



Research article

Achieving Identity in Public Spaces through Tangible and Intangible Concepts, A Literature Review

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ABSTRACT

Several fields of study focused on understanding the word identity; it evokes a certain gravitas depending on the field attached to it; this identity is manifested in both tangible and intangible thoughts. Furthermore, each field has its definition related to identity in the physical and non-physical senses; this approach differs in the creation of the identity itself, which allows spaces to be unique in their comprehensive identity. Specialists use this combination of responding to the elements to evoke this identity based on the field itself. From the view of landscape architecture, the focus on identity differs according to the type of function. Therefore, this research will focus on establishing the characteristics that affect the identity of the public space design through synthesising the literature reviews; the focus will concentrate on indicating the concepts that affect the design of public spaces to allow the decision-makers to achieve identity in them.

ARTICLE INFO

Article timeline:

Date of Submission:

12 August, 2024

Date of Acceptance:

12 December, 2024

Article available online:

29 December, 2024

Keywords:

Urban identity

Sensual experience

Public space

Tangible urban identity

Intangible urban identity

Introduction

Public spaces are places authorities provide for shared use by all residents, visitors, or users regardless of their personal, social, physical, or cultural differences. They should be free to use, access, and see the overall touristic or conservation plan for such areas. It should be noted that the work is not a simple mission or has a fixed plan and a way of thinking. Still, it depends on the type of heritage area and the leading players involved in the work. The design principles of sustainable streetscapes involve various key stakeholders across different sectors. In terms of technology, tourism, culture and heritage, and the built environment, there are vast numbers of leading players, including city government and municipal authorities, urban planners, urban designers, landscape architects, architects, transportation and traffic specialists, technology companies, and innovators, destination management organisations, cultural and heritage institutions and authorities, community organisations, and N.G.O.s (Non-Governmental Organisations).

Recently, suitable public space designs that show the identity of specific places have become more needed in line with the old part of the city development plans, especially in heritage areas. Streetscapes have become a tool for improving heritage ambience, so if streetscapes are appropriate and meet the objectives of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) and the

local municipalities. However, the transition towards understanding the identity seems to be lacking due to a lack of fundamental understanding of the spirituality of the space and how the physical and non-physical elements are considered to create an identity towards the space. Several public spaces nowadays tend to neglect those fundamentals and rely on the gracious approach and globalisation, creating a fragmented identity that does not relate to the people occupying the place nor the tourists and visitors to the spaces.

As a result, the research question is: What are the tangible and intangible elements that help create identity in public space? Consequently, the research objectives are:

- Understanding the different terminologies that revolve around the word identity and public space
- Synthesising the previously conducted research focusing on tangible and intangible identity.
- Recommending the list of tangible and intangible characteristics that affect the establishment of the identity in the public space

In order to achieve this, the research designs a methodology that utilises a literature review method that focuses on synthesising the previously conducted research and establishing the connection between the tangible and intangible elements. Furthermore, the research will utilise the focus group and interviews with specialists in the

design field to determine which elements affect the identity in public spaces.

The Expected contribution of the paper will highlight the most compatible aspects in terms of tangible and intangible identity that are influential in the public space and how they correlate with each other to form the identity. as well as establishing guidelines that can affect the creation of identity in public spaces areas with inconsistent forage quality. However, this study examines how concentrate supplements affect growth, with the aim to find optimal feeding methods to promote efficient and sustainable sheep farming.

Understanding the concepts

Understanding Identity

The concept of identity can be considered an enigma to this day. Both ancient philosophers and modern researchers have tackled the multi-faceted concept. (Casakin et al., 2015; Hernández et al., 2020). Each has focused on the concept from the perspective of their contextual studies.

Historically, the first definition of the concept in ancient times was the timeless relationship between the essence of the body and the soul. It reflects this relationship that creates an identity. This philosophical approach was stated by Aristotle (Muller, 2023). On the other hand, the first definition of identity in modern studies dates back to the 9th century when Al-Farabi defined it as the indication of a thing's character in its unaltered existence (Puorhasan & Piri, 2019). At the same time, other authors tried to create a more precise understanding of the concept of identity in terms of their usage. Some took it to the existential extreme by focusing on why we are here. Or who we are? (Casakin et al., 2015; Gallou, 2022; Genereux et al., 1983). Furthermore, the term has reached a level known as culture" (Shawket, 2018).

Moreover, the definition of identity differs depending on the conditions and contextual studies attached to it. Each definition focuses on utilising certain elements that establish the identity in their respective fields. Table 1 highlights some of the definitions throughout the fields.

Table 1: Table of definitions for the word identity and how it is related to the specific field: the table includes the authors who mentioned them in their papers

Vaccine/medicine	Dose	Route
Philosophical studies	It is the relationship between names and concepts.	(Frege, 1997; Mendelsohn, 2012)
Physiological studies	Individuality or being distinctive in their social relations with others	(Jenkins, 1994; Noble, 2020)
Cultural studies	Geographical relations, traditions, or historical aspects of the Community make them unique.	(Droseltis & Vignoles, 2010; Mao et al., 2022; Ziyadee, 2018)
Environmental studies	Physical components such as topography, nature, and biodiversity distinguish a place from another.	(Bonaiuto et al., 2006; Daryanto & Song, 2021; Rioux & Werner, 2011; Scannell & Gifford, 2010)
Urban Studies	The unique characteristic of an object that makes it recognisable	(Badita & Niță, 2021; Banai & Rapino, 2009; Lynch, 1981, 2013; Manahasa & Manahasa, 2020)

Each definition focuses on establishing the context in which identity is applicable. Urbanism focuses on identifying how the urban context is unique. This vague description can mean more than one aspect. The urban identity here relies on the non-physical notion. However, it can relate to its urban spaces through social, economic, historical, and cultural features (Erdoğan & Ayataç, 2015; Geng et al., 2023). The physical realm carries other connotations based on previously established relationships with the place itself. Others define it as the meaning that is linked with a specific landscape towards a group of people (Cheshmehzangi & Heat, 2012; Sobhaninia et al., 2023; Watson & Bentley, 2007)

It is clear that the idea of identity relies on the concept of the attachment of place, which is the reflection of the place in the eyes of the people. Have the terms come close and adjacent to each other, such as the "character of place" and "City Image" (Mansour et al., 2023). The "spirituality of place" collided with the concept of the "locality of place" (Apostolou & Tasopoulou, 2023). What is apparent through the literature is that the concept relies on tangible and intangible aspects to be established and reflect the meaning.

Intangible and Tangible Urban Identity, Definitions

The intangibility of the urban identity can be reflected in the place identity, where the term place identity demonstrates the combination of conceptions, memories, feelings, and even interpretations toward the physical setting. (Monir et al., 2022; Sepe, 2013; Watson & Bentley, 2007). It is the subjective recondition and structure of the space for an individual or a group that is established due to the social identity in the place (Bernardo et al., 2013; Bernardo & Palma-Oliveira, 2016; Holmes, 2017.; Rollero & De Piccoli, 2010). Were the relationships and socially constructed as well as the meanings and attachments are located, here, the identity of the people is created and linked to a specific place, as the space allows them to establish memories, experiences, and emotional connection towards it (Hidalgo & Hernández, 2001; Kim & Li, 2024; Manzo, 2003) were those actions transform the physical dimensions of space towards a place.

On the other hand, the tangibility of place takes a broader perspective where, instead of the individuality of the relationship towards a place, the tangibility here describes the collective and shaded aspects and characteristics that make the place unique. It does not revolve around the personal perspective; instead, on

campuses, the narrative, social and political dynamics, and the historical-cultural aspects that make the city unique. (Ashworth et al., 2015; Knox & Marston, 2015)). Here, the tangible identity establishes what makes the location unique from other locations in terms of its characteristics (Elsayed, 2019; Simonović, 2013)

Theories of Tangible and Intangible Identity

The urban identity itself is an all-encompassing thought and perception of the social conduct and the architecture and physical traits of the city, as they are shaped by the physical location's historical, cultural, economic, and demographic development. (Ahmad Nia, 2023; Hariry, 2021; KARA, 2019). Furthermore, those aspects fall between the historical and cultural values, architecture, geographical aspect, local traditions, social structure, vegetation, and transport connections, as well as the economic and social structures to be one of many elements that influence the urban Identity (Isa et al., 2022; Shamsuddin & Ujang, 2008; Ujang, 2012; Ujang & Zakariya, 2015)

Moreover, identity cannot be viewed as a constant identity; instead, it is filled with changing identities that are constantly changing due to the content, such as the people or objects and the context of the culture and environment. (Kutsal, 2013; Relph, 1976; D. Seamon & Sowers, 2008). The place itself has a plethora of identities towards a person and the Community, where each person can have a different identity towards a specific place depending on their experience and relationship towards the physical and the metaphorical context that flows through time, a variable identity from one person to another. (Abdelal et al., 2006; Dupré, 2017). As time passes, we can view places and cities as places that had their identity reshaped and changed due to the many characteristics that influence them, which is what the city is remembered for. (Simonović, 2013). The impact of rapid globalisation has significantly changed the role of the urban environment. As the buildings rise and change, so does the identity, where the main issue becomes the lack of ability to appreciate the existing cultural heritage and the identity of the place and focus on the transformation of the city itself to be a part of the new globalisation. (Alattar & Nafi, 2021; Boussaa, 2017)

Physical and sensual aspects of identity

Identity is its core focus on the city and urban space, as it carries the different characteristics that mix concepts, physical and metaphorical organisation, and being in the background of the people's mind. Identity can mean social, economic, cultural or governmental characteristics and physical respiration regarding walkable, integrated living and well-managed (Erdoğan & Ayataç, 2015). Down to the objectivity of materials and the subjectivity of factors (Cheshmehzangi, 2015; Farhan & Nasar, 2020; Nursanty et al., 2023)). Moreover, this concept also highlights the method by which identity is created in terms of the aspects that influence the design, such as the historical origin of the place, the social considerations in terms of the personality of the social needs, the environmental factors that are imposed due to the typography in terms of the landscape architecture as well as the technological

advancements used in the place (Öngül, 2012; Umar et al., 2023)

Identity in Landscape Architecture

Understanding landscape architecture's influence on identity creation should be considered. The tangibility of the physical elements is combined with phenomenological theories to create an experience for users by trying to change their habits and improve their relationship with Space (Elghonaimy, 2024). Identity is all that represents a context. All that is artificial throughout history. It is understood through street layout, architecture, people, influences, and everything seen and perceived. For example, when a new canvas is painted, it gains an identity through the colours and strokes and the theme and style it portrays. Therefore, when a person travels to a new country, the person's idea and understanding of the country represents the country's identity since identity is all tangible and intangible things that are perceived.

Sensual experience and identity

The intangibility or the sensual experience of identity revolves around the senses and the phenomenological approach towards physical space, where phenomenology studies people's experiences. It focuses on understanding the events, situations, and their meaning as they occur in line (Finlay & Evans, 2009; Gill, 2011; D. Seamon, 2000). This linkage towards subjective reality relies on perception, where the perception differs from one person to another. When implemented, the concept of phenomenology can dramatically improve the quality of life using the senses and the sensual experience (Job & Elghonaimy, 2022). Furthermore, Phenomenological experiences, where each situation and experience is viewed through the senses and understood, help those experiences to become memorable (Seamon et al., 2002). This allows the intangible aspect to go beyond the notion of surface-level experience. Moreover, it becomes deeply rooted in the foundation of society. (What Is Intangible Cultural Heritage? - Intangible Heritage - Culture Sector - UNESCO) What is clear is that this philosophy focuses on human perception and not intellectual understanding, where the relationship is considered direct between the place and human feelings (Polat, 2021; Shirazi, 2009).

Identifies the synergetic interactions between identity and Community and their characteristics

Identity could be defined as:

- i. Identity generally "Refers to the complex and ever-evolving expressions of self-understanding that describe how persons relate, and form attachments, to their historical-social-cultural environment over a lifetime and consciously or unconsciously arrange their priorities and commitments to reflect those" (Merry, 2010)
- ii. Social identity is "aspects of a person that are defined in terms of his or her group memberships. Although most people are members of many different groups, only some of those groups are meaningful in terms of how we define ourselves." (Aprianto, 2020)
- iii. Cultural identity: "Whatever beliefs, values, inclinations, tastes, practices, and texts constitute, it

must also serve an identity function for those who participate in the culture." (Joseph, 2012)

- iv. Identity of space: "abstract geometries explained in terms of distance, direction, shape, size, and volume, detached from material form and cultural interpretation" (Gieryn, 2000).

Public space

The urban landscape plays a host for several locations required for the life of people. One of the more significant places here is the public space. This public place is defined as an open and publicly accessible place that people can go to for their individual activities (Carr, 1992; Li et al., 2022). It is also defined as a space of thinking (Heyman, 2004; Walzer, 1986) or an open-air living space for leisure and recreation outside their homes (Carmona et al., 2004). This definition encompasses all public spaces, from streetscapes to plazas and parks, where the urban park is land designated to have public activities, including recreation and cultural activities, for all people (Maulan, 2002). There are those areas that are covered in natural or artificial vegetation in the city that allows the public to leisure in them (Fratini & Marone, 2011)

Furthermore, the streetscape is more than a physical space point of view; it has various points, such as:

- i. A social contributes to a city's identity and sense of belonging. It serves as a backdrop for public life, recalling a community's values, traditions, and way of life.
- ii. From a heritage perspective, maintaining streetscapes is essential as they conform to tangible connections to the past. They convey the story of a city's development and bear observers to historical circumstances. Additionally, streetscapes can be viewed as cultural landscapes that encapsulate the essence of a place.
- iii. From a cultural standpoint, streetscapes are dynamic spaces for interaction and self-expression. They provide platforms for cultural practices, rituals, and celebrations. Moreover, streetscapes hold collective memories, where shared experiences are ingrained in the physical environment.
- iv. The essence of heritage and culture, the streetscape, plays a vital role in comprehending a city's character, history, and identity. It extends beyond mere buildings and roads, encompassing the individuals, their narratives, and the shared moments they create.
- v. Enhanced City Character: Green spaces elevate the city's character by providing a refreshing contrast to the built environment, fostering balance, and promoting well-being.

- vi. Biodiversity Support: Green spaces support biodiversity by creating wildlife habitats, offering shelter to various species, and contributing to ecological balance.
- vii. Environmental Mitigation: Urban green spaces play a role in addressing environmental challenges, improving air quality, reducing pollution, and serving as natural filters
- viii. Recreation and Health: These spaces offer opportunities for outdoor activities, exercise, and relaxation, contributing to a healthier urban lifestyle.

Urban Identity

Urban identity is a reflection of identity in terms of the city. It is a combination that goes beyond the features and structures of the environment and becomes a combination of it as well as the activities, culture, and meaning of the experiences in the lived environment. (Haapala, 2003; Serbia, 2013; Umar et al., 2024). Urban Identity is defining oneself, giving experiences, and creating a sense of belonging. Spatial relationships shape people's identities and guide individual interventions. The European Landscape Convention (ELC) emphasises the importance of human-environment relationships in politics and planning. Landscapes are a fundamental part of a person's environment, reflecting their cultural and natural history. Academic studies focus on two types of ties to place: "place identity" and "place identification." The "landscape identity" concept aims to reconcile the opposition between landscape identity and character. People and organisations derive their identity from various sources, including their socioeconomic class, ethnicity, place of residence, and customs. Although landscape identity is frequently associated with good ideas, it also creates exclusion by differentiating between "I," "we," and "the other."

Sensual experience and physical elements on the urban identity

Throughout the literature, several concepts have been repeated through the analysis, and the authors have highlighted them as one of the factors for establishing identity in the place, from the writings of Kevin Lynch and Edward Ralph towards the principles of Christophe Alexander and the glimpses of identity in the writings of Kelbaugh and Goldsteen. Table 2 showcases those characteristics and splits them into corresponding tangible and intangible influences, highlighting the elements that can fit in both camps. Each character was repeated in the writing and allowed to be shined thoroughly.

Table 2: The characteristics that help in the creation of tangible and intangible identity, according to the literature review, are taken from the repeated concepts by the authors (Author Contribution)

Tangible Characteristics	Tangible and Intangible characteristic	Intangible Characteristics
Architecture style	Uniqueness	Traditional practices
Design solutions	Congruence	Living expressions
Ornamentations	Significance	Skills
Local materials	Wholeness	History
Construction techniques	Continuity	Cultural practice and traditions
Architectural traits	Coherence	Cultural icons
Public Space	Balance	Memories
Landmarks	Proportion	Image of the city
Geography	Symmetry	Economic developments
Topography	Similarity	Social structure
Vegetation	Clarity	Local traditions
Transportation connection	Harmony	Way of life
Node	Contextuality	Climate
Edge	Imageability	Senses
Path	Beauty	
District		

Materials and Methods

The literature review established the concepts related to tangible and intangible identity, and it created a broader view of identity in urban design as a whole, not the specifics of public spaces. Due to that, the methodology for this research will focus on narrowing down the factors by establishing elements related to the identity of public spaces; in order to develop this, a focus group and interview approach were used, targeting specialists to synthesise their own opinions toward the identity in the design for a public space. The qualitative research was selected to be implemented to study and provide a deeper understanding of achieving identity in public space issues. The study uses qualitative research to collect participants' opinions, actions, and experiences. Therefore, non-numerical data was selected to collect and analyse to understand people's attitudes, behaviours, beliefs, and experiences regarding the sense of identity in public space for people in Muharraq.

To address research questions, it looks at subjective data from sources like interviews, focus groups, observations, and textual analysis. (Hassan, 2024). Clarifying human behaviour patterns and processes—which can be challenging to measure, is one of the benefits of qualitative research. It can help us understand the data or results of quantitative analysis more thoroughly and more fully (Tenny et al., 2024).

In this study, qualitative research aims to provide comprehensive, descriptive information to stimulate ideas and insights into Achieving identity in public space through tangible and intangible concepts. The following are the primary reasons for qualitative research:

- Exploring New Phenomena: finding possible areas to gain an excellent knowledge of identity social trends.
- Understanding Complex Social Phenomena: Examining intricate social, political, or cultural ideas assisted in identifying influencing elements and

providing a more comprehensive knowledge of the identity in public space through tangible and intangible issues.

- Generating New Theories or Hypotheses: Collecting comprehensive and extensive data regarding people's experiences and viewpoints helps get new insights that could refute preexisting ideas or inspire new study directions.
- Providing Context for Quantitative Data: It helps comprehend complicated social events that affect the sense of identity.

It should be noted that qualitative research has several advantages compared to other research methodologies, such as depth and detail, flexibility, contextual understanding, participant perspective, theory development, and validity (Hassan, 2024).

Concentrate feed supplementation appears to increase weight gain and growth rates in crossbred sheep, but the significance of this study effects varies across measurement intervals. This inconsistency indicates potential factors beyond supplementation that could be affecting growth. The group with the highest supplementation showed the most significant weight and growth rate increases, but not all differences were statistically significant. These findings suggest that additional concentrate may lead to better growth, and more research is required to identify the reasons for inconsistent outcomes and the potential influence of other variables.

Focus group

The study used the Focus Groups as a Qualitative Research Methods approach, collecting a group of skilled people and experts assembled to have structured discussions on a particular subject. The researchers moderated the focus group, led the conversation, and invited members to voice their ideas and opinions. Focus groups help analyse group

dynamics, produce ideas and insights, and investigate social norms and attitudes.

The focus group consisted of specialists in the field of landscape design (IH / EJ), Architecture (MA / HA / HK), Urban Design (KS / HB) and interior design (AM / FZ). The specialists were chosen based on their experience and expertise in their respective fields. The questions were focused on understanding their opinions on the elements that affect the identity of the public spaces, and the questions were open-ended, allowing social interaction and discussion between the participants to gain their opinions. A video recording was used to record the focus group as well, and notes were written that highlighted specific themes related to the questions; the questions were as follows:

- i. How can a person feel about their identity in the place?
- ii. What are the physical elements in the public space that help establish an identity?
- iii. What are the feelings and non-physical elements that allow you to be attached towards the public space?
- iv. How can designers create a public space identity?
- v. What are the principles of design that allow identity in the public space to thrive?

Question (i) helps in establishing a broader discussion towards identity in a place and how a person can relate to and sense the identity; it allowed the focus group to discuss their perspective towards the identity without limiting it to a specific field, as they share their perspective through the establishing and sense of identity that came from their memories and experiencing, giving a baseline towards the further questions. Questions (ii) and (iii) narrow the perspective towards the public space, more specifically the physical realm as well as the intangible aspects that help in the creation of identity; each question allowed the focus group participants to narrow the focus in indicating what are the most significant factors that entitle the creation of identity and sense it, and how people can foster attachments towards that place.

Question (iv) focuses on creating a public space identity, the decision to create a public space, and how identity can be tackled in terms of the elements and the process of understanding it. At the same time, question (v) highlights the main principles of design that help the identity thrive in the public space, as they participate in more influential elements that help the identity to be established in the public space.

Interviews

After the knowledge of the focus group and literature review had been grouped, several interviews were conducted with several decision-makers in designing public spaces. The interviews focused on relaying the findings of the focus group and viewing the repeated elements and themes that decision-makers make; the interviews focused on being semi-open to allow the control of the themes discussed. This allows the decision-makers to input their opinions and highlight what they deem essential in the design process for public spaces. The interviews were conducted face to face, using a voice recording, and notes were taken for the points of interest.

Results

Based on the focus group, the urban designers and landscape architects indicated that the tangible identity in terms of the architectural style and the traits are fundamental to creating a unified identity, while the interior designers focused more on the history and culture in the design, the results highlighted that field of design tackle certain elements they deem to be important in terms of the design. However, when discussing public spaces, the specialists agreed that several common themes must be tackled to establish an identity.

In terms of the physical traits, most of the focus group participants stated that the design solutions, as well as the architectural style, are the main elements that need to be tackled in terms of the construction elements, as well as the focus on the vegetation itself can give the space an identity, on the other side, the focus on the historical and cultural practices as well as the local traditions embedded in the public spaces and how they evoke their users to participate in them, allows the place to form memories and create an identity. Combined with the essential principles of design, all of the participants agreed that coherence, balance, unity, and significant relationships with history and culture are the most critical aspects that need to be tackled in the design process.

While the interviews also solidified that all of the aspects listed are important and added the climate and way of life as main ingredients to create an identity, all of the results overlapped. Table 3 showcases all the factors that are important to the public space's design. Each factor was indicated through the literature review and reinforced through the design focus groups, and the interviews established a correlation between the public space design and the tangible and intangible identity; the highlighted items have been mentioned in both interviews and focus group, while the rest did not entirely mention them in both.

Discussion

The point of study in this research focused on understanding the word identity and achieving identity in public spaces through tangible and intangible concepts. It included a literature review. Its focus was on indicating the concepts that affect the design of public spaces, allowing decision-makers to achieve identity in them. The study illustrated that identity evokes a certain gravitas, especially in urban public spaces, and is achieved by combining tangible and intangible design thoughts. Furthermore, it explained that each field defines identity in the physical and non-physical senses.

It concentrated on the repeating elements from significant research that tackled tangible and intangible urban identities. However, it was limited to the repeating concept from those authors. At the same time, identity is a broader term that can be influenced throughout several fields. The limitation to urban identity and place identity can be seen as a limited approach. This approach affects the format of the identity itself, which allows urban spaces to be unique in their comprehensive identity from place to place in the same city or from city to another city. Specialists use this combination of responding to the elements to evoke this identity based on the field itself. Therefore, it is imperative to focus on the space's type of function to produce appreciated elements that achieve its identity and use the relevant characteristics that affect the identity of the public space design.

Table 3: Showcases the compatible tangible and intangible aspects according to the analysis (compatible elements are highlighted) based on the focus group and interviews (Author Contribution)

Tangible Characteristics	Tangible and Intangible characteristic	Intangible Characteristics
Architecture style	Uniqueness	Traditional practices
Design solutions	Congruence	Living expressions
Ornamentations	Significance	Skills
Local materials	Wholeness	History
Construction techniques	Continuity	Cultural practice and traditions
Architectural traits	Coherence	Cultural icons
Public Space	Balance	Memories
Landmarks	Proportion	Image of the city
Geography	Symmetry	Economic developments
Topography	Similarity	Social structure
Vegetation	Clarity	Local traditions
Transportation connection	Harmony	Way of life
Node	Contextuality	Climate
Edge	Imageability	Senses
Path	Beauty	
District		

In the qualitative analysis part, the focus group mainly and interviews focused on tackling identity from the perspective of professionals and decision-makers, where in reality, identity is a presence that the people establish and how they relate towards the space, thus as a recommendation to further focus on the understanding of the identity in terms of the people, psychological and urban field to get a broader understanding towards the influences of tangible in intangible identity. as well as looking through the public spaces themselves and understanding their own identity in the physical realm and the vision of the designers and decision makers to fully comprehend the approach towards the overall composition of identity creation and sustenance.

The results of the study highlighted several distinctive nuances regarding tangible and intangible identity, such as:

- i. First and foremost, there are several overlaps between the aspects, as each helps conjure the other. For example, historical and cultural practices and traditions in the intangible characteristics influence the architectural style and design solution in the physical elements. Moreover, tangible elements come from local traditions and ways of life, as well as intangible elements. This overlap can also happen with different identities in the place. As the place can carry multiple identities depending on the people's perspective and their own identity, this relationship towards the place differs according to the identity perspective, the knowledge gained and understood from their personal identity, and how it can be reflected in the urban identity in terms of the metaphysical and sensual experiences of the space.
- ii. Secondly, there is a link between the memories and the physical realm of identity, such as landmarks and nodes. Each element helps establish a presence and

uniqueness in the urban environment and leaves a mark in the users' minds. Furthermore, these memories can become the starting point of the relationship between a person and the place. Further actions also help increase the bond to the place, whether from the physical standpoint of calling back to its roots in the architecture and ornamentations or through activities that relate to the sense of place, such as cultural and traditional activities. Each aspect added or thought of during the inception of the public space forms a comprehensive identity that touches the minds and souls of more people.

- iii. Thirdly, using design criteria can significantly enhance the tangible and intangible aspects, which matches the literature review. Moreover, the literature indicates that identity can be stated that the identity of a public space that focuses on vegetation, landmarks, and nodes differs from that of a museum that focuses on a design solution that enhances the cultural and historical elements of the space. Urban parks showcase the significance of landmarks, nodes, and vegetation when paired with a coherent design solution and architectural style established from history and culture, which can create a more impactful identity for the place. The elements may overlap; their composition and influences differ depending on their function. In other words, the indication of tangible and intangible aspects play a significant role in relating to place, as a public space can begin as having its own identity that changes through time due to its people and activities. Their significant contribution allows the identity to form and be altered and become an icon of tradition and history; this happens due to the involvement in the space; additional activities that occur all contribute to this new identity, and it will not

be fixed as time passes on and allows the identity to be moulded by the users.

Due to this, some proposed guidelines can influence the identity of the public space, as they help the designers establish the necessary conditions that allow people to manifest the identity of the place. For example:

- i. The focus on historical and cultural traditions allows the influence of the physical design distinction, which in terms gives the place an identity
- ii. In terms of the public spaces, Vegetation, Landmark and Nodes act as the main anchoring points for the identity
- iii. Architecture style and ornamentation have to contain a hint of importance or significance to influence identity creation.
- iv. Several elements can create overlapping identities due to their historical roots and importance towards creating a place identity.
- v. The principles of design allow the spaces and elements to blend in and fade the non-essential, where the identity of the place puts it forward to be conversable by the people.
- vi. Following the way of life allows people to understand the identity of the place and helps create a bonding relationship with its identity.
- vii. The significance of the way of life can allow the formation of a newer identity as the place is occupied. It can also tolerate globalisation movements and retain its identity. viii. The design should allow people to conjure their own identity without hesitation, as it can adapt to their identity without losing its original essence.

Conclusion

In conclusion, designers must be careful when designing spaces that form people; therefore, they must design appropriate combinations of tangible and intangible forms that identify the space's characteristics. Each plays a significant role in altering people's identity and vice versa. Moreover, each type of space can offer an experience based on all or a few elements of the identity, both metaphysical and sensual. However, it is clear that by combining both, the space's identity can become more significant, allowing it to thrive, adapt to changing times, and become resilient.

Furthermore, the research focused on the repetition of elements and how they allow their significance to shine

and flourish in the space, while the research focused on the public spaces in terms of achieving the tangible and intangible, the research carried a significant contribution towards the tangible and intangible identity, however, the research was limited only towards exploring the repetition in the concept of identity. While identity is a broader term that can be influenced throughout several fields, the limitation to urban identity and place identity can be seen as a limited approach. Furthermore, the focus group mainly and interviews focused on tackling identity from the perspective of professionals and decision-makers, where in reality, identity is a presence that the people establish and how they relate towards the space, thus as a recommendation to further extend the focus to encapsulating the people relationship towards the place as they act as the primary influential users. This allows the actual testing of the hypothesis and establishes a clearer understanding towards the identity and how it is manifested, as well as looking through the public spaces themselves and understanding their own identity in the physical realm and the vision of the designers and decision-makers to fully comprehend the approach towards the overall composition of identity creation and sustenance.

Acknowledgement

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the University of Bahrain and the individuals whose contributions and support have greatly enhanced the quality and rigour of this research. I am grateful to my primary advisor, Professor Islam Elghonaimy, for his guidance, insights, and constant encouragement throughout the research period as a part of the professional practice course through my master's study. His expertise and wisdom were an invaluable asset to this project. I am also grateful to the University of Bahrain for their contributions and trust in facilitating this research. I would like to thank my colleagues at the University of Bahrain and the Muharraq municipality for their contributions through the interviews and the focus group who helped enhance this research. I am forever thankful for their encouragement and support

Conflict of Interest

The authors confirm that there is no conflict of interest with the publication of this article.

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