



**THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HERITAGE  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM, ARTS AND CULTURE MALAYSIA**

**NATIONAL HERITAGE**



Source: The Department of National Heritage

**CATEGORY** : **HERITAGE OBJECT**  
**TYPE** : **INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**  
**HERITAGE ITEM** : **SONGKET**

**BACKGROUND**

Songket is known as the queen of all fabrics in Malay weaving due to the complexity of its production and the use of gold thread. The term Songket is derived from the technique employed to make it: inserting gold thread in between the weft and warp threads. Songket is woven using the Malay weaving loom called 'kek', with gold thread as the weft thread.

The use of gold thread indicated the high quality of the cloth and those who wore it were from wealthy and influential families. In the past, only rulers, members of royalty and the country's dignitaries were allowed to wear it.

Songket can be found in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines and Brunei. The producing communities of Songket in Malaysia are mostly in state of Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang, Johor, Melaka and Sarawak.

The identity is traced by its design patterns that use geometry and elements of nature such as flowers, birds and insects. The motifs of tampuk manggis (mangosteen calyx), tampuk kesemak (persimmon), bunga pecah lapan (eight-petal flower), bunga bintang (star-patterned flower), pucuk rebung (bamboo shoots) and awan larat (trailing clouds) are among the more frequently used. These traditional patterns continue to be used, especially in aspects of separation and placing the various parts of the cloth such as the centerfield, main panel and end borders.

The centerfield of the cloth is usually decorated with patterns of scattered flowers, full pattern flower, vertical or horizontal stripes. The motifs of tampuk manggis, tampuk kesemak, bunga pecah lapan, bunga bintang and others are arranged harmoniously together on the centerfield of the cloth to form the teluk berantai (chained bays).

The motifs of pucuk rebung (bamboo shoots) and lawi ayam (cockerel's tail feathers) are often placed on the head panel of the cloth with borders of small star-shaped flowers and others. The edges are usually decorated with motifs of awan larat (trailing clouds), ombak (waves) or gunung (mountains).

The timeless Songket which was once regarded as a luxury textile can today be enjoyed by all. It is widely used in ceremonial gatherings and celebrations. From its humble use as a sarong (a large tube or length of fabric), sampung (a piece of cloth, smaller than sarong wrapped around man's waist while wearing trousers) and shawl. Nowadays, Songket has been widely developed into various decorative items such as curtains, tablecloths, handbags and handicraft.

## COMMUNITY

Terengganu is the centre for Songket. It is concentrated in the urban areas of Kuala Terengganu, Marang and Chendering in state of Terengganu. In addition, there are also Songket communities in states of Johor, Pahang, Kelantan, Melaka and Sarawak.

As of October 2020, there are 36 Songket practitioners (communities) registered under Malaysian Handicraft Development Corporation. 26 of them have received certificates of compliance with Standard MS 1747: Part 1: "Songket Malaysia". Most of these communities located at east coast of Malaysia, particularly at state of Terengganu.

1.	Name of entity:	Norizai Songket	
	Name and title of the contact person:	Norizai bt Ismail	Songket Owner Workshops
	Address:	No.36F Kampung Gong Baru Gong Tok Nasek 21100 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu	
2.	Name of entity:	Dah Harun Songket	
	Name and title of the contact person:	Sakiah binti Mohamad	Songket Owner Workshops
	Address:	No.382 Kampung Gong Tok Nasek Jalan Panji Alam (SMK Dato Razali) 21100 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu	

Name of entity: Ainyie Songket

3. Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Muhamad Faizal bin Zakaria

Songket Owner  
Workshops

Address:

Address: No.321-B Kampung Gong Tok  
Nasek  
21100 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu

4. Name of entity:

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Kah @ Atikah bt. Mat

Songket weaver

Address:

No.1206E, Kampung Raja Baran  
21080 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu

5. Name of entity:

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Mazni bt. Mat

Songket weaver

Address:

Lot.2015, Kampung Raja Baran,  
Chendering  
21080 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu

6. Name of entity: KT Songket
- Name and title of the contact person: Syarifah Azilah bt. Syed Abdillah Songket Owner Workshops
- Address: 2771 Kampung Laut  
21100 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
7. Name of entity:
- Name and title of the contact person: Syarifah Ma'uni bt. Tuan Putra Songket weaver
- Address: No.1210C Kampung Raja Baran,  
Chendering  
21080 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
8. Name of entity: SH. Akmal bt. Tuan Putra
- Name and title of the contact person: SH. Akmal bt. Tuan Putra Songket Owner Workshops
- Address: No.1210D Kampung Raja Baran,  
Chendering  
21080 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
9. Name of entity:
- Name and title of the contact person: Maznah bt. Mat Songket weaver

Address: No.1210A, Kampung Raja Baran  
20000 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu

10. Name of entity: Ifah Songket & Kraf Collection

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Latifah bt. Endut

Songket Owner  
Workshops

Address : 382 Kampung Gong Tok Naser  
21100 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu

11. Name of entity: Terengganu Songket

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Zainab @ Ngah bt. Mamat1628

Songket Owner  
Workshops

Address: A, Kampung Bukit Depu, Jalan Pasir  
Panjang  
21100 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu

12. Name of entity: Siti Meriam bt. Mamat

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Siti Meriam bt. Mamat

Songket Owner  
Workshops

Address: No.1210E Kampung Raja Baran,  
Chendering  
21080 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu

13. Name of entity: SZ Songket Sdn. Bhd
- Name and title of the contact person: Tuan Chik bt. Tuan Besar
- Address: 343B-B, Kampung Raja Baran, Chendering  
21080 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
- Songket Owner Workshops
14. Name of entity: Zaidah Songket
- Name and title of the contact person: Zaidah bt. Ismail
- Address: 1303, Lorong Kemunting, Pasir Panjang  
21100 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
- Songket Owner Workshops
15. Name of entity: Nurkhairun Songket
- Name and title of the contact person: Nur Khairunnisa bt. Marzuki
- Address: 1031, Jalan Mawar, 16 Permint Jaya  
21080 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
- Songket Owner Workshops
16. Name of entity: Hafsini Songket
- Name and title of the contact person: Hafsini b. Abdul Aziz
- Address: No.749, Loseng Haji Mat Shafei
- Songket Owner Workshops

21000 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu

17. Name of entity: Fatimah Songket
- Name and title of the contact person: Fatimah bt. Besar
- Address: No.749, Losong Haji Mat Shafei  
21000 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
- Songket Owner Workshops
18. Name of entity: KMZ Batik & Songket Sdn Bhd
- Name and title of the contact person: Muhamad Syafiq
- Address: KS17 Pasar Besar, Kedai Payang,  
Tangga Utama  
20000 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
- Songket Owner Workshops
19. Name of entity: Cik Minah Songket
- Name and title of the contact person: Ahmed Kamel bin Hussein
- Address: S/1-350 Kampung Penambang
- Songket Owner Workshops
20. Name of entity: Manang Songket
- Name and title of the contact person: Wan Manang Wan Awang
- Songket Owner Workshops



Address: 1482 B, Lorong Punai, Durian Burong  
20050 Kuala Terengganu

21. Name of entity: Tenun dan Batik Melaka

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Raya bin Sharif

Songket Owner  
Workshops

Address: Jalan Hang Mahmud, Perkampungan  
Hang Tuah,  
Duyong, 75460 Melaka

22. Name of entity:

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Prof. Dr. Siti Zainon Ismail

Heritage Expert  
Committee

Address: No. 17 Jalan 1/7K bandar Baru Bangi  
43000 Selangor Malaysia

23. Name of entity:

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Prof. Dr. Norwani Md. Nawawi

Institution

Address: No. 8, Jalan SS1/33, Kampung Tunku,  
47300 Petaling Jaya, Selangor

24. Name of entity:

Name and title Zubaidah binti Sual

Heritage Expert

of the contact  
person:

Committee

Address: No 11, Jalan 6, Taman Selayang  
61000 Batu Cave Selangor

25. Name of entity: Institut Warisan Melaka

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Muhammad Syafiq bin Zamrid

Government  
Agencies

Address: No. 9, Rumah Kerajaan, Bukit Peringgit,  
75150 Melaka

26. Name of entity: Yayasan Warisan Johor

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Roslinda binti Mohd Rosli

Government  
Agencies

Address: No. 888, Jalan Sungai Chat,  
Kompleks Warisan Sultan Abu Bakar,  
80100 Johor Bharu

27. Name of entity:

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Joanna Datuk Kitingan

Heritage Expert  
Committee

Address: G192 Lorong Cempaka Kg. Contoh  
Kuala Petagas  
Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

28. Name of entity: Kraftangan Malaysia

Name and title of the contact person: Sharifah Nazirah binti Syed Mohammad Government Agencies

Address: Lot 2195, Kawasan Perindustrian Chendering,  
21080 Kuala Terengganu

29. Name of entity: Persatuan Penggiat Seni / Jabatan Pendidikan Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur

Name and title of the contact person: Halim bin Abdul Hamid Association / Government Agencies

Address: SMK Keramat Wangsa  
Off Taman Setia Wangsa  
54000 Kuala Lumpur

30. Name of entity: Persatuan Penggiat Seni dan Kebudayaan Malaysia

Name and title of the contact person: Mazuki bin Tambi Association

Address: No. 10, Tingkat 1, Lot 96350 Fasa 27,

Lee Ling Commercial Centre, Jalan  
Matang  
93050 Kuching, Sarawak

31. Name of entity: Yayasan Warisan Johor

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Norhulnadia Ahmad

Government  
Agencies

Address: Kompleks Warisan Sultan Abu Bakar  
Lot 888 Jalan Sungai Chat  
80100 Johor Bharu

32. Name of entity: Persatuan Penggiat Seni dan  
Kebudayaan Malaysia

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Mahmud bin Sabli

Association

Address: Kuching Sarawak, Malaysia

33. Name of entity: Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

Name and title  
of the contact  
person:

Associate Prof. Dr. Amirah Ismail

Institution

Address: Fakulti Teknologi dan Sains Maklumat  
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia  
43600 UKM Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia

34. Persatuan Penggiat Seni dan  
 Name of entity: Kebudayaan Malaysia  
 Name and title  
 of the contact  
 person: Encik Muhammad Ghazi bin Mazuki Association  
 Address: No. 10, Tingkat 1, Lot 96350 Fasa 27,  
 Lee Ling Commercial Centre, Jalan  
 Matang  
 93050 Kuching, Sarawak

35. Name of entity: Institut Kraf Negara  
 Name and title  
 of the contact  
 person: Noridah binti Johan Heritage Expert  
 Committee /  
 Institution  
 Address: No1, KM 20 Jalan Ipoh-Rawang,  
 Taman Rekreasi Templer,  
 48000 Rawang, Selangor

## **SAFEGUARDING PLAN**

On 20-21 March 2019, the Songket Workshop: Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity 2019 was held at the Grand Bluewave Hotel, Shah Alam, Selangor, attended by several representatives from government agencies, NGOs, researchers and scholars, expert committees as well as activists from several states. Throughout the workshop, all participants also discussed about the Safeguarding Plan for Songket. Participants Involved:

- 1) Prof. Dr. Siti Zainon Ismail (Chairman of the Committee on Fashion, Textile, Personal Decoration and Crafts)
- 2) Prof. Dr. Norwani binti Nawawi (Songket Specialist)

- 3) Mrs. Zubaidah Sual (Experts in Clothing, Textiles, Personal Decoration and Crafts)
- 4) Mrs. Joanna Datuk Kitingan (Committee on Fashion, Textiles, Personal Decoration and Crafts)
- 5) Mr. Wan Manang bin Wan Awang (Entrepreneur)
- 6) Mr. Ahmed Kamel (Entrepreneur)
- 7) A.D. Dr. Amirah bt. Ismail (UKM)
- 8) Mrs. Noridah Johan (IKN)
- 9) Dato 'Raya bin Sharif (Songket Weaver)
- 10) Mr. Muhammad Syafiq bin Zamrid (Melaka Heritage Institute)
- 11) Mrs. Roslinda Binti Mohd Rosli (Johor Heritage Foundation)
- 12) Mrs. Norhulnadia binti Ahmad (Johor Heritage Foundation)
- 13) Mrs. Sharifah Nazirah binti Syed Mohammad (Kraftangan Malaysia)
- 14) Encik Halim bin Abdul Hamid (Malaysian Association of Arts and Culture Activists)
- 15) Mr. Marzuki bin Tambi (Malaysian Association of Arts and Culture Activists)
- 16) Mr. Mahmud bin Sabli (Malaysian Art and Culture Activists Association)
- 17) Mr. Muhammad Ghazi bin Marzuki (Malaysian Association of Arts and Culture Activists)

There are plan for 2020 - 2025 to ensure the viability of Songket so it will not be jeopardized in the future.

### **Documentation and Research**

The Department of National Heritage Malaysia (DNH) has proposed budget to the government to establish a comprehensive inventory system for the identification, documentation, research and records of Malaysian heritage. The sum of USD2 million has been proposed for approval. The MHDC will be documenting Songket in the form of video and printed references for the practitioners and communities. The National University of Malaysia (UKM) is in process of developing the database on

Songket motifs. UKM will also innovate an inventory of Songket apps by using Augmented Reality Technology (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) which can be accessed through hand phone or mobile devices.

**Action: DNH, UKM, Communities**

### **Research**

Research and development on Malaysian handwoven textiles will be extended to shift to higher value-added products and will be broadened for apparel, home-furnishing, premium gifts and decorative items. In the near future Songket symposiums and seminars will be organised (mid 2021) that could provide information on Songket latest findings to the practitioners and the communities with the collaboration of both public and private universities in Malaysia and the Malaysian Handicraft Development Corporation (MHDC).

**Action: IKN, UKM, DNH, Department of Museum Malaysia**

### **Preservation**

There are several institutes of higher learning that will continue to offer Songket related studies such as the National Craft Institute (IKN), UKM, Mara Technology University (UiTM), Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and Management and Science University (MSU). The joint efforts by both government and private institutions in preserving Songket such as efforts by Institut Kemahiran Tenun Pahang DiRaja, Yayasan Tuanku Nur Zahirah, Yayasan Warisan Johor dan Institut Warisan Melaka which continue to innovate new designs with traditional motifs.

**Action: IKN, UKM, UiTM, UNIMAS, MSU, MHDC**

### **Promotion and Campaign**

Various visible programs on Songket for public attention that have been organised will be further extended in a new phase (2020-2025). Among them are: Faizal Sidik's Songket Painting, Songket Exhibition at private museums in Malaysia, Songket Festival, Malaysian Songket Award 2019, Regional symposium on Malay Songket, Workshop on Songket preservation, Songket Fashion Show, National Craft Festival yearly programme, Visit Songket outlet for students, Kuala Lumpur International Craft Festival 2020, Symposium on Sarawak Songket 2022

**Action: IKN, UKM, DNH, MHDC, Department of Museum Malaysia, Communities**

### **Enhancement (2020-2025)**

Continuous research activity will be actively initiated by developing traditional handwoven Songket which would benefit the communities. The state of Terengganu has been identified as the most suitable and best place to carry out the Songket weaving research and developments as Terengganu Songket is well renowned and widely produced. Weavers from various communities will be selected to participate in this research. Collaboration between communities and researchers will be initiated.

**Action: IKN, MHDC, UKM, DNH, Department of Museum Malaysia**

### **Transmission of Knowledge of Skills**

The National Craft Institute (IKN) was established to provide formal learning facilities in craft skills to produce skilled workforces in the national craft industry. The teaching is based on the arts and crafts diploma in six (6) fields namely Weaving Craft, Batik Craft, Ceramic Craft, Wood Craft, Metal Craft and Rattan Craft. On June 20, 2017, the Accreditation Committee Meeting of the 6/2017 of Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) has granted full recognition to all 12 National Craft Institute programs under the Literary Sector (Literary and Humanities Sub) program effective October 6, 2016. Accreditation status granted by MQA has several advantages. In addition, it serves as the benchmark for the quality of the related teaching programs. In addition MHDC has proposed sufficient budget to cater the development of Songket practitioners for the next rolling budgetary plan (2020-2025).

**Action: IKN, MHDC, UKM, DNH**

### **Establishment of Coordination Committee**

There is a need in creating a special committee known as the Songket Coordination Committee. This committee will evaluate and monitor the implementation of efforts to protect songket through various programs, activities as well as research and documentation and others. This committee will be composed of a combination of experts related to songket, manufacturing, entrepreneurs as well as Government agencies and NGOs. Membership details will be determined later.

**Action: Ministry of Tourism and Culture Malaysia (MOTAC); MHDC, DNH; IKN; communities**



## Website and Social Media Link of Songket Practitioners

- 1. Yayasan Tuanku Nur Zahirah**  
N0.83, Jalan Telawi,  
Bangsar,  
59100 Kuala Lumpur.  
Tel : +603-2284 8253  
Website : <https://www.yayasantnz.com/royal-terengganu-songket/>  
Instagram : <https://www.instagram.com/royalterengganusongket/>  
Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/yayasan.tuankunurzahirah>
- 2. Malaysian Arts & Cultural Practitioners Association (MACPA)**  
Persatuan Penggiat Seni dan Kebudayaan Malaysia Kuching,  
No.10, Lot 9638, Fasa 23,  
Lee Ling Commercial Centre,  
Batu 4,  
Jalan Matang,  
93050 Kuching,  
Sarawak.  
Tel : +6019-334 8999  
Website : <https://ichmalaysia.com>
- 3. Bibah Songket**  
Lot 1040,  
Kg Rhu Renggeh,  
21080 Chendering,  
Kuala Terengganu,  
Terengganu.  
Tel : +6019-388 6091  
Website : <http://www.bibahsongket.com/english/tradition>  
Instagram : <https://www.instagram.com/bibahsongket/?hl=en>  
Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/bibahsongket.official/>

**4. Seri Gedong (Songket Sarawak)**

**Desa Girang Jaya,**

**Gedong,**

**94700 Simunjan,**

**Sarawak.**

**Tel : +6019-805 6147**

**Instagram : <https://www.instagram.com/serigedongsongket/>**

**Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/serigedongsongket>**

**5. Wan Manang Songket**

**1482-B, Lorong Punai,**

**Depan Perumahan Kastam,**

**Durian Burung,**

**20050 Kuala Terengganu,**

**Terengganu.**

**Tel : +6019-956 4112**

**Instagram : <https://www.facebook.com/ManangSongket>**

**Facebook : [https://www.instagram.com/manang\\_songket/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/manang_songket/?hl=en)**

**6. Malaysian Songket Award**

**No. 1, Masgenuine Square,**

**Jalan Melati Kuang,**

**47000 Sungai Buloh,**

**Selangor.**

**Tel : +6012-646 0022**

**Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/malaysiansongket/>**

**7. Perbadanan Kemajuan Kraftangan Malaysia**  
**Kompleks Kraf Kuala Lumpur,**  
**Seksyen 63, Jalan Conlay,**  
**50450 Kuala Lumpur.**

**Tel : +6012-646 0022**

**Website : <https://www.kraftangan.gov.my>**

**8. Muzium Tekstil Negara**  
**Jabatan Muzium Malaysia,**  
**JKR 52, Jalan Sultan Hishamudin,**  
**50050 Kuala Lumpur.**

**Tel : +603-2694 3457 / +0603-2694 3461**

**Website : <https://www.jmm.gov.my>**