

## EDITORIAL

Despite the recent set-backs, ISVS e-journal continues to be published. We are glad that the authors have not abandoned the journal but continue to subscribe while being fully aware of its standing. Hence, here we are still publishing as a monthly publication.

In this issue, the papers numerously examine the built-environmental issues. The papers deal with the social and cultural aspects of the built-environments and demonstrate that the issues of our surroundings are complex and need to be examined through multiple approaches.

Rami Alshawabkeh & Raghad Alhammad examine the issue of promoting vernacularity in the cities. They look at the principles for creating livable streets for people in Jordan and conclude that livable streets promote vernacularity. Susi Machdalena et al. examine the Sulintang dance, often performed by women in the vernacular settlements in Indonesia. They look at the shaping of the new image of the Sundanese dancing woman and conclude that Sulintang Dance raises the image of dignified Sundanese female dancers by displaying and communicating the Sundanese culture.

Anriani Safar examine the transformations of vernacular geographies. They look at the changes in the morphology of residential areas of Sentani in Indonesia. Similarly, Phuong Thi Nguyen examines the issues and solutions in preserving and promoting the values of historical relics in the resistance war of Vietnam, which they see as a way of rekindling and strengthening the vernacular memories. She reveals that, in preserving the historical relics, there are deficiencies in the use of technology and community involvement.

On the contrary, Shanmuggarani Ayyapan and Kannamma Dorairaj using a mathematical analysis examine the significance of building orientation in institutional buildings with vernacular elements. They point out that vernacular buildings use indigenous materials and construction techniques that are region-specific to enhance natural ventilation, daylight progress and thermal comfort inside buildings.

Slamet Supriyadi, Endang Widiyastuti & Margana examine an entirely different phenomenon. They offer a pragmatic analysis of carving ornaments at the Mantingan Mosque in Jepara, Indonesia. They show that the use of ornaments in the Mantingan Mosque was a representation of cultural integration and the sustainability of the socio-religious function of the mosque. In contrast, Sugeng Nugroho look at an entirely different thing. They examine the transformation of Kakawin Arjunawiwaha into the Scenario Text of Wayang Kulit Purwa Performance called Lakon Harjuna Wiwaha. They point out that both scripts have the same plot and events.

Angga Eka Karina, Bambang Sunarto, Zulkarnain Mistortoify & Yusri Yusuf on the other hand examine the influence of spatial context on the technique of crafting the Rapai Pase musical instrument in the vernacular settlements of North Aceh, Indonesia. They reveal that the influence of spatial context on the practice of crafting Rapai Pase musical instruments which can be understood from different aspects: geographical factors, local history and culture, and the social and physical environmental contexts.

Fatmahwati, et al. examine Orahua and Daro-Daro as a representation of the cultural identity of Nias People of North Sumatra, Indonesia. They conclude that that orahua and daro-daro represent the cultural identity of the Nias people and the survival of orahua and daro-daro supports the preservation of the cultural identity of the Nias people. Similarly, Hossein Raie et al. examine the relationships between the heritage landscapes and vernacular settlements bringing insights from the Farmsteads in Iran. Basril Basyar et al. examine the issue of communicating with the farming communities to promote economic improvements bringing insights from the Nagari Forest area at Sanlibutan and Aie Dingin in West Sumatra, Indonesia. Finally, Ignacio Juan Ferruses et al. present sustainable approaches employed in settlements designed by Hassan Fathy in New Gourn, Egypt.

Overall, this issue of the ISVS e-journal also present very meaningful studies into the vernacular settlements 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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