The Reflection of the Modernism to City: The Transformation of Hacettepe District of Ankara

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Modernism affected urbanization of different countries; likewise, the effects of modernism started to appear in Turkey. Some researchers believe that modernism like a sharp knife divides a city into restricted boundaries. On the other hand, some of them claim that modernism is necessary to develop. In this study, even if these two different perspectives are supported and the transformation of urban area with effects of modernity will be more dominantly discussed when we considered the importance of the study area. That the reflections of modernism to Ankara, which is the capital of Turkey and the country’s second largest city after Istanbul, and especially Hacettepe district, which have very significant qualities in terms of historical background, will be addressed. Modernism is an important period because it created new ontology of individuals and society structure by changing world view. In order to understand effects of modernism, the case study chosen will be more useful. Due to the fact that Hacettepe District and Hacettepe University City Campus en are located in the historical area of Ankara, this area was determined as the case study and how historical structure of this district was changed by modernist planning will be examined in the context of study. In the frame of this study, first of all, modernism and its planning approach will be evaluated. After this, historical background of Ankara and also planning and architectural concepts of 1950’s in Turkey and how these approaches affect the Ankara city form will be discussed. By way of addition, Hacettepe district will be studied. In addition to this basic information, Hacettepe City Campus will be mentioned which is constructed with modernist planning approach.

KEY WORDS: Modernism, urban transformation.