The Meaning of Terrace as Social Interaction Place in Vertical Kampung

Antony Sihombing¹ and Nurul Gumay Poetri¹

¹Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia
*antony.sihombing@ui.ac.id

Abstract. The pros and cons of vertical housing development in Jakarta make me intend to raise the issue of the vertical kampung. In the kampung, there are social spaces where people interact to create a culture of rukun and gotong-royong. It is the terrace which become a container of social interaction. The purpose of this study is to reveal the meaning of the terrace in social interaction in the vertical kampung and its influence when the terrace room is not presented in the vertical kampung. The lost meaning of kampung when terrace is not presented in vertical kampung can be known through cognitive maps. Cognitive maps are the methodologies used to gain a human perception or view of life experiences in a particular place. This study involved several families in West Jatinegara Rusunawa to find out how people looked at the terrace in their life while in Kampung Pulo. Based on the cognitive maps method that has been done by the respondents, the terrace referred to by the villagers is an open space where people can see and interact with each other. Social space in the form of terraces which is needed by the kampung dweller, in fact is not a terrace house which is used as a place to receive guests and as a barrier between the fence and the body of the house.

1. Introduction

The government of Indonesia has built many flats provided for the villagers whose homes are in the eviction areas. The existence of the pros and cons of vertical kampung made me interested in discussing the displacement of settlements experienced by the residents. Flats built by the government have similar units, whereas in villages people have different houses according to their needs. It can be questioned whether the meaning of the village is always attached to a horizontal village or can also be felt in a vertical village? By raising the issue of the terrace as a place of social interaction in the village horizontal, the question arises as follows: What is the meaning of the terrace in social interaction in Kampung Vertikal? This study aims to reveal the meaning of terraces for Pulo villagers as a local culture and learn more about how social interaction changes take place in new settlements. The government wants to give a decent place, but people lose the meaning of the terrace.
2. Terrace as A Pragmatic Need of Human Being

According to Wiryomartono, kampung is something unstructured, unplanned, is a non-formal settlement in relation to the wider social economic system without the existence of facilities, plans and networks to the urban economy [1]. The need for social interaction according to Wiryomartono [2] is supported by the opinion of Sihombing [3] that social interaction can be established with the existence of public space. Back to the view of Wiryomartono [2] that one of the practical needs that must be met is open air area, we can conclude that public spaces that can generate social interaction is an open space. In addition, there is a theory of Gehl [4] that people and activities attract the attention of others. Gehl [4] prioritizes that the time of visual interaction between humans longer to be able to establish a social interaction. This is because visually, humans are always interested in other humans.

According to Pfeifer and Brauneck [5] to produce an open space that facilitates visual interaction is to create an open space position in the middle of vertical dwelling and surrounded by the body of the building.

![Figure 1. Visual and Auditory Contact Arrangement](Image)

Source: Gehl [4]

From the description above (Figure 1), it indicates that the good arrangement for visual contacts is if there are openings, the distance between one man to another adjacent which ideally are in one level, then also there is a factor sooner or later the activity is going on. Generally, visual interaction can occur in slow-duration activities or with longer time. Last is if the orientation between human beings facing each other (facing forward).
3. Cognitive Maps as A Research Methods

Cognitive Map is a methodology used to gain a human view or perception of life experiences in a particular place. As Hiller and Hanson said that the cognitive approach is less ambitious theoretically, of course, because it does not aim to provide a universal theory of space; rather it is concerned to provide a methodology of investigating differences. Studies along these lines are therefore extremely valuable in providing data on differences in the ways in which individuals, and perhaps groups, cognise their environment [6].

Spatial ability becomes a spatial knowledge when movement and changes of locations in memories can be envisioned and acted upon [7]. Therefore, the method can be used in exploring the spatial memory of a family over their hometown by redrawing what happened in that space by using cognitive maps, in this study the space is a terrace in Kampung Pulo.

To achieve the objectives, this study conducted a site survey to Rusunawa Jatinegara Barat and interviewed several families who live in Rusunawa consisting of heads of households, wives, and children. Each family will describe cognitive maps which is a method to know the meaning of the terrace for Pulo villagers as a local culture and the possibility to be moved to a vertical village. The respondents was asked to draw a village map where there is a terrace in his house and drawn on a piece of paper. When describing the atmosphere of the terrace in the village, respondents will be asked to draw without copying from the real map (maps, google maps, etc.)

4. The Meaning of Terrace in Kampung Pulo

| Number | Name            | Number of Family Members | Number of Children | Family Identity     |
|--------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1.     | Mr. Iwan Family | 3                        | 1                  | Trader Trader Student |
| 2.     | Mr. Sofyan Family | 3                        | -                  | Laborer Trader Student |
| 3.     | Mr. Irvan Family | 2                        | -                  | Security Housewife - |
| 4.     | Mr. Pendi Family | 3                        | 1                  | Driver Housewife Student |
| 5.     | Mr. Susanto Family | 2                        | -                  | Employee Housewife - |

Based on Table 1, the cognitive maps in this study were obtained from several families with different work backgrounds and ages.
From the results of data recapitulation based on cognitive maps in Table 2, the majority of the respondents (12/12) drew house. The data shows that a house is something important in human life. The results of cognitive maps recapitulation are also in line with the expert opinion of Kevin Lynch [8] which explains the human memory of a house. Quantitatively 12 informants narrate that their home is a safe place. They recalled that their house is a place for their warm family, both nuclear and extended family. The relationship between nuclear family and its neighbors for the villagers also very intimate. It is what makes a village with an atmosphere of kinship, affection, and mutual help.

| Number | Name  | Terrace | House | Street | Plant | Door | River | Human | Stairs | Warmung | Ditch |
|--------|-------|---------|-------|--------|-------|------|-------|-------|--------|---------|-------|
| 1      | CM 1  | ✓       | ✓     | ✓      | -     | ✓    | -     | -     | ✓      | -       | -     |
| 2      | CM 2  | ✓       | ✓     | ✓      | -     | ✓    | -     | -     | -      | ✓       | -     |
| 3      | CM 3  | ✓       | ✓     | ✓      | -     | ✓    | -     | ✓     | -      | -       | -     |
| 4      | CM 4  | ✓       | ✓     | ✓      | ✓     | -    | -     | -     | -      | ✓       | -     |
| 5      | CM 5  | ✓       | ✓     | ✓      | ✓     | -    | -     | -     | -      | -       | ✓     |
| 6      | CM 6  | ✓       | ✓     | ✓      | ✓     | -    | -     | -     | -      | -       | -     |
| 7      | CM 7  | ✓       | ✓     | ✓      | ✓     | -    | -     | -     | -      | -       | -     |
| 8      | CM 8  | ✓       | ✓     | ✓      | ✓     | -    | -     | -     | -      | -       | -     |
| 9      | CM 9  | -       | ✓     | ✓      | -     | ✓    | -     | -     | ✓      | -       | -     |
| 10     | CM 10 | ✓       | ✓     | ✓      | -     | ✓    | -     | -     | ✓      | -       | -     |
| 11     | CM 11 | ✓       | ✓     | ✓      | ✓     | -    | ✓     | -     | ✓      | -       | -     |
| 12     | CM 12 | -       | ✓     | ✓      | -     | ✓    | -     | -     | -      | -       | -     |

Cognitive Maps Mr. Sofyan  
Cognitive Maps Mr. Iwan  
Cognitive Maps Mr. Putra
These six informants in Figure 2 have similarities in their cognitive maps. They are members of the family who are often doing activities outside their home. Therefore, they often observe the state of their house from outside. The informants in this study are a laborer, trader, security officer and students.

Both of the informants in Figure 3 have similar cognitive maps. Both have different views about the terrace, if Ida's mother looks at the alley as a terrace then Amanda looks at the playing field as a terrace. Figure 4 describes that both maps have similarities, including having two aisles, on the right and left side of the house. The gang alley is the space they consider to be a terrace where they engage in social interaction. Both of these cognitive maps (Figure 5) show the difference on describe their house in their hometown. Each of them uses the overall method of the graph and the whole text. In
Indonesia context, usually the terraces in the kampung are common property. However, the definition of the terrace within the kampung itself is very wide. For example, the parking lot of the motorcycle is also considered as a terrace. Therefore, if this parking lot is removed, then there will be no interaction between families and their neighbors.

**Table 3. The Meaning of Terrace for Respondent**

| Number | Name      | The Meaning of Terrace                  | The Lost Meaning          |
|--------|-----------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1.     | CM 1      | Terrace as a place to chat with siblings | Family, Interaction       |
| 2.     | CM 2      | Alley as terrace                        | Friends, Interaction      |
| 3.     | CM 3      | Playground as Terrace                   | Pengajian, Interaction, Bravery |
| 4.     | CM 4      | Terrace as a place to sit watching people pass by | Visual Interaction |
| 5.     | CM 5      | Terrace as a place to greet neighbors   | Neighbors, Interaction    |
| 6.     | CM 6      | Terrace as a place to see pets          | Pets, Games               |
| 7.     | CM 7      | Drink coffee and chat on the river bank as a terrace | A House, Socialization |
| 8.     | CM 8      | Garden on the river bank as a terrace   | Land                      |
| 9.     | CM 9      | A long bench on the edge of the alley as a terrace | Siblings |
| 10.    | CM 10     | Alley as terrace                        | Vegetable Carts, Interaction |
| 11.    | CM 11     | **Warming** in front of house as terrace | Snacks, Games             |
| 12.    | CM 12     | Car parking lot as terrace              | Neighbors, Interaction    |

Based on Table 3, the cognitive maps in this study were obtained from several families with different work backgrounds and ages. I find some similarities in the maps created by each individual such as the need of space for social interaction, and the requirement of an open space where people can observe others. With various interpretation of the terrace meaning, the terrace space increases the social interaction between peoples and their surrounding. The change is felt by every member of the family who currently feels the loss of relatives, playmates, relatives and nearest neighbors, vegetable sellers, and others as I have concluded at the beginning of the discussion.

5. The Meaning of Terrace in West Jatinegara Flats

In Rusunawa Jatinegra Barat each unit has the same area of 36 m². That information is the existence of a terrestrial meaning which is seen to be very different from a core room in general, and also the meaning of the terrace that disappeared since the source was moved to the vertical village. The terrace room that is widely known by the public is a space that is in front of the house and serves as a barrier between the body of the house and fence. The meaning of the terrace for the resource person is not a privately owned patio space right in front of the house, but they mean the terrace space becomes various places. Vertical villagers are more likely to interact in places other than those prepared by managers; they are actually doing social interactions in unexpected places (Spontaneus Space). Spontaneus Space I mean the front room of the elevator where many people meet spontaneously so as to interact like a greeting. This happens because the front room of the elevator is a meeting room of 3 activities that is waiting for the elevator, the flow of circulation of citizens from the clean market and
the flow of citizen circulation from the motorcycle parking ground floor.

In the case study review of horizontal villages, it was found that the residents have the need for interacting space in the form of open space where they can see many people who are known or not. In accordance with the case study I conducted in Rusunawa Jatinegara Barat, the tower did not have the quality of the core space based on the needs of the residents while the vertical village should be designed to meet the needs of the villagers as horizontal. The various spaces mentioned by the residents as a terrace for him are the neighboring terraces in the horizontal village, the alley, the playground, the seating, the greeting place, the pet ranch, the coffee drink by the river, the riverside garden, the bench in Edge alleys, stalls and other spaces that are considered by residents as a terrace.

6. Conclusion

From the above discussion, it can be concluded that the social space in the form of terraces required by horizontal villagers is a not a porch house that is used as a place to receive guests and as a barrier between the fence and body of the house. Based on the cognitive map method that has been done by the respondents, the terrace referred to by the villagers is an open space where people can see and interact with each other. Terrace according to the residents can be various social spaces such as alleys, river banks, playgrounds, parking lots, stalls, parks and also the terrace of a neighboring house.

*Kampung* is an area that has a strong local culture so that when the village is moved to the vertical *kampung* then the residents need an atmosphere with the same quality of space with their local culture. *Kampung* is identical with a sense of kinship and a well-established community, based on a village reference having a social space in the form of a terrace where all citizens can engage in social interactions with family, close relatives, and neighbors.

References

[1] Sihombing, A. *Conflicting Images of Kampung & Kota in Jakarta*, LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, England, p. 84, 2010.

[2] Wiryomartono, B P. *Urbanitas dan Seni Bina Perkotaan*, Balai Pustaka, Jakarta, Indonesia, 2002.

[3] Sihombing, A. *Conflicting Images of Kampung & Kota in Jakarta*, LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, England, 2010.

[4] Gehl, Jan. *Life Between Buildings*, Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York, 1987.

[5] Pfeifer, Gunter & Brauneck, Per. *Residential Buildings*. Birkhauser Verlag, Basel, 2015.

[6] Sihombing, A. *Conflicting Images of Kampung & Kota in Jakarta*, LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, England, p. 216, 2010.

[7] Tuan, Y F. *Space and Place: The Perspective of Experience*, University of Minnesota Press, Minnesota USA, 2001.

[8] Lynch, Kevin. *The Image of the City*. The Technology Press & Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1960.