The 20th issue of our journal, which examines Ankara through interdisciplinary research, features articles from architectural history, history, geology, and political science.

The first article of the current issue explores the role of Ankara sports clubs in the organization of sports activities as recreational leisure in the daily life of Ankara residents and the dissemination of new western sports as well as established ones among all layers of society from 1922 to 1946. The next article examines the use of existing public spaces for official holiday celebrations in the Republic’s first years, the design of new such spaces in the following years, and the new activities included in the celebration programs and the social benefits they provide.

Based on the fact that cities also play a significant role in international relations, the third article examines how the bilateral collaborations Ankara Metropolitan Municipality established in the context of Ankara’s local diplomacy activities impact the city, as well as Turkish foreign policy and national diplomacy. A study carried out by geology researchers aims to identify the building blocks of Ankara Citadel’s walls and determine the locations of the quarries from which they originate. We think that the data obtained through this study is crucial for our city as it specifies the properties of the archaeometry material used for restoration works in the Ankara Citadel, it indicates the locations where this material can be obtained, providing a roadmap for similar studies.

With the proclamation of the Republic, the capital Ankara became a model to be extended to the whole country in many areas in the context of modernization. Through the works Hülya Bu Ya... and Ankara, another study in the journal aims to determine the literary equivalent of the physical and intellectual transformation of Ankara, which is also the capital of “New Life” fiction, in architecture and literature. Another piece conveys important information about Ankara’s social and cultural life in the 1950s through observations two American women on official missions made in two separate books.

The opinion articles section of the journal discusses and analyses the friendship story of Swiss Anthropologist Prof. Dr. Eugène Pittard, who worked at Ankara University Faculty of Languages, History, and Geography in 1938, which formed the basis of relations between Turkey and Switzerland that started in Ankara.

Enjoy your reading.

Mehtap TÜRKYILMAZ, Alev AYAOKUR