



BANGALORE UNIVERCITY  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND SPATIAL DESIGN

AN PROJECT REPORT ON  
Houseboats in Kerala -Low Cost and Eco Friendly  
Constructional Features.

Submitted in partial fulfilment for the award of degree of  
**BACHELOR OF VISUAL ARTS**  
**7<sup>TH</sup> SEMESTER 2020-2021**  
ACHARYA SCHOOL OF DESIGN

Submitted by  
MUHAMMED SADIQUE T A  
1786BVA040

# 1 Abstract

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Kerala Houseboats (Riceboats) or kettuvallam are country boats that were used in early days for transport of goods from isolated interior villages of Kerala backwater area to the towns like Alleppey, Kollam, Cochin and Kottayam. With the advent of land transport facilities, gradually the kettuvalloms went off the scene. Now they are back again as a major tourist attraction as a modern moving boat house. They form a huge source of revenue and prosperity for the region. It is a well-known fact that only around 100 of the 600-plus houseboats operating in the Vembanad Lake and the surrounding canals and rivers have valid Pollution Control Certificates (PCC) since they have onboard sewage treatment facilities. Houseboats satisfying the essential conditions and adhering to eco-friendly measures will be awarded the Green Palm Certificate, the top classification awarded by the Department of tourism. The sustainability of eco-tourism lays in the four main areas - Environment - Energy - Water - Propulsion. Less fuel/running cost, no oil or diesel contamination into backwaters, no untreated sewage into backwater, reduction in noise pollution are the ways to achieve dream for a green and pleasing future in Kerala backwater and save the same for the next generation.

Keywords: Eco friendly tourism, Effluent treatment, Green palm Houseboat, Pollution Control Certificates (PCC), sustainability.

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