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I declare, I confirm, I certify and I sign that I received substantial, important, line by line peer review with several and substantial comments, important remarks and hints from, at least, 3 Reviewers and the Assistant Editor for my paper: **Design Optimization of the Bolted Connection Loaded Parallel to The Timber Grain for Masonry Building Retrofits**.....

with Authors: **Abdul Razak Abdul Karim, Pierre Quenneville and Norazzlina M.Sa'don**.....

I would like to thank all the reviewers for their thoughtful comments and efforts towards improving our manuscript. We revised the manuscript with special attention to the comments that we received from**Three (3)**.... (<-write the correct number) reviewers that were experts, specialists in the area of my paper. I declare, confirm, certify and sign that NAUN has checked my paper for possible plagiarism by Turnitin and my paper was found without plagiarism or self-plagiarism by Turnitin. I also declare, confirm, certify and sign that also that no Associate-Editor, no Editor-in-Chief, no member of the NAUN Secretariat forced me in this Journal to add references (citations) to any previous publications of the journal.

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I feel very grateful to receive the comments and suggestions from the three expert reviewers. Their constructive recommendations for sure will uplift the quality of my writings, which consequently enhancing the readability of my article to the potential readers. It is very pleasure to experience these encouraging and supportive environments.

Signature (insert an image file with scanned signature or print out the whole page, sign and scan)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'O. J. M.', written on a white background.

Date: 20.1.2022