A NEW APPROACH TO LIBRARY CONCEPT: LIBRARY-ON-DUTY

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Abstract

Libraries are the places, where science and knowledge are transferred to the next generations. In this sense, libraries play an important role in the constitution of the cultural, historical and spatial memory of society. The use of the traditional library has remained in the background in the historical process because of the developing technology and changing living conditions, and library buildings have been in a spatial and fictional change over time. However, the necessity and basic function of these spaces for scientific progress have not changed.

According to statistics published in recent years, it is determined that the number of libraries closed up in Turkey is increasing and the rate of library use is decreasing. For this reason, different designs, concepts or functions have been sought in libraries in order to draw people's attention to libraries. "Libraries on Duty" arisen in Adana as the presentative and first example of this approach in Turkey constitute the main topic of the study.

"Libraries on Duty", unlike traditional libraries, have a minimal scale and a more flexible form in use. The "Library-on-Duty" phenomenon has given a new meaning to the image of the traditional library with its multifunctional form that hosts social, cultural and artistic events and aimed at addressing to a wider user population with flexible visiting hours.

The purpose of the study is to perform semantical and pragmatical readings of the space of library-on-duty within the scope of the hypothesis of semiology and to observe the change revealed in comparison with traditional library buildings. Accordingly, the spatial readings of three libraries on duty in Adana were performed. Besides, the functions of the libraries on duty have been presented and analyzed in the semantical dimension through interviews made with users, and in the pragmatical dimension through internal spatial organizations and plan analyzes.

As a result; architectural spaces which are considered to be a language that conveys meanings, communicate with their users. Within the scope of the study, in the light of the data obtained from the users of libraries on duty and the spatial analyzes made; it has been observed that this new social and multifunctional formation encourages the use of libraries. Accordingly, the increase of spatial formations that will encourage people to use libraries has been aimed through the example of libraries on duty developed as an alternative to traditional library buildings.

Keywords: Library, Library-on-Duty, Semiology, Pragmatical Analyzes, Semantical Analyzes.

1. Introduction

"*The science is recorded on the papers to be stored and transferred to the next generations through books*"
(Bernal, 2009)

Libraries are living spaces dedicated to the advancement of knowledge and science. At the same time, these libraries that shape culture, space and time also contribute to the sustainability of human knowledge (Bernal, 2009). In this context, there are libraries at every stage of the discovery, preservation, transfer to future generations and reproduction of information (Çankırı, 2015).

As Bernal stated, the books have been an important tool for centuries to transfer the knowledge to the next generations (Bernal, 2009). The sustainability of knowledge accumulation is closely related to the libraries and books. Hence, the carriers of knowledge heritage in many areas such as philosophy, music, literature, painting, architecture, history, social and human sciences are books and libraries.

According to the data provided by Turkish Statistical Institute in 2015, the number of libraries closed in Turkey has increased in recent years and the rate of library use has decreased (TSI, 2015). For this reason, different designs, concepts or functions have been searched for in the library structures in order to attract people's attention to these places that have primary importance in information transfer. The "Library-on-Duty" approach is an answer to these quests.

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From this viewpoint, the study of Libraries-on-Duty structures in Adana, which are the concrete and first examples of searching for different concepts and functions in the library structures in Turkey, has been done in the context of semantic and pragmatic analyses. These structures are considered important because of their current interpretation of library use in terms of their spatial and semantic flexibility.

2. The Concept of Library

The Turkish word for library kütüphane is derived from the words "kütüb" meaning books in Arabic and "hane" meaning house in Persian. From an etymological point of view, the word library means "house of books", but in order for a building to be a library, there must be three main functions fulfilled (Dölgen, 1997). Those are;
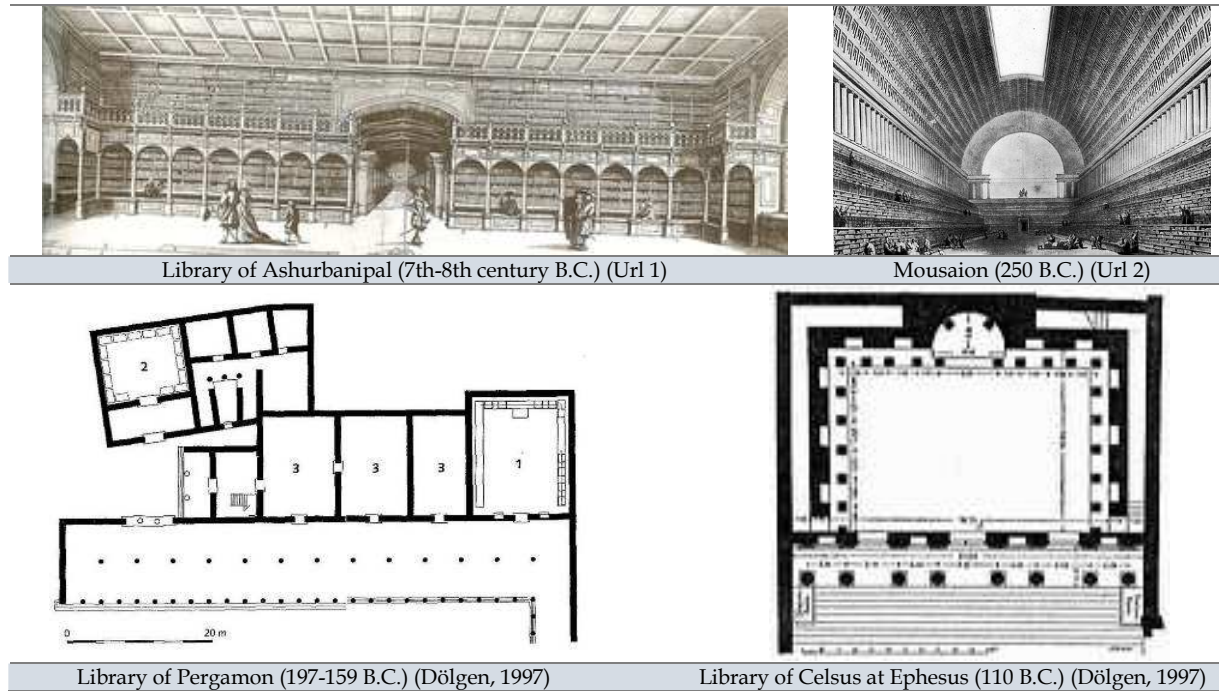
- Collection,
- Classification,
- Distribution.

In this sense, libraries can be defined as spaces where books, magazines, and similar written and visual publications are collected, stored and presented to the readers and researchers' use under a certain system.

2.1. Brief History

The existence of libraries continues since ancient times. The first important libraries of the world were; the library built by Asur Banipal in Ancient Mesopotamia, Mousaion (The Library of Alexandria) and the Library of Pergamon in the Hellenistic era, and the Celsus Library in Ephesus in the Roman period (table 1). In these libraries, where a tremendous contribution to the history of world's culture made, there also had been accommodation units to meet the needs of the researchers who travelled from the long distances. However, these places were only open to the use by the scientists. The first public library was seen in Rome (Dölgen, 1997).

Table 1. Historical Libraries

Library of Ashurbanipal (7th-8th century B.C.) (Url 1)	Mousaion (250 B.C.) (Url 2)
Library of Pergamon (197-159 B.C.) (Dölgen, 1997)	Library of Celsus at Ephesus (110 B.C.) (Dölgen, 1997)

After the end of the Roman Empire (395), the medieval scholastic system of thought increased the importance given to the church and, thus, monastery libraries appeared. The diversity in the libraries was followed by university libraries established for the scholars and students in the 12th century and the principality libraries (Dölgen, 1997).

In Turkish history, the first library was established in the Uighur Period (745-840). In the time of Gaznelis (963-1186), a grand palace library emerged, and in the Seljuk period, the libraries, which existed together with medreseh, became widespread. The first library established in the Ottoman period was the Topkapı Palace Library (1478), which was established after the Conquest of Istanbul. The first library to be open to the public is the library established within Eyüp Social Complex (1459). During the Ottoman period,

whether in the complex or independent, the libraries were usually facing to a courtyard in order to control the noise.

In the Republican Period, with the closure of the Islamic lodges and monasteries the books of these libraries transferred to the ownership of the libraries of the Ministry of National Education, and during the period from 1930 to 1950, the Community Houses and Turkish Hearths functioned as libraries. The types of libraries that emerged in the Republic of Turkey are the national libraries, the public libraries, the libraries within the educational structure, and mobile libraries (Dölgen, 1997).

2.2. Types of Library

Since the architectural structures cannot be dissociated from the cultural, technological and social features of the period it belongs to, the libraries, which emerged with the invention of script and storage of the knowledge through books, have been developed and diversified in accordance with the terms of its time. In this context, modern library types of our times are public libraries, national libraries, university, school and private research libraries.

The public libraries are the kind of library that has the oldest organizational system in Turkey (Balcı, 2006). The philosophy of these libraries is being open to all and serve to all segments of the society with no discrimination. It is stated that the Public Libraries are of great importance in raising the intellectual development of the individuals in the society and in the development of the country. The purposes of the public libraries, which are diversified as mobile and children's libraries, are stated in the UNESCO's Manifest on Public Libraries as Information access, continuous learning, cultural socialization, and entertainment (Muscogiuri, 2012).

The National Libraries are comprehensive library structures introduced in the national sense. The first national library in the world was founded in England in 1753 as a part of British museum. The national libraries monitor and purchase the publications about country's past and future both inland and abroad. The largest library in terms of capacity is the national library (Baysal, 1991).

The purpose of university libraries, which are another type of library, is to provide opportunities for scientific studies and researches, disseminate the science data, and to contribute to the development of the university by working together with domestic and foreign institutions. The user profile often consists of the scholars and students of its university (Balcı, 2006).

School libraries are the libraries built on the basis of curriculum and programs that are applied at primary and secondary schools as well as at high school and its equivalents allowing all students individually to conduct personal research and study. They are important in terms of providing equal opportunities for students, to gain reading habits and their skill development (Yılmaz, 1998).

Lastly, referring to the private libraries, they serve to the public and private sector organizations for professional, commercial, economic, cultural, industrial, scientific and technological purposes. The private library provides sources of information on topics relevant to the organization of which it is part of, organizes them for service, and facilitates an easy access (Çakın, 1991).

The findings from the literature survey on national, school, public and university libraries;

• Lack of spatial possibilities to socialize while reading books and studying,

• Although there are areas of activity in large-scale libraries, these units are considered independent from the library structure,

• Due to requirement of silence, group works are not allowed in the reading halls,

• The restrictions in terms of use hours,

• There are no eating and drinking allowed in the reading halls,

• Therefore, users are not willing to spend too much time in the libraries

The libraries and books have great importance on enhancing the intellectual level of the societies However, it can be easily observed that use of the library is decreased in societies due to constant advancement of information and communication technologies. Therefore, a number of approaches have emerged abroad as an alternative to traditional libraries for the continuity of library use (table 2).

Table 2. Examples of Abroad

Mobile Art Libraries	Cafe-Libraries	Outdoor Libraries	Garden Libraries
With 20 m2 of the activity area, the mobile library is set up as a flexible and transparent platform related to the outdoors. It is designed with flexibility to enable cultural activities within the mobile building (Url 3).	This library, created by dynamic space setup, asserts that book reading should coexist with different functions. Reading areas can be converted into exhibition halls. Also, the relationship established with the streets aims to attract the people on the street to the library (Url 4).	Founded as a participatory library with the support of the surrounding community. With its temporary bookshelves and sitting spaces completed by filling of an urban void with idle materials, this library is created also to have outdoor activities along with reading books (Url 5).	This structure is a minimalist example of a vertical library. It aims to provide reading activity in an environment where structure and nature nested together and allows viewing the landscape in the upper-level reading unit (Url 6).

3. The Concept of Library-on-Duty

The first of the libraries-on-duty was established in 2013 as a social entrepreneurship project. The library-on-duty, defined as "the next generation social library", differ from the existing library structures in Turkey with flexible use hours, multifunctional structure, scale, interior decoration and participatory library concept (Url 7), (table 3).

Table 3. Interior Photos of Libraries-On-Duty

Branch of Nermin Topal

Branch of Noyan Esen

Branch of Nevzat Karabulut

According to the interviews conducted with the creators, the aims of the formation of the Libraries-on-Duty can be sorted as follows;

• to enable the people who work from 10 AM to 2 PM use the library,

• to provide flexibility of the space for social, cultural and art activities,

• to create more intimate library settings with its interior space which is minimal in terms of dimension and decorated with warm materials,

• as oppose to existing libraries, to have no rule of silence in order to allow readers socialize while reading,

• to increase the sense of belonging the users with the user-centered library model where users are partner-participators in every work and decision related to the library.

In the scope of the study, the spatial readings of the libraries-on-duty in Adana were made specifically for the branches of Noyan Esen, Nermin Topal and Nevzat Karabulut.

3.1. Noyan Esen Library-on-Duty

Noyan Esen Library-on-Duty is located in the Çukurova district of Adana. The library creates a very intellectual showcase on the street with open reading space at the entrance. The building consists of open and closed reading room, free reading area, group study area, café, and office units. There is no sharp separation between the reading sections and the café. Flexibility is a primary concern in the spatial organization for allowing activities such as concerts, conversation sessions, etc. (table 4, 5).

Table 4. Spatial Plan Analysis

Ground Floor Plan
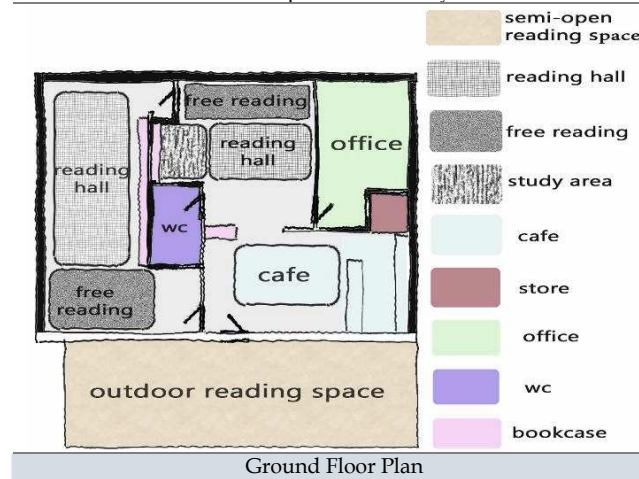
Table 5. Interior Photos of Noyan Esen Branch

Reading Hall	Free Reading Space	Activity Order Of Space (music concert)

3.2. Nermin Topal Library-on-Duty

Nermin Topal Library-on-Duty is located in Barajyolu Boulevard where students are concentrated. There is no divider wall between the reading room, the free reading area, and the café, and the separation between spaces are provided by the book shelves, which are the basic element of a library. Unlike others, the two-story library has an elevated stage on the basement floor (table 6, 7).

Table 6. Spatial Plan Analysis

| Ground Floor Plan | Basement Floor Plan |
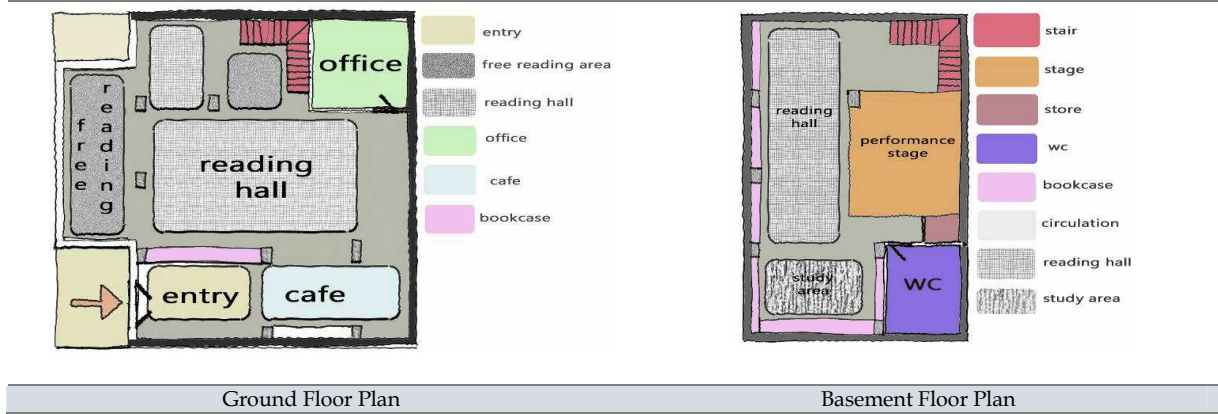
Table 7. Interior Photos of Nermin Topal Branch

| Reading Hall | Basement Floor |

3.3. Nevzat Karabulut Library-on-Duty

Nevzat Karabulut Library-on-Duty, once again, is accessible from an open area that may be defined as a small reading showcase. What functionally differs this three-story library from the others is that there is a special space allocated as a screening room. Again, along with the reading and studying sections, in the café there is an elevated platform that can be converted to a stage as needed (table 8, 9).

Table 8. Spatial Plan Analysis

| Ground Floor Plan | First Floor Plan | Basement Floor Plan |
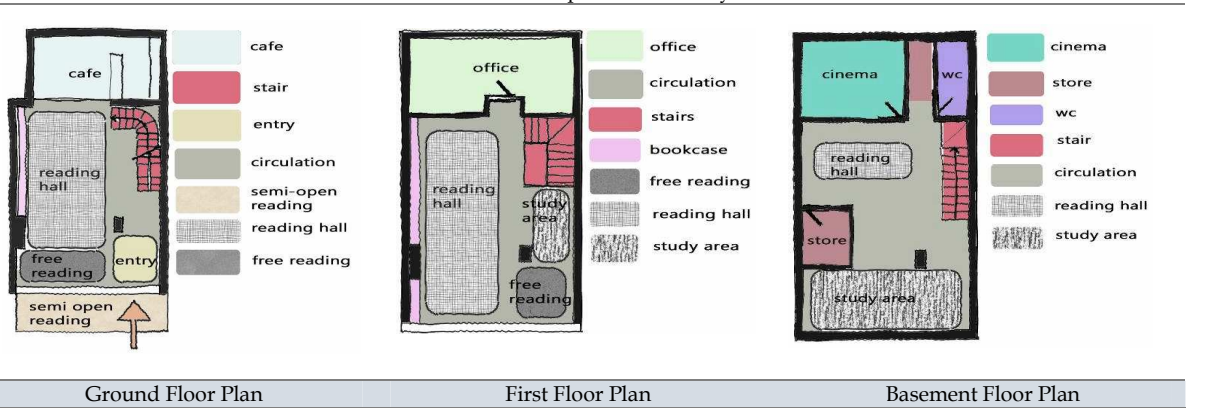
Table 9. Interior Photos of Nevzat Karabulut Branch

| Reading Hall | Activity Order Of Space (Interview) | Screening Room |
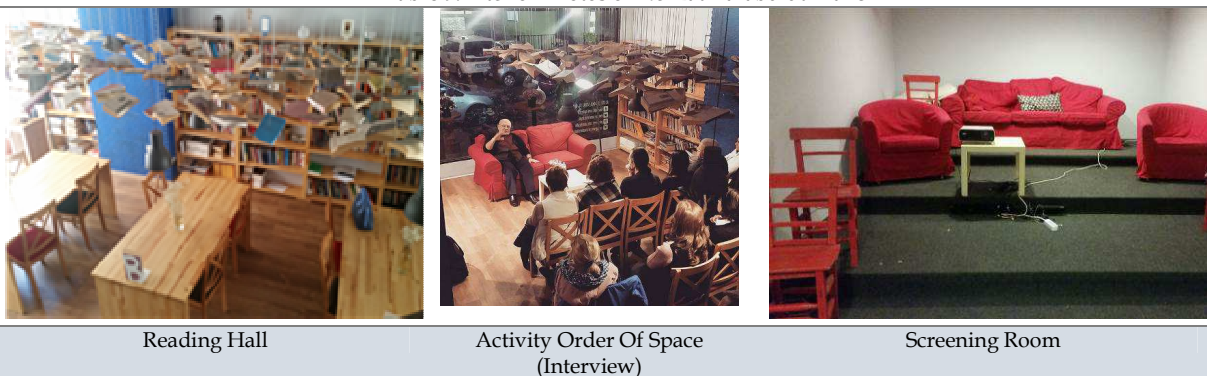
4. The Method of the Study

Every form is an expression and contains meaning. With this feature, the architectural spaces are in constant communication with its users (Çolak, 2004). It is possible to make this communication more efficient and read the signs loaded on the architectural buildings by the method of semiology.

Semiology is shortly described as "solving the meanings behind everything that seems ordinary, and seeing the secondary meanings in their expressions". In this respect, we utilized semiology and its subtitles to discuss the nature of the Libraries-on-Duty, to reveal and interpret the semantic differences within them (Çolak, 2004).

Semiology consists of semantic, syntactic and pragmatic. The meaning expressed by the object in the semantic dimension, the physical and formal characteristics of the object in the syntactic dimension, the relationship between the signs and the users of the signs and the behavior of the users in the pragmatic dimension are examined. The syntactic dimension was ignored because the semantical and pragmatical perceptions of the library-on-duty users are questioned.

The scope of the study is to determine the semantical and the pragmatical perceptions of the users about the library in the context of today's library-on-duty approach, which includes functional features such as gathering information, storage, distribution and sometimes accommodation in the historical process. In accordance with this purpose, in the pragmatical context, surveys were applied to the users in order to make the pragmatical inferences of libraries-on-duty, which consist of adjective pairs in the semantic context and reflect the emotional reactions of the users.

The findings of the libraries-on-duty were evaluated by using the "Thurstone's Law of Comparative Judgment" method. Thurstone's method is used for analyzing pair prefence and rank order judgement data (Vavra, 1997). In this study; there were a certain number of brands and a group of individuals were asked to rank these brands in the order of preference from 1 "More Preferable" to 6 "Less Preferable".

The process of study consists of;

• Literature research on the library,

• Photograph the libraries-on-duty and identification of their plans,

• Determination of libraries-on-duty with a pragmatic qualities,

• Detection of adjective pairs to determine Emotional Reactions,

• Preparing survey questions for users,

•Analysis of data obtained from surveys/interviews with users.

5. Pragmatic and Semantic Analysis of The Libraries-on-Duty

Signs in architecture are among the factors that most influence the emotional and behavioral reactions of the users. In the context of the study, the pragmatical analysis of the libraries-on-duty was carried out by using the behavioral principles of the users (Okuyucu, 2011), while the semantical analysis of it was carried out by benefiting from adjective pairs in Michelson's work of "Behavioral Research Methods in Environmental Design" (Michelson, 1975).

5.1. Preparing Survey Questions For Users

The survey consists of two ranking questions, which question the semantical and pragmatical perceptions of the users. The sample group consists of users in three different branches of the libraries-on-duty. In order for the sample size to represent the library-on-duty, an adequate number was determined from the formula given below (1), taking into account the daily average number of users of the libraries.

N: Universe Size (Daily average number of users in all Libraries-on-Duty)

Z: Reliability Level (95% reliability = 1.96)

P: Probability of occurrence (0.5)

Q: Probability of event not occurring (0.5)

D: Accepted margin of error (5% margin of error: 0.05)

n: Number of sample

$$n = (Z^2 \times N \times P \times Q)/((N-1) \times D^2 + Z^2 \times P \times Q) = 151$$

The user sample size was calculated as 151 users with a 95% confidence level and 5% error margin to represent the target group (N=250) identified in the study. In the survey; the respondents were asked to respond to survey inquiries by face to face interviewing with the users in the library-on-duty branches.

5.2. Pragmatic Analysis of the Libraries-on-Duty

The pragmatic analysis method used by the Okuyucu (2011) was developed and used while the pragmatic dimension of the libraries-on-duty was being evaluated. As a result of the pragmatic readings made by examining the accumulation, functions, requirements and usage purposes of the libraries-on-duty, inferences are obtained in a pragmatical sense. These inferences are as follows:

- Accessible in terms of location,
- Flexibility in terms of multifunctional space usage, using hours and operating mode,
- The sufficient size of the reading, group study and activity areas in respect of their usage capacity,
- The sufficiency of natural and artificial lighting,
- The ability to host cultural and social events,
- The presence of eating and drinking places that work together with the reading room,
- Visual aesthetics in interior decoration.

Surveys made to users in the context of these conclusions were evaluated by Thurstone's method. According to the result of the analysis, the respondents ranked the 'group work space' most preferable, followed by 'flexible hours' and then 'food space' that can be considered least prefable brand in Noyan Esen. In branch of Nermin Topal, the respondents ranked the 'location' most preferable, followed by 'flexible hours' and then 'social activitates' that can be considered least prefable brand. Consequently in the branch of Nevzat Karabulut, 'social activitates' most preferable, followed by 'flexible hours' and then 'visual esthetic' that can be considered least prefable brand (table 10).

Table 10. Pragmatical Analysis of Libraries-on-Duty

	Noyan Esen Library-on-Duty	Nermin Topal Library-on-Duty	Nevzat Karabulut Library-on-Duty
Behavioral Reactions	Group work space	Location	Social activitates
	Flexible Hours	Flexible hours	Flexible hours
	Location	Flexible Space	Space Scale
	Space Scale	Space Scale	Group work space
	Visual Esthetic	Group work space	Ergonomic Features
	Food space	Social activitates	Visual Esthetic

5.3. Semantic Analysis of the Libraries-on-Duty

The scale to be used to assess the semantic inferences of the libraries-on-duty and the user perceptions of the space was chosen from Michelson's adjective pairs in his "Behavioural Research Methods in Environmental Design". Some pairs of adjectives came to the forefront as a result of the surveys made with the users. The emotional response of the users to the spaces differs between the branches as it shown in the table (table 11).

Table 11. Semantic Analysis of Libraries-on-Duty

	Noyan Esen Library-on-Duty	Nermin Topal Library-on-Duty	Nevzat Karabulut Library-on-Duty
Emotional Reactions	Inviting	Adequate size	Inviting
	Simple	Multiple purpose	Cheerful
	Multiple purpose	Hospitable	Multiple purpose
	Lively	Lively	Flexible
	Hospitable	Attractive	Human Scale
	Dynamic space	Cozy	Dynamic space

These libraries with their users' participatory operational form have added a new meaning to the image of the existing library with the possibility of user interaction, usage hours, scale, various social activities taking place among the books, and the possibility of having something like home while studying.

6. Assessment and Conclusion

Although the carriers of information change rapidly today, and despite the variation in the line of library science and the scientific advancements the necessity and the main function of the libraries is the same and preserves its essence. Becoming dependent on electronics brought new approaches given to the status of libraries in our lives. As opposed to existing library structures, pragmatic and semantic innovations brought by the Libraries-on-Duty examined in the scope of this study are;

- "flexibility" in the use of space (changing equipment according to activity), taking into account that socio-cultural needs or technical and functional requirements may change,
- Flexibility in the operation of the user-focused library allows people to gain sense of belonging to the library,

• Speaking a broader audience with flexibility in hours of use,

• Adaptability to new uses and new needs,

• Minimal sizes in terms of dimension,

• Include users with their individual comments while creating the alternatives for use,

• A friendly environment created by interior fittings,

• The idea of having a multifunctional interior that open to improvement and change.

As a conclusion, in the light of spatial reading and analysis conducted, it has been observed that this new social and multifunctional formation encourages the use of the libraries. In this direction, libraries must be perceived not only the places for reading and research but also the places where people go to have a pleasant time, meet their needs of information of everyday life, explore new things and evaluate their spare time efficiently.

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APPENDIX A. SURVEY QUESTIONS FOR USERS

1. In order to describe the libraries-on-duty, list the most appropriate ones from the following adjectives according to their importance, from 1"More Preferable" to 6"Less Preferable".

• Adequate size	• Inadequate size	• Dynamic space	• Static space
• Attractive	• Unattractive	• Distinctive	• Ordinary
• Cheerful	• Gloomy	• Hospitable	• Inhospitable
• Colorful	• Drap	• Free Space	• Restricted space
• Complex	• Simple	• Noisy	• Quiet
• Human scale	• Inhuman scale	• New	• Old
• Inviting	• Repelling	• Multiple Purpose	• Single purpose
• Cozy	• Monumental	• Private	• Public

2. The pragmatical features of the Libraries-on-duty are listed below. Please rank from 1 to 6 depending on the importance of the features that are effective when you choose this space.

• Location within the city	• Flexible space usage
• Relationship with the street	• Flexible hours
• Microclimatic Environment	• Food space
• Adequate lighting	• Ergonomic Features
• Group work space	• Visual Esthetic
• Social activitate space	• Scales of space