Impact of Location-Behavior on Sense of Belonging to Place

Alaleh Sakhaeifar¹ & S. Hadi Ghoddusifar²

¹ Master of Architecture, Faculty of Arts and Architecture, South Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran
² Faculty of Arts and Architecture, South Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

Correspondence: Alaleh Sakhaeifar, Master of Architecture, Faculty of Arts and Architecture, South Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran. E-mail: al.sakhaeifar@gmail.com

Received: February 12, 2016        Accepted: February 23, 2016        Online Published: March 13, 2016
doi:10.5539/mas.v10n5p57          URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.5539/mas.v10n5p57

Abstract

Sense of belonging is one of criteria of evaluating high quality environments and is addressed by environmental designers and it emphasizes on environment social activities and relations of physical component. A lot of activities and social interaction between individuals take place in a specific location over time and this brings about such expectation that those activities are specified to that space or location and over time the emerged behavior in that space induce sense of belonging and local identity for that space among those individuals. Sense of belonging to an environment arises from social interactions in the environment including information and social common signs. This research is conducted with the aim of examining location behaviors and its impact on local sense of belonging. It is examined the literature with cognitive research method and with approach of ontology and epistemology. in this paper with the aim of introduction and defining concepts such as location-behavior, identity and sense of belonging to place, based on review of relating documents and resources in this respect one examines the impact of location behavior in the Enqelab street and district of college bridge. Research results suggest that among effective parameters in sense of place, location behaviors and activity influence greatly on identity of urban spaces.

Keywords: sense of belonging, environment, sense of place, location behavior, environmental designers

1. Introduction

The place is the main element in identity of resident. Human can achieve to understanding himself by understanding the place (Habibi, 2008). Human keeps different images in mind from different spaces. His feelings can influence on its perception of environment and formation of mental image from the place. The same mental images grant identity to the place. In addition to place physical structure, people's memories effect on identity of the place (partovi, 2003). The places have different scales. A place with more sense of belonging may be a room or house, apartment, quarter, city or country.

But the concept in the architecture is a topic that different science researchers have addressed it (Gustafson, 2001). A place is further than a space that has three features including physical scope, activity and meaning and the meaning is the main and inseparable component (Relph,1976), (Canter,1971). With offering psychology of place categorized component of place as performance difference, place objectives, interaction scale and design parts. The performance difference regards activities of place, space objectives concerns concepts and meaning in the place, the scale is about environment size and design parts takes into account physical elements and components (Gustafson,2001) Considered theories of (Canter,1971 & Relph,1976) as the basis for describing three-polar interaction approach including individual, others and environment as theoretic framework model in formation of meaning and presented a clear model from meaning and its formation in known environments. One of important meanings in promoting human environment quality is the sense of belonging to the place (Fruzandeh, 2010). Therefore in this research with the aim of understanding effective factors in sense of belonging to place we examines the impact of location behavior on formation of such sense in urban spaces.

1.1 Environmental Physiology

Regarding to needs, values and objectives the human change its environment and is mutually affected by the changed environment. New technology and its dramatic impact on environment are growing. Some of these rapid changes encountered the environment to new challenges and experts believe that these nonstop changes are one of the fundamental features of our time and it imposes new pattern and criteria to individuals (Mortazavi,
The place in addition to having boundary and limitation is fixed too. Therefore by addressing the need of continuity and stability, it can be regarded as important source of identity. Another feature of space is providing social integrity that makes it possible to emerge the sense of belonging to people (Tajik, 2005). The place by restricting social relations in a fairly closed and small territory brings about the sense of belonging to the group and thus increases the compaction of direct and face-to-face relations. Therefore the place can be considered as the most effective factor of identity.

1.2 Literature Review

Bennett (2016) examined how people evoke themes of nostalgia and authenticity in stories of places over time in order to negotiate change and create a continuous story of belonging. Individuals place themselves in an explicit moral relationship to a past community through eliciting memories that are distant enough to create a distinct sense of ‘otherness’ with the present.

In another study, Bennett (2014) focused on the importance of historic, social, and material connections in belonging to place and concluded that by bringing together the different aspects of belonging in place illustrated by these vignettes and shows how they contribute to belonging in place as a moral way of being-in-the-world; that is, what Bennett terms ‘an ontological belonging’.

McLaren et al (2014) aimed to investigate whether sense of belonging mediated the marital status-suicidal ideation relationship, and whether gender moderated the mediation model. Results of this study showed that for men; widowhood was associated with lower levels of belongingness, whereas for women, marital status was unrelated to sense of belonging and it is crucial to develop and implement interventions which assist older men to find new ways to feel important and valued after the death of their spouse.

Walker et al (2013) examined the social capital support health benefits to be derived from skateboarding in skate-parks. A content analysis of 35 skateboarders’ survey responses revealed the existence of four benefits, namely, establishing new and reconnecting with old friendships; bonding to a friendship group, gaining peer respect and status; and increased opportunities to interact with people.

2. Research Method

The research method in resent study is based on document study on the basis of reviewing documentaries for obvious and prominent researches in the area of place, place identity, place sense. The current research is collected in several sections that in first section concepts and definition for place and location behavior are examined. In second section effective causes in formation of location identity and sense of place are classified. And in third section the case sample of research is examined and the role of Enqelab Street and college intersection on sense of belonging to place for users of these spaces is examined.

2.1 Sense of Place

2.1.1 Meaning of Sense of Place in Terms of Perception

Place is where people have a perception of their being. A place finds meaning when the human communicates
with other layers of its own existence. This is perception that realizes the relation between human and life space and meanwhile the language and image effect on the perception as strong communicational tools. Visual language conveys in the best and most clear manner some information especially emotions, feelings and many concepts and contrary to oral or written language can be free from one or more limited cultures and can be used in a more extensive area than a land or country. Holy art and visual arts are very important in this respect and their application domain whether in locational extent or time extent can be expanded more than other arts. For approaching to concept of perception at first it should define the thinking and its role in the area of perception. General notion is that the thought is abstract and immaterial but the thinking has sort of materiality.

2.1.2 Sense of Place in Terms of Phenomenology

From phenomenological viewpoint the sense of place means relating with place by perceiving symbols and everyday activities. This sense can emerge at individual's life place and over time get deep and extensive (Relph, 1976). Personal and collective values influence on the quality of place sense and sense of place influence on values, approaches and especially individuals' social and impersonal behavior in place too and people usually participate in social activities regarding to their sense of place (Canter, 1971).

The sense of place not only leads in coordination and opportune function of architectural space and human but also is a factor for sense of safety, pleasure and emotional perception and help people in establishing identity and sense of belonging to the place. From phenomenological viewpoint the most important concepts about expressing sense of place, is terms such as affinity to place, place experience and place personality and sense of place means immaterial features or personality of place and its meaning is near to soul of place. Historically the soul of the place was used for holding festivity and religious celebration in which participants should pay great attention to actions of worship at celebration. Thus the place in which such practices and celebrations takes place used to turn into special place and this sense of respect was one of place features that discriminated that from other places and titled as soul of the place. Its components included live and dynamic awareness about environment, and a sense of friendship and affinity with the place (1991).

In older interpretations the sense of place is something that people create in certain period of time and is result of repetitive rituals and events and describes the mode of the space. Certain places have such sense of attrition that induces sort of undescribed feeling to subject and make it cheerful, delightful and willing to return to the place again and this sense is called sense of place.

According to (Relph, 1976) the sense of place is not a specified concept that one can offer an accurate definition for it but it should be evaluated by examining relations between place and phenomenological bases of geography (ibid). From its opinion the main meaning of place is beyond performances the place supplies, and is higher than society that it occupies and is behind artificial and mundane experiences of place. Though all of these items are necessary aspects of the place, but this is the nature of place in experience in terms of unconscious perception to the place that defines the place as a rich and deep center of being and human existence (Seamon, 1996). This is the special quality of locating in a place that discriminates places from other spaces. According to Relph (1976) the place is consisted of natural and human made objects, activities, functions and meanings and experiencing it can encompass from a room up to a continent. Being in a place can be presented as physical form, like the old cities that the city was surrounded by walls separating it from outer space. This experience can be observed in worship celebrations and permanent activities that show special features of a place, such as church or mosque. In these places the experience of worship activities is an essential factor in the sense of individuals toward the space. In phenomenology of place the experience is the main component of the perception. The phenomenological experience means mind purification and access to essence of things by manifestation of things within the individual that is effective on essence of place. This deep experience can be considered as a factor that turns any physical or environmental situation into a place. A place is a part of an environment that is stated by senses and it is this sense that grants a better understanding from the place to individuals. There is subconscious mind in most deep levels of human awareness that is associated with the place. This is place in which human roots is hidden and is a center of health, safety, and relation and finally it is a point of orientation (Relph, 1976). Experiencing place is individual and mental that human become in a same sense and feeling with other people and this consensus is in fact the physical presence of person in the place and its subconscious experience is called sense of place. The preliminary level of sense of place is familiarity with the place including being in a place regardless to its features and meaning. A lot of people experience the place at familiarity level and their relation to some places is just through activities. These people don't pay a deep attention to the place and experience a form of experience that leads in not seeing really the place and failure in participating in its activities. It sees that for people who are subjected to cultural or technological pressures the environments are experience to this level, as a result they don't have any sense of belonging to such place and geographically they feel alienation.
2.1.3 Sense of Place in Terms of Environmental Psychology

The term of sense of place is a combination of two words of sense and place. The word sense has three main meanings in the Oxford dictionary: first it is one of five senses. Secondly its feeling, emotion and affection that is called visual mental conception in psychology. In other words, a judgment that emerges to the object after semantic perception of the object can be good, attractive or bad. Thirdly the ability to judge about an abstract thing, like the meaning of sense in the term of sense of direction that means the ability to find a path or ability of path or route to show itself to the person and finally sense means the complete or whole understanding of an object by a human. But the word sense in this term is rather in the meaning of emotion, affection, judgment and general experience of place in bringing about a special feeling or belonging among individuals. From the viewpoint of environmental psychology, humans need particular sensory, emotional, and spiritual experience toward life environment. These needs can be met through intimate interaction and kind of identification with the place of residence. This intimate interaction and identification is called soul or sense of space. Belonging to place means that people define themselves by the place where they are born and grown. This relation that is generally called sense of place influences people in a deep and lasting manner and fosters memory of place, identity and power of human. In fact, the sense of belonging and interest to a place is a higher level of sense of place that finds a determining role for human usage and its continued presence in any situation and space (Altman, 1992).

2.1.4 Components of Sense of Place

Regarding to concept of sense of place in different viewpoints and different levels of sense of place components of the sense of place can be stated into two groups of cognitive and physical factors:

2.1.4.1 Perceptive and Cognitive Factors

As it was stated before the sense of place is a complicated combination of meanings, symbols, and qualities that the person or group perceives in specified space, region or space-conscious or subconsciously (Seamon, 1996). The meanings and concepts that are deciphered by the person after perception are among factors that bring about the sense of place. In this regard, the sense of place is not merely a sense of emotion or any other relation with a place but it is a cognitive structure that the person finds sense of belonging with subjects, persons, objects, and concepts in the place. Thus people without sense of place are not able to survive in an environment, because the sense of place is ability of space or place in developing a special sense for whole of the place and by this sense, the place supplies the relation of individual with all concepts, persons, and other subjects in that place. In this context, the sense is not the feeling before a stage of perception. But it means emotion, namely the stage after the perception. In this manner the places develop different senses in different persons and the role of personality and previous experiences is effective in receiving this sense. A space that develops sense of place and belonging in the person is no longer a space for the person and it turns into a place. In this manner it turns into a whole that people identify all activities and events by it. Belonging to society is one of effective important components in developing sense of place in such a manner that (Hummon, 1992) considered sense of place as belonging to the society. According to Hummon the sense of place is individual perception from someone's environment and their more or less conscious feelings about that environment. Steel (1981) believes that the sense of place in each environment depends on the manner in which human communicate with the environment. On his opinion:

1. The human and place relation is an interaction, it means human give positive and negative things to the environment and then receive it back. Therefore influence of people's activity on the environment will influence on themselves back.

2. The notion of place is not only physical but also mental and interactive and the sense of place emerges as an experience from combination of a location behavior and what human give to it. In other words, some of what human develop in the place does not emerge without it or independent from it.

3. Some spaces have such strong soul of place that have the same effect on the different humans. Behavior settings influence on human too and there are some patterns for these influences and people influence on behavioral settings by physical design quality and caring places on them. These influences can be short term or long term and positive and negative (Hummon, 1992).

Physical factors

By opinion of Steel (1981) most important physical factors effective in perception and sense of place include place size, confinement degree, contrast, scale, proportion, humane scale, distance, tissue, color, smelling, sound, and visual diversity.

It also considers the features such as identity, history, imagination and illusion, mystery, delight, wonder, safety,
cheerfulness, enthusiasm and memory as the cause of establishing concentrated relation with the place. According to Seamon (1992) the sense of place emerges from interaction of three elements including situation, perspective and personal interconnectedness that each one of them singly are not enough for creating sense of place. Various factors such as boredom, building monotony and emerge of digital era is a threat for sense of place. In his opinion physical personality, ownership, originality, resident and welfare devices, nature such as water, plants, sky, sun and private and collective spaces are component of place that are effective in creating the sense of place.

From viewpoint of Norberg (1997) the sense of place is found where there is specified and distinct feature and the environmental character is made up of tangible things that have material, form, tissue and color (1997). Also from viewpoint of Linch (1997) the sense of place is a factor that establishes relation between human and the place and develops unification and the space should have a perceivable identify and should be identifiable and memorable and exposable in order to develop the sense of place. This type of sense of place can be coupled with sense of belonging too (Linch, 1997).

Cross (2001) Regarded the effective factors on sense of places in the manner in that one relate with place and the sense of society and categorize the relation with the place into forms of biographic, spiritual, intellectual, narrative, material and compulsory dependency that develops five different levels of sense of place by identity, internality and satisfaction (Cross, 2001). Therefore the investigations have showed that environmental physical features are effective in developing sense of place by bringing about meanings and supplying special activities. Supplying activities emerges by satisfaction from varying features of environment such as temperature, sound and possibility to carry out personal activities and social interchanges by static elements of environment such as dimensions, proportions and forms. Perception and emotion to the space can be achieved by understanding meanings, symbol, form and semantic aesthetics of space and identification to it.

Social factors

As cognitive perceptive factors are important in formation of sense of belonging as early step in this path, the role of social variable are pivotal too such as culture, symbols and social signs. In such manner that before 1978 most conducted researches examined the role of emotional factors in formation of this sense and physical variables had no room in research. Some researchers such as Rappaport, Proshansky, Riger and Lavrakas emphasized by their researches on the role of physical parameter but has mentioned that this is from one side social symbols of common environment and from other side environmental ability in supply and extend this dimension of human needs that states the physical environment as a social interaction setting. In fact all humans have social needs and in human needs pyramid they seek belonging to relatives and friends. In this grade of sense of belonging, the environment is considered as a setting for social and cultural activities that individuals detect and interpret –physical elements on the basis of their own perception, in other word humans decipher the environment collectively. In this category of factors the physical elements such as forms, tissue and color emanating from social layers of environment play communicational role with users that each one is obtained based on cultural data over environment architecture history and contains their own meaning (Fruzandeh, 2010). The general interpretation obtained from definitions of sense of place shows that the sense of place is arising from human inner relation, its mental imaginations and environmental feature. This concept from one side has the deep root in mental experiences such as memory, tradition, history, culture and society and so on and from other side is affected by actual and external settings in the environment such as design, perspective, smell and sound that shows that the sense of place is a complicated concept from emotions and interest of human toward environment that develops due to accordance and use of human from the place. It means that the sense of place is not a predetermined issue but it develops by interaction of human with its everyday life place. Thus the individuals give to the place in which lives a set of already perceived notions and images. These images form the manner in which it responds to the environment. In some cases the individual give a new form and shape to the place that have been shaped and emerged by these notions and images. Though continuous and strong familiarity is one of factors that lead in sense of place, but it is not singly sufficient. Physical features foster the sense of place by facilitating activities and developing identity.

Need to belonging to place

Human as a live creature due to itsindividual and social dimensions as well as material and mental aspects have different needs that always seeks meeting these need over its lifetime. Meanwhile meeting these need have special priority and hierarchy. Maslow considered types of human needs and classified them in term of priority.
Table 1. Maslow's hierarchy of needs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Need</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-realization (satisfying individual capacities)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esteem (respect from itself and others)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belonging and love (emotional and …)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety (security, protection and …)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiological (hunger, thirst, …)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As we observe meeting these needs can be shown in a prioritized scheme. One of most important needs that are located at top of the need prioritization pyramid is the need for self-realization that requires addressing its prerequisite needs. Humans whether consciously or unconsciously tends to express and emerge its inherent needs (self-realization) (Leng, 2004). It happens when the hierarchy of human needs such as belonging and to love has been addressed. Accomplishing this hierarchy of needs without understanding human situation in the universe is not possible; it means that the human reaches to self-realization by understanding itself and its needs and providing an appropriate place for addressing its needs. Complete awareness to types of needs and addressing hierarchy of needs requires its own setting and ground, lack of competence in environments leads in lack of participation, losing personality, losing individual competence and finally failure in self-realization.

Social Belonging to Place

A set of individual and collective narration that happens with place are effective in developing social belonging (Habibi, 2008). This sense of a sort of connection of individual to place cause that the human consider itself as a part of the place and imagines a role for the place in its mind based on its experiences from signs, meanings and functions. This role is unique and distinct for it and as a result the place is important and respectable for it. A place forms a belonging and interest feeling due to possibility of occurrence of a social relation and a common experience among individuals (Pakzad, 2009).

A part of human personality that forms its social identity is the place where it identifies itself with it and introduces itself to others by it. In such manner that one can call it self-identity to the space and in this regard social processes is more important in forming belonging to place than material and physical quality (Rezazadeh, 1999). In environmental psychology the belonging to place is cognitive relation of individual or group an environment and in term of identity the belonging to place is the identical relationship of individual to social environment. The sense of belonging and interest to place is a higher level of sense of place that finds a determining role in any situation and space in order to human presence continues in the place (Falahat, 2005). In this manner, the human imagine a role for place in its mind that it manifests the place as important and respectable. The belonging to place is identical relationship of individual to social environment where it lives. Cross (2001) Believes that relations with place and belonging to place takes place through establishing types of connections that people develop with place. It describes types of relationships with place and its process as follows:

Table 2. Relations with place (Cross)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>relation</th>
<th>The type of relationship</th>
<th>Process</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biography</td>
<td>Historical and family</td>
<td>To birth and live in a place. The place is a part of personal history supplement that develop over the time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental,</td>
<td>Emotional</td>
<td>Feeling the sense of belonging, it is merely felt instead on developing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
psychological intangible Its description is difficult and is often unexpected.
ideological Ethical and moral Life based on ethical guidelines about human responsibility toward place, religious and nonreligious guidelines
Mental mythical Acquiring information about a place through stories, such as developing myths, family histories, describing evident.
Accordance cognitive Choosing a place on the basis of desired features and preferences about lifestyle, comparing realistic places with ideal place
dependent material Restricting through lack of choice, dependency to a person or opportunities

Different level of belonging to place

The quality of environment physical unit is in accordance with social behaviors and the quality of these behaviors depends on strength and type of social belonging to life environment. The belonging of society to place is under influence of factors originated from humans and environment and influence level of factors varies based on the person and environment where the person lives. Belonging to society means having root in the society. Having root in society leads in creation of psychological connection at place. Social belonging of every individual to a place includes its experience for that environment as well as its emotions in that place. On this basis (Cross, 2001) divided typed of belonging to place as follow:

Table 3. Types of belonging to place (Cross)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Belonging to place</th>
<th>satisfaction</th>
<th>inhabitance</th>
<th>Local identity</th>
<th>Type of belonging</th>
<th>Instantaneous tendencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Having root: integrated</td>
<td>High, positive evaluations</td>
<td>Here (physical, mental, emotional)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Biographic, metal, ideological</td>
<td>Continue to live</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having root: uninterested</td>
<td>Variant</td>
<td>Here and there (physical, mental, emotional)</td>
<td>Discrete</td>
<td>Biographic, mental, dependent</td>
<td>Variant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alienation to place</td>
<td>low, often negative evaluations</td>
<td>There (physical, mental, emotional)</td>
<td>Weak</td>
<td>Dependent</td>
<td>Tendency to leave, but unable to do this</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dependency</td>
<td>Variant, lack of strong root in special society</td>
<td>Anywhere moderate</td>
<td>adaptive, biographic, dependent</td>
<td>Living in any ideal place, not important where</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placelessness, not committed</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>Anywhere/nowhere weak</td>
<td>Not existing</td>
<td>There is no special expectation about the place.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As we have seen the strongest type of belonging to place is having root in place and instead the people who are alien to the place are not such satisfied about place. The people who their belonging to place is only the dependency type lacks strong root in belonging to place. In other word they are not identified by any society and their identity lacks a strong connection with their neighbors. Therefore for proving a social belonging in a traditional locality that has leads in collective residence one should seek for types of belongings that lead in having root in the place. Now it’s the time to see how the quality of biographic, psychological belonging relationship is in traditional locality with continue of collective residence.

![Place belonging](image1)

Figure 2. The relation of social belonging with collective residence in place

Location Behavior

Environmental psychology always studies and examines the human life environments and its everyday behavior
in order to collect theoretic basics for environment and spaces. From their opinion the term behavioral settings in this field is a description of a location behavior that is a small social unit that is obtained from combining an activity and a place in such manner one can evaluate its behavior functions in a regular process (Matlabi, 2001).

A location behavior includes continuous activity, territory or physical environment, structure between activity and time territory, planning and controller factors. In Barker theory of location behavior that was set forth in last decade of twentieth century the place determined that what type of behavior is appropriate for the space and consequently that could or should take place. The behaviors in place are special matchless and unique and complies with the environment where they occur. The conceptualization of Barker makes it possible to understand the behavior environment relations in such manner that should be organized in a special manner in order to reach to its different goals. Location behaviors are dynamic structures that evolve over time.

9-1- situation of term location-behavior

As it is evident from term of environmental psychology this science is a mixture of mutual impact of human and environment and these mutual influence can be examined by use of this knowledge. Experts of this area for defining a specified space that the user stand in it instead of term environment use the term behavioral setting or location-behavior on the condition to have some conditions.

A location-behavior is a small social unit that is obtained by stable combination of an activity and place in such manner that a regular process can brings about necessary functions of that environment (Matlabi, 2001).

According to Roger Barker components of behavioral settings is as follows:

1. Continuous and stable activities in a place or stable pattern of a behavior
2. Territory or three dimensional arrangement of environment for a location behavior.
3. Environment structure for a location behavior that is obtained from symbiosis between elements number 1 & 2.
4. Existence of a time period.

In furtherer researches one of his students called Wicker considered other components such as program, personal factor and its controller factors as fifth and sixth elements.

For example a work office is location behavior in which some activities take place continuously with specified program. This location behavior has a clear extent that is specified by physical elements such as walls, ceiling, door and window and furniture. Some determined people have always presence in it whose work area and their relationship type is defined. One person is undertaken the role of controller as manager in addition to a constant program that is also essential between attendant people there and its management.

According to what has been said we conclude that using environmental psychology one can shape capabilities of location-behavior. The main factor in relationship between user and location-behavior is its capabilities that are considered as the first way to perceive a location behavior as well.

3. Results

3.1 Examining Case Sample (Enqelab Street)

For clarifying the impact of location-behavior and formation and continuation of some activities in urban spaces that their identity shape the urban space, we engaged in case study of Enqelab Street. As mentioned before the location-behavior is a term that is attributed to spaces that a specific activity in a place grants identity to that place over time. It means the history of that space is a reflection of repetition of some behaviors in that place.

Meanwhile Enqelab square and its street due its historical background and rich activity over time from long ago was a place for social interactions, emerging the identity and city social life and manifestation of collective memories of students groups and people of art and literati. In this place people depending on their origin, education, life background and their cultural or professional interest and their goals have different perceptions from their surrounding environment. The sense of belonging to place in this tissue is coupled with its most important factor for its stability continuation in terms of function and activity and its physics.

In fact the Enqelab Street as a main avenue by standing in central position as most important and noble connector of west to east of Tehran fundamentally is considered as most important activity center in Tehran city. This street is a memory of collective memories (such as victory of Islamic revolution and university accidents) and occurrence of some permanent events such as Friday pray and people procession.

Tehran University (Figure 3) shows bookstores in front of university, Student Park, Enqelab square, City Theater
(Figure 4), College intersection, Vahdat Hall, Ferdowsi square as a crucial and sensitive point of this street. Enqelab street (from College intersection to Enqelab square) regarding credible universities such as Tehran university, Amirkabir university, art university and architectural art faculty of Azad university always has been host of students, scholars, artists and intellectuals and writers. Regarding this class of addressees in this street some utilities have been shaped such bookstore, cafés, City Theater, Student Park and etc. and are emerged as important elements of this street in terms of urban identity. Repetition of such behavior in this street has increased the sense of determination in such persons.

In fact one of main impacts of location-behavior and that a place turns into a behavioral setting for a special group of citizen is that this place always is visualized in the mind of users with the same type of special activities and has type of place belonging to such urban space. In fact this is the same concept of place identity that every space and urban place is defined with a specific type of activates for citizen groups and their behaviors.

For example the existence of City Theater in Enqelab Street in some hours has been an inviting element for some groups of artists in the area of theater as well as fans of such art.

4. Conclusion

Overall impression obtained from the definitions of sense of place suggests that the sense of place is obtained from human inner relationship, its mental image and environmental features. This concepts from one side has its roots in mental experiences such as memory, tradition, history, culture, society and so on and from other hand is influenced from actual and tangible settings in the environment such as design, perspective, smell and sound and suggests that the sense of place is a complicated concept from emotions and interests to the environments that is emerged due to accordance and human usage from the place. It means that the sense of place is not a predetermined issue but it is developed by interaction of human with everyday life place over a time.

With examining a case study in Enqelab Street it has been specified that the sense of belonging jot this place is higher due to the type of activities that have taken place in that. In fact among meanings the place, activities and behavioral events in developing the sense of belonging to this place were most effective meanings. Also factors such as name of the place, the activities background that have taken place in the place and physical signs in this range have determining role in developing this sense. In this place street physical structure and symbols and cultural and scientific symbols were more effective. In general one can conclude that the strength sense of belonging to a place is related to factors such as other people impression to this place, age of the street, duration of resident in that place and having common experiences and memories from that place, amount of collective and social activities. According to Campelo et al (2013), the constructs of time, ancestry, landscape, and community were identified as determinants for the sense of place by inhabitants of the Chatham Islands of New Zealand. But it is human behavioral and activities that defines the space as a behavioral setting and defines a mental image from that space for citizens that are more prominent impact of sense of belonging to place.

References

Bennett, J. (2014). Gifted places: The inalienable nature of belonging in place. Environment and Planning D:


Cross, J. E. (2001, November). *What is sense of place?* In Archives of the Twelfth Headwaters Conference (pp. 2-4).


Walker, A., Taylor, M. F., Caltabiano, N., & Pooley, J. A. (2014). Creating friendship networks, establishing a social identity, developing a sense of belonging, meeting new people, and building connections with the community: The social capital support health benefits to be derived from skateboarding in skate-parks.

**Copyrights**

Copyright for this article is retained by the author(s), with first publication rights granted to the journal.

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/).