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**Activating city through kinetic spaces: A case of Aluva Manappuram**

Incredible urban communities over the world have been characterized by the nature of their open spaces. The activities taking place in such spaces influence the character of the city. Festival is such an activity non-static in nature. It is a city in constant motion, where the very physical fabric is characterized by the kinetic. Such non-static cities encourage urban transformations over economy, politics and culture over the static city. Aluva, a town in Kerala, India, derives its unique identity from once-in-a-year activity of 'Shivarathri' festival which specifically happens at the 'Manappuram' (sandbanks) of Periyar River. However, this space is left underutilized for the rest of the year causing several undesirable activities such concerning safety, crimes, waste dumping etc. This paper evaluates how the festival affects the town and neighbourhood and how the non-static nature of space, during the rest of the year, can be harnessed for its benefit. Participant observation during the festival and over the course of the year is carried out to analyse the spatial quality. Accessibility, safety, nature of enclosure in relation to kinetic spaces are analysed in this paper. The study concludes on how the kinetic spaces can be designed as an asset for the cities.