

**ABSTRACT**  
**DESIGN OF CHURCH GBI TABGHA SP BRANCH**  
**BATU AJI BATAM**

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*Batam City is one of the cities that is experiencing growth in terms of religion, especially Christianity. This is based on the increasingly heterogeneous society in Batam City, supported by the strategic geographical location of Batam City in the center of trade and economy. The growth of the community with followers of the Christian religion was also felt in various churches, including the GBI Tabgha SP church. GBI Tabgha SP Church is one of the branch churches of GBI Gatot Subroto, namely rayon 10 under the pastorate of Rev. Ermasa Sinuraya, MPM. The GBI Tabgha SP Church itself started in 2008 until now with the number of GBI Tabgha SP congregations reaching 3,500 people. The growth of the congregation at the GBI Tabgha SP church encourages the capacity and facilities that must be owned in the church to accommodate the growth of its congregation. The design of the Gbi Tabgha Church, Batu Aji Branch Batam, uses a design method consisting of primary data collection where there are interviews, direct observation and documentation as well as secondary data collection, namely through standards and literature. After analyzing the two methods, the results of the design problems were obtained. Some of the problems in this design are the transfer of the church building from a shophouse to its own land, the lack of need for supporting facilities for the congregation, the worship space that seems rigid, facilities that are not friendly to all people, especially the disabled congregation, the lack of visibility of the congregation to see the altar area and the need for a mature health protocol system in the church, for this reason it is necessary to design a new GBI Tabgha SP building using a symbolic approach, where the symbolic applied in this design is taken from the application of the Tabgha concept, which is expected to be able to implement the characteristics brought by the church into symbols that aims to provide a space experience for the congregation about the closeness between humans and their creator.*

**keywords:** *church design, protestant, GBI Tabgha church, tabgha symbolic approach*