

# **Journal of Environmental Studies**

Vol. 47, No. 1, Spring 2021

Journal Homepage: <a href="www.Jes.ut.ac.ir">www.Jes.ut.ac.ir</a>
Print ISSN: 1025-8620 Online ISSN 2345-6922

Analysis of Neighborhoods Spaces Security from the Users Viewpoint, Case Study: Spaces of Historical Context in Bushehr **Document Type** Research Paper

Received

January 13, 2021

Accepted April 17, 2021

Ehsan Heidarzadeh<sup>1</sup>, Mohammad Reza Haghi <sup>2\*</sup>, Mohammad Amir Kakizadeh<sup>1</sup>

- 1 Department of Architecture, Faculty of Art and Architecture, Persian Gulf University, Bushehr, Iran
- 2 Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, Razi University, Kermanshah, Iran

DOI: 10.22059/JES.2021.311345.1008077

#### Abstract

Although more than half a century has passed since the emergence of the world's first theories of environmental security; But the importance of paying attention to it in the urban management system of Iran is still neglected. Therefore, the present study aims to evaluate environmental security in the historical context of Bushehr, has analyzed its variables. The method of the present study is descriptive-analytical and based on documentary studies and field survey. At first, the security variables of urban spaces were collected from the thematic literature and then completed with the help of a questionnaire for four neighborhoods in the historical context of Bushehr. The statistical population is the students of the Faculty of Art and Architecture of Bushehr Persian Gulf University who have sufficient knowledge about the study area. Also, according to the analytical model used, the sample size was 100, which is more than 3 times the number of variables (questionnaire questions). After completing the questionnaires, the data were entered into SPSS software and analyzed using exploratory factor analysis model. Findings show 9 factors of "social behaviors", "management and maintenance", "persistence of residents", "formal supervision", "informal supervision", "territorialism", "environmental peace", "demarcation of areas" and "Environmental panic" plays a role in explaining the security of urban spaces in neighborhoods.

Keywords: Environmental Security, Urban Space Security, Crime Prevention, Historical Context, Bushehr

www.SID.ir

<sup>\*</sup> Corresponding Author:

Vol. 47, No. 1, Spring 2021

#### Introduction

The World Human Settlement Report (2007) published by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, examines many of the most challenging safety and security threats to urban dwellers around the world. Between 2007 and 2002, six percent of urban dwellers in developed countries fell victim to crime, the report said. Attention to the issue of urban security is doubly important because looking at the growth of urbanization and increasing urban population, which leads to the mixing and integration of more people in the structure of the city, it is understood that this category is closely related to National security and the cohesion and solidarity of the strata of a society against the internal and external threats that are being formed towards that system.

This study aims to assess and promote a sense of security for users of the historical context of Bushehr. In this regard, the main question of this research is as follows: What is the impact of each of the environmental factors in explaining the security of users of Bushehr historical context? How can the security of these users be improved according to the importance of each factor?

#### **Materials & Methods**

In this research, first, by reviewing the valid world texts, the variables that create a sense of security in the users of an urban context have been extracted. In order to convert the table of variables into a questionnaire, the validity and reliability of the questions have been examined. Reliability was confirmed according to the Cronbach's alpha test (0.817) and the validity of the questions was checked through interviews with experts. Then, through a questionnaire, the opinions of users and people familiar with the texture were measured about these variables. Considering that in the exploratory factor analysis model, the sample size should be at least 3 times the number of questions (variables) and considering that 31 variables have been identified to measure Urban Space Security; Therefore, the sample size was considered equal to 100. After completing the questionnaires, the following data were entered in SPSS software and analyzed using exploratory factor analysis model. The output of the model categorizes and summarizes the variables under a number of homogeneous factors. In the following, the status of each of the four neighborhoods of the historical context of Bushehr city has been determined and analyzed separately according to the factors obtained from the previous stage. The statistical population of the study was the students of the Faculty of Art and Architecture of the Persian Gulf University of Bushehr. Due to their complete familiarity with the desired context, 100 of them were randomly selected and completed the questionnaires.

#### **Discussion of Results**

After extracting information from the questionnaires and entering them in SPSS software, the initial information matrix was formed. This matrix consists of 100 rows (each row per questionnaire) and 32 columns (31 columns per 31 variables and one column for the general question). According to the obtained model, the numerical value of all variables in the subscription table was more than 0.4, which indicates the appropriateness of the explanatory power of the model and the value of KMO statistics. The numerical value of KMO test in this study was 0.737, which means that the existing correlation between the data will be suitable for data analysis. The next

was 0.737, which means that the existing correlation between the data will be suitable for data analysis. The next output is the Bartlett test, the value of which is acceptable (significance level, 0.000 Sig =). Also, Cronbach's alpha value is more than 0.7, which confirms the reliability of the questionnaire.

After controlling and appropriateness of statistical tests, which test and measure the raw data for use in factor analysis, the preliminary matrix is calculated. Finally, 9 factors were identified as factors explaining the Urban Space Security of the historical context of Bushehr. Finally, the total cumulative variance of these 9 extractive factors is equal to 64.29, which means that in total more than 64% of the Urban Space Security explain the historical context of Bushehr, which is an acceptable statistic. At this stage, after determining the variance of each of the factors explaining Urban Space Security, the factor matrix is rotated to get each of the relevant variables to be most relevant to the nine factors and the conditions for naming and identification Facilitate factors. After naming the factors, it is time to calculate the score of each of the four neighborhoods of the historical context of Bushehr city separately for the nine factors of Urban Space Security. Therefore, the score of each of the 9 factors for each neighborhood is calculated and multiplied by the percentage of variance explaining each factor. Findings show that in the study area, the desirability of Urban Space Security quality was related to Behbahani, Kooti, Shanbadi and Dehshti neighborhoods, respectively. Also, the research proposal for the priority of intervention in the terrified and shabni neighborhoods is related to the factor of social behaviors, for Behbahani neighborhood is related to the factor of territorialism and for Kooti neighborhood is related to the factor of official supervision.

## Conclusions

The growth and expansion of urbanization, along with all the benefits it has brought to city dwellers, has also brought challenges. One of these challenges is safety and security. The economic and social problems of

2



### Analysis of Neighborhoods Spaces Security ...

Heidarzadeh Ehsan., et al

households and the increasing psychological pressures on individuals have paved the way for the spread of social anomalies in urban areas. Meanwhile, neighborhoods and urban spaces that are the bedrock of the presence of different groups of people are subject to adversity and conflict of interest, part of which is influenced by the characteristics of the environment. The impact of the environment on behavior is a topic that has entered the theories of architecture and urban planning over the past decades, and theories such as "observer eyes", "defensible spaces", "broken windows", "crime prevention through Environmental design "and ... are among them. Among these, historical contexts and unhealthy urban neighborhoods are among the urban areas that are always facing problems in terms of Urban Space Security, mainly due to the weak economic, social and physical structure. Therefore, in the present study, Urban Space Security variables in the historical context of Bushehr were evaluated. The purpose of this study was to identify the main factors explaining Urban Space Security and analyze the situation of the studied areas.

The results of the study show that 9 factors affect the Urban Space Security of urban neighborhoods, which are the factors of "social behavior", "management and maintenance", "survival of residents", "formal supervision", "informal supervision", "territorialism", "respectively. "Greenery of the environment", "demarcation of areas" and "economic power of the people" have the most impact. Also, regarding 4 neighborhoods located in the historical context of Bushehr, Behbahani neighborhood had the best situation and Deheshti neighborhood had the lowest situation. Other detailed results are as follows:

- The most differences in neighborhoods are due to social behaviors, which are associated with severe weakness in terrified and sunny neighborhoods, and the situation is more favorable for Behbahani and Kooti neighborhoods.
- The least difference (most homogeneity) of neighborhoods was in the two factors of informal monitoring and demarcation of areas.
- The most important intervention priorities for Dehshti neighborhood are focused on two factors: social behaviors and territorialism.
- The most important intervention priorities for Shanbady neighborhood are focused on two factors: social behaviors and demarcation of areas.
- The most important intervention priorities for Behbahani neighborhood are focused on the agent of territorialism.

The most important intervention priorities for Kooti neighborhood are focused on the two factors of formal supervision and economic power of the residents.