A Comparison of the Qualifications of Urban Public Open Spaces and the Evaluation of their Activities: A Pilot Study in Ankara, Turkey

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ABSTRACT
In daily life, people's interaction in urban areas with urban environments are a result of the quality of the urban public space. The diversity and intensity of urban space activities in public open spaces correlate with the quality of that space. In addition to the physical and environmental characteristics of urban space, indicators such as intensity and diversity of urban space activities and socio-economic status of active users provide important data when measuring spatial quality. This paper outlines the importance of the relation between urban public open space quality and urban space activity. Three public open spaces (Anıt Park, Adnan Ötüken Park, and Eser Park), designed as green bands in garden city planning in Ankara, Turkey were selected as the study area. In the study, the relationships between the spatial qualities of the three selected public open spaces and urban space activities were revealed as per the analysis carried out. The study uses the mixed method approach, which includes the determination and use of qualitative and quantitative data. Following the theoretical discussion, the study investigates the relation between urban public open space quality and urban space activity. Throughout the field study, analysis of public open spaces was performed based on sound spatial quality measurement criteria. Survey results were evaluated according to Gehl's urban space activity approach for public open spaces. Study results draw attention to the relationship between space quality in public open areas and urban space activities are dependent on physical space dimensions, the social and common content.
Keywords: Urban public space; public open space; urban public space activity; space quality

INTRODUCTION
Urban public spaces, where people socialize, daily life and activities take place, and which are accessible by everyone, play a vital role in people's daily routine, and contribute to the livability and vitality of the cities in which they are situated. Society is the primary factor in the formation of public space. Along with the existence of society in public space, Arendt (1958) and Habermas (1987) emphasize the necessity of face-to-face communication as a fundamental of public life. This shared view of both theorists is critical in highlighting the social character of public space where urban people gather to express themselves, form relationships, and consider political issues. Public spaces are means for maintaining cities alive, altering and transforming them physically, socially, and culturally. Therefore:

- a consideration of public spaces conceptually, which are highly effective in the establishment of livable cities and enhancement of individual social cohesion; and
- the revelation of the social and communal importance and meaning of open public spaces in cities through the relation between urban space activities and space qualities

are the focus of this study.

Hermann Jansen's Bahçelievler District[1], which he created and put into place, is used as the study area and the first instance of the garden city concept's[2] value in accelerating Ankara's urbanization. Three parks with high levels of pedestrian traffic that have continued to be used as public open spaces and designed as a green band around the

Bahçelievler District were analyzed. The garden city concept was successfully implemented in the city planning there, and it served as an example for subsequent habitations. The three significant public open spaces in the Bahçelievler District, Adnan Ötüken Park, Anıt Park, and Eser Park, are examined in this study in terms of users' interests, activities, and interactions. The level of social interaction and sociospatial activities made possible by these public open spaces' physical features are discussed. In this review, the relationship between urban space activities and space quality, in particular public open spaces, is evaluated.

Cities, along with all the social, economic, and cultural systems they contain, are continually evolving. The activities of and relationships between individuals are affected through this change and transformation process. Public spaces, which are a city's most important features, provide opportunities for people to interact and connect with others from various societal groups. Schulz (1980) claims that public open spaces in cities are what bring people together and enable them to share and socialize. This terminology is essential to highlighting the study goals, which is to concentrate on the interaction between urban space and public space. In order to understand the relationship between urban space activities and public spaces -the study's main focus- it is essential to examine the meanings of public space.

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND
The theoretical background of the study is based on the exploration of the literature related to public space, and public open space qualities and activities.

PUBLIC (OPEN) SPACE
Political and social changes throughout different history periods have influenced the phenomenon of public space, which evolved as a result of historical developments in the 18th century. Arendt (1958) emphasizes public realm as the common environment and gathering space participated by people. Every person has a unique space and a position which allows them to actively communicate and take action in this communal space. In this context, he defines existence and public life as each person being in a unique position, hearing, and seeing each other. Arendt defines human activities as labor and action. He differentiates between the public and private spheres in which these actions are effective. Emphasizing the role of the public realm in democratic societies, Arendt states that it is necessary for people's discussion and recognition of the individual's existence, which is an indication of the importance of each other's democracy. According to Arendt's theory, the public realm is a space where interacting with other people reflects reality, and can take on various forms depending on the situation (Arendt 1958).

Habermas (1987) emphasizes that the public and private are intertwined, thus the public realm lost its publicity and private space lost its autonomy. According to him, the public realm creates a connection between ideology, culture, and historical human activity in history. Simultaneously, he defines this term as a platform that contains public thought and opinion and is accessible by everyone (Habermas 1987). Both Arendt (1958) and Habermas (1987) think that the public realm is a space where people exist and express their free activities.

Gehl (1987, 2010) described public open space as physically based on pedestrians and activity-related environment. At this stage, public open space enhances the diversity of people and activities in urban space while also bringing this diversity to the city. Lynch's (1960, 1981) theory that society and human activities are more effective than physical environment serves as a guide for the development of relationships between public life and public space activities in this study. Cities' vitality levels will increase through creating areas where relationships between people can be established in outdoor living.

Public open space, according to Madanipour, refers to spaces that are open to all, encourage social contact, and host a variety of activities. Parks and open spaces not only

provide a natural environment, but also improve urban space quality. According to Jacobs (1969, 1993), public open space is a social common place in people's lives and this space stays alive by users' activities. Whyte (1980) argues in favor of this theory by claiming that a city's public space is its most valuable asset. He also highlights the need for active public areas in cities to sustain a lively street life.

According to studies, public space is a space that is open to everyone in society and that defines the boundaries of living together. As public open spaces are accessible by everyone and gather people, they must meet specific physical requirements for interaction and activities to take place. As a result of this requirement, the interaction between the spatial qualities and activities of the public open realm has become a problem that needs to be emphasized.

Spatial Qualities of Urban Public Open Spaces
According to the studies conducted by researchers on the qualities of public (open) spaces, these spaces are handled on the basis of physical, functional, or the users' relationships with the environment. It is clear that the success of spatial qualities of public open spaces is dependent on variables other than physical inputs. Urban public open spaces should be analyzed as a whole when examining the qualities of space. Carr et al. (1992) define public open space as a common space where people can perform their functional and daily activities, express themselves freely, and interact. He describes city public open spaces as open communication channels, emphasizing the physical characteristics of that space. Gehl (1987, 2010) divides activities into three categories, namely the social, optional, and necessary, in order to understand how people utilize and interact in public open spaces. He matches necessary activities with activities that cover daily necessities as having the least relationship with the physical environment. In his argument, the characteristics of public open spaces as pedestrian-based and activity-dependent physical environments, and optional activities, rely on a good physical environments and qualified public spaces. Gehl (1987, 2010) argued that optional social activities include interacting with others, communicating with them, encountering, and meeting them. Simultaneously, he claimed that optional activities support social activities which are interconnected.

Carmona (2010) explains that lifetime and user interaction, accessibility and attractiveness are required qualities when designing public open spaces. According to Whyte, qualified public open spaces include activities and host social activities (Whyte, 1980). Many researchers, including Whyte, emphasize how important it is for public open spaces to enable social interaction and provide activities (Whyte, 1980). In addition to physical use, it is thought that public open spaces offer people a variety of emotional and cognitive experiences. Visual and functional diversity meet the users' psychological needs. In addition to physical activities, social qualities such as vitality, diversity, activity, and interaction of public open spaces attract people in. Creating qualified public open spaces will contribute to the healthy development of social structure and social interactions.

In order to improve the quality of public open spaces, the Project for Public Space conducts detailed research. They claim that there are four variables quality of public open spaces: access and connections, use and activities, sociability, and comfort and image. Besides spatial quality and criteria that differ according to the different researcher, there are also times where approaches overlap during studies and research. Spatial qualities of urban public open spaces are grouped and presented in the Table 1 that includes the physical and social qualities, relations between people, society, and the environment.

Table 1. Approach to space quality of urban public open space

Space Quality of Urban Public (open) Spaces	Quality Variables	Theorists
Physical Quality	Accesibility	Whyte (1980, 1988), PPS (2000), Carmona et al. (2003), Carmona (2010), Varna et al. (2010), Lynch (1960-81), Carr et al. (1992), Gehl (1987, 2010)
	Connections	PPS (2000), Varna et al. (2010),
	Complying with physiological needs	Lang (2005), Curran (1983), Whyte (1980-88), Gehl (1987, 2010), Rapoport (1990)
Social Quality	Social Activities	Lynch (1960, 1981), Carr et al. (1992), Gehl (1987, 2010), Carmona (2010), Jacobs (1993), Whyte (1980,1988), PPS (2000), Curran (1983), Alexander (1987)
	Definability	Carmona (2010), Montgomery (1998)
	Social Interaction	Lynch (1960, 1981), Carmona (2010), Jacobs (1993), Whyte (1980, 1988), PPS (2000),
	Variety in Activities	Carr et al. (1992), Gehl (1987, 2010), Jacobs (1969), Whyte (1988), PPS (2000), Rivlin (1994)
	Inclusiveness	Rossi (1982); Gehl (1987, 2010)
	Vitality / Attractiveness	Carmona (2010), Whyte (1980, 1988), Jacobs (1993)
	Activeness	Jacobs (1993), Whyte (1980, 1988), Gehl (1987, 2010)
	Recreational facilities	Whyte (1980, 1988), PPS (2000),
Relations between people, society and the enviroment	Safety	Lang (2005), Appleyard et al. (1964), Appleyard (1981), PPS (2000), Varna et al. (2010), Gehl (1987, 2010) Ewing and Handy (2009)
	Comfort	Carr et al. (1992), Lang (1987), Carmona et al. (2003), Carmona (2010), Whyte (1980, 1988), PPS (2000), Sarkar (2003); Gehl (1987, 2010)

FIELD STUDY OF MEASUREMENT OF URBAN PUBLIC OPEN SPACE QUALITIES AND EVALUATION OF ACTIVITIES

Public open space qualities have a substantial impact on how society and citizens live their lives and perform their daily activities. Social structure changes and transformations are related to spatial formations. Arendt (1958) and Habermas (1987) contend that public open spaces, where people show their presence and unrestricted behavior, should attend to needs such as gathering, meeting, interacting, and connecting with one another. Physical environmental conditions providing these needs are achieved via qualified public open spaces. The diversity and intensity of the activities, as well as the interaction between both the visitor and the physical inputs, all affect how effectively the area's features work. Being the primary focal point in public open spaces, it is crucial to consider the reasons for, frequency of use, and activities that take place there. In order to evaluate the quality of public spaces, it is suggested that such user-oriented questions be addressed and analyzed. In order to analyze the qualities of public open spaces and their activities, three distinct parks in the Ankara-Çankaya District that are significant in terms of the publicity they provide to users were selected. These three parks, which create a green band boundary around the Bahçelievler District, have been compared in terms of how their public open space qualities and activities relate to one another (Figure 1).
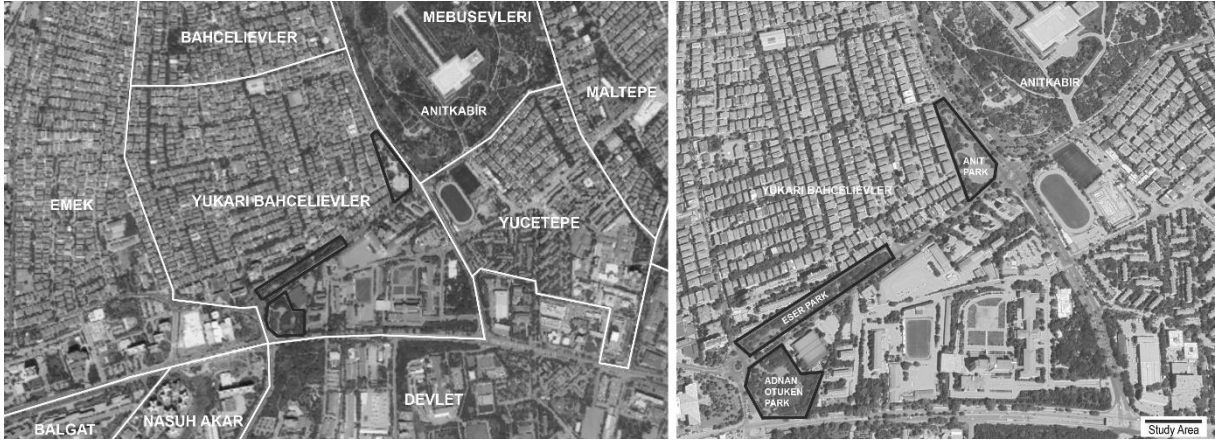
Figure 1. The location of Anıt Park, Adnan Ötüken Park, Eser Park in Bahçelievler District, Ankara according to the data from Google Earth (Source: Author, June 2022)

METHODOLOGY

The methodology adopted in this study includes both qualitative data obtained from context analysis and quantitative data via a survey supported with a theoretical background. Data collection was performed sequentially. The spatial qualities and urban open space activities in the selected public open spaces were examined in this study using the mixed method to reveal the space-activity relation. The first method is the spatial quality components of public open spaces based on objective criterions, whilst the second is a survey study based on subjective inferences for the determination of urban open space activities. The spatial quality components of public open spaces were developed based on the method and model proposed by the author in her/his doctoral thesis published in 2020, which tested the study area (Author, 2020). This method was further elaborated and approached through a combined approach based on the indicators given in Table 1.The spatial quality components presented in the table under three main topics, as well as the sub-qualification parameters related to these topics, were chosen as objective criteria for evaluation parameters. The direct observation method was accompanied by photographs to collect data for the public open spaces physical features and activity, primarily focused on the space activity relation and the uses of the open spaces.

Urban space activities emphasized by Carr (1992) and Gehl (1987, 2010) were taken into consideration in the survey studies, and questions were prepared regarding necessary, social, and optional urban space activities used by Gehl in his studies. Residents were questioned about the purposes and frequency of their visits. They were chosen randomly and voluntarily. I conducted face-to-face and in-depth interviews with a total of 120 residents to discuss their urban space activities. Five were excluded from the survey as they answered questions and questionnaires incompletely. Analyses were carried out on 115 men and women residents between ages 20-50 out of the parks around Bahçelievler District; 40 from Adnan Ötüken Park, 35 from Eser Park, and 40 from Anıt Park. Survey study was conducted at these three public open spaces in two stages using the same questions between January 2022 and May 2022, between 11:00 and 14:00 on weekends and weekdays, to compare and evaluate the spaces from spatial and social points of view. The questions for Gehl's studies (1987, 2010) were structured into three categories: a) the current use of public space and purpose of usage; b) meeting purposes or not; and c) the feeling about these areas.

RESEARCH RESULTS AND EVALUATIONS

Public open spaces are found to operate as a uniting, common, and inspiring factor in social life when their position and connection potentials in the Yukarı Bahçelievler District environment/border are assessed. All three parks located around Bahçelievler District are considered to be important for the use of public open spaces. Adnan Ötüken Park and Eser Park are located at the intersection of Akdeniz Streer and Aşkabat Street, parallel to

Akdeniz Street, ending with Taşkent Street, and Anıt Park is located at the intersection of Akdeniz Street and Mareşal Fevzi Çakmak Street. Adnan Ötüken Park is also accessible via İsmet İnönü Boulevard. All parks are connected with each other by Akdeniz Street. Eser Park maintains the continuity of Adnan Ötüken Park in the direction of Aşkabat Street and provides access to Anıt Park via a green path along Akdeniz Street.

Selected spaces were taken into consideration when selecting the research areas because of their significance to the district's activities and locations. All three differ due to the functions around them. Adnan Ötüken Park is located next to the indoor ice skating rink and wedding hall, as well as opposite to the National Library, where pedestrian traffic is dense. As a result, the park's intended usage and the nearby urban space activities varied. Eser Park is situated at the beginning of Aşkabat Street, one of Bahçelievler's busiest streets that connects to a variety of activities. On the other hand, the south and west sides of Anıt Park are bordered by neighborhoods. As it comes into contact with Anıtkabir[3] to the northeast, the park's purpose and significance change.

However all parks are;
- Located so as to form a green band around Bahçelievler District where the Garden City Concept is applied, they are both a border and a connector.
- Located at the center of Çankaya and at the crossroads of major transportation axes.
- Serving different purposes and enabling various interactions.
- Gathering people from different parts and ages of the society.

As a result, they provide valuable data on the connection between spatial qualities and activities in urban areas.

EVALUATION OF URBAN PUBLIC OPEN SPACE QUALITIES OF ANIT PARK, ESER PARK, AND ADNAN ÖTÜKEN PARK
Physical Qualities
- Accessibility

Anıt Park: Due to its location at the intersection of two major main roads, Mareşal Fevzi Çakmak Street and Akdeniz Street, as well as its connection to Anıtkabir, the park is highly accessible. Numerous links exist to the area. There are both public (bus, minibus) and private access options for the area. These three parks are joined by a bike path that is connected to the periphery.

Eser Park: Being near the busy crossroads of Akdeniz and Aşkabat Streets, which connects to Taşkent Street, offers increased accessibility. The region is well connected and easily reachable on foot and by public transportation (bus, minibus, metro). This park serves as a hub for the large number of people crossing Aşkabat Street on foot.

Adnan Ötüken Park: This park offers excessive accessibility due to its location in the heart of the intersection of Akdeniz Street, İsmet İnönü Boulevard, and Aşkabat Street. The area is well connected and easily reachable both on foot and by public transportation (bus, minibus, metro). A cycling route also offers connections along İsmet İnönü Boulevard and Akdeniz Street.

Figure 2. The accessibility and connections of Anıt Park, Eser Park, Adnan Ötüken Park
(Source: Author, March 2022)

- Connections

Anıt Park: Mareşal Fevzi Çakmak Street, a gateway to Anıtkabir, and a residential area surround the park. It has an entirely inclusive and open nature.

Eser Park: The activities in the area around the park are closely related to one another. The fact that Akdeniz Street is situated along the transit axis is advantageous. At the same time, it maintains the continuity of the pedestrian and cycling path, despite being divided by 75th Street.

Adnan Ötüken Park: The fence that encloses the park makes it difficult for visitors to connect with the nearby activities. It has two entrance points that lead to İsmet İnönü Boulevard and Akdeniz Street.

- Complying with physiological needs

Anıt Park: Numerous locations (including sports fields, seating and resting areas, playgrounds for children, and gathering places) are set up to address physiological needs.
Eser Park: It is not sufficient to meet physiological needs.
Adnan Ötüken Park: Sports fields, sitting and resting areas, child-friendly playgrounds, and a bicycle route are among the areas that meet physiological needs.

Social Qualities
- Social Activities

Anıt Park: There are lots of opportunities for social interaction at the park's social hub and amphitheater (entertainment, meeting – show, interaction, and communication). The variety of social activities is expanded by the simultaneous presence of facilities for resting, playing, and watching sports.

Eser Park: The park's inadequacy for social activities is demonstrated by the fact that it solely has seating areas.

Adnan Ötüken Park: Users can rest, enjoy sports, play games, interact, and communicate inside the park using its many facilities. The Çankaya Municipality also offers free Wi-Fi access points and wheelchair battery charging stations.

Figure 3. Optional and social activities in the Anıt Park and the Adnan Ötüken Park, Necessary activities in the Eser Park and Definability

- Definability

Anıt Park: Both the gathering space and the monument it holds make a difference. It needs more signage.

Eser Park: By being composed of green, it stands out from its surroundings. Towards Aşkabat Street, a gate allows entry to the park. The Taşkent Street entrance is not clearly marked. There is not enough signage.

Adnan Ötüken Park: It is distinguished from the nearby buildings in terms of its location, size, and greenery. There is no signage directing visitors to the entry; on the other hand, there are components designating the various park areas.

- Facilitating Social Interaction

Anıt Park: It has areas that are suited for both private and public activities. It has recreational spaces like gathering and show areas, playgrounds and sports fields, and sitting and resting locations.

Eser Park: It is appropriate for private activity. There is no space or equipment available for group activities.

Adnan Ötüken Park: Both group and individual activities can be carried out there with the appropriate spaces and equipment. There are places for relaxation and recreation, including playgrounds and sports fields.

Figure 4. Amphitheater in the Anıt Park (optional & social activities) Walking path in the Eser Park (partial optional & necessary activities) Seating places to allow for relaxing, eating, and drinking in the Adnan Ötüken Park (optional & social activities) Playground & sports equipment in the Parks (Source: Author, September 2022)

- Variety in Activities

Anıt Park: A variety of events throughout the day take place in the amphitheater, including rallies, performances, and outdoor concerts. There are areas of greenery and a playground for children where people can relax, rest, play, and walk. Additionally offered is a sports facility with training tools. It features an exceptionally diverse range of activities, including optional and social ones, as a result, and a very rich framework.

Eser Park: For pedestrians coming from Aşkabat Street, it offers a place to rest. It serves as a travel pass for people who are strolling down Akdeniz Street. Poor playground equipment for children. The majority of the time, people walk their dogs at the park. Bicyclists have a transition route thanks to the presence of the bicycle path and its connection to it. As a result, the park itself permits necessary activities because it serves as a transition area.

Adnan Ötüken Park: A sizable playground for children and a space with sporting goods for exercise are also located in the park. There are numerous tables and seating places available to simultaneously allow for relaxing, eating, and drinking. It has been discovered that there are optional and social activities given the diversity of activities it contains.

- Inclusiveness

Anıt Park: It offers services to persons of various ages and social groups.

Eser Park: There are not many individuals using the park because older adults utilize it primarily for sitting down and relaxing. For children, there are no spatial features.

Adnan Ötüken Park: Users of various demographics and ages are accommodated. The size and good quality of the playground's equipment are cited as the reasons why there are more children there.

- Vitality / Attractiveness

Anıt Park: People are drawn to this place because it offers a wide range of activities, as well as because of the dwellings that surround it and the symbolic significance of its position next to Anıtkabir. Various activities throughout the day have an impact on how vital it is at various times.

Eser Park: Due to the lack of social activities and inadequacy of its urban equipment, this park lacks attraction. Furthermore, its closeness to Adnan Ötüken Park and the lack of urban equipment have a negative effect.

Adnan Ötüken Park: Its attractiveness is enhanced by the large area for activities and recreational equipment it provides. Its vitality is enhanced by frequent use on the weekends.

- Activeness

Anıt Park: It is noted that the park can be utilized every day and every hour with its available activities.

Eser Park: The park is utilized more frequently in the afternoon and evening, compared to the morning when usage is less frequent.

Adnan Ötüken Park: The park is more commonly used and more well-liked on the weekends by families with children. On weekdays, it is also seen that usage picks up at noon.

- Recreational Facilities

Anıt Park: It includes spaces for recreation.

Eser Park: The park lacks utilization places, although it does have green spaces, making it unsuitable for leisure activities.

Adnan Ötüken Park: Many opportunities for recreational activities are provided by its green spaces and equipment.

Figure 5. The view of the Anıtkabir (Atatürk's mausoleum) from the Anıt Park and Recreational / green areas in the Parks (Source: Author, April 2022)

Relations between people, society, and the environment
- Safety

Anıt Park: Security guards are responsible for keeping people safe. The park is not adversely impacted when the relationship with traffic safety is assessed.

Eser Park: Safety is provided by security guards. When viewed from the perspective of traffic safety, it can be seen that issues with curbside parking, vehicle traffic, and the presence of a street dividing the park all negatively affect pedestrians.

Adnan Ötüken Park: Security guards are there to keep people safe. The relationship between traffic and pedestrians is not negatively impacted because it is a confined space with a fence around it.

- Comfort

Anıt Park: The park's physical condition and equipment are comfortable and of high enough quality to support the activities.

Eser Park: According to material, durability, workmanship, and the deterioration of standards due to usage and time, the park's physical conditions and its equipment are inadequate and uncomfortable.

Adnan Ötüken Park: The park's equipment is regarded to be of a high enough standard and physical comfort for the activities included.

The quantitative quality measurement criteria chosen for the areas as well as beneficial and undesirable factors in all three areas are scored in accordance with the evaluations of the spatial quality components mentioned above. Each public open space is assigned a total score by adding the marks dedicated to each criterion. In the table, there are a total of 13 criteria where different factors are defined under the three basic spatial quality components, with a maximum of +2 and a minimum of -2 point for each criterion. Based on this scoring, an area can receive a maximum of +26 points from the spatial quality criterion and a minimum of -26 points. The spatial quality criterion is generated by dividing the maximum and minimum scores into four equal sections, yielding the ranges for the levels of "very good, good, medium, bad". A total score for each location over these ranges is calculated to determine the quality criteria.

Based on the quantitative spatial quality evaluation criteria employed in the field study, a table has been constructed that shows the total values for Ant Park, Eser Park, and Adnan Ötüken Park. Anıt Park received a score of +24, Eser Park -18 and Adnan Ötüken Park +22 (Table 2). Eser Park scores extremely badly compared to Anıt Park and Adnan Ötüken Park in the ranges of spatial quality criteria that have been defined. The rating of the spatial quality was significantly impacted by Eser Park's unsuitability for social activities. All three parks have excellent connections to the nearby streets and roads. Both Anıt and Adnan Ötüken Park, which organize a variety of events, received the same number of points for social quality.

Table 2. Spatial quality components and comparison of the public open spaces

Anıt Park, Eser Park, Adnan Ötüken Park Evaulautions by Spatial Quality Components

Space quality of urban public (open) spaces	Variables According to Spatial Quality Components		Score	Anıt Park	Eser Park	Adnan Ötüken Park
Physical quality	Accessiblity	Pedestrian-Private Vehicle-Public Transportation	(+) 2	X		
		Pedestrian-Public Transportation	(+) 1		X	X
		Private Vehicle-Public Transportation	(-) 1			
		Only Pedestrian	(-) 2			
	Connections	Connected to more than one street	(+) 2	X	X	X
		Connected to more than one road	(+) 1			
		Connected to one road	(-) 1			
		No connection	(-) 2			
	Complying with physiological needs	Very good	(+) 2	X		X
		Good	(+) 1			
		Medium	(-) 1			
		Bad	(-) 2		X	
Social quality	Social activities	Suitable for social activities	(+) 2	X		X
		Partially Suitable for Social Activities	(+) 1			
		Space only	(-) 1		X	
		None	(-) 2			
	Definability	In all	(+) 2			
		Three of presence	(+) 1	X		X
		Two of presence	(-) 1			
		One of presence	(-) 2		X	
	Social interaction	Very good	(+) 2	X		X
		Good	(+) 1			
		Medium	(-) 1		X	
		Bad	(-) 2			
	Variety in Activities	Optional, Necessary and Social Activities Together	(+) 2	X		X
		Optional and Social Activities	(+) 1			
		Optional and Necessary Activities	(-) 1			
		Only Necessary Activities	(-) 2		X	
	Inclusiveness (Child, old, woman)	All	(+) 2	X		X
		Two of presence	(+) 1			
		Only One of presence	(-) 1		X	
		None	(-) 2			
	Vitality / Attractiveness	Very good	(+) 2	X		X
		Good	(+) 1			
		Medium	(-) 1			
		Bad	(-) 2		X	
	Activeness	Use Any Time of the Day	(+) 2	X		X
		Lunch and Evening Use	(+) 1			
		Morning and Lunch Use	(-) 1			
		Only Lunch Use	(-) 2		X	
	Recreational facilities	Very good	(+) 2	X		X
		Good	(+) 1			
		Medium	(-) 1			
		Bad	(-) 2		X	
Relations between people, society and the environment	Security	All	(+) 2			
		Three of presence	(+) 1			
		Two of presence	(-) 1	X		X
		One of presence	(-) 2		X	
	Comfort	All	(+) 2	X		X
		Two of presence	(+) 1			
		One of presence	(-) 1			
		None	(-) 2		X	
Total Score				24	-18	22

SURVEY STUDY: URBAN SPACE ACTIVITIES OF ANIT PARK, ESER PARK AND ADNAN OTUKEN PARK

The survey, based on the users' subjective inferences, is the second approach used throughout the field study. For urban public open spaces, survey questions are developed and implemented in accordance with Gehl's (1987, 2010) three types of urban space activity techniques. The reason people utilize public open spaces, whether they use them for meetings or not, and how they feel about these areas are, all determined through user-directed questionnaires.

According to responses to survey intended to identify the spatial and social activities that public open spaces host, Anıt Park visitors proportionately use the park 49% for entertainment-shows, 31% for resting, and 10% for sporting activities-walking. Per Gehl's (1987, 2010) classification, all users go to Anıt Park for optional activities. As optional activities, entertainment-shows also involve social activities as they bring people together and turn the area into an attraction. Visitors of Eser Park responded to the same question by stating that they utilize the park 67% of the time for transit passes and 33% for other purposes. The area is used for necessary activities at a rate of 67% according to the research conducted. Surveys show that 28% of people utilize Adnan Ötüken Park for resting, 32% for eating and drinking, 23% for sports, and 17% for children's play (Fig 6). The park's activities are classified as optional.

	Resting	Sport Activities	Entertainment	Children's play	Transport	Eating & Drinking
Anıt Park	31	10	40	0	0	0
Eser Park	33	0	0	0	67	0
Adnan Ötüken Park	28	23	0	17	0	32

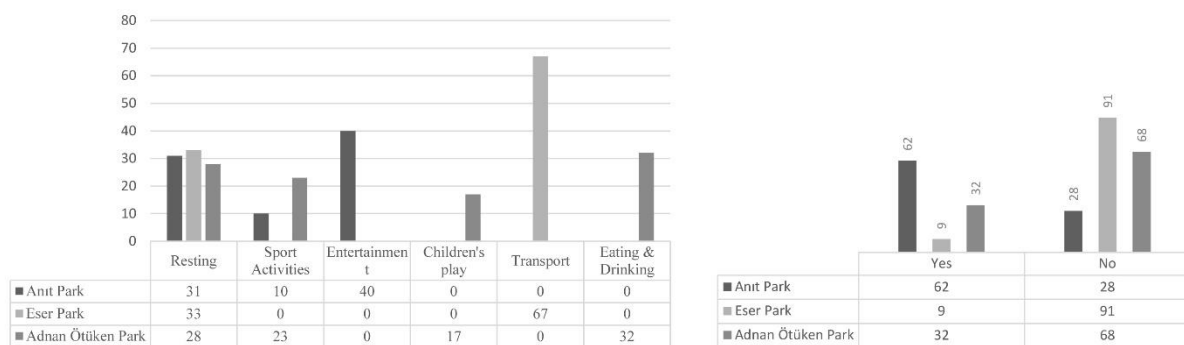|	Yes	No
Anıt Park	62	28
Eser Park	9	91
Adnan Ötüken Park	32	68

Figure 6. Use of public open spaces and Using the space for meetings

Users are also questioned about whether they hold meetings in the parks. 32% of visitors to Adnan Ötüken Park, 62% of visitors to Anıt Park, and 9% of visitors to Eser Park use the parks for meetings (Figure 6). Since they mainly use Eser Park as a transit pass for some necessary activity, they accordingly do not socialize there. The personal qualities of the city's public open spaces also have a psychological effect on the individuals who visit the areas, which contributes to the variety of activities therein. For this reason, users are questioned regarding their opinions in these areas. People in Anıt Park report feeling 37% safe, 25% free, 28% comfortable, and 20% foreign. In Eser Park, 15% of visitors claim to feel more comfortable, 10% are free, 8% are safe, and 67% feel isolated and alone. In response, people in Adnan Ötüken Park reported feeling 40% safe, 32% comfortable, 18% free, and 10% alien (Figure 7).

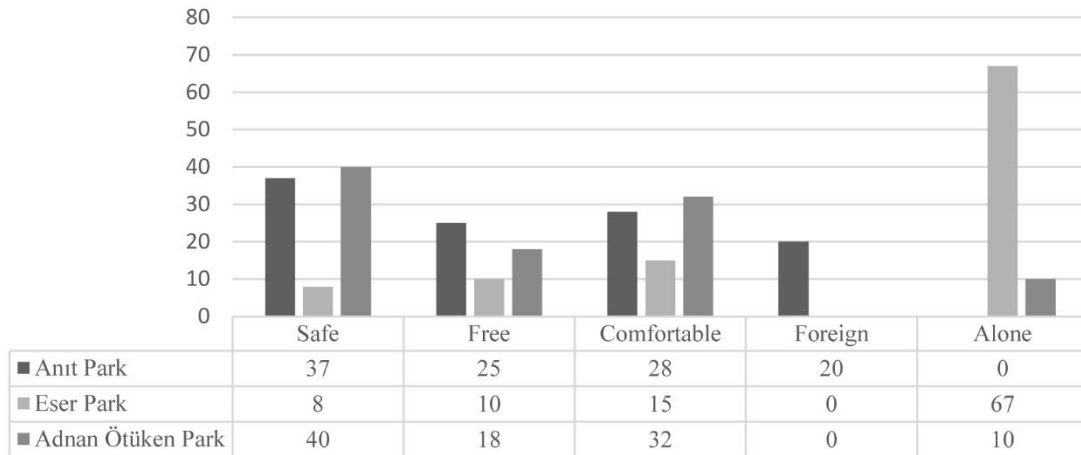|	Safe	Free	Comfortable	Foreign	Alone
■ Anıt Park	37	25	28	20	0
■ Eser Park	8	10	15	0	67
■ Adnan Ötüken Park	40	18	32	0	10

Figure 7. Feelings in the public open spaces

The optional activities have a direct impact on how comfortable and free users feel. Questions were also presented to identify the user profile of those who visited public open areas. The parks chosen are frequently visited by a variety of ages. Access to the areas is mostly achieved by walking. Table.3 contains the survey study's research findings.

Table 3. Evaluation of public open space activities

Evaluation components	Anıt Park	Eser Park	Adnan Ötüken Park
User age group	All ages groups	Most often middle aged	All ages groups
Use of public open space			
Necessary activities	0%	%67 Transit passes	0%
Optional activities	49% Entertainment-shows	%33 Resting & walking	%28 Resting
	3% Resting		32% Eating & drinking
	10% Sports & walking		23% Sports
			17% Children play
Social activities	49% Entertainment-shows	0%	32%Eating & drinking
Using the space for meetings	62%	9%	32%
Feelings in the public open spaces			
Safe	37%	8%	40%
Free	25%	10%	18%
Comfortable	28%	15%	32%
Foreign	20%	0%	0%
Alone	0%	67%	10%

Adnan Ötüken and Anıt Park show from the results that the variety of activities in the parks differentiate the purpose of usage of the areas preferred by visitors for meeting and gathering. Both parks allow visitors to join in optional and social activities, according to visitors. Additionally, it ensures that visitors stay longer in these parks. Users visit Eser Park infrequently as they use it for necessary activities and general transit passes. It is not preferred for optional activities, as shown by the lack of activities and the qualities of the

space. Users claim that it is simple to reach all three parks. In terms of statistically accessing them, there is no substantial difference between the three parks; all of them are easily reachable, and visitors have no difficulties getting there. It turns out that going to parks is not difficult for people who do not use public open spaces. It is assumed that refusing to visit parks is a personal preference or a regular habit. In a related manner, Shanahan et al. (2016) questioned whether social or environmental limitations affect how often people exercise in green spaces. Users in the survey claimed that being outdoors gave them more joy and satisfaction, and they reported their wishes to repeat these activities as soon as feasible.

According to Lafortezza et al. (2009), parks help people relax, particularly in the summer, and this makes visitors feel considerably better psychologically. Being located at the beginning of Aşkabat Street, which is one of the busiest streets in Bahçelievler District, Eser Park has the potential to accommodate a diversity of people and activities if its spatial qualities are improved. Due to the availability of social and optional activities, more people will visit parks more frequently and stay there longer.

According to the user responses about their feelings, due to the spatial quality provided by Anıt Park and Adnan Ötüken Park and the activities they contain, users feel safer, freer, and more comfortable in the areas where they spend most of their time. In addition, many who utilized Eser Park as their transit pass felt more like aliens than safe in the environment. Lang (1987, 2005) uses the "hierarchy of needs" to explain human needs in urban public open spaces, arguing that the spaces required for human self-expression should be safe and secure, meeting physiological needs. According to him, a sense of dignity and belonging is created in safe and secure self-fulfilling spaces (Lang 1987, 2005). It is thought that the fact that Lang's needs are not supplied in these places is what drives him to feel strange and unsafe in Eser Park.

CONCLUSION
Urban public open spaces are appealing to all societal groups, contribute to the diversity of urban life and human activities, and serve as the basis for a variety of urban activities and social interactions. In the study, three alternative public open spaces were chosen, their public open space qualities evaluated, and the user activities in these locations analyzed. According to the findings, it was found that the physical characteristics of public open spaces and the variety of activities occurring in these locations are directly related to each other.

In view of this analysis, it becomes necessary to evaluate the spatial qualities of public open spaces that were created with solely physical space characteristics, in addition to their physical and environmental factors. It is important to consider both socioeconomic factors and physical characteristics when evaluating the qualities of the locations. In research and applications, it is important to consider the multidimensionality of spatial qualities. It is critical to evaluate the importance of multidimensional thinking in urban space activities by considering their relationships with spatial qualities. According to the results of the study, the variety of urban space activities increases as long as spatial quality is supplied. Furthermore, studies based on Gehl's (1987, 2010) approach to urban space activities show that spatial quality is directly related to the quality and quantity of activities in that area. The continuation of public life in public open spaces has a positive impact on individuals' social lives and psychological well-being. Areas that respond to the physical and psychological needs of citizens should be created on a basis that allows individuals to form different living spaces and sharing areas. Individual's free use of public open spaces, to share, meet, and interact with other people are only gained under these conditions.

The need for public open spaces is increasing as a result of the global epidemic, so it is crucial to remember that their physical and spatial qualities should be closely linked to social structure and urban space activities. The continuation of people's outdoor lives and the reduction of urban structure density both depend on the planning of public open spaces

in residential neighborhoods. Urban areas can become more lively and public open spaces can be improved by creating living spaces that are easily accessible by foot and by providing for a variety of uses.

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[1] Bahçelievler District was designed by Jansen in 1934, who is the city planner of Ankara and Garden City concept was taken into account as a priority plan. Despite the problems of workers and employees in many big cities in Europe living in residences, non-high-rise, economical, adjacent and in-row houses are envisaged in Bahçelievler. Garden houses are designed to be self-sufficient and located in large green spaces outside the city center. Bahçelievler Cooperative Housing Association, established in 1935, applied Jansen's Garden City Premises proposal (Peters et al. 1982).

[2] Garden city concept, developed based upon the rural-urban distinction, was first detected theoretically in Ebenezer Howard's works. Howard defines garden city concept as; "a new type of nature integrated and self-sufficient neighbourhood, formed outside big cities, polluted, crowded and fragmented with industrialization". In Garden city concept, which is a semi-urban model, it is important to establish an occupancy balance between less dense rural area and more dense urban area and to build the city with spaces. In this model, connection between working spaces, living spaces and city center, and the relation of all these with green spaces are important. Green bands should be designed between regions to prevent uncontrolled and fragmented growth of the cities. These bands should be used both as a boundary and a connecting factor (Howard 1965). It first emerged in England in 1898 and has been applied many times in the twentieth century under different names such as Gartenstadt, Cite Jardin, Cuidad Jardin and Tuinstadt in various parts of the world. This theory arouse as a modern solution to urbanization problems in city planning and also has been applied in many cities in Turkey (Akcan 2009). The Europe-centered Garden City concept has not only formed the basis of infrastructure of various settlements since the beginning of 20th century, but has also affected Ankara's urbanization period.

[3] Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, who is organizer of the Turkish War of Independence (1919-1923) and first president of the Republic of Turkey, his permanent and monumental mausoleum in Ankara, known in Turkish as "Anitkabir" (Memorial Tomb) (Wilson 2013).