Urban Studies Seminar

Chaired by Ulrike Freitag and Nora Lafi

Annual Theme 2012-13: Cities as Laboratories of Change

October 15: Architectural Development and Householder’s Structure in the 19th Century in Port Suakin (Sudan) by Mohamed Elfateh (Brandenburgische Technische Universität Cottbus)

Special session to be held at 20.00h c.t. at TU Berlin, Architekturgebäude, Straße des 17. Juni 152 (Ernst-Reuter-Platz/Ecke Marchstraße) room A 053 ground floor.

October 29: Traditional Architecture in Saudi Arabia: Diversity within Unity by Hisham Mortada (University of King Abdul Aziz, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia)

November 12: We don’t Care for Victories! Give us Bread!' Gender, Society, and Culture - Wartime as Laboratory of Change in Ottoman Cities by Yigit Akin (College of Charleston / EUME Fellow 2012/13)

November 26: Urban Forms of Life and Criminality in Contemporary Aleppo and Idlib by Zouhair Ghazzal (Loyola University Chicago)

December 10: Waqf and the Urban Space in a Time of Change: Beirut in the XIXth c. by Joseph Rustom (Brandenburgische Technische Universität Cottbus / Global Prayers Fellow 2012/13)


January 28: Reforms in the Guild System as Laboratory of Urban Change by Suraiya Faroqhi (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München / Istanbul Bilgi University)

February 11: German 'Expertise' and Urban Interventions in the Construction of the Ottoman Rail Network: A Visual Analysis, 1868-1919 by Peter Christensen (Fulbright Fellow / Harvard University)

April 29: South-south Migrations: Moroccan Cities as Laboratories of Change by Johara Berriane (Freie Universität, Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies)

May 13: Urban Change and the Evolution of the Palestinian National Identity by Yazid Anani (Birzeit University / EUME Fellow 2012/13)


June 10: Dubai as a Model? Urban Visions in the Development of Omani Cities by Steffen Wippel (Zentrum Moderner Orient)

June 24: Conclusion: Cities as Laboratories of Change by Ulrike Freitag and Nora Lafi (both ZMO)

The seminar is a joint activity of the Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO) and 'Europe in the Middle East - The Middle East in Europe' (EUME).

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The Urban Studies Seminar is convened within the EUME-ZMO Research Field 'Cities Compared: Urban Change in the Mediterranean and Adjacent Regions'. The seminar aims at presenting and discussing ongoing research of scholars working on the social institutional, political and cultural history of Middle East, North Africa, Iran, Turkey (and cities in the former territories of the Ottoman Empire like the Balkans or Anatolia) with an emphasis on Urban Studies in comparative perspectives.