

Faculty Editors' Note



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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 feature led to the formation of the research cell to infuse the philosophy of systematic study 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 v(timeline). When looked closely, these concepts constitute the essence of research.

The research cell was also ideated to include an archive at the institution level with an aim to inspire the student folk and drive their attention towards unearthing layers of concepts that get hidden or unnoticed in their design processes. The first issue of the magazine (2020) explored the 'Idea of Research in Architecture' through dialogues with the institution's faculty, framing informal yet in-depth perceptions on the complexity it (research) endures. The second issue (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.

We now present to you the third issue of Kalpa (2022), through the works of students of Architecture and planning (Undergraduate and Postgraduate) on the overarching theme of 'Urban Future or (Fantasy?)' as a critical elucidation to the United Nation's (UN) Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) as a response to their agenda of Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable urban environments. The contributions explore connotations in defining an ideal city in the milieu of complex political, sociocultural, environmental and economic transactions. There has been a conscious effort in encouraging critical arguments with UN SDG's associated goals such as SDGs five, nine, ten, thirteen and sixteen, covering concepts of economic parity, gender equality, social innovation, climate change to name a few. This issue 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. O P Bawane, our Dean Prof. Suresh Murthy and the faculty at RVCA. We also applaud the consistent efforts of our students in the success of this edition.

Hope you have a good read. Cheers!