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**BAUHAUS MODEL HOUSING APPROACHES  
AND EFFECTS ON EARLY PERIOD OF REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

**FROM DESSAU TO ANKARA**

**2015**

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## **ABSTRACT OF REPORT**

Bauhaus was a design school. It has been founded with contributions of many artists in 1919, has passed through many eras, and it covers a 14-year period until 1933, in other words until its closing date.

The Main idea of Bauhaus is to emphasize the necessity to unite art and craft and to integrate the disciplines. Manufacturing type, material and experiments form the main field of interest of the school which handle architecture as a subject of research. It has contributed to branches of visual arts and its reflections has proceeded to modern-day. Bauhaus serves in not only painting field but also many artistic field such as sculpture, basic art education, graphic-graphic design and typography. Additionally, it has influenced the fields of architecture, industry and house decoration and it has been a period in which significant work were produced.

With the development of the technology the Bauhaus' slogan was "Art and technology : A new unity". The Bauhaus began with an utopian definition : "The building of the future" was to combine all the arts in ideal unity.

Development of the technology also caused some changes like social life and production process. Of course, Bauhaus philosophy was not creating the ideal house or ideal product.

Main idea was creating the mass production products which is aesthetics, cheap, functional, easy-produces industrial products. So as a school of Bauhaus was kind of experiment center for design. Industrial potentials were to be applied to satisfactory design standards, regarding both functional and aesthetic aspects. The Bauhaus workshops produced prototypes for mass production: from a single lamp to a complete building.

After its closing, the influence of Bauhaus is seen all around the world. Certainly we can see its effects in Turkey which had an objective to get more modern. Bauhaus which has its influence in the architecture and in the way of production of the objects, prepared an ambiance to form a style in Turkey in the Earlier Republic Period. Its influences hasn't seen in direct way; it effected Turkey in indirect ways.

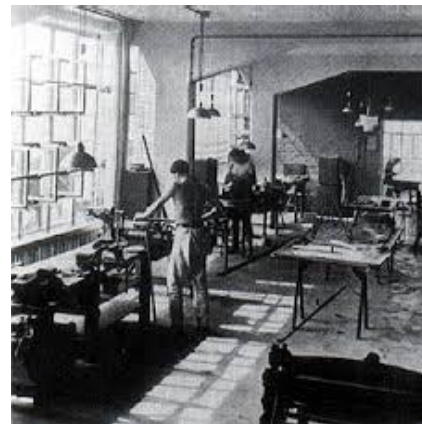
## 2.1 Background of Bauhaus Movement

After the World War, economic weakness and rising of the industrialization was caused significant changes on the society and needs. Also with developments of industrialization many architectural movements denied producing process by machine such as Arts and Craft. However using the machine was inevitable results for producing the products.

In addition political diversity and economical environments was another significant effect of the development of Bauhaus philosophy. Bauhaus main idea was not like a creating the future house like an utopia. Main idea was creating an experiment labs for



*Carpenter Workshop, Weimer 1923*



*Metal Workshop, Weimer 1923*

art and design with developments of industry.

In order to reach this goal, the founder, Walter Gropius, saw the necessity to develop new teaching methods and was convinced that the base for any art was to be found in handcraft: "the school will gradually turn into a workshop". Indeed, artists and craftsmen directed classes and production together at the Bauhaus in Weimar. This was intended to remove any distinction between fine arts and applied arts.

### 3.1 Material and User Relation

Before the developments of industrialization, production was depending on hand production and labor. Quality products was expensive and it was purchasing by bourgeois. Therefore a lot labor, but a small number of designs, has been met with a limited number of users.

Beginning of 20th century, the mass production of machinery and products became a part of daily life. As a result of that consumer perception has changed. The main purpose became that reaching to many people with quality goods and products. With the Bauhaus school, productions and design has appealed to the society.

Many industrial materials which were not easily deformed, but also aesthetic and stylish appearance earned materials are preferred and used as an element of design. These new materials, completely experimental production in gaining control of the masters of the Bauhaus workshops. Beside that many material has also discovered in Bauhaus workshops such as chrome pipes, aluminum tape, plywood and many materials.



*Chair Design from Bauhaus, Weimer : The chair and material of chair is designed and developed in Bauhaus Workshops. Sample of simplicity and modularity of products.*

### 3.2 Bauhaus and Design Forms

Bauhaus designer wanted to produce aesthetic designs without decorations. The main idea of bauhaus designs depends on simple forms and basic colors with combination of monochrome colors. The main aspects was creating mechanical aesthetic on designs.



*Peter Keler's Design, Bed for Baby. (1922). The main three simple forms was used as a design forms with three basic colors.*



*Farkas Molnár's Design for a family house (1922) Photograph: Bauhaus-Archiv Berlinproducts. Sample of Square forms as a design elements for house design.*

Being decorative less important than geometrical and formal approach for concept of Bauhaus. -

There are three simple form used by the Bauhaus designers : horizontal and vertical square, diagonal triangle and circular circle. Simple forms which are known by everyone was also give a chance to designer that creating the minimal and simple products.

When we realize the facade of bauhaus architecture especially we can examine the horizontal and vertical square forms all facade of the building.

### 3.3 Bauhaus and Functionality

As a concept of functionality has known by 20th century with beginning of industrialization. The most effective defines that the functionality is the Bauhaus School.

Bau and haus mean is building and construction. Bauhaus not only the building and design can also refer to redesigning. The purpose of the school was matching the technological forms with functions. Decorating can be described as the collapse of bourgeois in Bauhaus philosophy. Functionality has become more important than decorating products by Bauhaus design.

Many interior elements and construction elements has shaped by function of material and its modules such as kitchen designs, chairs, lamps, steel windows frames and many others.



*Haus am Horn, Kitchen Design, George Mucho (1923), Kitchen was made with metal profiles and wood. All products was designed in Bauhaus workshops. It can be refer as a first example of modular kitchen system. It is suitable example of functionality.*

According to functionality terms of Bauhaus : All buildings and all products should be necessary and all of them should be suitable of its functionality. Shape and structure should be shaped with its functions. Architectural designs such as facade designs

shouldn't be just good looking. All of the design should be logical and functional. For instance, the cooperation of the iron and glass, it should create big transparent volumes.

Technical functionality is grouped under the following headings in Bauhaus idea : *Simplicity, Symmetry, Angularity, Abstraction, Consistency, Unity, Organization, Economy, Subtlety, Continuity, Regularity, Sharpness, Monochromaticity*

An object is defined by its nature. Before the designing a house, lamp or basic glass, designer should think about their natures. It should be suitable of purpose, in other words, it must be useful, durable, economical and beautiful. This headlines also describe design idea needs of daily life object and living spaces on bauhaus Design.

Designers should have been confronted with three main subject. First is finding the nature of object, second is that providing the functions and third is searching the beauty and aesthetic.

#### **4.1 Social Housing as Bauhaus Approach**

After World War and the developments on industry consumption culture and production culture has changed. Socio-Economic and Socio-Culture conditions has changed with begging of 20th Century industrialization. Capital consumption and balance transition on society.

Designing for everyone has become most common idea for industry. One of the significant idea was that for Bauhaus. Industrialization and new developments of construction such as concrete has offered new opportunities.

Industrial materials which is developed and created by Bauhaus workshops offered the cheap, strong and reachable designs for society.

Bauhaus architecture was concerned with the social aspects of design and with the creation of a new form of social housing for society. This style of architecture came in part because of new engineering developments that allowed the walls to be built around steel or iron frames. The teachings at the Bauhaus school of design, which functioned



from 1919 to 1933 first in Weimar and later in Dessau, were greatly influenced by the machine age.

Training in Bauhaus workshops have contributed on elements of architecture and interior architecture. Productions which are developed and designed in workshops were experimental designs. And all of them were tested on experimental houses which were built in Dessau and Bauhaus area. Designing the modern daily life products and functional design elements has become a one of most important goal for Bauhaus philosophy.



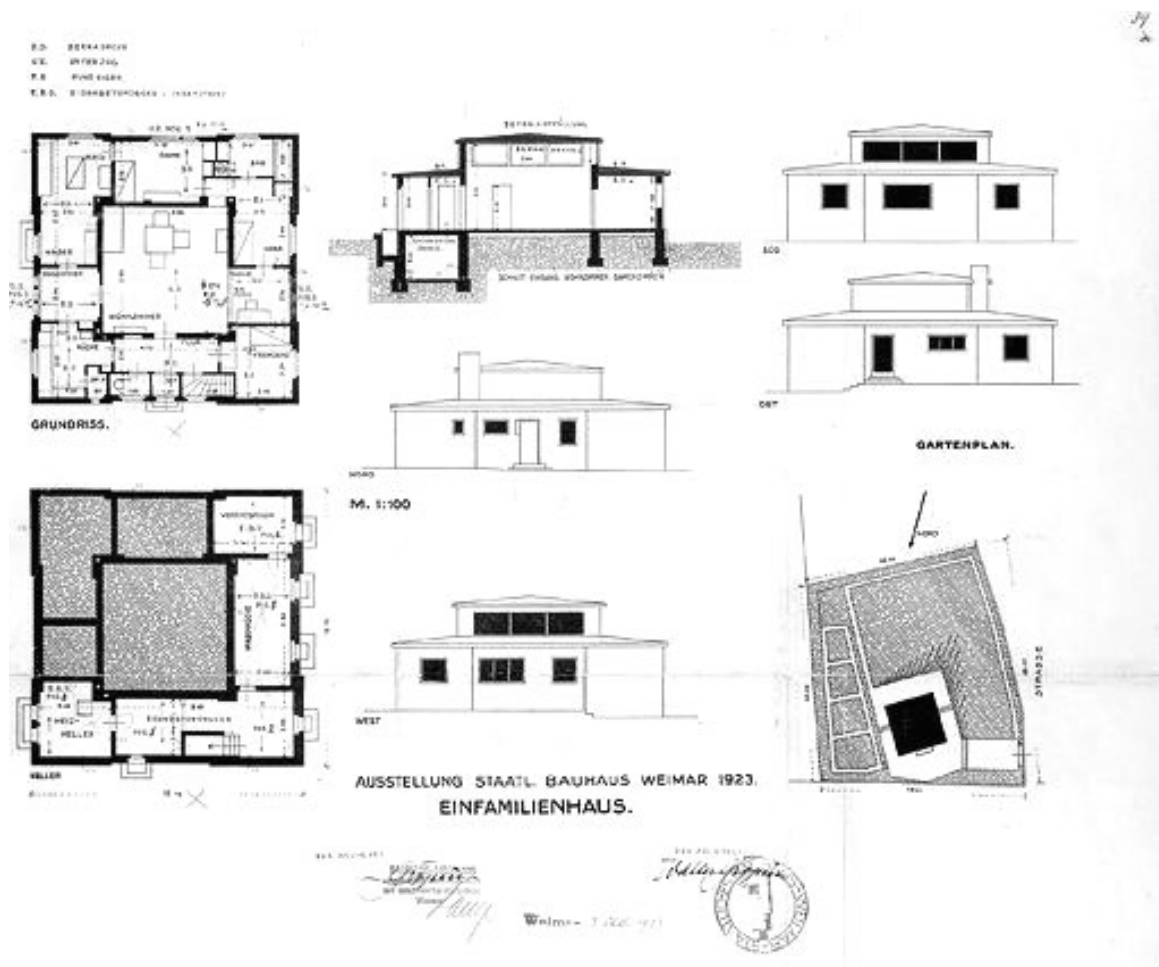
*Master Houses,,(1926), Front view of House. Master houses were decorated with functional furnishes and mechanical structure systems which were developed and produced in Bauhaus School. The house is designed with simple vertical and horizontal rectangular shape on its facade. It was one of the first prototypes of Bauhaus social house design.*

Public announcement of the designed elements and new developments of housing was provided on Master Houses in Dessau. All of the rooms and decorated with standardized industrial daily life designs. All furnitures were produced in Bauhaus workshops. Many small details of daily life as a requirement and its effects on modern life was presented to public by small tutorials and demo movies.

Experimental Haus am Horn which was built by Bauhaus Tutors was earliest and most radical views of new lifestyle design culture. As an exhibition house, it gave ideas about specific changing life style.

### 4.1.1 Haus am Horn

Haus am Horn which was built in 1923 by Georg Muche and Adolf Meyer was an experimental house for public introduction of Bauhaus products. This experimental subject for the awareness of the society, is furnished with Bauhaus production from start to finish. The planing of house depends on basic square plan schema. Family room is located in center of building and the rooms surround the family room. It was also offer the society different life style and life habits to users.



*Haus am Horn, Georg Muche and Adolf Meyer, 1923, Weimar. It was the first prototype building of Bauhaus School. It was kind a laboratory of Bauhaus. All the furnitures, materials and details are produced and developed at Bauhaus workshops. The building also give ideas about the modern family life style of Bauhaus with its planing and organizations.*

All details of house were produced in Bauhaus workshops. For instance glassed-ceramic tiles on the kitchen wall and floor tiles of dinning room were developed by Bauhaus workshop.

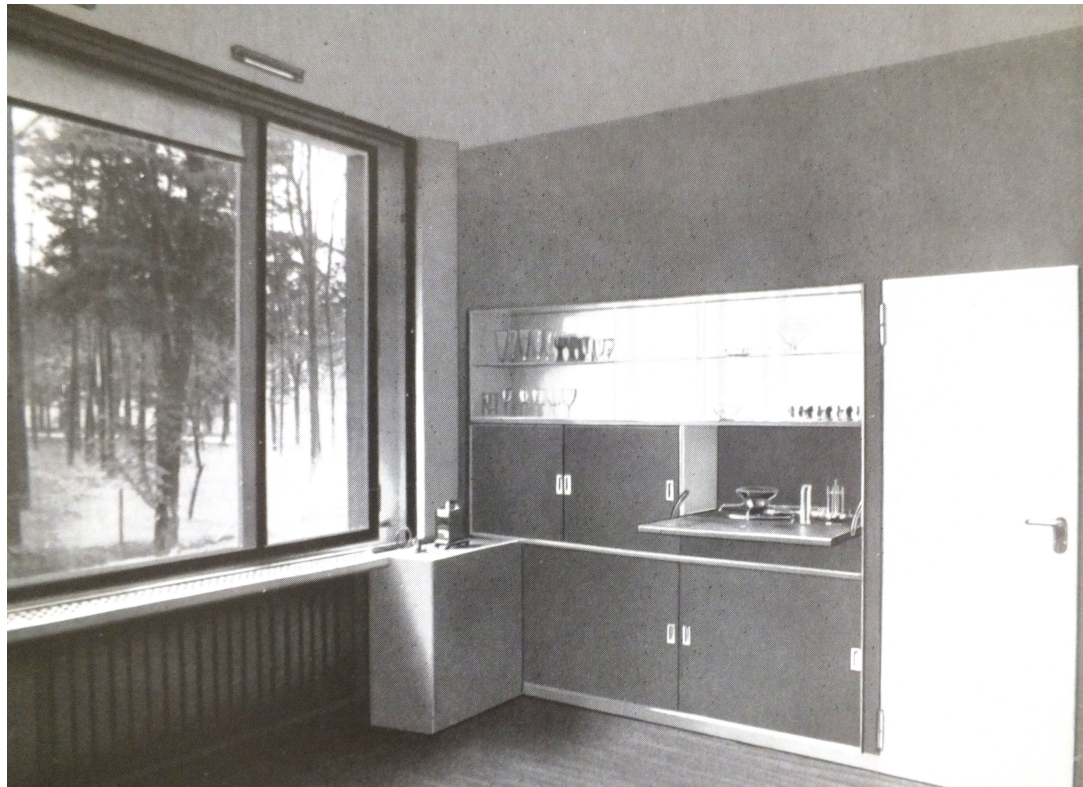
#### 4.1.2 Master Houses

Modern and aesthetic life style of Bauhaus was announced to society by Master houses which were built for Master of Bauhaus in Dessau. All details of rooms were produced at Bauhaus workshops.



*Master Houses, Dessau (1926), Prototype social house of Bauhaus School. All furnitures and details are developed and produced at Bauhaus workshops. Those houses are symbol of the Bauhaus philosophy. It is also refer the Bauhaus lifestyle as a concept.*

Bauhaus design philosophy was reached a wide audience by those prototypes after its opening in 1926. It was also refer to introduce modern daily life items. The method of the new way of life for the modern world has led to the discovery by those who visit.



*Master Houses, Dessau (1926), Interior details. Functional and simple-formed wall storage units create and determine the spaces and furniture in the rooms.*

When Oscar Scheme visited the houses, he said that : “When I saw first the houses I shocked. I thought that one day people start to leave living in apartments. And they will enjoy the sun on these rooftop. Master houses has two different type. One of type is an

independent director house and other types are semi-detached houses for masters. All houses are 65.5 feet from the each other, their fronts and east-west axis oriented parallel to the main street.

The houses are being built using the most advanced construction methods. All furnitures were produced in Bauhaus workshops and all details and wall painting depends on Bauhaus character. The most important feature of the penthouse can be said that the studio was close. In this way they can stay in touch with their masters while working together. Homes have been the intellectual center of masters sharing.

### **5.1 Effects of Bauhaus on Early Architectural Period of Republic of Turkey**

Ottoman domination on architecture has continued to following years after the declaration of the Republic of Turkey. With beginning of 1923, Kemalist government start to design modernization of Turkish society. One of the most important goal of Kemalist government was that to increase the standards of Turkey to the European level. Republic anniversary of the architectural environment in Turkey, evaluation of all available opportunities is composed of national awareness raising the nations.

At the end of the national architectural period in the political, economic, social and cultural fields radical changes began, naturally the field of architecture aimed to create an environment parallel to it. In this case, as in the days when the republic was founded, the new values are well known for a while and continued action has led to the coexistence of past values.

With beginning of 1923, many European architects especially from Germany has been invited to build and develop the Turkish architecture.

Especially, German modernism has attracted attention by Kemalist government. Architects of Republic tried to nationalize the philosophy of modernism.

Also German modernism and Bauhaus idea was suitable for Republic because of the economical conditions. At the end of years war caused lack of skilled labor for traditional stone, marble and craft work. Especially after the economic crisis in 1929 simplicity forms and modern forms has become attractive option because of their economical and rational conditions. That the reason for the adoption of the architecture of modernism by institutions has an important place in the republic as well as ideological reasons.

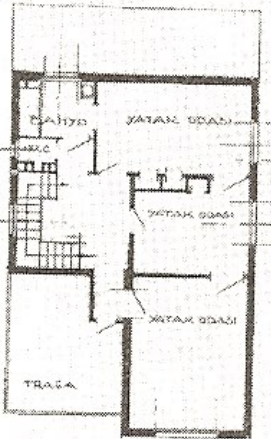
**KULLANIŞLI, UCUZ VE SAĞLIKLI**  
**Küçük Bir Ev**

(10 m 17 m=170 m<sup>2</sup>) bir alana sığdırılan bu bina Almanya'da, 15.000 marka mal olmuştur. \*Özellikle Almanlar, tarafından Frankfurt, J. yapılan bu ev binalar arasında 12.000 Liraya mal olmuştur.

**EVLER SERİSİ:**

Mimar: **ALYMER SAMİ**

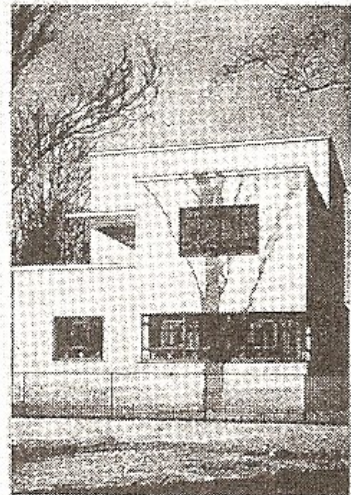
**O** kayınlarımızın bu evlerinde yitirdiği kadar gözlerinin hemen hiç alışmadığı ve memleketimizde daha önce hiç te-  
 ütilen olmadığından «Küçük» mimarisinin esas ve karakterleri hakkındaki mülahazaları başka bir yazıya bırakmak mecburiyetindeyiz, ve bilhassa çabamız mimarlık hareketlerinde hakikî bir vaziyet olan bu ülkeye iyahına bir çok misalleri ihtiva eden bir yarı tahsis etmek çok lüzumlu ve faydalı bir iş olacaktır. Bu stilin bir misali olarak neşrettiğimiz bu projeyi şimdi bir seyirci gibi temaya edelim:



**BİRİNCİ KAT**

duf etmedikleri bu ev tipi ile karşılaşacaklardır. Beynelmilel mimarlık sahasında bu tarzda vucuda getirilen evlere «Küçük» diyorlar. Buna aslında sade ve basit görünümüne beraber tüm bütün beşerî ve fennî tekâmüllerini bizzatında taşıyan kâmil bir eserdir.

Bugün mimarlık, «Küçük» kelimesinin manasında idealini bulmuş addedilebilir. Bu yollarımızda ev yapıcılığı hususunda cihzoda mevcut mühtelif fakatlıklardan birer misal vermekle



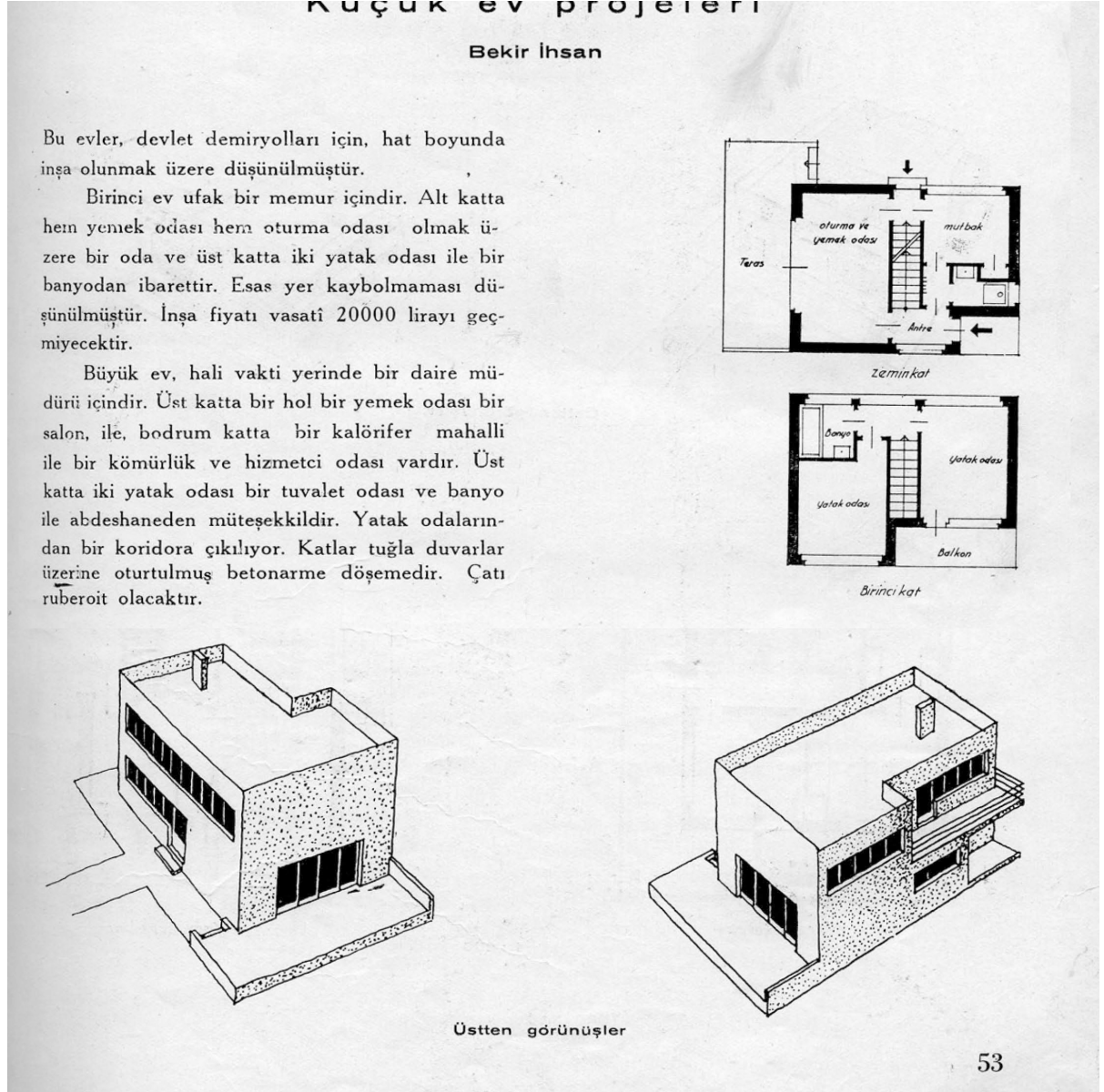
**D**inamik harici yüzünde küçük ve ufak motiflerden eser yoktur. Büyük hacimlerin ileri geri, aşağı, yukarı doğru sıralanması ile bir

One of Example of Advertisement about Bauhaus style social houses in Turkey. (1930). On the advertisements : Functional, Cheap and Healthy Houses series. A Cubic House.

Modernism idea has been tried to adopt to society by advertising. Despite the plain and simple appearance of Cubic house has been provide all needs of century. That was the main advertising of Bauhaus architecture.

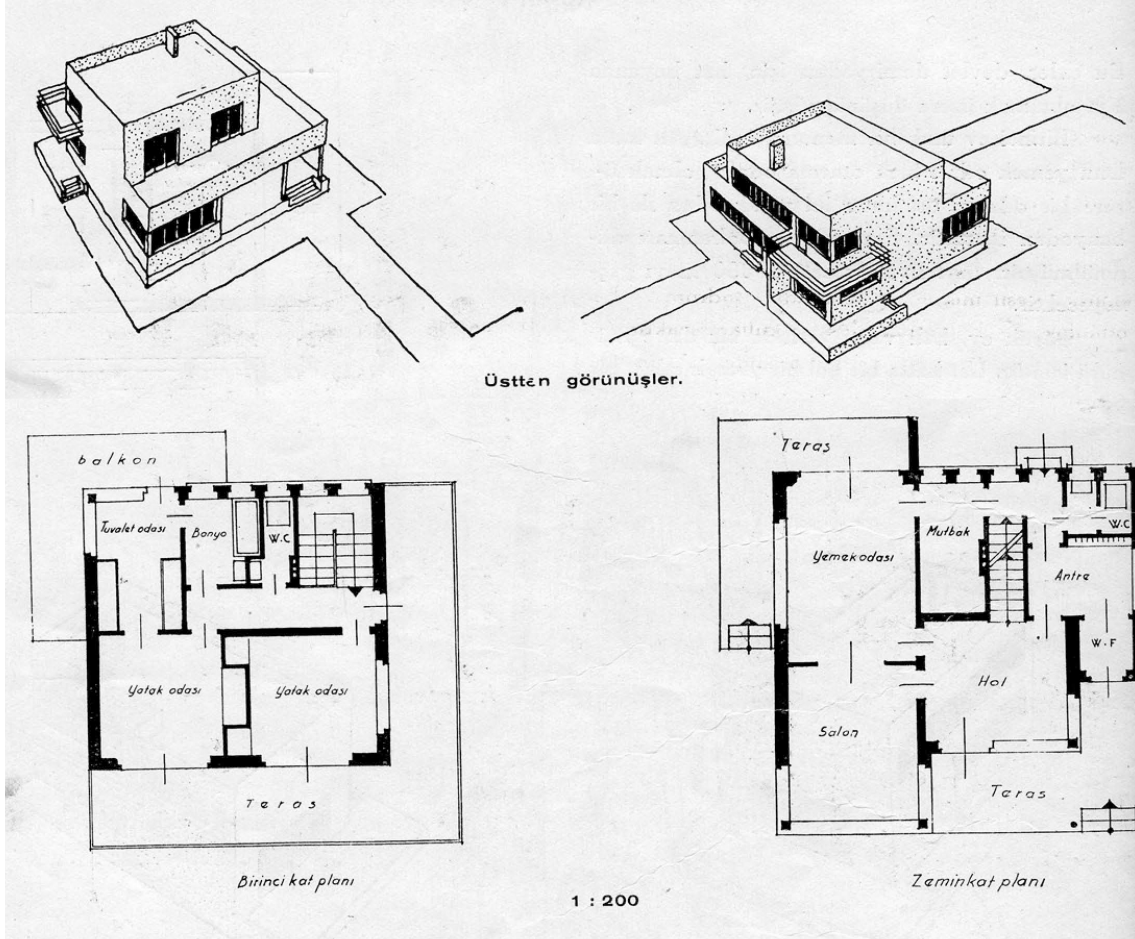
### 5.1.1 Social Housing, Small Housing Projects by Architect Bekir İhsan

One of the important example of social housing is small houses project which is designed by Architect Bekir İhsan. Those were designed as a worker house and middle-class family house for State Railways Lodgings. There are two style. Small size of house designed as a worker house. Big one was designed as a middle-class family house. On the design and thought of design depends on Bauhaus design.

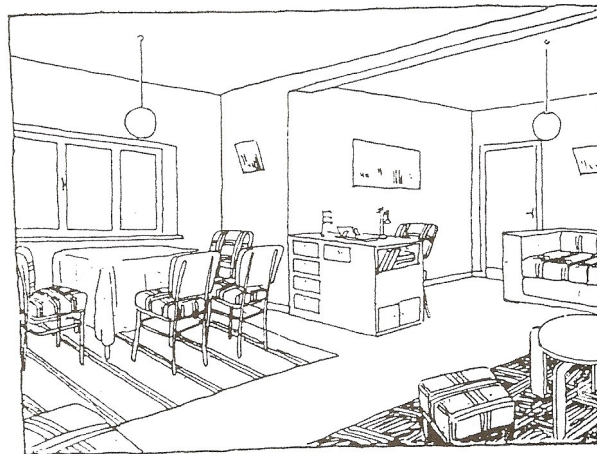


*Architect Bekir İhsan, Küçük Ev Projeleri, Small Houses Projects, (1930), Ankara, State Railways Lodgings. Worker Houses*

Main idea was creating cheap, functional houses for worker class and middle class. Furniture of the houses were designed simple form and cheap materials which were produced by industrial material like Bauhaus idea. It was never built because of the economical problems of Republic of Turkey.



*Architect Bekir İhsan, Küçük Ev Projeleri, Small Houses Projects, (1930), Ankara, State Railways Lodgings. Middle Class Family Houses*

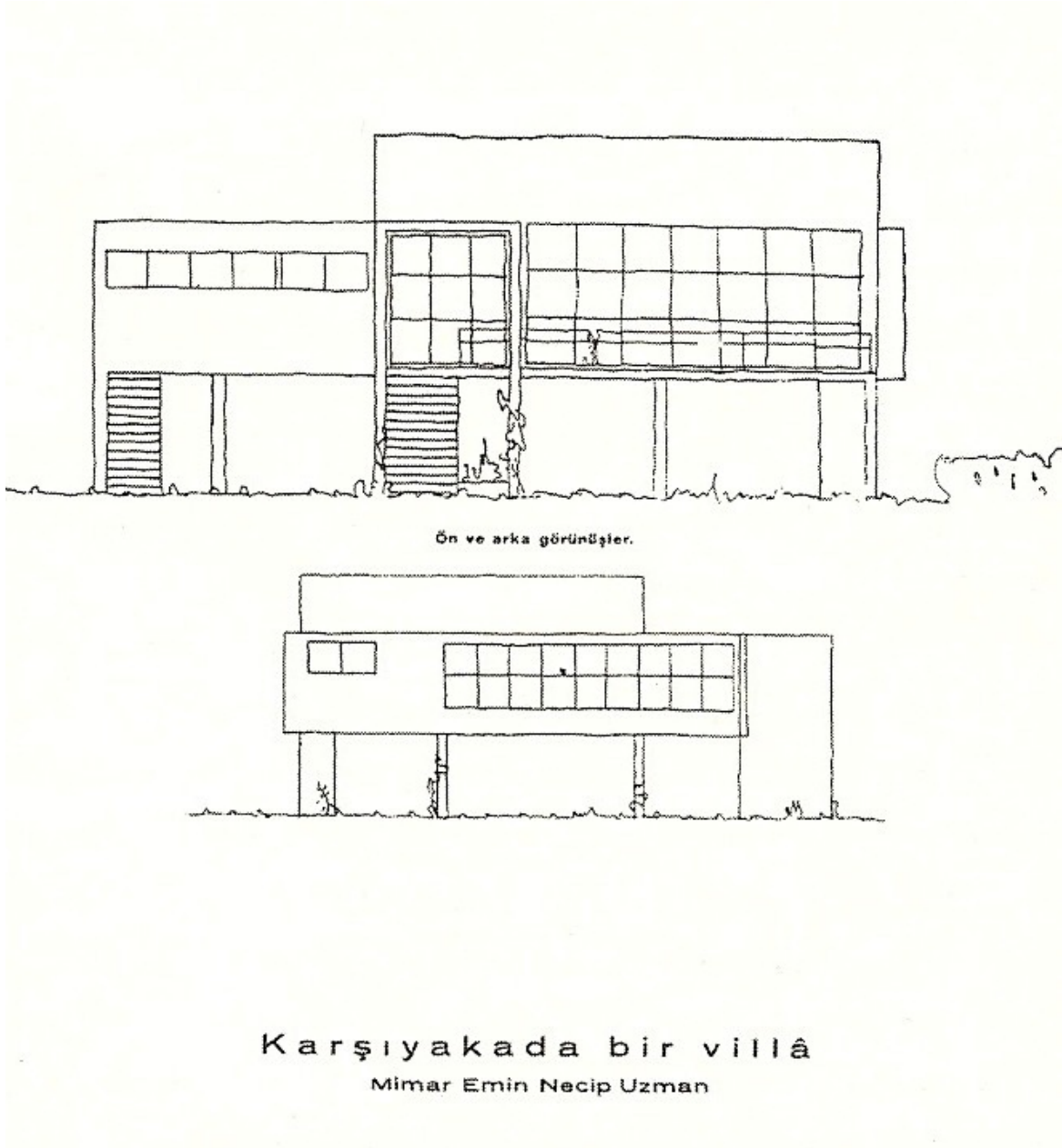


*Architect Bekir İhsan, Küçük Ev Projeleri, Small Houses Projects, (1930), Interior of Worker Class Houses*



### 5.1.2 A House in Karşıyaka

Architect Emin Necip Uzman was designed a summer house for middle-class family in 1930s. Facade of building and details of building depends on Bauhaus techniques and principle. Especially wide windows and using steel and glass is one of the most important design elements about this project.



*Architect Karşıyaka'da bir villa, A House at Karsiyaka, 1930s, Middle-Class Family Summer House*

### 5.1.3 Florya Summer Mansion

Florya summer mansion was designed in 1934 by first Turkish modernist architect Seyfi Arkan. It was designed as a summer mansion for Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. Design of the mansion was selected by Mustafa Kemal. It has designed with Bauhaus principle by Architect Seyfi Arkan. He was also student at Berlin High Technic University. The house was built on sea. Interior of the house is decorated with simple shaped furnitures.



*Florya Summer Mansion, 1936, Istanbul, Architect Seyfi Arkan*

## 6.1 Conclusion

This report article has been written after four days Dessau architectural trip within the scope of the course. Behind of the Bauhaus philosophy was developing the design techniques for daily life products and architectural elements by industrial elements. Despite the short-term, Bauhaus philosophy impress the industry in long-term. Nowadays most of the techniques and producing methods depends on Bauhaus philosophy.

Industrialization provided the mass production products with Bauhaus idea. Before the industrialization quality and well-designed products can be bought by limited people. By the Bauhaus idea wide of society reached the well-designed, quality products.

Bauhaus philosophy also changed the daily life habits and social perception in society after its time.

As a social housing idea of Bauhaus spread to all over world even after its closing. House mean has changed by Bauhaus idea in worldwide. Republic of Turkey which has been newly founded at the period was tried to use as a modernization icon of Turkish society.

Functionality has became more important than decoration. It is the root of today's design habits.