

Naveh Z.: TRANSDISCIPLINARY CHALLENGES IN LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY AND RESTORATION ECOLOGY (An anthology with forewords by E.Laszlo and M.Antrop and epilogue by E.Allen). - Springer, Landscape Series, Volume 7, Dordrecht 2007, 423 p., ISBN-13 978-1-4020-4420-5.

Zev Naveh's personal creativity in the research of ecological complexity at a landscape level led to the fact that it became recognized as a scientific discipline several decades ago. The anthology of his life-long work illustrates very well the progress of the discipline during its modern history, but also the complementary position of various partial disciplines developing in relative autonomous directions – such as nature conservation/ecological restoration, biodiversity/ecodiversity, natural/cultural heterogeneity, sociological/environmental issues, landscape ecology/restoration ecology, etc. The practical and philosophical capability of Zev Naveh to interconnect simultaneous processes driving outputs on macroecological level is a phenomenon *sui generis*.

Mankind, in Zev's ecology, was the key part of landscapes; it formed the surface of landscapes; not only in the urban, semi-natural, but apparently also the "wild" components of landscapes. The term "cultural landscape restoration" was created by him. This anthology has laudable objectives: to use a representative collection of major publications for illustration of scientific trajectory on (1) theoretical and practical issues in ecology of special ecosystem type, (2) global environmental problem, and (3) landscape science transformations, historical shifts and potential impacts in practice. Autobiographical experience covers forty years of creative activity expressed by comprehensive ecological study of each chapter. The form of a book gives much more eloquent message than any particular article and this message is readable as a complex of substantial answers to the main crises of our civilization.

The first part of the book (A. Mediterranean Issues) consists of seven case studies. Their temporal extent shows the period of 1967-2005 and proceeds through stepping stones of vegetation ecology, disturbance (fire) ecology, bio/eco-diversity, restoration under global climate change, holistic conservation view to evolution of cultural Mediterranean landscape.

The second part of the book (B. Global Issues, six chapters) treats complicated interactions between nature and culture. It brings examples of how landscape ecology in global dimension contributes to sustainable development. (from the European point of view, implementation of the European Landscape Convention is significant).

The third part of the anthology (C. Recapitulation, one concluding chapter) contains a discussion on the way and degree of landscape science transformation into trans-disciplinary field).

The entire work of Zev Naveh manifested a very sensitive approach intelinking those areas of natural and social sciences where overlapping implies fruitful results for life in a balanced and sustainable home. He calls for integration landscape/restoration ecology and deeper transdisciplinarity to cope with gaps of knowledge in the so called information age. The book is highly valuable in a non-traditional sense – its value of personal testimony is something quite unique comparing to a classical textbook. Therefore, I'd recommend it to anyone dealing with ecosystem interactions, land and landscape studies within humanity.

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