Fair Implementation: this means that the design is accessible to all library users without discrimination.
- b. Adaptability in Utilisation, meaning that the interior design accommodates a variety of individual preferences and abilities.
- c. Easy to Understand and Intuitive Use: design applications must be easy to understand and should not require users to have specialist knowledge, experience or a high level of concentration.
- d. Communicate Information Clearly: the design effectively conveys information to library users.
- e. The presence of fault tolerance in interior design minimises the consequences and risks that may arise in libraries.

- f. Minimal Physical Effort Required: good design enables users to interact easily and comfortably, reduces physical fatigue, maintains a comfortable body posture, and minimises excessive effort.
- g. Dimensions and Scope for Approach and Utilisation, referring to the importance of providing adequate space and facilities for library users with a range of physical abilities and mobility levels.

RESULTS

Interior design can be defined as the harmonious arrangement of interior elements to achieve aesthetic appeal, comfort and safety within a space. Transforming the library into a space that fosters synergy for a variety of community activities is one of the library's roles in promoting a prosperous society (Haryanti, 2019). Following an interview with a junior specialist librarian, it was concluded that, in the librarian's view, Solok City Library already meets interior design standards; although the library is still part of the Archives Department, its interior design is receiving greater attention with a view to its continued development and improvement.

In analysing the interior design of Solok City Library, the researcher utilised the six elements of interior design as described by (Azwar, 2023; Chandra & Heldi, 2023) namely:

Space (Layout)

The key element in interior design is space, so this must be given greater consideration in a library (Afrina et al., 2023). The layout of a room refers to the way in which all the elements within a library such as bookshelves, tables, chairs, computers and reading areas are arranged and positioned within the space. This is designed to ensure easy access to the book collection and information resources, the comfort of library users, and efficiency in library management. The layout of the space must take into account factors such as lighting, air circulation, and the needs of library users to achieve their learning or research objectives.

According to the researchers' observations, the layout of the Solok City Library is not yet efficient; this is evident from the fact that the ancient manuscripts, reference collections and Braille collections are situated close to the children's area. As children are naturally curious and tend to be more active, there is concern that they may compromise the safety of these ancient manuscripts, reference collections and Braille collections. Important collections such as these ancient manuscripts should be placed at a distance from one another to ensure they are better preserved. Furthermore, items such as photographs of heirlooms and historical photographs should be displayed on walls near the children's area, at a height that is accessible to children.

Variety (Diversity of Space Types)

The variety of room types in a library plays an important role. This can act as an attraction for library users to visit and can meet their diverse needs. Based on observations and supported by interviews with junior specialist librarians at Solok City Library, the library features various types of rooms, including:

- a. Reading Room
- b. Children's Room
- c. Computer Services Room
- d. Mini Cinema
- e. BI Corner
- f. Archives Room
- g. Reference Room

The above description highlights the variety of spaces available at Solok City Library, thereby enabling the library to meet the needs of its users.

Hierarchy

Creating different room layouts is very helpful in organising information clearly within a library. For example, by arranging the walls, floors, dimensions and spatial layout, one can ensure that each area has a specific function. This helps in knowing where particular items are located and how important they are (Yuliana, 2018).

Based on the researcher's observations, Solok City Library has not yet fully implemented a hierarchical structure. The absence of partition walls means that the specific functions of each area are not clearly defined. The Braille collection, ancient manuscripts and reference collection are placed in close proximity, thereby failing to highlight the functions of these collections. Their placement should be clearly demarcated to better emphasise the functional differences between interior design elements such as spaces and so on.

Personal Area

Spaces provided within a library for individuals or small groups to read, study or work in private are also known as personal study areas. Based on observations and interviews, Solok City Library does not yet have dedicated personal study areas that patrons can use for reading, studying or working individually. However, the library accommodates patrons who require such personal study areas by making use of existing spaces.

Lighting

Good lighting must meet a number of criteria. One of these is the minimum level of illumination required for the comfort and productivity of library users. Although lighting has a significant impact on the experience and effectiveness of library users (Mumpuni, 2023).

The Solok City Library does not yet have adequate lighting; the researcher observed that the space is poorly lit, giving it a dark appearance, with insufficient natural light from outside. Inadequate lighting can have a negative impact on users' comfort, the quality of study, and the accessibility of the collection. This can also affect the well-being and productivity of library users, particularly when reading and accessing library resources. It is therefore important to identify and meet established lighting standards in order to enhance the library experience and service. Library lighting should take into account both natural and artificial light sources. As for natural light namely sunlight libraries are designed to utilise reflected sunlight so as not to disturb library users. Care should be taken to ensure that artificial light sources, such as lamps, are neither too bright nor too dim, so as not to disturb library users, particularly when they are reading the library's collection.

Air Temperature

Libraries need to maintain a stable indoor environment. This means that the temperature must be kept from becoming too hot or too cold, so that visitors can feel comfortable whilst in the library (Putri, 2023). Comfort within a room is closely linked to sufficient levels of oxygen (O₂) in the air. Generally, the recommended temperature for humans is around 24 degrees Celsius, which is considered the ideal temperature—not too extreme. It is important to maintain this stable ambient temperature as it has a positive impact on library users. A comfortable atmosphere will encourage people to spend time in the room, whether for reading or studying.

The researchers' observations concluded that the Solok City Library maintains a comfortable room temperature by installing air conditioning units to regulate the temperature. The presence of air conditioning in the room ensures that it does not become too hot, making it more comfortable for library users, who do not feel overheated whilst carrying out activities in the library.

According to researchers, simply installing an air conditioner is not enough to regulate room temperature; other methods or measures must also be taken into account to maintain a stable room temperature. Lasa in (Rahman & Jumino, 2020) states that when adjusting the room temperature, the following points must be taken into account:

- a. Installing an indoor air conditioner is an effective way to regulate the temperature and air quality indoors.

- b. Measures to ensure good air circulation within the library can be achieved by installing additional ventilation systems and allowing natural ventilation by opening windows whilst activities are taking place.
- c. The use of indoor fans can help improve air circulation, which in turn enhances user comfort. Ideally, the desired air velocity should range from 0.5 to 1 metre per second.

According to the researchers, by taking the above factors into account, the temperature control in the Solok City Library will be more stable, thereby having a positive impact on visitors' comfort. With regard to socially inclusive libraries, interviews conducted by the researcher with experienced librarians revealed that the interior design of Solok City Library is already socially inclusive; the library utilises spaces that facilitate community creativity, such as cooking workshops, make-up sessions and so on. However, no dedicated rooms have yet been provided; the library simply accommodates community activities within the existing spaces.

In analysing the Solok City Library from a social inclusion perspective, the researcher took into account the seven principles of inclusive design as outlined in (Rahmawati, 2023) which means that the Solok City Library can be described as socially inclusive in terms of its interior design, including:

- a. Fair Implementation

This principle emphasises that library design must ensure that information and services are easily accessible to everyone, including those with physical or sensory impairments. In essence, this principle focuses on equality of access.

Based on our observations, Solok City Library has already met this principle, albeit not fully; the library has provided wheelchairs for people with disabilities and information in Braille, so that library users with disabilities can also benefit from the services offered by the library. One drawback is that the library has not yet provided a dedicated space for people with disabilities to access the collection; it is still housed alongside other collections, such as ancient manuscripts and reference materials. It would be preferable for materials for people with disabilities to be housed separately to ensure their comfort and the safety of the Braille collection. This is also supported by the findings of interviews conducted by the researcher with a junior specialist librarian, who stated that "Solok City Library has endeavoured to ensure fairness and equality for all library users, including those with disabilities, for example by providing wheelchairs and a Braille collection; however, there is currently no dedicated space for people with disabilities due to limited space".

- b. Adaptability in Utilisation

The principle of flexibility of use emphasises that the design must allow for a variety of uses by different individuals. This includes comfortable and efficient access for a wide range of people, regardless of their abilities or preferences. This principle refers to the library space's ability to adapt to the diverse needs and activities of library users. The library space must be designed in such a way as to accommodate various types of activities, such as reading, studying, discussions or performances, without the need for major changes to the layout or furniture (Malihah et al., 2023).

Based on interviews with junior specialist librarians, it can be concluded that the design of Solok City Library is already flexible; the librarian stated that "*We provide a space for the community to be creative and engage in activities by making use of rooms suitable for such purposes; from time to time, we also rearrange the layout of some rooms to minimise boredom among library users when they visit the library*". This is also supported by the researchers' observations, which show that Solok City Library uses furniture that can be easily rearranged such as tables, chairs, bookshelves and even a slide for children to play on so that the layout can be changed to prevent children from getting bored. Greater attention to this principle of flexibility can make libraries more

functional spaces that are responsive to the evolving needs of library users, through the variety of events and activities organised there.

c. Easy to Understand and Intuitive Use

This concept focuses on creating an environment that is easy to use and understand for a wide range of library users, including those with varying levels of needs and abilities, thereby fostering an inclusive environment that supports learning, research and a culture of reading.

According to the researchers' observations, Solok City Library has not yet fully complied with this principle, as evidenced by the inconsistent use of directional signs or labels for each room and collection within the library; that is, some rooms or collections are labelled or named, such as the children's room and the reading room, The reference collection is clearly signposted so that users can find it straight away, whereas the mini-cinema, Braille collection, locker area and so on are not signposted, which makes it difficult for users to find the information they need.

d. Communicate Information Clearly

This principle refers to efforts to provide information that is easy for library users to see, access and understand. The aim is to create a welcoming environment that supports the efficient search for and access to information.

Based on the researchers' observations, Solok City Library has not yet fully implemented this principle; the arrangement of the collection does not specifically highlight important sections such as the reference collection and the Braille collection. The lack of clear signage regarding the services available at the library makes it difficult for users to easily understand the information within the library. However, this does not mean that the library has not yet implemented this principle; some areas or services have already been signposted or marked to make it easier for visitors, such as signage in the reading room, the BI Corner, the archives room, and so on. The library also provides information regarding rules and restrictions whilst on the premises through posters displayed on the walls, This will certainly help library users to make the most of the library's services.

e. Presence of fault tolerance

This principle refers to efforts to minimise potential hazards and the negative consequences of actions, whether intentional or unintentional. In the context of library interior design, this means creating a safe and comfortable environment for library users, whilst anticipating potential errors that could cause harm. A design that takes error tolerance into account will incorporate elements such as the selection of safe furniture, an easy-to-understand layout, adequate lighting and clear signage. In this way, the library becomes a welcoming and supportive space for users, where potential risks and the consequences of errors have been minimised as much as possible.

According to the researcher's observations, Solok City Library has already taken this principle into account; it can be seen that the library uses only the ground floor for service activities, and the researcher concludes that this is done to minimise potential risks. Given the current lack of dedicated access for people with disabilities, this would undoubtedly pose difficulties for disabled library users; if services were also located on the second floor, they would struggle to make use of them as they would be inaccessible. This would also reduce the risk of harm to children, who are naturally active and highly curious; by utilising the ground floor, children would be able to engage in activities and interact in a safer and more comfortable environment. The provision of carpets as floor coverings also serves as a measure to reduce the risk of injury to library users, ensuring that should they fall within the library, the consequences are not life-threatening.

f. Minimal Physical Effort Required

This principle takes into account the minimal physical effort required of library users to access, use and interact with library facilities. It facilitates access to knowledge and library resources by saving users time and effort.

Based on the researcher's observations, Solok City Library has already taken this principle into account; it can be seen that the library's rooms are situated close together, meaning that patrons can reach the various rooms quickly and with minimal physical effort. The shelves housing both the adult and children's collections are positioned close together, so that patrons do not have to walk far to access them. The provision of comfortable and adequate seating can also reduce physical fatigue among library users, allowing them to sit and read in comfort. Furthermore, placing the Braille collection close to the circulation desk can help users with disabilities to easily access the materials they require.

g. Dimensions and Scope for Approach and Utilisation

The principle emphasises the importance of taking spatial capacity into account to ensure ease of use within library facilities; in other words, libraries are designed to be of a size appropriate to the needs of library users, and the dimensions and layout of the spaces do not compromise users' comfort when using the library.

Based on the researcher's observations, Solok City Library has not yet fully complied with this principle. It is evident that the layout and size of the children's area are inadequate; given that children are active and enjoy playing, they naturally require a larger space so that they can freely explore their creativity. This is partly due to the fact that the building is still shared with the archives, meaning that the library does its utmost to provide the services required by its users, despite the limited space available. According to the researchers, the layout and size of the reading room are appropriate, meaning that visitors wishing to read there will find it comfortable, as there are no obstacles to their movement whilst accessing the available collections.

DISCUSSION

The research findings indicate that Solok City Library has made efforts to implement elements and principles of interior design, although there are still some shortcomings. In summary, the main findings are the inefficient layout of the space, a lack of hierarchy and personal areas, and inadequate lighting. On the other hand, the library has successfully implemented a variety of spaces and maintained appropriate room temperatures. In terms of inclusive design, there have been positive initiatives such as the provision of wheelchair access and flexible layouts; however, inconsistencies remain in the implementation of wayfinding, the arrangement of collections, and sub-optimal room dimensions, particularly in the children's area and the special collections section. These figures reflect the library's commitment to providing services, but highlight the limitations of its physical facilities, which need to be addressed.

The shortcomings identified in the interior design of the Solok City Library appear to be due to several factors. Firstly, the fact that the library is still housed within the Archives Department presents a major obstacle, limiting the availability of space and the dimensions of the rooms for each area. This limitation prevents the special collections from being housed in a secure location separate from the children's area. Secondly, the lack of a clear hierarchy and inconsistent signage are likely due to budgetary constraints or design priorities that focus more on basic functionality than on aesthetics and optimal ease of navigation. Thirdly, inadequate lighting whether natural or artificial may not be a top priority in the initial planning of the interior design, even though it is crucial for the visual comfort of library users, particularly when reading.

The implications of these findings are highly significant for the library-user experience. An inefficient layout can compromise comfort and safety, particularly for children who may

accidentally damage important collections such as ancient manuscripts. A lack of hierarchy and unclear signage can make it difficult for library users to find the information they need, thereby reducing the effectiveness of their visits. A lack of hierarchy and unclear signage can make it difficult for library users to find the information they need, thereby reducing the effectiveness of their visits.

When compared with previous studies on library interior design, such as the research by Mumpuni (2023) which emphasises the importance of lighting and Azwar (2023) and Chandra & Heldi (2023) which outlines the elements of interior design; this finding reveals similar patterns regarding implementation challenges. Many libraries, particularly in developing countries, face the same challenges regarding limited space and budgets, which affect both aesthetics and functionality. These findings are also consistent with Rahmawati's research (2023) which discusses inclusive design, where these principles often cannot be fully implemented due to the physical limitations of the building. However, the existence of adaptive measures such as those mentioned in the study by Malihah et al. (2023) This is also evident at the Solok City Library, demonstrating that innovation continues despite the constraints.

CONCLUSION

Library interior design can be a valuable asset or even present serious challenges in the context of modern libraries. Libraries that fail to create an attractive and inviting interior environment will lose their appeal to users, as interior design is one of the key factors that motivates users to visit the library. Therefore, the development of a thoughtful and appealing interior design can be key to successfully maintaining library users' interest and engagement. A library interior design that takes into account the principles of social inclusion can create an environment that is welcoming to people from all walks of life. By incorporating design elements that cater to the needs of all individuals such as accessibility for library users with disabilities, child-friendly spaces, and areas for a variety of activities libraries can become cultural and educational hubs that welcome all users. Social inclusion in library interior design encourages active participation from all users, promoting learning, the exchange of ideas, and positive social interaction.

Based on the interior design elements and principles of inclusive design outlined by the researcher, the Solok City Library does not yet fully meet these criteria, whether in terms of spatial layout, hierarchy, personal space, lighting or air temperature; however, the rooms within the Solok City Library are sufficiently varied to accommodate the needs of library users. That said, according to an interview with the Head of the Library Management and Reading Promotion Division, Solok City Library will be carrying out improvements to its interior design in order to maintain its users' interest.

The researchers suggest that future research could propose library interior design concepts that adhere to the principles of inclusive design, thereby serving as a source of inspiration or guidance for libraries that are still undergoing transformation, as well as those that are already socially inclusive, in the development and improvement of their interior design. The researchers also recommend that the management of Solok City Library conduct an evaluation of the library's interior design, taking into account the various elements of the interior design and the principles of inclusive design; given that Solok City Library has long provided inclusive services, these should be supported by an appropriate interior design so that the library can fulfil its role as intended.

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