

BRAHMAPRIYA R | Prof. Saritha G Parambath

**Role Of Evolving Urban Culture In Transforming The Characteristics Of Public Spaces:
Case Of Panjim, Goa**

This topic focuses on the dialectical relationship between urban culture and public space. The main concept behind the term “Urban Culture” is the behavioural pattern, lifestyle and cultural forms that are rooted in a specific place or urban space. Urban culture can be simply defined as the lifeways or the cultural forms which can be found embodied on the way people think and do things. It can be asserted as an inherited quality of being a member of a particular society. Even the achievements of societies like art, music, literature, architecture, sculpture, philosophy, religion and science can be stated as the aspects of the very culture that is rooted within them.

With the specific urban context like spatial characteristics and changing viewpoints, the culture of the place tends to originate and evolve around. These changes are mainly triggered by economic, political and social factors. Throughout history, urban culture has been a constantly evolving entity which has also influenced the social, economic and spatial characteristics of a city. Role of urban culture in influencing the spatial and social layers of the city is most evident in the changing characteristics of public spaces. As public space is a space for social interaction and cultural integration, the characteristics of public space are being reshaped by the constantly evolving culture of the place itself. The paper presents the case study of public space in Panaji in order to evaluate the evolving characteristics of public space due to the evolving urban culture.