

Editorial

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Finally, we are going out. Lockdown has slowed down and leads us to enjoy the moments outside in summer.

Be aware that the landscapes you are enjoying have the power to heal. So, before choosing where to go, keep an eye on the paper entitled “Healing landscape: How healing parameters in different special organization could affect user’s mental health?” by Razmara and her colleagues. Stressing the healing capabilities of urban parks in Iran, this paper evaluates the parameters affecting and mainly strengthening the quality and livability of urban parks as healing landscapes. They show that various parameters such as geometric design, visual communication, water elements, and the furniture and the activities had the power to increase the quality of healing in Persian urban parks.

The potential positive effects of green areas and nature, especially in urban areas on the psychology is great. However, turning this potential into power can be achieved by planning. Tafahomi and Nadi, with their paper entitled “The transformative characteristics of public spaces in unplanned settlements”, explore the transformative specifications of public spaces in unplanned settlements. They conclude that private spaces are transformed into semi-private spaces depending on socio-economic conditions, while public spaces are privatized. Thus, planners and policymakers should take this transformation into account.

The socio-economic situation and the spatial quality also play an essential role in designing public spaces. Nezami and Asadpour, in “Social capital and the spatial quality of neighborhoods: Parameters, indicators & strategies” offer a four-parameter model for creating and supporting the public realm and resident participation in the physical space management and construction, increased presence of citizens in public and open spaces, and appropriate distribution and location of functions and amenities.

Depending on the climate, the search for a green space may differ by region. Therefore, in hot and dry climates, the innovative solutions for green space appear as green roofs. For example, Fezzioui and Benaichata, in their article “Green roofs

under hot and dry climate in south-west of Algeria: Study of the implementation conditions”, addresses the realization of green building to transform a desert city into an ecological and green one as a solution to the water problem. According to their results, green roofs help decrease the number of hours of discomfort and the cooling energy use compared to the green facades.

The spatial characteristics of common areas are fundamental to identify lifestyles and daily routines. Significantly, while turning from space to a place in time, historical roots affect daily lives. Therefore, Samman, in the article entitled “Axis of succession and axis of intention of time: Unpacking temporal dynamics of colonial space in Jerusalem”, explores the impact of colonial urban planning on the temporal dynamics of the colonized people. The article explains how colonial policies deeply affect the temporal dynamics of the daily lives of the colonized people, creating loops of temporal episodes that affect the essence of perception of time, its organization and management, and their adopted lifestyle.

The common space, i.e., urban parks, urban green areas and public spaces, affects children’s daily lives and perceptions at most. Therefore, their participation in the built environment design is crucial. Ensarioğlu and Özsoy, in “Children’s participation in built environment design: The case of “Play Without Barriers” project”, discusses the effects of built environment education on young participants while introducing a brief explanation of an educational model named “Play Without Barriers” (PWB).

The participatory design offers an incredible spectrum of alternatives and parameters, yet the decision-making phase is always the most challenging phase of the design process. Palabıyık and Alkılınç, in their paper entitled “Developing a web based software for the evaluation of architectural designs”, offer a decision support system to solve complex problems.

Nevertheless, it is not always a designer’s decision to remake the house’s interior. It is the inhabitants’ decision as well. Cordan and Aktan, in their article “Determination of Syrians re-making home interiors through visual research methods: The Sultanbeyli case”, explores how displaced Syrians living in Sultanbeyli, Istanbul, Turkey, are remaking their home interiors.

Social, cultural, and behavioural codes have an essential role in home remaking processes and practices with the supportive relationship between people and their living environment on developing a sense of belonging and place attachment.

The attachment to a place or to belong somewhere passes through feeling comfortable and having functional interiors. Lighting comes to the scene as the identifier of individuals' behaviour. Avcı and Memikoğlu, in their article entitled "Evaluating effectiveness of LED and OLED lights on user visual comfort and reading performance", analyze the effects of different illuminance levels of the light-emitting diode (LED) and organic light-emitting diode (OLED) lights on user visual comfort and reading performance. They offer a recommendation on the preferred illuminance level for LED and OLED light during a reading performance.

The open spaces shape the daily lives within the time they exist, while the transformation of the built environment depends on the daily routines. Costa and Rosado, in their article entitled "Vernacular architecture in the south of Portugal: The history of Mértola's houses from a rural to an urban landscape", explore the permanence and change in the traditional architecture of southern Portugal, adopting the town and landscape of Mértola as a case study. They conclude that the architectural specificity, in both contexts, is subordinate to the same processes of historical change, which nevertheless acquire a circumstantial dimension.

Şahin and Şener in their article "A review on changing housing approaches and media contents in Turkey: 1930-1980 period", show how historical change and circumstances have an impact on housing approaches in Turkey through the media contents from the 1930s to the 1980s, based on the attitude of the media to guide society, which changes in parallel with the dynamics of each period.

To decide between to protect or to transform the historic built environment is quite difficult. Akpınar and her colleagues in their article entitled "Urban protection

and renewal dilemma: İzmir Mezarlıkbaşı" aims to present the difficulties of dealing with the conservation, renewal, and regeneration for heritage areas in the historic core of İzmir, Mezarlıkbaşı, Kemeraltı, as well as to discuss the intrinsic physical qualities, dynamic characters and diversity of community groups with a view of new spatial agenda.

The life duration to adopt and create the built environment remains at the heart of the shape and its grammar. Hussein and Ismael, in their paper entitled "Regenerating traditional houses facades of old Mosul city by Shape Grammar", explore the design of the traditional dwellings in the old city of Mosul by design parameters of the organization of architectural elements in syntactic characteristics, restricted by topological, geometrical, and dimensional relationships that responded to social, technical, and environmental requirements by the use of shape grammar.

The geometry, occupants and the roots in time shape designs in the built environment. Designs should consider the possible risks with which the regulations impact the design and construction of the built environment. In their article entitled "Investigation on evacuation scenarios according to occupant profile in mosques through different fire regulations", Yaman and Kurtay, focusing on the fire risks, investigate the evacuation scenarios. Regulations provide the minimums while the occupants' profiles are the actual determinant of the evacuation success.

Summer has already arrived. Now is the time to relax. In Turkey, tea is the key to quench the thirst, preferably drank with a tulip-shaped tea glass. Erol and Leblebici Başar, in their paper entitled "Analysis of the Turkish tulip-shaped tea glass's emotional design features using Kansei Engineering Methodology", identify the emotional design features of the renowned tea glass. They conclude with a model based on the relationship between the feelings of people and the design features.

Take your drink and sit back. Enjoy our July 2021 issue.

Stay healthy, stay safe!