



## Shifting boundaries of public spaces in the age of Modern Urban development: The Study on Gated Societies and shopping Malls.

أبعاد الفضاءات العمومية في ظل التطور العمراني الحديث  
دراسة حول الأحياء السكنية المسوّرة والمراكز التجارية

اعداد

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### **Abstract:**

Unlike one's home or employment, public areas have the special quality of belonging to everyone. Because power is distributed much more widely in public than it is at work or at home, it is also much more unstable. In a public setting, people interact face-to-face with strangers. This research investigated the standards for the public sphere in a modern setting. For this research, the public sphere is the actual space where politics and culture are practiced. Numerous festivals, Leisure activities, shopping, gatherings of all sorts, take place in public areas. However, they are merely infrequent occurrences where individuals occupy areas that are typically used for different purposes. What defines a public area is the everyday activities that take place there. In a modern and rapid Urbanization, the definition of public spaces is rapidly changing, Moreover, this demands a sustainable Urban Public spaces in bigger cities. Apart from this there is a paucity of research in this context and the need is increasing therefore, this research focuses on a changing definition of public spaces and the dimensions of ideal public space (IPS). A sample of residents ( $n=٥٠٠$ ) of the major cities of KSA (Jeddah and Riyadh) was chosen for the study. The data was collected from the respondents visiting shopping malls and other public spaces more than ٢ times in a week. The data was statistically tested through covariance based SEM. The initial Analysis was carried out through SPSS ٢٠٠٠. The

study has implications for the developmental authorities and academicians working in the field of Urbanising research .

**Keywords:** Urban design, Urbanising, Public Spaces, Shopping Malls, Sustainable Development .

### المستخلص :

على خلاف المنازل أو أماكن العمل، تمتاز الفضاءات العمومية بكونها ملكًا للجميع. ولأن التحكم فيها موزع بين أطراف عدّة، وليس محصورًا على جهة واحدة كما هو الحال في الأماكن الوظيفية أو البيوت، تصبح هذه المناطق أكثر عرضة لعدم الاستقرار والتغيرات المستمرة. ففي الفضاءات العمومية، يتفاعل الأفراد وجهًا لوجه مع أشخاص لا يعرفونهم. ومن هذا المنطلق، يتناول هذا البحث المعايير المرتبطة بهذه الفضاءات في السياق الحضري الحديث. في هذه الدراسة البحثية، يُقصد بالفضاء العمومي المساحة التي تُمارس فيها الأنشطة الوطنية والثقافية. تشهد هذه الفضاءات تنظيم عدد من المهرجانات والفعاليات الترفيهية والأنشطة التجارية والتجمعات المتنوعة إلا أن هذه الأنشطة لا تحدث بانتظام حيث يستخدم الناس فيها عادةً أماكن مخصصة لأغراض مختلفة أخرى. ما يميز الفضاء العمومي هو الأنشطة اليومية التي تحدث فيه. ومع التطور الحضري السريع والحديث، يتغير مفهوم هذه الأماكن العامة بسرعة، مما يستوجب إنشاء فضاءات عمومية حضرية مستدامة في المدن الكبرى. وفي ظل نقص الدراسات السابقة المتعلقة بهذا المجال، ومع تزايد الحاجة إلى فهم أعمق للفضاءات العمومية، يركز هذا البحث على التعريف المتغير لهذه الفضاءات وأبعاد الفضاء العمومي المثالي (IPS). وعليه، تم اختيار عينة تتألف من (n=٥٠٠) من سكان المدن الكبرى في المملكة العربية السعودية (تحديدًا مدينتي جدة والرياض) لإجراء هذه الدراسة. جُمعت البيانات من الأفراد المترددين على المراكز التجارية والفضاءات العمومية بمعدل يزيد عن مرتين أسبوعيًا. كما خضعت هذه البيانات للتحليل الإحصائي باستخدام نموذج المعادلات الهيكلية القائم على التباين (SEM)، بينما أُجري التحليل الأولي بواسطة برنامج SPSS بإصدار ٢٠,٠. علاوةً على ذلك، تسعى هذه الدراسة البحثية إلى إثراء وتطوير التوجهات الفكرية لدى الجهات التنموية والأكاديميين المهتمين في مجال التوسع الحضري.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** التصميم الحضري، التحضر، الفضاءات العمومية، المراكز التجارية، التنمية المستدامة.



## Introduction:

The definition of public spaces is changing rapidly, in this context Hannah Arendt's standards for the public sphere in a modern setting was examined. For her, the public sphere is the actual space where politics and culture are practiced. Genuinely public areas have the power to provide a singular experience and unite disparate groups via shared delight. A Harmony of cultures is practiced in public areas, which also foster more tolerance in society. This research initiates with defining the terms "public" and "spaces." Next, there is a discussion of the three standards Hannah Arendt outlines for the public sphere in the modern day. Lastly, two relatively new developments—malls and gated communities—are evaluated using these standards.

## Literature Review:

### Background

This article gives background information about Saudi Arabia, the country where the research was conducted. It covers population growth, and a glimpse of urbanization, as well as the Vision ٢٠٣٠ initiatives that are related to improving the country's urban environment. It also clarifies issues with urban planning, societal perceptions of point-of-sale (POS), leisure, and recreation, as well as POS use trends. In terms of land size, Saudi Arabia is the third-largest Arab nation. In ٢٠١٩, there were ٣٤,٢١٨,١٦٩ people living there, including almost ١٠ million non-Saudi citizens. The yearly population growth rate is ٢,٤% on average (GAS, ٢٠١٩). The fact that the percentage of people living in cities grew from ٤٨,٧% in ١٩٧٠ to ٨٤,١% in ٢٠١٩ should be highlighted. About ٤٠% of Saudi Arabia's population was predicted to be non-Saudi in ٢٠١٩ (GAS, ٢٠١٩). This group includes laborers who had immigrated from other nations after the discovery of oil as well as those looking for improved employment prospects, particularly via the Vision ٢٠٣٠ projects. People have been moving to cities over the last ٤٠ years, which has led to significant urban development and fast population rise. There was little planning

in the form of policies or plans for city planning prior to this boom. In addition, the Saudi way of life has shifted from being focused on small villages to being based on cities as a result of expansive government social and urban development initiatives. Communities have broken apart, families have split up, and traditional means of subsistence have been lost as a result of these initiatives. A rise in immigrants, particularly low-skilled laborers from many countries (Addas, ٢٠١٥), who may reside in particularly crowded regions [٦٥], is another factor contributing to social changes. Saudi families have far more offspring than families in developed nations, despite the fact that Saudi families now somewhat resemble nuclear families [٦٦]. According to researchers, the Saudi family may be seen of as an extended family structure that has been transformed (Litwak, ١٩٦٥). All the above factors posed to research the rising determinants of the new definition of Ideal public spaces (IPS) .

Alongside these societal shifts and the expansion of the resident and migrant populations, the nation's wealth increased significantly. Overall, the result is that Saudi cities have expanded without proper planning or rules. For instance, Jeddah has expanded much beyond what its infrastructure can support (Fakeeh, ٢٠١٠). Due to people' excessive reliance on their automobiles and the abundance of vacant, undeveloped land, the city now has problems with its roads, sewage system, and water supply (Fakeeh, ٢٠١٠).. Over a million people, or one-third of the population, live in unplanned settlements due to a lack of affordable housing. These planning and socioeconomic problems are common to all Saudi Arabia's major cities. Without enhancements to the nation's physical environment that support contemporary economic activity, the economy and social fabric of the nation cannot continue to grow forever (Fakeeh et al, ٢٠١٠).

#### Aligning with Vision ٢٠٢٣

In order to accommodate the expanding population, residential developments were given priority due to the deteriorating state of the social environment. Inadequate municipal planning and administration

defined these initiatives (Addas, ٢٠١٨). The government introduced Vision ٢٠٣٠, which attempts to improve Saudi Arabian cities' urban environments via a range of programs and initiatives, to solve the ensuing problems. One of these programs is the Quality of Life Program, which aims to improve everyone's quality of life by enabling them to engage in a range of cultural, recreational, and athletic endeavors (Addas, ٢٠١٨) .

### Difficulties in Urban Planning

Over the last forty years, the Kingdom's increasing affluence has been accompanied by significant expansion in both the built environment and migrant people. Megacities have resulted from this, with urban sprawl present in the majority of the major cities, such as Jeddah and Riyadh.. The limited effectiveness of legal frameworks and spatial planning, which have attempted to confine growth to certain areas of cities, is reflected in this fast expansion. Some researchers points out that the definition of ideal public space has also been transformed by these changes. Therefore there is a need to understand the constituents of ideal public space and authorities should concentrate on most significant determinants of public spaces in the cities of KSA .

### ٢,١) Public Space v/s Private Space

A strategy like this reinforces the false idea of a public-private absolute dichotomy. We now know from deconstruction that these oppositions are not always benign as they often reflect a hierarchical understanding of the two concepts, with one being subservient to the other. Although these false dichotomies have drawn criticism, they have greatly impacted the conversation regarding cities. Elisabeth Wilson takes the precaution of pointing out that the male/female dichotomy is a stereotype while discussing it in *The Sphinx in the City*. "Nor am I arguing that the male/female stereotypes to which I refer accurately reflect the nature of actual, individual men and women" (Wilson ١٩٩١), page ٨). As a result, there are many different shades of



public and privateness. Since almost the same individuals are found in both the public and private spheres .

Three regulations that are meant to control one area eventually overlap and blur the boundaries.

According to Jeff Weintraub (١٩٩٥), the contrast between public and private has four distinct meanings:

١. The public/private divide is mainly understood in terms of the division between the market economy and state administration, according to the liberal-economistic paradigm .

٢. The public sphere is seen in terms of political community according to the republican-virtue (and classical) viewpoint.

٣. The perspective, as demonstrated by Aries's work, views the public sphere as a domain of flexible and multifaceted sociability.

Three words are used by Benjamin Barber: civic, private, and public. According to Weintraub's first explanation, the terms public and prime remain the same, whereas civic relates to the second meaning of public. Barber's approach has certain merits, but this article will refer to public places rather than civic spaces since the word "public" provides a stronger connection to the meaning this study examines. The term "civil" takes its derivation from the word "citizen," which has been associated with exclusion since ancient Greece. The first two definitions of citizen given by the Random House Unabridged Dictionary demonstrate that this connection still exists today:

١. a citizen or native-born citizen of a state or country who is entitled to the protection of that government and owes loyalty to it (distinguished from alien).

٢. a person who lives in a town or city and is thus eligible for its amenities or benefits (emphasis added).

Using the word "civic" instead of "public," which implies everyone, appears to be a step away from the all-inclusive quality that is crucial to



public places. The term "public" is derived from the state and indicates exclusion and contempt for other cultures. Since Weintraub's second and third definitions of public are more closely associated with real public spaces, these will be the primary subjects of this study. Even though the definition of domestic-public will not be discussed in detail here. It may even be argued that children and teens, as well as parents who work part-time or don't work full-time, utilise public areas significantly more often than adults who work full-time. I shall not be commenting much on the term "spaces". The plural form of spaces denotes a number of distinct locations rather than a single, identity-less, abstract space. However, because the word "place" is often employed in an ambiguous manner, it is avoided. It is used by writers like David Harvey (١٩٩٦) to denote a location that has a local identity as opposed to one that is defined by changes outside of "the community" or lacks identity. Living spaces have always required the completion of certain requirements, such as having a decent

trading post or being conveniently accessible, having a healthy atmosphere, simple defence, and so on. It is not new that these standards are subject to change; what is new is how quickly they change. Cities and villages have long been impacted by choices taken elsewhere or by events occurring far away. Place has come to connote nostalgia for a non-existent bygone era in which people—or, worse, "the community"—made all choices affecting where to reside, and every location had a distinct identity. This need for continuity, identity, history, and conservation will all be addressed in a clear and concise manner in my last and closing section on authenticity and history. Space is not this one, unchanging place that has always been and always will be. It may have several personalities or identities. This research does not claim to cover every experience that may be had in public areas; rather, it attempts to provide a greater understanding of how public spaces are utilised and experienced .

## ٢,٢ Characteristics of a Public Space

The public sphere is covered in Hannah Arendt's ١٩٥٨ book *The Human Condition's* second chapter. She lays forward three standards for the public sphere: ١. Usability (UY) ٢. Accesibility, (AY) ٣. Durability (DY) ٤. Ownership (OWN) ٥. Animation (AN). From an empirical standpoint, Varna (٢٠١٤) identified five distinct characteristics of public spaces, including ownership, control, civility, and animation. In this context, "ownership" takes into account both the uses and legal standing of the area. Less public space is more owned by a private entity and operated in the benefit of that entity, while more public space is held by a public body and answerable to the public or collective interests. Space management—including its existence and purposes—is heavily stressed in theoretical debates (Carmona, ٢٠١٠b; De Magalhaes, ٢٠١٠; Low & Smith, ٢٠١٣). Further evidence shows that the most important thing is not who oversees public space management, but rather the policies and procedures put in place by accountable organisations or managers to influence different stakeholders (De Magalh~ aes, ٢٠١٠). Consequently, Varna (٢٠١٤) illustrated the management aspects of publicness using two dimensions: control and civility" .

Figure ١: Combinations of ownership and operation (Nemeth & Stephen, ٢٠١١).

The lack of explicit regulations that prioritise private property above public interests, which would restrict individual liberties and the political expression of certain social groupings, is what creates the more public environment represented in the control dimension.

"Civility" takes into account the upkeep of public areas and aims to strike a balance between excessive and insufficient management. A well-maintained public area that exudes a friendly atmosphere is considered more public. A lesser degree of publicity indicates an imbalance that tends towards either under-management, which creates deteriorating and "neglected space," or over-management, which



discourages certain individuals by being too rigid and rigorous (Carmona, ٢٠١٠a).

The dimension focused on design is called "physical configuration." It encompasses a space's interaction with its environment (macro level) as well as its unique design elements (micro level), much like Nemeth and Schmidt's concepts of "access restrictions" and "design and image." In contrast to a less public environment, which implies the opposite,. "Animation" describes how public space is really used, taking into account the quantity and variety of people and activities. Whereas a less public setting will make public space more exclusive and boring, a more public setting may obviously stimulate a broad variety of activities by a very varied collection of users and foster dynamic public life. Nemeth, Schmidt, and Varna's investigations have successfully converted theoretical features into practical ones, establishing a more comprehensive and workable framework for further empirical research that may use different terminology but convey the same ideas (Table ١) .

According to Lopes et al. (٢٠١٩), "urban life" and "human connection" are the two most significant functions of effective urban spaces, which are primarily indicated by the interaction and interweaving of all aspects of publicness. The empirical elements of publicness, by emphasising the spatial characteristics and human-centered concerns of public places and by being turned into useful measurement models, generally addressed the theoretical frameworks' limitations .

### ٢,٣ The four combined dimensions

The literature study explains how the multifaceted aspect of the idea of publicness may be defined and understood in theory and practice. various research foci have been highlighted by using various words. The shifting names nonetheless point to a very similar core that, to sum up, usually consists of four synthesised dimensions—ownership,

accessibility, management, and inclusivity—as previously stated by Langstraat & Van Melik (٢٠١٣) (Table ١).

The legal status of a public area is referred to as ownership; these spaces are often either privately or publicly held, Mixed ownership is also taken into account in addition to the primary purpose or use of the public area (Marcuse, ٢٠٠٥; Nemeth & Stephen, ٢٠١١) .

Physical and psychological access to a public area are both considered aspects of accessibility; the latter is more important in creating a lively atmosphere. People should be able to access public spaces with ease, and they should likewise anticipate a welcoming atmosphere Table ١ presents a summary of the publicness aspects as reported by Ekdi and Çıracı (٢٠١٥), Mantey (٢٠١٧), Wang and Chen (٢٠١٨).

The term "management" describes the procedures and methods used to run a public area, which basically reflect the goals of the management representatives. While negative incentives impose undue control over the area and its users, positive motives work to preserve a better public environment for the general public. In terms of material space, one crucial aspect that influences how the space is governed is its design. The capacity of a public place to accept a variety of users and behaviours is known as inclusiveness, and it identifies the people who will really benefit from the public nature of the area. The inclusivity dimension is comprised of two main aspects: the objective aspect is shown by the activities, facilities, and services offered, as well as by the density and variety of users; the subjective element is influenced by user perception .

Standards for characterising the public sphere are covered in the next three parts. Since it might relate to nonspatial features, the public

realm and public space are not precisely the same. Elements like an uncensored discussion that can occur not just on a street or plaza but also in a newspaper or online this has changed public space definition. Hannah Arendt does not accept any of Weintraub's other interpretations of the public/private antagonism; rather, she believes the classical approach. Her standards, however, would also apply to places that are public in the sense of flexible and multifaceted sociability, as shown by Aries and Sennett's work. A place with higher potential for interactions that wouldn't happen in a more controlled setting is one that is utilised and available to everyone. Arendt's demands for the public sphere do not conflict with current, postmodern sensibilities, in contrast to Habermas .

That should be open to Everyone. A public is required for public areas. Therefore, the public must be able to access this place in order for it to be used. Thus, public accessibility becomes our primary standard for evaluating public space. This raises two more questions. Firstly, because "the public" is not indivisible, what demographic segments need to be present for there to be a public? The second question relates to accessibility :

What degree of accessibility is necessary for a place to be declared public? Answering the first question is not an easy task. The term "the right to the city" was first used by Henri Lefebvre in ١٩٦٨, but he did not provide a method for evaluating its absence or for operationalizing the right. Active discrimination against a certain group of people who are not imprisoned may indicate that the public is not allowed entry to a particular area. However, can the lack of discriminatory behaviour alone provide a "right to public spaces"? in the light of above literature, following hypotheses were made :

H<sub>1</sub>: Usability has a direct and positive influence on the perception of ideal public space in KSA .

H<sub>2</sub>: Accessibility has a direct and positive influence on the perception of ideal public space in KSA.



H<sup>٣</sup>: Durability has a direct and positive influence on the perception of ideal public space in KSA.

H<sup>٤</sup>; Ownership has a direct and positive influence on the perception of ideal public space in KSA.

H<sup>٥</sup>: Animation has a direct and positive influence on the perception of ideal public space in KSA.

An area is considered really public if there is no discrimination present in terms of all the factors stated above. On the basis of these three parameters public spaces were assessed in this research. The shifting boundaries of public spaces were assessed in the context of shopping malls and gated community premises. Both forms of public spaces were discussed as under :

#### ٢.٤ Types of Public Spaces: Gated communities

They are divided into three categories by Ed Blakely and Mary Snyder (١٩٩٧): Security Zones, Prestige Communities, and Lifestyle Communities. The main distinction between the first two is the degree of facilities; they are both mostly suburban and developer-built. In neighbourhoods where there is a problem with traffic or crime, security zones are established. Gates are by no means required, nevertheless, in order to lower traffic flows to levels suitable for the kind of street—small or large, residential or commercial. Diverting traffic onto more suitable routes is possible using a wide range of traffic-calming techniques. Another advantage of traffic calming is that it keeps the number of exits in place from a neighbourhood, which lowers through traffic without unnecessarily prolonging all routes into and out of that specific neighbourhood. Furthermore, one neighbourhood is not walled off from another by traffic calming. This can be considered a drawback by some, since fencing off a neighbourhood might be the covert goal of a proposal to build barriers to discourage "traffic".

It's also important to keep in mind that gating isn't always done for the admirable purposes of reducing crime and traffic. Other typical



motivations for gated communities include the expectation of increasing property prices, the allure of status, and even the desire to erect barriers against a less affluent or racially diverse neighbourhood (Blakely and Snyder ١٩٩٧, p. ١٣). Do gates have no impact on crime, displace crime, or lessen it? Blakely and Snyder were unable to provide conclusive proof that gates deter crime. It is insiders and outsiders that they produce. When they do manage to lower crime, they establish a two-tiered city where those living outside the gate are subject to higher levels of crime than those living within. (Blakely and Snyder, ١٩٩٧, p. ١٣) .

### A Comparative Analysis of the Public space Requirements

In general, gated communities do terribly when it comes to offering public space; they forbid entry or usage by the general public and maintain complete private control. The history of the recently constructed gated communities is little. Older neighbourhoods that have recently installed gates have simply restricted access to the history housed inside the gates as well as the usage of the public areas within.

### Shopping Centres

A mall has significantly more potential for exclusion since it is a much more regulated setting than a park or city centre. Certain regulations will impact mall operations directly, while others will have more indirect effects. Which consumers are drawn to that mall will be greatly influenced by the tenants chosen and the terms of the leases and agreements presented to them. Rent for anchor tenants is often lower than those of smaller stores. If a store is deemed unsuitable, it will only be permitted to remain on a short-term lease if no other, more desired stores are available. They are not much different from malls; nonetheless, this does not negate the conclusion that these actions unduly support big businesses and chains, so promoting monopolies and inhibiting local initiative. A manufacturing town's commercial counterpart is a mall. There cannot be much variation since the

premises are only leased out and all tenants must abide by mall policies. While fragmented ownership provides for less control and voluntary collaboration in place of almost total centralised control, central ownership allows for significant control over who is authorised to rent out areas. Malls that target just middle-class and upper-class patrons take advantage of the distinction between public usage and public access restrictions. Although they would not prevent someone with a low income from accessing the mall, mall owners will make sure that no businesses that would target lower income groups are permitted to rent a space by centrally controlling all of the retailers. If the stores are the main draw, as is the case in many malls, the absence of amenities geared towards a varied populace may seriously skew public usage. The regulations controlling a mall are significantly tougher than those regulating any publicly owned area, regardless of the kind of stores located therein. The biggest issue with malls is that some of them have the power to completely destroy old system of doing business, thereby replacing a more open area with a sanitised, commercialised one. Some mall uses are limited to serving a specific kind of consumer. Some down-towns with far older histories have had their business demise due to malls.

### ٣. Material and Methods

Using the survey questionnaire technique, the post-positivist lens was utilised to collect data with the goal of assessing the model. To engage in the data collection process, a purposive sampling approach was required. Data was gathered from the families and the citizens residing for more than ٢٠ years in the city of Jeddah and Riyadh. Residents were deemed a suitable target sample since they were aware about the demographical changes going around in the past (Ismail, ٢٠١٧). For this research ٣ gated colonies and ٣ shopping malls were chosen from each city. The data was collected between July ٢٠٢٣ to Dec ٢٠٢٣. The survey was organised into three primary sections: the cover letter, the objective and importance of the research, and statements that measured the dependent and independent variables. The next set of



questions was for them to answer in order. This strategy was consistent with past studies on Urbanisation. The last section of the survey inquired about the respondent's demographics, or private information, including age and gender. A seven-point Likert scale was used to rate each component, with ١ representing "strongly disagree" and ٧ representing "strongly agree".

## ٤. Findings

### ٤.١ Response and Item Completion Rates

A ٥٦% response rate was obtained from the analysis of data. As many academics have noted, item completion rate is calculated for this research and is regarded as a relevant indicator (Deutskens et al., ٢٠١٠; Klassen & Jacobs, ٢٠٠١). The item completion rate is the proportion of completed surveys that are used for analysis. Thirty-two of the ٥٠٠ initial responses were found to be incomplete and were removed from the research. The efficacy of the survey used in this research was quite good, with ٧٦% of the items completed.

### ٤.٢ Biases in Response and Non-Response

#### a. Bias in Response

while respondents make mistakes while answering the questionnaire, it's referred to as response bias (Malhotra & Dash, ٢٠١٢). Throughout the questionnaire's development, a number of the techniques suggested to reduce this inaccuracy were used. These measures aim to prevent biases by adhering to the recommendations and maintaining a simple and clear vocabulary for the scale. The respondent and their responses were kept private, and it was promised that the responses would only be used for research. It was also explained that only the aggregate responses would be analysed, and the researcher would not identify or use any particular response for his personal interest.

#### b. Non-Reaction Bias

Some responders are slow to react or don't respond at all. This bias resulted from these non-existent replies. Significant mean differences were consistently advised in order to examine the early and late responders (Chan et al. ٢٠٠٤). The data was supplied by managers at different organisational hierarchy levels, as Tables ٠١ and ٠٢ show. As a result, it seems sense to claim that the data represented every answer. The representation of respondents validates the sample.

Table ٠٢: Showing Non Response Bias (Group Statistics)

	constructs	No	X	Standard. Dev	Standard. Err Mean
UY	Ely	٢٦٢	٢,١٤٥	١,١١٠	١٧٣.
	Late	٢٣٨	٣,١٤٥	١,١٤٩	١٤٥.
AY	Early	٢٦٢	١,١٣٦	١,١٢٠	١٢٢.
	Late	٢٣٨	٣,١٨١	١,٣٣٤	٢٥٧.
DY	Early	٢٦٢	١,٣١٤	١,٥٢٨	٢٥٣.
	Late	٢٣٨	٢,٠١٧	١,٤٣٧	٢٧٨.
OWN	Early	٢٦٢	١,٨١٦	١,١٢٠	٢٨٢.
	Late	٢٣٨	٣,٢١١	١,٠٢٤	٢٣٧.
AN	Early	٢٦٢	١,٣٢٤	١,٤٣٨	٢٧٣.
	Late	٢٣٨	٢,٠٢٧	١,٢٢٧	٢٠٨.
IPS	Early	٢٦٢	١,٩٣٦	١,١٦٠	٢٩٢.
	Late	٢٣٨	٣,١٨١	١,١١٤	٢٠٧.

### ٤,٣ Common Method Bias

It describes mistakes made when correct approaches are used incorrectly or incorrectly. It is brought on by a variety of factors in general or errors in the gathering process. For instance, respondent



bias from an online poll might exaggerate or deflate the findings. To confirm this inaccuracy, the EFA was carried out. A study is said to have a substantial common technique bias if one component accounts for the majority of the variation. There were eight components created for the present research, and the results of the Harman's single factor test are shown that all the variance is properly distributed on  $\wedge$  components. It is fair to conclude that the research is unaffected by common-method bias.

#### ٤,٤ Skewness and Kurtosis

The data's skewness suggests that it is typical. Data sets might be positively or negatively skewed, symmetrical, or both. The skewness value of symmetrical data is zero when it is displayed from both the left and the right side (Malhotra & Dash, ٢٠١٢). The acceptable bounds for skewness and kurtosis for a normal distribution are  $-٢$  and  $+٢$ . We find that we are inside an acceptable range for each variable. The outcomes are shown in Table ٤.

Table ٤: Showing Normalcy of data

Measures Skewness Kurtosis

UY	٠,٢١٢-	٠,٠١٥-
AY	٠,٠٠٢-	٠,٣٢١-
DY	٠,٢٦٣-	٠,٦٣٥-
OWN	٠,٢١٤-	٠,٠٤٣-
AN	٠,١٠٣-	٠,١١٢-
IPS	٠,٢٠٤-	٠,٦٢١-

#### ٤,٥ Measurement Model



Some of the objectives of the measurement model include guaranteeing item overlap in research constructs and that an item on one scale will measure that scale alone and not another (Henson & Roberts, ٢٠٠٦; Cascio & Aguinis, ٢٠٠٨). The measurement model was computed to ensure unidimensionality, validity, and reliability. The study's independent and dependent variables are listed below.

Table ٠٥: Description of items

Nature of measures      Measures      No of items

Independent Constructs      UY: Usability

AY: Accessibility

DY: Durability

OWN: Ownership

AN: Animation      ٥item Scale

٤item scale

٥item Scale

٤item Scale

٤item Scale

Dependent Constructs IPS: Ideal Public space ٤item scale

#### ٤.٦ Assessing Dimensionality of Scales

It is essential to test unidimensionality. The assessment was conducted using CFA, which was deemed to be superior to all other approaches (Medsker et al., ١٩٩٤).

#### Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA)

Schreiber et al. (٢٠٠٦) state that the confirmatory method, or CFA, is a great way to assess unidimensionality and find the least difference between the observed and estimated matrices. Validity, reliability, and fit to the data are assessed using it. Additionally, it guarantees that the

data is appropriate for use in the structural model evaluation (see Fig. ٠١). When every model is assessed separately, the absolute fit measure is calculated (Hair et al., ٢٠١٧). The priority model must be chosen and it must match the answers gathered in order to assess the fit. Another term for it is relative fit indices (Miles & Shevlin, ٢٠٠٧). However, overall goodness-of-fit indices are used to assess parsimony fit indices, as stated by Hair et al. (٢٠١٤). Remedial of any over-fitting of the model is its aim. The values listed below are given (see table ٠٦). The most frequently used fit indices are listed below, per McDonald and Ho (٢٠٠٢). They are the most often used fit metrics since they are not impacted by sample size .

A measuring model was acquired, and a CFA on all study scales was carried out. Certain loadings were removed when it was determined that they did not fall within acceptable ranges, and a repetition of the model was deemed to be significant. The final measurements were shown. The table indicates that the obtained indicators are excellent, indicating a good fit between the measurement models and the data.

Table ٠٦: Description of Fit indices

Measures	Fit Indices						
	GFI	AGFI	NFI	NNFI	CFI	SRMR	RMSEA
UY	٠,٩٢	٠,٨١	٠,٨٢	٠,٨٣	٠,٨١	٠,٠٨	٠,١٦
AY	٠,٩٣	٠,٩٠	٠,٩٢	٠,٨٣	٠,٩٢	٠,٠٦	٠,١٤
DY	٠,٩٥	٠,٨٨	٠,٩٢	٠,٩٣	٠,٩٣	٠,٠٨	٠,٠٤
OWN	٠,٩٧	٠,٨٣	٠,٨٢	٠,٨١	٠,٨٤	٠,٠٧	٠,٢٤
AN	٠,٩٥	٠,٨٥	٠,٨٢	٠,٩١	٠,٨٣	٠,٠٥	٠,١٤
IPS	٠,٩٤	٠,٨٣	٠,٩١	٠,٩١	٠,٩٥	٠,٠٦	٠,٠٦

## ٤,٦,٢ Reliability

After the unidimensionality examination, each research scale underwent reliability analysis before the validity of each was examined (Anderson & Gerbing, ١٩٩١). According to some studies, validity cannot be evaluated in the absence of credible scales. Two distinct reliabilities were computed, according to Malhotra and Dash (٢٠١٢): (١) Indicator and scale reliability. For every research scale, they were acquired .

### A. Reliability of indicators

Indicator reliability is assessed and shown to have a major influence on scale reliability. Factor loadings squared determine communalities, which are its basis. Using the standard loadings of ٠ to ١ is OK. (Sörbom & Jöreskog, ٢٠٠٢). The lowest standard loading should be ٠,٥ or, at the absolute least, ٠,٤ in order to be within an acceptable range (Long, ١٩٨٣; Schumacker & Lomax, ٢٠٠٤). i.e. The methodologies used in the research to measure all the scales were high or almost so. Table ٧ displays the indicator reliability for each scale.

Table ٧: Showing indicator reliability scores

Indicators	UY	AY	DY	OWNAN	IPS	
١	٠,٠٩	٠,٤	٠,٤	٠,٠٩	٠,١١	٠,٤
٢	٠,٢	٠,٧	٠,٩	٠,٢	٠,٧	٠,٩
٣	٠,٣	٠,٣	٠,٤	٠,٣	٠,٢	٠,٤
٤	٠,٥	٠,٤	٠,٥	٠,٥	٠,٤	٠,٥
٥	٠,٧		٠,٧			

### B. Scale Reliability



Validity requires scale dependability, which is the ability to quantify the closely related variables to the scale (Nunnally & Bernstein, ١٩٩٤). It may be assessed using the following techniques:

a. Cronbach's Alpha:

The most popular and commonly used method for assessing dependability, its recommended values should lie between ٠,٦ and ١,٠ (Werts et al., ١٩٧٤) .

b. SEM-Based Methods :

Cronbach values may sometimes be inflated or underestimated, and the outcome may include known flaws. These factors make Cronbach's alpha highly questioned. Garver and Mentzer (١٩٩٩) therefore advocate SEM variance-extracted measurements and construct-reliability. These are used in the current investigation and are also covered below: (i) In social science research, construct reliability (CR) is a frequently used metric that is evaluated using LISREL in SEM .

(ii) An extra test called Variance Extracted (VE) is utilised to assess construct dependability. See Table ٨, where LISREL in SEM was used to calculate these results. Additionally, it guarantees that each number is adequate. Cronbach's alpha confirms reliability by displaying acceptable ranges, which also foster dependability. Furthermore, VE values are appropriate.

Table ٨: Showing Cronbach alpha, Construct reliability, Variance extracted

Measures Cronbach's Constructs Variance

AlphaReliability Extracted

UY	٧٣٤.	٠,٧	٠,٦
AY	٧٠٩.	٠,٨	٠,٦
DY	٧١٢.	٠,٧	٠,٥
OWN	٧٧٧.	٠,٧	٠,٦
AN	٧٦٤.	٠,٧	٠,٥

## ٤,٧ Evaluation of Validity

The ability of a research scale to accurately measure the variables it is intended to evaluate is known as its validity. Several validity criteria are assessed for each study scale. The following is a list of them :

### ٤,٧,١ Construct Validity

When every construct assesses the same ideas that the theory purports to measure, construct validity is guaranteed. There is theoretical as well as empirical evidence to support the research constructs hypothesis. It also comprises statistical analysis of the relationships between the internal test design and answers to different test items. Three different forms of validity were assessed: discriminant, convergent, and nomological. They are listed below.

### ٤,٧,٢ Convergent Validity

Campbell and Fiske (١٩٥٩) said that it illustrates the strength of the relationship between the conceptions. It guarantees that the objects will converge on a single idea. Researchers claim that when they share a significant amount of variation, it is taken into consideration. Numerous techniques may be used to assess convergent validity.

Path values, t values, and NFI indices may be used to identify it (Hair et al., ٢٠١٤; Malhotra & Dash, ٢٠١١). To demonstrate convergent validity, more metrics are obtained. For example. The T-value findings validate the scale's convergent validity, while Anderson and Gerbing (١٩٨٨) provided support for the scale's ought to. For the size of the present study, there were more than two. This implies a high degree of convergent validity (see Table ٩).

Table ٩: Description of Convergent validity measures



## Measures NFI Range of t-values

	٠,٨٦	١١,٧٠ – ٥,١٦
UY	٠,٩٠	١٢,٢٦ – ١٠,٦٤
AY	٠,٩٠	١٢,٥٦ – ٩,٢٦
DY	٠,٨٩	٨,٥٤-٤,٥٥
OWN	٠,٩٣	٩,٨٨-٣,٧٦
AN	٠,٩١	٧,٩٩-٣,٦٥
IPS	٠,٨٢	٦,٩٢-٢,٣٤

## .٤,٧,٣Discriminantl Validity

Since the scales are convergent on a single component, a significant relationship between them may exist. As a result, discriminant validity is assessed to look at how unrelated each study measure is. The researcher employs this validity to make sure that each scale varies somewhat from the others in order to obtain discriminant validity, as this problem may develop since all of the scales are generated from the same theory, model, or field. Table ١٠ shows the association between the constructs. The correlation values in the table above vary from low to high, indicating the possibility of discriminant validity. Another technique to confirm discriminant validity is to look for high GFI values, which indicate that the items are distinct and discriminant from those on other scales since they are fully committed to their own measures. Discriminant validity is thus validated .

## .٤,٧,٤Nomological Validity

The scale ought to be connected, in accordance with the theory; nomological validity was assessed to look into this phenomenon (Hair et al., ٢٠١٧; Malhotra & Dash, ٢٠١١). Garver and Mentzer (١٩٩٩)



defined strong nomological validity as scales that correlate as expected. Every research scale's nomological validity was established. The observation that every correlation value was positive and moderately correlated supported nomological validity. It was assumed that the constructs would also be statistically related because of their theoretical connection .

#### ٤,٧,٥ Structural Model

A single, comprehensive model that included all research components was projected for each of the study's measurements. The direct effect model was used to analyse the connection. Running different models is only suggested if the individual models for each variable fail to converge. After each scale gained validity, a thorough and reliable analysis was carried out .

#### Path Coefficients of the Structural Model and Hypothesis Testing

The route coefficients of the direct impact model were used to analyse the hypotheses. The structural pathway ( $\beta = ٠,٤٩$ ) from UY to IPS showed a direct and positive connection below, indicating that hypothesis H<sup>١</sup> should be accepted. Therefore, it can be deduced from the above results that the outcome is consistent with earlier research. The fit measures and fit indices for the structural model are as follows and are within acceptable bounds. The model and data agree rather well. The fit indices of the structural model show a range of acceptable values. Hypothesis H<sup>٢</sup> was supported by the direct and positive connection shown by test: structural pathway ( $\beta = ٠,٣٩$ ) from AY to IPS, Similarly The structural pathway ( $\beta = ٠,٠٩$ ) from DY to IPS showed a direct and positive connection below, indicating that hypothesis H<sup>٣</sup> should be accepted. The structural pathway ( $\beta = ٠,١١$ ) from AN to IPS showed a direct and positive connection, indicating that hypothesis H<sup>٤</sup> should be accepted. The structural pathway ( $\beta = ٠,٥٦$ ) from OWN to IPS showed a direct and positive connection indicating that hypothesis H<sup>٥</sup> should be accepted .



## ٥.٥ Conclusion

In order to demonstrate the actual character of public space, this study has examined the idea of publicness from both theoretical and empirical angles. For the generalised public space, theoretical arguments distinguish the social and cultural significance of publicness, focusing primarily on the Usability, accessibility, durability, ownership, regulations, and management systems that govern the areas. The fundamental elements of the generalised public space—physical and material spaces—are connected to theories via empirical evidence. By adding spatial characteristics to the definition of publicness, they broaden our concept of what constitutes public space and, in doing so, emphasise elements that demonstrate humanistic concern, such as well-designed public areas that serve a variety of user requirements and foster active public life. To prevent the practice of public space from straying from its primary goal, one may bring together the many values and purposes associated with urban public space by making the idea of publicness more clear. Four synthesised elements of publicness—ownership, accessibility, management, and inclusivity—are finally concluded. By highlighting the discrepancy between a definition of public space that is limited to the legal meaning and the actual use of public space in the lived sense, we distinguish between the two approaches to interpreting public space. This research further connect the four synthesised aspects of publicness to the legal and lived senses, respectively, based on their essential elements .

In particular, the lived sense relates to the aspects of accessibility and management, whereas the legal sense refers to the ownership component. It is clear from the distinction between the legal and lived senses that the former cannot determine whether a certain area furthers the general good. Thus, we define the ideal public space using the experienced sense of space. The four criteria in the proposed definition outline the four essential objectives that, in an ideal world, every public place would aim to fulfil. In summary, an ideal public area should be open to all users, permit impromptu activities, only impose minimal social rules to regulate behaviour, and foster sociability.



Theoretically, rather than the other way around—that is, the many expectations for public space hide its actual nature—the definition of the ideal public space will serve as a basic framework within which the kinds, functions, values, and meanings of public space may be greatly extended. In actuality, practitioners and decision-makers (particularly those in the public sector) may prioritise their different aims in accordance with the ideal definition to create the best possible arrangements while building new public spaces or revitalising old ones. More significantly, the four aspects of publicness systematically form a theoretical framework that is only a short step away from being transformed into a quantitative instrument for assessing public space. Further research will be necessary to clarify how to quantify the criteria suggested by our ideal definition, how to operationalize the four synthesised dimensions completely into measurable indices and build a workable measurement model, and how to empirically analyse public spaces from the standpoint of publicness.

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