

EDITORIAL

Assalamu'alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh

As in the previous Issue, the Second Issue of 2022 presents nine papers addressing numerous subjects, challenges, and solutions in the form of design concepts pertaining to the built environments. Again, this issue is dedicated to local and international case studies comprising final year studio projects and the design thesis of the students guided and supervised by the lecturers.

The first paper, X-Haustive: An Innovation of Storage System for Preservation of Textiles Collections by Muhammad Affzan Mohammad, Shamzani Affendy Mohd Din, and Rajabi Abdul Razak discussed on the designing of a storage system for a full set of Malay traditional costume consisting of headgear, clothes, samping, and accessories. Malay traditional costume has a historical value that need to be preserved well for the future generations. The aim of the study is to innovate an existing storage system to a new design that will save space in the storage room. The data obtained was analysed to be included in the stage of designing a product. The selection of materials and shape were also considered in order to avoid the collection being damage and deteriorate. Enamel metal was proposed to be used as a material for structure of the storage system. Other than that, polyethene foam, acid-free paper and metal rod also used for this new design of storage system.

The second paper by Abdussalam Khalib and Zeenat Begam Yusof entitled Comport : Kuala Besut Terminal and Community Hub at Kuala Besut, Terengganu Darul Iman discussed on the uniqueness of Besut district which are rich in cultural heritage and various tourist attractions. However, the district's tourism sector still has not reached its potential to develop. Kuala Besut is usually just a tourist route, especially for those who want to get to Perhentian Island. The objective of the study is to design appropriate terminal facilities, spaces for vendors and spaces for art and cultural products promotion. The methodology used for this study is case study, interview, site study and literature review. Findings of the study is formulation of appropriate spaces for the terminal. This study is significance because it will boost Kuala Besut tourism and economy industry.

Ahmad Shuib Yahya, Mohd Hamdan Ahmad, Asan Ali Golam Hassan and Pau Chung Leng in their Reconfiguring Home Spaces: An Exploration of the Spatial Dimension of Low-Income Housing from the Dwellers' Perspective is the third paper. Providing quality housing has been a major agenda in the effort to achieve a decent standard of living for all Malaysians by 2030. However, previous housing schemes especially for low income people have shown no signs of further innovation in improving the quality of domestic space based on the findings of previous studies which continue to discuss the suitability of space design with the social patterns of dwellers. This article investigated the underlying knowledge from the perspective of the dwellers through the exploration of the spatial dimension. Using the creative method, this study processing the information from the dwellers on how the domestic activities were transferred to the dream house model and revealed how the spatial order can reconfigure creatively by the designer. This research clearly illuminated the underlying knowledge of spatial characteristic based on low income opinion.

While the fourth paper by Risal Rasyid and Mila Karmilah titled Ring of Beauty Locally Concept As a Development Tourism in Ngabatata Waterfall Area, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia discussed on Ngabatata Waterfall is famously regarded as a natural tourist attraction with a unique natural charm, despite the inevitable problems to be solved in optimizing the potential of this waterfall. This study aims to propose the development concept for Ngabatata waterfall based on local characteristics to reinforce the image of this area. The output of this research includes the development concept of Ngabatata waterfall as a Tourism Triangle based on nature and local culture in the Heart of Flores Island.

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The fifth paper led by Reham Baydoun and Abdul Razak Sopian on Placemaking: A Decent New Home for the Internally Displaced Syrians at Buffer Zone, Syria discussed on Displacement is a global phenomenon; the causes of displacement vary between violence and natural disasters. Syria remains the world's largest refugee crisis, having multi-displacement due to several effects such as armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, or natural or human-made disasters, especially for the IDSP who moved to the North. This thesis project aims to propose a prototype decent new home for the IDSP where they can self-sustain by having a proper home to work, live in, and socialize. This thesis aims to provide passive earth-sheltered houses with vegetable gardens, communal co-op, and seasonal shared farmland, besides having main facilities of the communal Masjid with a rescue area and marketplace.

Online Learning Experiences for Integrated Multidisciplinary Course During the Covid-19 Pandemic by Fadzli Irwan Bahrudin, Asiah Abdul Rahim and Nur Ulfah Awatif Umairah Alias is the sixth paper. In Kulliyyah of Architecture and Environmental Design of IIUM, students are commonly required to solve relevant and real problems related to the built environment. The course Integrated Multidisciplinary Project presents a short-term architectural development project to a cohort of students from various departments who will tackle these challenges with innovative and creative solutions. Since the Movement Control Order (MCO) began, the course has been conducted online. This paper investigates the learning experiences, including the challenges of online studios for the Integrated Multidisciplinary Project during the COVID-19 pandemic. The experiences were investigated by reviewing studio meetings and the final presentation recording and conducting a semi-structured interview with the project leaders. The findings of the study point to a range of difficulties and advantages in online studio sessions.

The Seventh Paper by Nur Allysa Md Faris, Jasasikin Ab Sani, Fadzli Irwan, Sufian Hamat, Azrin Md Din and Julian Osman in their Revealing the Fitrah of the Garden of Knowledge and Virtue discussed the project aims to redesign the Rectory Building Grand Archway and the Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Mosque (SHAS) upper courtyard of the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). IIUM is known as the garden of knowledge and virtue, one of the leading universities in the world, where it is a place for the unification of nation of worldly knowledge with the teachings of Islam. The project is intended to provide the visual context of the main gate entrance and the SHAS Mosque and to improve accessibility in that area.

The Eighth Paper is on Revitalising the Welcoming Effect of The IIUM Rectory Building: The Integrated Approach by Nur Zulaiqha Mohd Hisham, Julian Osman, Fadzli Irwan, Jasasikin Ab Sani, Fadzli Irwan and Azrin Md Din. The nature of this course is to expose students to the various fields of the Built-environment and familiarise students in working with other related professions in a building team. Therefore, the students' knowledge and skills in Other than that, this project is done to sharpen the students' knowledge and skills in leadership, communication and team working in the context of the Islamic Values. Scholars, researchers and tourists from around the world usually make academic or social meetings at this university with the intention of presenting papers, joining intellectual discourses, attending conferences and seminars and/or going on a personal tour. Therefore, redesign of the Rectory Building Grand Archway including the SHAS Mosque upper courtyard is one of the initiatives of Kulliyyah of Architecture and Environmental Design to provide visual context of the Main Gate Entrance and the SHAS Mosque in order to make the mosque as the focal point of the campus. To achieve the objective of this project, students make a new design of the Rectory Building Grand Archway including the SHAS Mosque upper courtyard, that will give a better welcoming impression of IIUM to the visitors and scholars that come to this university.

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Lastly, the article on Reviving the Design of Al-Ghazali Walk and Courtyard at IIUM by Sarah Sophia Safaraz, Nur Affah Mohyin, Zeenat Begam Yusof, Mohamad Saiful Nizam, Shamzani Affendy and Maheran Mohd Yaman discussed on the main goal of this project is to create a design that can fulfil the requirements of the project objectives. This project aims to redesign the International Islamic University Malaysia, Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah (SHAS) Mosque's lower floor courtyard and the road along the Al-Ghazali Walk. The selected concept for this project is 'Iqtisad of Diversity', which means to create a harmony of diversity in terms of the built environment and cultures found in IIUM. The idea was to elaborate on the concept of Imam Al-Ghazali in the design.

When all is said and done, it is hoped that professionals, lecturers, researchers, and undergraduate and postgraduate students, in built and natural environments, will find this issue of the DIJ interesting, useful and knowledge-expanding. Your sincere feedback is most welcome by our editorial board.

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Editor-in-Chief