

USING EARTH AND FLORA AS A BUILDING MATERIAL IN KONYA PLAIN RURAL SETTLEMENTS – ADOBE & GRASSY EARTH



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ABSTRACT

The human being as a living creature in the nature needs food, air and water to continue his existence. The regions having food and water of these three biological requirements play an important role in the spread of the people on earth. Having a shelter that will protect the human being from all kinds of exterior factors and maintain his comfort is also one of his requirements. The habitations formed as a result of these requirements take shape with the geographic and socio-cultural values of the “place” they belong to.

The appearance of the same construction system in different geographical regions can also be different (like the differentiation of the application technique of adobe building material according to regions, the dome-shaped rather than plain adobe upper cover in the areas where the precipitation is plentiful).

It can be said related to the geography that, the houses are generally constructed of earth-based material (adobe, grassy earth) in alluvial plain settlements in Anatolia, the stone material is densely used in mountainous areas and the wood material is selected as the basic construction material in thickly wooded areas.

The characteristic properties of space theories formed by the local people according to their own life styles are sensitive to climate, the formal formation depending on the living sources and the use of the materials in the neighborhood as building materials in the Konya plain settlements determined as study area. One of the materials used in the study area is the adobe, which is being used in many rural areas. Furthermore, there are differences in the use and application details in the study area. Another material used in space formation is the grass roots known as “terrone”, “sod”, “turf” in different regions of the world and admitted as construction technique. The grassy material is being used in service spaces (additions) defined as outer area in the whole habitation composed of “residence” and “additions”, garden walls and specific places in the roof in this study area. Grassy earth is known as “kındıra” in rural settlements of Middle Anatolia Region.

The materials obtained grassy roots is being used together with abode materials and is attracting attention in habitation composed of “residence” and “additions” with different applications. The aim in the study is to make the analysis of dwelling architecture together with geographic values which including soil character and vegetation. The observation in the area, interview, taking photos, survey measurements and numeric and technical data belongs to geographical values are the method and steps which bring the study to a conclusion.

Keywords: rural architecture, geographic values, using vegetation for building material, adobe, grassy earth, kindira.