



Invitation

Thursday, May 23rd, 2013, 6 pm

Difficult Heritage and Forensic Architecture in Moroccan Prisons and Torture Centers: A Spatial Shift

Venue

Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung

Schützenstr. 18
10117 Berlin

Room 308

Lecture by Prof. Susan Slyomovics

Among the variety of social and political opportunities to achieve repair and redress, the right to erect memorials (monuments, cemetery headstones, plaques, museums) is the latest transitional justice phase to an eradicated past of mass violence, forcible disappearance, and torture in post-independence Morocco. Documenting a difficult heritage of shame and pain participates in a growing body of research in the form of site memorializations that include history, anthropology, and museum-making to assume that the acts of recognizing and acknowledging victims and historical truths are themselves a form of justice. To demarcate the architectural imprint of the autocratic past, this presentation draws on examples that involve witness testimonies and “dark tourism” to site-specific Moroccan locations such as Derb Moulay Cherif, Kalaat M’Gouna, and Agdez.

Susan Slyomovics is professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Los Angeles. Her publications include: *The Anthropology of The Middle East and North Africa: Into the New Millennium* (co-editor, 2013); *Clifford Geertz in Morocco* (editor, 2010); *Waging War and Making Peace: The Anthropology of Reparations* (co-editor, 2008); *The Performance of Human Rights in Morocco* (2005) and *The Living Medina in the Maghrib: The Walled Arab City in Literature, Architecture, and History* (editor, 2001).

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