

EDITORIAL

Assalamu'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

In this issue 2 of Volume 5, 2023, the publication presented 13 papers addressing numerous subjects, challenges and solutions in the form of design concepts pertaining to the built environments. The papers dedicated to case studies comprising academicians, final year studio projects and the design thesis of the students guided and supervised by the lecturers.

The first paper *Developing An Eco-Cultural Educational Centre At IIUM Gombak Campus* by Nur Aisyah Din, Aniza Abu Bakar and Jamilah Othman discusses on Environmental and cultural education which is vital and have historically aided official and informal education. The issue is, there are possibilities that it will not be integrated into official teaching in higher learning institutions. This project aim to create a proposal to develop an eco-cultural educational centre on the IIUM Gombak campus. The study used a combination of descriptive and numerical analysis to identify natural and cultural resources as well as the potential of the area. A landscape master plan for an eco-cultural educational centre on the IIUM Gombak campus, as well as a detailed development plan focusing on the Rumah Kutai area, have been put forward.

The second paper entitled *Restoring River Ecological Value at Sungai Pusu Gombak Selangor* by Siti Aisyah Shamsul Amri, Aniza Abu Bakar and Zainul Mukrim Baharuddin explained on River as one of the ecosystems that are either endangered or heavily changed by human activity. The authors stated four (4) main problems are occurring at the Pusu River: i) river pollution, ii) sedimentation, iii) flood risk, and iv) habitat loss. The study focuses on restoring river ecological value that was degraded due to human activities and development at the Pusu River in Gombak, Selangor. This study aims to develop a landscape masterplan for the Pusu River as a nature recreational activity park for the IIUM community while sustaining life on land, below water, well-being, and protecting life (al -'nafs). This study used three methods to collect the data: i) document analysis, ii) site observation, and iii) survey questionnaire. The output of the study encompasses the designing stage of proposing an eco-river park master plan and a detailed development plan that emphasises on restoring water quality, returning wildlife and creating space for recreational activity.

The third paper entitled *Establishment of Tamu Welcoming Hub: A Look-Out Platform, Entrance Archway and Bridge Railings at the KAED Malay Heritage Living Lab* by Mohammad Afizul Mohd Sukiman, Nur Ulfah Awatif Umairah Alias, Sufian Hamat, Aida Kesuma Azmin, Sharina Fariyah Hasan. The research aims to identify the ideal potential of design for the KAED Malay Heritage Living Lab of International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) as part of the university's project to celebrate the public space in the university. Under this initiative, a multidisciplinary KAED student group comprising Architecture and Quantity Surveying students collaborated to design the additional structures including the look-out platform, archway and bridge railing at the site. The design creates interactive areas where students and the public can engage with knowledge in various forms, support outdoor learning and community engagement in a natural setting, and create public spaces that celebrate the diverse cultural community of the university.

As for the fourth paper, authored by Fadzidah Abdullah entitled *Narrative Appraisal of Malaysian Neo-Traditional Batik Design Produced by Young Designers*. This paper discusses on as one of the traditional craftsmanship that the Malays in Malaysia continue to safeguard for their cultural sustainability. This research aim to narratively appraise the neo-traditional batik design, produced by a group of young designers. The research was qualitatively conducted using visual analysis and narrative appraisal methods. The group of young batik designers participated in the project is consisted of 61 individuals, who had undertaken a short research project on traditional batik design, and then carried out their venture to produce neo-traditional batik design. Nevertheless, only few selected batik designs would be appraised narratively in this article, to provide samples of stimuluses for batik designer-to-be. This narrative appraisal is hoped to motivate young designers to venture into batik design exploration with high level of cultural understanding and expressive attachment.

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The fifth paper entitled Cultural Tourism: Historic Urban Landscapes in Cultural Tourism in Economic Development Perspective of Istanbul and Melaka by Muhammad Danial Hafiz, Muhammad Aliff Haikal Mohamad Napiah and Syakir Amir Abd Rahman. This paper explores the vital role of historic urban landscapes in cultural tourism and their significant contribution to the economic development of Istanbul and Melaka. This article examines these cities' unique features and attractions, delving into the economic impact of cultural tourism on their local economies using qualitative methods. By analysing the job creation, growth of supporting industries and the positive effects on local businesses and communities, this article highlights the importance of preserving and promoting historic urban landscapes for sustainable cultural tourism. Comparisons between Istanbul and Melaka provide valuable insights into lessons learned and best practices while emphasising the prospects and significance of fostering responsible cultural tourism.

The sixth paper entitled Comparative Study in Urban Regeneration Development Approach in Turkiye and Malaysia Cities by Muhammad Daniel Zakuan Tajuddin and M Zainora binti Asmawi . This research aims to analyse the methods used for urban regeneration in Malaysian cities and Istanbul, Turkiye, with a particular concern on the key strategies, difficulties and results of the selected projects. The study used a thorough examination of the literature and a qualitative analysis of case studies from both locations. The study compares the experiences of Malaysia and Turkiye to find similarities and variations in the methods used for urban regeneration. The findings of this research enable to give better understanding on the effective strategies, best practices and potential areas for improvement in urban regeneration for Istanbul and cities in Malaysia.

The seventh paper by Nur Amalia Amani Mohd Rozmadi, Farah Aqillah Sahrul Anuar and Noor Suzilawati Rabe entitled The Role of Urban Renewal in Creating Authentic Travel Experience of Urban Tourism, A Case Study of Turkiye and Malaysia. This paper discussed a findings from a comparative analysis on urban renewal initiatives and their impacts on the urban tourism landscape in Malaysia and Türkiye. In this study, definition of urban renewal in the context of urban tourism, encompassing an intricate understanding of the strategies, challenges and outcomes from the urban renewal programmes will be thoroughly discussed. Outcomes from this study are intended to provide valuable insights towards improving future urban development and tourism planning in both countries.

The eight paper of this publication entitled A Comparison of Urban Restoration of Heritage Buildings: A Case Study in Arnavutköy, Istanbul and George Town, Penang by Nur Sofia Hanim Sophian, Syaza Farzana Nazry and Illyani Ibrahim. This research presents a comparative analysis of heritage building urban restoration in Arnavutköy, Istanbul and George Town, Penang. The method of this study is using observation and review analysis. This study also analyses on the restoration, community involvement and the preservation of architectural heritage to unveils unique strategies employed in each site. The findings contribute valuable insights to the field of heritage conservation and urban development, aiding in the form.

The ninth paper entitled Low Carbon Application in Kuala Lumpur and Istanbul by Nurin Izzati Azmi, Muhammad AL- Hafiz Ishak, Sümeyye Erişgin and Norzailawati Bt. Hj. Mohd. Noor. This paper explained on Carbon emission Worldwide, particularly in emerging nations. Kuala Lumpur and Istanbul have developed policies to combat climate change, nevertheless, every city faces specific difficulties. The two countries are affected by climate change, however, both cities manage fast urbanisation while juggling development and sustainability. This study emphasises the low-carbon initiatives of the cities, their parallels and divergences, and offer insights into urban planning and the formulation of policies that will lead to sustainable cities. It also analyses the suitable options for low carbon application that could be applied in both countries, including the use of non-renewable energy and increasing the use of clean energy to reduce CO2 emissions from buildings.

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The tenth paper of this issue entitled *Stairway to Accessibility: Transforming Steep Stairs for the Elderly, Disabled and Children* by Cemre Onan, Abdullah Kerem Gözübüyük, Eymen Karabulut and Ömer Dabanlı. This study presents an integrated application proposal with the concept of "urban acupuncture", which emphasises a contemporary and sustainable design approach, emphasises social equality and accessibility. The study addresses the difficulties created by steep stairs for vulnerable groups such as the elderly, disabled and children, and produces solutions by catalysing interventions compatible with the urban fabric. The methodology of the study includes an urban acupuncture practice that addresses the difficulties caused by steep stairs in the Cihangir neighbourhood. Within the scope of this study, field observations and analyses are included. The study aim to provide a more livable environment for the residents of the neighbourhood by providing solutions to security problems, lack of green areas and insufficient public facilities.

The eleventh paper authored by Yasemin Serenli, Ekin Demirkaya, Rumeysa Ceylan and Mehmet Küçükmehtemoglu entitled *Rethinking Disadvantaged Groups For Creating Inclusive Public Space in Taksim Square*. Taksim Square is a significant public space in Istanbul, Türkiye, with socio-cultural and historical importance. The square has been known as a platform for expressing political issues and socio-cultural demands. However, when considering the needs of disadvantaged groups, certain challenges become apparent. These challenges include a lack of green spaces, playgrounds and facilities, as well as issues related to the organisation and landscape design of the area. Therefore, this research aims to revitalise Taksim Square through the implementation of urban acupuncture, proposing design solutions that cater to the diverse needs of its users. The research emphasises a comprehensive approach that prioritises the needs of disadvantaged groups and environmental considerations while fostering dynamism, security and the creation of green spaces.

The twelfth paper is entitled *Urban Acupuncture in Gümüşsuyu Park for Rethinking Green Areas with Recycling* by Sümeyye Erişgin, Muhammed Furkan Yavuzer and Numan Kılınç. This paper discusses the usage of public spaces and their capability to meet the needs of all user profiles in society. This study aims to develop Gümüşsuyu Park in Istanbul, Turkey, as a living part of the city again. In this study, the urban acupuncture approach was used to improve the unused area in Gümüşsuyu Park. The data for the study were collected through observations made during field trips and presented as visuals and documents. Problem definition and visualisation methods were used in the presentation format. The ideas put forward for Gümüşsuyu Park will become a part of the park's life and a breathing space for people living there or those passing by.

Lastly, the final paper by Sena İpek İliter, Gizem Ceyda Yılmaz and Fatih Eren entitled *Urban Acupuncture in Taksim Gezi Park: Improving Social Life for Communities*. This paper discusses the functionality of Urban acupuncture as an adaptive framework for the design and regeneration of neglected public spaces (urban voids, lost places) to strengthen the social infrastructure of a city. This study aims to improve the social life of communities in Taksim Gezi Park in Istanbul, Türkiye, developed through an urban acupuncture idea project. This paper introduces urban acupuncture and the explanation of the study area. Data were collected by case study and observation methods and analysed using document analysis, visual material analysis and SWOT analysis methods. From spatial analyses, the site-specific urban acupuncture idea projects were developed to improve Taksim Gezi Park to be more comfortable and beneficial for social communities, including plants and animals.

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ISSUE 2, 2023