

# **Traditional Knowledge and Cleaning Methods for Textile Preservation in MALAYSIA**

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# Implementation Strategies

- ★ Qualitative Research

- ★ Respondent

Weavers, traders, village people, professionals from museum and elderly people.

- ★ Location

Peninsular Malaysia – Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang, Kuala Lumpur and Selangor.

- ★ Cost Saving and safe for human health.

# WET CLEANING METHOD

## Citronella – Soaking Technique

### Step 1

Pounded Citronella

### Step2

Mix with warm water

### Step 3

Soak within 30 minutes to an hour

### Step 4

Dry and hang in shady area and windy



**Pictures: Citronella**  
**(*serai wangi*)**  
**Cymbogon Nardus L**

## Citronella – Vaporizing Technique

### Step 1

Mashed and mix with hot water

### Step2

Place on the mesh or can use both hands to hold textile

### Step 3

Steam

### Step4

Dry under the shade, open air, spacious area and good ventilation

# Removing rust stain using the lime juice



## **Step 1**

Cut two limes

## **Step 2**

Rub in area rust stain on clothing

## **Step 3**

Soak in salt water

## **Step 4**

Washing as usual

## Eliminating Banana Resin Tree

### Step 1

Apply a small amount of calcium carbonate (*kapur makan/kapur sireh*) – area of stain banana resin tree.

### Step 2

Leave it for a few minutes

### Step 3

Washing as usual



**Picture 2: Calcium carbonate apply on betel leave**

## Whitening Method for White Clothes

# Wet Cleaning Method Using The Ashes of Desiccated Coconut

### Step 1

Burn the desiccated coconut to produce the ash.

### Step 2

The ashes must be filtered and vetted to remove the dirt and charcoal.

### Step 3

Ashes powder will be mix with warm water.

### Step 4

Soak the white clothes for the while, maybe a day or depending on the condition of the white clothes.

### Step 5

Rinse with normal temperature water after soaking.

### Step 6

Clothes must be hung in ventilation and spacious area.





# Wet Cleaning Method Using The Ashes of Grain Husk (*Sekam Padi*)

Grain Husk



Burn



The Ashes of Grain Husk



## Fruits and Plants use as a detergent

Leaves of Patchouli  
(*Pogostemon Cablin Benth*)  
or  
local name called '*Daun Nilam*'



Kaffir lime (*Citrus Hystrix*)



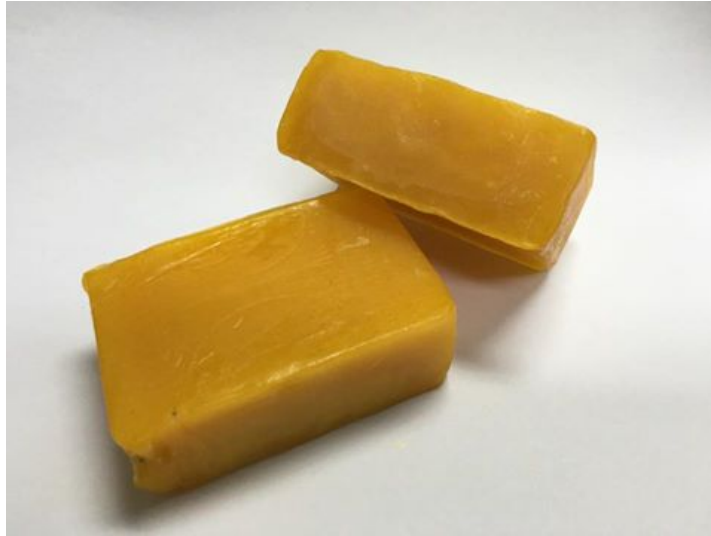
Calamondin  
(*fortunella japonica*)



'*Asam Kerat Lintang*'  
(*citrus medica* Linn)



# Soap



# DRY CLEANING METHOD

## A Type of Incense Burner Ware in Malaysia

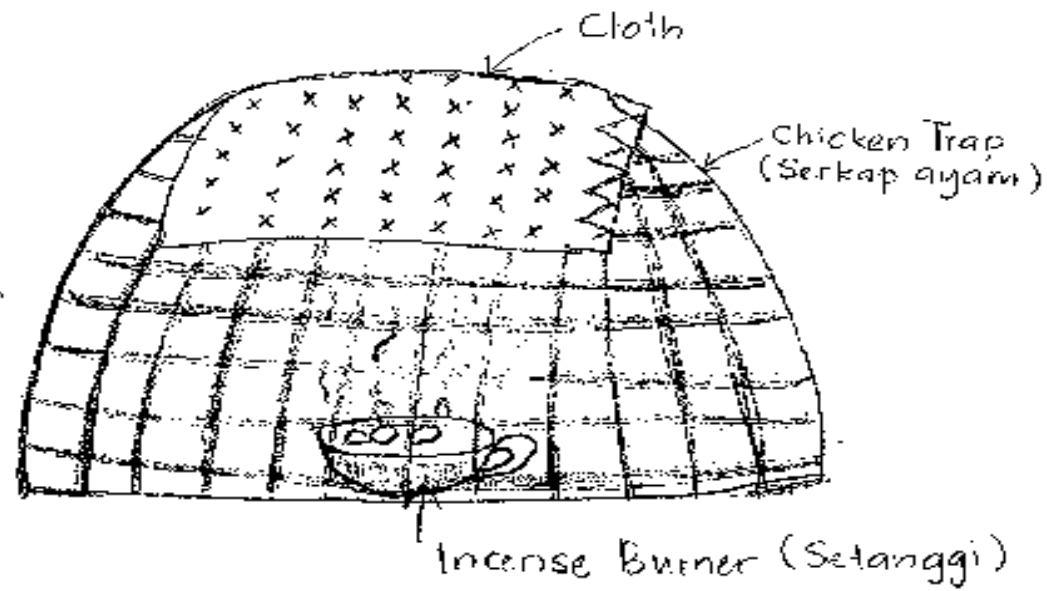


## Chicken Trap/Cage



## Dry Cleaning Method with Smoke

*"setanggi"* = Incense Burner



# PEST CONTROL

**Banish Cockroaches using  
Pandan leaves  
(Pandanus Amaryllifolius)**

**Step 1**

Tied up the pandan leaves

**Step2**

Place in separate container

**Step 3**

Leave it and monitor after  
a month

**Step 4**

Repeat



**Picture : Pandan Leaves  
(Pandanus Amaryllifolius)**



## Banish Silverfish Using Cloves (*Syzygium Aromaticum*)

### Step 1

Place the cloves in sac in small fabrics



### Step 2

Avoid direct contact with textiles



### Step 3

Monitor and change after two months



### Step 4

Repeat



Picture : Cloves  
(*Syzygium Aromaticum*)  
*"Bunga Cengkih"*

Kerosene apply to the yarn  
to smooth the treads  
(Pekan, Pahang)



Mrs. Nortipah  
and her daughter - weavers

# PERFUMING FABRICS

Cloves  
(*Syzygium Aromaticum*)



Pandan Leaves  
(*Pandanus Amaryllifolius*)



# Perfuming Fabric Using Flowers



*Bunga Kenanga*  
(*Canarium Odoratum*)



*Bunga Melur/Jasmine*  
(*Jasminum sambac*)



*Bunga Mawar /Ros*  
(*Damask Rose*)

**Step 1**  
Choose the  
flower



**Step 2**  
Leave it in  
between  
fabrics



**Step 3**  
Monitor and  
change it



**Step 4**  
Repeat



# To Shinning the textiles

**Calendaring Method  
With  
Cowry shells (cypria tigers)**



**Shining the metal thread  
with Face powder  
(Keringkam in Sarawak)**



Sam Fong Hoi Tong Face  
Powder / *'bedak nyonya'*



# Colour care

To maintain the colour of batik clothes with **tea**

## **Step 1**

Soak the batik clothes in the tea.

## **Step 2**

Leave it in 20 minutes

## **Step 3**

Wash and Rinse with water without any detergent or soap.

## **Step 4**

Hang in good ventilation area



To maintain the colour of batik clothes with **papaya leaves juice**.

## **Step 1**

Squeeze and Crumple the papaya leaves with water.

## **Step 2**

Soak 12 hours or overnight

## **Step 3**

Hang in good ventilation area.





# Storage

## Cabinets and Boxes for Storing Clothing

'Cendana'/Sandalwood  
(Santalum Album Linn)



'Gaharu'  
(Aquilaria malaccensis)





# SPECIAL THANKS

A Living Heritage

