

Editorial

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Do you believe in coincidences? I don't. This year, unconsciously each cover's colour became a tone of green. We didn't make it on purpose but actually our subconscious made the choice. Green means environment, nature and peace. It is the colour of what we need most in these days.

Environment always plays a crucial role. Not only in individuals' life cycle but also for successful planning, implementation and design. Korkaz and Madani, in their article, "Informal settlements' urban recognition process: A case study of the Essadikia Quarter in Laghouat, Algeria", provides different urban transformation strategies implied by actors in informal settlements of Algeria. They conclude that the success of urban transformation relies not only on strategies but also, and more, on geographical location and natural characteristics of the place.

Zain and his colleagues in their paper entitled "Traditional concepts of Dayaks in the Longhouse of Nek Bindang Village of West Kalimantan" examine the importance that traditional architecture gave to environmental risks, based on Longhouse construction in Nek Bindang Village of West Kalimantan. Their evaluation proves that the traditional architectural concepts have given priority to the balance and harmony with the environment, hand in hand with the local capabilities.

The neglectful behaviour of humans towards the environment appeared first as urbanisation. The negative impact of urbanisation is realized today and there is a call for challenging urbanisation. Each individual depending on their experience provides solutions. Oluwatayo et al., in their paper entitled, "Walking experience in mixed use developments in Lagos, Nigeria", provide one architectural solution to urbanization – mixed-use development. Depending on the pedestrian's experience, if mixed-use development is designed without blocking the shortest path and with non-slip surfaces and lighting features, it increases the satisfaction of pedestrians. Therefore, urbanisation can be a better experience for its citizens.

The beginning of technological advancement was the winner of the fight with environmental issues. Yet, the following years have shown that as it was in traditions, the humans and the environment need to be in harmony, not in war. But the perception of youth has already formed as if it is a fight and the severe consequences call for better environmental attitudes. It is important to think on when and how we can break and change environmental attitudes of the youth. Professional education and universities are the main tools to touch youth to increase their awareness towards environment. In the article, "Determination of the difference between environmental attitudes of 1st and 4th year students of landscape architecture", Tarakçı Eren and Düzenli, show that the education plays a significant role to improve environmental attitudes of youth.

Everybody has the right to experience environment. But the experience is often limited. Özgür and Eşbah Tunçay, in their article "The using of urban park as perceived by visually impaired", discuss how sensory design in urban space can increase individual experience of visually impaired and others. They stress a better understanding of the different types of sensory perception in order to design urban spaces for all.

Fallah and Hojat, in their article entitled "Mental images and congruence strategies: An investigation of congruence between residents and private open spaces in three dominant housing patterns of Yazd" investigate how congruence is established between residents and open spaces in tree dominant housing patterns of Yazd, a traditional city in Iran. According to their results, the similarity between the ideal and desired open space and actual one identifies the behavioural adaptation of residents.

Kozikoğlu and her colleagues, in their article entitled "Mapping relations as a design strategy, physical attraction forces correlation for design thinking", offer how scientific data can be transferred into the design process and convert the subjective process of design to a more objective process. They conclude that the use of dynamic tools and thinking provide and evidence-based environment for the design processes of landscape architects and urban designers.

Ristanto and his colleagues, in their article “User behaviour and circulation in an Indonesian student communal housing facility: Combining space syntax and Actor Network Theory”, analyse to better explain socio-spatial phenomena to help architects design a more strategic and efficient space arrangement.

Molaei and his colleagues, in their article, “Principles of flexibility in design process, with the approach to creativity in design”, introduce six general principles of flexibility. According to Molaei et al., these principles can be turned into a wide variety of flexible design processes. Therefore, the design and its process can be adaptable to unpredictable conditions and time changes.

Each day, environment reminds its importance to us and adaptation becomes crucial. Dabanlı et al., in their article entitled, “In Situ dynamic system identification of historic masonry monuments based on non-destructive testing”, offer a system to understand how to protect cultural heritage towards environmental challenges especially natural disaster risks. Each monument depending on its period asks for a special treatment and protection method. According to their evaluation, for Nur-u Osmaniye mosque, the FE model to update its structure is the relevant one.

Future of cities asks for green construction. Tuz and Sertyeşilışık in their article “Integration of the management theories for enhancing green marketing implementation in the construction industry”, focus on the response of green marketing to environmental concerns. They investigate management theories to enhance green marketing implementations. They provide a guideline for the conceptual changes to adopt green marketing in the construction industry.

Not only the construction industry but architectural design firms also must fulfil the adaptation requirements in order to increase their competitive advantage. Iben and his colleagues, in their article “Critical success factors (CSFs) for e-Business technologies adoption in architectural practice in Nigeria”, provide a successful path for architectural firms to adopt e-business technologies. By adopting successful e-business technologies in improving professional service delivery efficiency, architectural

firms will gain competitive advantage.

On its own, neither adaptation nor giving the environment its deserved value is not enough as we are living in communities. The history and literary texts have a great power to explain this to us clearly.

Aydın and her colleagues, in “Reading 19th century architectural and interior space reflections of modernization through the literary space: Émile Zola’s Nana”, offer insights into 19th century’s architecture and interior space from Emile Zola’s novel Nana, depicting the social problems of the times. They conclude that class discrimination and gender issues have a conflicting reflection on the architectural and interior space.

Çil and Şenel Fidangenç, in their article, “Outside the house but not in the city: Promenades in Istanbul as negotiated public spaces for women in 19th-century Ottoman novels”, offer insights into women at the beginning of modernization in Istanbul of Ottoman Empire. They evaluate that especially the promenades are the places reflecting safety but also tools to keep Muslim women away from the westernized and cosmopolitan side of Istanbul.

Today, this closeness is changing and especially the youth prefer more openness not only outside but also inside. Ammar, in the article entitled “Housing arrangement transformation and the cultural revolution” shows that traditions and cultural change provides a transformation in housing arrangements. Ammar evaluates that the youth of Gaza has a tendency towards openness especially by isolating guest’s spaces by moveable barriers.

But privacy still keep its importance. The main objective for architects is to improve building quality for occupants. Şan Özbilen and Bayazıt in their article entitled “Decision-making method for choosing best alternatives for internal walls based on cost and sound insulation performance”, aims to find the optimum internal wall that complies with the Acoustic Regulation of Turkey and maximizes the airborne sound insulation performance while minimizing other parameters (cost, weight, thickness). By the help of TOPSIS Method, they demonstrate that the combined method is a convenient method for decision making.

Enjoy our November 2021 issue!

Happy New Year!!!