

# Socio-psychological dimensions of Urban open spaces

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**Abstract:** Urban open spaces (spaces outside buildings) are the milieu for socialization and gatherings. Positive presence of citizens in urban open spaces would increase and enhance social relationships, cooperations, sense of belonging and citizenship. Good urban open spaces have positive effects on presence of people in urban open spaces. Pleasant urban open spaces require pleasant human aspects as well as pleasant physical features. This paper would examine human dimensions of urban open spaces. The human dimensions of urban open spaces include: human needs, rights of citizens in space, control, meaning and connection with space.

Maslow's classification of human needs has been adapted to define human needs in urban open spaces. The human need aspects in urban open spaces include: comfort, relaxation, passive and active engagement of citizens and the ability of space to be discovered. Right of citizens in urban open spaces includes: access, freedom of action, claim, change, ownership, meaning and connection to urban spaces. Then the physical attributes that support human aspect of urban open spaces have been introduced.

This paper concluded that in an urban design process prior to responding to physical features of urban open spaces, the human aspects of design and the effect of urban open spaces on social relationship should be considered.