CHAPTER I

PREFACE

1.1 Background

Homelessness is a classic problem in big cities. Their existence are often associated with the city faces, therefore sometimes, it gives a bad impact for the city faces. Various solution to press down the growth rate of homeless people have been done, but it is still a problem especially in big cities. As a common solution to homelessness, there are numerous homeless shelter that have been built to decrease the homeless rate. The specific problems of the homelessness is also different in each city. There are examples from LA and Toronto, where the number of homelessness in both country are high but the specific problem and the given solutions are different.

In LA, the increasing number of homeless is reaching epidemic levels. Numerous creative contributions from architects and builders contribute to alleviate the crisis. Their design concepts are trying to provide the homeless with a small complex of prefabricated, easily reproducible nits of housing, so that it is easy to replicate the concept in other areas. (Chiland, 2018; Holland, 2018). Combating with estimated 35,000-40,000 estimated young people between the age of 13 and 24 experience homelessness in Canada every year. This makes the homeless shelter a unique project because it a culmination of 20 years of learned about what works, what doesn’t work, and what most important about creating a supportive space. The case with homeless shelter is not just about building space to house people, it’s about constructing an environment that, along with the right programming has the ability to help them thrive. (Budds, 2017; “evas,” 2016)

In Indonesia, homeless are being categorized into several category from kids to elderly, from mentally healthy to mentally disorder. They are called PMKS
In 2012, to accommodate the homeless, Jakarta’s social affair agency build 27 new homeless shelter, which three of them are only temporary shelters. (Rohmah, 2012). Focusing on the quantity of the shelters did not help decreasing the homeless rate. In 2014, the 27 shelters that on average can accommodate 200 people for each shelter are overloaded and a new shelter is needed to accommodate them. (Nurito, 2014). To reduce the number of homeless in Jakarta, there are a few ways that have been done by the government. First, they identify the homeless in Jakarta. In January to November of 2016, there are 407 homeless people, 341 homeless people with mental disorder, 452 beggars, and 69 prostitutes that were raided by the government and distributed to the homeless shelters in West Jakarta. (Tarta, 2016). Since the number is still high, they also create a regulation where people are not allowed to become a beggar, an illegal trader, or even give beggars some money or buy stuffs from the illegal trader. (Perda Nomor 8 tahun 2007 pasal 40). After the regulation, there are still so many people that violated it. Since then, there are many homeless that have been taken into the homeless shelter. They are supposed to stay in the shelters only in a period of time, before being transferred to another institution.

Homeless shelters in Jakarta mostly focus on developing various training to develop the skills of the homeless shelter, so they won’t be returning to the streets after getting trained. (Wahyuningrum, 2018). The residents in the shelters only temporary and the maximum period to stay are only 31 days. Then, they will be referred to other institution according to their condition. (Wibowo, 2010). The residents are usually got picked up from the streets by the social affair agency whether because they ran away, got kicked out from their houses or even they just being abandoned in the streets, because they seem to violate the given regulations.
There are unique homeless shelters in Jakarta like Bina Insan homeless shelter. Bina Insan Bangun Daya 1 is located in Puri Kembangan, West Jakarta and it owned by the government. With the site area about 1.3 hectare and the building area about 6000m$^2$, the building was used to be a female prison and after the function was reassigned as a homeless shelter, it act as a transit homeless shelter. Since the structure was actually for a prison, it is unmistakably true that the shelter doesn’t seem to foster the residents, it is more likely that they “confine” them.

According to the officer in the shelter, almost 70% of the mentally disordered, as 174 out of 294 residents in the shelter are mentally disordered and others are having other social problems and might be having physical health issues as well. They are mostly founded in the streets or in the public spaces by the social affair agents. (Raharjo, 2018). In Bina Insan homeless shelter, currently there are 294 residents but the limit capacity of the shelter is only 200 residents. “Overload is a common thing.” said Masyudi to Kompas.com. The overload situation made the residents broke out of the facility in 2017.(Putra, 2018). These residents are most likely to rebel against the shelter officer since they are not voluntarily get in to the shelters and the condition where they just cramped up in a room just worse the situation because according to the head officer of the shelter, they mostly do their education in the same room.
Entering the residential area, the scent of medicine like in the hospital, stings the sense of smell. Men and women are separate in two rooms with iron bars. There are almost nothing inside the room. Not even beds, as it is also the room that they use to sleep. According to the head officer of the shelter, the sleep in a barrack. Everyone are gathered in a room without any kind of grouping, therefore they are prone to get infected with disease such as AIDS, TBC, scabs, etc. (Raharjo, 2018; Wahyuningrum, 2018). Male residents do their activities in the first floor, while the female do theirs in the second floor with less activity that they can do. The female area are a corridor shaped room that’s separated in a few blocks with iron bars. Their activities are mostly arts and crafts. They can help the staffs in cooking. Tarmizi said “Only one or two of them that can communicate properly and behave well are allowed to help.”

The food that prepared by the staffs are measured properly by the nutritionist for the three meals a day. (Wahyuningrum, 2018), Even though the homeless only stay in the shelter for about 31 days, the overload in the shelters are very common because the institution that supposed to take them in are also full and overload. “There is a women that have stayed in the shelter for 4 months because the designated institution for her already full and her own family won’t take her in, it looks like they just throw her away.” (AR, 2016).

According to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), homeless shelter must offer more than just a place to stay. It also have to provide the essential recovery support services, including behavioral health, employment and mainstream benefits. The programs can help improve health outcomes and ensure greater stability. Types of housing and shelters include:

- Emergency shelter: Often for people experiencing economic shock turn.
- Permanent supportive housing: safe and stable housing environments with voluntary and flexible support and services.
- Transitional housing: typically involves a temporary residence up to 24 months with wrap-around services to help the homeless stabilized their lives.

Transitional or supportive housing and homeless shelter can help stabilize people with mental and/or substance use disorders who are experiencing homelessness, because one in five people experiencing homelessness had a serious mental
illness. (SAMHSA, 2016), Osman Bari mentioned that unrestricted interaction between all members of the community and eliminates societal barriers are often lacking in social housing projects. Even the mentally disordered, they do need a positive social interactions. “The emotional support provided by social connections helps to reduce the damaging effects of stress and can foster a sense of meaning and purpose in life.”

Dr. Seppala explained, “social connectedness generates a positive feedback loop of social, emotional, and physical well-being.” (Brody, 2017). There are homeless shelters that also helped the mentally disordered homeless. In LOHA’s Supportive Housing complex, the architect create an elevated community garden as a gathering spaces for unrestricted interaction between all members of the community. (Bari, 2017).

In The Bridge Homeless Assistance Center, the dining facility serves as a focal point to the interior landscaped courtyard and a food magnet providing social workers an opportunity to connect with the homeless. (“The Bridge Homeless Assistance Center / Overland Partners,” 2011).

In 1221 Broadway, the connection between the multiple courtyards, and to the outdoors creates a unique oasis and urbane street presence. These courtyards, link urban living with nature and provide outdoor activity and gathering spaces. (FLATO Architects, 2013).

Looking back from what the homeless shelter need to provide especially to improve the mental health of the residents, to what are the examples that have been done in other shelters and what Bina Insan homeless shelter have been doing, it is clear that Bina Insan need solutions to enhance the social interaction in the facility using architecture as bridge contextually, but also have barriers to differentiate them who has infectious disease so they can be treated properly without infecting other residents and the officers as well.
1.2 Problem Formulation

From the data above, we can conclude that there are several key issues that will underline this research:

- The number of homeless in Jakarta keeps rising, therefore, overload will always be a repetitive problem. How architecture can help in solving this overload problem?
- Most of the people that were sent in to the shelter have issues either physically (TBC, AIDS, scabs, etc) or psychologically. These can lead to a spread of disease. How architecture can help in decreasing the problem of the spreading of the disease?
- How to create a space that can support physical and mental improvements of the residents in the homeless shelter?

1.3 Research Purpose

The purpose of this research is to help the homeless improving their quality of life and getting better treatment according to their needs by purposing a design criteria for a transit homeless shelter. Also by injecting additional program that can provide them various types of hard-skill and soft-skill trainings so they won’t go back to the streets. Because shelters not just as a house for them to stay but as a place that can educate them, help them and give them the preparation not just physically but also mentally to get back in the real society where they can make their own living.

1.4 Research Benefit

The research done in this paper are aimed at making clear design guidelines for homeless shelter especially to improve the health and comfort of the residents and at the same time educate them with various skill training. Hopefully the residents will get educated properly so they can stop becoming a homeless and help others as well.
1.5 Scope of Research

The scope of this research will be residents and the architecture of Bina Insan Homeless Shelter on their behavior and their daily activities in the shelter. Without including the maximum 30 days of stay.

1.6 Research Methodology

Multiple methods will be used in the making of this report:

- Qualitative method – Using journals to gather information about homeless, homeless shelters, and the characteristic of homeless shelter in the behavioral approach including the information about Bina Insan homeless shelter.

- Observation method – Observing the behavior of the residents in Bina Insan homeless shelter and their daily activities to gather specific behavior that effect the design criteria of homeless shelter in general and especially the social spaces
1.7 Thought Process

Re-design: Bina Insan Homeless Shelter in Jakarta

Background:
- Homelessness is a classic problem in big cities
- Lack of various solutions in Jakarta
- Bina Insan Homeless Shelter, owned by the government and is the only shelter that receive most of their residents from the social affair agency.

Problem foundation:
- Overload
- Infectious disease within the shelter
- A space that can support physical and mental improvements

Modular Architecture

- Definition
- Precedents

Architecture and Infectious Disease

Social Space that Improve Mental Health

Precedents

Homeless

Classification
- Issues
- In Jakarta
- Mental Health
- Infectious Disease
- Precedents

Homeless Shelter

Classification
- Typology
- Additional Programs
- Mental Health and Architecture
- Precedents

Design Criteria

Space Programming

Simulation

Conclusion

Picture 3 Thought Process
Source: Personal document
1.8 Novelty

In re-designing this shelter, more capacity will be added to accommodate more homeless and will be giving more open space for the residents. There will also be more access to open spaces which mostly leads to green spaces in hope for helping to stabilize the mental condition of the residents. Adding water conservation is a