Research Paper

Investigating the Effective Factors in the Formation of Urban Hangouts and Continuation of Their Lives (Case Study: the Daneshjoo Park in Tehran)

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Abstract
The advent of modernity in Iran weakened many structures and practices, including social hangouts in cities; therefore, the public was cynical about this space. While hangouts, as a third-place and public space in a city, promote social capital, vibrant centers, and citizenship education, Tehran Daneshjoo Park, as a public space with an urban scale and physical and social features, can also be considered a hangout for various social groups. The present study seeks to identify hangouts and factors affecting their formation, continuity, or fading in this space. Accordingly, documentaries were investigated via a descriptive-survey method. Then, interviews with space users at different times and with observation instruments such as photography and behavioral mapping were employed. The results showed a hangout for artists and art lovers, vendors, and food vendors, students and young women, people with sexual identity disorders, addicts and drug dealers, and the elderly. Also, functional components such as geographical location, urban theater building, and its architectural type, platforms and stair space structure, water pool, urban furniture, enclosure in space, social components such as the presence of social observers, drug distribution, and street peddler are effective in creating and the continuation of these hangouts. Most of these hangouts are formed as part of open space with a trans-regional scale.

Keywords: Hangouts, Social hangout, Urban hangout, Continuation of urban hangout live, Daneshjoo park of tehran.

1. INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, the development and planning of the city require realizing the needs and demands of citizens according to their living environment. For that reason, redefining and reproducing urban spaces on different urban scales (neighborhood, district, region, and city) is of utmost importance as a collective and social life platform for citizens in urban development projects. Hangout, known as a kind of urban space, is rooted in the religious and local culture of Iranian cities. Still, its performance was affected by the arrival of modernity in Iran and the weakening of the structure of the neighborhoods. Considering the cultural and social dimension of the hangout, this place was the heart of the formation of various movements, meetings, and group communities that

were in contrast to our culture. This issue gradually resulted in the occurrence of adverse events and activities in this space, diminishing and consequently creating the negative role of faces in the society and the public mind (Torkaman et al., 2018). The hangout, as a meeting place with the presence of people in the city, can be a response to human demands in terms of the social dimension. These spaces are located inside and in the direction of urban open spaces such as squares, footpaths, and parks as the necessities for urban life. These spaces should be designed, managed, and strengthened to be welcomed by many citizens, and they have more direct performance (Goldberg, 2000). On the other hand, reviewing the literature of planning, urban design, sociology, different functions such as learning, social ability development, information exchange, social dialogue facilitation,

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social awareness acceleration, strengthening functions in line with society, etc. were taken into consideration for public spaces such as hangouts (Carr et al., 1992).

The Daneshjoo Park, as one of the long-history urban spaces in Tehran, is located near the intersection of the main axes of the city, several universities, and the city theater building. Concerning the geographical location, this space was expected to be on the urbane scale, a hangout, and a meeting place for artists, art lovers, students, etc. but recently, the presence and gathering of the people showing social abnormalities led to the absence of other social groups. Indeed, it can be mentioned that most of the time, this space has become a hangout for drug addicts, drug dealers, and so on. Therefore, this study seeks to answer the following questions:

1) What kind of hangouts are there in the Daneshjoo Park?

2) What are the factors affecting their formation, durability, and fading?

2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

In this part, the theoretical foundations related to research, including third place theory, hangouts, its types and characteristics, and the active factors in its formation, were presented.

2.1. Hangout as the Third Place

Ray Oldenburg (2001) proposed the concept of the third place as "a perfect place: cafes, coffee shops, bookstores, beauty salons, and other hangouts that are at the heart of social life". Put it differently, the third place, a place except for home (first place) and work (second place), consists of a variety of public spaces that welcome volunteer social people, informally, comfortably, and regularly. These places provide a platform for social communication. As stated by Carmona (2007), due to the nuclear arrangement, informal life was continued earnestly in these spaces. It generally had a specific historical and cultural domain. For instance, cafes along the street in Paris and spaces for coffee and drinks in Vienna were among these spaces. Such formed spaces would be declined, stabilized, deluded, or turned into other places (Oldenburg, 2001; Carmona & Tiesdell, 2007).

An important feature of third parties for such voluntary and informal gatherings is the presence of individuals anonymously, without the need for identity. Third places are also relatively attractive, because the nature of social interactions is self-motivating. Aldenberg (1998, 1999) emphasizes the importance of such places as meeting some social needs that may not be met at home or at work. According to him, although home and work are important sources of support, they are not suitable places for individual demonstrations or behaviors beyond the boundaries of formal social roles such as father, mother, grandfather, etc. For example, an elderly person can laugh out loud without worrying about his peers in a senior club. This behavior is not strange among his peers because in the third place, social maps, social class, profession, economic status, etc. are not considered as criteria for membership (Travers, 1999). According to this theory, public places such as coffee shops, streets, parks, beauty salons, etc. are examples of human third places, and when a person is not at home or at work, he lives in such places.

2.2. Definitions

Hangout, in Moein Persian Dictionary, is defined as a place in which people always gather, and in Amid Persian Dictionary is defined as a place where one usually spends his free time and where they install a flag and gather around it (the foot of flag). Hangout, equal to the word "Haunt", means housing and the place for hanging something (such as a row). From the 1320s AH onwards, apparently, this term gradually became conventional in the Persian language term by removing or fading the traditional gathering places of the people and the appearance of new places. A large group of citizens used this term with the same meaning as "a gathering place for the special group" during certain hours, days, or occasions. Since the 1340s AH, this term gradually gained entrance into the intellectual language by entering the other group from the famous words and was applied alongside the "assembly" utilizing themselves and by their opponents. A hangout is commonplace for people who use it continuously at relatively constant times. These people are usually more than two since the polyhedral conversation requires more than two people (Abedini & Saket Hasanlouei, 2021).

Hangouts can be created for different personal, cultural, sports, and other purposes. The kind of relationship between members, the degree and intensity of interactions, the value and cultural system governing member relationships, group leadership and management, and many other factors in each hangout are different from any other hangout (ibid). Hangout is a place for the exchange of thoughts, information, and the formation of social networks. In such spaces, there is an opportunity to take measures in breaking some social boundaries and doing unplanned encounters (Hajer, 2001).

Hangout is one of the important functional forms of urban public spaces. These spaces are defined according to the user group and their characteristics. It also has the greatest impact in terms of creating and strengthening user group commonalities. Finally, it can lead to the creation of the nucleus of various organizations (Feridounzadeh, 2019).

Habermas also stated that the hangout was a part of the public sphere, in which public opinion could be formed. This domain was based on dialogue and interaction. There was a possibility of a free fall since the presence of people would be accompanied without any task and imposition of do's and don'ts of the group, and official rules and traditions were less evident. In this place, the rules were inclined towards conversations, and the people discussed the free domains and not everyday imitations. Almost all sociologists and social science scholars argue that the hangout is somehow a creation of communication between people, and what distinguishes it from other types of communication are its illegality, aimlessness, and uncontrollability features. The nature of the dialogue is observed in the hangout, and the content or topic of the discussion does not matter. Moreover, the community of hangouts has no function as an active actor in the context of a society. However, over time, hangouts become the source of the effect and cause the appearance and the emergence of social phenomena. However, they never play an essential role objectively in pervasive social activities. Due to the nature of these spaces, each citizen, male or female, is allowed to enter these places. However, because of different conditions for different social groups living in one city, the need and the way of using this space are different from one person to another. The degree of accountability of hangouts depends on the needs and demands of the residents, and consequently, the increased satisfaction depends on their abilities (Sanoff, 2002).

2.3. Hangout Places

Hangout can be defined as an open space that is a part of the public space of the city and has a defined area that can be a section of larger spaces such as parks and has an independent identity. Hangouts are formed in different places and can be located along commercial lines, inside a forecourt, inside a depression, at the center of one crossroads, near a commercial center, at the corner of a neighborhood center, between open space and a space in front of a building with cultural, religious, etc. usages (Abedini & Saket Hasanlouei, 2021). The hangout is a way to relieve daily fatigue and can be used in all areas of life. Wherever a person has a social life, there is also the

possibility of a hangout. Hangout as a place is not just an abstract space; rather, it is the realm in which fundamental social practices are practiced. They are usually spaces that are mostly equipped with urban furniture or a space suitable for sitting and stopping (Torkaman et al., 2018).

2.4. Activities in the Hangout

Activities performed in the hangout are among voluntary and social activities. The presence of people in the hangout is free, and they do their exciting activities such as dialogue, watching, playing, acquiring information, resting, and other activities (Sanoff, 2002). In this situation, despite doing routine works, they are busy working with their exciting activities as a job or duty. Most of the time, people in a hangout act despite what they have learned in the formal areas affecting their behavior. The conditions that bring these people together are considered a kind of negative resistance to formal structures. Consequently, residents in the hangout are different from the people outside of the hangout and act under normal conditions (Abedini & Saket Hasanlouei, 2021).

2.5. Types of Hangouts

These spaces have different classifications based on scale, structure, social groups, and the way of formation.

They are classified into two categories of local and over locally based on the scale: 1) Local hangouts: They have a local function, and at different times of day, they are the location of the community and make social communications among the inhabitants. 2) Over local hangouts: They play a role in the scale of region and city, cause to make active centers in city centers or the centers of regions and also, they cause to make interaction, freshness, communication interaction, and happiness.

They are included in different cases based on structural species:

The hangout is made under a shelter.

The hangout is made around an urban element or a square. The difference between this category with the previous type is that they lack shelter and have no specific place, but they have a particular area.

The hangout made in a linear area such as a lane or street: The similarity of this group with the second group is that they have at least a form of defining elements of closed space in most cases. It means that at least they are limited to a wall or similar to it. Among these hangouts, we can point to the

community of different groups in particular streets or lanes in the city.

Hangouts could be a place for open-minded talents. In these spaces, we can point to restaurants and coffee shops (Naderi café is one of the first buildings with a modern architecture approach in Tehran, which was applied as open-minded hangouts).

The spaces are known as fluid hangouts such as personnel service bus. This category of hangouts is considered the weakest type of urban hangout in terms of time.

Also, we know the hangout based on age and gender group, including the hangout of women, men, young and older people. Based on the way of formation, we can note two hangouts of the vehicle and planned. Old and vehicle hangouts are automatically made, and planned hangouts are made by municipalities (Abedini & Saket Hasanlouei, 2021).

2.6. The Characteristics of Hangout

Hangouts have their own physical and social characteristics in which the first group pointed to the characteristics of the location and the second group to personal characteristics, and there is a close relationship between these two characteristics (p. 117). Hence, in this section, hangout characteristics are noted from the social and urbanity viewpoint.

2.6.1. Social Viewpoint

The form of actions in a hangout is the conversation and is based on oral tradition. The relationship between people is emotional toward each other and strange with the environment. Hangouts have appeared beside universities and cultural centers and new streets. Their evident function is keeping the members in the group, literary criticism, free time for people, and mental satisfaction arising the presence and participation in the group and their hidden function, force preparation for replacement, and cultural and political structure. People are not less than three people in it, and there is no hierarchal hangout of leadership, and most people are along with each other. Because of the closeness among people inside a hangout of free relationships, it is equal and against the formational and official structure. Hangouts are regularly formed, and they often follow exclusive discussions. The individuals solve some parts of their needs in the hangout, such as the requirement for presence in the community (Sanoff, 2002).

2.6.2. Urbanity Viewpoints

It is a type of public space that causes to improve the relationships between the ruling system and the community, which does not depend on the place. Still, a place can be known to hang out; it means that we can attribute a unique space and place to a particular group in which different formations with multiple elements can be obtained. For example, a hangout can be made with a tree or a statue or sometimes a bench or even a shelter, etc. It needs a sense of security and tranquility for conversation, which is formed by the people, not by the management, and they are used by particular groups in permanent or periodical times. They are identity factors to the district and city, and their activities are among the social and optional activities. The presence of people in the hangout is free, and people consider their favorite activities, such as conversation, watching, playing, gaining information, resting, and the like. The number of individuals, type of relationship among the people, amount and intensity of relationships, leadership and management, the purposes of everyday conversation in the hangout and culture, and valuable system ruling on multiple hangouts are different (Goldberg, 2000).

Based on the studies of the beautification organization of Tehran Municipality (2007), the hangout of the district is a trendy place far from any intrusion. These spaces have spatial attraction, spatial static quality, particular spatial elements (physical and perceptual), and local personality. Also, tranquility, intimacy, and attractiveness are among the main characteristics of these spaces.

2.7. Effective Factors in the Formation of Hangouts

For the formation of hangouts, multiple social, physical, and climate factors are active, which are present in the following Table 1.

After studying and surveying the concept, types, characteristics, and practical factors in the formation of hangouts (Fig. 1), components and functional and nonfunctional indices are formed to recognize and survey the hangouts in the studying sample.

Table 1. Active Factors on Urban Hangouts

factors		The theorist
Social	With pseudo-group identity	Jacobs & Appliard (1987), Sat Worth (1989), Goudi (1993), Goldberg (2000)
	The feeling of Social Security	Behzadfar and Ghazizadeh (2011), Ghiaei et al. (2013), Brand Free (2004), Dezfuli and Naghizadeh (2013)
	Social interactions	Cuoma et al. (2004), Behzadfar and Ghazizadeh (2011), Jacobs and Appliard (1987), Ahmad Turkman et al. (2017)
	Memorability	Dezfuli and Naghizadeh (2013), Takaromi (2015)
	Intimate and attractive	Pakzad (2007), Rad Jahanbani and Partovi (2011), Maliki and Habibi (2011), Goldberg (2000)
	freshness	Morsk and Kolarz (1998), Watson, Clark and Tel Gun (1988), Lynch (1997), Jacobs and Appliard (1987), Goudi (1993), Dezfuli and Naghizadeh (2013)
Functional	Urban furniture	Goldberg, 2000, Dezfuli and Naghizadeh (2013), Panther and Cremona (1997), Lynch (1985)
	Simple and suitable access	Bahi et al. (2008), Lynch (1997), Bentley (1985), Goody (1993), Dezfuli and Naghizadeh (2013)
	With a suitable view	Michael South Worth (1989), Green (1992), Panther and Cremona (1997)
	Compatibility	Behzadforo Ghazizadeh (2011), Lynch (1981), Bentley (1985), Jacobs and Appliard (1987), Goudi (1993), Tibals (1988)
	Flexibility	Jacobs, Hutton and Hunter, Bentley (1985)
	Self-reliance	Allen Jacobs & Donald Appliard (1987)
	diversity	Kovama et al. (2004), Behzadfar and Ghazizadeh (2011), Ghiaei et al. (2013), Bentley (1985), Goudi (1993), Rafieian et al. (2009), Dezfuli and Naghizadeh, (2013)
	Readability	Benta (1981), Linch (1985), Tibalder (1988), Goudi (1993), Steel (1981)
	Urban furniture	Goldberg, 2000, Dezfuli and Naghizadeh (2013), Panther and Cremona (1997), Lynch (1985))
Climate	Climate comfort	Dezfuli and Naghizadeh (2013), Yan Bentley (1985), Jan Gol (2008)

(Source: (Karamati et al., 2016) and (Torkaman et al., 2018))

Table 2. Effective Components and Indices on the Formation and Environmental Quality of Urban Hangouts

Dimension	Component	Index
Nonfunctional	identity	-Antiquity and time of formation - Being a symbol and having a special name - Ability to separate the entire urban space
	Readability	-Limitation and specific edge -Location -Proximity to or having an urban sign - Having a mental image
	Climate comfort	- Shading trees - Existence of water and drinking element
	Social Security	- Ability to monitor - The level of lighting and brightness -Crime rate
	Social interactions	-Existence of different social groups - Shaping Discussion
	Memorability	_
	Intimate and attractive	-Frequency of attendance -Having a memory of a place, -Evokes memories
functional	Variety	-Type and variety of activities - Diversity of age-sex groups -Variety of discussion
	access	-Proximity and walking capability to the public transport station -Proximity to the communication network
	flexibility	-Ability to use multi-functional space
	Self-reliance	-Existence of facilities in space - User compatibility
	Compatibility	-Performance compatibility and activity - Compatibility in the body and materials
	Urban furniture	-The presence of enough furniture -Furniture Type -Comfort and flexibility- - Suitable spatial distribution
	vision	-View from outside in space - View from inside out space -Landscape and natural landscape

(Source: Author)

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study was applied in terms of type and conducted using a qualitative approach and descriptive-survey method. Data collection was performed through documentary studies, interviews with space users, and observation using photographic and behavioral mapping techniques at 17:00-20:00. Because it seems that in the afternoon and evening, the presence is more in open spaces and hangouts. So, their identification happens better. Behavioral mapping (or transformation of behaviors mapping) was fulfilled by recording events on a basic map of the space or range of the study. It is a technique applied to demonstrate the activities, people, and places for standing and sitting on the map. These maps can be prepared into layered combinations, ultimately presenting a clear picture of the overall pattern of static activity. Interpretation by this method would answer many questions so that the understanding of qualitative aspects of "where" and "why", complemented the quantitative nature of counting (Gehl & Svarre, 2013). In the current research, the hangout indices were initially extracted after studying the theoretical foundations. Then, these indicators were examined and evaluated in the studied sample (Daneshjoo Park). Consequently, different types of hangouts in the space and their forming factors were recognized.

In this study, 14 space users were interviewed including 4 women in the age group of 30 to 60 years, 4 students including girls and boys in the age group of 20 to 25 years, 1 elderly man, 2 soldiers, 1 male peddler, and 2 female home food vendors.

4. ANALYSIS

This park was established in 1967 in the name of the Pahlavi Park, which was renamed to the Daneshjoo Park after the Islamic Revolution. It has an area of 3200 square meters, and in Islamic Jomhouri Street near the Vali-e ASR intersection (Vali-e-ASR Street and Islamic Jomhouri Street) is located in the neighborhood of Tehran Theater. This park is bound to the street of Valiasr, from the west to Vali-e-ASR Street and from the east to Razi Street. In this section, the indices extracted from theoretical foundations have been investigated in the Daneshjoo Park to identify the existing hangout.

4.1. Identity

Due to its proximity to Tehran University, Tehran Art University, the University of Amir Kabir, it is often the location of student gatherings. Also, in the past, it was a gathering of people with gender identity disorder (or gender minorities) so that the interviewees know this space with the presence of these two social groups (i.e., students and individuals with gender identity disorder). On the other hand, the adjacency of the city theater with distinctive geometric forms also led to the reputation and differentiation of this space in the entire city of Tehran.

4.2. Readability

According to an interview with space use, this park itself is a socio-economic node and a hangout for various social groups. Due to its proximity and access to the city's metro station and the City Theater, it is recorded as a city sign in the minds of citizens. It has a distinctive edge and boundary as well. That is why it has readability and citizens to achieve this space quickly.

4.3. Climate tranquility

According to the field harvest, we can say that this space benefits from tall trees, pine, sycamore, and cedar plants. The shading of the green space, water passage from the middle of the trails, and the existence of water and fountains in the central part of the air have resulted in the adjustment of the summer and the cozy and pleasant atmosphere for citizens, especially the elderly, so that most older men and women are present around the water basin or the routes with water creek.

4.4. Social Security

According to the use of space, especially for middle-aged men and women, societal security is the space at an inappropriate level. They are satisfied with the lighting and brightness situation at nights. Still, there are some factors for reducing the security of individuals with gender identity disorder and drug addicts, especially in the rear front of the City Theatre. In recent months, police surveillance has led to a reduction of addicts and drug distribution. Still, the low societal security has reduced the presence of women in the central sector and the lack of activity of children for playing, so young and middle-aged women choose benches and stairs opposite the City Theater. In general, it can be said that the north and Western Front (the City Theater) has higher social security due to the presence of police, hand-made food, and grocery sales kiosks.

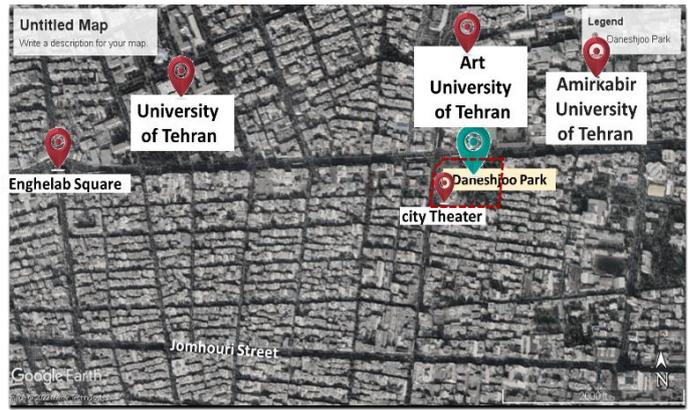**Fig 1.** The city theatre user with a distinctive geometrical form   Source: Author

Fig 2. Location
Source: Author

Fig 3. The presence of a water pool in the central part   Source: Author

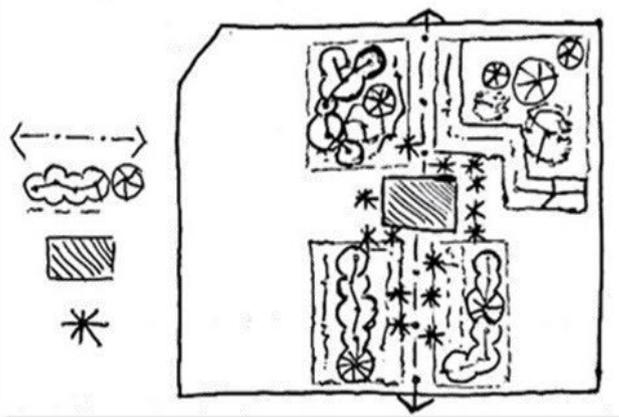**Fig 4.** The existence of tall trees and water stream
Source: Author

Fig 5. Behavioral map of climate comfort component
Source: Author

4.5. Social Interactions

Most of the space users are groups of more than three students, soldiers, men, and women, who have interactions with each other while doing activities of sitting, talking, buying, eating, playing, and so on. Still, these groups are avoiding social interaction with other groups and strangers and unfamiliar individuals because of a lack of social confidence. Also, child and adolescent age groups are not present in this space due to social damage and social security. In this space, the presence of food sales, tea sales, the course of summits and chess tables have led to the formation of pause points and social interactions.

4.6. Memorability

The frequent presence and interaction of students, individuals with gender identity disorder, and soldiers, especially in friendly groups, has led to the formation of collective memories in their minds. Also, the existence of the City Theater and the food-care providers have created memories in the minds of the users, but older and middle-aged men and women, due to social security, do not have good memories of space. Four students and three food vendors mention this factor.

Fig 6. behavioral map of social security
Source: Author

Fig 7. The presence of women on the stairs to the city theater   Source: Author

Fig 8. Presence of soldiers
Source: Author

Fig 9. is the chess game of elderly and middle-aged men   Source: Author

4.7. Self-reliance

This space has urban furniture such as benches, trashes, and children's play equipment and chapel, hygienic and water service, student libraries and food sales kiosks. The quality of the health care service is somewhat inappropriate due to non-processing and wear. Children's play space is also not used due to the low social security of children and women and the presence of passing and over local pedestrians. Therefore, it is possible to know this space for the formation of student hangouts, pedestrians of transition, addicts, and sellers of drugs, etc.
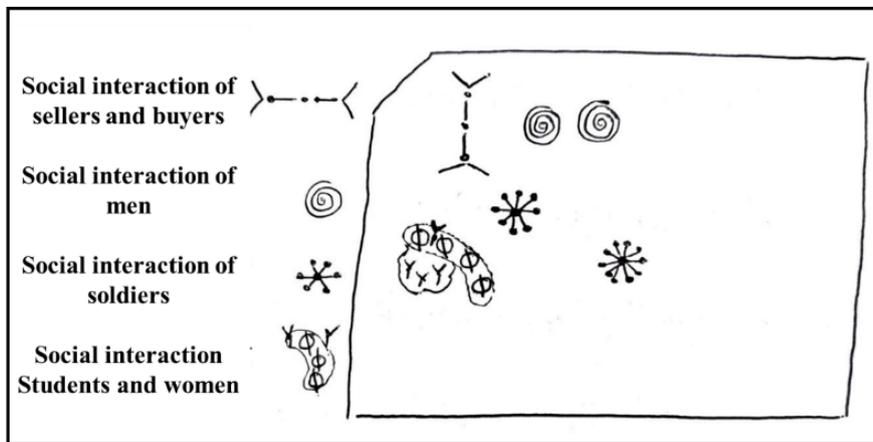
Fig 10. The state of social interaction of social groups
Source: Author

Fig 11. Peddler of food
Source: Author

Fig 12. Presence of friendly groups of students
Source: Author

Fig 13. Baby play equipment
Source: Author

Fig 14. Daneshjoo Library
Source: Author

4.8. Intimacy and Attractiveness

Due to the field harvest, this place is very attractive. Also, the peddlers and sellers of food in this space feel comfortable and intimate. Still, other groups like women and older people, because of social damage, do not know this space as an intimate and attractive space.

4.9. Diversity

This space is dedicated to a variety of activities such as shopping, fun and play, relaxation, sitting,

dialogue, and walking. The existence of the city and library theater building has caused dialogue and the students to sit down. At the edge of the park, a variety of economic activities are carried out by peddlers. Recreation and play activities are also observed due to the existence of chess tables and Ping-Pong. So, the diversity of activities is at the right level. The park has a relatively inappropriate diversity of age and gender groups because, as mentioned earlier, due to the low societal security, young men up to the elderly have been observed, and the age-gender groups of women and children are less visible.
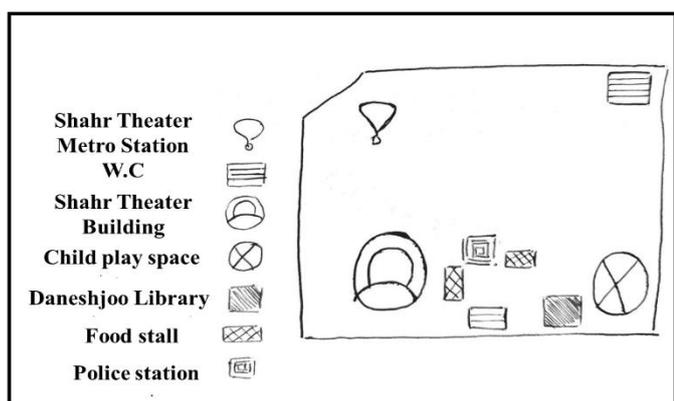

Fig 15. Self-reliance status in the user   Source: Author

Fig 16. W.C   Source: Author

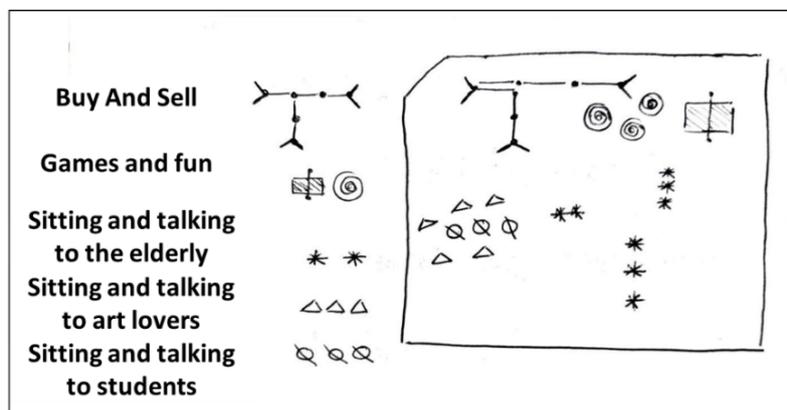**Fig 17.** Economic activity, play, and recreation   Source: Author

Fig 18. Variety of activities   Source: Author

4.10. Flexibility

The proper breadth, the existence of the 'basin', and the staircase structure in the space entrance section has provided a clever use of space so that there is a possibility of sitting people or peddlers on the edge of the basin, platform, and the hands use stairs, and its open space, household food sellers and revolving cycles.

4.11. Compatibility

This space, in terms of adaptability to neighboring users such as residential, commercial, cultural, and recreational, is of high adaptability. The current activities at the edge of the park include mobile food, selling, art, and sometimes theater activities and street displays in the counter space of the theater, as well as incompatibility with rest, recreation, and dialogue within the parks. Still, in the inner space of the park, there are abnormal and incompatible activities such as smoking and selling narcotics. Therefore, the presence

of children, young women, and family members is rarely seen. Also, according to the observations, the primary material in the space of rock with different dimensions and shapes. These materials are also in use with natural conditions and types of users (parks and green spaces).

4.12. Urban Furniture

Available furniture includes benches, trashes, lighting equipment, basins and fountains, Ping-Pong and chess tables, children's play tools and drinker. The embedded bench in front of each other and the spaces of stone sitting can provide the groundwork for creating friendly groups and even attracting various age and gender groups with a distinctive goal. Most of the furniture in the space, such as benches, trash, etc. are of lower flexibility, and only chess tables are used for various uses (playing, sitting, and eating). Stone furniture and platforms are mostly used by students and chess tables are used by elderly and middle-aged men.

Fig 19. High flexibility due to the presence of platforms and suitable space
Source: Author

Fig 20. Types of urban furniture
Source: Author

4.13. View and Landscape

According to the observation, visibility from outside to a suitable park is easily identified. However, two elements can be introduced as an unsafe point and space. One of these elements is the children's playground because it has a high-altitude difference from the park and the local area for smoking. The blind and unsafe point is another front behind the restroom in the northeast and eastern area of the space. This point is concealed due to high vegetation from the perspective of social observers and has become a space for addicts and gender-identifiable individuals. The space architecture with the entrance and the gate in the north front, along with the water creek path, has created a suitable view for pedestrians. The existence of vegetation and fountain cover also added to the beauty and desirability of the park.
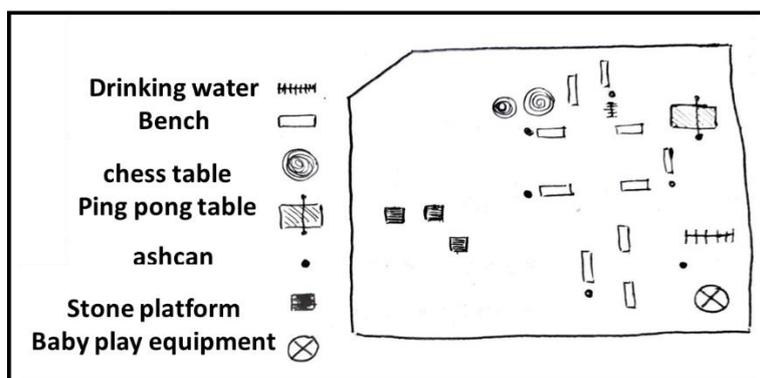
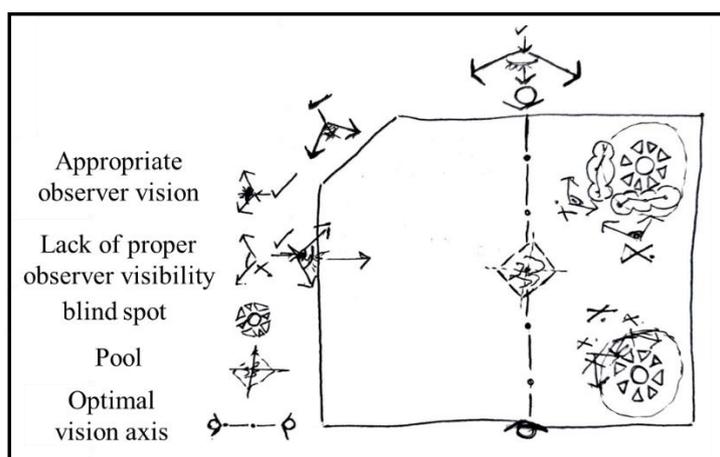**Fig 21.** The spatial scattering state of the urban furniture
Source: Author

Fig 22. State of vision and landscape
Source: Author

Fig 23. Lack of view of the child's playground
Source: Author

Fig 24. the optimum vision within the space
Source: Author

5. DISCUSSION

In this study, using behavioral mapping techniques, activities, applications, sitting places and dialogue, blind and unsafe points, locations with favorable visibility, etc. maps and information layers were converted. Then, with the placement of all these maps, the location-behavior map was obtained in the Daneshjoo Park according to Fig 25. According to the information layers, it can be said that the City Theater, the possibility of sitting in the platform and its adjacent stairs, the presence of the peddlers, sellers of food and tea battalion, etc. have led to the accumulation and formation of hangout students, artists, and women in the vicinity of city theater and the outer part of the park. Another reason for the existence of the students' hangouts is to provide appropriate access to universities and dormitories.

In the outer part of the space (adjacent to the city theater) due to the existence of social supervisors and lack of blind point, societal security is also desirable. Food dealers and sellers also often hangout in this section. The proximity to the subway station has been passing many pedestrians. The existence of open spaces, basins, and stairs allows you to put equipment and food and pause and stand. The southern part of the city theatre is hidden from the view of social observers because of its city theater building and other front buildings. Another social hangout with high and famous dating is the hangout of people with a gender identity disorder. These people are present in the northeast and eastern front of the space with blind and private spots due to the presence of tall trees. Addicts also have a hangout in the area of gender minorities. The central district of the Daneshjoo Park has become the place of the elderly and woman's youth as a bench, water basin, comfort, and lack of noise of young people and students. Most seniors are busy exercising and walking around the dock and talking to each other on the couch during the evening and dusk. The two side benches of the water creek have also become the old hangout most of the time. The existence of chess tables enthusiasts to play so that every day middle-aged men play chess or watch around tables. Children's play area with a lower level of outdoor area and vegetation cover in the southern part has provided an attractive and cozy atmosphere for the accumulation of young addicts and men for smoking so that it can be said that this area has poor conditions and low social security. Location and convenient access have been made to make this space available to the soldiers during the rest hours and unemployment. The group is in the central part and in the vicinity of the elderly to relax and discuss and buy tea and snacks from kiosks. This park witnesses also the presence of people moving and travelers due to its proximity to the City Theatre station and the commercial centers of Tehran.
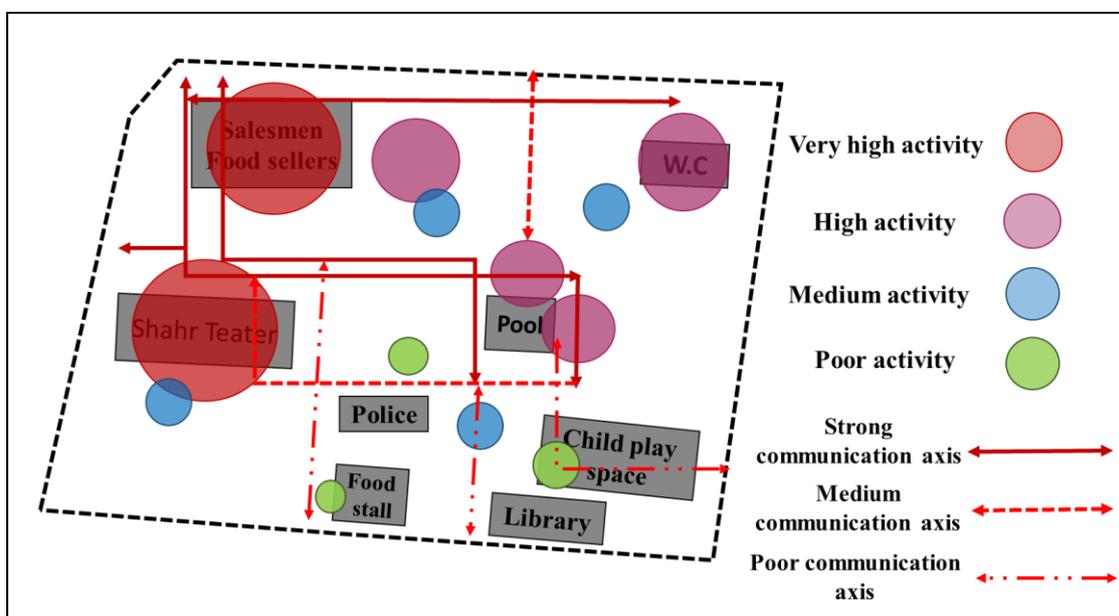

Fig 25. Location, Behavior map of urban hangouts in the Daneshjoo Park
Source: Author

6. CONCLUSION

A hangout can be considered a part of the public space of the city, such as the park, field, wholesale order, and a larger outdoor public space. Hangouts are divided into different categories including local and remote hangouts, cars and planned, open, fluid, closed and linear, women and men, youth, adults, etc. According to studies, components can be categorized in both subjective and objective categories, subjective components of identity, readability, climate comfort, societal security, social interactions, memory, and the physical components of diversity, access, flexibility, adaptability, urban furniture, view, and landscape. Social hangouts were obtained in the Daneshjoo Park according to Fig 26.

To investigate the continuity and fade factors of hangouts, it can be said that appropriate access to public transportation, location and proximity to universities, and the ability to communicate memories and continuity of activity of food sellers are the main factors of continuing the attendance of students in this space. Increasing the number of street theatres and city theater activities and a proper and memorable access to space enhance the efficiency of the hangout. Still, not supervising and handling legal authorities related to addicts, sellers of materials drugs, and individuals with gender identity disorders can have a sense of fear in this space. In contrast, the supervision of the authorities can cause continuity and even the formation of the hangout of children and families. The continuation of the existence of tea and snacks sales kiosks, lack of damage to furniture, natural elements such as trees with appropriate shading, and the water element of elderly presence add to its efficiency.

The results show that appropriate access to public transportation, type of neighboring users, social security and the possibility of social monitoring, the spatial distribution of urban furniture, the use of natural elements and space flexibility to carry out various activities by citizens are of high importance. Urban planners should define the hangouts as a third-place for every group of people.
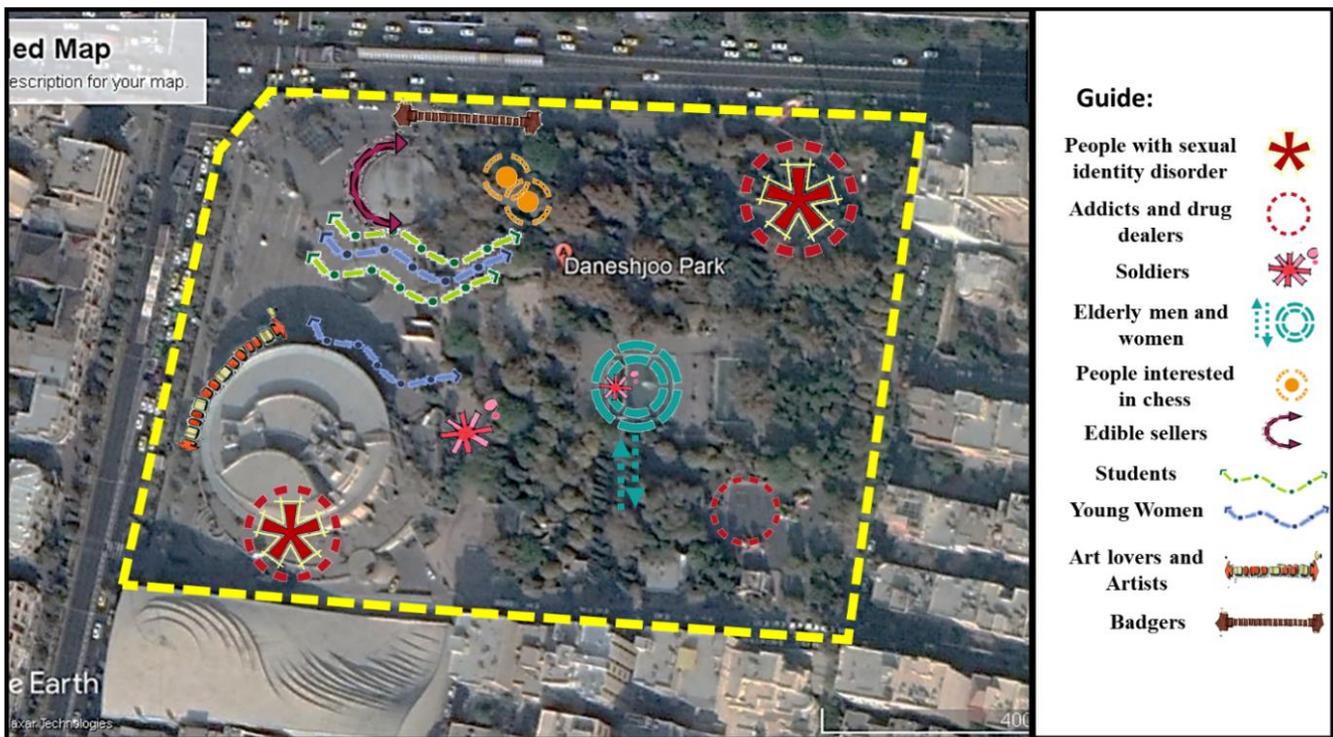

Fig 26. Social hangouts in the Daneshjoo Park
Source: Author

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