



Hermann Jansen and his Urban Legacy in Southern Turkey

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Hermann Jansen was a renowned German architect and planner, whose development plans shaped several cities in Europe in the first half of the twentieth century. Furthermore, he was a particularly important figure for the newly established Republic of Turkey between 1927 and 1940. As well as the development plan for the capital Ankara, he prepared development plans for İzmit, İzmir, Gaziantep, Mersin, Tarsus, Adana and Ceyhan, of which the last four were in Çukurova (Golden) Plain located in southern Turkey. This paper discusses Jansen's planning values, and whether they were reflected in the development plans he had prepared for these cities. The development plans Jansen prepared for Mersin, Tarsus, Adana and Ceyhan in 1939 and 1940 are analyzed for this paper. The analysis showed that Jansen's urban legacy in Southern Turkey consists of conservative, environment friendly and functional design principles which were evident in zoning pattern, neighborhood units for different social groups, large recreational areas, preservation of historic city centers and green traffic free areas connecting the city centre with nature. His planning principles were in line with Camillo Sitte's, Ebenezer Howard's and Theodor Fritsch's views; however, Jansen successfully adapted these principles to the social, financial and cultural environment in Turkey.

KEY WORDS: Hermann Jansen, Republican Period, Çukurova.