

EDITORIAL

In this issue, the papers examine the built-environmental issues in Indonesia, Thailand, Iraq, Jordan, and Kazakhstan among others. They deal with numerous aspects of the built-environments and demonstrate that the issues of our surroundings are complex and need to be examined through multiple lenses.

Issues are range from the vernacular as well as the issues of place, architecture and branding, heritage conservation and even legal affairs of the vernacular settlements. In more specific terms, the papers in this issue have focused on the following. Biljana Petrevska and Ivanka Nestoroska examine the role of vernacular architecture in the development of tourism in North Macedonia and emphasize the importance of preserving cultural identity in order to attract the tourists and promote sustainable practices. Petar Namicev and Ivanka Nestoroska examine urban and rural vernacular architecture of North Macedonia and especially the house designs in the 19th Century and emphasize the importance of preserving cultural identity by safeguarding architectural traditions.

Wasilah Sahabuddin and Andi Hildayanti look at the influence of cosmology in life and architecture, bringing insights from the Kajang people of Indonesia. They unravel the abstract ideas of space manifested in the physical artefacts and symbols around which the human settlements are constructed by the Kajang people. Rini Suryantini, et al. present a story of finding food referring to the adaptation of Sampan as living and working spaces in Riau Islands in Indonesia. They have found unique adaptations of the sampans based on food-finding activities, suggesting a dynamic spatial domestic arrangement happening within their sampans.

Surinee Kingkad and Panuwat Sawasdee examine the adaptations of colonial buildings to modern contexts in the seaport areas of Southern Thailand. They conclude that economic factors, at the time when cultural tourism was popular, were the major causes of adaptation of colonial buildings. Mulyono, at al. present a very interesting philosophical interpretation of puppet text: the dialectical hermeneutics of love, destiny, origin and purpose: the spiritual realities in the puppet stories of Sinta Obong & Sita Sihir of Java, Indonesia. They conclude that "Sinta Obong" by Ki Slamett Soetarsa, and his spiritual reality is the enforcement of self-esteem as a political leader.

Slamet Subiyantoro, Dimas Fahrudin, and Sony Baroo Amirulloh look at the character education values of Pancasila Student Profiles in the Puppet Figure Wayang Arjuna. Employing a Javanese cultural perspective, and show that the puppet figure Arjuna symbolically has an interrelated outer and inner structure involving the arjuna figures.

Kurnia Warman and Titin Fatimah examine agrarian reform in the forests around the vernacular settlements specifically the asset reforms and the access reforms in rural West Sumatra, Indonesia. Suhaidi, Sunarmi, Riadhi Alhayyan, and Vita Cita Emia Tarigan also examine another legal issue. They look at Illegal fishing in the vernacular maritime settlements. By conducting a bibliometric analysis, they provide academics and practitioners with in-depth insights into illegal fishing in maritime settlements, which may subsequently be utilized as a reference for future studies.

Kadek Cahya Susila Wibawa, Retno Saraswati, and Budi Ispriyarso probe into the conflicts, law enforcement Eddy Supriyatna, Fermanto Lianto, and Rudy Trisno are intrigued by the Javanese mythology of orientation in the Interior architecture of North Sitihinggil at the Keraton Yogyakarta, Indonesia. They show how the Royals derive power from this orientation.

Finally, Richa Jagatramka and Ritu Sharma offer a unique study. They examine manifestations of vernacular socio-cultural characteristics in the architects' design philosophies and their design studios.

Overall, this issue of the ISVS e-journal—as it always is—has been a collection of very meaningful studies into the vernacular settlements as well as the human settlements in general bringing out insights hitherto not available. We are most encouraged by their contributions; indeed, we are thankful to all our authors for their great contributions.

Dr. Ranjith Dayaratne
Editor-in-Chief