

## Editorial

ISVS Vol. 2, no 4 is coming out of the press at an opportune time. We have just heard that the ISVS-7 will be hosted by the Istanbul Technical University of Istanbul. We are sure to have a great conference in 2014, with the support of the Faculty there guided by Prof. Hifsiye Pulhan who hosted a great ISVS 6 conference in Cyprus.

ISVS e journal is also coming to light through a new website, which Prof. Pratyush Shanker, at the ISVS secretariat has made enormous efforts to bring out in a more appealing and professional manner. Collectively, it is clear that the ISVS movement that started in Indonesia is going from strength to strength albeit slowly. Progressing unhurriedly is quite natural to the vernacular practices which do not, as one of our most Senior Advisors; Prof. Miki Desai put it at the ISVS 4 at Ahmadabad. Slow pace is what accommodates change adaptively rather than the speed at which the present societies are articulating change which often end up with disastrous consequences.

That change is in fact what most of the papers in this issue are talking about too. It offers some very interesting, extensively researched papers which examine change from different theoretical perspectives. As Primali Paranagamage and Carl O Coill from the University of Lincoln, UK., point out, there are changes in meanings in vernacular settlements. In contrast, Joy Joshua Maina from the University of Nottingham, UK, draw our attention to the constants that remain while change occurs. Morphological types are of importance to understand both those constants and changes as Inda Widyastuti from Indonesia shows.

One of the most noteworthy papers however is that of Nishan Rasanga Wijetunga, who examines an entirely different sector of the vernacular settlements: the domestic architecture of the elites; a sector that we have generally ignored. I am thankful to all the contributors to this issue for having helped us to keep the vernacular fires burning, so that we draw attention to the relevance and significance of the Vernacular Settlements in the contemporary world.

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