

**ZMO-EUME-Colloquium**

Twice a month,
Mondays 5 pm - 7 pm

Venue:

Conference Hall
Zentrum Moderner Orient
Kirchweg 33
14129 Berlin-Nikolassee

Please register
at the following address:
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Urban Studies Seminar 2013 - 2014

Chaired by Prof Ulrike Freitag and Dr Nora Lafi

Annual Theme: The City and its Margins

Monday, May 26th, 2014, 5 pm

At the Margins of Urban Pakistan: The Question of Afghan Refugees

Lecture by **Sanaa Alimia**

Afghan refugees have been living in Pakistan for 35 years. As non-citizens and part of a protracted refugee displacement, the state is often unwilling to distribute goods such as housing and utilities to Afghans. However, many Pakistani citizens also find themselves in a similar position due to structural failings and, specifically for Pakistani Pakhtuns in Karachi, for example, also because of 'ethnicised' discrimination. Based on oral history interviews and ethnographic fieldwork which focuses on the 'urban poor', this lecture discusses how non-citizens (refugees) and citizens (urban poor) Pakistanis live shared lives in urban Pakistan. As such, it asks, what are the implications of zones of belonging that cut across lines of national distinction for our understandings of urban politics today? And how do these zones create longer term impacts on the state?

Sanaa Alimia is a postdoctoral Fellow at the BGSMS (FU Berlin). She is working on a project entitled 'Contesting Modernity in Urban Pakistan: Street Politics, Moral Lives and Transnationalism.' She has been a Senior Teaching Fellow in the Politics and International Studies Department at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London (2013-14). She was a Visiting Associate Professor in the Political Science Department at the University of Peshawar. She completed her PhD from the School of Oriental and African Studies, London in 2013.