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## Metaphorical Architecture in the Educational Building of Pinisi Tower at Makassar State University

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### ABSTRACT

*This research discusses the application of metaphorical architecture in the educational building of Menara Pinisi at Universitas Negeri Makassar. The architecture design inspired by metaphorical concepts is expected to influence the educational process and the formation of students' characters. The metaphorical concept used in this building originates from the philosophy of the South Sulawesi community, Sulapa Appa, and the character of the docked Pinisi ship. By combining these elements, Menara Pinisi building embodies the values of character education with a unique architectural design. The floor plan, facade, and roof of the Menara Pinisi building apply metaphorical concepts categorized into Combined Metaphor and Intangible Metaphor. It is hoped that this research will provide new insights into how architectural design can create an inspiring learning environment and support the holistic development of students' characters.*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Education is a key aspect in the development of a country, and good educational infrastructure serves as the main foundation in the learning process. One element that plays a role in creating an inspirational and supportive learning environment is the architectural design of educational buildings. The right architectural design not only reflects the identity of educational institutions but also influences the character formation process of students.

Character education is a crucial focus in the Indonesian education system, aiming to cultivate good character and morals in the younger generation. The learning environment, including educational buildings, significantly contributes to shaping students' characters. Through architectural designs that incorporate the values of character education, it is hoped that the learning environment can become more inspirational and motivate students to develop holistically.

In this context, applying the concept of metaphorical architecture to educational buildings, as seen in the Menara Pinisi at Universitas Negeri Makassar, represents an innovative step in integrating educational values with unique architectural design. This research aims to reveal how architecture inspired by metaphors can positively impact the education process and character formation of students. Therefore, this study is expected to provide new insights into understanding the relationship between architecture, character education, and the learning environment.

## 2. RESEARCH METHODS

The research method employed in this study is qualitative research. Qualitative research will produce written data (descriptive) based on observations of the object being studied. Data collection techniques include observation and documentation, with tools such as a camera, books, writing tools, pictures, and a laptop being used in this research. The data analysis technique utilized in this study involves collecting data aligned with the research objectives, organizing it systematically for easy comprehension, and drawing conclusions from the conducted research.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 3.1 Metaphors According to Experts

According to Jencks (1984), metaphor is a code accepted by observers, leading them to see a building as something else due to the presence of similar elements. Furthermore, Snyder and Cattane (1979) state that a metaphor involves identifying relationships between objects through abstract rather than literal connections. Classe (2000) suggests that a metaphor aims to shift meanings, images, or expressions into a different expression. These expert opinions reveal that metaphor in architecture is an approach that seeks to present an object or expression by incorporating one or more similar elements into the design object.

### 3.2 Metaphor Principle

Just like metaphors in language style, metaphors in architecture generally have the same characteristic, namely as a comparison or analogy. The study of metaphors is an important study that is related to issues that will be discussed in more detail to be read and understood more easily. The act of metaphor is carried out as: an effort to transfer a specific meaning from one subject or object to another subject or object, an effort to see an object

or subject as if the object or subject is like something else. And shifting the focus of attention from one thing to another (Duerk, 1993).

### **3.3 The Purpose of Metaphor Concept in Architecture**

According to Harmanta et al. (2019), the use of metaphors in an architectural work serves as a manifestation of architectural creativity with the aim to:

- a. Viewing architectural works from a different perspective according to the observer's point of view.
- b. Allowing various interpretations to emerge from observers.
- c. Influencing the understanding of something not yet or not understood.
- d. Produce more expressive architectural works.

### **3.4 Phinisi Tower Building**

The building that is the subject of this research is part of the State University of Makassar Campus. The design of this tower is the result of a competition in 2009 won by Yu Sing, which was then constructed in 2014. The Pinisi Tower is located not far from the Grand Clarion Hotel, precisely on the campus of Makassar State University (UNM), Gunung Sari, Makassar, Jl Andi Pangerang Pettarani. This building stands on an area of  $\pm 20,000$  m<sup>2</sup>. To see the Pinisi Tower UNM building, refer to the image 1 below.



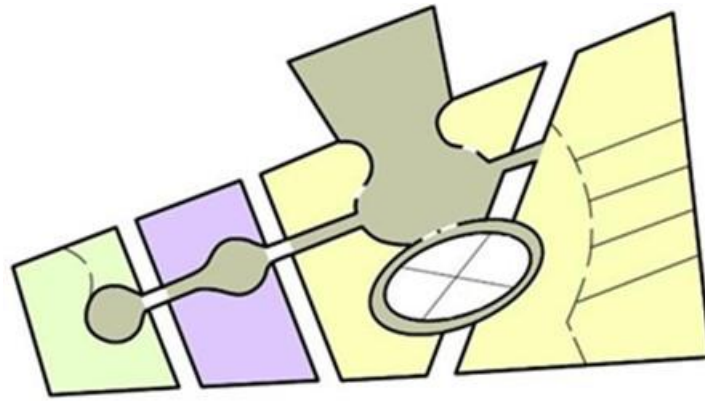
Image 1: UNM Pinisi Tower

Source: Google, 2024

Here is some data from the Menara Pinisi building at the State University of Makassar.

#### **a) Floor plan**

In general, this building consists of 3 main parts. The first part is a raised platform, the second part is a podium consisting of 3 floors, and the third part is a tower head consisting of 12 floors. The podium has a trapezium-shaped floor plan with its slanted side facing the main road to the West. The slant of the floor plan is a response to the land angle and also a strategy to extend the building's facade. The podium floor plan is divided into 4 parts, creating 4 gaps. These gaps serve as air circulation and light entry into the podium spaces. Meanwhile, on the larger floor plan, there is a void that separates the two larger floor plans. For a clearer understanding, please refer to the floor plan in the image 2 below.



Floor Plan of Podium Level 2 of Pinisi Tower UNM

*Source: Rumah Yusing, 2024*

### b) Building Mass

The building mass of the Pinisi Tower is classified as a high-rise building. Similar to common high-rise buildings, it consists of two main components: the podium and the tower. In the podium section, the building mass is elevated to create a platform-like structure, resulting in open space in the lower area. The podium mass features asymmetric shapes, with some parts extending outwards and inwards. In the front of the tower, the shape forms a large triangle that tapers and curves backward towards the top, while at the back of the tower, there are sections that widen towards the back but not as high as the front part of the tower. To visualize the form of the Pinisi Tower building mass, refer to Figure 3 below.

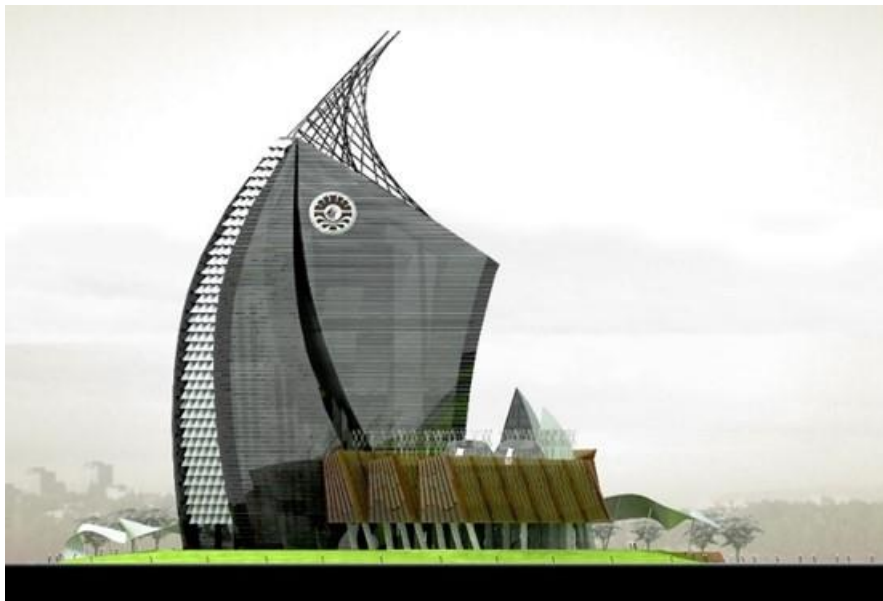


Image 3: Mass of the Pinisi Tower Buildings UNM

*Source: Google, 2024*

### c) Building Façade

The West and East tower facade is composed of triangular panels used as sunshading. According to Yu-Sing, the tower facade undergoes rhythmic rotations forming a dynamic expression of the building. On the North and South facades, there are horizontal canopies serving as photovoltaics to convert solar energy into electricity. To view the facade of the Pinisi Tower, refer to Figure 4 below.



Image 4 Facade of Pinisi Tower UNM

Source: Google, 2024

**d) Buildings are visible from various directions**

The Pinisi Tower shows the shape of a building consisting of a tower and a podium. When viewed from the west, the tower building will give the impression of a tower shape that is wide at the bottom and then tapered at the top. However, on the contrary, when viewed from the east, this building has the impression of a tower shape that is wide at the top and then tapered at the bottom. To find out more clearly, see Figure 5 below.



Figure 5 Views from various directions of the Pinisi Tower

Source: Yusing House, 2009



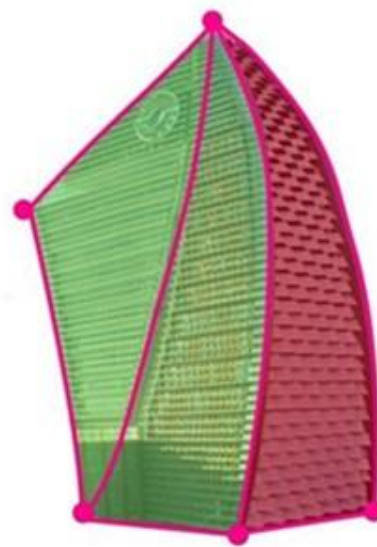
The following is the metaphorical concept that the UNM Pinisi Tower building tries to present.

- Metaphor in the Mass of the UNM Pinisi Tower Building

The metaphor in the mass of the Pinisi Tower building is realized in its entire mass. Conceptually, Pinisi Tower prioritizes deepening local wisdom as a source of inspiration. Makassar, as the place where the Pinisi Tower of Makassar State University (UNM) was built, is one of the metropolitan cities in Indonesia and also the capital of South Sulawesi Province. As a metropolitan city, Makassar has a fairly well-known symbol, namely the Pinisi ship. The metaphor in the Pinisi Tower building takes one of the forms of the Pinisi screen, namely Cocoro Yolo. The Cocoro Yolo screen is attempted to be presented through a mass of towers that form a large triangle conical towards the top. On the sides it tapers towards the back away and narrows to form a triangle. To see the figure of the screen on the Pinisi Tower, see the picture 6 below.



Layar Pinisi



Menera Pinisi

Figure 6 Figure of the screen on the UNM Pinisi Tower

*Source: Pribadi, 2024*

- Metaphor in the Podium Plan of the Pinisi Tower

The application of the metaphor to the podium plan which has a trapezoidal basic shape is divided into four parts in accordance with the philosophy of life of the people of South Sulawesi which has been explained previously. The depiction of the four philosophies can be seen from the number of corners of the letter "SA" on Lontara Makassar, which is four. This is what we try to present through the Pinisi Tower podium plan, namely by modifying the shape slightly so that it can be adjusted to suit your needs. To see the symbol of the philosophy of life of the people of South Sulawesi which was used as the basis for designing the podium plan of the Pinisi Tower, you can see in figure 7 below.

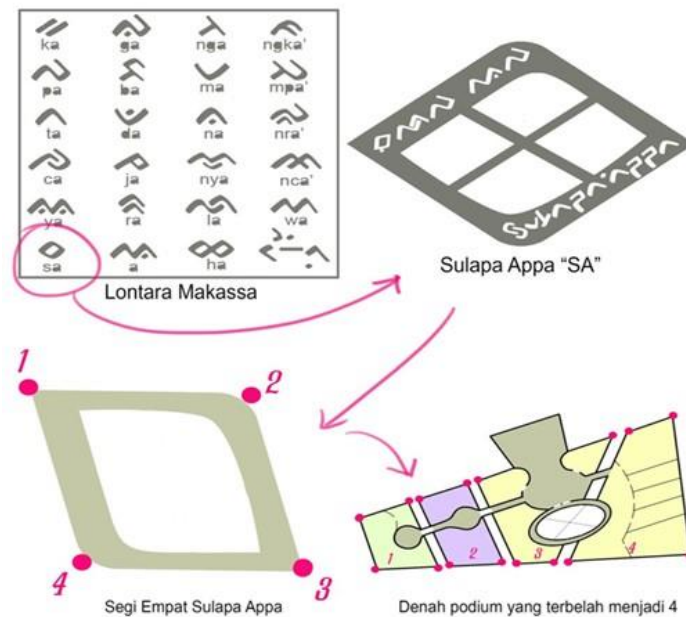


Figure 7 Sulapa Appa presented on the floor plan

Source: Personal, 2024

- Metaphor on the Facade of the UNM Pinisi Tower

The facade of the pinisi tower podium is a metaphor that departs from the concept of the philosophy of life of the people of South Sulawesi, namely Sulapa Appa. Just like the podium plan, the Sulapa Appa concept is tried to be brought back through different elements. The concept of Sulapa Appa is a symbol of the four natural elements which constitute human nature, namely, water, wind, fire and earth. The facade walls of the podium building are composed of material in the form of reflector glass which has a dark brownish color. This color is a metaphorical embodiment of land. Apart from that, the materials that make up the facade walls of this podium in the form of stainless steel material that can reflect light like water. The fins are presented with a wave pattern to reinforce the water metaphor. To see the land and water metaphor presented on the podium facade, see Figure 8 below.

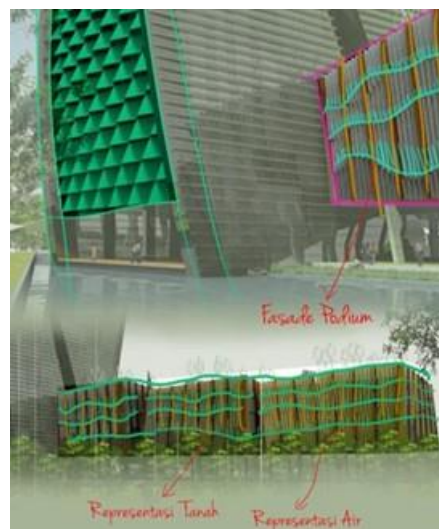


Figure 8 Water and Soil Metaphors on Building Facades

Source: Personal, 2024

Another water metaphor can also be seen on the tower facade. The facade of this tower is a facade composed of white triangular fins arranged in horizontal rows to form a

consistent rhythm, and creates cavities at the bottom. These fins cover the tower area from bottom to top. At the bottom the fins are wide and get smaller at the top. The application of the metaphor that is captured is the manifestation of water that resembles waves. Apart from that, the fins function as sunshading on the tower facade facing the front. To see the metaphor of water that resembles waves, see Figure 9 below.

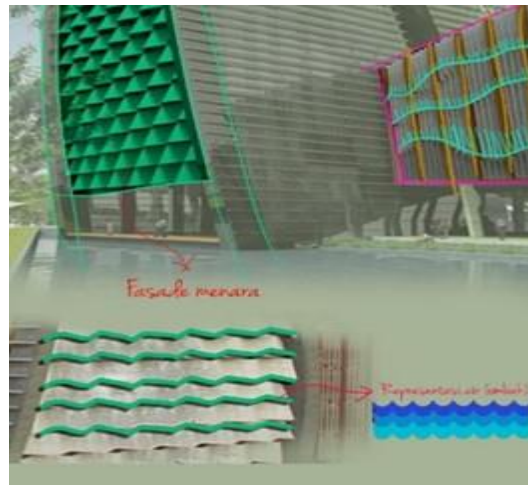


Figure 9 Water Metaphor that Resembles Waves on a Building Facade

Source: Personal, 2024

- Metaphor on the Roof of the UNM Pinisi Tower**  
 The Pinisi Tower building has a roof which is likened to the head of the building. At the top of the Pinisi Tower there is an element in the shape of a branching taper which is composed of two pieces of iron with stiffening lines arranged rhythmically. Visually, the tower head looks like it has antennas or antennae. Part of the head of the building is a metaphor that departs from elements found in the philosophy of life of the people of South Sulawesi. This philosophy has 4 main elements contained in it. The four elements are water, wind, earth and fire. On the roof or head of the Pinisi Tower building, there is a metaphor that originates from the element of fire. The element of fire was chosen as a source of inspiration because in this philosophy the element of fire is believed to have the property of seeing, so through this element we want to convey how to make ourselves always awake. The presence of the fire element is then tried to be presented in the form of flames. In its application, the metaphor of a flame is simplified to a shape that is composed of iron and has two sharp branches at the tip of the iron. To see the embodiment of the flame metaphor applied to the roof or head of the Pinisi tower, see Figure 10 below.

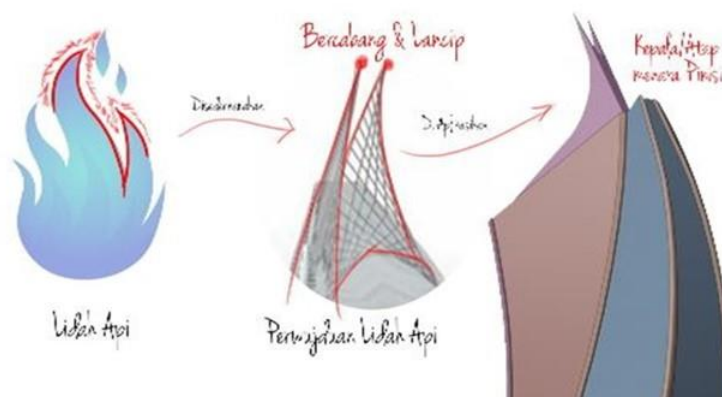


Figure 10 Metaphor of Flames on a Building Roof

Source: Personal, 2024



- Metaphor on Supporting Elements in the Form of Void

The Pinisi Tower has supporting architectural elements in the form of voids. Void is the term for the empty space located between the ground floor and the top floor. The function of voids in general is as a technique for entering air so that the temperature in the room remains well maintained and sufficient. The void in the Pinisi Tower is presented as the void function that has been explained. But more than that, the designer designed the void shape which was inspired by the logo of Makassar State University, the university which has the status of owner of the Pinisi Tower. This logo was chosen as a source of inspiration in designing the void, because in the logo there is a bright colored circle which has the meaning of being a center for the study of science, technology and the arts. In its application, the void metaphor tries to take part of the UNM logo which contains bright colored circles by imitating the pattern of bright colored circles and lines that cut through the center of the UNM logo. Apart from that, the application of the void also modifies the direction of the logo by rotating it counterclockwise, so that the bright line on the UNM logo, which was originally horizontal, changes to vertical and tilts slightly to the right. To see the application of the UNM logo metaphor applied to the void podium, you can see in Figure 11 below.

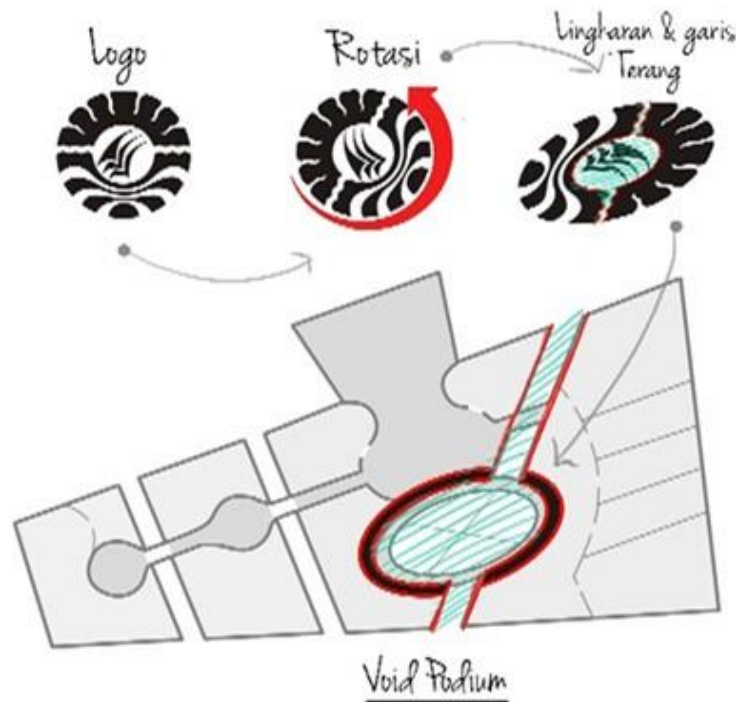


Figure 11 Metaphor of the UNM Logo on the Void Podium of the UNM Pinisi Tower

Source: Pribadi, 2024

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The mass of the Pinisi Tower building applies a metaphorical concept which departs from a form that originates from one of the Pinisi screen elements called Cocoro Yolo. The Pinisi ship sail was chosen because it was considered capable of representing the South Sulawesi region as the place where the Pinisi tower stands. The Cocoro Yolo screen on the Pinisi ship is classified as Tangible because the screen can be seen and touched, so the mass of the Pinisi Tower building is classified as a Tangible Metaphor (Concrete Metaphor).

The Pinisi Tower building plan applies a metaphorical concept that departs from a philosophy of life of the people of South Sulawesi, namely Sulapa Appa and the combination

of the character of the Pinisi ship that is docked. The philosophy of the people of South Sulawesi is classified as Intangible because it cannot be seen and touched, while the Pinisi ship which is anchored is classified as Tangible because it can be seen and touched. So, the building plan of the Pinisi Tower is classified as a Combined Metaphor.

The facade of the Pinisi Tower building applies a metaphorical concept that departs from the Sulapa Appa concept in the form of four natural elements, namely water, earth, fire and wind. According to his philosophy, these natural elements represent human nature. Of the four elements, only two elements are applied to the building facade, namely the elements of water and soil. These two elements depart from the concept of Sulapa Appa which are classified as intangible because they cannot be touched or seen. Thus, the facade of the Pinisi Tower building is classified as an Intangible Metaphor (Abstract Metaphor).

The roof of the Pinisi Tower building applies a metaphorical concept which also departs from the Sulapa Appa concept in the form of the four natural elements that have been explained. However, of the four elements, only the fire element is applied to the roof or head of the building. The concept of Sulapa Appa is classified as intangible because it cannot be seen, touched or seen. Thus, the roof of the Pinisi Tower building is classified as an Intangible Metaphor (Abstract Metaphor).

The supporting element of the Pinsi Tower in the form of a void applies a metaphorical concept that departs from the shape of the UNM logo. The UNM logo was chosen because it can represent the Makassar State University institution as the owner of the Pinisi Tower. The UNM logo is classified as Tangible because it can be seen in real terms, so the supporting elements of the Pinisi Tower in the form of voids are classified as Tangible Metaphors (Concrete Metaphors).

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