**The Development of the Open Spaces in the Anatolian Residential Architecture from the Prehistoric Shelter to the Ottoman Dwelling**

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**Abstract**

Anatolian residential architecture from prehistoric times to the Ottoman period has been formed by the use of open and semi-open spaces. Human in the paleolithic age had built round shelters by closing the stone paved hollows with branches and mud plastering, in order to sleep, put limited individual tools in, gather and interact with each other, usually in the common around the fire, in the middle of the campsite. In agricultural settlements, dwellings had been shaped with a small courtyard and warehouse sections. In developed agricultural settlements, the courtyard had turned into a common space used collectively by several dwellings. In the courtyard, which was the basic unit in the classical Greek dwelling, there was a semi-open *pastas* or *prostas* space, which had continued the function of the courtyard used for sitting and transition. Afterwards, these spaces had turned into an open courtyard surrounded by galleries with columns on four sides, that were called as *peristyle*. The *atrium*, which was the central courtyard during the Roman period, had been transformed into a garden with a pool. Besides being a promenade, the columned galleries contributed to the courtyard with various architectural and sculptural decorations. This use had been continued for a while during the Byzantine period. In the Anatolian Seljuk kiosks, climate and regional differences caused diversities such as being closed to the outside or having open spaces such as balconies and *iwans*. Similarly, open and semi-open spaces with different characteristics according to environmental conditions were used in Ottoman dwellings. In multi-purpose courtyards, there have been individual units such as *serender*, *merek* in Black Sea Region The development process of the open spaces in the Anatolian residential architecture from the prehistoric shelter to the traditional Ottoman dwelling, their architectural and social characteristics are explained in the presentation with examples from Anatolia.

**Keywords:** Anatolian residential architecture, open space, dwelling