

A Study on Gathering the Opinions of Architecture Students to Enhance User Interaction with Historical Urban Fabric: A Case Study of Tepebağ District in Adana Province

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Abstract

The historical urban fabric is an important part of our cultural heritage, and historical districts are valuable assets that reflect the identity and character of a city. However, over time, what kind of changes, unplanned urbanization, and other factors reduced the authenticity and user interaction of these historical districts. The urban historical fabric, which can be considered as cultural heritage, has the chance to sustain its continuity under the responsibility of various professions, especially the discipline of architecture. Based on this reality, it is inconceivable for an architecture student, who is educated to learn, comprehend, and preserve the historical fabric, to remain indifferent to the cultural heritage of a city. In this context, a study was conducted to gather the opinions of architecture students with the aim of increasing their interaction with the historical urban fabric. The objective was to use the views of responsible architecture students as data in collaboration with stakeholders to improve and enhance the interaction with the historical urban fabric.

The study measured the demographic information and awareness of architecture students at Çukurova University regarding the field through a questionnaire. The reasons and frequency of users' experiences in the area were analysed. Within the scope of the study, participants were presented with sample images from cultural, economic, social, educational, and public open/semi-open space categories within the historical fabric. Using a 5-point Likert scale, the study aimed to determine the preferred value and rationale of these spaces if they were located in Tepebağ. The results of the survey aimed to increase the interaction of architecture students, aged 18-26 (+), with the significant historical fabric of Tepebağ District in Adana Province. The study aimed to gather their opinions and recommendations regarding the historical fabric and to contribute to initiatives that increase the interaction of young individuals with the historical fabric by sharing the collected data with relevant institutions.

Keywords: Historical Fabric, Tepebağ, Experience Analysis, Architecture Students.

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Tarihi Kent Dokusuyla Kullanıcı Etkileşimini Artırmak Amacıyla Mimarlık Öğrencilerinin Görüşlerin Toplanması Üzerine Bir Çalışma: Adana İli Tarihi Tepebağ Mahallesi Örneği

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Özet

Tarihi kent dokusu, kültürel mirasımızın önemli bir parçasıdır ve tarihi mahalleler, bir şehrin kimliğini ve karakterini yansıtan değerli varlıklardır. Ancak, zamanla yapılan değişiklikler, plansız kentleşme ve diğer faktörler nedeniyle bu tarihi mahallelerin özgünlüğü ve kullanıcı etkileşimi azalmaktadır. Kültür mirası olarak nitelendirilebilecek olan kentsel tarihi doku; mimarlık disiplini başta olmak üzere birçok meslek dalının sorumluluğu altında devamlılığını sürdürebilme şansını elde edebilmektedir. Bu gerçeklikten yola çıkılarak mimarlık eğitiminin tarihi dokuyu öğrenme, anlamlandırma ve yaşatma sorumluluğu çerçevesinde mimarlık eğitimi alan bir adayın kentin kültür mirasına duysuz kalması düşünülemez. Bu bağlamda tarihi kent dokusuyla etkileşimi arttırmak amacıyla mimarlık öğrencileri görüşlerinin toplanması üzerine bir çalışma yapılmıştır. Amaç; tarihi kent dokusunun iyileştirilmesi ve etkileşiminin artırılmasında sorumluluk sahibi mimar adaylarının görüşlerinin paydaşlarla iş birliğinde veri olarak kullanılmasıdır.

Çalışmada Çukurova Üniversitesi mimar adaylarının demografik bilgileri ve alan ile ilgili farkındalıkları anket çalışması ile ölçülmüş, kullanıcıların alanı deneyimleme sebepleri ve sıklıkları analiz edilmiştir. Çalışma kapsamında katılımcılara tarihi dokuda yer edinmiş kültürel, ekonomik, sosyal, eğitim ve kamusal açık/yarı açık mekân kategorilerinden örnek görseller yönlendirilmiş, 5 dereceli doğrusal ölçekle bu mekânların Tepebağ'da olması durumunda alanın mimar adayları tarafından tercih edilme değeri ve nedenselliği öğrenilmeye çalışılmıştır.

Anket çalışması sonucunda; 18-26 (+) yaş aralığında kümelenen Çukurova Üniversitesi mimarlık öğrencilerinin ülke ve kent için önemli bir tarihi dokuya sahip olan Adana ili Tepebağ Mahallesi ile etkileşimini arttırmak, tarihi dokuyla ilgili görüş ve önerilerini almak ve bu verilerin gerekli kurumlarla paylaşarak gençlerin tarihi dokuyla etkileşimini artırmaya yönelik girişimlerde bulunulmasına ön ayak olmak çalışmanın hedeflenen çıktılarında yer almaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Deneyim Analizi, Mimarlık Öğrencileri, Tarihi Doku, Tepebağ.

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INTRODUCTION

Cities are settlements that gain meaning and identity with the combination of different elements. The traces of the people living in these settlements in the historical process are revealed through elements such as streets, districts, architectural structures and squares. These elements are the features that distinguish the city from other cities and make it unique. Various initiatives are being undertaken in order to preserve the historical texture and increase the interaction with the users. One of these initiatives is the integration of new functions that will serve to revitalize the area without damaging the existing urban and historical fabric. Studies conducted in areas where cultural heritage is valued produce positive results by increasing user interaction with these areas and user adoption of the city.

In order to enhance interaction with Tepebağ District, which represents the historical urban fabric of Adana, and to prevent the perception of the city as a disconnected entity, the opinions of Çukurova University Department of Architecture students were sought. Quality assessments were conducted within the urban space, and spatial recommendations were put forward. This holistic approach aims to create a more livable and interactive space by preserving its historical texture and equipping it with new functions.

This study aims to take a step towards preserving the historical texture and increasing user interaction within the architectural discipline. Architecture students gain sensitivity to the cultural heritage of the city through this study and contribute to the sustainability of the historical texture. Additionally, the results of the study are used in cooperation with the relevant stakeholders, helping to make decisions to improve the historical texture and increase its interaction. Thus, it is aimed to enrich the urban life and increase the interest of the society in cultural heritage by ensuring the preservation and preservation of the historical texture in Tepebağ District and similar regions.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The materials utilized in this study encompass a wide range of sources, including books, e-books, articles, journals, papers, archives from various institutions and organizations, as well as resources from master's and doctoral theses accessible through the Council of Higher Education's thesis catalog. Additionally, the research draws upon thesis studies conducted abroad and written documents derived from internet resources that form the foundational conceptual content of the study.

The study area is Adana Province Historical Tepebağ District, and interaction analysis, quality evaluation and spatial suggestion evaluations of this texture were performed. The data of the research was obtained by the survey analysis method. The subject group of the study consists of the students of Çukurova University Department of Architecture. The number of active students of Çukurova University Department of Architecture is 503 and the questionnaire was applied to 106 people within the scope of the study. In the preparation of the questionnaire, the knowledge and experience of the researcher, as well as the quality criteria of the urban space in the study "How To Design A Safe Public Space" by Madden (2002), were used.

In the context of spatial quality parameters, the survey questions in the study carried out to reveal the urban space quality assessment of Adana province Tepebağ District were prepared to measure how users perceive the urban

space in the historical texture. The survey study consists of three parts. In the first part, there are questions for the evaluation of the usage practice in the context of obtaining the demographic structure and the experience of the region.

"Have you experienced the Tepebağ region before?" asks the second part. Students who answered "yes" were asked to evaluate the reasons for experiencing the historical urban space, the frequency of visits, the mode of transportation used when visiting the region, and the spaces with different functions (social, education, health, commercial, green texture). The rating was "Very sufficient/2". score- Sufficient/1 point- Undecided/0 point- Inadequate/-1 point- Very insufficient/-2 points". The problem was evaluated by taking the arithmetic averages of the obtained data.

In the following parts of the section, the participants were asked to evaluate the historical Tepebağ region in line with the quality parameters of Madden (2002) in urban space. "Strongly Agree (+2), Agree (+1), Undecided (0), Disagree (-1), Strongly Disagree (-2)" to analyze the questions prepared to determine the thoughts and evaluations on the urban space quality of Tepebağ District. A 5-point Likert scale was used and scored in the range of (+2) – (-2) values.

In the third part, it is aimed to collect suggestions and user opinions to increase the frequency of Tepebağ being preferred by the students of architecture department. In this context, respondents were asked questions related to visuals of venues with various functions, and their answers were requested using a 5-point Likert scale, ranging from 'Strongly Disagree' to 'Strongly Agree,' in response to the question, "If there were..." As a result of the analysis of all these survey data, suggestions were developed as research output.

THE CONCEPT AND IMPORTANCE OF URBAN SPACE IN HISTORICAL CONTEXTS

The concept of architectural space is defined as designed voids that fulfil users' psychological, social, physical, and cultural needs (Schulz, 1971). Urban space, which encompasses the public and social areas outside of buildings, is described by Kuban (1994) as an "organized artificial physical environment." It refers to the living places that have been embraced as a whole, with historic buildings and environments that have witnessed many events and managed to endure over centuries. Urban space represents the areas where people interact within a city, including streets, avenues, parks, squares, commercial centers, and cultural and historical structures.

The concept of urban space in historical environments refers to urban areas and locations within historical contexts. This concept underscores the interaction of period structures and spaces with the urban fabric. Urban spaces within historical contexts bear the imprints of the past while also responding to contemporary functional and social requirements. Historic city centers aim to preserve the inherited fabric and, in doing so, strive to maintain the vibrancy and sustainability of the city. The interventions and designs implemented in these areas aim not only to conserve the historical texture but also to create functional and aesthetically pleasing spaces that cater to the needs of urban users.

Historic urban centers, serving as tangible evidence carrying social, architectural, cultural, and economic traces from the past, are officially regarded as representations of cities and societies. The preservation and active engagement with these urban centers, which cities possess as their greatest legacy from the past, are crucial in bridging the gap between the past and the future (Arabacıoğlu and Aydemir, 2007). Today, historic urban spaces are

often less frequented compared to modern city centers and face the risk of fading into obscurity. Nonetheless, comprehending and interpreting the distinct identity formed through the changes, developments, and transformations that cities and their inhabitants have undergone over time holds significant importance. Establishing a meaningful relationship of interaction, utilization, and appreciation with the historical cores of urban areas plays a pivotal role in the preservation and appreciation of cultural heritage.

According to Zeren (1981), revitalizing historical urban areas, which are deemed a crucial component of cities, through well-functioning spaces tailored to human scale in terms of environmental utilization and social equilibrium, represents a valuable initiative. This initiative not only promotes interaction among the present and potential users of the area but also fosters and sustains awareness and consciousness regarding historic city centers. Ensuring the historical continuity of the city and inviting people to engage with its historical fabric are crucial goals. This can be achieved by adapting these areas to quality standards in spatial, environmental, and sociocultural aspects. The aim is to integrate historic environments into the lives of city dwellers and pass on cultural heritage to future generations.

As Doratlı (2000) points out, the deterioration of buildings, landscapes, sociocultural and environmental perceptions in historic city centers affects the potential for renewal and transformation the region into an attractive and vibrant hub. Therefore, minimizing the mentioned problems, revitalizing historic urban spaces, and enhancing the image of the area constitute the main objectives of this study. Within this scope, the principles of quality in urban space, obtained through a literature review, are intended to be further developed through a survey conducted with university students to propose revitalization and improvement measures for the region.

THE CONCEPT OF QUALITY IN URBAN SPACE

The topic of quality, which is being studied to keep up with the developments brought about by globalization, is gaining importance day by day. Quality is a concept that can have different meanings depending on the subject of discussion. In the context of architectural quality, it can be defined as a concept dependent on satisfying the needs of users. In the case of urban space, quality is highly significant because we start experiencing the city from the moment we step into architectural spaces such as homes, schools, workplaces, hospitals, etc. (İnceoğlu and Aytuğ, 2008). Historic settlements have cultural significance and serve as the continuation of urban memory, making it essential to preserve and sustain them. Therefore, architectural, environmental, and sociocultural quality principles are important parameters to focus on. In this context, a survey was conducted by the students of the Department of Architecture at Çukurova University in Adana province to analyze the relationship between the level of quality in urban space and the reasons for experiencing Tepebağ District. The survey questions were shaped based on Madden's (2002) criteria for measuring the quality of urban spaces. According to these criteria, urban spaces should:

- Provide opportunities for social activities and accommodate units with different functions that appeal to city users.
- Offer gathering and focal points that provide a communication environment for city users (stops, commercial units, squares, parks).
- Ensure that the entrances of the spaces within them can be easily perceived without the need for additional guidance.

- Consider the dominance between pedestrian routes and vehicular traffic. Pedestrian transportation should prevail within the city limits, allowing pedestrians to reach their destinations easily.
- Have a distinctive identity and defining characteristics.
- Be compatible with the existing urban and historical fabric in their surroundings and should not exhibit an additive stance.
- The survey questions developed within the scope of the study were aligned with these parameters, and the opinions of users experiencing the historic urban space of Tepebağ in Adana were obtained. The findings and discussion section presents the analysis of the survey responses.

REGAINING THE HISTORICAL URBAN TEXTURE TO THE CITY

The social, economic and physical changes that cities have undergone in the historical process often cannot adequately meet the requirements and user demands of the age. This situation causes a significant decrease in the interaction of the historical city centers with the users, and as a result of the city's transformation and inability to keep up with the present, these regions cannot reach the access and interaction they deserve as an idle part of the city (Demir, 2018). Rehabilitation and revitalization of historical centers is increasingly recognized as an effective means of urban development that allows cultural values to be synthesized with economic opportunities and provided benefits (Sing & Yoh, 2016). To improve the general condition of historical urban spaces, the aim should be to develop vibrant, dynamic and livable city centers where people can feel safe and live, new business lines can develop and create opportunities for new activities (Oruç and Giritlioğlu, 2006).

Revitalization is one of the methods that can be applied in order to make the historical city centers live in yesterday, today and tomorrow as well as to ensure the social sustainability of the region in terms of urban. Tiftatchell and Hedgcock (1993) define urban social sustainability as "the ability of a city to function as a long-term, sustainable environment for human interaction, communication and cultural development". Most of the examples that can be described as successful in terms of social, economic and cultural sustainability in historical urban space; It is seen that an environment where cultural and social groups with social diversity can live together in a harmonious coexistence is encouraged, and units that offer functional options to adapt the city users to the region (PAN, 59; Polese & Stren, 2000).

Within the scope of the study, images of spaces with different functions were placed in the questionnaire to produce revitalization strategies to increase the communication and interaction of users with these regions, and "If there was in Tepebağ, I would have more interaction with that region, the region would become lively. would come" was sought to answer the question.

DATA ANALYSIS OF THE FIELD STUDY

a) Adana Province Historical Tepebağ Region

The historical Tepebağ region of Adana, which was selected for revitalization and quality assessment in the historical urban space within the scope of the study, is a settlement area where we can come across artifacts of traditional residential architecture, including Tepebağ Tumulus, the first settlement of Adana (Payaslı Oğuz and Aksulu, 2007). "Tepebağ Tumulus", which is described as an archaeological site, has a topography consisting of a plain on the hill and

its skirts. There are sloping streets and then flat areas in the area (Halaman and Edirne Erdiñç, 2022).

Adana province Tepebağ District is a residential area of great architectural importance. This District, which draws attention with its historical texture and architectural structures, is an important part of Adana's cultural heritage. The architectural value of Tepebağ District is not limited to the buildings themselves. At the same time, street arrangements, squares and open spaces complete the architectural integrity of the district. These elements provide residents and visitors with an enjoyable urban experience.

To make the Tepebağ region, which functioned as a city center surrounded by agricultural lands until the 1940s and continued to grow, an area frequented by university students, who have an important place among the city's user groups, architectural space proposals with various functions were made for revitalization, with the goal of gathering opinions.

b) Preparation of Survey Questions

A survey was conducted with the participation of 106 students studying at Çukurova University, Department of Architecture, which was selected as the subject group in 2023. In the survey, there are questions about the evaluation of Tepebağ District, which is the historical urban space of Adana, by students studying architecture according to the quality criteria in urban space. In this study, which aims to determine the steps to be taken in order to increase the interaction of the users with this region and to determine the steps to be taken to revitalize the region, questions were prepared in order to determine the desired and preferred functions to be brought into the historical texture by using the revitalization method.

EXPERIENCE ANALYSIS IN HISTORICAL URBAN SPACE

In the questionnaire regarding participants' experiences and opinions about the selected pilot region, each question was individually analyzed, and the findings were presented in both tabular and textual formats. While graphical and tabular representations were created for all questions, only the tables related directly to the outcomes were included in the article to maintain the flow of the study.

Evaluation of Participants' Demographic Information

It is seen that the majority of the students participating in the survey are female, predominantly between the ages of 21-23. It is possible to say that the architectural students, which are the focus group of the research, are at a rate of 97.2% and the target group has been reached. The education level of the participants mainly focused on the 3rd and 4th grades and that more than half of the participants completed a large part of the architectural education (Table-1).

The development of the sense of belonging of the city users, learning and visiting the characteristic regions of the city, establishing a relationship with the parts of the city and being able to own them are related to the duration of their stay in that city. 43.4% of the participants were born in Adana and continued their lives there. This situation has an important place in the analysis of the relationship with the level of awareness of Tepebağ, the historical region of the city. While 61.3% of the participants have knowledge about Tepebağ District, the experience rate of the region is 70.8% (Table-2). In this case, it is possible to say that the area is not fully recognized by some of the participants who experienced the Tepebağ region.

Participant Information	Number of Persons	Percent (%)
Gender		
Male	25	23.6%
Female	81	76.4%
Age		
18-20	22	20.8%
21-23	65	61.3%
24-26	13	12.3%
26 +	6	5.7%
Architecture Student		
Yes	103	97.2%
No	3	2.8%
Education Level		
1st Class	18	17%
2st Class	26	24.5%
3st Class	34	32.1%
4st Class	28	26.4%

Table 1. Distribution of Demographic Information of Participants.

Participant Information	Number of Persons	Percent (%)
Duration of Residence in Adana Province		
0-1 years	16	15.1%
1-4 years	31	29.2%
4 (+) years	13	12.3%
I was born and raised in Adana	46	43.4%
Level of Knowledge About Tepebağ		
Yes	24	20.8%
No	82	61.3%
Experience of Tepebağ		
Yes	75	70.8%
No	31	29.2%

Table 2. Distribution of Participants' Field Knowledge and Experience.

"Have you experienced the Tepebağ region before?" question was directed to the students participating in the survey. For the next step, a referral was made to the section according to the answer, and users who had experienced Tepebağ District before were directed to the second part of the survey. The participants, who had not experienced the region before, were immediately presented with the questions in the 3rd part without seeing the 2nd part of the questionnaire.

COLLECTING OPINIONS OF PARTICIPANTS ACCORDING TO THEIR EXPERIENCES AND DATA ANALYSIS

In this section, the question "Have you experienced the Tepebağ region before?" The answers of the users who answered "Yes" to the question are included. At this stage, it is aimed to make inferences about the quality level of the historical Tepebağ District in the urban space by referring to the opinions of users who have experienced the historical region before.

Reasons For Experiencing Tepebağ District

"For what reasons do you usually come to the Tepebağ region?" question was directed to the respondents who participated in the survey and who

had experienced the Tepebağ region before. 70.9% of the answers given to the question were concentrated in the Education/Technical Trip category (Table-3). This situation may show that the subjective relationship of the architect candidates with the historical texture is very weak and their communication with this region is provided by conditional orientation.

Frequency of Visiting Tepebağ District

When the interaction frequency of Çukurova University Architecture Department students with Tepebağ District is analyzed; Table 3 presents the data showing that 106 people who participated in the survey chose the option “Rarely” with a rate of 84.8% (Table-3).

Table 3. Experiencing Reasons and Frequency Distribution of Tepebağ District.

Reasons to Experience Tepebağ District	Number of Persons	Percent (%)
Social Activity	18	22.8%
Cultural	22	27.8%
Education/Technical Trip	56	70.9%
Eating and drinking	5	6.3%
Shopping	7	8.9%
Work	2	2.5%
Tourist trip	17	21.5%
Other	8	10.1%
Frequency of Visiting Tepebağ District	Number of Persons	Percent (%)
Every day	0	0
More than twice a week	1	1.3%
Once a week	2	2.5%
Once a month	2	2.5%
Several times a month	4	5.1%
Rarely	67	84.8%
For one trip	1	1.3%
A few times just for the technical trip	1	1.3%
When visiting family	1	1.3%

In this direction, it is possible to say that Çukurova University Architecture Department students between the ages of 18-26 (+) do not interact regularly and frequently with the historical urban fabric of Adana.

Spatial Adequacy Situations of Tepebağ District

In the second part of the survey, the adequacy of usage in various functions within the historical Tepebağ District of Adana province was analyzed with the assistance of user opinions. The adequacy status of different functions in terms of venues is as follows:

- Adequacy of places with socio-cultural functions: Among the 79 respondents to the questions in this section, 24 were considered adequate, 21 were undecided, 27 were deemed inadequate, and 7 were considered very inadequate.
- Adequacy of educational venues: Among those who responded to the questions in this section of the questionnaire, 7 found them adequate, 24 were undecided, 39 found them inadequate, and 10 considered them very inadequate.
- Adequacy of venues serving health-related functions: In this section of the questionnaire, there were 5 respondents, with 32 being undecided, 34

finding them inadequate, and 8 considering them very inadequate.

- Adequacy of functional spaces related to commercial diversity, dining, shopping, tourism, and entertainment, etc.: This section received evaluations of very sufficient from 16 individuals, sufficient from 21, undecided from 22, inadequate from 13, and very inadequate from 7.
- Adequacy in terms of park and green space arrangements: In this regard, 6 people found it very sufficient, 18 found it sufficient, 22 were undecided, 23 found it inadequate, and 12 considered it very inadequate.

According to the findings obtained as a result of the evaluation of the adequacy status of the spaces with different functions in Tepebağ District, made by 79 people who saw the questions in this part of the questionnaire, “Very sufficient/2 points- Sufficient/1 point- Undecided/0 point- Insufficient/-1 point- Very insufficient/- 2 points” (Table 4).

Spatial Adequacy Situations in Tegebağ District	Strongly Agree (+2)	Agree (+1)	Neutral (0)	Disagree (-1)	Strongly Disagree (-2)	TOTAL
Sociocultural Spaces	0	24	21	27	7	- 17
Spaces with Education Functions	0	7	24	39	10	-52
Spaces with Health Functions	0	5	32	34	8	-40
Commercial Spaces	16	21	22	13	7	+26
Parks and Green Spaces	6	18	22	23	12	-17

Table 4. Tepebağ District Spatial Adequacy Status and Scores.

When assessing proficiency levels based on user feedback regarding spaces serving diverse functions within the historical context of Adana, it becomes evident that areas designated for educational purposes are perceived as the least satisfactory. A comparative analysis of these evaluations reveals that commercial spaces consistently receive the highest positive ratings from users. As a result, this underscores the imperative to augment both the quantity and quality of educational, healthcare, socio-cultural, and public open spaces. This initiative aims to revitalize Tepebağ District and foster increased engagement among aspiring architects within this locality. The collection of insights from local residents is paramount for formulating policies aimed at enhancing spatial quality and revitalization

To assess the responses aimed at determining the alignment of Tepebağ District in Adana province with quality criteria in urban spaces, a 5-point Likert scale was employed. The scale ranged from ‘Strongly Agree’ (+2) to ‘Strongly Disagree’ (-2), with answers falling within this value range being scored.

- “Tepebağ District: It enables social activities and hosts units with different functions that appeal to urban users”: 6 Points
- “Tepebağ District: It has meeting points and nodes that provide a communication environment for city users (Stops, trade units, squares, parks)”: 27 Points

- “Tepebağ District: The entrances of the spaces it houses can be easily perceived”: 5 Points (Table-5).

Table 5. Evaluation of Tepebağ District According to Quality Criteria in Urban Space I.

Tepebag District;			
Quality Criteria in Urban Space	It allows social activities and hosts units with different functions that appeal to urban users.	It has assembly and nodal points that provide a communication environment for city users	The entrances of the spaces it contains can be easily perceived
Strongly Agree (+2)	6	12	7
Agree (+1)	27	14	10
Neutral (0)	18	12	14
Disagree (-1)	27	5	11
Strongly disagree (-2)	3	3	4
TOTAL:	6 Points	27 Points	5 Points

- “Tepebağ District; Pedestrian transport dominates vehicle traffic. It can easily reach the desired point on foot”: 12 Points
- “Tepebağ District; It has a unique identity and defining qualities”: 61 Points
- “Tepebağ District; It is compatible with the existing urban and historical fabric around it”: 29 points (Table-6).

Table 6. Evaluation of Tepebağ District According to Quality Criteria in Urban Space II.

Quality Criteria in Urban Space	Pedestrian transport dominates vehicle traffic. It can easily reach the desired point on foot.	It has a unique identity and defining qualities.	It is compatible with the existing urban and historical fabric around it.
Strongly Agree (+2)	9	25	11
Agree (+1)	13	14	17
Neutral (0)	9	4	12
Disagree (-1)	11	3	2
Strongly disagree (-2)	4	0	4
TOTAL:	12 Points	61 Points	29 Points

- “Tepebağ District; Do you think it is promoted enough?”: -42 Points
- “In Tepebağ District: Do you think it is necessary for the municipalities to carry out a study on the revitalization of the region?”: Compliance with the quality criteria in the urban space was evaluated by getting 76 points (Table 7).

In this context while the view that the city has a unique identity stands out with 61 points, inferences can be made that support the view that the city has certain nodal points and that the region can be perceived as a whole with its environmental and urban historical texture

Tepebağ District;		
Quality Criteria in Urban Spaces	Do you think that the promotion of the region is done enough?	Do you find it necessary to carry out a study on the revitalization of the region?
Strongly Agree (+2)	3	36
Agree (+1)	2	7
Neutral (0)	7	1
Disagree (-1)	18	1
Strongly Disagree (-2)	16	1
TOTAL:	42 Points	76 Points

Table 7. Evaluation of Tepebağ District According to Quality Criteria in Urban Space III

Survey Study Findings on the Revitalization of Tepebağ District by Referring to User Opinions

In the 3rd part of the survey titled "If there was in Tepebağ", It is aimed to collect suggestions and user opinions to increase the rate of preference by university students studying in the architecture department of Tepebağ, a historical region of Adana.

Participants were asked to rate the images provided in the questionnaire. In accordance with the results obtained, it is integrated with the historical texture of Tepebağ District.

- Having a library structure: 66%,
- Office structure: 48.1%
- Presence of restaurant structure: 79.3%
- Cafe structure: 80.2%
- Having an art gallery/exhibition structure: 77.4%
- Existence of public spaces in open space: 70.7%
- Existence of transportation axes/streets closed to traffic: 66.9%



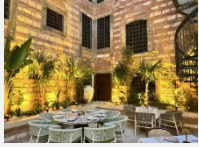



Having shopping units with different functions: was evaluated as an element that helps increase interaction with the region and revitalize the region by 68% (Table-8).

It is aimed to collect suggestions and user opinions in order to increase the rate of preference of Tepebağ District, a historical region of Adana, by university students studying at Çukurova University, Department of Architecture. For this purpose, 106 survey participants were presented with images of space examples with different functions in the historical urban texture and were asked to rate the expected interactions with the region if the space examples in these functions were activated in an integrated manner with Tepebağ. They were asked to evaluate the visuals, which they thought as "If had been in Tepebağ, I would have more interaction with that region, the region would become more lively", according to a 5-point Likert scale between "Strongly Agree" and "Strongly Disagree" (Table-9), (Table-10).

Table 8. Preference Ranking of Survey Participants According to the Suggestions of Spaces with Different Functions in the Urban Texture for the Historical Tepebağ District.

Participant Preference Ranking	1	2	3	4	5	6	Percent (%)
Art gallery	24	19	25	21	9	9	%79,3,
Restaurant	19	30	24	16	10	7	%77,4
Cafe	39	24	15	14	10	4	%80,2
Office	20	15	18	19	11	23	%48,1
Library	11	13	10	8	33	31	%66
Shopping Venues	11	16	18	23	20	18	%68

Table 9. Evaluation of Space Suggestions with Different Functions in the Urban Texture for the Historical Tepebağ District

"If there was in Tepebağ"			
	Library	Shared Office	Restaurant
Spatial Suggestions with Different Functions in Historical Urban Texture			
Strongly Agree (+2)	53	33	66
Agree (+1)	17	18	18
Neutral (0)	16	25	5
Disagree (-1)	9	17	6
Strongly Disagree (-2)	11	13	11
TOTAL:	92 Points	41 Points	122 Points
	Cafe	Art gallery	Open area
Spatial Suggestions with Different Functions in Historical Urban Texture			
Strongly Agree (+2)	67	71	56
Agree (+1)	18	11	19
Neutral (0)	3	6	8
Disagree (-1)	4	5	11
Strongly Disagree (-2)	14	13	12
TOTAL:	120 Points	122 Points	96 Points


"If there was in Tepebağ"		
Spatial Suggestions with Different Functions in Historical Urban Texture	Pedestrian Streets	Shopping Units with Different Functions
		
Strongly Agree (+2)	61	52
Agree (+1)	10	20
Neutral (0)	12	14
Disagree (-1)	9	10
Strongly Disagree (-2)	14	10
TOTAL:	95 Points	94 Points

Table 10. Evaluation of Space Suggestions with Different Functions in the Urban Texture for the Historical Tepebağ District

Evaluation of Spatial Alternative Suggestions for Revitalization

- "Can you share with us your opinions and suggestions regarding the revitalization of the Tepebağ region, located within the historical urban fabric of Adana?" When the answers to the question are evaluated, the results obtained are as follows:
 - By acquiring spaces where social, cultural and artistic events can be held, the region will be visited by users not only for a few hours but more frequently.
 - The flexible use of the spatial units in the historical urban texture and the design of the historical texture and modern functional spaces as designs that allow flexible use will contribute to the region's visit by more people.
 - It will arouse interest both for architecture students and for the local people, if the buildings are restored without ignoring the historical texture while the practices are carried out for the revitalization of the region, by loading new functions and bringing them into use.
 - By rearranging pedestrian and vehicle roads, creating side streets in concepts that contribute to traffic-free tourism, including second-hand booksellers and commercial units where Adana-specific souvenirs are sold will add value to the region in terms of tourism.
 - The organization of an event in this region by photography or advertising experts, along with the production of a promotional film and the publication of a significant event such as the Orange Blossom Festival in Adana, aims primarily to enhance local users' awareness of the area and subsequently boost their curiosity and visitation rates.
 - The design and construction of landmarks will contribute to the brand value of Adana and the Tepebağ region.
 - Organizing activities for the reintroduction of street culture and landscaping works that will bring green texture to the city will make the region more interactive than its current state,
 - Informative and introductory studies about Tepebağ, which is an example of Adana's historical urban texture, by the Metropolitan Municipality will add value to the city,
 - The area can be made more interesting by restoring the houses in the historical area and maybe making an archeopark,
 - Since the area is generally seen as problematic in terms of security, putting the rehabilitation works of the streets on the agenda is a step

towards solving this problem, and solving the trust problem will have a positive effect on the interaction rate of the users with the area,

- Creating working areas that are open 24 hours a day and interact with the historical urban fabric will benefit the study's target audience, architecture students.
- It will be a conscious step towards preserving cultural heritage by creating areas that bring together the local tradespeople of the city. These areas can also strengthen the bond between the youth and people of the city with the past.
- Opening courses that give the opportunity to learn the work of masters in the region where traditional craft branches are carried out, and designing a workshop environment for architecture students where upper and lower workshops can come together are among the opinions and suggestions conveyed to us by the students.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is inevitable that historical city centers, which are alive and exposed to some physical and perceptual changes in the process, are in renewal and transformation. When the findings obtained in the survey study were analyzed, it was found out that increasing interaction with the historical urban fabric of a city is important for students, each of whom is an architect candidate. It is one of the study's intended outcomes for architecture students, who are taught to respect design, aesthetics, and cultural heritage in their professional ethics and education, to design by integrating the past and future of the city in which they live. It has been concluded that the inclusion of social, cultural and educational building groups in the historical Tepebağ District of Adana will increase the interaction of the architecture department students with the region. It is thought that the rate of appealing to the users will increase with the use of the architectural students residing in this city and the arrangement and animation activities to be carried out in the light of the suggestions they offer. It is aimed to share the results of the survey analysis obtained by interviewing the Seyhan Municipality KUDEB unit, and to provide the city with different functions with high added value as a result of cooperation with the stakeholders. It is expected that the study will shed light on the revitalization to be carried out in the Tepebağ District of Adana province and the studies aimed at increasing the quality of the urban space.

Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest was declared by the authors.

Authors' Contributions

The authors contributed equally to the study.

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Ethics Committee Approval

Ethics committee approval is needed as data was collected by survey method within the scope of the study.

Legal Public/Private Permissions

In this research, the necessary permissions were obtained from the relevant participants (individuals, institutions and organizations) during the survey, in-depth interview, focus group interview, observation or experiment.

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