

THE COMBINATION OF OTTOMAN, SELJUK, AND CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURAL STYLES IN ÇAMLICA MOSQUE, ISTANBUL AS THE LARGEST MOSQUE IN TURKIYE

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ABSTRACT

The Çamlıca Mosque was built in a combination of Ottoman, Seljuk and modern architectural styles. The purpose of this study is to examine the application of Ottoman, Seljuk, and Modern architectural styles to the Çamlıca Mosque and to examine the character of the components in the Çamlıca Mosque from the aspect of the yard, mihrab, minaret, dome and examines the facade, the structure of the building, and the functions of the mosque. This research is unique because it proves which architectural style stands out the most. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative exploratory by conducting direct observations to determine the combination of Ottoman architectural style, Seljuk architectural style, and Contemporary architectural style. The results of this study can be explained that the main features of the Çamlıca Mosque still maintain the presence of the yard, mihrab, minaret, dome with other features namely Rewaqs and Iwan. The facade of the Çamlıca Mosque, especially the use of wall materials are concrete, glass, a combination of glass and wood, and contemporary marble, while the shape of the door is a combination of Seljuk, Ottoman, and contemporary architecture with floral motifs, geometry, and calligraphy. The structure of the building, especially the columns, has various shapes, sizes, colors, materials. The functions of the Çamlıca Mosque complex are only a mosque as a place of worship and a library and this is in accordance with the theory of mosque functions in Ottoman Architecture although some functions are absent. Other functions of the Çamlıca Mosque are contemporary functions, namely art galleries, art studios, indoor and outdoor play rooms, gardens, museums, and conference rooms. The conclusion of this study is that the main style that dominates the application of architecture in the Çamlıca Mosque is the contemporary style.

Keywords: he Çamlıca Mosque, Seljuk, Architectural

1. INTRODUCTION

The Çamlıca Mosque located in Uskudar, Istanbul, Turkey is a mosque built during the leadership of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and inaugurated by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in 2019. Construction on the Çamlıca Mosque complex began in 2013 and has a capacity of 63,000 worshippers. The Çamlıca Mosque has a combination of Ottoman and Seljuk architectural styles. The largest mosque in Turkey is now one of the symbols of the city [1]. With the combination of Ottoman and Seljuk architectural styles in the Çamlıca Mosque building, the researchers will examine how much application the Ottoman and Seljuk architectural styles are in the largest mosque in Turkey. However, because the Çamlıca Mosque was built during the leadership of President Recep Tayyip

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.20885/icsbe.vol4.art48>



Erdogan in this modern era, the researcher will also examine how much contemporary modern architectural style is applied to this Çamlıca Mosque.

A mosque is literally a place of prayer, but in Arabic it means a place of prostration, because it comes from the word *sajada*, as a place of prostration, a mosque has a broader meaning, not just a building, because wherever Muslims can perform prostration or servitude to Allah [2]. The formulation of the problem from this research are (1) how is the Ottoman architectural style applied to the Çamlıca Mosque, Istanbul? (2) how is the Seljuk Architectural style applied to the Çamlıca mosque, Istanbul? (3) how is the application of the Contemporary Modern Architecture style to the Çamlıca Mosque, Istanbul? And (4) what is the character of the components in the Çamlıca Mosque, Istanbul in the 4 main features, namely the Sahn, Mihrab, Minaret, and Dome? The research question arises because of the following research gap:

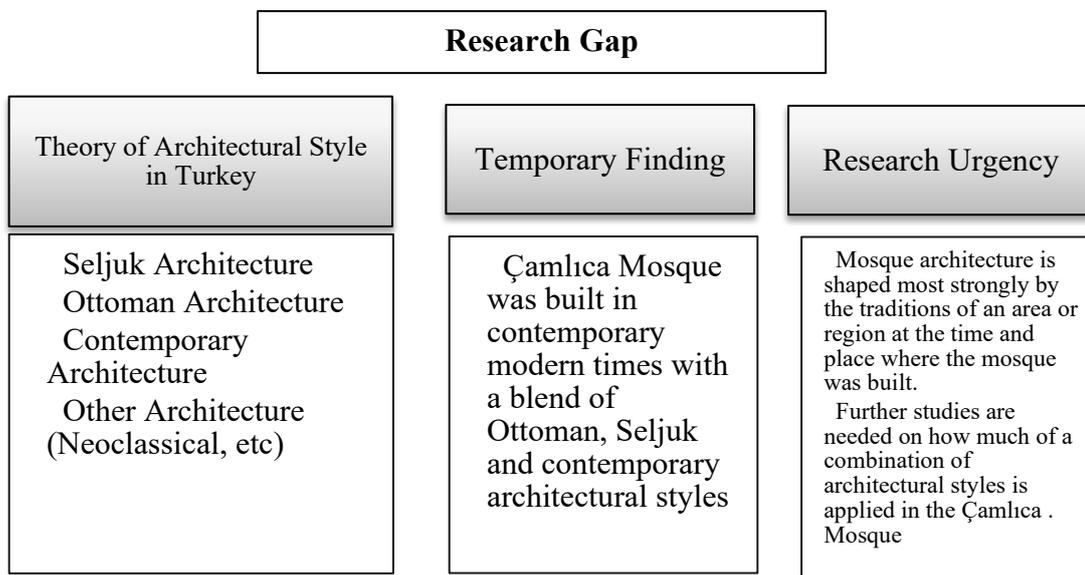


Figure 1. Research Gap

The aims of this research are to (1) examine the application of the Ottoman architectural style to the Çamlıca Mosque, (2) to examine the application of the Seljuk architectural style to the Çamlıca mosque, Istanbul, (3) to examine the application of Contemporary Modern Architecture style to the Çamlıca mosque, Istanbul. The target of this research is to examine the application of the combination of Ottoman, Seljuk, Modern Contemporary architectural styles in the Çamlıca Mosque in the following aspects (1) to examine the character of the four main features in the Çamlıca Mosque from the aspect of the Sahn, Mihrab, Minaret and dome which are related to qualitative (shape and material) and quantitative (diameter size), (2) to examine the facade of the Çamlıca Mosque, (3) assessing the structure (especially the column) both from the column material and the form presented through mapping the column types of the Çamlıca Mosque, (4) to examine the functions (other than mosques) in the Çamlıca Mosque.



2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Mosque and Mosque Architecture

A mosque is literally a place of prayer, but in Arabic it means a place of prostration, because it comes from the word *sajada*, as a place of prostration, a mosque has a broader meaning, not just a building, because wherever Muslims can perform prostration or servitude to Allah [2]. Mosque architecture is formed most strongly by the traditions of an area or region at the time and place where the mosque was built. As a result, styles, layouts and decorations can vary widely. However, due to the general function of mosques as places of congregational prayer, certain architectural features appear in mosques around the world [3].

2.2 Main Features of Mosque

The most basic requirement of mosque architecture is that it can accommodate the entire male population of a city. For that a mosque must have a large prayer hall. In many mosques these are adjoined to open courtyards. In the courtyard there is a fountain which is a place to rest when it is hot and very important for ablution. The four main features of the mosque are the *sahn* or a courtyard, the *mihrab* or a platform, the *minaret* or a tower, and the *kubbe* or a Dome [3].

2.3 The Character of the Mosque in the Seljuk Dynasty

The Seljuk dynasty was one of the two dynasties that ruled Turkey the longest after the Ottomans. For nearly 300 years the Seljuk dynasty ruled Anatolia (which was part of Turkey). The Seljuk Empire which ruled from the 11th to 14th centuries AD is known to be very supportive of cultural development, one of which is the art of building, especially in mosque buildings in Turkey [4]. One of the mosques that still stands majestically and is a relic of Seljuk architecture is the Great Mosque of Divriği (Divriği Ulu Cami in Figure 2) in Divriği City, Sivas Province, Turkey. The mosque was founded during the reign of Emir Ahmad Shah. This mosque was built in the Middle Ages around 1229 [5].



Figure 2. Great Mosque of Divriği [4]

2.4 The Character of the Mosque in the Ottoman Dynasty

The mosque built in the Ottoman Empire (Ottoman) is the Fatih Mosque (in Figure 3). This mosque is located in the Fatih district of Istanbul. The Fatih Mosque was built by the Greek architect Atik Sinan [6]. The Fatih Mosque complex was built between the years 1463-1470 on the orders of Fatih Sultan Mehmed II. The Fatih Mosque was the first monumental project in the architectural tradition of the Ottoman empire [7].

The main dome of the Fatih Mosque is 85 feet (26 meters) in diameter and there are four smaller domes. The walls of the Fatih Cemi Mosque are made of granite and marble. On the outside of the main building of the Fatih Mosque, there is a large courtyard with symmetrical floors. There, a number of madrasas stand with domes that are smaller than the main dome. Madrasas also functioned as dormitories for the educated or artists of the



sultanate. This mosque complex as well as an educational center is a feature of the Ottoman Empire which prioritizes the principles of order and unity [8].



Figure 3. Fatih Mosque [8]

2.5 Characters of Contemporary Modern Mosques in Turkey

One of the mosques in Turkey and built in modern times (built in 2008 and inaugurated in 2013) is the Ahmed Hamdi Akseki Mosque. Ahmed Hamdi Akseki Mosque, located in Ankara, Turkey, is considered the first ultramodern mosque in Turkey [9].



Figure 4. Ahmed Hamdi Akseki Mosque [9]

The building area of the Ahmed Hamdi Akseki Mosque is 11,000 m². The mosque, which is located on Jalan Eskisehir, can accommodate more than 6,000 worshippers. However, although this mosque was built with modern contemporary, this mosque still provides a blend of elements of Anatolian Seljuk ornaments. Ahmet Hamdi Accesski Mosque is recorded as having one of the largest domes with a diameter of 33 meters. The dome is supported by four large arch pillars. Seven other columns support the three parts of the porch in the mosque. In addition to the characteristic of a large dome with an arched roof, this mosque also has four towers that soar as high as 33 meters. In the northern part of the mosque there are two main doors of the mosque which are equipped with Arabic calligraphy and Islamic geometric carvings. Meanwhile, four other doors are on the right and left of the mosque. The facade of the mashrabiya also looks beautiful next to the main door of the mosque. Seljuk ornaments can be seen from the distinctive character of the star motif on the wood carvings and tiles in the mosque structure. The structure of the mosque building uses bricks with a layer of white marble. The contemporary concept can be seen in the glass windows that become the facade. Glass windows make it easier for sunlight to enter the main prayer room [9].



3. RESEARCH METHOD

The object of this research is the Çamlica Mosque in Üsküdar, Istanbul, Turkey. This research uses descriptive qualitative exploratory research, namely primary exploration is needed. Direct observation to determine the combination of Ottoman architectural styles, Seljuk architectural styles, and Modern Contemporary architectural styles from the Çamlica Mosque, Istanbul by referring to the theories of Ottoman, Seljuk, and Modern Contemporary mosque building in Turkey. The data analysis in this study used a qualitative descriptive analysis with comparisons, namely examining the architectural style data of the Çamlica Mosque by comparing the mosque architectural style theory from three eras, namely the mosque architectural style in the Seljuk era, the era of the Ottoman Empire, and the contemporary modern era. Variables of this research are: the first variables are main features of the mosque (there are courtyard/sahn, platform/mihrab, tower/ minaret, dome/ kubbe). The second variables are mosque facades (there are material of wall and door shape). The third variables are building structures of mosque (there are column forms and material of column. The fourth variables are the functions of the mosque complex (there are mosque, library, hospital, hamam, medrese, market, dormitory and tomb).

Table 1. Variables and Indicators of Research

	Variables	Indicators
1.	Main Features of The Mosque	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sahn ● Mihrab ● Minaret ● Kubbe
2.	Facades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Material of wall ● Door shape
3.	Building Structures of Mosque	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Forms of column ● Material of column
4.	Functions of The Mosque Complex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mosque ● Library ● Hospital ● Hamam (Turkish bath) ● Medrese (Education centre/place) ● Market ● Dormitory ● Tomb

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

A mosque has the concept that a mosque as a place of worship also has a relationship with education (there are educational facilities in the form of a madrasa), a relationship with a place to live (in the form of a dormitory), and a relationship with health facilities (in the form of a hospital). The main feature in a mosque complex as a place of worship itself consists of 4 features, namely the Courtyard (Sahn), Pulpit (Mihrab), Dome (Dome), and Tower (Minaret) features [10].



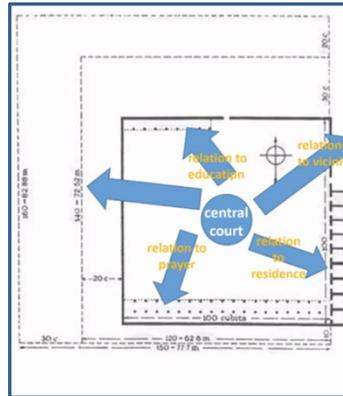


Figure 5. The Main Concept of the Mosque [10]

This research explains 4 things, as follows:

4.1 Main Features of the Çamlıca Mosque

The main features in a mosque complex consist of 4 features, namely the Courtyard (Sahn), Platform (Mihrab), Dome (Kubbe), and Tower (Minaret) features. The Sahn at Çamlıca Mosque is influenced by Seljuk and Ottoman architecture, namely there is a fountain in the center of the courtyard which also functions as a place for ablution. The Sahn area is surrounded by geometric patterned rewaqs (Figure 6).



Figure 6. Sahn at Çamlıca Mosque

In accordance with the comparison between the theory of Seljuk Architecture, Ottoman Architecture and Contemporary Architecture with the condition of the mosque, it can be analyzed that the sahn style of the Çamlıca Mosque follows the Seljuk and Ottoman architectural styles. This can be seen from the pattern of the sahn as a center surrounded by rewaqs with typical Seljuk and Ottoman patterns, namely flora patterns and fountains as a must-have in Seljuk and Ottoman architectural style mosques.

Mihrab is a very important feature of the mosque there. The mihrab is a small place on the front wall of the mosque or which shows the direction of the Qibla and is a place for the Imam to lead congregational prayers in a mosque. The Mihrab at Çamlıca Mosque is in the style of Seljuk Architecture and Ottoman Architecture with a blend of modern materials (Figure 7).





Figure 7. Mihrab at Çamlica Mosque

Mihrab at the Çamlica Mosque is in the style of Seljuk Architecture and Ottoman Architecture with a blend of contemporary modern materials from ceramics. The mihrab at the Çamlica Mosque is in the style of Ottoman architecture because in the mihrab there is muqornas (stalactite) art. The mihrab at the Çamlica Mosque is in the style of Seljuk architecture because in the mihrab there are many various calligraphies.

The Çamlica Mosque has six minarets which represent six key aspects of the Islamic faith. The six towers give a symbol of human belief in one God (Allah), a symbol of human belief in angels, a symbol of human belief in the revelation of Allah, a symbol of human belief in prophets, a symbol of human belief in the Day of Judgment, and a symbol of human belief in Qada and Qadar. The minarets at the Çamlica Mosque are slender and pointed (Figure 8).

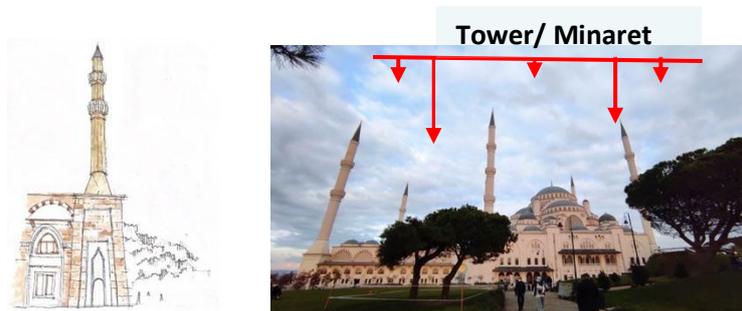


Figure 8. Minaret at Çamlica Mosque

The minarets of the Çamlica Mosque are slender and pointed. This is in accordance with the theory of Ottoman architecture where the minaret is slender, lanky, and pointed. In accordance with the theory of Ottoman architecture as well, a minaret in the Ottoman architectural style must also have three balconies (Şerefe). This is in accordance with the minarets in the Çamlica Mosque which have three balconies in each tower with the supports which are formed by muqornas (stalactite) art.

The dome of the Çamlica Mosque (figure 9) is 72 m above the ground with a diameter of 34 m. The height of 72 m means that the State of Turkey has 72 ethnic groups of people and 34 m means that the number 34 is the code for the city of Istanbul where the Çamlica Mosque is located in Istanbul.





Figure 9. Dome at Çamlica Mosque

The dome or Kubbe at the Çamlica Mosque has a main dome with a diameter of 34 m and other domes of various diameters. In accordance with the theory, the architectural style of the Çamlica Mosque is Ottoman architecture with the characteristic of being various sizes of domes with geometric patterns. In addition, the size of the dome diameter >32 m indicates that the dome characterizes contemporary modern mosque architecture.

4.2 Facades of the Çamlica Mosque

There are various wall materials in the Çamlica Mosque. The materials used on the facade of the Çamlica Mosque are concrete covered with marble, glass, and a combination of glass and wood for the walls of the building. It can be concluded that the material of the Çamlica Mosque is Contemporary Modern Architecture. The kinds of wall material can be seen in Figure 10 below



Figure 10. The Kinds of Wall Material at Çamlica Mosque

The main door of the Çamlica Mosque is in the Ottoman architectural style because it does not protrude in front of the building wall. In addition, at the main door there are stalactite-shaped ornaments that symbolize the Ottoman architectural style. However, the carvings on the door interpret the combination of the Seljuk architectural style with floral motifs, the Ottoman architectural style with geometric patterns, and the Modern Architecture style with calligraphy and modern geometry (Figure 11).



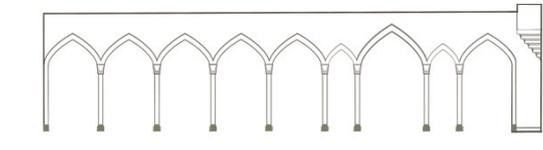
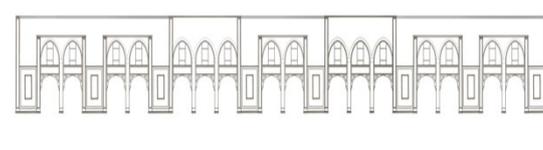
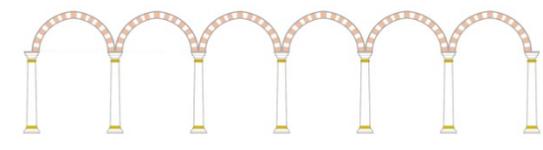
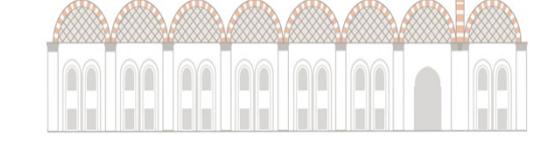
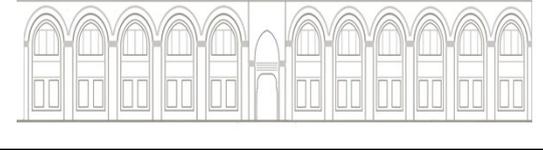


Figure 11. The Main Door of Çamlica Mosque

4.3 Building Structures of the Çamlica Mosque

The Çamlica Mosque has various types of columns from shapes, colors, materials, and sizes. The Column of the Çamlica Mosque is a combination of columns with the Ottoman Architectural Style which has a sleek and round feature made of marble and columns with a Contemporary Architectural Style made of concrete. The colors of the columns vary from white, green, reddish brown, brown marble (Table 2 and figure 12).

Table 2. Column Type Çamlica Mosque
Column Types of Çamlica Mosque



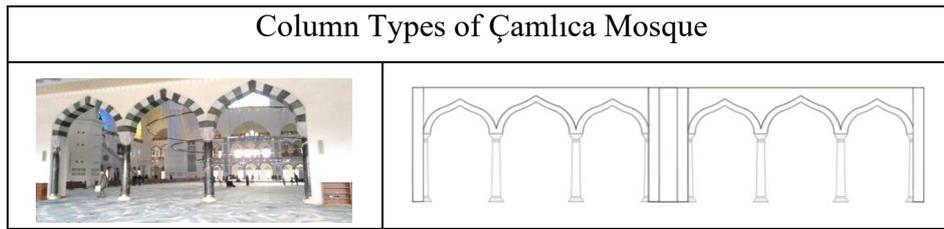


Figure 12. Marble Columns Inside The Çamlica Mosque with Various Colors

4.4 Functions of the Çamlica Mosque Complex

The Çamlica Mosque as the largest mosque in Turkey was designed and built not only as a place for worship. But it also has other functions, both functions related to the functions of the mosques in the Seljuk and Ottoman times and combined with functions to meet the needs of public space in modern times. Modern public spaces or functions seem to dominate the Çamlica Mosque. There was a function during the Seljuk and Ottoman periods, namely the existence of the mosque itself and an educational function which was in the form of a library. Meanwhile, modern functions are museums, art galleries, arts studios, conference hall, parks, and play areas. The layout of Çamlica Mosque can be seen in Figure 13 below

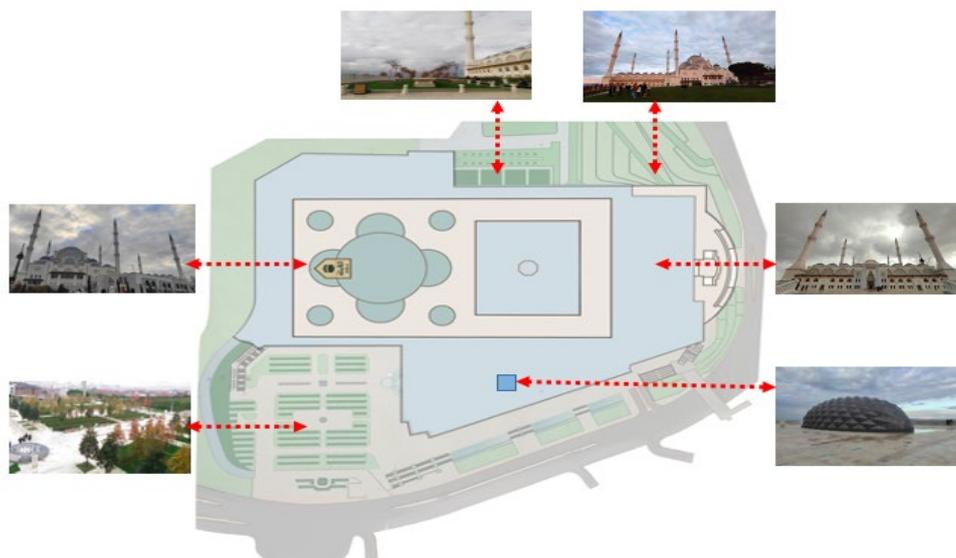


Figure 13. Layout of The Çamlica Mosque



4.4.1 Mosque

The main function of the Çamlıca Mosque is of course as a place of worship. This mosque has a capacity of 63,000 people. The Çamlıca Mosque is furnished with a carpet covering an area of 17,000 m² with floral patterns. The floral pattern represents Seljuk architecture but the motifs used are modern ones. The following is an overview of the atmosphere inside the Çamlıca Mosque (Figure 14).



Figure 14. Prayer place at Çamlıca Mosque

4.4.2 Library of Çamlıca Mosque

In addition to its function as a place of prayer, the function of a mosque that must exist during the Seljuk and Ottoman times is the library. Çamlıca Mosque has a library with a contemporary style building concept because the material on the walls of the library part is glass. The Çamlıca Mosque library has an area of 3,000 m². The Çamlıca Mosque library can be seen in Figure 15.



Figure 15. Library of Çamlıca Mosque

4.4.3 Museum of Çamlıca Mosque

The Çamlıca mosque is equipped with museum facilities covering an area of 11,000 m². Access to the Çamlıca Mosque Museum in a contemporary architectural style. The following is access to the Çamlıca Mosque Museum (Figure 16).





Figure 16. One of Access to the Çamlıca Mosque

4.4.4 Conference Hall of Çamlıca Mosque

The Çamlıca Mosque is equipped with a modern function in the form of a conference room. The conference room of the Çamlıca Mosque has a capacity of 1000 people.

4.4.5 Art Gallery and Art Studio of Çamlıca Mosque

The Çamlıca Mosque offers not only a place of worship, but also an art gallery and an art studio. The area of the Çamlıca Mosque art gallery is 3,500 m² and there are 8 art studios in the Çamlıca Mosque (Figure 17). Visitors visit the Çamlıca Mosque not only in the context of worship but also can learn and tour at the Çamlıca Mosque.

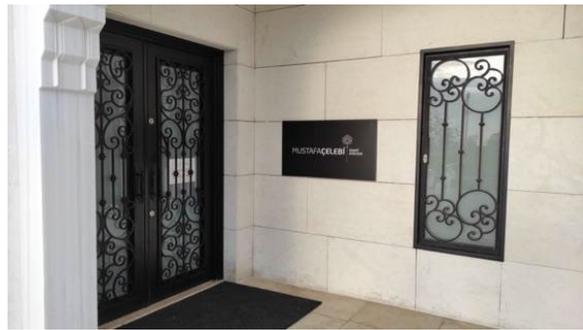


Figure 17. One of Art Studio at The Çamlıca Mosque

4.4.6 Indoor Kids Play Area

The Çamlıca Mosque not only provides facilities for adults, but also provides public space facilities for children in the form of an indoor play area (Figure 18).

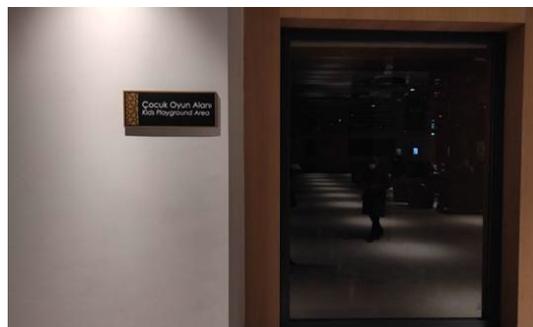


Figure 18. Indoor Kids Play Area of The Çamlıca Mosque

4.4.7 Parks and Outdoor Playgrounds

Apart from the indoor children's play area, the Çamlıca Mosque complex also has an outdoor playground. The outdoor playground is near the Çamlıca Mosque garden (Figure 19).



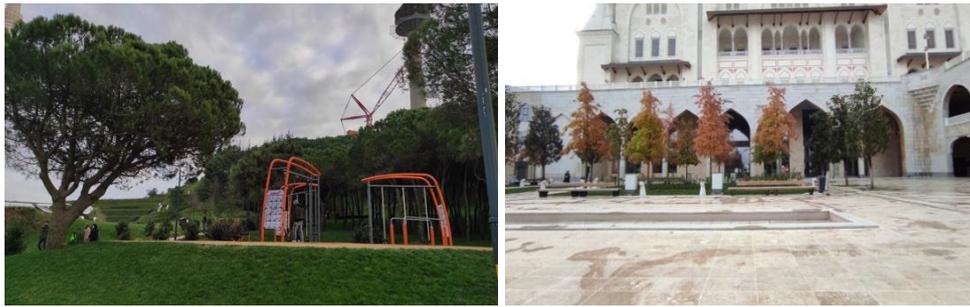


Figure 19. Parks and Outdoor Playgrounds of The Çamlıca Mosque

Judging from the function aspect, it can be compared between the theory of the function of Seljuk and Ottoman architecture with the facts and conditions in the Çamlıca Mosque, it can be concluded that the functions at the Çamlıca Mosque which implement the functions of Seljuk and Ottoman architecture are in the form of mosques and libraries and there are no madrasas, student dormitories, hospital, market, hamam, and tombs. Other public spaces at the Çamlıca Mosque are contemporary functions such as museums, gardens, playrooms (indoor and outdoor), art studios, art galleries, and conference rooms.

5. CONCLUSION

From the results of research and discussion related to the findings of a combination of architectural styles in the Çamlıca mosque building, it can be concluded with several points, there are:

5.1 Main Features of the Çamlıca Mosque

The Sahn style of the Çamlıca Mosque follows the styles of Seljuk Architecture and Ottoman Architecture. The Sahn pattern as a center is surrounded by rewaqs and flora patterns and there is a fountain as a must-have in the Seljuk and Ottoman architectural style mosques. The mihrab at the Çamlıca Mosque is in the style of Ottoman architecture because in the mihrab there is muqornas (stalactite) art. The mihrab at the Çamlıca Mosque is in the style of Seljuk architecture because in the mihrab there are a lot of various calligraphies and they are combined with contemporary materials from ceramics. The minarets or minarets at the Çamlıca Mosque are in the style of Ottoman architecture because the minarets are slender, slender, and pointed and have three balconies (Şerefe) with supports formed by muqornas (stalactite) art. The architectural style of the Çamlıca Mosque is Ottoman architecture with the characteristic of consisting of various sizes of domes with geometric patterns. In addition, the diameter of the dome is 34m, which means that the dome's diameter is > 32 m, indicating that the dome characterizes contemporary modern mosque architecture.

5.2 The facade of the Çamlıca Mosque

The materials used on the facade of the Çamlıca Mosque are concrete and marble, glass, and a combination of glass and wood for building walls. It can be concluded that the material of the Çamlıca Mosque is Contemporary Modern Architecture. The main door of the Çamlıca Mosque is in the Ottoman architectural style because it does not protrude in front of the building wall. In addition, at the main door there are stalactite-shaped ornaments that symbolize the Seljuk and Ottoman architectural style. However, the



carvings on the door interpret the combination of the Seljuk architectural style with floral motifs, the Ottoman architectural style with geometric patterns, and the Modern Architecture style with calligraphy and modern geometry.

5.3 Building Structures (Columns) of the Çamlıca Mosque

The Çamlıca Mosque has various types of columns from shapes, colors, materials, and sizes. The Column of the Çamlıca Mosque is a combination of columns with Ottoman Architectural Style which has a sleek and round characteristic with marble material and columns with Contemporary Architectural Style with marble-coated concrete material. The colors of the columns vary from white, green, reddish brown, brown marble.

5.4 Functions of the Çamlıca Mosque Complex

From the result and discussion, it can be concluded that the functions at the Çamlıca Mosque which implement the functions of Seljuk and Ottoman architecture are in the form of mosques and libraries. There are no madrasas, student dormitories, hospitals, markets, hamams, and tombs. Other public spaces at the Çamlıca Mosque are modern functions such as museums, parks, playrooms, art studios, art galleries and conference rooms.

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