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## **PREFACE**

*Assalamu'alaikum wrt. wbt.* and dear all,

It has been observed that in the specialized fields of architecture, planning, landscaping architecture, quantity surveying, building technology and engineering, applied arts and design, and other fields related to the built environment there is a general lack of scholarly articles and research reports, either collectively or individually, that are closest to Malaysia, Asian and the Islamic perspectives. Consequently, the Kulliyyah (Faculty) of Architecture and Environmental Design at the International Islamic University Malaysia (KAED, IIUM) considers it to be timely and appropriate for a journal i.e. Journal of Architecture, Planning and Construction Management (JAPCM) to be established. The key aim of JAPCM is therefore to provide a platform for mitigating the 'gap' in the body of knowledge to be addressed.

JAPCM offers an opportunity for researchers, research students, practitioners and authors to share their views, theoretical and empirical research findings; and readers, especially academics and students to appreciate and benefit from its contents. Research reports and theoretical papers, short practice notes, book reviews and abstracts from Masters and PhD theses and dissertations are welcome on any aspects of architecture, urban and regional planning, landscape architecture, quantity surveying, building technology and engineering, applied arts and design, and other fields related to the built environment discipline.

**Emeritus Prof. Ar. Dato' Dr. Elias Salleh**  
Editor-In-Chief

## EDITORIAL

*Assalamu-alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh*

Welcome to the belated eighth volume and first issue of the Journal of Architecture, Planning and Construction Management or JAPCM. Due to some changes in the internal management of JAPCM since the last issue of Volume 6, Issue 2, there has been an unintended delay in the release of this volume. Nevertheless, here is JAPCM Volume 8, Issue 1 with six research papers pertaining to the built environment, in the Malaysian and international context.

This Volume 8 Issue 1 of JAPCM covers urban environment, landscape plantings and tourism.

In his paper about Kuala Lumpur public parks, Zainul Mukrim Baharuddin investigates people's interaction with open space by interviewing visitors from nine selected urban parks in Kuala Lumpur. The study concludes that a healthy living environment can be promoted through frequent visits to urban parks by participating in active and passive activities and nature appreciation.

This is followed by a study on the misuse in neighbourhood open space by Putri Haryati Ibrahim and Nabilah Huda Zulkifli. The study used questionnaire survey to identify and understand the misuse of neighbourhood open spaces in Majlis Bandaraya Petaling Jaya. It was found that illegal dumping, vandalism, illegal placement of posters and advertisements, illegal parking, indecent behaviour and walking the dogs in the parks are the common offenses occurring in the neighbourhood open spaces. This study deduced that violation of Parks Bylaws occurred mainly due to the lack of awareness and public involvement. Several suggestions to address the issues are then outlined.

Researching on urban sprawl, Nur Aulia Rosni, Norzailawati Mohd Noor and Zakiah Ponrahono reviewed publications on urban sprawl factors and causes extracted from two largest scientific databases, namely Scopus and Science Direct from 1996 to 2015, using the citation-based approach analysis. The findings are presented in different categories including (i) socio-demographic, (ii) economic, (iii) political, (iv) physical, (v) environment, and (vi) transportation, pertinent to the formation of urban sprawl, contributing in defining urban sprawl based on its factors and causes in the broader context of the built environment.

Rashid Othman studied six types of Malay midwifery practices using plants in five different localities in Kelantan. Accordingly, the practice of *lenggang perut* was performed during prenatal treatment whereas another five practices (*bertangas*, *bertungku*, *berparam*, *berpilis* and *mandi serom*) were performed during postnatal treatment. Each practice has specific purposes and functions which later determines the accumulation of plant materials selection. Of all the Malay midwifery practices studied in this research it was found that *mandi serom* involves the most diverse plant species. This study established that plant materials composition selection differs greatly with respect to the stage of midwifery practices, locality, environmental factors and culture.

In another study regarding mangrove forest Rashid Othman explores the most intrinsic value of Pteroplithite Mangrove Forests that can be integrated as a landscape design element. The data collection involved observations, site inventory, determination of physicochemical

contents of seawater, and collected sample plants and soil that were conducted in two selected areas, namely Pasir Panjang, Port Dickson and Kuala Linggi, Melaka. The main finding shows that the analysis of abiotic and biotic factors of pteroplinthite mangrove have their own potential and there are eight intrinsic characters that can be highlighted in both selected areas of this mangrove forest.

Finally, the physical tourism potentials in Mubi Town Adamawa State in Nigeria was studied by Hashim Abdullahi et al using empirical investigation method. Primary data was collected through a well-structured questionnaire survey using five grading scale, and site observations of the physical tourism potentials. The research discovered six significant physical tourism potentials, namely Tike Cattle Market, Wednesday Market, traditional local industries, Emir Palace, two minarets of Central Mosque, and River Yadzram. The result demonstrates that the correlation between Physical Tourism Potentials (PTP) and Environmental Elements (EE) is highly significant, indicating that PTP in Mubi Town plays an integral role in the tourism potentials of the town.

*Happy reading.*

Emeritus Professor Dato' Ar. Dr. Elias Bin Salleh  
Editor-in-Chief / JAPCM