Zentrum Moderner Orient



Urban Studies Seminar 2016 - 2017

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: Dr. Nora Lafi nora.lafi@zmo.de Phone: (+49) (0) 30 80307- 0



Annual Theme: Rethinking Urban-Rural Relations in an Age of Migration, Displacement, Environmental Transformations and Fringe Urbanization

Chaired by Ulrike Freitag, Nora Lafi and Katharina Lange Monday, 16 January 2017, 5 pm

Displacing the Displaced: Critical Thinking on Urban Projects in Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)

Lecture by Patrick Schukalla (ZMO)

Urban large-scale development projects stand out in terms of size, number of affected people, financial expenditure, political relevance and media representation. They appear as something "special", urban contestations accompany them and political preferences become evident along their planning process. In the case of the New Kigamboni City Project in Dar es Salaam / Tanzania, which was planned and much debated since 2008, planners and government officials intended to dispossess and resettle a huge number of inhabitants of Dar es Salaam's periurban area of Kigamboni in order to make way for "an ultramodern city and for orderly development".

The lecture proposes to conceptualize these processes as a form of urban accumulation by dispossession that builds on the discursive construction of antagonistic images of urban models and the attached conflicting rationalities of "being urban". The image of a new, hypermodern "cityness" striving for economic development and its alleged counterpart, rural, informal and supposedly "un-urban" lifestyles and structures become attached to certain behaviours and groups of the urban population and serve to legitimize dispossession and resettlement intentions. Or, as one official put it in 2013: "Flush out those how would under-develop their properties".

Patrick Schukalla is a PhD student at ZMO and the Goethe University of Frankfurt a. M. His PhD project is on "Becoming nuclear front end – Spaces of exploration and the expansion of the uranium frontier to Tanzania". He is part of the ZMO research group "Politics of Resources".