

O 30. THE REFLECTIONS OF COVID 19 PANDEMIC ON URBAN LANDSCAPE

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ABSTRACT: City also known as living space where social life is maintained is also the most powerful expression of civilization. As stated in many literatures, space is a whole in the urban system or a multi-dimensional view of the environment which is formed by buildings, perceived by the citizens. City are related all urban events. With the emergence of the Covid 19 pandemic, curfews were imposed in Turkey. This situation caused areas with high human circulation in the urban area to be empty. In this study were emphasized situation and spatial characteristics of parks, squares, gathering and resting areas where social life continues, during the quarantine of Covid 19 pandemic.

Keywords: Visual quality, Pandemic, Social Areas, Urban Areas

INTRODUCTION

Differences in social customs and traditions are also reflected in urban spaces. Therefore, behavioural differences arise in the urban space and spaces are shaped accordingly. People play the most important role in reviving city squares. If the square has enough activity, it will be noticed by people. Because the actions of the people contribute to the vitality of a square rather than the number of people in the square (Berleant, 1992; Gülgün et al., 2014; Gülgün et al., 2015). For example; A small group singing in one square adds more action to the square than the same number of people sunbathing on the grass in another square. With a rich variety of activities such as sales units, exhibition areas, concert and show platforms, various viewing and seating spaces offered in the square space, it is ensured that the space can be used in all aspects and become a living space. With the activities taking place near the pedestrian axes connected to the square and the entrances and exits of the square, people will have the chance to shift their coming and going activities towards activities that will relax them more (Çakçı and Çelem, 2009; Polat, 2012; Temizel et al., 2017). For the user group; It is important to include areas consisting of having a good time, visual quality, comfort, variety of functions, activities where they can spend their leisure time and not get bored. Thus, it will also be possible to revitalize urban life (Uçak 2000; Çakçı and Çelem, 2009; Aşur and Alphan, 2018; Yazici and Gülgün 2017; Yazici and Ünsal, 2019; Yazici and A. Sağlamer, 2019).

The Covid-19 outbreak, also known as the corona virus, first appeared on November 17, 2019 in Wuhan, Hubei province of China. In the first periods of the epidemic, people did not think that there would be radical changes in their living conditions. The Covid-19 pandemic profoundly affected urban life. The Covid-19 pandemic, also known as the corona virus, first appeared on November 17, 2019 in Wuhan, Hubei province of China. In the first periods of the pandemic, people did not think that there would be radical changes in their living conditions.

It was declared as a global pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020, due to the spread rate of the epidemic being 2.5 times more than other epidemics and the serious negativities it caused. As a result, this epidemic, which has a global impact, has caused changes in many areas, especially in health, education, economy, consumption behavior and social life.
















While wearing a mask has become mandatory in many countries, restrictions have been imposed on social areas such as restaurants, cafes and cinemas. In the Covid-19 pandemic process, people go to individualization with concepts such as home, indoor space, isolated environment. For this reason, landscape areas such as squares and parks where social life is active in cities have been emptied due to restrictions. In this study, the relation of landscape perception with human density was evaluated. In the study, empty squares and parks were evaluated.

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MATERIAL METHOD

The main material of this study was 15 photographs and satellite images of various city parks and squares. First, a justification for the use of photographs as research material was given, and then the factors considered in the selection of photographs were explained. One of the most used methods in environmental preference studies is photography and slide shows. This method provides many advantages to the researcher both in terms of time and economy (Daniel,2001; Çakçı and Çelem, 2009).

Table 1. The codes of the images evaluated

		
Figure 1-İstanbul	Figure 2-İstanbul	Figure 3-İstanbul
		
Figure 4-İstanbul	Figure 5-Antalya	Figure 6- Antalya
		
Figure 7- Bursa	Figure 8-Eskişehir	Figure 9-Tekirdağ
		
Figure 10-Manisa	Figure 11-Antakya	Figure 12-Bursa
		
Figure 13-Konya	Figure 14-Elazığ	Figure 15-İzmir

Used sources for figures [Url 1](#) [Url 2](#); [Url 3](#); [Url 4](#)

Thanks to photographs and slides, it is possible to sample many different physical environments. However, they make it easier to control and maintain the conditions of the physical environment (eg weather conditions, light conditions, etc.). One-to-one studies in the field are often uneconomical. In

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terms of time and working speed, it may be possible to arise adverse conditions for the researcher. In obtaining the literature for the study, environmental psychology, landscape planning, landscape design, urban planning and urban design, covid-19 and landscape issues were researched. Spatial characteristics with expert opinion; regular complex; open closed, well maintained, neglected, simple variety was studied in figures.

RESULTS

Considering the effects of the presence of natural elements in the space on the space preferences, it is concluded that the presence of natural elements, in other words vegetal material, is dominant in the most admired images. This result was consistent with the results of the biological-evolutionary theories described under the Theoretical Bases section of the study and the results of other studies (Schroeder 1982, Nasar 1992, Kaplan et al. 1998). In many studies, individuals prefer places where natural landscape elements are predominant rather than places where structural elements are dominant. In the expert evaluation of the least preferred images, it was concluded that structural elements were dominant. The landscape perception of Turkey's busiest squares, streets and beaches, viewed via satellite after the Covid-19 outbreak, by Istanbul University TÜ Satellite Communication and Remote Sensing Center was given in Figure 1.



Figure 1. AŞTİ terminal, Ankara, Turkey in Covid-19 pandemic (Url 1)- (before and after)



Figure 2. Kadıköy Coast in Turkey in Covid-19 pandemic (Url 1)- (before and after)

As seen in the satellite images (Figure 2), the landscape areas before the pandemic was not reveal the legibility criterion in the landscape due to the traffic, people and vehicle density. However, with the restriction, attractiveness and legibility criteria come into prominence in areas with landscape value.

Table 2. Evaluation of figures arising in Covid 19 restrictions

	Spatial characteristics.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
R1	x		x					
R2	x		x					
R3	x		x					x
R4	x		x					x
R5	x		x		x			
R6	x		x		x			x
R7	x		x					
R8	x		x					
R9	x		x					
R10	x		x					
R11	x		x					
R12	x		x					
R13	x		x					
R14	x		x					
R15	x		x					x

1:Regular, 2:Complex, 3:Open, 4:Close, 5: Well maintained, 6: neglected, 7: Simple, 8: Variety

CONCLUSION

- The existence of a certain level of innovation in the spaces positively affects the preferences of the spaces (Kaplan et al., 1998; Clay and Danie, 2000). For this purpose, it is recommended that planners and designers create different compositions that will arouse the interest and curiosity of the individuals by preserving the character of the space, instead of repeating designs and space organizations in space arrangements.
- Places with a high level of consistency are preferred more. One of the ways to increase the coherence level of a space is spatial compositions in which similar landscape elements or land use types are used in the area (Roth,2006).
- Places with high legibility level are more preferred. Increasing the level of legibility will enable the user to easily find his way or target in a place. For this purpose, triangulations (original focuses) can be used in the space. However, as a result of the frequent repetition of these elements, they will lose their focal point and cause confusion in the field.
- Another preference factor is that the place is well-maintained. After the design and planning studies, maintenance operations and management strategies of the area should be determined during the design and planning process in terms of preserving the character and quality of the space.
- Using natural landscape elements (plant materials) rather than structural landscape elements will both contribute to the city in an ecological sense and increase the preference of the space based on the results of the research.

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