

Editorial

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This issue of the A|Z ITU Journal of the Faculty of Architecture is the first of its 12th year, an event worthy of some special celebration, remembrance and considerable changes.

Through the remaining years, A|Z ITU Journal of the Faculty of Architecture endeavored to create a decent platform for academic environment to reach the information in the field of design and planning. During this time, 13 volumes and 26 issues have published both electronically and in hard copy, as an internationally indexed journal. By this time, 260 articles produced by 450 authors have been published in the Journal; and these articles were sent from 31 different countries: Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Qatar, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, United Kingdom and United States of America.

Starting with the first issue of 2015, we have introduced a number of changes, all done with the intention of enhancing our reader satisfaction.

The first and most obvious change was about the publication frequency. According to expanded visibility and outreach of the Journal, the number of good-quality submissions has increased dramatically and was left no choice but to move from biannual (spring & fall) to tri-annual publication (spring, summer & fall).

The second and most exciting change was that the logo, the cover and the page layout have been completely redesigned. This was done both to give the journal a brighter appearance and give the reader an opportunity to quickly identify and read the article that might be of immediate interest.

Beginning from this issue;

- Online manuscript management system (www.journalagent.com/itu-jfa/) was started to use for accelerating the submission, peer-review and correspondence processes.
- Each article has a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) number to increase the accessibility and ease the calculation of the citations.
- Webpage of the Journal (www.az.itu.edu.tr) is more appealing, easier to navigate, and more fun to use than even before, with its new fresh-look.

We know the changes can be threatening and intimidating, but it can also be inspiring and beneficial. With the hope of being inspiring and beneficial, we welcome comments on whether we have succeeded in our objectives.

The dossier of this issue has been titled as “Vernacular Architecture” which is edited by Yurdanur Dülgeroğlu-Yüksel, PhD. The articles of this dossier were selected from the ISVS 7 Conference held on 15-17 October 2014. The dossier has the articles as follows: *Vernacular Architecture and Typology by Petruccioli*, *Incremental Housing: A Participation Process Solution for Informal Housing by Hasgül*, *A Comparative Study of Human Aspects in Acclimatization of Adobe Vernacular Architecture, A case from Denmark and Egypt by Dabaieh and Eybye*, *A Research on the Continuity of the Original Settlements: A Case Study On Kemaliye / Erzincan by Torbaoğlu and Demir*, *Extending Kevin Lynch’s Theory of Imageability in Third Space Reading, Case study of Kampung, Surabaya- Indonesia by Damayanti and Kossak*, *A Relative Study of Microclimate Responsive Design Approaches to Buildings in Cypriot by Iyendo, Akingbaso, Alibaba and Özdeniz*, *Lessons from ‘archaeo-architecture’ : Analysing variations in vernacular architecture using methods from archaeology by Brisibe*, *Structural transformations of traditional architecture from Hitites to Ottomans in Bogazkoy by Küçük*, *Vernacular Architecture as an Alternative Design Approach with*

Interpretation of Paul Ricoeur's Critical Theory by Hidayatun, Prijotomo and Rachmawati, *Vernacular to Modern in the Search of Sustainable Development* by Patidar and Raghuwanshi, *Re-Dignifying Vernacular for Constructing National Identity: Elitism, Grand Traditions and Cultural Revival in Bahrain* by Dayaratne. All selected papers were reviewed by at least two reviewers.

Besides of the dossier, this issue has seven articles in the theory section. Gizem Caner and Fulin Bölen wrote the first article. Caner & Bölen, in their article entitled as *Urban Planning Approaches in Divided Cities* present a comparative analysis of planning approaches in divided cities in order to investigate the role of planning in alleviating or exacerbating urban division in these societies. It analyses four urban areas—Berlin, Beirut, Belfast, Jerusalem—either of which has experienced or still experiences extreme divisions related to nationality, ethnicity, religion, and/or culture.

The second article, written by Deniz Balık and Açalya Allmer, makes *A Critical Review of Ornament in Contemporary Architectural Theory and Practice*. The aim of this study is to construct the theoretical framework of ornament in the twenty-first century architectural domain, and the paper intends to investigate the reemergence of this-yet-ambiguous issue to evaluate its new aspects, and redefine its limits in contemporary architectural theory and practice.

The article entitled *Relationship Between Place Attachment and User Satisfaction at Some National Parks in Turkey* written by Pınar Sivalıoğlu and Lale Berköz intends to discover which factors effect visitor satisfaction and

attachment for providing benefit to future studies in national parks.

Işıl Çokuğraş and C. İrem Gençer aims to discuss how the built environment of Istanbul was formed in the 18th century as an initial period for urban reforms and studies in their paper entitled *Urban Regulations in 18th Century Istanbul: Natural Disasters and Public Dispute*. The paper evaluates the regulations of 18th century which were based on the occasion of natural disasters and public dispute through official archive documents and narratives. *Assessing The Role of Users in Sustainable Revitalization of Historic Urban Quarters: The Case of Bursa-Khans District* written by Gül Sibel Gedik and Dilek Yıldız investigates the importance of users' role in sustainable revitalization process in historical urban quarters.

The last paper of this issue is *Energy Efficient Lighting System Retrofit for Retail Environments*. In this study, Feride Şener Yılmaz tries to clarify the lighting design criteria for retail environments in terms of visual comfort conditions and lighting energy efficiency and investigates a retail lighting retrofit application on the example of a department store. This research clearly underlines the importance of a proper lighting retrofit project in terms of providing visual comfort conditions and lighting energy efficiency.

Lastly, I would like to let the readers know about the next issue. The dossiers of the following issues of A|Z ITU Journal of the Faculty of Architecture will be related with Energy Efficiency in Buildings.

Please let us know for following issues if you have ideas or topics that we could be focusing on.