



المدينة الفلسطينية

قضايا في التحولات الحضرية

The Palestinian City: Issues of Urban Transformation

١ - ٣ تشرين الثاني / نوفمبر ٢٠١٩
مبنى ملحق معهد الحقوق، جامعة بيرزيت

1 - 3 November 2019 at Institute of Law
Annex Building, Birzeit University

Most countries of the world have undergone rapid urbanization over the past two centuries, and Palestine was no exception until the beginning of the twentieth century. Many Palestinian areas have witnessed, in the last decades of the Ottoman rule, the development of urban centers. Without doubt, the evolution of the Palestinian city over the past 100 years has been affected by the successive political events in the region. While the city's progress and prosperity are attributed to the late the Ottoman period, the beginning of the obstruction of this development however dates back to the British Mandate and its aftermath, up until the Nakba in 1948 and what followed of displacement of more than half of the Palestinian people, the disintegration of society, and the receding of its urban development; with accompanying social, economic, and cultural manifestations.

Despite the continued systematic Judaization, and efforts to produce the Palestinian city in the occupied territories since 1948 as a ghetto, just as in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip since 1967, the ongoing political struggle and social and cultural movement of the Palestinians have formed agents of resistance, reconstruction, and a challenge to the Israeli tools of control and erasure.

Within this context, the Institute for Palestine Studies will be addressing the topic of 'the Palestinian City' in its annual conference, on 13- November 2019. The purpose of this conference is to study as many as possible of the issues of the Palestinian urban transformation in light of its relation to successive eras and the successive political events which Palestine has witnessed since the end of the Ottoman era. The conference gives opportunity to new researches in various relevant academic fields; researches touching on the history of the city as well as its present, the city as an incubator of culture, and as a controller of social, political, and economic life.

Our Partners:

شركاؤنا:

In Cooperation with

بالتعاون مع



كلية الآداب



The Palestinian City: Issues of Urban Transformation
Birzeit University, Institute of Law Annex Building, Hall 243

Friday, 1 November 2019		
13:30	Registration	
14:00	Opening Remarks	
14:30	Keynote Speech	
	The Impact of Urban Modernization on the Arab City	Khaled Ziadeh
15:00	Opening Session: Urban Issues in the Post-Nakba History (Chair: Ibrahim Musa) On how the trajectory of the Palestinian city changed because of the Nakba	
	Remnant: The Fates of the Palestinian City in Israel between the Nakba and the Naksa (1948-1967)	Adel Manna
	The Palestinian City: Issues of Encirclement, Exclusion, and Development	Rassem Khamaisi
	Discussion	
Saturday, 2 November 2019		
9:30	Session 2: The Social History of the Palestinian City (Chair: Salim Tamari) Showcasing aspects of the social history of three cities, for over a century	
	Biru al-Sabia’: A Frontiers’ City	Ahmad Amara
	Turning Hayfa into Haifa: Forming Space as a Tool of Shaping Collective/Religion Identities	Himmat Zoubi
	Ordinary Lives: A Small-town Middle Class at the Turn of the Twentieth Century in Palestine	Lisa Taraki
	Discussion	
11:15	Coffee Break	
11:30	Session 3: Urban Transformations in Jerusalem (Chair: Nazmi Jubeh) Outlining the changing features of Jerusalem within its Arab neighborhoods and its surroundings	
	The Politics of Israeli Infrastructural Planning: The Case of the Proposed Cable Car in East Jerusalem	Shadi Khalilieh and Marianna B. Reis
	Architecture of Jerusalem's Urban Scene and the Morphological Change of Damascus Gate and Musrara as a Case Study 1917-2017	Abdelhafez Abu Sirrieh
	Jerusalem and Its Rural Areas: The Northwestern Villages, a Case Study	Ahmad Huneiti, Shiraz Nasr, and Weeam Hammoudeh
	Discussion	
13:15	Lunch at the Cafeteria of Faculty of Pharmacy, Nursing and Health Professions	
14:00	Session 4: Interlocking Spaces (Chair: Ghada Almadbouh) Entangled Space-time: opposing centers of power and interests	
	On Haifa as Both a Settler City and an ‘Urban Reserve’	Itxaso Domínguez de Olazábal
	Ramallah and al-Bireh: A Tale of Two Cities	Salim Abuthaher
	Past Tense	Jack Persekian
	Discussion	
15:45	Coffee Break	

16:00	Session 5: Challenges and Resistance (Chair: Rami Abdulhadi) <i>When the city’s journey is a march of resistance, whether evident or invisible</i>	
	The Old City of Hebron: The ABC of Occupation versus the Resisting Heritage	Jad Tabet
	Ramallah Modern: a Syllabus towards Understanding Urbanization under Occupation	Khaldun Bshara
	Discussion	
Sunday, 3 November 2019		
9:30	Session 6: The Palestinian City is Culture and Architecture (Chair: Lana Judeh) <i>Cities rely on their past, as well as future, heritage</i>	
	Resuscitation of the Dead: About the Conservation of the Built Heritage within the Palestinian City, an Anthropological Perspective	Jawida Mansour
	Reframing the New Palestinian City: Rawabi between Nationalism and Indigeneity	Francesco Amoruso
	R&B Rhythm and Blues: Post Traffic Lights in the City of Ramallah and al-Bireh	Yazan Khalili
	Discussion	
11:15	Coffee Break	
11:30	Session 7: Impacts on the Urbanscape (Chair: George Giacaman) <i>Capturing changes in the urbanscape in three cities</i>	
	Urban Transformations in Jerusalem (Shufat Refugee Camp) - A Case Study	Mohammad Muhsen
	Migration Turns Ramallah into an Economic Center	Hadeel Fawadleh
	Cultural Transformation within the Urban Ecology in Nazareth	Nisreen Mazzawi
	Discussion	
13:15	Lunch at the Cafeteria of Faculty of Pharmacy, Nursing and Health Professions	
14:00	Session 8: The City Culturally and Artistically (Chair: Mahmoud Abu Hashhash) <i>The intangible existence of a city is the culture it produces</i>	
	The Palestinian City in the Cinema	George Khleifi
	Music Production in Palestinian Cities before the 1948 Nakba	Nader Jalal
	TAKHAYAL [imagine]: Dialogues and Resistance	Natasha Aruri
	Discussion	
15:45	Closing Remarks	