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**JOURNAL OF THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS  
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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

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

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## From the Chair, Library and Publications Committee

It is my pleasure to introduce the first issue of the two volume 2023 BGM edition, featuring peer-reviewed papers related to the theme: Transition, Transformation, and Sustainable Futures.

The papers in this volume tackle critical issues facing the architectural profession and built environment in Nigeria. From innovative sustainable design strategies to the social impact of large-scale urban redevelopment, the authors provide valuable insights and solutions for creating a more equitable, resilient, and environmentally-conscious future.

At a time of rapid change and uncertainty, this collection of research demonstrates the vital role architects play in shaping the transition towards a sustainable tomorrow. I commend the authors for their thought-provoking work, and I'm confident this volume will inspire both practitioners and academics to continue pushing the boundaries of design for the benefit of our communities.

I encourage all readers to engage deeply with the ideas presented here, and to join us in charting a course towards a more just, livable, and prosperous Nigeria.

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 digital two volume edition possible. Your contributions are invaluable, and we are honoured to showcase your work.

We again invite all readers to explore the pages of this special BGM digital edition with curiosity, open-mindedness, and a desire to learn and engage. We believe that these papers reflect the BGM theme of Transition, Transformation, and Sustainable Futures.

**Arc Fitzgerald Umah, FNIA**

Chair, Library and Publications Committee

## Editorial: Transition, Transformation, and Sustainable Futures

This issue of the journal delves into the critical themes of transition, transformation, and sustainable futures - topics that are shaping the direction of our profession and the built environment of our nation.

The peer-reviewed articles featured within these pages offer innovative perspectives and evidence-based approaches for navigating the changes underway. Transition is a thread that runs through many of the contributions.

Transformation, both in terms of professional practice and the built environment, is another key focus. The papers showcase computational tools that allow for the rapid exploration of design options optimized for cost, energy performance, and occupant needs.

Underpinning all of these contributions is a shared commitment to sustainable futures. The articles in this issue demonstrate the imperative and the pathways for realizing the UN Sustainable Development Goals through our work.

The Journal of The Nigerian Institute of Architects is proud to amplify this vital research. As we grapple with the profound transitions unfolding across our nation, these scholars and practitioners are leading the transformation necessary to ensure a sustainable built environment for all. The future depends on the choices we make today - and this journal issue charts an inspiring course forward.

In addition to these topics, we also shine a spotlight on the often-neglected aspect of entrepreneurship in architectural practice. We explore the skills, mindset, and tools needed to thrive in today's competitive landscape, empowering architects to not only create exceptional designs but also successfully navigate the business side of the profession. By addressing these critical aspects, we aim to foster a vibrant community of entrepreneurial architects who can shape the future of our built environment.

**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.

### *Submission checklist*

You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

Ensure that the following items are present:

- Downloaded manuscript template from the platform
- One author designated as the corresponding author with contact details:
  - E-mail address
  - Full postal address

All necessary files have been uploaded:

### *Manuscript:*

- Include keywords
- All figures (include relevant captions)
- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- Indicate clearly if colour should be used for any figures in print

### *Further considerations*

- Manuscript has been "spell checked" and "grammar checked"
- 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

### *Proofs*

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### *Offprints*

The corresponding author, at no cost, will be provided with a PDF file of the article via e-mail (the PDF file is a watermarked version of the published article and includes a cover sheet with the journal cover image and a disclaimer outlining the terms and conditions of use). For an extra charge, paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. If you encounter any problems at any stage with the submission system, please contact the editor via [editor.niaj@nia.ng](mailto:editor.niaj@nia.ng)



## Table of Contents

<b>Articles</b>	<b>Pages</b>
Exploring Biophilic Design Principles in the Landscape Transformation of Rigasa Train Station, Kaduna <b>Abdulwahab Engworo Etudaiye</b>	<b>1-11</b>
Crime and Security Management: An Overview of the Role of Space Syntax Analysis <b>Fatima Baba Ciroma, Musa Lawal Sagada, Joy Joshua Maina, Aisha Wali Aminu-Umar</b>	<b>12-17</b>
Exploring Heat Stress in Indoor Hall for Chess in Nigeria, A Study <b>Salihu Bala Salihu, Yawate Vahyala Elisha, Ogunye Joy Okiemute.</b>	<b>18-32</b>
Architectural Approach to Reducing the Menace of Street Hawking in Kebbi and Its Environment <b>Amina MK Ahmed</b>	<b>33-41</b>
BIM Innovation in SME Firms: The Impact of Developing Environmental Relationship <b>Sa'id Alkali Kori and Jonathan David Chong</b>	<b>42-49</b>
Application of Occupancy-Based Control in Building Energy Saving and Indoor Thermal Comfort <b>Ripnung Shem Lekjep, Miriam Ijeoma Chukwuma-Uchegbu, Ahmad Usman Naibi</b>	<b>50-59</b>
Architectural Education Using Virtual Reality: A Case Study in Department of Architecture, University of Jos, Nigeria <b>Inalegwu I. Ella, Salihu Bala Salihu, Yawate Vahyala Elisha and Ogbodo R. Izuchukwu</b>	<b>60-67</b>
A Literature Review on The Impact of Architectural Elements on The Well-Being of Users of Buildings <b>Alabi O. A., Ken-Maduako E. M., Otegbade O. O., Bolaji O. C., Adebowale J. O., Adeyemo A. G., Adegbite D. A., and Alayo S. B.</b>	<b>68-73</b>