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SHAPING THE FUTURE OF DESIGN: REFLECTIONS ON SUSTAINABILITY, INNOVATION, AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

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As the newly appointed Editor-in-Chief of ALAM CIPTA, it is with great pride and responsibility that I present the second edition of our regular issues for the year 2024. This edition encapsulates a diverse spectrum of ideas, research, and explorations that align with the evolving dynamics of the design and built environment. Our commitment to advancing scholarship and innovation remains steadfast, especially in areas that shape the sustainable future of our communities and the planet.

This issue highlights key themes that are at the forefront of contemporary discourse in the design and built environment. The intersection of sustainability and culture serves as a cornerstone, reflecting on how indigenous practices and cultural narratives can inform greener and more sustainable design methodologies. Articles on greenery and biophilic design underline the urgency of integrating natural systems into urban and architectural frameworks, fostering environments that enhance human well-being and ecological resilience.

Cultural product design emerges as another pivotal focus, showcasing how traditional craftsmanship can be revitalized through modern design approaches. This dialogue between heritage and innovation underscores the potential of design to preserve cultural identity while meeting the demands of a globalized world. Additionally, the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in design is extensively explored, emphasizing its capacity to redefine creativity, optimize processes, and enhance decision-making in architecture and related disciplines. While this edition celebrates progress, it also urges us to confront the challenges that lie ahead. As we look toward 2025, the design and built environment fields face mounting pressures to adapt to rapid technological advancements, escalating climate crises, and the complexities of socio-economic inequality. How do we ensure that AI and digital technologies augment rather than replace human ingenuity? Can we strike a balance between innovation and inclusivity? And how do we equip future professionals with the skills and values needed to navigate such a volatile landscape?

The answers to these questions demand collaborative effort, interdisciplinary dialogue, and a commitment to ethical practices. As a platform for thought leadership and academic rigor, ALAM CIPTA is poised to contribute to these conversations, fostering a community that is both reflective and proactive.

I extend my gratitude to the authors, reviewers, and editorial team whose dedication and expertise have made this edition possible. Your contributions are not only advancing the body of knowledge but also inspiring actionable change in the design and built environment.

Let us continue to push boundaries, challenge norms, and envision a future where design serves as a catalyst for sustainable and equitable development. Together, we can transform challenges into opportunities and ideas into impactful solutions.

Warm regards, Assoc. Prof. Ts. Dr. Mohd Zairul Mohd Noor