Analysis of activity pattern, design features and surrounding building relationship in Urban Public Square: A case of Ahmedabad

Bachelor of Architecture Research Thesis dissertation JUNE 2021

> Submitted By Jinal Mehta 16BAR031



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Thesis Title : Analysis of activity pattern, design features and surrounding building relationship in urban public square: A case of Ahmedabad

Student Name : Jinal Mehta Roll Number : 16BAR031

Date:7th June, 2021

Prof.Digisha Mehta Guide &Professor Institute of Architecture & Planning, Nirma University, Ahmedabad

Prof. Vinay Shah Prof.Supriya Pal Prof.PurviJadav Prof.NishantKansagara Prof.SujanUmaraniya Thesis Committee, Institute of Architecture & Planning, Nirma University, Ahmedabad

Prof.Utpal Sharma Director, Institute of Architecture & Planning, Nirma University, Ahmedabad

Declaration

I, Jinal Mehta, 16BAR031, give an undertaking that this research thesis entitled "Analysis of activity pattern, design features and surrounding building relationship in urban public square: A case of Ahmedabad "submitted by me, towards partial fulfilment for the Degree of Bachelor of Architecture at Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University, Ahmedabad, contains no material that has been submitted or awarded for any degree or diploma in any university/school/institution to the best of my knowledge.

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This research thesis includes findings based on literature review, study of existing scientific papers, other research works, expert interviews, documentation, surveys, discussions and my own interpretations.

Date: 7thJune, 2021

Name :Jinal Mehta Roll number :16BAR031 Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University, Ahmedabad

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Abstract

In today's fast and busy life active urban public squares can be a relaxing place in such stressful life. Urban public square are spaces that frame central focuses within the open space organize, giving a gathering for trade, both social and financial, and a center for social and civic life. Nowadays, the quality of spaces is washed away with new inventions. Most of the urban public square is used as a parking space. Since urban public squares have those significant roles for cities, analyzing the spatial, functional, and social qualities which make the square active are very important to understand.

The aim of this study is to analyzes a factor that makes the urban public square lively and active. The study focuses on a case of manek chowk, Ahmedabad. And on the criteria, which we need to analyze to determine the success of the squares. The literature is studied that what has been said about the urban public squares by different authors in different perspectives. In this study, two chowks of Ahmedabad- new Manek Chowk and Manek Chowk are chosen as the case study area, data is generated & collected by the surveys at different timings for a better understanding of the place. The case studies are observed and analyzed according to criteria.

As a result, all findings, outcomes, and normative criteria are reviewed together. The findings of this study might lead to a reimagining of urban public squares in the context of modern usages and the design of more usable squares for future research.

Keywords: urban square, public space, the success of square, case study, comparison.

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Abstract

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Analysis of urban public square: A case of Ahmedabad

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Background

1.2 Aim

1.3 Scope and limitations

1.4 Methodology

Introduction

1.1 BACKGROUND

In the period of urbanization, the built environment evolved such a way which has user preferences embedded in it, but they may have some problems related to physical parameters like accessibility, maintenance, etc. Urban areas expand as mobility, communication technology, and globalization progress, resulting in lifestyle changes and greater use of public spaces.

Earlier the streets, chowk and in open green spaces people want to go shopping, to walk, to interact, to meet, to play and even to see. The community interacts and exchanges ideas in public areas, and diverse activities take occur at the same time. Nowadays, thought of areas, people, and places were shunted aside. With new inventions, the quality of places deteriorated with time.

In today's fast and busy life, home and workplace have become defined enclosure where people tend to spend most of their time. The squares in-between their daily route can act as a relaxation point. The interaction with people, exchange of thoughts, or a time with oneself is common attributes of the urban public square. Active urban squares can be a relaxing place from such stressful life. For creating an active urban public square it is very important to understand the qualities that contribute to the success of urban public squares.

This study mainly focuses on Manek chowk of Ahmedabad and desires to understand the factor which makes the urban public square active and lively. The purpose of this research is to find the answers to the following questions: What defines this urban public square as an active public place? What elements of space (or architecture) contribute to it being an active, useful urban public square? What criteria should be utilized to determine the responses to these questions?

1.2 AIM

This study attempts to discuss how the urban public square changes by the time period. And the factors of the urban public square which allow it to be used most effectively.

This study aims to understand factor which makes the urban public square active and to understand the reason behind their failure or success of urban public square by taking a case of Ahmedabad.

1.2.1 Research Question:

What are the important factors that make urban public square active?

How the design feature and surrounding building effect to make the urban public square active?

1.2.2 Objective:

To understand the meaning of urban public squares and effective use.

To understand the urban public square in the Indian context.

To identify the characteristics and features that contribute to the efficient usage of urban public squares.

To analyse the criteria of a successful urban public square.

1.3 SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

There are very few functional urban public squares in our cities today, as evidenced by high occupancy rates, where people may enjoy a nice atmosphere. We must comprehend the morphology and concepts of space in order to use open public spaces effectively.

Other areas may not be designed to serve as urban public squares because they do not include all of the essential features to become a successful urban public square. Public spaces are generally in areas of public domain, housing estates, and office development regions.

The research will be limited to behavioral patterns in metropolitan public spaces. Also excluded are public places along the waterfront, residential neighbourhoods, parks, etc. This research will focus on the market square rather than the social interaction component.

1.4 METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this study is to identify, analyze and understand the factor of the successful urban public square. The first part is about the examination of the main literature to arrive at the definitions of squares within these works. In the second part, two urban public squares have been considered for the case study which is located in Ahmedabad. The findings of this study were based on a review of the literature, a case study, and case study analysis.

1.4.1 Literature review

To begin, study a variety of literature, including books and articles. This literature was used to gain a comprehensive understanding of urban public squares, their relevance, and their function in society. Also, derived from the literature are the normative standards. The literature contains research from several fields that are relevant to this area; the diversity of the research helped in gathering the most possible information.

1.4.2 Case study

This methodology investigates and analyses factor that makes the urban public square successful by using Manek chowk of Ahmedabad as a case study. Primary case studies data collection is summarized in two different cultural areas of Ahmedabad.

This chapter will contain activity mapping and visual analysis of individuals, as well as interviews with some of the users to gain a better understanding of the space. Questionnaires can be used to gather information from people of all ages and occupations in order to have a better understanding of their viewpoints.

1.4.3 Case study analysis

This part, the data analyzed in comparison forms of both urban public squares of Ahmedabad according to selected criteria. It is combined with the data gathered by the observations.

1.4.4 Findings and conclusion

The findings conclude methods are over with to understand whether the selected cases could be considered as successful urban public squares or not, according to the selected leading literature.

Analysis of urban public square: A case of Ahmedabad

Chapter 2

Literature Review (P a r t-1)

- **2.1 Introduction**
- 2.2 Concept of Public Space and Urban Square
- 2.3 Evolution of Urban Public Square
- 2.4 History of Urban Public Square In India
- 2.5 Urban Public Square in the Indian Context
- 2.6 Role and Function of Urban Public Square

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Throughout the history of civic life, the urban public square has always played a major role. The Square is a multi-use area where all types of activities as well as social, political, religious, environmental and economic, etc. Currently, some urban public squares have lost their experience in terms of physical pattern and use. As a result, in the age of change in urban public squares, it becomes important to seek out an issue of physical decline and improvement of the urban public square.

Understanding the urban public square as a public space in the Indian setting, studying the current role and situation of urban public squares, and identifying the various criteria for a successful urban public square are the objectives of this chapter. Begin by reviewing the history of urban public squares before moving on to their function as open spaces. Finally, consider the characteristics of effective urban public squares.

2.2 CONCEPT OF PUBLIC SPACE AND URBAN SQUARE

2.2.1 Public space

Public space can be defined as a government-owned assortment of open spaces with free access. Public space is "our open-air living room, our outdoor leisure Centre" (Lipton, 2002). They act as a physical void in the constructed environment and providing breathing space. Public space serves as a place of leisure, providing individuals with a break from the stresses of everyday life.

Form, function, and space are all intertwined in public space. It is usually a city-level gathering point or a neighborhood's locality, the historic city district, waterfront space, or similar public space that encourages social interaction and a sense of community. Plazas, squares, and parks are examples of public meeting locations. It also includes connecting places such as sidewalks and roadways.

In public space, because space, design, urban art, and human functions are all interwoven and have no defined limits, all the spaces are the key to eternity.

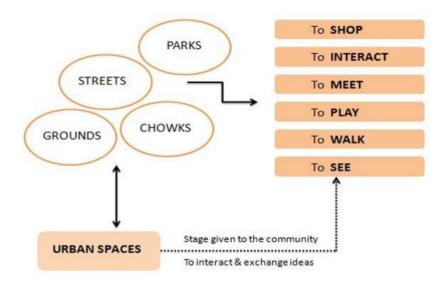


Figure 1: Need of Public Spaces, (Source: (Abbasian, 2016))

2.2.2 Urban Square

Urban square is a public space that reflects both the city's character and its people' cultural history. The urban square plays an important role within the larger neighbourhood and helps to reinforce the city's heart and soul. A public park differs from an urban square in that "on a square, people are not connected to manifestations of nature, but to the core of urban culture, history, and memory."(Levy, 2012). It is a transitional space between retail and recreational.

Urban squares are publicly owned and open to everyone. It includes 3 factors: 1. Floor 2. Surrounding building wall and 3. Imaginary sphere of the sky. Urban squares are a type of space arrangement that can be seen by its intended users as a distinct location that is safe, accessible, and welcoming. In beginning, in Islamic nations, urban squares are close to mosques or religious structures. In the new public era, it is used for national events and is located near the administrative and government building. Urban square characterized by - colonnade, Wide walkways, Sitting places, central park, Monuments, Fountains, etc. Which creates a pleasant environment.

The "activity focus" in the heart of densely populated places is the urban square. It will be paved, surrounded by high-density structures, and in close proximity to roadways. It has elements that are designed to attract groups of people and make gatherings easier."(Lynch, 1992). These are shopping centers that exist to this day, draw many consumers and visitors, and continue to be dynamic and vibrant locations, desiring to become active international audiences, before the concept of shopping centers expanded. In an urban square, Ceremonies, dramas, political activities, and markets are utilized. There is also space where you can relax, socialize, sit and play in the natural environment. Activities are not defined this way. It's a place where people of all ages can try everything they want. There is no limit.

In squares, there is a mainly three type of square: 1. Market square 2. Town square 3. Garden square. This study seeks to concentrate on the market squares.

2.3 EVOLUTION OF URBAN PUBLIC SQUARE

Urban public squares cannot be defined as uniform places because they are based on various activities such as cultural, social, economic, and symbolic purposes, as well as the meanings assigned by various viewers. As a result, the meaning and form of the urban public square are fluid because they can be changed with the changing dynamics of society.

nally, urban public squares are the places that lead to the formation of a city, the city's identity determines by the presence of attractive urban public squares. It also represents the history and growth of the urban fabric.

The Greek Agora

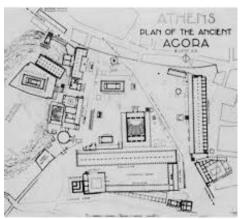


Figure 2: Plan of the Ancient Agora



6000 years ago, the first city shapes began to emerge, and city squares were created the at crossroads of major trade routes. The Greek agora was the first public area; it was an open space at the polis's center.it was used as market and a even а the gathering space for town's political assembly. As a result, it was important in terms of social, political, and economic terms. It also served as a formal and informal gathering place for the community.

Figure 3: Reconstruction of the Agora in 150 AD

The Greek agora was originally surrounded by private residences, but subsequently, temples and shrines, as well as porticoes, stores, and covered walkways, were constructed to surround it. The shape of the agora was generally square or rectangular.

The Roman Forum

The Roman Forum is similar to the Greek Agora. It was a public space which is dominated by the citizens in the same way as Agora. The functions of the Greek acropolis and agora were combined in the forum.

The Roman Forum was an open, semi-enclosed area where commercial, religious and political activities, athletics, and informal gatherings took place.. Forums were in a rectangular shape, with 2:3 ratios, and were bordered.

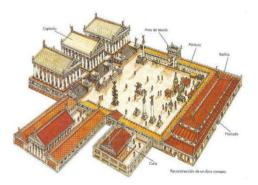


Figure 4: Reconstruction of Roman Forum

The Medieval Market Square

In the 11th century, Medieval was the first evolved market square and quickly expanded into a vital public venue throughout medieval times. It was generally located at the town's center, in front of the castle or cathedral, and also at the crossroads of two major routes. Workplaces such as workshops and storage facilities, as well as commercial establishments such as inns and taverns, were located.



Figure 5: Medieval market square

The Renaissance Plaza

The Renaissance and Baroque squares, both square created formally and symmetrically. It was a gathering space for locals and a venue for public celebrations. It was largely designed with symmetrical geometry in mind.

Developers of new residential developments took notice of his novel technique of creating and controlling public access to the square. The consistent façade of the buildings around these spaces demonstrated the significance of balance and harmony. This is when a new architectural tradition emerges: semi-public residential areas built around squares, particularly for the upper class. To create an aesthetically pleasing environment, monuments and fountains were included in the design

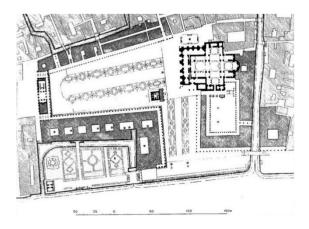


Figure 6: The Renaissance Plaza

Modern era

After the Renaissance Plazas, the public realm in the modern age experiences a significant transformation. This is rapidly changing their social and physical forms resulting in a considerable loss in the public domain and loss of public space. During this time, the importance of rapid movement in the urban space influenced city planning and produced a strong interaction between open space and the built environment. Form, Follows and Function is a phrase associated with modernism. Meanwhile, the number of new leisure and recreation places in public spaces has increased.



Figure 7:Piazza-an-Marco-Venice



Figure 8:Piazza-navona-Italy



Figure 9: Piazza-Istanbul Mosque-Turke Figure 10: Kizilay Square, Ankara

2.4 HISTORY OF URBAN PUBLIC SQUARE IN INDIA

To understand how urban public squares acted in the past, how and why they evolved through time, and their effect on the social fabric and psyche of ancient cities, a study of the history of the urban public square is necessary. This research is critical in teaching us the foundations of building urban public squares, as well as the factors that influence their success or failure.

The metropolitan urban center of India has had a traditional occupation, which grew in the medieval era under the control of Hindu and subsequently Mughal monarchs. The harappa MohenjoDaro cities had been thought out in terms of planning general during pre-medieval periods, at the dawn of modern civilization. The public square in such cities was elevated with a mound and numerous structures like the great bath, Assembly Hall, and so on, creating a vitality of public places open for anybody to utilize.



Figure 11: Mohenjodaro Great bath acting as a public square

Later on, When the aristocracy arrived in the planning phase, however, class differences resulted in the spatial differential. Within the palace walls, Royal patrons and Brahmins would have access to huge open pleasure gardens.(figure 11), which would be geometrically laid out. The public was not permitted to attend. Dancers, religious virtual, and others used these spaces for appropriate performances or assemblage, and they were all classified around decorative components that served as the state's reign at the time. They were also used as parade grounds on occasion.



Figure 12: Sisodiya rani palace, Jaipur, showing geometrical garden

Additionally, space will be closed for the broader public market during the king's visit; bazaars were another place that served as a public square. Even though that they lacked a distinct personality, they were nonetheless the preferred user due to the function and the users. These marketplaces would line the streets, taking on a life of their own. The streets had been decorated and lit for processions during festive celebrations. Thus, the character was flexible. celebrations. Thus, the character was flexible.



Figure 13:Temple courtyard as Public Figure 14: Bazars A place for common people

The Muslim reign provided structure to the design of space. There was no separation between street and room, and the unbuilt places were given equal importance. Buildings were arranged in a sequence around a collection of rectangular pavilions along specified axes. Pavilions and open spaces were generally enclosed on all sides by arcades or buildings, and had particular features that gave the impression of a location meant solely for pleasure. The temple courtyard was the best place for people from the lower classes to interact. People who have similar beliefs and faith would assemble and engage. When monumental constructions were created, they were surrounded by enormous gardens. The arrangement of architectural components, the hierarchical structure of decorative symbols, and even the activity of gardening were all built around this idea. Pathways and water canals would divide the area into four quadrants.

A nuclear element, like a fountain or monument, would be formed at the intersection of two routes; therefore, there is interest throughout the grounds. In between the paths, there were spots of green lawn. Because they were all at right angles to one another, A number of parallel sight lines and views from numerous angles were on the market within the region. as a result of it's a separate, self-contained entity from its surrounds, the city. and therefore the surroundings, it's been remarked as a heavenly paradise. They have been kept to this day due to their uniqueness. but all of them had distinct complexities. Another open-to-all meeting space was the mosque courtyard.



Figure 15: FatehpurSikri, monumental structure with spatial planning

Indian public spaces lost their traditional importance with the arrival of the British administration. Even when geometric ratios were uneven, the consumers' sense of even though they improved the area. Their government buildings' crossroads were also transformed into squares, however they unsuccessful for constant reason: their size was short for the population at the time. many years' cash is changed, price is generated.(Gupta, 2016)

Earlier People used to interact mostly at chowks. A tree near the chowk enables people to socialize while providing a sense of security and comfort. Chowks are increasingly operating as traffic hubs in modern times, losing their essence of the place as time goes For the liberation fighters, these squares became a gathering and protest space. The end of British control coincided with India's urbanization and industrialization, which altered the nature of public areas.

2.5 URBAN SQUARE IN THE INDIA CONTEXT

The Greek Agora, Roman Square, European Square, and Indian Chowk are examples of all historical public places. Usually, The squares built in Indian cities are located at the intersection of forts or royal places, mosques, or city-level temples, and at the city level bazaar streets, these squares are called chowks. These chowks are used as pause points and thresholds in space that might help people to reorient and reaffirm one bearing.

Urban squares can be a place where people gather to meet a variety of social, cultural, political, and economic needs, and because India has a history rich in political and cultural experiences, Indians are more likely to relate to such spaces and have a better understanding of their meaning and symbolism.

Squares are commonly utilized in both official and informal settings. Informal ones are more prevalent and utilized in India. These were constructed at the convergence of two significant crossroads in most historic cities. They served as open areas, market squares, mosque squares, temple courtyards, cockfighting arenas, and preaching venues, etc. Concepts and ideals from religious texts (Vedic) were translated to create such spaces among the pols, mohallas, and cluster them to provide a focal point for interaction. These chowks have mostly devolved into traffic hubs in metro areas, and they must be restored as secure public spaces. When numerous bus routes or subway lines cross, chowks are built-in metro hubs. This makes it easier to go to this region. The pathways in most traditional Indian chowks are small and spiral into a maze lined with businesses that have served clients for hundreds of years; money is traded, and value is created.(Gupta, 2016)

Earlier People used to interact mostly at chowks. A tree near the chowk enables people to socialize while providing a sense of security and comfort. Chowks are increasingly operating as traffic hubs in modern times, losing their essence of the place as time goes In the early 17th century, the Jama Masjid, Red Fort, and Chandni Chowk precincts, as well as the main plaza within the Jaisalmer fort in Rajasthan, are typical examples of spaces established at intersections. The Rashtrapati Bhavan - India gate axis in Delhi in the early twentieth century exemplifies this pattern.

2.6 ROLE AND FUNCTION OF URBAN PUBLIC SQUARE

Urban public square needed and very important styles of public places that attract an enormous variety of individuals and provide a large vary of leisure activities as it serves a range of functions and roles. It's a place where people come together to meet a range of interpersonal, cultural, economic, and political demands. Urban public squares are commonly thought of as outdoor living areas that contribute to a greater sense of community cohesion.

Physical functions of the urban public square include facilities and

equipment that help people meet their day-to-day needs. They offer a comfortable place to rest and unwind, as well as access to a range of facilities. The establishment of a healthy atmosphere is encouraged by the urban public square. It also benefits a person's physical and emotional wellness

An Urban public square is a public space that is used for political purposes. It's an ideal place for political fights and protests. Urban public squares as gathering spaces are accessible to everybody, and they also serve as convenient venues for public debate and political engagement, allowing people to express both opposition and solidarity. This allows people to behave freely, stand up for themselves, and engage with others in an unrestricted manner.

Additionally, an Urban public square may retain a person's identity, as well as a sense of belonging to a place, by establishing such a relationship between the self and the area concerning others, resulting in a sense of identification.

Individuals may express themselves, encounter difficulties, and take risks in the urban public square, all of which can lead to a condition of tension or relaxation, both of which are required for human physical and psychological well-being. They are locations where people may meet new people and try out new ways of behaving, or simply put, they are places where people can "socialize."(Lynch, 1992)

The truth is, public spaces including squares are definitely the spaces by which several categories of folks, with regards to their ethnicity and class, age, and gender are brought collectively, giving them the chance for communication and interaction (Madanipour,1996). Quite simply primary key component of public spaces is motivating

as well as to generate conceivably: "The formation of the richest quality of a multi-class, multicultural, heterogeneous society" (Carr et al., 1992) We must also remember the historical function of urban public spaces in promoting industrial activity. In reality, there may now be a strong link between industrial activities and open spaces with the goal to encourage the general population to utilize these areas to their maximum potential. In today's world, metropolitan public squares are seen as additional value and multipliers of speculative growth due to their position economic as generators.(Thompson, 1998).

Urbanized squares are intimately linked to public perceptions of the city in which they are meant to be found, and are often associated with the community's own distinctive importance. Also because of its symbolic importance, public places contribute to the feeling of continuity of none up or perhaps culture and community, which binds specific people in the community.

public spaces, as venues for that public art form, take on the role of beautifiers of the city. Sculptures and monuments are the earliest and most prevalent forms of public art. However, contemporary public art incorporates a wide range of approaches, contents, and forms.

The points explained above could be summed up asp:

- Space providing a working, playing, and living atmosphere.
- Motivate the general population to have balanced wellbeing and healthy living by active and passive relaxation in a form of a well-planned set of activities, social gatherings, and even simply walking.
- Places to visit travellers.

- Investment and business could be attracted if the public spaces are of high quality.
- Ensuring the public space gives aesthetic pleasure
- providers a chance for an informal understanding of how the city function.
- When gatherings and major events are planned, these points are the center for such activities.
- Gives a chance to the community to come together to participate and increase public awareness

Chapter 3

Literature Review (P a r t-2)

3.1 Introduction

3.2 Frame work for the study

INTRODUCTION

Great urban public squares are places where people come to celebrate, occurs social and economic exchanges, friends connect, and cultures connect and where locals and visitors both go to the market in seeking of high-end merchandise, souvenirs, and food.; nevertheless, when these spaces are well-designed, they may serve as a stage for our public life. As a result, it's crucial to figure out what factors determine whether an urban public square succeeds or fails.

This chapter is crucial to comprehending the factors that cause certain urban public squares to succeed while others fail. While reviewing the literature, it was discovered that some studies use ideal attributes to determine whether an urban public square will succeed or fail. It's required for squares since they must be distinguishable from any other urban open space.

The focus was on normative references, and the most important leading studies among the prior research were chosen to study the determinants of effective urban public squares as outlined in the literature. As a result, certain notable researchers have been selected which key literature on the activity pattern and design aspects of urban public squares. Based on these literature, chose these eight criteria for identifying successful urban public squares.

Criteria Literature	Activity	Accessibility	Enclosure	View of square/ view from square	Edge	Element	size	Flexible design
Sitte, 1889								
Cullen, 1961								
Alexander,1977								
French, 1978								
Ching, 1979								
Vaishali, 2015								
Javadi, 2016								
Abbasian, 2016								
Shreya, 2019								

Table 1: Literature and criteria

The normative remarks and quotations of the scholars on the cause for the success of urban public squares have been found after focusing on the nine major authors in literature. The statements are categorized by subjects and shared characteristics in order to convert them into assessment criteria. Eight criteria for active or alive squares have been established based on these publications' consideration of all elements of urban squares.

3.1 ACTIVITY

Activity in the literature studies is the most important criterion. Almost every author discusses this phrase from various perspectives. The amount of people or events in the urban public squares correlates with their liveliness. The success of crowded squares exceeds that of empty squares. An empty square is something that most people avoid. People will go to busy venues where they may be close to other users in order to feel secure. It is more essential how much time they spend within the square. The activities should encourage visitors to stop and see what is going on as they approach the urban public Square.

The urban public space is the hub of activity; activity is what draws people in the first place and keeps them coming back. Activities also assist to make a location interesting and distinct, which helps to promote community pride. The activities next most essential role is to provide individuals with a comfortable environment and encourage them to remain longer inside. The square's periodic functions, particularly central squares, should run for twenty-four hours a day. Assessing user behaviour in response to changing weather conditions, different times of day, or special days Another explanation for the success of the urban public square.

There are three types of activities that take place in a Urban public square:

Necessary Activities

They include all activities that must be completed on a regular basis, such as waiting for the bus, going to school and going to work. People feel motivated to participate in these activities regardless of the quality of the physical surroundings.

Social Activities

They are events that occur when many persons are present at the same moment. They include people's passive and active interactions with others, such as listening, chatting and watching.

Recreational Activities

- Activities experienced on a traditional street
- Walking
- Sitting
- Shopping
- Social interaction
- Street games
- Celebrating festivals

In India, reactionary activity predominates. Young office employees frequently gather in an urban square near their workplaces, although their consumers rarely do. When they come across each other in the same urban public square, however, clients and employees strive to sit as far apart as possible

The growth of important commerce streets gives rise to the urban public squares. As a result, the initial objective of employing the squares was for commercial and trading purposes. As a result, India's market squares are the most active urban public spaces. The majority of the Indian populace, from various classes and origins, flocks to this economic center.

Smaller public squares because they provide more secluded locations for private activity. "Pockets of activity" is a phrase used to describe little areas of activity. They argue that activity in the squares should begin at the very margins in order to generate "pockets" in which individuals become square users without even realising it.(Alexander,1977)

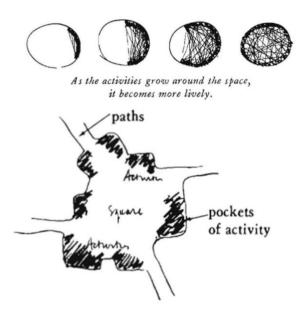


Figure 16: Alexander"s pockets of activity

3.2 ENCLOSURE

"Enclosure" is another crucial condition for the success of urban public space. In their research, almost all writers focus on enclosure, and they regard enclosure as an important aspect of urban public squares. There are 2 terms used to describe these criteria.

1) Degrees of enclosure and 2) enclosing boundary elements

The spatial quality of the urban public space is physical proximity, as defined by a wall or a structure. The enclosed aspect of the square surrounds the squares both physically and optically, because the enclosure creates the sense of being completely encircled and the eye perceives the square's surrounds as a whole when closed. As a result, the degree of confinement has an impact on the physical and visual senses. The totally enclosed squares produce a more comprehensive architectural environment in the urban space and provide a "closed vision" for those who are inside the urban public Square.

They suggest several exact ratios for becoming an enclosed urban

public squares based on the height of the surrounding buildings and the width of the square. The optimal height-to-width ratio is 1:2 so that users can get a good feeling of the primary structure .In the square, and it should not exceed 1:4 to avoid losing the sense of enclosure. That is, the tallest structure in the square should be three or four times the square. Proposals for the optimal height-to-breadth ratio, i.e. The surrounding buildings' height should not exceed onethird of the width and should not be less than one-sixth of the width. (Alberti,1955)

For enclosed squares, the proper height of the surrounding structures is twice the width, which is likewise similar at an angle of 27°. A n angle of 18°, or 1:3, viewers may view many buildings. B yond 18°, squares lose their contained nature, and that the ratio of building height to square width should not exceed 1:4. If the ratio exceeds 1:4, the sense of enclosure begins to fade.(Moughtin, 1999)

As a result of these issues, modern squares are encircled by roadways and converted into car stations. In order to give proportional openings to the urban public square, the structures should be connected to one another rather than standing alone, and give a continuous surface, and facades.

The utilisation of enclosing structures on the bottom levels has changed the square's nature. The ground floor activities of the surrounding buildings may produce enclosed areas as well as physical closeness, the programme and activities on the ground floor of the surrounding buildings have clear impact on the enclosure.

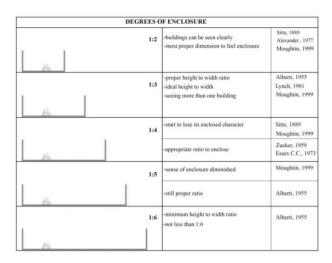


Table 2: Degree of Enclosure

3.3 VIEW FROM THE URBAN PUBLIC SQUARE AND VIEW OF THE URBAN PUBLIC SQUARE

Another major criterion in the literature is the visibility and visualization of the squares. The vision of the squares is divided into two primary topics. 1) View from the urban public square and 2) View of the urban public square.

3.3.1 View of the urban public square

Each scholar proposes numerous features that a square should include in order to provide a nice view. Long-range perception of the square, gazing from inside to outside, and approaching the square are all important aspects of the issue of vision. Being visible does not always imply that one is entirely open. It is critical for enclosed entities to visually attract individuals. Individuals are easily drawn to squares with beautiful views both in and out of the square because the approach and vista give an unexpected aspect to people.

A frontal approach is one in which the space or building is seen directly and perpendicularly; a lateral approach is one in which the point of arrival is hidden and access is gained through the space's perimeter; and a spiral approach is one in which the point of arrival is hidden and access is gained through the space's perimeter. The approach is a progressive performance that begins with a distant perspective toward the square and ends with the entry picture of the squares as people prepare to see the squares completely.

The first is a deformed space that is linearly and axially distorted, while the second is a deformed space that is convexly deformed. The outcomes of these analyses are that a place with an axially deformed layout has more distinct visible regions, but a space with a convexly deformed layout has broader and narrower visual scenes. As a result, he demonstrates how formal changes alter the degrees of visibility of spaces, as well as how the integrations of spaces and the density of uses alter as a result. The way the squares are viewed as they are approached is an essential factor to consider. To have visual richness, a square must have objects of varying sizes from a distance as well as up close. To put it another way, it demands large-scale richness to be visible from afar while also requiring increased small-scale visibility as people approach the square.

Long-range views of the square, seeing from inside to outside, and entering the square are all important aspects of the question of perspective.. For some, being visible does not mean that they are completely open. It is an important for enclosed entities to attract people visually. The squares, which have good views both in and out, the approach and perspective to the area are readily enticing visitors since they give an element of surprise to individuals.

For others to feel comfortable visiting a public space and for a user to assess if it is safe and inviting, it must be visible.. People's demand for leisure and privacy must be considered when giving unfettered visibility. As a result, a balance must be achieved between security through good visibility and retreat through protection from direct view.

3.3.2 View from the square

Enclosure and vista release at the same time. According to his aesthetic ideals, one should lose contact with the square's perimeter, but if possible, one street should open the square in such a way that one can see the square's inside. The enclosure provides the users with a constant perspective, and the enclosure and view are linked. When squares are enclosed by buildings, those inside the square may see the inside view at the same time. The vision of the square, on the other hand, gets more intricate when there is no enclosure, that is, when everything is open.

People like pleasant seating areas in an urban square, therefore trees or tiny plants in smaller spaces must cover their backs. At smaller scale, humans don't require any visual features. W hen people sit in a little larger urban public square, they want to see nice vistas and huge openings; nevertheless, they do not want to sit against a wall. To accomplish this, enclosing buildings should be built around the square, and seating areas should face a bigger view.

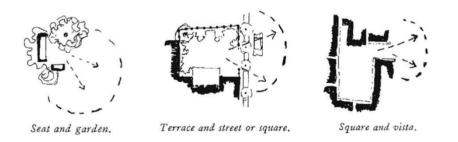


Figure 17: Back and open vista concepts of Alexander, et al.

The Piazza del Campidoglio, for example, has incredible views from both inside and outdoors



Figure 18: Piazza del Campidoglio, Rome

Monuments are the most essential features of the squares. The greatest place for monuments is along the perimeter, near the buildings, where they will have a nice perspective and serve as a backdrop for the monuments. The centre must be free of monuments and must be empty. Despite the fact that monuments surround the squares, modern squares lack suitable monuments, statues, or sculptural components. The components in the squares, accentuate the vibrancy.

Such objects, particularly tall ones, serve as a focal point for the city (Figure 2.12). When people see a towering vertical item from a distance, they want to go to the square and examine it more carefully. People like to stand close to the "well-defined" elements when waiting for each other, talking, or standing in the square, especially vertical components, flagpoles, sculptures, and staircases as examples. When people are walking through a square and come upon a sculpture, they may stop and spend time around it

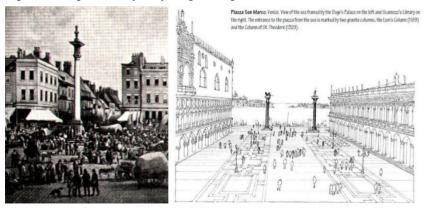


Figure 19: The vertical element in the square

Figure 20: Plazzo Pubblico, Sienna

People must be enticed by a pleasant perspective in order to become involved in square life, and squares must have attractive aspects in order to do this. When viewed from a specific distance, the square has a better probability of attracting individuals to use it.

Measurements: Measurements of 12-24 meters for tiny squares and up to 100 meters for large areas are proposed, bearing in mind the human size. Dimensions for height are similarly set at 70-100 meters. The perceived ratios of public areas give a sense of openness, atmosphere and spaciousness. This, in turn, determines a city's image. A square is fundamental to a city's design, the plaza's size must be proportional to the population of the town as a whole. As a result, the town's expansion must be considered. This might result in one of two outcomes: there may not be a certain length-to-width ratio that can be applied to each square since it varies in shape and form.

3.5 SIZE

In terms of aesthetics and artistic principles, the size of a square is significant. Due to the relevance of these important principles linked with the size of the square, some writers make suggestions for the ideal square size and also rate squares using these ideal dimensions.

The architectural framework also influences the scale: if the surrounding structures are low, the space appears large; if the surrounding structures are excessively high, the space appears restricted. The breadth of buildings around an open square should be 1/3 to 1/6 of the open space's width. The optimal dimension is connected to the width to height ratio, as st ated in the enclosure criterion.

The breadth should be twice the height of the major structure in the s quare. It's the optimum rate for visual connections between the squar e and its surroundings. (Sitte ,1889)

One of the parameters for a good square is the ground plane. Materials for the square's floor surface should be composed in such a way that they blend in with the overall design. A square can be called a well-designed public area if its environmental structures and floor patterns are consistent with one another. Although its major function is to connect various levels, people like sitting on the stairs and viewing the public life from a higher vantage point.

Ideal sizes of the urban public squares				
Small squares:	-not more than 13-18 m -maximum 22 m -between 12-24 m	Alexander, 1977 Lynch, 1981		
Larger squares:	-maximum size 137 m -larger size nearly 100 m -between 70-100 m	Sitte, 1889 Lynch, 1981 Gehl, 1987		
Visual Distances:	-grasping surrounding events 100 m -recognizing other users 50-70 m -seeing facial expressions 25 m	Gehl, 1987		
Trees in square:	-must be at least 2.5 m high	Bentley, 1985		

Table 3: Ideal sizes of urban public squares

3.6 EDGE AND CENTER

3.6.1 Center

Nowadays, Buildings and vehicles are continuously destroying the squares' center. The canters are no longer appropriate for public interactions. Vehicles, roads, walks, monuments, fountains, and buildings should not obstruct the center of the square. The centre is filled with any item, the opening spaces in the squares will be increasingly restricted, and squares will be abandoned if even a single monument stands in the middle

3.6.2 Edges

Edges stimulate the square's surrounding activity; thus public life begins virtually at the square's edge. The most integrating places are the edges. Because the margins serve as an access point, they connect the surrounding buildings and squares, making these places often packed and characterised by intense interactions. Because most actions begin at the square's edge, it's important to think about the edges initially. For example, many small groups of individuals choose to congregate along the square's edge, thus it wouldn't be incorrect to say that the edges are successful in attracting people to the area.

The boundaries of the square should be scalloped with pockets of activity, so that the edges enclose the square especially and people can readily engage in urban public life.



Figure 20: Surrounding Arcades of Piazza San Marco as example of edges

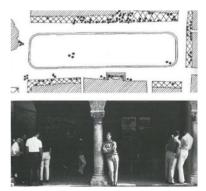


Figure 21: A Survey of Gehl"s in Ascoli Piceno, in Italy

People tend to congregate at the perimeter of the urban public square, under the porticoes and adjacent to columns. These types of sites and aspects safeguard people's backs. Squares boundaries to be safe zones.

3.7 ACCESSIBILITY

Great squares are actual meeting places for local society, where people of all ages, nationalities, and socioeconomic backgrounds come together and engage. To do this, a street must not only contain a varied range of destinations and activities, but it must also be conveniently accessible to everybody. Being accessible to everyone is the first condition of being a successful, desired, and effective square.

The greatest squares are always within walking distance: The surrounding streets are small, with well-marked crosswalks, lights timed for walkers rather than automobiles, traffic moving slowly, and transport stops close. A plaza surrounded by fast-moving traffic will be shut off from pedestrians, robbing it of its most important component: people

People's presence in spaces is significantly influenced by inviting public locations and simple access to these locations. Access to public areas implies a willingness to engage in social interactions. People on the outskirts of the square may be drawn to this square, which they may have reached from afar.

All are centrally positioned in the city and well connected to the rest of the city. When a lot of bus routes or subway lines cross, it's known as a crossroads. This increases the area's accessibility. The number of axial lines or roadways that terminate in or encircle a space determines its location. We may obtain an impression of how divided and linked the area is internally and externally based on the number of streets or roads. The general public should be able to physically enter a public location. Any physical barrier, like gates, fences, hedges, or guards, like those seen in out of doors storefronts, renders the place inaccessible and therefore not actually public. The more connecting points there are, the bigger the flood of people. If the square is not accessible, it will be an empty area since people will not use it.

3.8 FLEXIBLE DESIGN

Informal public spaces are designed to be adaptable, meaning they may be used for a variety of purposes at completely different times of the day and in numerous seasons. The activity may alter during the day depending on the type of trade that takes place.

Because it was divided down into smaller areas, it was a flexible area for public use. People were no longer allowed to utilise the area as an open municipal place as a result of this.

Chapter 4

Case Study

- 4.1 Selection of Case Study
- 4.2 Case study
- 4.3 Data Analysis

4.1 SELECTION OF CASE STUDIES

Ahmedabad has recently become one of the fastest - growing cities. Open spaces are equally as vital as structures in this scenario. To a large extent, open areas are also emerging. However, it isn't operating as well as it should.

The most active square in Ahmedabad is Manek Chowk, it is situated in the historic center. The activities in the public space change throughout the day to satisfy the needs of individuals, allowing for more efficient use of the space. So, in an essence, it's a multi-purpose square. It has performed admirably for many years. As a result, the new created square incorporates the concept of manek chowk. That approach is being used to create new urban public squares. However, it does not appear to be operating correctly. So, in order to comprehend the reasons for failure, these two case studies were chosen for research.

4.2 CASE STUDY – MANEK CHOWK, KHADIA, AHMEDABAD

4.2.1. Introduction

Manek Chowk is a well-known Urban public square. It is in the center of Ahmedabad, Gujrat's old walled city. It is situated between the Tombs of the King and Queen of Ahmedabad, which is also national monuments.

Manek Chowk is a traditional commerce district as well as one of the Walled City's most prominent public places. It is the busy market areas, which have attracted people and merchants from the local community and the city for generations, that serve the public space primarily. It now houses a varied population of inhabitants, business owners, and merchants from many socioeconomic and ethnic groups. We'll look at Manek Chowk in Ahmedabad as an example of public space.

Concept of the square

Manek Chowk is an exceptional urban public place built according to classical city planning principles that thrives as a lively core community area in today's surroundings. The activities in the public space very numerous times during the day to meet individual demands, allowing for more efficient use of the space.

Manek Chowk is open for 20 hours a day. Traditional steel kitchen and table items, fruits, and spices are sold from cattle grazing operations in the early morning to significant commercial and business operations throughout the day. Various gold and silver businesses may be found in the center square. The protection for the jewellery merchants is provided by the night food junction population in the square. The square is converted into a big outdoor restaurant at night.

Manek Chowk is a bustling urban space with a variety of activities and a continuous stream of people offering a sense of natural security and surveillance. The Chowk is constant presence provides natural protection for businesses, residents, and tourists at all hours of the day and night. This is mostly accomplished through the present building form's interaction to the street.

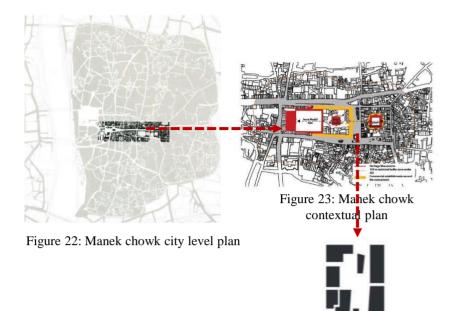


Figure 24: Manek chowk fabric

This is in the heart of the city's historic district. Individual requirements are met by changing the activities in the public area throughout the day, that serve the public space primarily. It currently has a diverse community of residents, business owners, and merchants from a wide range of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds. We'll look at Manek Chowk in Ahmedabad as an example of public space.

Access:

Badsah no hajiro and Rani no hajiro of Ahmedabad is placed between two nationally protected sites. Because these two structures are both historically significant and popular tourist destinations, the space between them becomes a bustling location. As a result, we can observe that access to the Chowk is purely dependent on its proximity to another well-known public place, the tombs.

Activity:

In chowk, Trucks arrive, merchants bargain, products are transferred, and the products are lined up in a very exact way. The truckers take a break while this is going on, exchanging their stories and experiences over mugs of tea. Following that, the Market will be set up. The stores have been cleaned and disinfected. Gunny bags are used to line the display racks and baskets (jute material).

After being rinsed, the veggies and fruits are exhibited in lovely designs on them. It was at 7:00 a.m. These are the ones who want to obtain the freshest fruits and veggies possible before heading to work. Around ten a.m., the stores open according to their respective schedules. The jewelers open their doors to the public.

The chowk is designated as a particular location for wedding things, traditional print fabric, and kitchenware, as well as jewelers. The fruit and vegetable market is once again crowded in the evening. After the stock market has closed and the stores have begun to shutter, the plaza takes on a new life. The evening market will be held in space due to cars parked in the plaza. Food sellers slowly begin to arrive with their carts. After that, they set up tables and chairs to create outdoor dining areas. Around 8:00 p.m., the market picks up speed, with customers flocking to these eateries from all over.

Manek Chowk evening market is no longer only a place to eat but has evolved into a social gathering and hangout spot. Locals in the region come here regularly to meet and hang out with their friends, while visitors from other areas of the city find it to be a vibrant spot where they can bring all of their guests.

Around midnight, the number of people in the area begins to decline, and the sellers begin to pack up their wares.

4.3 CASE STUDY- NEW MANEK CHOWK, GOTA

New manek chowk is an market square. It is newly design market square which is located near the Gota. It is connected to the main SG highway.

Timeline of New manek chowk :





Figure 25: New Manek chowk timeline

As SG highways is known for its nighttime food courts, this place start with a new law garden fun and food and a manek chowk food court in 2016-17.The concept of the historic city Manek chowk is used in the Manek chowk food court. It is a clothes (commercial market) during the day and a food junction at night.

They aim to put all of Ahmedabad's prominent market spaces on one plot, so they divided it into three sections. The first is the New Law Garden, which is known for its food street. It open during the night time. Another is the Nehrunagar vala, which is known for its apparel and other items, which is work during the day time only, as well as the new Manek Chowk food court.

Because it isn't working, they transform the entire manek chowk space into a commercial market, where they also provide open areas for people to play and to attract the people.

Data collection

Male Female	: 47% Num : 53%	Tumber of people visit tins space per day 1200 2000				
	Age group	Occupation	How often do they visit			
k, khadia	15-24: 45%25-60: 35%Below 15: 7%Above 60: 13%	Student: 40%employee: 16%Housewife: 35%Retire: 9%	Rarely: 51%Once a month: 25%Once a week: 13%Daily: 10%			
Manek chowk, khadia	Purpose of visit	Mo	Mode of transportation			
	Shopping : 40% Religious : 7% Eating : 13% Business visit : 21% Working in manek cl	Aut Cyc Bus	cle : 4% s : 8% lk : 7%			

Male	: 23%	Number of people visit this space per day : 100- 200
Female	: 77%	

Age group		Occupation		How often do they visit	
		Student employee Housewife Retire	: 16%	Rarely Once a month Once a week Daily	

Bus

Car

Walk

Mode of transportation

: -

: 2% : 10%

Purpose of visit

Two wheelers : 70% Shopping : 60% : 18% Auto Eating : 40% Cycle : -

New Manek chowk, Gota

4.4 DATA ANALYSIS

1.Activity:

The activities should encourage visitors to stop and see what is going on as they approach the urban public Square. The urban public space is the hub of activity, it also assist to make a location interesting and distinct, which helps to promote community pride.

Manek chowk, Khadia

Manek chowk is a multifunctional chowk which is activate for a 20 hr of a day.





Key plan

Fig.26. Early morning 6am : Cattle Grazing

Fig. 27. Morning 9am : Vegetable Market



Fig. 28. Afternoon 2pm: Jewelry Market

New Manek chowk, Gota

New manek chowk has a fix function and only opens for a short amount of time.





Fig 29. Early morning 6am : Close



Fig.30. Morning 9am : Close



Fig.31. Afternoon 2pm : half - open half -Close

Key plan

Data Analysis

Manek chowk, Khadia

The old manek chowk is open for 20 hours a day, with a variety of activities available at different times. The activities that take place there are dictated by the daily requirements.





Fig.32.Evening 5pm : Again vegetable market



Fig.33. Evening 7am : Start closing up



Fig.34. Night 12am: Night Junction

New Manek chowk, Gota

New Manek Chowk, it is a market of clothing, shoes, and accessories that is not required on a daily basis, and there is just one activity that occurs throughout the day.



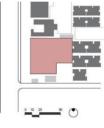


Fig.35. Evening 5pm : commercial market



Fig.36. Evening 7pm : Night commercial market



Fig.37. Night 12am: Close

Manek chowk, Khadia





Fig.38. Old Manek Chowk

Necessary activities- going to school or a work place, wait for bus and social activities – watching, chatting are alos takes place as well.

New Manek chowk, Gota



Key plan

Fig.39. New Manek Chowk

No necessary activity occurs, a little amount of social activity occurs, and the majority of commercial activity occurs.

Inferences:

The periodic function of urban public square should run for twenty-four hours a day. Assessing user behaviour in response to changing weather conditions, different times of day, or special days Another explanation for the success of the urban public square.

The old manek chowk is open for 20 hours a day and offers a variety of activities at various times. The activity that takes place there is determined by the daily needs, this explains why Manek Chow has been busy all day.

In comparison to New Manek Chowk, it is a market of clothing, shoes, and accessories that is not required on a daily basis, and there is just one activity that occurs throughout the day. There is also no space to sit and converse or wear a watch, therefore there is no social activity.

2. Accessibility:

- Another important factor in the success of the squares is access to them. This criteria will cover all of the concerns with square accessibility.
- The more connecting points there are, the bigger the flood of people. If the square is not accessible, it will be an empty area since people will not use it.

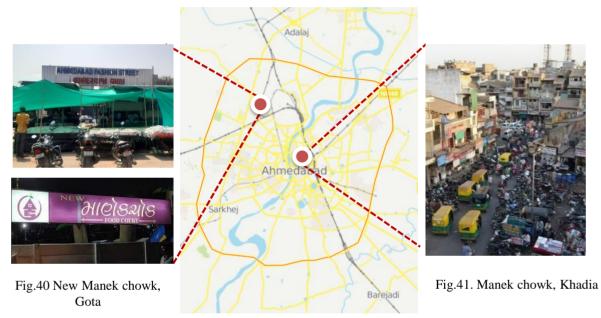


Fig.42. Ahmedabad map

• The old manek chowk is in the city center, whereas the modern manek chowk is at the outskirt off Ahmedabad.



Fig.43. Gota map

- Access from mainly the one major road sg highway
- There is no other major route that connects the square to the outside area.



Fig.44. Old city map

- The two main roadways, Gandhi Road and Danapith Road, provide access. It's also connected to the four side streets.
- Gandhi road is connected to city bus routes such as atms and brts, as well as Ahmedabad's major train station.

Inferences :

- In old manek chowk fragmentation is high and Smaller lanes split the space into many pieces. It connected to 4 streets.
- But, In New Manek Chowk there is only one major connection.
- The more connecting points there are, the bigger the flood of people. If the square is not accessible, it will be an empty area since people will not use it.

3. Enclosure :

- Built of two-story buildings that open into small, mutually shaded public areas to prevent heat gain in buildings.
- The square and its surrounding area has a high density built-up area and forms a spatially continuous organization of streets and open spaces.



Fig.45. Manek chowk, Khadia - Ratio - 1:2

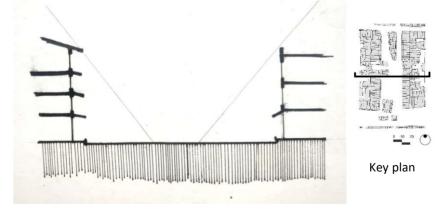


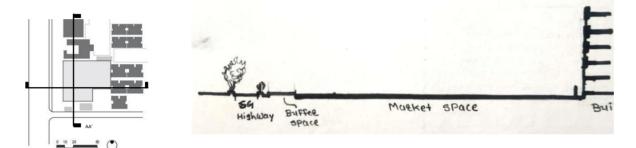
Fig.46. Manek chowk, Khadia – Section



Fig.47. New Manek Chowk Section BB'



Fig.48. New Manek Chowk Section AA'



Inferences :

- The ratio of surrounding buildings to the width of the urban public square in old Manek Chowk is 1:2, which is the most preferred since the square should be shaded at all times of the day, it providing shelter to the square.
- However, at New Manek Chowk, there is a lot of open space and no structures in the area. As a result, there is no natural shading provided.

4. View of the square / view from the square :

- Visibility and visually of the squares are the other important criteria.
- placed a premium on the visual proportions of city squares. The users' perceptions of the squares as they approach and enter them is an important factor in their utilization and vitality.

View of the Square:

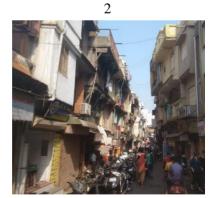
From the outside, there is no visibility in old Manek Chowk.



Fig.49. View from the Road - side



Fig.50.View from Narrow commercial street



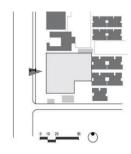
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4

Fig.51.View from Residential street

Fig.52. View from manek chowk road



New Manek Chowk, it is visible from the major S.G highway.





Fig.53. View from the main SG highway

View of the Square

View of the Square



The view from the square is easily seen from the old manek chowk's central open space.

There are lanes in New Manek Chowk that block the view from the square.

Inferences :

View of the square:

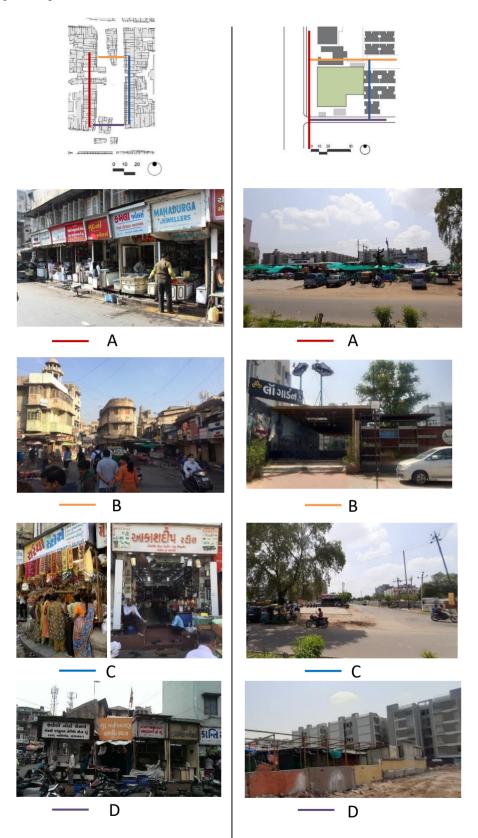
• From the outside, there is no visibility in old Manek Chowk. However, unlike New Manek Chowk, it is visible from the major S.G highway.

View from the square:

• The view from the square is easily seen from the old manek chowk's central open space. There are lanes in New Manek Chowk that block the view from the square.

5. Edge:

- Edges stimulate the square's surrounding activity; thus public life begins virtually at the square's edge. The most integrating places are the edges.
- People tend to congregate at the perimeter of the urban public square, under the porticoes and adjacent to columns. These types of sites and aspects safeguard people's backs. Squares boundaries to be safe zones.

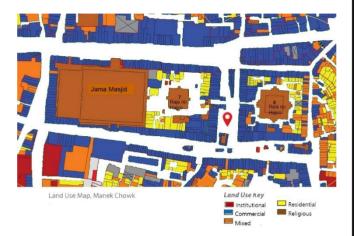


Inferences:

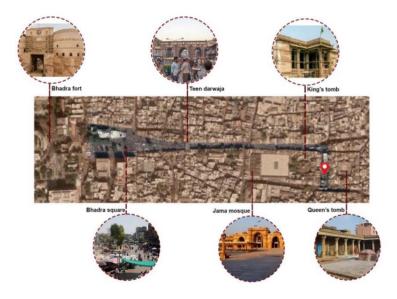
Edges stimulate the square's surrounding activity; thus public life begins virtually at the square's edge. The most integrating places are the edges. If the edge of the square is active, it make the square more liveable.

7. Element

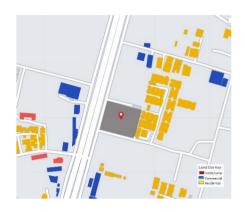
Manek chowk, Khadia



- More commercial buildings and important religious buildings are in surrounding.
- 3 main monuments Jama masjid, Rani no hajiro and King's tomb are in the context of manek chowk



New Manek chowk, Gota



- Mostly there was residential building in surrounding.
- There are no monuments or commercial buildings within walking distance of the square.

The existence of three significant historical sites in this region adds to its significance: Jumma Masjid (Jumma Mosque), Badshah no haziro (King's tomb), and Rani no haziro (Queen's tomb). The main artery of activity, which runs from Bhadra fort to Teen Darwaza (Three gates)

Inferences :

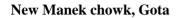
Monuments are the most essential features of the squares. The greatest place for monuments is along the perimeter, near the buildings, where they will have a nice perspective and serve as a backdrop for the monuments. It is another reason behind the liveliness of square. Monuments on the manek chowk attracts people.

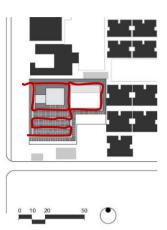
8. Flexible design



Manek chowk, Khadia

• The layout does not need to be too strict; rather, the space should allow for flexibility and be flowing in nature in order to support a greater number and diversity of activities during festive seasons or other events.





• This square should be arranged in a regular pattern. There is no open area to engage in some sort of free activity.

Inferences :

- The center of an urban public square with an open center is always empty. The empty middle is work well rather than a activity on the center
- Also, sometimes it's a good design to leave the square vacant in center and let the user's hand to fill it in.

Chapter 5

Finding and conclusion

FINDING

This section discusses all of the case study findings in one place. This section's goal is to identify the qualities of urban public square that encourage appropriate urban public square usage. Based on the above facts, literature study, and case studies, it is possible to come up with particular recommendations and ideas related to the design of urban Public Squares in India.

A space's activities are what give it life and vitality. The kind and density of users in a location are determined by the activities that take place there. In order for a public square to be used effectively, it must adhere to a set of minimal and mandatory motions in the space. Large open green spaces are popular with the public. Market places, on the other hand, appear to be a more popular destination. As a result, if people join together, a public space may become a hive of activity and vibrancy. It should include areas such as green spaces, commerce, leisure, and cafés, among other things. Because a public place is used by individuals of all ages, leisure facilities should be available to them all.

Pedestrian access is the second underlying element that an urban open space must have in order to be considered a square. Because all of the study locations priorities pedestrians, they have the potential to become popular gathering spaces where individuals may participate in a range of activities inside the city. Furthermore, these squares are easily accessible since they are adjacent to major transit networks, since each of the four public squares is located near the city's core locations. Children might have their own park space, or activities can be scattered throughout the greenery. Small scale spiritual constructions or conversational landscapes, walking trails, and other forms of leisure can be offered for the elderly.

Old manek chowk has a stronger enclosure than New Manek chowk, yet its usages, user density, and activities are diametrically opposed. Despite the fact that New Manek Chowk does not have the perfect criteria for being a square physically, it is preferred for attracting large crowds and being surrounded by a variety of social events.

Other conclusions may be obtained for future research by modifying the case study regions, and this study can be applied to various squares. For example, using the same evaluation criteria and analytic approach, squares from different nations and cultures in different seasons may be picked, and more diverse information and findings regarding squares can be acquired.

CONCLUSION

Concerns about the vitality and livability of cities are growing as urban public squares decrease. People are the most vital components of a city, and without public spaces, it is difficult to establish a physical and mental relationship between the public and urban environment. In democratic and livable cities, urban squares are key city components as one of the most significant open public spaces.

Urban public squares, which are more than just physical spaces, are associated with symbolic importance. They're vibrant, energising, and intriguing locations to visit.

The bulk of today's city squares are historically significant to residents as well as tourists and visitors. Although Indian cities' traditional public squares differ from those in European towns, they retain cultural and social relevance in public life.

As a result, creating design and management strategies for urban public squares is important to preventing the loss of a vital component of the city and community.

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