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# Urban Design Innovations for Quality of Life: Aksaray Traditional City Center Case

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**Abstract**

*The quality of urban life especially in traditional city centers is important to assess it in terms of location and observe the criteria that are used to express it. For this reason, Aksaray's traditional city center has been determined as the study area within the scope of the research. Within the scope of the research, literature on quality of life and its criteria were examined and the methods utilized in the studies from 2003 to the present were revealed . In this context, the quality of life criteria to be used in the study were determined based on the concepts of belonging, identity, readability, security, walkability, sustainability, accessibility, functionality, and the components these concepts contain. As a result of the survey and analysis, it was found that 5 components out of 8 quality of life parameters were found sufficient by the users, while 3 components were found insufficient.*

***Keywords:*** *Quality of urban life and parameters, urban design, urban indicators, Aksaray.*

# Kentsel Tasarımı Destekleyen Yeni Araçlar-Yaşam Kalitesi: Aksaray Geleneksel Kent Merkezi Örneği

**Öz**

*Geleneksel kent merkezlerindeki kentsel yaşam kalitesinin, değerlendirilmesi ve yerleşime özgü ölçütlerin belirlenerek, gözlenmesi önemlidir. Bu nedenle araştırma kapsamında Aksaray'ın geleneksel kent merkezi çalışma alanı olarak belirlenmiştir. Alan demografik yapısı ve ekonomik değerler açısından merkezi iş alanı (MİA) niteliğine sahip Aksaray Kalesi'nin de içinde olduğu kültürel mirasın da yoğunlaştığı bir merkez niteliğindedir. Araştırma kapsamında öncelikle literatür araştırması ve anket çalışmaları yapılmış olup, paralel olarak çalışma alanında mekânsal analizler gerçekleştirilmiştir. Gerçekleştirilen literatür araştırmasında 2003 yılından günümüze kadar yapılan çalışmalarda yararlanılan yöntemler değerelendirilmiş, kullanılacak yaşam kalitesi ölçütleri aidiyet, kimlik, okunabilirlik, güvenlik, yürünebilirlik, sürdürülebilirlik, erişilebilirlik, işlevsellik kavramları ve bu kavramların içerdiği bileşenler esas alınarak belirlenmiştir. Yapılan anket ve analiz sonucunda 8 yaşam kalitesi parametresinden 5 bileşenin kullanıcılar tarafından yeterli bulunduğu, 3 bileşenin ise yetersiz bulunduğu görülmüştür.*

***Anahtar kelimeler:*** *Kentsel yaşam kalitesi ve parametreleri, kent planlama, kentsel göstergeler, Aksaray.*

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## 1. Introduction

As the importance of quality of life in political, cultural, economic, social, and other activities has increased, the terms "environment" and "city" have become crucial in the planning of cities all over the world. The increasing population due to migration and the uncontrolled growth of cities by spreading with this population, the problems created by social differences and cultural changes (İnceoğlu, 2007; Balçık & İnceoğlu, 2022) the climatic problems experienced, the inadequacy of infrastructure and public areas, the inability of housing stocks to meet the needs, the cultural and economic separation of cities as well as the regional separation (Garvin, 1987) the difficulties in accessing natural resources, etc. have caused cities to be unhealthy. This situation has caused cities to experience differences in terms of both physical, social, and economic aspects over time, and the concept of 'urban quality of life', which is expected to be a solution to this situation, has emerged (Ekici & Çelik, 2022). The concept of quality of life, which first appeared in 1957, and the concept of urban quality of life, which appeared in 1969, are multidimensional, rich in content, and have different indicators. In this context, examining urban quality of life, which is a concept specific to settlement and society, is important in terms of evaluating it on a place-specific basis and seeing how and with which parameters it is expressed (Çermikli, 2016; Istrate & Chen, 2022; Rezvani et al.,2013)

The United Nations (UN) focuses on the concepts of social, economic, and environmental sustainability, security, infrastructure, climate change, human rights, gender equality, education, management, food production, adequate health services, and clean energy in its quality-of-life studies The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has focused on the topics of family, environment, economic opportunities and consumption, quality, education, health, social life, equality, and security in order to increase the quality of urban life (Cömertler & Cömertler, 2021). The European Union (EU) has emphasized the concepts of low carbon, climate change, ecological balance, natural resources, and environmental quality. Within the scope of I, II, and III. UN Habitat Conferences, the concepts of human rights, environmental protection, and economic and social development were taken into consideration in urban quality of life studies, and housing, employment, sustainable development, health, and education were evaluated in detail. In the Council of Europe, gender equality, the quality of health services, meeting the security needs of women and children in particular, and freedom of expression were emphasized.In the urban life quality studies conducted specifically for the Healthy Cities Project established by the World Health Organization (WHO) to ensure equal life for individuals, the concepts of creating various projects covering individual and social health, urban transportation, built and natural environment, ensuring that cities are safe and healthy, and ensuring the physical, mental, social and environmental satisfaction of city dwellers were emphasized (Fırat, 2006; Şahin Körmeçli & Uslu, 2021).

When the literature is examined (Table1), in order to determine the criteria, targets, and indicators of urban quality of life, we see that international organizations and academic/scientific studies at different scales and in urban areas have been evaluated systematically and analytically. Especially in studies conducted in urban areas (Van Kamp et al., 2003; Mccrea et al., 2006; Forsyth & Southworth, 2008; Rinner, 2007; Das, 2008; Mazumdar, 2007; Lotfi & Koohsari, 2009), security, walkability, sustainability, accessibility, and functionality indicators are in the foreground. In studies focused on public spaces, belonging, identity, and readability (Sirisrisak, 2009; Carmona, 2010; Carmona, 2019) it has been observed that the concepts of (Whitehand et al., 2011; Altunbaş, 2006; Şahin, 2006; Karakaya et al., 2018; Çekmecelioğlu & Erdönmez, 2018; El Din et al., 2013; Frick, Hoefert, Legewie, Mackensen, & Silbereisen, 2013) become prominent. In addition, the effects of the parameters of accessibility and security on the quality of urban life, especially in protected areas, were discussed by (Allen, 2016; Praliya & Garg, 2019; Jiang et al., 2022; Elzeni, Elmokadem & Badawy, 2022). Studies examining the effects of urban space components and determinants on quality of life are frequently used to increase the success of urban policies and the livability of cities (Marans & Stimson, 2011; Marans, 2015). Studies have shown that the perception of space is affected by the physical and non-physical aspects of the home and its surroundings (Barreira, Agapito, Panagopoulos & Guimarães., 2017) and may differ depending on the personal qualities, opinions, experiences, needs, and expectations of individuals (Wu

et al., 2020; Li &Tilt, 2019). In this respect, it is accepted that quality of life depends on subjective evaluations and objective criteria (Pacione, 2003).

**Table 1.** Urban life quality literature research criteria

| *Literature* | Sustainability | Belonging | Identity | Walkability | Accessibility | Legibility | Functionality | Comfort | Security | Livability | Well-Being |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Van Kamp et al.,2003* | * | * | * | | | | | | | *. | |
| *Mc Crea et al.,2006* | | * | | | | | * | | | | |
| *Rinner ,2007* | | | | | | * | * | | | | |
| *Das ,2008* | * | | | | * | | * | | | | * |
| *Forsyth & Southworth, 2008* | | | | | | * | * | | * | | |
| *Lotfi & Koohsari , 2009* | | * | | * | * | * | * | | * | | |
| *Siririsak, 2009* | * | | * | | | | | | | | |
| *Carmona, 2010, 2019* | * | | | * | | * | * | | * | | |
| *Royuela et al.,2010* | * | | | | * | | * | | | | |
| *Schmidt & Nemeth, 2010* | * | | | | | | * | | * | | |
| *Whitehand et al.,2011* | | * | | | * | * | | | | | |
| *Frick et al.,2013* | | | | | * | * | * | | | | |
| *Rezvani et al.,2016* | | | * | * | | | | | * | | |
| *Eldin et al.,2011* | * | | * | * | | * | * | | * | | |
| *Praliya & Garg, 2019* | | * | | | | | * | | * | | |
| *Jiang et al.,2022* | * | | * | * | | | * | | | | |
| *Istrate & Chen, 2022* | | | | * | * | * | * | | * | | |
| *Elzeni et al.,2022* | | | * | | | | | | * | | |
| *Mobaraki & Vehbi, 2022* | | | | | | * | * | | | | |
| *Altunbaş, 2006* | | | | * | | | * | | * | | |
| *Mazumdar, 2007* | | * | | * | | | * | | | | |
| *Çermikli, 2016* | | | | * | * | | * | | | | |
| *Ünlü, 2017* | | | * | | | * | * | | | | |
| *Çekmecelioğlu & Erdönmez, 2018* | | | | * | * | * | | * | | | |
| *Karakaya & Aktürk, 2018* | * | | | * | * | | * | * | * | | * |
| *Gürel , 2019* | | | * | | | | * | | | | |
| *Akpınar & Pektaş, 2019* | * | | * | | * | | | | | * | * |
| *Efe Yavaşcan et.al.,2019* | | | * | * | * | * | | | | | |
| *Gürel Ağır,2019* | * | | * | | | * | * | | | | |
| *Kırmızı & Karaman, 2019* | * | | | | * | | * | | | | |
| *Yalçın, 2021* | | | * | | | | * | * | * | | |
| *Taşçıoğlu, 2022* | * | * | | | | | | | | | |
| *Sarı & Kındap,2018* | | | * | | * | * | * | | | | |

When we examined these studies, there are two main criticisms about criteria and ranking issue. First, the criteria to be used in assessing the quality of a settlement are generally based on the personal opinions of those conducting these studies. The influence of the researcher is particularly evident in the selection of indicators and the assignment of weights. A second, more important criticism is that the ranking obtained does not measure how the residents of the settlement evaluate their quality of life. Because these studies do not include the views of the people on what constitutes the quality of urban life of the settlement they live in. It also does not assume that the quality of a settlement may differ for each population segment in the settlement.For example, it is not questioned how important

the presence of good restaurants in a settlement may be for the lower-income segment of the population living in that settlement. It can be seen, when assessing the quality of urban life, in addition to the importance of the objective characteristics of a settlement, it is also important to understand what these objective characteristics mean to its users. It is useful to consider such perceptual and behavioral indicators when measuring the quality of life of a place in many ways. First, such indicators reflect the real quality based on the experiences of those living in a place. Such indicators are more likely to be accepted as real measures by politicians and elected officials who listen to their voters. In addition, such indicators provide an opportunity to examine the relative importance of the objective characteristics they reflect. For example, if there are measures of how residents perceive traffic density, noisy neighborhoods, and building density in a city, it will be possible to examine the relationship between subjective and objective criteria. In this way, thresholds can be determined that will help determine the development principles to be used in planning new residential areas.

This study proposes a universal, detailed, and holistic perspective for measuring and evaluating urban quality of life, which formed as a result of detailed literature reviews and allows the use of quantitative -qualitative data together and foresees the use of mixed techniques in obtaining and evaluating data. In addition, criteria and indicator systems can guide practitioners and policy makers in making decisions regarding social structure in planning processes. While studies focusing on quality of life in Türkiye mainly focus on large cities such as İstanbul, studies in medium-sized Anatolian Turkish cities are limited (Gür et al., 2010; Koçak Güngör & Terzi, 2024; Dülger Türkoğlu et al., 2009). In this context Aksaray where has become an important center in socio-cultural life and has a traditional texture character, where religious, political and commercial functions can be perceived as changing or accumulating weights according to historical periods was selected as the study area. Aksaray's traditional city center was also evaluated as the spatial reflections of the city's commercial, social, and administrative organization forms, socio-cultural life habits, and behavior patterns within the scope of the research and was determined as the focus of the study in this direction. Instead of a chronological perspective, the formation process was described with a periodic perspective, especially concerning planning processes, and the accumulated spatial weights of the city's physical (location, topography, and regional transportation) and functional (transit trade, political, religious, and cultural center functions) specific superiorities were expressed. In this research, the criteria that form the basis of the conceptual framework of the quality of life were determined first, then the indicators that are the measurement tools of the urban quality of life were defined, on-site data collection methods were defined (Figure1) and the data evaluation methods were determined. In the last stage, the urban quality of life was measured, the level of urban quality of life in Aksaray Traditional City Center was determined, and the results and relationships were interpreted.

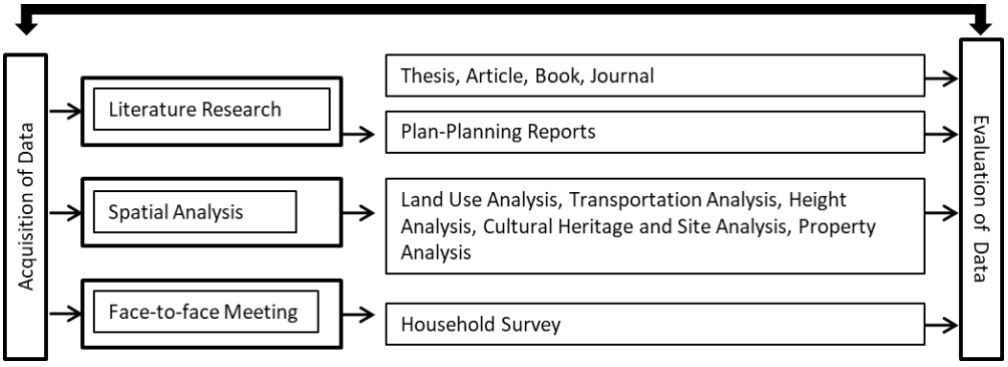


**Figure 1.** Research process-analysis

## 2. Material and Method

Aksaray province, which is the focal point of the study, is geographically located within the borders of the Central Anatolia Region (Figure 2) between the provinces of Nevşehir, Niğde, Konya, Ankara, and Kırşehir (Aksaray Valiliği, 2023). The city center was established on the plateau formed by the Melendiz Stream (Uluırmak), which flows from the Ihlara Valley originating from Melendiz Mountain and the Aksaray city center and flows into the Tuz Lake, and Uluırmak separates the Aksaray provincial center

from north to south (Yenice, 2015). According to 2023 Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK) data, 438,504, 316,264 people live in provincial and district centers, 122,240 people live in towns and villages, and 251,147 people live within the provincial borders of Aksaray (TÜİK, 2023).

When the development process of Aksaray City is examined, it is seen that today's city center is a part and continuation of the center formed in previous civilizations. When the distribution of settlements of civilizations living in the city is examined, it is known that the Iron Age Period was located west of the Uluırmak River, the Roman Period civilization was located north of the city center, the Seljuk Period was located northwest of the city center, the Principalities Period was located northwest of the city center, the Ottoman Period was located east of the city center, and the Republican Period was located in the city center. In this context, various administrative, social, military, and religious structures belonging to civilizations living in different periods are also widespread in the city center (Arıbaş, 2008).


**Figure 2.** Location of Aksaray Province (Aksaray Valiliği, 2023)

There are two different protected areas in the city center, the Minarecik Neighborhood urban protected area and the Taşpazar Neighborhood urban protected area, one in the center's focus and the other in the southwest (Figure 3). There are various registered mansions, residences, and commercial buildings within the protected areas.

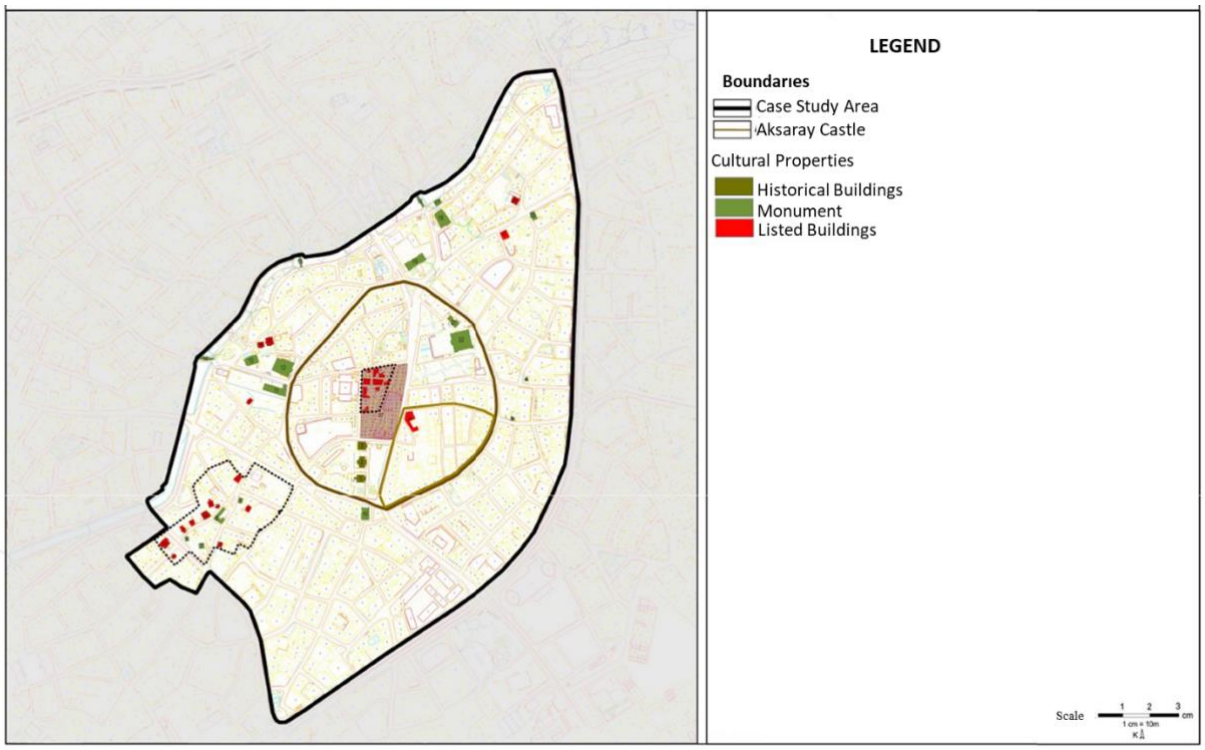


**Figure 3.** Aksaray City Center cultural heritage analysis (Oktay, 2024).

When the city's planning history is examined, it is seen that the first zoning plans for Aksaray, which became a municipality in 1866, were made by Architect Seyfi Arkan. The zoning plan, which only constitutes the central part of Aksaray, including Şamlı Neighborhood, Seyit Hamid Neighborhood, and Dere Neighborhood, was made by Celal Esat Arseven. In the plan, the mentioned neighborhoods are organized within the framework of the plan and cover an area of 60,000 m². As the population in the city began to increase rapidly, especially after 1950, individuals began to live in the city and unplanned areas on the city's periphery. In order to keep this situation under control, the plan made in 1967 brought together Meydan Neighborhood, Minarecik Neighborhood, and Zincirli Neighborhood, forming the borders of today's city center. The Bülent Berksan-Mehmet Ali Topaloğlu Plan, which was valid between 1983-2003, included the following among the objectives of the plan: to provide a solution to the issues that caused problems in the implementation of the city's zoning plan, to diversify various urban functions, to determine the uses of the areas within the city, to use the newly planned areas of the city sustainably and healthily, to create settlement areas considering the agricultural value of the area to be planned, and to assist in the planning of the municipality and adjacent areas after the revision works. Various zoning plans were prepared by Hayriye Altıntaş in 1998. In the plan, service roads as well as green areas were determined around the highways. Attention was paid to the creation of green area continuity by separating the areas around the irrigation channels as parks and gardens. The plan, which is seen as a continuation of the 1983 plan, prepared by Selçuk University and approved by the Aksaray Municipality, covers the years 2003-2012. In addition to the planned industrial areas together with the work areas, the plan also includes urban facilities (Aksaray Revision Zoning Plan Explanation Report, 2012). The central business district nature of the city center has been preserved in the same way.

The measurement and evaluation of urban life quality in Aksaray Traditional City Center is carried out in three basic steps. In the first step; firstly, general information and the planning history of the application area were examined in order to examine the general and characteristic features of the selected area and its spatial formation and change from past to present. In this process, land use analysis, transportation analysis, floor height analysis, cultural assets and protected area analysis, and property analysis were performed on the study border determined on the current map taken from Aksaray Municipality and updated in Netcad environment, and the results were examined. In the second step, as a result of the detailed international and national literature research on life quality

studies in the city center after 2000, a table was created containing the criteria and components of each evaluated study (Table 1). This table was created to measure and evaluate urban life quality according to the repetition status and frequency of criteria and components by taking into account the spatial planning system, and in this direction, the criteria and components to be evaluated in the life quality examination in Aksaray City Center were determined (Table 2).

**Table 2.** Criteria and components to be evaluated in the analysis of quality of life in Aksaray City Center within the scope of the research

| Main Criteria | Code | Component |
|---|---|---|
| ***Belonging*** | A.1 | Level of feeling belonging to the city center; |
| | A.2 | Availability of spatial attractive features; |
| | A.3 | Population density and diversity; |
| | A.4 | Time spent in the city center, frequency |
| ***Identitiy*** | K.1 | Historical structures, materials, and landscape design in the city center; |
| | K.2 | The level of relationship with the past of the place; |
| | K.3 | The state of preservation of historical and cultural heritage structures |
| ***Legibility*** | O.1 | Harmony of traditional and modern structures in the city center; |
| | O.2 | The situation of structures generally presenting similar and ordinary facade characteristics; |
| | O.3 | The situation of disturbing signs, etc. on the facades; |
| | O.4 | The situation of building heights and street widths being at human scale; |
| | O.5 | The level of awareness regarding historical and cultural heritage structures; |
| | O.6 | The capacity of the structures to reflect their facade characters as a period |
| ***Security*** | G.1 | Crime rate in the city center; |
| | G.2 | Level of feeling safe for children |
| | G.3 | Level of feeling safe for young and old |
| | G.4 | Level of feeling safe for the disabled |
| | G.5 | Level of feeling safe for women |
| | G.6 | Level of feeling safe as a pedestrian |
| ***Walkability*** | Y.1 | Adequacy of bicycle paths and pedestrian paths in the city center; |
| | Y.2 | Availability of pedestrian paths other than sidewalks; |
| | Y.3 | Easy walking as a pedestrian; |
| | Y.4 | Parking problem; |
| | Y.5 | Liveliness during the day and night; |
| | Y.6 | Adequacy of lighting and lighting; |
| | Y.7 | Adequacy of open spaces, green areas, and accessibility; |
| | Y.8 | Adequacy of urban furniture and landscape elements |
| ***Sustainability*** | S.1 | The effects of environmentally sustainable policies in the city center; |
| | S.2 | The existence of socially sustainable policies, |
| | S.3 | The existence of economically sustainable policies |
| ***Accessibility*** | U.1 | Accessibility to the city center; |
| | U.2 | Traffic density; |
| | U.3 | Access by public transportation, |
| | U.4 | Access to the city center on foot |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | U.5 | Access to the city center by using other alternatives (private vehicle, bicycle, etc.) |
| ***Functionality*** | I.1 | The adequacy of social infrastructure (schools, courses) and technical infrastructure facilities (roads, bridges, etc.) in the city center; |
| | I.2 | The adequacy of cleaning and solid waste management (recycling bins, etc.), |
| | I.3 | The presence and frequency of artistic and cultural activities; |
| | I.4 | The level of spatial diversity and user diversity (disabled, young, elderly, etc.); |
| | I.5 | The use of the city center as a commercial area (office area, central business area, etc.); |
| | I.6 | The level of use of the city center for other purposes (meeting, library, etc.) |

In the last stage of the research, a household survey study was conducted in the application area in line with the developed criteria and components. The boundaries of the research area are; Sofular District, Hacı Hasanlı District, Hamidiye District, Muhsin Çelebi District, Minarecik District, Dere District, Zincirli District and Taşpazar District, which are located within the boundaries of the city's traditional city center and the first plan Mimar Seyfi Arkan Plan, and which form the core of the city on the banks of Uluırmak (Figure 4). As a result of the calculations made with a 5% margin of error and a 99% confidence level (Table 2) on 5563 people (Table 3) living in the study area, a total of 596 surveys were determined (Table 4). The literature review was used in the creation of the survey forms (Altunışık et al., 2010; Kozak, 2014; Doğanay, 2017). and the applied survey consists of 42 questions. The questions prepared for the components in Table 2 were developed in a way to seek answers within the scope of the criteria determined within the scope of the literature. The survey was conducted face-to-face with randomly selected individuals aged 18 and over between October 2023 and February 2024.

**Table 3.** Neighborhoods in Aksaray City Center (TÜİK, 2023; Oktay, 2024).

| Neighborhood | Population | Area (Hectare) | Density (Population per Hectare) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Hacıhasanlı | 1550 | 12,6 | 123,0 |
| Hamidiye | 1138 | 11,5 | 98,9 |
| Taşpazar | 815 | 20,7 | 39,3 |
| Dere | 670 | 5,8 | 115,5 |
| Sofular | 660 | 8,2 | 80,4 |
| Zincirli | 360 | 2,7 | 133,3 |
| Muhsin Çelebi | 305 | 3,5 | 87,1 |

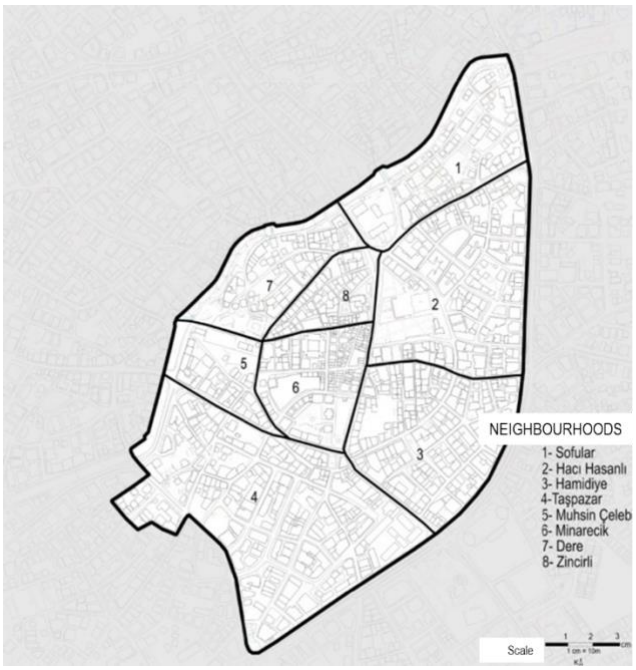


**Figure 4.** Neighborhoods where the survey was conducted

A nominal scale was used to determine the demographic characteristics of the participants in the survey, and a 5-point Likert scale was used to determine the proficiency level. The data obtained through the survey applications were analyzed using the SPSS 22.0 program and evaluated by frequency analysis. All quantitative and qualitative data obtained through spatial determinations and face-to-face interview techniques were defined quantitatively by giving a score between 1 and 5 in accordance with the 5-point Likert scale. These data were added to the indicator tables defined for all criteria with the model proposal as research findings. The general averages of the targets and sub-targets determined for each criterion were calculated, and the level of achievement of the targets and sub-targets was determined. The level of achievement was divided into categories according to the average score received. These categories were: 1-1.5 points as very bad level; 1.5-2.5 points as bad level; 2.5-3 points as low average level; 3-3.5 points as medium level; 3.5-4 points as high average level; 4-4.5 points as good level; and a score between 4.5 and 5 was determined as very good. The results obtained from the research were compared with the analysis results. The frequencies obtained as a result of the analysis provided an understanding of the basic findings or the relationship between the variables in the research, and the results were interpreted according to the patterns and differences between different variable groups.

**Table 4.** Number of surveys applied and evaluated in the study area (Koçak Güngör & Terzi, 2024; Oktay, 2024).

| Neighborhoods | Population | Necessary | Actual Survey Number | Valid Survey Number |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Multi-Story (Over 4 Floors)*** | | | | |
| HacıHasanlı | 1550 | 166 | 166 | 166 |
| Muhsin Çelebi | 305 | 32,6 | 32 | 32 |
| Zincirli | 360 | 38,5 | 39 | 39 |
| ***Low-rise (Under 4 Floors)*** | | | | |
| Hamidiye | 1138 | 121,9 | 122 | 122 |
| Taşpazar | 2625 | 87,3 | 87 | 87 |
| Dere | 670 | 71,7 | 72 | 72 |
| Sofular | 660 | 70,7 | 71 | 71 |
| Minarecik | 65 | 6,9 | 7 | 7 |
| **Total** | **5563** | **596** | **596** | **596** |

## 3. Findings and Discussion

In the study area determined as the traditional city center of Aksaray, the answers to the relevant questions that constitute the conceptual framework of the subject were sought in order to evaluate the adequacy of the urban life quality level and to make decisions at the urban design level. In this context, household-scale surveys and spatial analyses were discussed together with the criteria and components discussed within the scope of the research.

### 3.1. Belonging

As long as people feel a sense of belonging to the place and society they live in, establish connections and see themselves as part of the whole, they integrate with the spatial and social system. This integration is an important element of social sustainability for individuals to feel a sense of belonging to the society and place, to gain awareness about the image of the region and to protect heritage elements. When the planning activities that guide the development process of Aksaray city center are examined, it is observed that the process that started with the Architect Seyfi Arkan Plan, which is considered as the first zoning plan study of the city, was established with the zoning plan prepared by Selçuk UniversityUrban and Regional Planning Department and various conservation zoning plan processes, the boundaries of the current city center were established, the central business district quality was maintained and the traditional building stock and quality within the area were preserved. When the findings of the belonging parameter obtained as a result of the survey are examined, 70% of the participants stated that they felt they belonged in the city center with the statement “I feel like I belong to the city center” (Table 5). Again, in the survey results, 16.1% of the participants stated that they strongly agreed with the statement “The city center has attractive features”, 45.3% agreed, 19.1% were undecided, 11.6% disagreed, and 7.9% strongly disagreed.

**Table 5.** Belonging to the city center

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Valid** | Strongly Agree | 136 | 22.8 | 22.8 | 22.8 |
| | Agree | 287 | 48,2 | 48,2 | 71.0 |
| | Undecided | 79 | 13,3 | 13,3 | 84,2 |
| | Disagree | 56 | 9,4 | 9,4 | 93,6 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 38 | 6,4 | 6,4 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 596 | 596 | 596 | 596 |

Although there is a decrease in the attractiveness level due to urban transformation activities in Taşpazar, Hacıhasanlı, and Hamidiye districts within the area, abandoned buildings and infrastructure problems, the fact that the city center has features such as urban work areas such as trade areas and municipal service areas, social infrastructure areas, open and green areas, places of worship as well as technical infrastructure areas, social and cultural facility areas shows that users find the city center attractive. In addition, availability of suitable texture features, organization of various activities , and implementation of sustainable environmental, social, and economic policies make the city center attractive (Figure 5). While 19.1% of the participants stated that they strongly agreed with the statement “I spend little time in the city center”, 39.3% agreed, 16.8% were undecided, 19.5% disagreed, and 5.4% strongly disagreed. Among the reasons for the users who stated that they spend little time in the city center with a rate of 58%, it was determined that the following may be effective: insufficient seating and landscape elements such as water features, inability to provide pedestrian-vehicle balance, inability to fully meet security needs, insufficient commercial areas that would attract the attention of users despite the city center being planned for multiple uses in the planning decisions, and insufficient private and public activities such as cinemas, theaters, etc. and socializing spaces.


**Figure 5.** City Center and its surroundings (Oktay, 2024)

### 3.2. Identity

When Aksaray's city center is examined, it is observed that its historical surroundings (Figure 7a and 7b) have lost their focal point feature in previous years due to intensive construction and the restoration works, but the renewal of the functions of historical structures are steps towards reversing this situation. The most important initiative towards revitalizing the traditional texture is defined as a Sensitive Zone in the Aksaray Revision Zoning Plan. Besides, while rehabilitating or performing other urban interventions within this zone, the foresights and definitions of the "Cultural Heritage Interpretation and Presentation Regulation" prepared by ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) and other ICOMOS documents should also be considered in practice (Figure 6) (Aksaray Revision Zoning Plan Explanation Report, 2012)

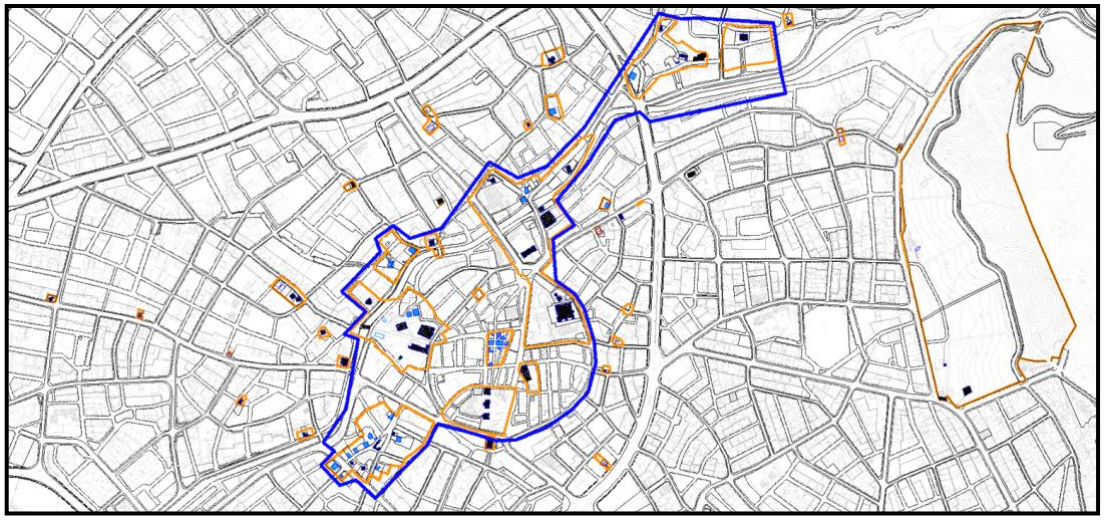

**Figure 6.** Aksaray city center sensitive zone

The historical and cultural heritage structures in the city center, which have unique physical textures, the materials used in the structures, and the landscape designs that plan the structures together with their surroundings provide information about the history of the place and the formation of identity. However, the fact that the structures and the protected areas in question are not well defined in terms of use, the lack of information on this issue by the users, and the fact that several structures are in danger of collapse are noteworthy as elements that pose a threat to the basic identity elements in the area. The urban area in the study area with an area of 70.1 hectares is 3.9 hectares, and there are 39 registered structures. Although there are structure groups that can form a source for the past of the area, it has been observed that the historical structures, materials, and landscape design in the city center are insufficient in providing information about the history of the place due to reasons such as

not being well defined in terms of use, the lack of functions for tourism, and the area being considered at the scale of a single structure rather than having a physical texture quality.

**Table 6.** Preservation of historical and cultural heritage buildings in the city center

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Valid** | Strongly Agree | 63 | 10,6 | 10,6 | 10,6 |
| | Agree | 150 | 25,2 | 25,2 | 35,7 |
| | Undecided | 194 | 32,6 | 32,6 | 68,3 |
| | Disagree | 101 | 16,9 | 16,9 | 85,2 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 88 | 14,8 | 14,8 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 596 | 100 | 100 | |

**Figure7. a**.Çorakçılar Mansion, **b**.Ünsallar Mansion (Oktay, 2024)

In the survey conducted within the scope of the study, 10.6% of the participants stated that they strongly agreed with the statement “Historical and cultural heritage structures in the city center are sufficiently protected”, whereas 25.2% agreed, 32.6% were undecided, 16.9% disagreed, and 14.8% strongly disagreed (Table 6). Especially in the core of the city center and in the southwest of the city center, historical artifacts, monuments, or examples of civil architecture are encountered (Figure 7a and 7b). It is seen that some of these structures are not sufficiently protected, and a few structures are in danger of collapse and create security problems in their surroundings (Figure 8). As a result, it was concluded that the historical structures, materials, and landscape design in the city center, which has a unique physical texture, provide information about the history of the place. It was also determined that these historical and cultural structures are not sufficiently protected; have protection flaws; many users do not know the registered structures and protected areas; and have a lack of knowledge about the concept of protection.

**Figure 8.** Examples of registered buildings in the study area (Oktay, 2024)

### 3.3. Legibility

Legibility, a design principle, has been questioned together with different concepts such as imageability, familiarity, complexity, wayfinding, consistency, mystery, aesthetics, symmetry, comfort, and security. Spatial familiarity is shaped according to the spatial knowledge of the user, the time spent in the space, and their experiences. It has been observed that the streets, avenues, and structures in the Aksaray city center are of appropriate scale, and traditional and modern structures are in harmony and have similar-ordinary appearances. It has been determined that users are disturbed by the increasing signs on the facades due to the nature of the Business Area in the city center where there is a diversity of users and spaces. It has also been observed that users are not aware of the historical and cultural heritage structures in the area and that people's relationships with the city may be weak because user awareness is not sufficient.

**Table 7.** Awareness of historical-cultural structure in the city center

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Valid** | Strongly Agree | 68 | 11,4 | 11,4 | 11,4 |
| | Agree | 182 | 30,5 | 30,5 | 41,4 |
| | Undecided | 160 | 26,8 | 26,8 | 68,8 |
| | Disagree | 144 | 24,2 | 24,2 | 93,0 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 42 | 7,0 | 7,0 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 596 | 100 | 100 | |

“I am aware of the historical and cultural heritage buildings in the city center and I can read the facade characters of the buildings as a period” statement was answered by 11.4% as “I strongly agree”, 30.5% as “I agree”, 26.8% as “I am undecided”, 24.2% as “I disagree”, and 7.0% as “I strongly disagree” (Table 7). It is seen that approximately 27% of the users who participated in the survey are undecided in their awareness of the historical and cultural heritage buildings in the city center and in their ability to read the facade characters of the buildings as a period. It shows that the users do not look at and evaluate

the city center in this way, do not establish their relations with the city in this direction, and since they do not ask such a question, they cannot produce comments and have a problem in feeling belonging.

### 3.4. Security

Security is one of the most basic human needs and also one of the conditions of quality of life. Fulfilling the requirements of daily life and active interaction with other people are provided by safe living spaces.

**T able 8.** Crime in the City Center

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Valid** | Strongly Agree | 62 | 10,4 | 10,4 | 10,4 |
| | Agree | 121 | 20,3 | 20,3 | 30,7 |
| | Undecided | 161 | 27,0 | 27,0 | 57,7 |
| | Disagree | 149 | 25,0 | 25,0 | 82,7 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 103 | 17,3 | 17,3 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 596 | 100 | 100 | |

“The crime rate is low in the city center” statement was answered by 11.4% strongly agree, 21.3% agree, 27.0% undecided, 25.0% disagree, and 17.3% strongly disagree (Table 8). It is observed that there are security problems, especially in the Taşpazar, Hacıhasanlı, and Hamidiye Neighborhoods in the study area. It has been observed that safety problems are caused by issues in abandoned ruined buildings, theft/arson cases, harassment and violence, missing lighting elements, insufficient pedestrian areas, heavy traffic, non-proportional intensity of the city center during the day and night, desolation of the center in the morning and evening, scarcity and distance of public transportation stops from each other , etc.

### 3.5. Walkability

The existence of bicycle path and pedestrian path applications in Aksaray city center, the comfort and safety of users on pedestrian paths, the existence of sufficient open and green areas and their accessibility in the city center, which is lively during the day due to the intensive use of offices and commercial areas, and the arrangement of urban furniture and landscape elements in this direction are issues that can be evaluated positively in terms of walkability. When Table 9 is examined, it is seen that 7.4% strongly agree, 27.3% agree, 28.0% are undecided, 23.7% disagree, and 13.6% strongly disagree with the statement "I can walk comfortably in the city center".

**Table 9.** Pedestrian comfort in the city center

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Valid** | Strongly Agree | 44 | 7,4 | 7,4 | 7,4 |
| | Agree | 163 | 27,3 | 27,3 | 34,7 |
| | Undecided | 167 | 28,0 | 28,0 | 62,8 |
| | Disagree | 141 | 23,7 | 23,7 | 86,4 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 81 | 13,6 | 13,6 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 596 | 100 | 100 | |

For the statement, “There is a parking problem in the city center”, 40.9% of participants strongly agree, 29.9% agree, 12.1% are undecided, 7.4% disagree, and 9.7% strongly disagree (Table 10). Although the number of parking lots belonging to low-rise residences is generally high around the city center, the need for parking increases towards the core of the city center. There is the Azmi National Park with an area of 0.6 ha and a capacity of 600 vehicles in the west of the city center, but users find it insufficient.

**Table 10.** Parking problem in the City Center

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Valid** | Strongly Agree | 244 | 40,9 | 40,9 | 40,9 |
| | Agree | 178 | 29,9 | 29,9 | 70,8 |
| | Undecided | 72 | 12,1 | 12,1 | 82,9 |
| | Disagree | 44 | 7,4 | 7,4 | 90,3 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 58 | 9,7 | 9,7 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 596 | 100 | 100 | |

### 3.6. Sustainability

Human health and quality of life are at the center of sustainable human settlement development efforts. Within the scope of the study, the question of “How is sustainability associated with urban systems?” was brought to the agenda and questioned in terms of policy. In this context, first of all, the policies and practices followed by the Aksaray Municipality were examined (Doğanay, S.,2017). The Aksaray Municipality carries out various projects regarding water pollution, which is the most important problem of the city. Apart from this, projects are carried out for existing wastewater facilities, which improve the quality of drinking water. Neighborhood parks, which provide information about the quality of the city's green areas, are areas where people spend time and can get away from the stressful atmosphere of the city. In this context, the current green area status of neighborhood parks in Aksaray province was examined in the study. The green area status in the Bayrambaba, Cumhuriyet, Tacin, and Hacı Hasanlı neighborhoods is above the 10 m2 green area per person determined according to the standards. Although the Aratol, Zafer, Zincirli, Yunus Emre, and Nakkaş neighborhoods are below the standard, they are in a good condition compared to other neighborhoods in terms of green areas. In general, the intense industrial activities in cities, the gases coming out of the exhausts of vehicles, and the fossil fuels used for heating cause air pollution. Local governments, especially municipalities, have responsibilities in preventing air pollution. Air pollution, which causes various diseases in people, increases, especially in the winter months in Aksaray province. For this purpose, activities are carried out to increase the use of natural gas in order to reduce air pollution in Aksaray province.

**Table 11.** Environmental sustainability in the city center

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Valid** | Strongly Agree | 69 | 11,6 | 11,6 | 11,6 |
| | Agree | 167 | 28,0 | 28,0 | 39,6 |
| | Undecided | 183 | 30,7 | 30,7 | 70,3 |
| | Disagree | 139 | 23,3 | 23,3 | 93,6 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 38 | 6,4 | 6,4 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 596 | 100 | 100 | |

11.6% of participants strongly agree with the statement “Environmentally sustainable policies are followed in the city center", while 28.0% agree, 30.7% are undecided, 23.3% disagree, and 6.4% strongly disagree (Table 11). Various rallies, aid campaigns, celebrations and shows held on special days, concerts, Ramadan festivities, farewell ceremonies for soldiers, and exhibitions, especially in Ulucami Square and Hükümet Konağı Square in the study area, have shown that approximately 45% of the users who participated in the survey find socially sustainable policies in the city center sufficient. For the statement, “Economically sustainable policies are followed in the city center," 7.7% strongly agree, 22.3% agree, 38.8% are undecided, 23.0% disagree, and 8.2% strongly disagree . As a result, the adequacy of recycling bins, solid waste management, and cleanliness of the area in the city center show that sustainable policies are not insufficient in the study area from an environmental point of

view; various celebrations, demonstrations, concerts, rallies, etc. in the area from a social point of view; and situations such as increasing trade and office opportunities and creating jobs from an economic point of view.

### 3.7. Accessibility

A healthy accessibility function in the quality of life is also considered a necessity for social and economic success. Within the scope of the study, transportation analysis was first carried out in order to ensure that different factors affecting accessibility in the city could be evaluated (Figure 9). Thus, urban accessibility was evaluated in different dimensions, and an objective and comprehensive perspective was presented. When the analyses of effective criteria are evaluated in an integrated manner, it is possible to make a general evaluation of the city plan and to bring scientific and technical based suggestions

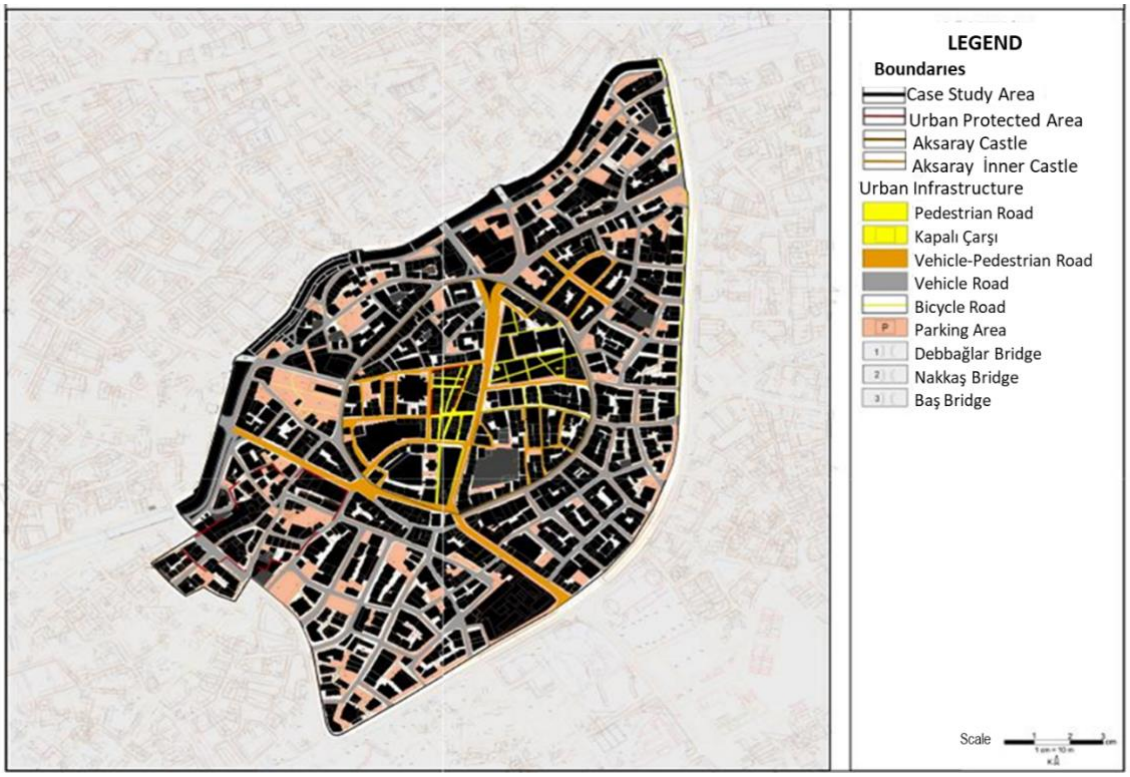


**Figure 9.** Aksaray City Center transportation analysis (Oktay, 2024)

To the statement ''The city center is accessible'', 19.3% of the users answered ''strongly agree, 53% agree, 14.4% are undecided, 9.1% disagree, and 4.2% strongly disagree (Table 12). When the survey results are examined, more than 70% of the users stated that the city center is accessible, and a very small portion of the users stated that the city center is not accessible. To the statement ''Traffic is heavy in the city center'' 34.4% answered ''strongly agree, 37.8% agree, 12.4% disagree, 8.2% disagree, and 7.2% strongly disagree. Approximately 71% of the users state that traffic is heavy in the city center.

**Table 12.** Accessibility in the city center

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Valid** | Strongly Agree | 115 | 19,3 | 19,3 | 19,3 |
| | Agree | 316 | 53,3 | 53,3 | 72,3 |
| | Undecided | 86 | 14,4 | 14,4 | 86,7 |
| | Disagree | 54 | 9,1 | 9,1 | 95,8 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 25 | 4,2 | 4,2 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 596 | 100 | 100 | |

To the statement “I come to the city center on foot”, 13.4% of the participants answered “I strongly agree”, 25.8% agreed, 26.2% were undecided, 26.8% disagreed, and 7.7% strongly disagreed. To the statement “I come to the city center using other alternatives (private vehicle, bicycle, etc.)”, 15.8% of the participants answered “I strongly agree”, 35.1% agreed, 11.4% were undecided, 29.9% disagreed, and 7.9% strongly disagreed. As a result, it was determined that the city center is accessible, the traffic in the area is heavy between 08.00-09.00, 12.00-15.00, and in the evening hours between 17.00-19.00, the density in the city center increases, users come to the city center by public transportation, on foot, or by using other alternatives such as private vehicle and bicycle, and it was concluded that the accessibility level of the city center is high.

### 3.8. Functionality

The quality of life in cities is provided by producing spaces that are balanced in terms of aesthetics and functionality. The concept of functionality has been determined as a criterion that will show us the adequacy of function in the city center and the real usage efficiency of existing functions in this study. With functionality, the functionality of the center will be revealed in general as a result of testing the use of any function or all of the functions. Within the scope of the study, Land Use Analysis was first carried out (Figure 10).

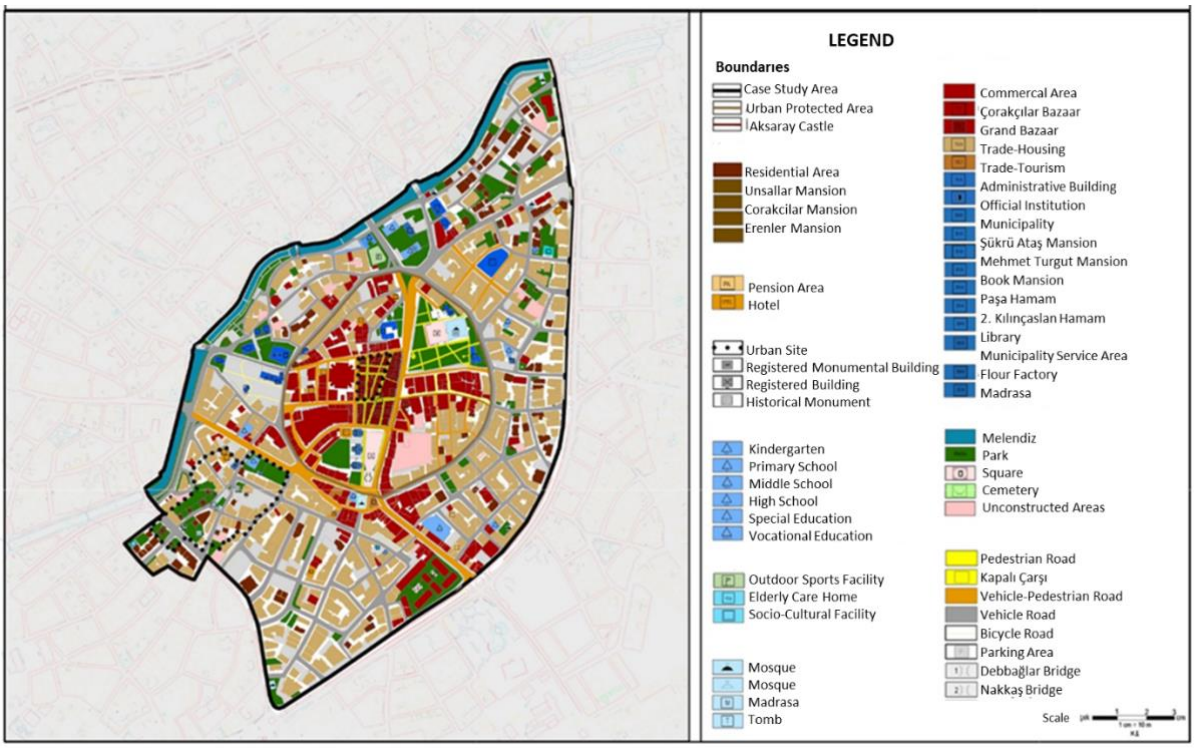


**Figure 10**. Aksaray City center land use analysis (Oktay, 2024)

Aksaray city center can sustain only one city center in terms of the population and economic values it hosts. Due to reasons such as the increase in population, strengthening of the economic structure, change in the size of commercial functions and demand-based trends, the areas outside the traditional center are seen as sub-residential commercial developments that are somehow connected to the center with a commercial integrity. The city center is defined as the "Central Business Area" in the current zoning plan. Shopping centers, office buildings, stores, and wholesale and retail shopping centers in the city center play an important role in keeping the trade constantly alive. The commercial sector in Aksaray has developed in the area between the southeast of Uluırmak and Selçuklu Street. Bankalar Street is the highest accessible area. The traditional city center where the current bazaar is located has also had the ability to be a center in previous periods. The area in question has maintained its central location by assuming various urban functions over the periods.

**Table 13.** Artistic and cultural activities in the city center

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Valid** | Strongly Agree | 59 | 9,9 | 9,9 | 9,9 |
| | Agree | 205 | 34,4 | 34,4 | 44,3 |
| | Undecided | 116 | 19,5 | 19,5 | 63,8 |
| | Disagree | 148 | 24,8 | 24,8 | 88,68 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 68 | 11,4 | 11,4 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 596 | 100 | 100 | |

For the statement “There are artistic and cultural activities in the city center” , 9.9% of the participants strongly agree , 34.4% of them agree, 19.5% of them are undecided, 24.8% of them disagree, and 11.4% of them strongly disagree (Table 13). Approximately 43% of the users who participated in the survey answered that there are enough artistic and cultural activities in the city center. When we look at the artistic and cultural activities in the city center, it was determined that the participants gave this answer because there are activities such as skating and skateboarding, exhibitions, various celebrations, and concerts, especially in the Government Square (Figure 11)

**Figure 11.** Concerts and celebrations in government square (www.milliyet.com.tr, 2016; www.haber7.com., 2019)

13.1% of the respondents answered “strongly agree”, 44.8% “agree”, 16.8% “undecided”, 17.6% “disagree”, and 7.7% “strongly disagree” to the statement “There is a lot of variety of spaces and users (disabled, young, old etc.) in the city centre” (Table 14). According to the answers given by more than 57% of the users participating in the survey, it was seen that the city center was used by different users such as young people, children, old people, disabled people, women, and men.

**Table 14.** Space and user diversity in the city center

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Valid** | Strongly Agree | 78 | 13,1 | 13,1 | 13,1 |
| | Agree | 267 | 44,8 | 44,8 | 57,9 |
| | Undecided | 100 | 16,8 | 16,8 | 74,7 |
| | Disagree | 105 | 17,6 | 17,6 | 92,3 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 46 | 7,7 | 7,7 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 596 | 100 | 100 | |

As a result, it was determined that the social infrastructure and technical infrastructure facilities in the city center were sufficient, cleaning and solid waste management were sufficient, artistic and cultural activities were held in the city center, there was a variety of spaces and users, and there was a lot of air, noise, and visual pollution in the area. It was also observed that the city center was used for other purposes, such as a transition area, a trade area, and a meeting place. In line with these findings, it is concluded that the city center has functional characteristics.

## 4. Conclusions and Suggestions

Urban life quality includes the functional characteristics of a place, focal points and connection points, street and avenue scale, security status, and comfort level. In addition to the city being lively, having a variety in terms of user profile and activities, creating livable and sustainable settlements in the city plans prepared for the places where the city is expected to develop, the integrity formed by the city's character, identity, architectural structures, parks, and green areas are also important for the city. Apart from this, urban life quality aims to meet the needs of the city dwellers including various urban services such as housing, security, transportation, education, health, economy, communication, social, and technical infrastructure, as well as situations covering different approaches such as economic, sociological, psychological, health, and environmental. If urban life quality is evaluated on an individual scale, it also includes age, gender, income and health status, the person's knowledge, consciousness, happiness, satisfaction, and welfare level. The concept of urban life quality, which affects cities in many aspects, such as economic, psychological, environmental, etc., is also important in terms of city centers. When we look at city centers, urban life quality parameters such as being memorable, easy access to public services and facilities, user-oriented design, and having safe and appropriate infrastructure services are effective in the preference of city centers by their users. The presence of many features such as mixed land use such as housing, trade, tourism, open and green areas, having urban furniture and landscape elements, having streets and avenues at an appropriate scale, cultural assets worth seeing such as civil architecture examples having a quality and design that attracts the user, show that the usability and frequency of use of city centers increase. In addition, it plays a role in the perception of the city and the city center as a whole by the city dwellers, spending quality time in the city center and feeling like they belong to the city center. In this context, it is seen that urban life quality is important in many ways for both cities and city centers.

It has been observed that the adequacy levels of the criteria evaluated within the scope of the study in Aksaray's city center vary and are not all at the same level. While the concepts of belonging, walkability, sustainability, accessibility, and functionality are seen as sufficient by the users, it has been observed that the levels of identity, readability, and security are insufficient. When evaluated in general, it is seen that not all of the urban life quality criteria determined within the scope of the research are at a sufficient level. In light of the results obtained, it is necessary to reinforce or restore and transform the ruined structures that need to be demolished, primarily located around the Uluırmak River and spread throughout the city center. It is necessary to show sensitivity to the full protection of cultural heritage structures, especially the registered structures in the protected areas located in the Taşpazar and Minarecik Neighborhoods. Places located in similar textures but evaluated individually should be re-projected and connected. The recognition of registered structures located in the Sofular, Minarecik, Muhsin Çelebi, and Taşpazar Neighborhoods should be increased, and the lack of information of the users should be eliminated. Cultural assets located in the city center should be well defined in terms of use. Cooperation should be provided between ministries, academic units, local governments, civil society organizations, and travel agencies to eliminate the lack of functions for tourism. Registered structures such as Çorakçılar Han in the Taşpazar Neighborhood and Zinciriye Madrasah in the Hacı Hasanlı Neighborhood should be transformed, and the number of structures with different appearances and functions that operate outside their purpose should be increased. The size of the signs that cover a large part of the surfaces of the buildings, especially those located around the Government Square, the Grand Mosque Square, and around the vehicle-pedestrian roads and look like facade cladding, should be made more appropriate. The awareness of the users regarding the cultural heritage structures should be increased.

The feeling of insecurity in the city center should be eliminated; insufficient security cameras and the number of lighting elements should be increased. Physical obstacles and high steps that prevent the safety of the elderly as well as sidewalk, ramp, and railing deficiencies for the disabled should be removed; perceptible surface reliefs should be increased; incorrect planting activities on the streets and avenues should be organized; and pedestrian sidewalk widths should be increased. In order to reduce the feeling of insecurity that occurs especially for women in the evening hours, the number of public transportation stops should be increased, and their distances should be reduced. The quality

and number of functions aimed at increasing night use should be increased by ensuring that the intensity of use of the city center during the day and night is proportional. The scope of pedestrianization works should be expanded by making a plan that will provide pedestrian-vehicle separation. The parking problem should be resolved. The number and quality of urban furniture and landscape elements should be increased, and climate-sensitive design deficiencies should be eliminated. Designs should be made for shared road arrangements. The number of bicycle paths and pedestrian paths should be increased. In order to ensure economic sustainability, qualified functions should be defined, and priority should be given to projects that aim to increase employment. Sustainable commercial activity should be kept alive in registered structures such as the Grand Bazaar in the Minarecik District. Renewable energy sources should be used in parks and gardens. Empty or abandoned spaces should be utilized for uses such as parking lots and green areas. In particular, in order for users to see Hükümet Square and Ulucami Square as meeting places and to spend quality time there, various functions and activities should be carried out, and events should be organized to increase artistic and cultural activities for children and young people. Mixed-use areas should be developed, and continuity and diversity should be ensured in day and night uses.

The number of indicators and the level of knowledge needed by scientists, policy makers and the public to measure urban quality of life are different. It is important to design ideal indicators for scientists and researchers, a composite index for policy makers and an indicator and evaluation system that is not affected by subjective evaluations to be presented to the public. The inadequacy of the current statistical infrastructure on a city basis in Turkey and the fact that it cannot be regularized cause the important indicators presented to be unable to be provided. Measurements made on accessible indicators provide a general idea about the quality of life in that city, but in order to make a more accurate assessment, local data should be collected in addition to the indicators that stand out internationally in measuring quality of life. Finally, the ideas expressed here regarding the proposed quality of life are not universal and may vary for different cities with different cultures. Future quality of life studies should also include medium and small-scale cities within the scope of determining the effect of location-specific conditions on the quality of life of individuals, depending on the local dynamics of the cities. These studies will also contribute to the planning discipline within the scope of designing qualified cities. Repetition of the subject addressed in this study at regular intervals will ensure positive results in the design and construction of more positive/livable urban environments, thus on the quality of urban life, and access to a quality urban environment and a smooth urban system.

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All authors contributed equally to the article. There is no conflict of interest**.**

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