

EDITORIAL

This issue of the ISVS e-journal is published quite comfortably even two months after the dark day of its history. Our traditional contributors from Indonesia, continue to subscribe to the journal. Thus, there are three papers from Indonesia in this issue. The first paper however comes from Timur Apendiyev et al. from Kazakhstan. They examine the demographic changes in the villages in Kazakhstan from 1945-1955 as unique transformations of the vernacular settlements.

Yasmoun et al. examine the efficiency and contextual responsiveness in Indian vernacular architecture and argue that there is a trend in making small houses in Indian cities. They point out that lessons for modern tiny house designs can be derived from the vernacular settlements.

Yusup Sigit Martyastiadi examine the Hindu icon God Shiva as interactions between the Hindus and the Buddhists at the Borobudur Temple in Indonesia. He points out that the figure carved on the panels of the Gandavyuha reliefs is God Shiva, which is also a Hindu icon as per the Gandavyuha Sutra text. Hence, it is clear that God Shiva is presented as a visual communication of interactions between the Hindus and the Buddhists at the Borobudur Temple in Indonesia.

In contrast, Aparna et al. examine the potentials of revitalizing the industrial heritage of Kuttichira, Calicut, India. They identify the potentials of the industrial heritage to provide a sense of history and identity to the place.

Taufiq Akbar, Sunarmi, Sarwanto & Sunardi examine an entirely different issue. They interpret the Wayang Creation of Superhero & Anime Characters as a reinvention of the visuals of Surakarta style Wayang Purwa. They conclude that in reinventing a cultural artefact, important elements are maintained in order to retain the historical identity in the modern reinvention.

Petar Namicev Ekaterina & Namicheva Todorovska examine the transformations of the vernacular houses of Macedonia in the 19th Century. They conclude that the traditional Macedonian village and town houses are undergoing notable changes, driven by factors such as urbanization.

Fatmahwati et al. examine the issue of employing language to construct cultural identity. They specifically examine cross-cultural communications among the vernacular communities in the West Kalimantan-Sarawak border region in Indonesia. They conclude that linguistic identity is characterized by a strong sense of ethnicity: ethnic culture, regional geography among others.

Joko Lulut Amboro, Anung Bambang Studyanto & Setyawan examine the re-invention of vernacular arts and crafts. They focus on the creation of a cauldron inspired from the ornament motifs of Sunan Padangaran Mosque, Indonesia. They conclude that cauldron creation is part of an effort to preserve the culture of the vernacular communities.

Tanha Tabassum Tisha look at an entirely different aspect. She examines the regeneration of distressed communities in settlements around brownfields bringing insights from Khulna, Bangladesh. The paper formulates a framework for the regeneration of distressed vernacular communities around the urban brownfields.

Thuy Nhu Thi Nguyen examine urbanization and its impact on the cultural values in the life cycle rituals of the K'Ho Ethnic Group in Lam Dong Province, Vietnam. She shows that traditional practices are increasingly infused with modern elements, reflecting broader socio-economic transformations and the integration of new cultural norms.

Finally, Kabir Fatema, Tanaya Verma & Anurag Varma show that wholesome architecture can be created by re-inventing vernacular qualities: To facilitate such a task, they validating a tool to measure Genius Loci at two sites in Mumbai, India.

These papers divulge the manifestations of culture and traditions in the vernacular settlements. We are delighted that the ISVS e-journal continues to be published sustained by the enthusiasm of its authors who see the standing and value of the journal as being significant.

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Editor-in-Chief