

## Analysis of Factors Affecting the Formation of Public Spaces in Cities with Respect to Environmental and Social Quality: Case of Arg of Tabriz Area

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### ABSTRACT

Public spaces as an organized phenomenon, which cities are introduced by them, are the basis for formation of various activities and aspects of social interaction and identity of cities. Thus, the elements of social and environmental quality are considered as crucial factors so that these public spaces can meet the requirements of cities and citizens, which enhance the safety of environment, sense of belonging, and satisfaction of people at various levels, since the public space accepted by people has high capacity to create various opportunities to meet the needs of cities and citizens lives in large cities. The aims of this study are to investigate the urban spaces, analyze the influence of environmental qualities on social relations, and to find out that how these social relations are realized in urban spaces. To reach these aims, by using the descriptive and analytical method, the area of Arg of Tabriz was investigated in the historical context of city which itself is considered as the identity and social aspects within the city. As a result, with respect to social dimension of human and space, this study has explored the factors affecting the improvement of public spaces, determination of factors, and effective strategies for their socialization way, so that we can enhance the social activities and involvements in the public spaces by improving the areas of activity and meaning. The findings of the study supported this assertion that the area of Arg of Tabriz is considered as one of the main components of urban spaces quality, and it has significant relationship with the level of social interactions and the extent of attendance of citizens in public spaces.

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## INTRODUCTION

There are different views regarding the creation of a successful public space that is open to different individuals and groups, including the views of Jane Jacobs, Ian Goal, Alan Jakubs, Cooper Marcus, and Donald Apiliard. The views of investigation of environment and social behavior have attracted the attention of different authors and researchers, for example, Alten highlighted the effective role of physical factors in human behavior. Since that the attendance of people in public spaces is one of the major concerns of urban designers, many of them had investigated about it. Although, different terminologies have been used, the important point is that many shared concepts and meanings also exist in these terminologies. In his book titled as social life in small urban spaces, "William White" sought ways to increase the vitality of the people and their attendance in the urban spaces. Norberg Schulz is speaking about the "urban space's reception" and he considered it as having basic cognitive, and because of not imposing any pre – determined system, its elements can accept social contacts and constructive interaction [23]. Bacon believes that the essence of studying and investigating of the valuable works of architecture is space properties, and since it has not understood completely, there will be confusion will stay in designing urban spaces and architecture, because space properties are the essence of cultural and social relations and citizens activities, in fact. In other words, space is place in all periods, based on weighty past, while living and flexible for the future. So, today should use the past spaces, and if it not answerable, spaces should be added for it through skill and art, as the history of the development of space has well demonstrated it. The key to the success of public space is the existence exchange platform. Without economic activity in various levels and layers, it is impossible to create successful urban spaces. Since exchange

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is not limited to economic activities, the public spaces should also provide an opportunity for social and cultural communications. Kevin Lynch is also among the scientists who argue that urban space is one of the very important elements in legibility of city, and he refers to legibility as understanding of city and reasonable or logical relationship between the city and citizens. If we view the urban space just from its skeleton dimension, we have considered physical space of city, in fact. Phenomena within it can be investigated in the form of concepts such as spot (Retail, school, hospital), Line (communicative lines) and surface (land, district, area) and volume (building). But considering the urban space without occurring social processes is not correct matter. Many scholars have given much attention to social spaces rather physical spaces, such as Lefure who considers the definition of social space and it is defined as "Social space is a social product. Each society and the way of production are the producers of their own space. So the concept of creating of space has key role in the Lefure thought. As social and political product, space is being sold and bought. Thus, the organization of the environment and society as well as models of cities and regions depends on production space and its role in reproduction of social – economical shaping. Harvey also stated that we can certainly say that the physical construction should facilitate the integrated functioning of social process. But space is absolutely compatible with this process and social needs on the other hand are not compatible with any form of space [33]. So, considering both the social and physical dimensions of space can help us create successful urban spaces. In the city, people attend based on individual needs and specific behavioral patterns and even change the shape of the urban space [7]. In fact, urban space is a mix of geographical features of space and human attendance which part of issues related to human attendance is his perceptual and behavioral characteristics. Since urban spaces provide public participation and interaction and communicate culture, thought, and human experiences, their absence would lead into separation of the individual from society and the formation of many social problems. Generally, urban space is the basis for the formation of the human collective life, and the main requirement that public space to be considered as the urban space is the existence of social interaction in it (authors), In other words, the participation process includes a variety of individual and group activities to get involved in determining their destiny and society and influencing on the decisions made in public affairs [27]. Public spaces are complex patterns of the concepts functions and include various concepts and meanings which understanding these relations and how they work will be influential in designing the urban spaces. Therefore, identifying the various components, including the components of the physical and social and individual factors as factors for greater solidarity among users in an urban area [4] and their influence on quality of public spaces and social interaction of citizens are investigated. The studying of these issues in a valuable urban space which has capacity for acceptance of social activity led us to choose the area of Arg of Tabriz as persistent phenomenon which is an identity and space – social part of a urban community and as a part of city memories.

## *2. Statement of problem:*

The rapid growth of cities, especially in large cities, has led into widespread physical changes, and functional activity in urban areas. These changes have made the public areas of city cannot respond to the social needs of human and to provide him required opportunities to obtain social experiences. So, the more space addresses the human and the more harmonious with his behavioral patterns, the healthier, and the stronger society we will have, but their absence would lead into separation of the individual from society and the formation of many social problems. So, it is necessary to design a public space which provides social interactions for people to have a dynamic city. Regarding the mentioned points, the importance of investigating this issue in social interactions is necessary.

## *3. Significance of study:*

The role of public spaces and environmental elements of cities in developing and strengthening of social relations of citizens.

The need for public spaces and elements environmental elements of cities in order to maintain its identity.

The important role of public spaces and environmental elements of cities in creation of a link among various generations and a link with the past of city.

The important role of public spaces and environmental elements of cities in creation of sense of belonging to city and as a result sense of life satisfaction in city.

## *4. Research questions:*

The main question of the research is that which characteristics of places are effective in development and maintaining of the public spaces and environmental elements of cities in developing and strengthening of the social relations among the citizens.

Accordingly, we can raise questions in this way:

What standards can be found to promote and maintain public spaces and environmental elements in the city of Tabriz?

How effective is the impact of objective and subjective standards of historical site of Arg of Tabriz in formation and maintaining of the public spaces of the city?

#### 5. Hypotheses of study

- Architectural ideas in relation to public life in order to achieve a public space in architectural design of public center (city center)

- Designing appropriate places for spending of recreation times of people in various classes

- Center (city center) designing with a public identity perspective, as an effective approach for the promotion of culture

#### 6. Purpose of study

- Definition and design of urban public spaces based on social needs

- Giving identity and promotion of culture of city through building up the public spaces in the city

- Identification and determination of flexible space for diverse behavioral patterns for formation of development of social relations

- Examination of samples and similar examples with subject of planning and designing of the appropriate physical program and identification of required spaces to design and examination of standards

#### 7. Review of literature:

Jane Jacobs (1376): Jacobs argued that healthy and vibrant cities are organic, spontaneous and lucky cities. They proud of having economic and human diversity, architecture, dense population and mixing of users. He also thinks that the dynamics and viability of cities depend on complex, dense and populated city centers, and he refers to positive economic, psycho – social, and affective influences of these centers.

Kevin Lynch (1388): Lynch considers the vitality as one of the seven main factors of city quality. These seven factors include: vitality, meaning, relevance, availability, monitoring and authority, efficiency, and fairness. Vitality means to what extent the form or shape of city has supported the vital functions and biological needs, and more importantly, how it makes the survival of creatures possible.

Antoniades (1386): in the second volume of his architecture book, he discusses about the tangible strategies to architectural creativity. In some chapters of the book, he refers to inclusive and comprehensive creativity.

Consulting engineers of steep path (1378): in general studies, International Conference Center of Tabriz has introduced the various halls in Tabriz and highlighted the importance of these community halls and conference center in the Tabriz city so that they are set in special periods of year in order to discuss about various subjects and issues to enhance the awareness of people.

#### 8. Methodology:

The method of the article relies on research evidence based on review of documents related to prominent studies in the field of place, place identity, sense of place and its level. In order to carry out the research, table and standards of environmental quality and Swot model has been used to analyze them. This article was developed in four parts: in the first part, related concepts has been discussed and examined. In the second part, historical site of Arg of Tabriz has been introduced and analyzed. In the third part, the standards and components of environmental and social quality have been investigated in the area of Arg of Tabriz. Finally, in the fourth part, the quality of physical environment of public spaces of cities to attract the people has been concluded.

#### 9. Principles and concepts:

##### 9.1. Public space and its standards:

Public space of the city is a place for interaction and behavior of citizens and it shapes the community spirit and a sense of social homogeneity. The basic condition for public spaces is social interaction and communication to take place. Also, the urban space is not only a physical sense, but also includes "citizen interaction" and "urban activities". Francis Tibalds argues that urban space is part of city context which all people access it physically and visually [35]. Urban spaces have had different physical and functional properties and various geographical and cultural contexts in different periods. As a result, different definitions have been proposed for them. Examining these definitions and views to get different dimensions of a public space indicates two factors: form (skeleton) and nature (function) of urban spaces. In ancient times, skeleton and activity were same, but they were distinguished late eighteenth century. In this period, the city and the urban spaces are center of human thoughts and emotions. So, today we cannot consider any space as the urban space, since urban spaces have communicative properties and they are part of the living organism of city. We should not recognize the urban spaces only through their aesthetic characteristics, but also through investigating the characteristics of their contents. The standards for identification of urban spaces include: 1. public availability: all people have access them in all times without any limitation. 2. Access them by walking: it is possible for people to attend in the public spaces by walking. 3. Physical attendance: human attendance is necessary for definition of public spaces. 4. Being public: the main characteristic of public urban space is all people can enter it and no one

prevents them. 5. The emergence of social interaction: social interactions are among the main factors to define the public spaces [32,4,13].

### 9.2. Public spaces in the cities:

Public spaces are spaces which different group of people and individuals have share in them. These spaces are places for exchange of ideas and information and a place for the formation of social networks [38] which there are interactions and experiences among individuals and different groups, obtaining sense of collective identity, self – respect, Promotion of collective skills and social involvement in them [37]. Public spaces include various urban spaces such as streets, roads, squares, plaza, park, playgrounds, City Hall, malls, beaches and coastal areas and other forms of collection spaces [13]. They can be designed to particular activity or they can diverse skeleton and activity [35]. Also, as parts of built environment, they can respond to necessary needs of their users and bring vitality to environment [34]. Table 1 refers to investigation of influential standards in the formation of public spaces and their dimensions.

**Table 1:** influential standards in the formation of public spaces and their dimensions

| standards                   | dimensions                                 |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Legibility and permeability | Being able to invite                       | Access and mobility  | The understanding of a public space by people (Miller, 1379: 28). Perceptual, cognitive and environmental preferences of people deals with urban spaces (Golkar, 1380: 40).  |
| Safety and Security         | Protection and comfort                     | Used during the different hours and seasons, space control | Bring the quality of the environment, relief and comfort in the physiological and psychological aspect (Poormohammad, 1390: 26).   |
| Sense of place              | Vitality and dynamism                      | Attractiveness and diversity                               | Behavioral and sensory effects in space (Daneshpour, 1386: 27). This is cognitive perception of people from environment and their feelings from environment that places them in inner relation with environment (Partovi, 1382: 90). |
| Activity Accountability     | Hierarchy of privacy to social interaction | Different activities at different times                    | The range of activities can be divided into three parts:<br>1. necessary activities<br>2. selective and optional activities<br>3. social activities (Madanipour, 1384: 31)   |

### 9.3. Social and collective life in public spaces:

One of the important dimensions and characteristics of public space is to provide an opportunity for social interactions. This factor can be evaluated by determination of the extent of attendance of different social groups, formation of social network, and living in different hours of day [13]. Social interaction and participation encompasses a variety of individual- group actions for determination of their own and society destiny and affecting the decision – making process in public affairs. Participation can occur at two levels:

1. Subjective dimension of social participation which is tendency for participation.
2. Objective dimension of social participation which realized through membership, supervision, performance, and decision – making [30].

Users of urban public spaces not only spend their time in them but also they can do many activities in open spaces. High variety of activities demonstrates the flexibility of the space and the ability to respond appropriately to the needs of different groups of people. The much time people tend to spend their time in public spaces, the greater vitality, social life and public interaction they will experience [25]. "Mumford" emphasizes the social cohesion and face to face interactions, mobility of thought and aesthetic importance of urban spaces in the public spaces, and he doesn't accept the one – sided communications, because in these situations the social values are overlooked and social life in urban spaces is reduced [19]. In the Table 2, the summary of constituent elements of the social dimension of public spaces has been illustrated.

**Table 2:** Constituent elements of the social dimension of public spaces

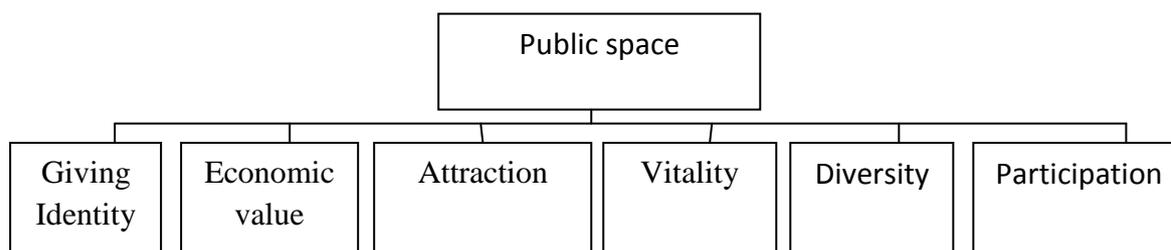
| Title           | Explanations  |
|-----------------|---|
| human           | 1. Understanding of human needs in relation to space.<br>2. Understanding of the different groups using the space.  |
| space           | 1. Understanding the physical dimensions of public space and its capabilities in relation to the social dimension of the space.<br>2. Susceptibility of space to accept different groups of people.<br>3. Active and continuous presence of people in space (creating a sense of safe space). |
| Collective life | 1. Understanding the effective dimensions in collective life and provide required opportunities for social activities.<br>2. Enjoyment of social groups by attending in the public spaces (delectability).  |

It should be noted that cultural system and social relationships are interlinked. This means that establishment and continuity of social relationship strengthen values, culture and norms; on the other hand culture determines conditions and formation of social relationships. So, space covers a set of social and cultural

relationships between particular group and particular place. These relations have specific time; Thus social life is placed in space and time and it is limited by that. Types of relationships that exist in space and their severity give meaning to space [20]. Public open spaces have particular importance in collective life of citizens that they often have the greatest actual and potential opportunities for presence of citizens and also don't have time, size and control constraints [7]. Collective life in public open spaces depends on promoting social interactions, attracting various individuals and groups, social security and thus encourage increasing tolerance of various groups in space, more community accepting and creating an active and lively space.

#### 9-4 Environmental Quality from Factors of Presence in Public Spaces:

In this way, planners believe that environmental quality is a key concept for regional and social planning and is in connection with concepts such as quality of life, diversity of social environment, physical characteristics, activities, spatial dependence and urban identity [15]. Generally, environmental quality covers all social, economic and physical aspects and is measured on the basis of people's satisfaction [11]. In Diagram 1 influencing factors on quality of public spaces is presented and in Table 3, theories of some scholars about quality of urban environment and their raised criteria is presented.



**Diagram 1:** Quality of public space (Source: Kalantari, 2012: 75)

**Table 3:** Comments on Environmental Quality

| Theorist              | Presented Criteria   |
|-----------------------|--|
| Amos Rapoport         | spatial, timing organization, meanings and communications  |
| Kevin Lynch           | vitality, meaning, relevance, access, monitoring and control, efficiency and fairness  |
| Edmund Bacon          | Creation of a favorable environment for each citizen   |
| Jon Lang              | Quality of urban design is based on classification of human's needs  |
| Matthew Carmona       | Access, hard and soft space, public space, safety and security, urban landscape, mixing and compaction, inclusive and time management of space |
| John Punter & Carmona | Environmental sustainability quality, urban landscape, views, shape of cities, form of buildings and public areas                              |
| South Worth           | Legibility, form of access, protection of environment, vitality and life, diversity, health and safety   |
| E. Yen Bentley        | Legibility, permeability, flexibility, color belonging, variety and a sense of belonging   |
| Jane Jacobs           | Attention to street elements, being permeable, accessibility, social integration and flexibility   |

Considering the space quality indicators and various opinions and criteria that are provided, we can refer to two basic variables, environmental quality, and this quality can be divided into four parts: 1. Environmental; paying attention to natural, geographical and environmental factors that form main context of the city and affect all the elements and details of the urban design [3]. 2. Performance; it is created by the structure and organization of space and is consists of access factors and participation of different groups and levels of performance and balance of activities in space [9]. 3. The sense; it refers to the perception of space and the mental image of it and psychological and emotional impacts (the same, 87). 4. Visual; it relates to the quality of physical environment, the landscape and its structure (the same, 87). Social relations, relates to participation of the person with sense of belonging and active participation in space that makes feel of participation in the whole system [2]. In general, activities are the basis of creating a space, having something to do is the reason for presence of people in public space. Having many activities in a space makes a lot of opportunities for people to participate [15].

#### 10. Case study (Present and analysis of historical site of Tabriz Ark):

Ali Shah Ark in center of ancient city of Tabriz, is placed on the south side of the intersection of Imam Khomeini and Ferdowsi, and its surrounding space is used for holding political-worship Friday pray and prays of Muslim feasts. This structure is made in ILKHANI period, 700 years after the arrival of Islam to Iran. Today, only a part of the huge walls and very high sanctuary of the south yard of the mosque has remained, which confirms the glory days and its prosperity. Area of Ali Shah Abbas mosque during Abbas Mirza Shah in the war between Iran and Russia, was became a place for supplies of the armory and food storage. Early in Pahlavi period the area Ali Shah Ark was turned into a public cemetery, but thanks to some good people and the

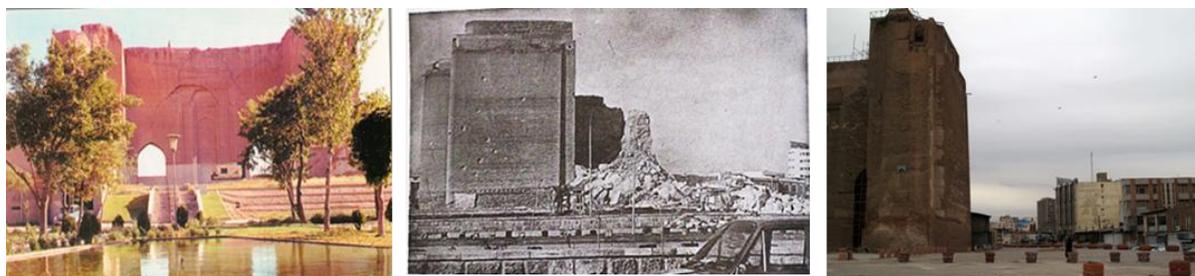
authorities it became a National Park (Ark Garden - Balabagh) and a promenade in the city. In the surrounding the public buildings such as: theater, a library and a public place for reading, college, school, and monument for unknown soldiers were made. And around the building is covered with greenery, and was organized freely. But at the end of the Pahlavi period, Ali Shah Ark of Tabriz was destroyed, and the destruction state has continued until late 1360. From this year, a plan to establish Mosalla of Tabriz with a view to restoring Taj al-Din Ali Shah Mosque was discussed. But because the lack of a comprehensive review of the status, some incompatibilities and inconsistencies occurred, which has caused people to escape from the area. Reasons of selecting mentioned area according to the above-mentioned explanations are the potential for socialization and proper position of the city of Tabriz, which has the life time memories and mental identity. Also proximity to the main streets of the city, locating in the old part of city, commuting and high population density in the area, previous background in the social life of the site, various applications in different scales around the city and the construction of historical identity of Ali Shah Ark of Tabriz with a large empty space in front of the building create a perfect space for a public area. Improving it leads to attract more citizens to participate in public life, and restore and strengthen citizen's sense of belonging and memory to the space. Studying the amount of effect of quality and social standards, we analyze the issue of the study in past and present. And the results are summarized in Table 4. The analysis with the Swot method is presented in Table 5. Some solutions are presented to improve the environment quality for collaborative partnerships in the area of each of the components in Table 6.



**Fig. 1:** Location of the area in the aerial photograph

#### 11. Studying components and standards of environmental and social quality within the Ark:

1. Environmental: In the environmental issue in this study, the purpose is environmental factors, depending on the density and congestion, environmental pollution and environmental perspective. In the past this area was damaged several times and had a poor environmental situation. Today this area is nothing but a ruined building with an area of high environmental.



**Fig. 2, 3, and 4:** Location of the area in different periods

2. Functional: performance or function of the Ark in the past and now, is as a sign of the city. Factors like accesses and the city's main arteries are leading to this range and increase its value. And also because of the position of Ark business activities are increased in the city. And they have great ability to absorb the population and as operating area are in the city and beyond. The area doesn't have any ability in absorbing population at night and at this time it becomes a space without security and control, and the so-called dead space.

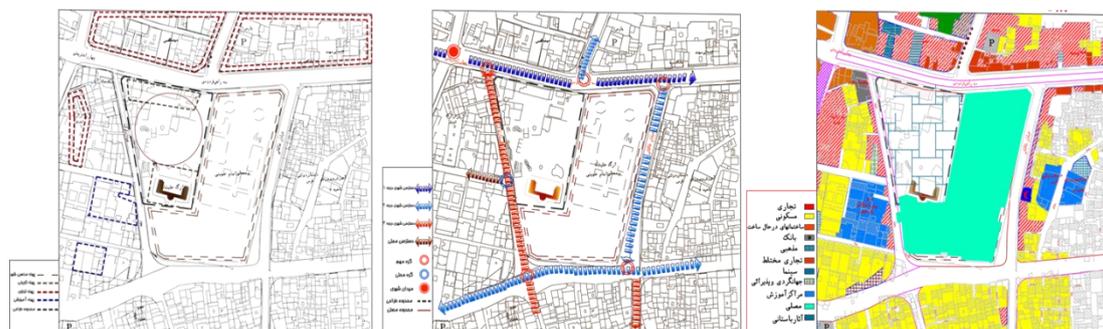


Fig. 5, 6, and 7: Respectively from right to left the map application, access and spatial structure

3. Identity: As mentioned Ark building is an important element of urban identity that forms the historical and cultural heritage of the city. In the past this area was part of the memories of the people. This area was an important symbol of the all the time to create a mental picture of Citizens for routing in the old form of the city.

4. Visual: visual quality in a public place emphasis more on the landscape and the surrounding landscape, which depends on the type of state (front) of the body periphery. In study limits some factors can be mentioned such as height, rhythm of skyline of buildings, materials, decorations, quality and adjacent buildings. And as the Ark is of the cultural heritage, there are some regulations and laws in in the construction of buildings surrounding this area. It has been certified that the majority of the buildings height does not exceed 3-2 floors. However, some of the newly-built buildings have disrupted the rhythm of normal form. For using decoration only old buildings like houses with the entrance arch are decorated. The effects remains of Libraries and Theatres represents that the decoration of the buildings are in the body of the structure. Quality of old and dilapidated buildings in the adjacent part of the construction relates to two or three decades.



Fig. 8,9, 10 and 11: decorating, construction, housing status and skyline rhythm of the surrounding area buildings

5. Social relations: In the current state relations are formal and no affairs and social interaction are often done, except in certain small-sectional periphery of the Union groups, there is not another kind of relationship. There is not also night life and activities and security of informal and cooperative relations. In the past, when the area of the Ark was changed into an urban area with a population absorbent applications like (parks, theaters, libraries, etc.) relations were more in the form of social interactions and participations, which can be said that of the Social life was present in this part. This indicates the potential of making social relationships with restoring social life to the area.

Table 4: Study and analysis quality and social criteria of urban space in sample case of Ark Tabriz area

| Variables             | Criteria      | Past performance  | Present performance   | Consequences in present condition  |
|-----------------------|---------------|---|---|--|
| Environmental Quality | Environmental | -Landscaping<br>-Reduce pollution<br>-Utility air<br>-Increase visual quality | -High pollution of environment<br>-Lack of utility and visual air | -High noise and air pollution due to high density and congestion<br>-Loss of self-purification ability of environment<br>-Absence or lack of adequate green space<br>-The poor perspective |
|                       |               | -Urban symbol   | -Symbol in city   | -Appropriate penetration<br>-Keeping application   |

|                      |            |   |   |   |
|----------------------|------------|---|---|---|
|                      | Functional | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Suitable access</li> <li>-Absorbent population</li> <li>-Socialization applications</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-High permeability</li> <li>-Absorbent population with high density</li> <li>- Existence various applications</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>importance till today</li> <li>-Presence of main attachments of city beside site</li> <li>-Diversity in next applications with high ability for attracting population (traditional, university etc.)</li> <li>-Power of formation social groups</li> </ul>                   |
|                      | Semantic   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Attachment to environment</li> <li>-Historical and cultural identity of every city</li> <li>-Urban important element</li> </ul>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Creating a mental picture for routing as a symbol of city</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Site and ARC indicate identity of city</li> <li>-A sense of belonging for citizens</li> <li>-Shaping perception of environment and mental image of citizens</li> <li>-Giving importance to value of historical and cultural identity identity of Ark</li> </ul>             |
|                      | Visual     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-During a periods; poor urban landscape and during other period; favorable urban landscape</li> <li>-Dominant of Ark building in area</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Visual dominance of Ark building in area</li> <li>-Uncertainty and disadvantage in face of peripheral body</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Dominant main element of Ark</li> <li>-Wide viewing places</li> <li>-Spatial scale</li> <li>-Coordination neighbor housing with conditions and roles of in term of high, body, materials etc.</li> <li>-Burnout landscape of architecture</li> </ul>                        |
| Social relationships |            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Collaborative relationships and overcome informal and interactions relationships during life of range</li> </ul>                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Official and caduceus relations without forming partnerships and social interaction</li> </ul>                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>.Presence of people of all ages and different conditions</li> <li>2.Lack of interaction and cooperation between different social groups</li> <li>3.Sacrificial and caduceus relationship between people</li> <li>4.Low levels of safety and security in workplace</li> </ul> |

**Table 5:** Researching external and internal factors of measures outcome base on Swot model

|      | Strengths points   | Weaknesses points   | Opportunity points   | Threat points   |
|------|--|---|--|---|
| Swot | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Appropriate situation in city center</li> <li>-Being symbol and sign for city</li> <li>-Capacity of building for social interactions and presence of citizens</li> <li>-View from beside buildings to the site</li> <li>-Existence of applications or high attracts population (presence of trade centers...)</li> <li>-High population density in vicinity of site</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Increasing value of site</li> <li>-Damage and outwear neighboring buildings</li> <li>-Non-use applications at different times of day</li> <li>-Eductor site of skeletal</li> <li>-Appearance unorganized of beside applications</li> <li>-Existence of high environmental pollution</li> <li>-Lack of places of stand and confrontation and social interaction</li> <li>-Building preparedness in the area</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-High ability for attracting people to presence</li> <li>-Appropriate readability of environment</li> <li>-Having potential for total life</li> <li>-Presence diverse and variety of application</li> <li>-Condition of area for creating link between city and citizens and answering needs of citizens</li> <li>-Presence fields of enterprise for indentifying multi-application projects</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Outwear collection of physical and visual</li> <li>-Pale in presence of people and their attachment</li> <li>-Changing noted space from a measure of subjective perception of sheer citizens to an urban symbol</li> <li>-Destroying Ark region due to construction and drilling</li> <li>-Lack of attention to maintenance of legacy identity</li> <li>-Failure to fulfill social life and civil rights</li> </ul> |

**Table 6:** Proposed measures to improve quality of community participation in studied area

| Components    | Suggested approaches   |
|---------------|--|
| Environmental | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Considering traffic arrangements for adjacent streets</li> <li>-Considering parking to reducing presence of car around site</li> <li>-Emphasis on development pedestrian paths</li> <li>-Organizing in distribution applications</li> <li>-Organizing green space of site to create an environment comfort</li> <li>-Prevent adverse construction developments into area</li> </ul>  |
| Functional    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Organizing activities and adjacent application</li> <li>-Create nightlife by taking account applications with ability to respond to night activities</li> <li>-Creating group and diverse programs for presence people in various occasions</li> <li>-Taking appropriate action fit to culture and identity of historical tissue</li> <li>-Designing public urban open area in combine with important elements of Ark</li> <li>-Support enterprise in project connected with organization bodies</li> </ul>                                |
| Semantic      | Reinforcement mental image and actuate fixation of citizens or define application and appropriate activities around Ark  |
| Visual        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Strengthen presence of Ark buildings in site as urban sign or bookkeeping and reclamation site</li> <li>-Creating appropriate view around range or remake and instauration</li> <li>-Relief and remake adjacent bodies</li> <li>-Drawing symbols and boards that are consonant with tissue</li> <li>- Desirable irradiant at night</li> </ul>  |
| Social        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Specify group various activities to strengthen face to face relationships to create collective life</li> <li>-Partnership of citizens in plan and programs to create relatively stable relationship</li> <li>-Considering available spaces to finding situation and communicate between various groups</li> <li>-Creating interaction and connecting various social groups and making public subjects by appropriate planning in common area</li> <li>-Creating security by control ability at all hours of the day by citizens</li> </ul> |

**Conclusion:**

Quality of public spaces and public environments in cities, to attract people depends on factors that fulfilling each of them depends on several other factors, part of them is related to the physical structure of city. Making sense of security, sense of invited participants, utility room, diversity, proper capacity and location can have a key role in creating a dynamic and attractive environment for different groups of people. Also the role of the physical components and physical environment as a context of forming simple and complex social relation can't be ignored. Studying and observation of environmental quality in Historic Site of Tabriz Ark as an urban sign has a high effect in mental life of the city. And also has the power and expression of social life, but it is not possible as long as the identity of the lost space will not be revived. This space in the past was a gathering place for residents and local cultural and charitable events were occurred but today, due to the behavior function heterogeneities, presence of the citizens is less than the past. Thus, the conducted analysis in this paper makes clear that objective criteria such as performance and operating flexibility, permeability and access to the intensity of social interactions in urban spaces are essential. Also creating compatibility and compliance between the space role and function causes the formation of a favorable image and perception in the minds of citizens and this increases the factor of representing and survival in space. Thus, with an emphasis on functionality and quality of the physical environment, designers can create proper context for social and free activities of people by identifying mentioned factors and provide the possible presence of people in the environment as a source of collective activities and social interactions.

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**14. Footnotes:**

1. For further details, please refer to Altman 2003:2 and 1.

2. Adopted from: Theresponsiveenvironments, A. Yan Bentley. March of thoughts3.2.1, JahanshahPakzhad. Goodshape of cities, KevinLynch.Urbandesign, Edmund Bacon. CreatingArchitecturalTheory, John Lange. Public places, urban spaces, MatthewCarmonaet al. Comparative examination of environment qualityinurban neighborhoodswithsustainable development approach, Rad JahanbanyandPartovi.

3. Adopted from Tabriz Cultural HeritageInformationOrganization, KheiriandSadraie(2002), "Tabriz ArkAli Shah, alastingwork."

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