## Fellow's Message

## Designing the Interiors of the Future: Zero Energy Buildings

The interior of the future is a concept that merges the principles of green design, sustainability, and near-zero energy building (NZEB), redefining how we live, work, and interact with interior spaces. This innovative approach to interior design carries profound implications for both our immediate surroundings and the broader environment.

At its core, this design philosophy prioritizes sustainability and eco-friendliness. The use of renewable materials and the reduction of waste become fundamental. The creation of healthy indoor air quality is emphasized through proper ventilation and toxin-free materials. Implementing passive design strategies like maximizing natural light and ventilation is pivotal in reducing energy consumption.

In this future vision, every aspect of interior design considers environmental impact. From furniture and decor choices to the construction materials used, sustainability is paramount. Eco-friendly interiors aim to reduce the carbon footprint and promote responsible resource use. The emphasis on sustainable and renewable materials further minimizes the long-term environmental impact of the interior.

Moreover, adopting a near-zero energy building approach means interior space contributes to energy efficiency and conservation. This includes integrating smart technologies to regulate temperature, lighting, and power consumption. The focus is on creating a harmonious relationship between the interior space and the environment. Solar panels, energy-efficient appliances, and advanced insulation techniques help to reduce the reliance on non-renewable energy sources. The impact of these practices extends beyond the interior space itself.

By consuming less energy and producing fewer emissions, sustainable interior design contributes to a healthier planet. It aligns with global efforts to combat climate change, reduce pollution, and conserve natural resources. The eco-friendly interior serves as a model for sustainable living, inspiring individuals and businesses to adopt responsible practices.



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"...the interior of the future is a harmonious blend of green, sustainable, and near-zero energy building principles."

- Ts. Salmiah Aziz

Moreover, embracing NZEB strategies means not only reducing energy costs but also supporting a more resilient and efficient energy grid. With the integration of renewable energy sources, like solar panels or wind turbines, the interior of the future can even become a net energy producer, benefiting the larger community.

In conclusion, the interior of the future is a harmonious blend of green, sustainable, and principles. It represents a transformative approach to interior design that not only improves the quality of our living spaces but also carries a significant positive impact on the environment and the way we use resources. This forward-thinking design philosophy offers a glimpse into a more sustainable and eco-conscious future. one where our interior spaces are not only beautiful also but environmentally responsible



## **Author Profile**



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Salmiah Aziz is a proud Kelantanese from Malaysia. She teaches interior architecture at Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (UMK) and also works with Sagaleria Studio in Kuala Lumpur (KL) and Kelantan, remotely contributing to design, graphics, interior and sustainable projects. Her passion lies in art and design. She holds a master's degree in Green Architecture from UiTM Perak. She is currently pursuing a PhD at Unisza in engineering, focusing on sustainability, smart energy practices, digitalization, and renewable energy for sustainable architecture, specifically nearly zero buildings (NZEB). Her knowledge and experience enable her related to to manage projects green design, sustainable and spanning art, interior design, furniture, architecture, and graphic design. She is open to collaborating on green projects with various parties and welcomes ideas, issues, or input for joint efforts. Feel free to contact her for further discussion

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