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Network Spaces – An Investigation On The Transformation Of Public Spaces In Global Cities

The study on network spaces attempts to draw a visible relationship between globalization and the transformation of urban public spaces with focus on urban commercial public spaces, as they remain the most happening public spaces with continuous activity. The transformation of these urban public spaces from contextually relevant spaces to those that are now a reflection of the networks connecting the place due to globalization is being addressed as a transformation inducing placelessness. The theories of Manuel Castells and David Harvey are being used to understand the influence of globalization, while the theories of Edward Relph are being used to study placelessness in such globalized commercial public spaces. The study identifies the placeless transformation according to the parameters put forth by Edward Relph in major commercial centers of global cities, and also identifies the gradual onset of placelessness due to gradual globalization at Commercial Street Bangalore in the Indian regional context. Thus, the study identifies the spatial implications of placelessness and how that could be contained from permeating across which could gradually leave the place contextually irrelevant.

Keywords: *Networks, Transformation, Global Cities, Placelessness, Globalization, Commercial Public Spaces*