



# Ankara Arařtırmaları Dergisi

## Journal of Ankara Studies

### From the Editors

Dear readers,

This year, we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the establishment of the Grand National Assembly which laid the foundations of the Republic of Turkey through a series of legislations it passed, and which directed the national struggle efforts from April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1920 to April 16<sup>th</sup>, 1923. This also marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the children’s holiday, which was one of the few joyful aspects of 2020. We hope to celebrate many such centennials in the future.

From February onwards, the Covid-19 pandemic has been the major misfortune of the year in Turkey as well as elsewhere in the world. The present generation has the bad luck of experiencing the current pandemic, which strikes a century after the influenza epidemic of 1918-1920. In addition to its economic and social impact, the current pandemic caused immense disruption in scientific research and publishing. Many scientists, scientific committees, and laboratories were unable to continue their operations. The publication of many journals experienced disruptions especially in positive sciences, while a lot of social science research was interrupted.

During these times of adversity, we are delighted to be able to publish the 15<sup>th</sup> issue of our interdisciplinary journal, which features articles on architecture, history, anthropology, geography, and literature. We are grateful to the authors for submitting their valuable research, and to the members of our scientific advisory board for their support at a time they were busy with online courses.

Our current issue features an anthropological article which surveys detailed work conducted from 1950 to 2017 based on initial studies in the 1930s, and which analyzes the impact of changing social economic conditions of the families on the height of children aged 6 to 17 living in Ankara. The article examines the social services offered in Ankara for homeless individuals, whose numbers grow daily due to the increasing population, migration movements, and unfavorable material conditions. The article proposes a flexible space design where the needs can be met at the highest level in a small area and it provides suggestions that can be implemented not only in Ankara but anywhere else the problem exists.

We hope that the other articles featured in the current issue will also be important urban research resources and will contribute to the existing body of research. The first article deals with the ecosystem benefits that the Mogan and Eymir lakes in the Gölbaşı Özel Çevre Koruma Bölgesi (Gölbaşı Special Environmental Protection Zone) are providing to the city. Another article analyzes the entrance hall area and the furniture of the “Atatürk Museum Mansion,” which is affiliated with the Office of the Presidency. Based on inferences from Walter Benjamin’s *Passagenwerk (Arcades Project)*, another work studies the history, the architecture, and the current state of Kocabeyođlu Pasajı, which was once a major shopping location in Ankara. Yet another article specifically focuses on the Güvenevler neighborhood to study the social and daily life of the capital from 1950 to 1980. The last article traces the development of Birtan Kundura, a Küçükkesat based footwear establishment from the 1960s to the 1980s to reflect on the change, transformation, and disappearance of economically and politically motivated urban migration movements, of production and consumption practices in connection with these, and of daily habits.

The first article in the section dedicated to opinion pieces focuses on Ulus İşhanı and Emek İşhanı, which were the most prominent office buildings of the city in the period from 1950 to 1960, studies their urbanism and architecture, and conducts a period analysis. The other article deals with various activities conducted in Ankara by the Turkish American Association established in 1951 and evaluates the impact these have had on the social and cultural life of the city.

We hope you enjoy your reading.

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