

EDITORIAL NOTE



Ar. Hiranmayi Shankavaram
Assistant Professor, RV College of
Architecture
B.Arch (VTU) | M.Sc in Urban
Management
(IHS, Erasmus University)



Ar. Ramya Krishna
Assistant Professor, RV College of
Architecture
B.Arch (VTU) | M.U.D (University
of Colorado, USA)

KALPA, a brainchild of RVCA academicians, engulfs itself on the culture of research to inculcate its ideologies in architecture and related fields. Architecture being a very subjective programme, gives rise to an investigative feature that lets us explore the complex peripheral streams informing design. This necessitates a foundation in research to infuse the philosophy of systematic study, often driven by context.

The inspiration for the word 'Kalpa' lies in its ritualistic approach that endures significant cycles of learning, revolving around the processes of creation, dissolution and recreation. Kalpa evolves with five definitive wings that guide through Chandas (patterns), Shiksha (learning), Vyakarana (grammar of assembly), Nirukta (etymology) and Jyotisha (timeline). When looked closely, these concepts constitute the essence of research.

The first volume of the magazine (2020) explored the 'Idea of Research in Architecture' through dialogues with the institution's faculty, framing informal yet in-depth perceptions and the complexity it (research) endures. The second volume (2021) dissected the concept of 'Human Migration: its sociocultural, ecological and economical impacts'. Both the issues were enriched with the contributions of students attempting a structured take on the themes.

The third volume of Kalpa (2022), through the works of students of Architecture and planning (Undergraduate and Postgraduate) dealt with the overarching theme of 'Urban Future or (Fantasy?)' as a critical elucidation to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) and as a response to their agenda of Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable urban environments. The contributions explored connotations in defining an ideal city in the milieu of complex political, sociocultural, environmental and economic transactions. Following the success of three volumes Kalpa now bears its own International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) as 2583-696X (Online).

Kalpa's current and fourth volume is an expedition into the Universe of Materials or as we call it, the Materia-verse: Material transformations through skillful renditions of strength, form and texture. Here, we conceptualise material science to be synonymous with its sustainable applications. The theme was explored along two threads i.e., a) Material Transformation through Time: an attempt to map evolution and transformations in a material's applicability, form, tactility and strength; and b) Material explorations through Disciplines: an exploration of the material world beyond the construction or building industry that highlight material adaptations across disciplines as well as pedagogical experiments that ameliorate cognizance of material morphology. The volume covers expert articles, student articles, student illustrations and expert interviews.

We hope to enrich the objectives of Kalpa further along thematic scales that question the nuances of the field and its peripherals. We acknowledge the immense support and encouragement of our Principal Dr. Om Prakash Bawane, our Dean Professor Suresh K Murthy and the faculty at RVCA. We also applaud the consistent efforts of the student teams in the success of this edition.

Hope you have a good read. Cheers!

Prof. Hiranmayi Shankavaram and Prof. Ramya Krishna