

# Application of Gestalt Theory in Interior Design Dinas Perpustakaan Dan Kearsipan Daerah Provinsi Jawa Barat (DISPUSIPDA)

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**Abstract:-** Interior design is a form of function and utility value that does not only focus on how to create or design a form of object function in each room. More than the design and creation of architectural design, how the interior design itself still sees and has a beautiful and impressive artistic value in every function and element in every corner of the space in a building. An interior designer can also provide distinctive characteristics that have value compared to other creations.

The space or environment that is occupied (physical) and seen (visual), must be planned through an analysis of human behavior and what functions support a space. Human behavior is psychological and social. Environmental stimuli received by the body seem to cause certain behaviors that appear automatically without the need for cognitive processing. This holistic approach inspired the development of Gestalt Psychology which is also the soul and spirit of the field of Architectural Psychology. hearing, taste, smell and touch while in the library reading room affects psychological responses such as: smell, rhythm or tone, color, light, temperature. In today's era of life, humans bring changes from time to time that have an impact on the progress of civilization, Science and Technology and various types of media. This also affects changes in terms of service in the Bandung regional library which is developed with a digital library. The advancement of information technology today has a very large impact on changes in character and behavioral patterns in seeking information so that this is also a factor in reducing interest in visiting the library. The purpose of the study was to determine whether or not there was an influence of the application of Gestalt theory in library interior design, to determine the influence of color, lighting, circulation and others, especially in the library reading room based on psychology, to determine the influence of the digital era also affects psychology. Can apply Gestalt theory in library interior design, especially reading rooms with sensory influences so that

psychological effects through visual, auditory, tactile, and olfactory systems in interior spaces and are useful for users to stay relaxed, concentrate, create a peaceful atmosphere even though the influence of developments in the era of globalization that change psychological patterns from visual space to virtual space. With Gestalt Theory, it can provide an assessment of spontaneous organizational perceptions originating from sensory input to the brain, providing an important basic understanding that users/readers can gain insights such as a sense of comfort with a good mood, adding value to the use of a room function, and increasing the growth of potential abilities to recognize and learn from a room. Interior design, especially in the context of interior design, involves creating a cohesive and functional space that enhances the user experience.

**Keywords:-** Gestalt Theory, Interior Design, Library.

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Background

The concept of interior application in design focuses on creating an inviting and cohesive atmosphere within a space. It considers how individuals interact with their architectural surroundings through a variety of sensory experiences—visual, auditory, tactile, and olfactory. These interactions shape human perception and manipulate sensory information, ultimately influencing psychological responses.

The aesthetic qualities of a space, such as color, area, texture, light, and temperature, play a critical role in evoking emotions. A thoughtfully designed environment can foster emotional well-being and provide soothing psychological support. The design of a physical space must be informed by an analysis of human behavior and the practical functions it serves; this intertwining of psychological and social aspects is essential. Libraries, in particular, bear significant importance for their users. Beyond offering excellent

services, a library must also provide a comfortable and pleasant environment. According to Dahlan (2006), factors that encourage people to visit a library include a clean, cool atmosphere and suitable physical conditions. Visitor statistics from the West Java Regional Public Library over the past five years reveal varied trends: In 2019, there were 676,609 visits, which dropped to 42,919 in 2020 and 55,399 in 2021—an evident decline caused by the Covid pandemic. In 2022, visitor numbers climbed to 106,100, and in 2023, they increased further to 153,326. Despite this rebound, the figures remain below pre-pandemic levels, which stood at 596,229 visits. This observation was highlighted by Mrs. Megi from the archival services section in May 2024. Mrs. Megi also noted ongoing efforts to enhance library services, focusing on both internal and external factors. Internal factors involve fostering community interest in visiting the library for reading or activities, while external factors address the need for facilities that support librarians and provide adequate infrastructure. By improving these elements, libraries can create an atmosphere where visitors feel welcome and engaged, not only as readers but as individuals enjoying the surrounding environment. Globalization has ushered in rapid changes, particularly in the realms of science and technology, which require adaptable spaces for growth. Additionally, the rise of digital media has transformed reading habits, compelling individuals to choose quality content amidst a vast array of options. This transformation also spurred developments in the Bandung regional library, which now features a digital library. The swift advancement of information technology has influenced shifts in character and behavior regarding information-seeking, reducing the number of people visiting traditional libraries. Consequently, some library reading rooms may feel quiet, attributed to various factors, such as a waning interest in reading. Extended stays in a reading room, focused solely on books or other materials, can also lead to feelings of boredom, fatigue, anxiety, stress, and lack of concentration.

#### B. Problem Formulation

Based on the background description, the author formulates the problems in the West Java Provincial Library and Archives Service, especially the interior of the reading room. The problems that can be formulated include:

- How to apply Gestalt theory in library interior design, especially the reading room by analyzing sensory information to influence psychological effects through the visual, auditory, tactile, and olfactory systems?
- How does the influence of the development of the era of globalization affect the transformation of libraries in the digital era, thereby changing visitor behavior that influences psychological patterns?

#### C. Scope of Problem

In this case, the thesis proposal writer wants to create a problem limitation as a basis so that the problem limitation explained does not contradict the main content of the problem being studied. So that the researcher/thesis proposal writer reflects the problem limitation into 2 parts such as:

- Application of reading room in library interior design based on Gestalt theory for its visitors, how color, lighting, circulation and others play their role especially in the reading room as part of the library interior design based on psychology.
- Application of Gestalt theory in library interior design with the influence of developments in the era of globalization, namely the transformation of libraries in the digital era which plays a role in changing psychological patterns

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

### A. Gestalt Theory

The Gestalt Theory revolves around the idea that users perceive individual elements within a space as part of a cohesive whole. Originating from Gestalt Psychology, this perspective seeks to understand how the human brain interprets its surroundings. By grasping the nuances of human perception and behavior in a given environment, architects and interior designers can create spaces that resonate more profoundly with their users. When applying the Gestalt principles to interior design, professionals must consider how individuals will view and interact with the space collectively, which in turn enhances aesthetics, functionality, and overall user experience. The key Gestalt principles include Proximity, Similarity, Closure, Good Continuance, Area and Symmetry, and Figure and Ground.

The word Gestalt comes from German which describes a configuration with a complete form. Gestalt Psychology is anti-reductionistic. If learning is considered a psychological activity, according to Gestalt Psychology experts, learning cannot be reduced to physiological mechanisms of conditioning. Gestaltists argue that attempts to reduce psychological events to physiological components result in the loss of psychological events.

Application of Gestalt theory in the learning process, namely: Playing a role in behavior by recognizing an object in an element of related events to support the learning process so that it is more effective. Behavior that aims to direct in stimulus and response in achieving a goal so that it can help in learning activities, individual behavior related to individual behavior that is related to the surrounding environment. According to the Gestalt view, the learning process occurs if the configuration in a particular situation is able to arrange the right arrangement. The Gestalt approach uses a phenomenological approach is about a person's life experience how a person feels the experience and gives stimulus to a reaction that interprets the relevant context, interpretation is an integrated part in understanding the paradigm, for phenomenology is also sometimes used as a complement to science through an experience that is observed directly. The Gestalt view that can perfect behaviorism which is usually done with an action, thought, or feeling.

**B. Library Interior Design Based on Gestalt theory**

Here are the key principles and considerations for Gestalt Theory-based library interior design:

➤ **Lighting:**

Proper lighting can significantly impact mood and concentration. Natural light is often preferred for its ability to reduce eye strain and promote a sense of well-being. The intensity and quality of lighting should be considered to create an environment that is conducive to learning and relaxation.

➤ **Color and Materials:**

The choice of colors and materials can evoke different emotions and responses. Libraries often use calming colors such as blue and green to create a peaceful environment. The materials used should be durable and appropriate to the purpose of the library, with both aesthetic and practical aspects in mind.

➤ **Configuration and Scale:**

The arrangement of furniture and the overall layout of the library can affect how users navigate the space and interact with each other. Open areas encourage social interaction, while quiet zones provide places for focused study. The scale and proportion of the space should be considered to ensure it feels balanced and inviting.

➤ **Acoustics:**

The level of background noise in a library can affect a user’s ability to focus and learn. Libraries often aim to create a quiet environment to minimize distractions and promote concentration. Acoustic design should take noise levels into account to ensure a comfortable and productive learning environment.

➤ **Safety and Comfort:**

Architectural cues can reinforce desired behaviors. Safety, social connectedness, ease of movement, and sensory stimulation are key factors to consider. The design should ensure that the library is a safe and comfortable space for all users.

➤ **Sustainability:**

With increasing awareness of environmental issues, sustainability is becoming an increasingly important principle in interior design. This involves selecting environmentally

friendly materials and considering the energy efficiency of spaces.

➤ **Flexibility:**

Libraries often need to adapt to changing needs and technologies. Designing with flexibility in mind means creating spaces that can be easily modified or reconfigured to accommodate new uses or technologies.

➤ **Engagement:**

The design should encourage users to interact with library resources and each other. This can be achieved through the design of social spaces, learning areas, and digital kiosks.

**III. RESEARCH METHOD**

**A. Approach Method**

The type of research conducted to test the hypothesis of the application of Gestalt theory in library interior design. So the research method chosen is Post Positivistic Rationalism. The characteristics of Post Positivistic Rationalism according to Heyvon tend to be similar to or adopt a natural science approach and are also able to explain a universal and causal phenomenon of human social behavior that adheres to the reality of objective nature using quantitative research methodology. The data collection method used in the study is the observation method and survey method consisting of questionnaires (written questions) and interviews (oral questions).

**B. Hypothesis Objective**

The purpose of the study is to be able to apply Gestalt theory in library interior design, especially reading rooms with sensory influences so that psychological effects through the visual, auditory, tactile, and olfactory systems in the interior space and are useful for users to stay relaxed, concentrate, create a peaceful atmosphere even though the influence of developments in the era of globalization has changed psychological patterns from visual space to virtual space. Hypothesis:

H<sub>0</sub>: There is no application of Gestalt theory in library interior design

H<sub>1</sub>: There is an application of Gestalt theory in library interior design Basic Research Framework

Table 1 : Independent Variable Library Interior Design

Indicators	Elements Measured	How to Get Data	Research Tools
Physical	Lighting Color Circulation Airing Accessibility	Observation Questionnaire Interview, Visualization	Data recorder Questionnaire Camera
Spatial	Pattern Configuration & Scale Acoustic Safety & Comfort Sustainability Flexibility	Observation Questionnaire Interview, Visualization	Data recorder Questionnaire Camera

	Engagement		
Dependent Variable Table Gestalt Theory			
Indicators	Elements measured	How to get Data	Research tools
Theory	Proximity Similarity Closure Continuity Planes Symmetry Form and Background	Observation Questionnaire Interview, Visualization	Data recorder Questionnaire Camera

C. Descriptive Statistical Analysis Method

➤ Correlation Statistical Analysis - Bivariate (t-pearson test)

This test is carried out to determine whether the independent variables Physical Variable (X1) and Spatial Variable (X2) have an individual effect on the dependent variable Decision Theory Variable (Y). The t test is used to determine the relationship between the two variables being tested. How to test it is

- Formulate the hypothesis of each group  
 $H_0$  = means that partially or individually there is no significant relationship between X1, X2 and Y  
 $H_1$  = means that partially or individually there is a significant relationship. correlation between X1, X2 and Y.

Where:

X1 = Physical variables (lighting, color, circulation, ventilation, accessibility)

X2 = Spatial variables (pattern, configuration, scale, acoustics, security, comfort, durability, mortality, commitment)

Y = Theoretical variables (proximity, similarity, closure, continuity, plane and symmetry, shape and square

- The guide is very simple: if the number is greater than 0.5, it indicates a strong correlation.
- Measure the comparison of the significant level ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ) with the known significant level t by validating SPSS with the following criteria:
- ✓ Significant value  $t < 0.05$  means that  $H_0$  is rejected and  $H_1$  is accepted, its validation is carried out. with all independent variables (physical & spatial) individually and have a significant effect on the dependent variable.
- ✓ Significant value  $t > 0.05$  means that  $H_0$  is accepted and  $H_1$  is rejected, this means that all independent variables are not individual and have a significant effect on the dependent variable.

IV. DISCUSSION

Library : West Java Provincial Library and Archives Service, Address: Jl. Kawalayaan Indah II No. 4, Jatisari, Buah Batu District, Bandung City, West Java

A. Analysis of the Function of Library and Archive Facilities in West Java

➤ 1st Floor:

- *The guest book*: located at the library entrance, captures visitor information such as the date of their visit, name, address, contact details, purpose of visit, and feedback. This tool not only enhances library management but also aims to improve the overall visitor experience through valuable insights and recommendations for books or events.
- *The book return*: process is crucial for the effective management of the library's collection. It involves checking in returned books, recording their status, halting fines, maintaining cleanliness, and issuing receipts—all designed to ensure an efficient and user-friendly experience for library patrons.
- *The Governor's* : Corner serves as a dedicated space for visitors to access information related to West Java's governmental policies, programs, and activities. By fostering transparency and encouraging visitor engagement in regional development, this initiative aims to make important information more accessible and promote active participation from the community.
- *The Hall of Fame* : is a special program that honors individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the field of libraries and archives. It not only recognizes their achievements but also sets a benchmark for enhancing the standards and quality of library services throughout West Java.
- *This reading room is thoughtfully* : designed to create an enjoyable and educational environment for children and families. Featuring child-friendly furniture and multimedia resources, the space encourages family bonding through reading activities, supports children's literacy development, and invites exploration of diverse literary themes and genres. The library plays a pivotal role in nurturing children's growth and strengthening family connections through literacy.

- *Lockers*: in the West Java library and archives offer a convenient solution for visitors to securely store their personal belongings. This service allows patrons to explore books and resources freely, enhancing their overall experience by providing a sense of comfort and security.
  - *The prayer room* : is a facility designed to accommodate the spiritual needs of visitors. By offering this space, the library underscores its commitment to delivering comprehensive services that cater to the diverse needs of the community, creating a welcoming environment for all.
  - *The book drop* : provides a convenient option for returning borrowed materials, ensuring an efficient and user-friendly process that aligns with the library's commitment to accessibility and service. The Book Drop at the West Java Library and Archives offers a convenient option for visitors to return books without the need to enter the library, thereby enhancing flexibility and responsiveness to user needs while improving the overall experience.
- *2nd Floor*:
- *Adult Reading Room 1 and 2* : in the West Java Library and Archives are special areas to meet the needs of a quiet and comfortable adult reading room for adults to read, study and access information, The room is designed with good lighting and a calm atmosphere to create a conducive atmosphere for reading the discussion area also provides an area for group discussions or small meetings so that it is more effective in serving the needs of adult readers, becoming a more inclusive place and supporting the development of knowledge.
  - *Multimedia Room* : of the West Java Library and Archives is a facility designed to provide visitors with access to information sources and digital media, providing access to various types of media, including video, audio and digital materials to support learning and research, digital libraries can access wider digital collections, including journals, magazines and articles that can provide comprehensive and relevant services to the development of the times to become a library as a modern and inclusive learning center.
  - *BI Corner* : of West Java Library and Archives is a special area dedicated to providing information and related resources located in an easily accessible area in the library so that visitors can easily find the information they need
- *3rd Floor*:
- *Discussion Room* : of West Java Library and Archives to support interaction, collaboration and exchange of ideas between visitors, a comfortable and conducive place for discussion, meetings and exchange of information between individuals or groups
  - *Head of Discussion Room*: is a facility for meetings, discussions, and meetings with both internal and external parties, providing a comfortable and professional discussion room for in-depth discussions and strategic meetings which are usually led by the head of discussion.
  - *Head of Division Room* : of West Java Library and Archives supports managerial and administrative activities for the head of division in the organization with a comfortable and professional environment for planning, decision making and strategic discussions located in an easily accessible location in the library so that staff and visitors can easily hold meetings, thereby increasing efficiency..
  - *Teen Reading Room* : in the West Java library and archives is an area specifically designed to meet the needs of teen readers to encourage reading interest among teens and provide a comfortable space for learning and socializing a wider collection of books, such as novels, comics and literature that suits the needs of teens an environment created with good lighting and a pleasant atmosphere, creating an attractive atmosphere for teens who play an important role in supporting the development of literacy and creativity among the younger generation creating an inclusive environment and supporting growth.
  - *Reference Reading Room* : The West Java library and archives reference reading room is a special area that provides access to information and reference resources for visitors in need, Provides access to a collection of reference materials that support research, learning, and knowledge development, Provides various types of reference books, such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, atlases, and other academic materials, Computers are available to search for information online and access academic databases. With the existence of the Reference Reading Room, the West Java library and archives function as an information center that supports academic and research needs, improves the quality of knowledge and information literacy in the community.



Fig 1 Reference Reading Room  
Source: Dispusipda Jabar

- *Magazine, Publication, and Newspaper* : Room of the West Java library and archives is a facility that provides access to various types of print media for visitors, Provides the latest and diverse sources of information through magazines, newspapers, and other publications to meet the information needs of visitors, Librarians are ready to assist visitors in finding and selecting relevant reading materials. Some libraries also provide access to digital versions of magazines and newspapers through online databases. Increase visitors' knowledge and awareness of current issues through news and articles, Encourage reading interest and community involvement in discussions on relevant topics.
  - *Membership Room* : of the West Java library and archives is a facility designed to manage visitor registration and membership services. Facilitate the registration process for new members and provide information related to the benefits and services available to library members. With the Membership Room, the West Java library and archives can increase community involvement, facilitate access to information resources, and strengthen the relationship between the library and its members.
  - *Administration Room* : of the West Java library and archives is a facility that functions as a center for library operational management and management. Provide space for administrative activities that support effective library and archive management, Organize staff-related activities, including recruitment, training, and performance evaluation, Manage the library budget and plan the use of funds for various programs and services, Manage administrative documents, including annual reports, correspondence, and other important archives. Which provides benefits Increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of library management and Ensuring that all operations run smoothly and in accordance with established policies.
  - *Multimedia Room* : of the West Java library and archives is a facility designed to provide visitors with access to various multimedia resources. Provide access to digital media and technology tools that support learning, research, and creativity Equipped with computers and software needed for video editing, graphic design, and audio processing, Projectors, screens, and sound systems for presentations and media playback, Provide a collection of films, documentaries.
- *4th Floor:*
- *Graha Pustaloka* : West Java library and archives is one of the facilities designed to support literacy activities, research, and knowledge development. Becoming a center of information resources that provides access to various library collections and services. Equipped with a comfortable reading area for visitors who want to read books or documents, Providing a collection of books, both fiction and non-fiction, as well as relevant references for visitors, An area that supports discussion activities, seminars, and training. Located in a strategic location in the library complex, making it easy for visitors to access various services. With the presence of Graha Pustaloka, the West Java library and archives can be more effective in serving the community's needs for information and knowledge, making it an inclusive and dynamic learning center.
  - *Special Library* : of the West Java library and archives is a facility designed to provide collections and information services that are specific to the needs of certain users. Providing relevant and in-depth information resources to support research and study in certain fields. Provides a

collection of books, journals, reports, and other documents that focus on a particular topic or discipline, such as history, culture, or social sciences and Equipped with a quiet reading area for visitors who want to study specific materials. With the Special Library, the West Java library and archives serve as an important resource for individuals and groups who need in-depth and relevant information, supporting the development of knowledge and research in the community.

- *VIP Waiting Room* : of the West Java library and archives is a facility designed to provide comfort for visitors, especially for guests or VIPs who visit the library. Provides a comfortable and private space for important guests, such as government officials, academics, or other special visitors. Equipped with comfortable chairs and tables, as well as decorations that add an elegant atmosphere, Internet connection is available for guests, Some rooms may provide beverage or light snack services for guest convenience.

*B. Analysis of Library and Archiving Activities*

Visitor activity also declined during the Covid pandemic, which experienced significant changes. Many libraries were forced to close physical services or limit the

number of visitors to comply with health protocols. Many libraries reported a drastic decrease in the number of visitors who came in person due to social distancing policies and health concerns. The use of digital library services, such as e-books and online access to journals, increased rapidly. Visitors preferred to take advantage of resources that could be accessed from home. Many libraries implemented contactless lending systems and delivery services to accommodate visitors who wanted to continue to get reading materials. The library began holding virtual programs and activities, such as seminars, book discussions, and literacy classes, to stay connected with the community. There was a shift in visitor demographics, with more adults and students using digital services, while children may have more limited access due to school policies. Services carried out during the pandemic increased e-books and online journals as digital reading for access from people's homes, in addition to developing virtual programs by conducting webinars and book discussions to involve, such as seminars, literacy training and discussions, many offered brave classes during the pandemic for virtual classes and training on various topics because the reading room and visitors were limited, there were several libraries that opened reading rooms with limited capacity and strict health protocols.

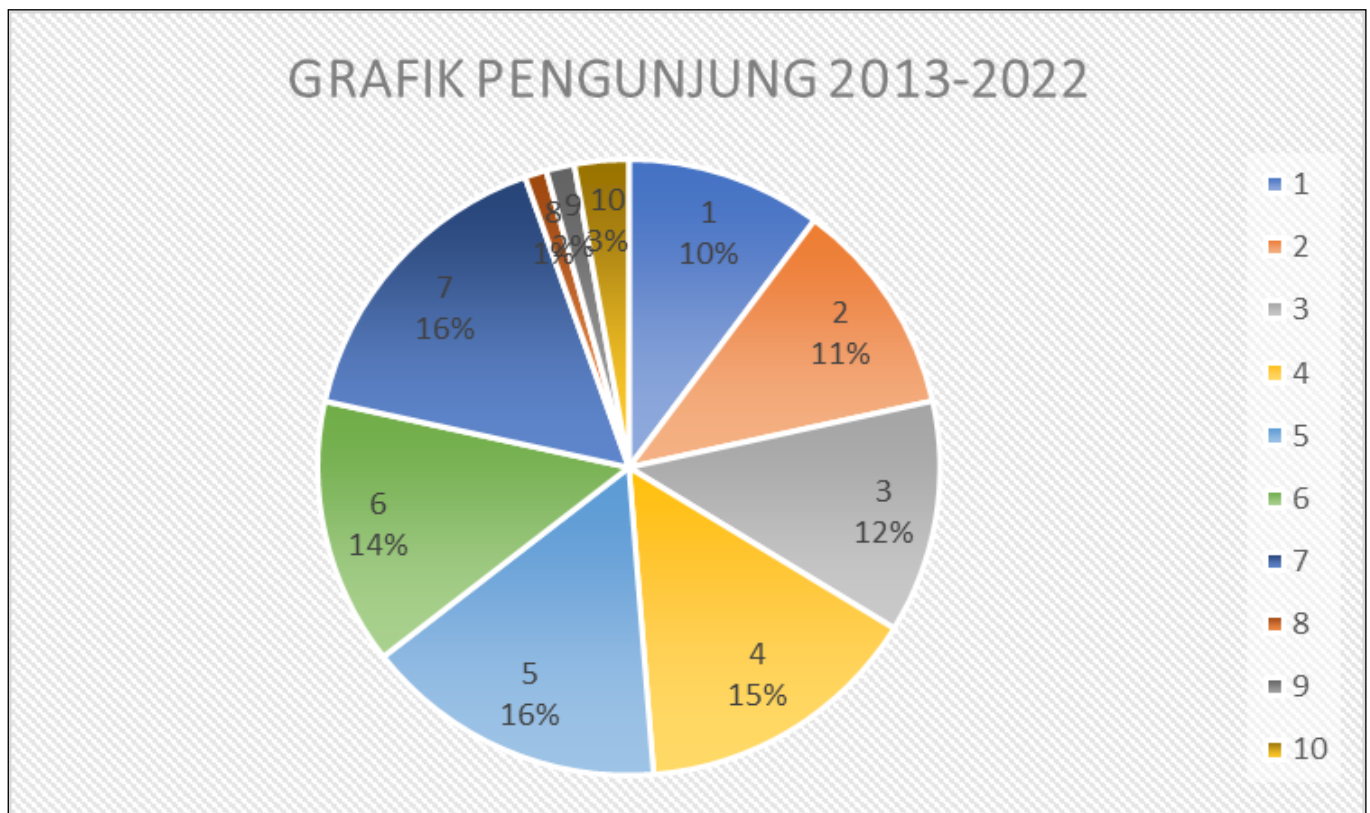


Fig 2 Library Visitor Graph 2013-2022  
Source: Author's analysis, 2024

From the statistical recapitulation data of library visitors in 2013 (383,40 people), 2014 (428,818 people), 2015 (460,759 people), 2016 (565,435 people), 2017 (593,707 people), 2018 (527,611 people), 2019 (608,738 people), while during the Covid pandemic in 2020 (42,919 people), 2021 (55,399 people), 2022 (106,100 people) seen from

before the pandemic and during the pandemic there was a decrease in library visitors which led to an increase in digital services such as e-books and other online access to virtual programs such as webinars and online book discussions to involve the community, such as seminars, literacy training, and online classes that offer virtual training on various topics.

For visitors to the reading room for students such as pupils and students who are looking for a place to study, their activities are usually doing assignments or doing research, professional workers need a quiet space to work or do research, general visitors or the community who come to read, explore the book collection or just follow the program being held, children and families usually bring their children to read books to increase the child's interest in reading, while for research and academics they are looking for references or special literature for their research.

With observations in the library of DISPUSIPDA Jabar, child visitors who are always accompanied by their parents with the assistance of children will choose books that are appropriate to their age and interests and because the library is very crowded and children need to be supervised to ensure safety and not get lost, the category of teenagers from 12 to 18 years old usually visit the library alone or in groups, their activities are usually to do schoolwork with their friends or study in groups and look for books that suit their interests, adult visitors start from 18 years old where visitors are mostly students who are looking for book references for college needs, group study, research, just reading books that are of interest and others. Data on visitors to the reading room in 2019 for children, the number of visitors was 120,827 people, for teenage visitors as many as 112,583 people, while for adult visitors 141,693 people from the reading room data in 2019, most of whom were adults. The adult category often includes various types of collections and services designed to meet the needs and interests of adults.

The categories of interest are fiction, non-fiction, reference books, arts and culture, financial literacy, hobbies, skills and health. This will later become an implication for reading rooms with Gestalt theory.

The average significant value of  $t > 0.05$  means that  $H_0$  is accepted and  $H_1$  is rejected, this means that all physical variables are not individual and have a significant effect on the dependent variable. For the average significance value of physical variables ( $X_{1.1}$ ,  $X_{1.2}$ ,  $X_{1.3}$ ,  $X_{1.4}$ ,  $X_{1.5}$ ) is above 0.05 where  $H_0$  (There is no application of Gestalt theory in library interior design) is accepted The results of the correlation data significance of  $0.001 < 0.05$  means that  $H_0$  is rejected and  $H_1$  is accepted. Because the significant value of the physical variable average  $t > 0.05$  means  $H_0$  is accepted and  $H_1$  is rejected

Hypothesis:  $H_0$ . There is no application of Gestalt theory in library interior design For bivariate correlation data of spatial variables ( $X_{2.1}$ ,  $X_{2.2}$ ,  $X_{2.3}$ ,  $X_{2.3}$ ,  $X_{2.4}$ ,  $X_{2.5}$ ) some strong negative values when one variable increases the other variable decreases and for other spatial variables the significance value with a value of  $t > 0.05$  means  $H_0$  is accepted and  $H_1$  is rejected. From the results of the Gestalt theory test variable data ( $Y_{.1}$ ,  $Y_{.2}$ ,  $Y_{.3}$ ,  $Y_{.4}$ ,  $Y_{.5}$ ) The significant value of the average  $t > 0.05$  means  $H_0$  (There is no application of Gestalt theory in library interior design) is accepted and  $H_1$  (There is an application of Gestalt theory in library interior design) is rejected.

Table 1 physical and Spatial Variable Relationships Tested using Gestalt Theory

No	Variabel	Teori Gestalt
1	Physique Lighting Color Circulation Airing Accessibility	<b>Similarity:</b> Use consistent design elements (colors, shapes, and materials) to create visual unity. For example, choose a harmonious color palette for walls, furniture, and decor. <b>Proximity:</b> Arrange furniture and bookshelves in a way that facilitates interaction between visitors. A well-organized reading space will help visitors feel more comfortable.
2	Spatial Pattern Proportion & Scale Acoustics Security & Comfort Sustainability Flexibility Engagement	<b>Form and Background:</b> Create visual focus by using contrast between the reading area and other areas. For example, place brighter lighting in the reading area to make the space stand out. <b>Enclosure:</b> Design elements that give a sense of “enclosure” or completion, such as a tall wall of bookshelves, can provide a sense of privacy and focus while reading.

V. CONCLUSION

In concluding the application of Gestalt theory to the interior design of the West Java Provincial Library and Archives Service (Dispusipda), we find that the analysis across three variables—physical, spatial, and test—reveals an average significant value of  $t > 0.05$ . This outcome indicates the acceptance of the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ), which posits that there is no application of Gestalt theory in library interior design, while the alternative hypothesis ( $H_1$ ) is rejected. Essentially, this suggests that the physical variables do not act independently and have a meaningful impact on the

dependent variable. The implication here is that incorporating Gestalt theory into library interior design has the potential to enhance the experience within the reading room. By applying Gestalt principles, we can create an environment that is more comfortable, efficient, and easy to navigate for visitors. Specifically, the application of Gestalt theory in the reading room can be illustrated through several key principles:



*A. Principle of Proximity:*

Elements that are grouped closely together are perceived as a single unit. In the library's reading room, this principle facilitates the organization of book collections by topic or genre, allowing visitors to easily locate related materials. Additionally, the arrangement of seating and tables can foster group dynamics, enabling friends to gather comfortably for discussions or collaborative work.

*B. Principle of Similarity:*

This principle emphasizes that elements sharing visual characteristics—such as color, shape, or size—are perceived as being related. In the context of the library, appropriate color choices for the interior design can significantly influence the first impressions of visitors. Colors not only serve an aesthetic function but also convey visual information that shapes the overall atmosphere. For instance, employing color strategically can enhance visual comfort and optimize the visitor experience. Furthermore, it's vital to pair these design elements with thoughtful lighting. A harmonious combination of wall colors, bookshelves, furnishings, and appropriate lighting, such as the use of soft illumination in shades of blue or green, can greatly enhance comfort and concentration in the reading area. Thus, the careful application of Gestalt principles can transform the library into a more inviting and functional space for all its users.

*C. The Principle:*

Of closure illustrates our natural inclination to perceive incomplete or disconnected forms as unified wholes. In the design of a reading room, this principle can be effectively employed by incorporating interior elements that are subtly enclosed, fostering an environment where visitors can immerse themselves in reading and concentrate on their tasks. For instance, implementing bookshelves that are arranged in a symmetrical pattern not only brings aesthetic harmony but also enhances the sense of organization. This configuration can help create distinct spaces, such as separating individual reading areas from discussion tables, thereby providing a sense of privacy and purpose.

*D. The Principle :*

Of continuity reflects the human tendency to connect points with lines, which creates a coherent visual flow. In a reading room, continuity can be enhanced through thoughtful pathways and accessibility features that guide visitors toward their desired areas effortlessly. For example, arranging bookshelves with adequate spacing allows individuals to navigate the room without obstruction, making it easy to select books and return to their seats smoothly. Similarly, the layout of furniture—especially tables and chairs—can further leverage this principle. By positioning reading tables in linear or circular formations, the reading room will facilitate unobstructed movement, create a sense of order, and promote an efficient use of space, ultimately enhancing the overall visitor experience.

*E. The Principle of Plane and Symmetry :*

In the interior design of the reading room creates visual balance, but also gives a sense of order that is important to help library visitors feel comfortable and easy to move in the room but can also reduce stress or confusion when looking for books. Symmetrical reading room where elements such as tables, bookshelves and seating areas have neat order and apply symmetry to the design of the library walls that can give the impression of order to the placement of decorative items on the walls such as works of art that create a new impression in the room.

*F. The principle of form and background :*

Is used to help focus attention on certain objects or elements in the library reading room environment. This is found in the color of furniture such as tables, bookshelves, or chairs to be able to separate between figures and backgrounds, for example on a reading table with bright colors such as white or light wood with white or neutral wall colors. This can also focus lighting on the most important areas. In the form of a bookshelf that is designed open without a lid to make it easier for visitors and the arrangement of furniture based on its function well to provide sufficient visual emphasis, By using color contrast, focused lighting, prominent shapes and sizes.

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