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# **JOURNAL OF THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS (NIAJ)**

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## **About NIAJ**

Journal of the Nigerian Institute of Architects (NIAJ) is an academic journal, which is coordinated by the Library and Publications Committee of the Nigerian Institute of Architects. The first issue of NIAJ was published in 1981. Before 2023 all copies of the journal were printed with ISSN 2315-8913, however since 2023, the journal is printed digitally.

The Journal of the Nigerian Institute of Architects, NIAJ publishes peer-reviewed, original research and review articles on architecture and the built environment in an open access format. NIAJ is a comprehensive journal, accepting articles that span the full extent of the social, behavioural and environmental sciences as well as the humanities. NIAJ aims to be the

leading journal in architectural research and practice matters. Through a rigorous review of relevant literature and evaluation of valid research methods in articles, the journal aims to be a publishing reference in the architecture field. While this journal is the flagship publication for The Nigerian Institute of Architects, papers are not restricted to the profession, rather multidisciplinary research is encouraged in line with global best practices.

NIAJ is calling for papers! All the manuscripts in architecture and civil engineering are welcome and appreciated. NIAJ publishes original research papers with high quality, and the submitted manuscript will go through peer-review process.

**Editor-in Chief**

**Arc Prof Erekpitan O. Ola-Adisa, PhD MNIA**

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## From the Chair, Library and Publications Committee

I am delighted to introduce Volume 1 of the June 2024 edition of the journal, which focuses on the significant themes of biophilic design and heritage conservation. This issue invites us to consider how our built environments can harmonise with the natural world and reflect our cultural history.

As we embark on this new chapter, I would like to acknowledge the valuable work of the 2021-2023 Library and Publications Committee. Their creation of four important volumes after a 7 year hiatus has established a strong foundation for us to build upon. Each publication has sparked essential conversations and deepened our understanding of these critical subjects.

We have the privilege to introduce the digital ISSN of our journal and we are taking this exciting step forward. This will enhance our ability to share our work more widely and engage with a broader audience, making our insights more accessible to all those interested in architecture and the built environment.

In this volume, we explore how biophilic design can inform our approaches to student performances. I encourage you to engage with the content thoughtfully and reflect on how these ideas can influence our practices and perspectives.

We again extend our deepest gratitude to the authors, reviewers, and Editorial board of the Library and Publications Committee who have dedicated their time and expertise to make this edition possible. Thank you for your continued support as we pursue this important work together.

**Arc Afolabi Adedeji, FNIA**

Chair, Library and Publications Committee

## Editorial: Embracing Nature: A Path to Sustainable Design

I am pleased to present the first volume in 2024, the fifth issue of the NIAJ since its revitalisation. This edition focuses on critical themes—biophilia, green spaces, sustainable roof designs, and sustainable waste management—each of which plays a vital role in shaping our future built environments.

In this volume, we explore the use of biophilia in student performance, which underscores the deep-rooted human connection to nature. Integrating green spaces into architectural designs not only enhances the aesthetic quality of our urban landscapes but also contributes significantly to the well-being of their occupants. The articles within this issue highlight innovative strategies for incorporating green roofs and rainwater harvesting, demonstrating how these elements can transform urban settings into healthier and more vibrant communities.

Moreover, we address the urgent need for sustainable waste management practices. As urbanisation intensifies, effective waste management has become increasingly critical. This edition offers valuable insights into strategies that aim to minimise waste generation, promote recycling, and advance circular economy principles. By adopting

these sustainable practices, we can mitigate our ecological impact and foster resilience in our communities.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the authors and researchers who have contributed their expertise and insights to this issue. Their work not only enhances our understanding of these pressing topics but also inspires proactive measures within our own practices.

As you engage with this volume, I encourage you to reflect on how these themes may resonate with your own experiences and professional endeavours. Together, we can advocate for a future that embraces sustainability and acknowledges the profound relationship between nature and the built environment.

Thank you for your continued support and readership. I trust you will find this issue both informative and inspiring.

**Arc Prof E.O. Ola-Adisa, PhD MNIA**  
Editor-in - Chief



## Guide for Authors

NIAJ is a comprehensive journal, accepting articles that span the full extent of the social, behavioural and environmental sciences as well as the humanities. NIAJ aims to be the leading journal in architectural research and practice matters. Through a rigorous review of relevant literature and evaluation of valid research methods in articles, the journal aims to be a publishing reference in the architecture field. While this journal is the flagship publication for The Nigerian Institute of Architects, papers are not restricted to the profession, rather multidisciplinary research is encouraged in line with global best practices. The articles must be original and should not have been published previously, and the manuscript will be double-blind peer-reviewed. NIAJ is a unique open access publication that provides free full text download of all articles published in the journal through the platform (<https://niaj.org>) without any page charges or subscription requirements. Authors are invited to submit papers through the submission system. Once your article is accepted, you will receive an email from the submission system. The email contains a link to check the status of your article. Before you contribute to NIAJ, you should read the following contents

*Types of paper*

Contributions falling into the following categories will be considered for publication: Original research papers, Reviews.

Please ensure that you select the appropriate article type from the list of options when making your submission. Authors contributing to special issues should ensure that they select the special issue article type from this list.

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- All references mentioned in the References are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet) and checked for plagiarism as NIAJ will not accept more than 25% similar materials.
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed

### *Publishing ethics*

This journal operates a double-blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. The peer review process is following: Author submits paper to journal→ Editor's initial evaluation of paper (go to next step if it meets the requirements of journal, otherwise reject and inform author)→ Invite experts for peer review→ Experts send comments to editor→ Editor decides to accept (or reject and inform authors)→ Editor asks author to revise→ Author revises and submits revised paper→ Editor and/or original reviewers re-evaluate to decide further revisions needed or reject or accept → Inform author

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