

EDITORIAL

Unsurprisingly, the ISVS e-journal continues to publish as it used to be despite the loss of recognition on the grounds that it published what they some think ‘think pieces.’ Thinking, it seems to be an undesirable academic endeavor. Whatever that is, the authors of this journal continue to gather data, instead of thinking about things and produce what may be acceptable research findings.

This issue thus establishes that the ISVS e-journal supports the upcoming researchers to share their research with the wider academic community, while facilitating the established researchers to consolidate their positions and authority in the respective areas of research.

In this issue, the papers numerously examine the built-environmental issues in Indonesia, Thailand, Iraq, Jordon, and Kazakhstan among others. They all 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 numerous and 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.

M. Maria Sudarwani et al. examine the issue of blending architecture with Nature. They examine the concepts of Sundanese architecture and their applications in contemporary architecture in Kampung Naga, Indonesia. Sheikh Hameem on the other hand examine the transformations of residential neighborhoods of Rajshahi. They examine the case of Sagarpara and Padma Residential areas in Bangladesh. Majd Albaik examining the influence of Graffiti on people’s perceptions of urban spaces in Hashemi Shamali, Amman, Jordan, show how graffiti on the streets is a vernacular act. In contrast, Annam Ishrat, et al. look at climate and seismic responsive of vernacular architecture of the old settlement of Srinagar, India. Eko Sugiarto et al. examine the use of traditional batik motifs in urban interiors in Indonesia and argue how they reinterpret between aesthetics and functions.

WN Jazmina et al. on the other hand examine the handicraft innovations as a strategic approach to preserving intangible cultural heritage of Malaysia. This is comparable with what Eko Haryanto et al. tell us about the application of traditional Mantingan Motifs in new wood carving art design in Indonesia. Elizabeth Susanti Gunawan, et al. examine the cultural expressions of vernacular architecture of eclectic Style. They look at the case of Dharma Rakhita temple in Jamblang, Indonesia. Zahraa Ahmed & Saba Sami Al Ali show us the psychological relationships between heritage buildings and their occupants. They offer us a theoretical exploration.

Lilik Setiawan HP et al. however are interested in the digital technologies. Using information system simulations and modeling to reconstruct traditional building structures they explain the case of Joglo buildings in Indonesia to demonstrate the possibility of using digital technologies in vernacular. Magvira Ardha Pratiwi et al. have very different things to share. They present the experiences of vernacular streets as urban heritage sites. In fact, they explore sense of place of historic streets in Kayutangan, Malang, Indonesia.

Meina Febriani think that literary education in vernacular settlements is very important. They point out the principles of such practices and offers us insights from the Sastra Pinggiran Banyumas community in Indonesia. In contrast, Sriwinarsih Maria Kirana et al. digs deep into history. They examine the vernacular contribution to Dutch East Indies heritage architecture in Indonesia, bringing insights from the Jaarbeurs Building.

There is no doubt that these are new findings about the relationships between communities and culture and enrich our understanding about the world in which we exist. 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.

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Editor-in-Chief