

A SUSTAINABLE INNOVATIVE CONGKAK BOARDGAME

Agnes Pau

Polytechnic of Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin, Malaysia

agnes@ptss.edu.my

Ung Ean Na

Polytechnic of Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin, Malaysia

ungeanna@ptss.edu.my

Yap Tek Hong

Polytechnic of Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin, Malaysia

yap@ptss.edu.my

Abstract

Congkak has been a popular pastime in Malaysia. Sadly, it has lost its popularity among the younger generation who spends a lot of time on gaming, especially mobile gaming. Mobile gaming addiction is becoming a public concern. As a result, there is a need to redesign traditional Congkak to attract young people to appreciate and play Congkak before it goes extinct. The traditional Congkak board is heavy and relatively large, resulting in transportation inefficiency. Conversely, other widely available plastic Congkak boards are relatively light and small but they lack collection value. This project presents a Congkak board that has ownership value, which not only preserves its traditional values but is also light, portable, and environmentally friendly for both domestic and foreign tourists. Bamboo is employed as an alternative raw material in this project since it is widely available in tropical countries. The advantages of using bamboo in today's products have been ignored and bamboo is one of Malaysia's abundant natural resources. Compared to wood, bamboo is a flexible and weather-resistant material. Bamboo also grows quicker than trees; thus, it can aid in sustaining the environment. The innovative design of Congkak is made up of 4 pieces: 2 bamboo halves that can be joined together by a fastening cap ("rumah") on either end, which also functions as a chamber for storing tokens ("buah Congkak"). An additional advantage of this Congkak board is the ease of manufacture, whereby small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) can easily mass produce this design without the need for sophisticated and expensive technology.

Keywords: Congkak, boardgame, sustainability.