

Editorial

We are delighted to publish and present to you this Vol.13 (Issue 01) of the Built-Environment Sri Lanka e journal. Over the years, the journal has progressed slowly but steadily to the current commendable state it has reached. We are indeed pleased that the new generation of younger academics – not only from Sri Lanka, but from the world over – are increasingly showing a greater interest in Built-Environment Sri Lanka. The fact that the extant editorial board is internationally oriented as well as locally, could be attributed to this new-found interest. The ensemble of editors – all of them being published academics possessing PhDs on an array of vibrant subjects and areas – is now qualified and competent to cover the entire scope designated by the journal.

The composition of papers presented in the latest issue of the journal is indeed interesting. Two from the collection of four papers featured tackle urban subjects pertaining to Europe and South Asia. The theoretical contiguity and grounding of the pieces are noteworthy. The paper by Christina Peiri offers a critical examination of the use of façadism as an urban regeneration and heritage conservation approach, and contributes to a stronger understanding of the impact of conflict and division in the management of the heritage of walled Nicosia in Cyprus. The joint paper by Qurat-ul-Ain Rehman and Rafique-ul-Hassnain Soomro on the other hand, examines the existing conditions of the Merewether tower in Karachi, Pakistan and its surroundings. The authors examine how the monument can be revitalized in order to improve the morphology of the region by analyzing how conservation of a cultural heritage structure as such can enhance urban character and link up the surrounding communities that in turn, interact with it.

The Sri Lankan contribution for this issue of the journal takes a more hands-on approach to research. The paper by Hettiarachchi A. A. and de Silva T. K. N. P. seeks scientific explanation on manifestation and contributing factors of colour associated thermal perception (CTP) of a warm colour (red-RTP) and a cool colour (blue-BTP). Involving undergraduates from a local state university, it tests the hypothesised potentials of CTP to manifest as a psychological response as well as a biological response, altering core body temperature or an actual thermal sensation caused by the human skin due to heat radiation emitted via coloured surfaces. The research conducted by Wijeratna W. H. P. and Hettiarachchi A. A. explores the potential of incorporating theoretically-established ‘cool’ colours within the interiors of a building set in a hot humid tropical climate as an alternative strategy for energy conservation. This was tested by a preliminary field investigation at a garment factory in Panadura, Sri Lanka.

All four of the aforementioned pieces of research have yielded valuable findings and insights that would surely be beneficial for future research in their respective areas, and indeed fulfil the intentions of Built-Environment Sri Lanka e journal. After all, the idea of each and every piece of academic research is to push epistemology further; one little step at a time.

On this note, Built-Environment Sri Lanka openly invites scholars the world over to also share their research findings and insights with the wider academic community through our e journal, and partake in its efforts to wider disseminate knowledge.

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