

The Impact of Urban Parks on Citizens' Place Attachment (Case Study: Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht)

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Abstract: Parks and urban green spaces can play an effective role in developing and reinforcing citizens' place attachment because of long time usage and wide spectrum of environmental users. Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht can be indicated as one of the prominent examples of urban parks in Gilan province. Bagh Mohtasham is the oldest park in Rasht and is counted as the main choices for Rasht citizens in order to spend their leisure time. In this regard current study intends to assess the impact of Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht on the people's place attachment to determine the solutions for increasing the place attachment in residents of Rasht. The current study is descriptive-analytical. The writing process started with research general framework through investigating library documents and field study and then people's place attachment and identification to Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht. Similar examples are assessed by applying questionnaires and structured interviews with people. The study results show that perceptual cognitive, environmental, physical and social components have a significant and sensible effect on citizens' place attachment to Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht.

Key words: Place attachment, public spaces, urban parks, Bagh Mohtasham, Rasht, Gilan.

Introduction

Place is not just a collection of objects and each place leaves its own image on people's minds. Place attachment develop a strong connection between person and place and people define themselves with the place they belong to. When a person has a place attachment, this will result in coordination of person and environment, satisfaction and more environment durability (Norberg-Schulz, 2000). Studies done in this field show that longer a connection between person and a place, more place recognition, perception and place attachment (Hidalgo and Hernandez, 2001; Marino et al., 1999).

Sense of place, the strategy of meaning to people's sensory perception of a place according to space

constituent and personal perception of series of elements, differs. In other words personal values, social behaviours and sense of place affect each other. Therefore, place belonging is a symbolic relation developed through persons who are in the place and also is emotional and cognitive notions and in addition contains cultural beliefs that connect people to a place (Maleki et al., 2014).

Place belonging which emerges based on sense of place is something more than awareness about being in a place. This sense leads to connection between person and place in which a person knows himself as a part of a place and according to his experiences about signs, notions, functions and character imagine a role for the place and the place will become respectable for him (Ghashghaie et al., 2016). Meanwhile globalization

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of economy and excessive standardization of urban public spheres which have weak linkage to native and local perspectives dwindle the sense of place (Wheeler, 2004). In this regard current research intends to assess and probe the amount of effectiveness of one of the prominent open and public spaces of Rasht on amount of residents' place attachment.

Necessity of research on such topics is important from this point of view that components and indicators which develop the place attachment and identity to urban spaces could be identified and introduced for moving effectively towards maintaining and rehabilitating it. Moreover, identified parameters could be used in the best way in new designs for improving the qualities of environment in cities historical regions. The raised questions in this regard are:

1. Does a connection exist between Bagh Mohtasham and place attachment in Rasht residents?
2. Can the prominent public spaces improve the place attachment to themselves?
3. How can the place attachment to urban spaces be raised?

Research Background

Safarnejhad et al. (2016) in a paper "Identification of effective components on urban identity improvement and increasing of citizens' place attachment in cultural administrative building design; Case study: Rasht city" conclude that by developing permeability, richness, attention to building facades, native symbols and landmarks, legibility in physical form and context based design can enhance environmental identity and citizens' place attachment (Safar Nezhad et al., 2016). Foorozandeh and Ghasemi (2011) in a research N of belonging to a place and its constituent factors" state that physical features such as form (colour, size, shape, scale) and relation between physical components with emphasis on social activities of environment play an important and effective role in place attachment formation (Javan Foorozandeh and Motalebi, 2011).

Sajjadzade (2013) in his research "The role of place attachment in identifying urban squares (Case study: Aramgah square in Hamedan)" declares that the most important components in developing sense of attachment to Aramgah square of Hamedan are: appropriate accessibility, natural elements such as trees and suitable green space, commercial spaces, proper square location, and felicitous subjective and objective perspectives to the square. Ghotb Abadi

(2015) in a research titled "Recognition of natural components role in urban identity development (Case study: Babak city)" explains that eminent Babak city identity components like Meymand village, turquoise and copper coal have the most influence on increasing person's place attachment to Babak City. Fazelian and Ghasemi (2013) in their study "Study on suitable social spaces features in developing sense of neighborhood attachment (Case study: region 2 Tehran municipality)" states that social links and neighbourhood legibility are the most important features of social spaces in developing attachment to neighbourhood.

Place

Place is the main element of residents' identity. One can recognize himself by recognizing a place. A place is somewhere that one can have a thorough comprehension of his existence (Habibi, 2003). One has different images from different places. His emotions can affect his perception of environment and image formation of place. These images give identity to a place. In addition to the physical structure of place, people's memories have a considerable influence on place identity. Place crisis as the concept of social meaning crisis of space and time is the most prominent contemporary urban problem, a crisis which is shaped in a format of developing urban spaces with no identity, no history and no connection (Partovi, 2003).

From phenomenological point of view, place is something more than an abstract site; place is a totality of stuffs and real built things with material, substance, shape, texture and colour. All of these elements define environmental place character. Place is a context for activities and usually has a cognitive identity; moreover it contains diverse social worlds and a history which connect past, present and future. According to "Canter Model", place is a part of built or natural space that is the result of interactions between three factors: (1) Human behaviour, (2) Meanings and concepts and (3) Physical features. So environment quality is the result of these three components interaction (Canter, 1971).

The first difference which becomes highlighted in "place and space contrast flow" is the abstraction level of these two concepts. Almost all persons, in comparison with space, comprehend and experience the place better and feel the necessity of place for personal and social life easily. People even comprehend space through place and cannot imagine a space without a place. This difference in place and space comprehension happens because the space is more abstract than place (Sarmast

and Motavaseli, 2010). This fact is controversial from other point of views. Space is everywhere but place is a specific site. Undoubtedly, imagining everywhere is harder than imagining a specific site. Place has content but space is a kind vacancy. Place can be limited and boundary defined more easily while space has no centre and tend to finiteness (Morley and Robins, 1996).

Place and Sense of Identity

Sociologists especially anthropologists always accentuate that place, site and country is very important for people, because they can highly identify. Sense of place attachment foremost means being different and special, fixed and sustainable and belong to society (Ghol Mohamadi, 2002). Place and space are the most important factors that fulfil these identity needs. More clearly, place can be limited and boundary defined more easily and this ability helps people to gain more safety and security through feeling of being different, stability and belonging to a society. Feeling different from others requires sustainable and more or less impermeable boundaries. More accurate and transparent boundaries and differences based on them, more fulfilling the need of difference. Since depicting these boundaries and differences on place territory and their reproducing and maintaining is easier, so place and country become very suitable context for identity, sense of place attachment and continuity of these two (Sarmast and Motavaseli, 2010).

Place is not only limitable but also has constancy. Therefore, by fulfilling the needs for continuity and sustainability, place can be counted as an important source for identity providence (Tagic, 2005). Place develops and reinforces sense of attachment to the group by restraining social relations in an almost small and closed territory and thus increase immediate relations density and face to face relations; so place is the most effective factor in identity (Wheeler, 2004). Social life in traditional communities was dependent on place. This fact can be comprehended easily by exploring the relation between place and space in these communities.

Space is completely dependent on place. Hence, in the past traditional spaces conformed to place territory and filled with place signs and landmarks. All the activities done there were place based too. In fact, in traditional community, time and space are linked to each other in place context. But in communication and globalization age, changes accelerate and tear out linkage strings between social spaces with place; thus social issue release from tight and limited place circle, in a wide space. Following this process, connection

between peoples' living place with their identity has changed (Ghashghaie et al., 2016).

Place identity is a kind of emotional attachment to the place based on symbolic place importance, and also as an emotion container gives meaning to personal life (Williams and Vaske, 2003). Collective identity is a state of social life that is resulted from socialization process and social members usually owe it and belong to it by "we" pronoun and feel obligation and duty toward it. This kind of identity that is common way and manner of thinking, emotions and group inclinations arise a kind of obligation and duty sense. If at country level this kind of identity becomes stronger, social citizens' character will underpin more serious and coherent (Ghodarzi Sourosh and Ghodarzi Sourosh, 2013). Identity in a city increase attachment to urban spaces and lead city residents toward "citizenship" which is a wider gamut than mere residence through developing and calling "general memories" in citizens (Zeinali Ghotb Abadi, 2015).

Sense of Place Attachment

Hummon has defined the sense of place as attachment to community and local sense (Hummon, 1992). Although this notion is rooted in American-Anglo geography but gradually its international and interdisciplinary effects emerge widely. Today the sense of place issue is applied as a bridge between sub-category of branches such as social, cultural and behavioural geography. Sense of place attachment contains emotional links and experienced attachment of people especially in life environments from national, regional or urban level to personal scale in neighbourhood and home. This notion is used for describing and explaining differences or unique characteristics of sites and special regions that is derived from specific history of environmental situation of region; place attachment means that people define themselves through the place which they were born in and grow (Falahat, 2006).

"Sense of place" and "place attachment" are two expressions and their essence are similar. These two expressions fundamentally demonstrate people's emotions, inclinations and identity. Place attachment is not merely limited to residence geography and usually is counted as a part of persons' identity foundation. Place attachment links one to a place and contains physical and social connections in environment (Ahmadi and Mahdavi, 2014). In fact place attachment is higher level than sense of place that plays determinative role in present continuity of a person in a place. Place

attachment which is based on sense of place is beyond awareness of being in a place. This sense leads to a linkage between person and place, one knows himself as a part of a place and based on his personal experiences starts building a character of a place in his mind (Steele, 1981).

“Relph” determined variety of place attachment according to inside and outside imaginations. Being inside a place reflects stronger and deeper place attachment and as the result environmentally reflected meanings, cultural values, experiences and qualities related to a place and are stronger inside a person, more understandable and obvious. Developing sense of place is one of the main urban design goals. Sense of place is dependent on people’s emotions and imagination who experienced the place thoroughly and is related to need for identifying personal environment and is the need of being in a place with identity for people (Relph, 1976).

Urban Parks and Sense of Attachment to Them

Cultural elements of each place is its natural identity and since nature has been a part of human being from the beginning and people become relaxed beside it, urban and its elements should provide this kind of environment and be the human relaxation site. Beside physical aspect, this relaxation usually includes emotional and psychological aspects too. Accordingly natural elements are familiar signs for urban residents. These signs communicate with citizens and become a part of their memory and essence (Safar Nezhad et al., 2016).

Sense of a person to different places differs in proportion to their types such as personal, semipublic and public with land uses such as residential, commercial and service (Sacannell and Gifford, 2010). Urban parks are amongst urban public spheres and surveying people’s sense of attachment to them is important. Urban parks refer to sites which have social returns and most of the citizens use them for spending their leisure time, recreation, interacting with friends, social-cultural gatherings and similar activities. The mentioned spaces are fundamentally designed and equipped for this goal. Urban parks are part of public green spaces that service different parts of the city in addition to their recreational, cultural and environmental aspect (Ghorbani and Teimouri, 2010). The nature and essence of these spaces basically is somehow to be usable for all people classes with any intellectual and mental manner (Hekmati, 2003).

Many contemporary thinkers believe that sense of place attachment, nature preservation and coordination with it have a correlative relation. Theorists such as

“Chermayeff and Alexander” paid to vacancy caused by being away from nature. These theorists describe sincere contacts of human with nature as incomparable happiness (Chermayeff and Alexander, 1963). Simon Bell (1999) concludes that nature contact according to experience and practice can diminish sense of alienation in bio complex based on his studies. In this regard, Schultz by emphasizing on role of natural elements in gaining sense of place attachment, knows meanings realization as an architecture role that natural place plays example role for human built place. He knows natural comprehension equals with mental growth and knows growth equal with gaining physical qualities of natural parts and on the other hand equal with semantic comprehension interactions between different parts (Norberg-Schulz, 2000).

The studies show that existence of natural elements is essential precondition for developing tourism industry and accentuate the process of cities tourist attraction (Ghobadi and Verdian, 2016). In fact existence of big scale public green spaces such as Mohtasham park in cities help expansively to attract tourists to cities (which is turned to one of the main city development poles from different aspects, especially economic point of view) (Yazdi et al., 2014 and Mesgarian and Alaei, 2014) and also is a step forward in order to realize “the city consistent with nature” (Lotfi and Daneshpour, 2016). Moreover, presence of tourists can help effectively to move the community’s economic cycle through running local scale businesses.

Degrees of Place Attachment

Shamai (1991) determines three main degrees for place attachment, place devotion and place commitment with seven levels. These sense of place levels represent sense of place application which is ranged from indifference to devotion for place as follows:

Indifference to Place

Sense of place is not cared in literature in sense of place assessment it could be used.

Awareness of Being in a Place

One knows that is living in a different place and distinguish the signs of that place, but no emotions link him to the place.

Place Attachment

In this level, one not only is aware about name and signs of place, but also he has sense of being through the place and common destiny. In this situation place signs are respectful and what happens in a place is important for him.

Place Devotion

In this level, one has complicated emotional relations with place. The place has meaning for him and is an individuality axis. Collective experience and personal identity in combination with meanings and signs submit a character to a place. In this level the emphasis is on difference and uniqueness of a place.

Integration with Place Goals

This level presents people's combination and conjunction with place requirements. In this level, a person distinguishes place goals and adapts with them and follows them. Passion, love, protection and sacrifice could be seen in people.

Presence in the Place

This level considers the active role of people in community that is the result of place commitment.

Sacrificing for the Place

It is the highest level of place. One has the deepest commitment to place and do many sacrifices for inclinations, values, liberties and welfare in different situations. There is readiness for individual and collective interest emancipation in order to bigger interest in this level. Against all previous levels that had theoretical basis, this level and the previous one are inferred from people's actual behaviour. A person usually shows this level explicitly by resource investment such as time, money, etc.

The Experts' Point of View about Sense of Place

Fritz Steele (1981) believes that the most important physical factors in sense of place perception are: place measures, degree of enclosure, opposition, scale, proportion, human scale, distance, texture, colour, smell, sound and visual diversity. He also knows features such as identity, history, imagination and illusion, secret, pleasure, amazement, security, passion and memory as the factors for focused connection with place. As Salvesen argued, sense of place can be determined through interactions between an individual positions, perspective, and character complexity but cannot be defined by only one of these factors. However, sense of place is under the threat of a vast number of factors such as exhaustion, unity in building forms, and emergence of digital era. According to Salvesen, place is built upon different aspects including physical character, acquisition, authenticity, residence and amenities, natural characters consisting water, vegetation, sky, sun, and public and private spaces which can also affect the quality of sense of place (Sarmast and Motavaseli, 2010).

Cross considers factors influencing the sense of place as an interrelation between place and sense of society and categorizes the relationship with place in the forms of biographical, spiritual, ideological, narrative, material, and compulsory affiliation, which in combination with identity, dignity and satisfaction forms one of the five levels of sense of place. According to Yan Xu, space and built environment semantic structures create sets of specific environment qualities and also sense of place. However, creation of sense of place depends on attitudes, outlook, and connections between people and place in forms such as place names, place background and stories, people experiences in place and spiritual ties with places. He considers sense of place as an outcome of legibility, perception of environment and harmony of behaviour settings with visual environment (Javan Forozandeh and Motalebi, 2011). According to Norberg-Schultz (1997) sense of place can be found in distinctive and specific places, and environment character is built upon tangible factors of environment such as materials, shape, texture and colour. Lynch (1960) argued that sense of place depends on a place capability in stimulating emotions with its qualities, and also the main factor which distinct one place from another.

Factors Forming Sense of Place

According to studies and based on the semantic model of environment, sense of place in architecture is a result of three factors including perceiver, others and environment which in a three dimensional procedure lead into the creation of sense of place. Based on the description of various elements of sense of place in different approaches such as epistemological and ontologies, forming factors of sense of place are presented as follow.

Cognitive-Perceptual

This aspect of sense of place mostly focuses on emotions towards surrounding place and environment and considers this quality as the interaction between an individual with physical and social stimuli and activities. Emotional sense of place is related to the emotions, mentality and perceptions which people have about a certain place. According to Giuliani, sense of place can be related to both place and the society that defines it. In fact, perception of people from their living environment is considered as the initial conditions of having a sense of place. Accordingly, built environments with legibility and physical distinctions are considered as better places for perception (Javan Forozandeh and Motalebi, 2011).

Environmental-Physical

According to place-behaviour theories in environmental psychology, this aspect can be defined in two categories of activity and physical factors. Activities in an environment can be determined based on social factors and interactions. This aspect with formal elements of the environment and spatial settings are the most important factors in the creation of sense of place and this sense is created by environmental distinctions and interrelations a place can have with its inside and outside. Although, shape, size, colour, texture and scale as physical features have crucial role in perception of sense of place, one cannot neglect the importance of spatial settings of the environment. On the other hand, physical aspects can be effective in sense of place by meeting human needs. In the process of design, each physical factor including colour, shape, texture, scale and spatial setting of the environment matters according to user's needs which define the capability of an environment in being functional with its form (Motalebi, 2002).

Social

Although cognitive-perceptual factors have initial role in having a sense of place, social factors such as culture, social symbols and icons cannot be neglected. As before 1978, most of the researches focused on the role of social factors in sense of place and less was about physical elements. Researchers such as Rapaport and Proshansky mostly emphasized on the role of physical aspects of the environment, but also mentioned that what describes built environment as a platform for social interactions are common environmental icons and symbols in a society, while capability of an environment in meeting and developing people needs in this aspect matters too (Javan Forozandeh and Motalebi, 2011).

Some of the theorists consider sense of place as a result of social interrelations and interactions in a place and mostly emphasize on this aspect. In this view, the outcome of social interactions that take place in a specific environment lead to creation of sense of place. Accordingly, environment consist of common social information and symbols which people can perceive through interactions with the environment (Ghashghaie et al., 2016).

Research Methodology

The research methodology is descriptive-analytical. Surveying and analyzing the assumption and questions are done by this methodology. At first, the research process was done in a way that research general and

conceptual framework and also effective parameters and indicators on sense of place attachment to Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht were extracted through desk research and unstructured interviews with citizens and space users. In the next step, it was tried to fit the environmental qualities in diverse and coherent questionnaire questions in order to surveying, recognizing and introducing the Bagh Mohtasham environment qualities and other issues that could lead to sense of place attachment enhancement. Also by applying Cochran test and according to research statistic society, 385 questionnaires which were designed based on Likert spectrum were filled at the last step, SPSS and t-Test were applied for analyzing quantitative extracted data from questionnaire.

Case Study

Rasht is one of the oldest Rasht parks, which is also called Mohtasham and has two parts mechanized and garden. The city park or garden of Mohtasham, which is today the main park of the city of Rasht (Figure 1), dates back to the reign of Nasir al-Din the king Qajar. The primary area of this park was many times bigger than its current area. Gradually by city development and developed streets, the park area has become smaller. In current 30 years by establishing Governorate building and amusement park in its yard it has become even smaller. Although recently Governorate organization has moved to another place and it is supposed to establish a national library instead of it. At the end of this park rivers Goharood and Zarjoob flow. Using dense vegetation and diverse types of trees (such as Elm tree) is another feature of this park. Existence of Rasht Kolah Farangi mansion as one of the architectural and historical work of Rasht increases the Bagh Mohtasham attractions as a public open space (Figure 2) (Tarh and Kavosh and Parsoomash Consulting Engineers, 2005).

Analysis of Research Findings

In inferential analysis it is always considered how the results of studying a small group called sample could be generalized to a larger group called community. In this part topics like correlation and test are indicated and surveyed.

Research assumption: It is considered that Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht has a direct impact on residents' attachment to it.



Figure 1: Bagh Mohtasham location.

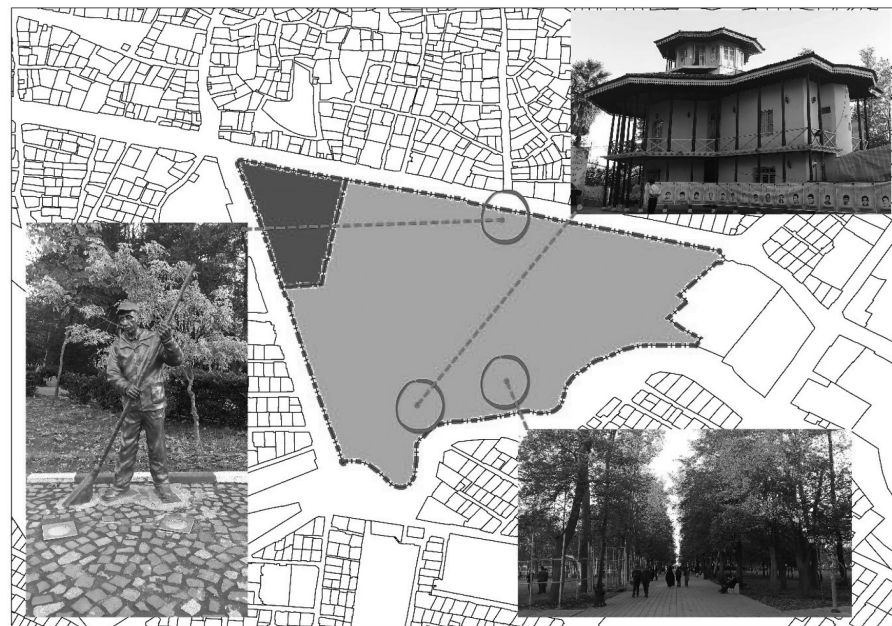


Figure 2: Environmental features and some specific elements of Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht.

In this part by applying t parametric test with accommodation of (t -Test) with a test case value of 3 we will survey these indicators. Test value 3 was chosen because of evaluating each item base on Likert Spectrum. In other words, in Likert Spectrum the score range is between 1-5 and score 3 represents the average desirability. If the average of these indicators be less than 3, the situation would be undesirable and if this score be more than 3 the situation would be desirable.

In this research the null assumption and the opposite one is as follows:

H_0H_0 : It seems that Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht components would not have direct impact on residents' sense of attachment to this park.

H_1H_1 : It seems that Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht components would have direct impact on residents' sense of attachment to this park.

$$H_0: \mu < 3$$

$$H_1: \mu \geq 3$$

Table 1 shows amount of mean and standard deviation along with counted standard error of each element. Variables with their mean upper than 3 are divided from variables with less than 3 (Table 1). In the next table the results of t test could be seen (Table 2).

Cognitive-Perceptual

Considering 95% confidence coefficient and 5% error percentage, t test statistic amount with freedom degree of 384 was equal to 13.560 and mean difference for sample fluxion mean and tested mean (3) is equal to 0.32698 which shows that the sample amount is more than tested amount. So we can conclude that confidence intervals for this indicator has same signs and do not cover 0. Level of significance for this test equals to 0.000 and is less than 5% error percentage. So we can conclude that significant difference and positive means fluxion indicates to desirable situation of this indicator.

Environmental-Physical

Considering 95% confidence coefficient and 5% error percentage, t test statistic amount with freedom degree of 384 was equal to 13.528 and mean difference for sample fluxion mean and tested mean (3) is equal to 0.29697 which shows that the sample amount is more than tested amount. So we can conclude that confidence intervals for this indicator has same signs and do not cover 0. Level of significance for this test equals to 0.000 and is less than 5% error percentage. So we can

conclude that significant difference and positive means fluxion indicates to desirable situation of this indicator.

Social

Considering 95% confidence coefficient and 5% error percentage, t test statistic amount with freedom degree of 384 was equal to 9.074 and mean difference for sample fluxion mean and tested mean (3) is equal to 0.16046 which shows that the sample amount is more than tested amount. So we can conclude that Confidence intervals for this indicator has same signs and do not cover 0. Level of significance for this test equals to 0.000 and is less than 5% error percentage. So we can conclude that significant difference and positive means fluxion indicates to desirable situation of this indicator.

Considering 95% confidence coefficient and 5% error percentage, t test statistic amount with freedom degree of 384 was equal to 16.477 and mean difference for sample fluxion mean and tested mean (3) is equal to 0.17201 which shows that the sample amount is more than tested amount. So we can conclude that confidence intervals for this indicator has same signs and do not cover 0. Level of significance for this test equals to 0.000 and is less than 5% error percentage. So we can conclude that significant difference and positive means fluxion indicates to desirable situation of this indicator (Tables 3 and 4).

Therefore, according to above explanations, the null assumption is rejected and certain assumption is confirmed. It means that cognitive-perceptual, environmental-physical and social factors affects sense of attachment to public spaces such as urban parks.

Table 1: Environmental features and some specific elements of Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht

| | One-Sample Statistics | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| | <i>N</i> | <i>Mean</i> | <i>Std. deviation</i> | <i>Std. error mean</i> |
| Cognitive-Perceptual | 385 | 3.3270 | .47313 | .02411 |
| Environmental-Physical | 385 | 3.2970 | .43073 | .02195 |
| Social | 385 | 3.1605 | .34699 | .01768 |

Table 2: t -test for Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht components (One-sample test)

| | Test value = 3 | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|--|--------------|
| | <i>t</i> | <i>df</i> | <i>Sig. (2-tailed)</i> | <i>Mean difference</i> | <i>95% confidence interval of the difference</i> | |
| | | | | | <i>Lower</i> | <i>Upper</i> |
| Cognitive-Perceptual | 13.560 | 384 | .000 | .32698 | .2796 | .3744 |
| Environmental-Physical | 13.528 | 384 | .000 | .29697 | .2538 | .3401 |
| Social | 9.074 | 384 | .000 | .16046 | .1257 | .1952 |

Table 3: Sense of attachment indicator in *t* test (One-sample statistics)

| | <i>N</i> | <i>Mean</i> | <i>Std. deviation</i> | <i>Std. error mean</i> |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Sense of place attachment | 385 | 3.1720 | .20483 | .01044 |

Table 4: *t*-test for sense of place attachment indicator (One-sample test)

| <i>Test value = 3</i> | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|--|--------------|
| | <i>t</i> | <i>df</i> | <i>Sig. (2-tailed)</i> | <i>Mean difference</i> | <i>95% confidence interval of the difference</i> | |
| | | | | | <i>Lower</i> | <i>Upper</i> |
| Sense of place attachment | 16.477 | 384 | .000 | .17201 | .1515 | .1925 |

Conclusion

Sense of attachment develops a strong link between people and place. This sense cause one attaches to a place and search a part of himself in his inside. In fact, when a person feels attached to a place this will coordinate him with the environment and also provide the context for his satisfaction. In this regard, and as mentioned above, current research intends to survey and explore amount of city parks influence on the amount of people sense of attachment through qualitative statistics analysis extracted from Rasht city residents structured interviews and SPSS. The topics similar to this paper are important because they can recognize and introduce components and indicators which develop sense of attachment and identity to historical architectural elements in order to maintain and rehabilitate them effectively.

For this goal realization three components as effective factors on sense of place attachment of Rasht city park (Bagh Mohtasham) were recognized and quantitative analysis were done on them. Cognitive-perceptual components are usually dependent on mental and internal issues of people and emphasize on surveying and exploring personal factors which effect on residents' sense of attachment and park historical background and memories. Environmental-physical components mostly include exterior and physical characteristics of Bagh Mohtasham and interventions and physical changes on it. Besides, social components indicate some topics such as the influence of Bagh Mohtasham on people's daily life, plural communications using parks as hangouts and behavioural centre. The result of research shows that all three named components are effective on citizens' sense of attachment. Therefore, it is essential to provide required context for increasing the sense of place attachment between Bagh Mohtasham of Rasht and people through comprehensive recognition of different dimensions and aspects of these components.

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