



Twice a month,
Mondays 5 pm - 7 pm

Venue:
Conference Hall
Zentrum Moderner Orient
Kirchweg 33
14129 Berlin-Nikolassee

Participants are asked to register
at the following address:

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For more information please visit

www.zmo.de
www.eume-berlin.de
www.forum-transregionale-studien.de
www.h-net.msu.edu/~mediter

Urban Studies Seminar 2013 - 2014

Chaired by Prof Ulrike Freitag and Dr Nora Lafi

Annual Theme: The City and its Margins

Monday, January 27th, 2014, 5 pm - 7 pm

A Wall Marking the Border: Urban Jeddah and its Margins

A Reflection by Ulrike Freitag

This short presentation is a first reflection on the divide constituted by the city wall, as well as by other walls, in the case of Jeddah in the late 19th and early 20th century. Using the wall as a real and symbolic divide, the different meanings of "urban margins" will be explored briefly.

Ulrike Freitag is a historian of the modern Middle East and currently director of Zentrum Moderner Orient.

The Marginalization of the Centre: The Tunis Medina between Patrimonialization and Abandon

A Reflection by Nora Lafi

In Tunis, urban marginalization has many faces, from the sprawling poverty of the limits of the urban region to the pockets of poverty that emerge in between enclaves of neo-liberal urbanization. But the medina itself is also characterized by a phenomenon of growing contrast between spaces: whereas a few Streets have been the object of ambitious programmes of rehabilitation, other parts are increasingly abandoned and subject to decay and marginalization. It is precisely the object of this presentation to analyze both the present dynamics of this splintering urban logic and its possible historical roots from Ottoman and colonial times to the evolution of the collective and institutional idea of the medina from the time of the Independence to the recent political events.

Nora Lafi is a researcher at the Zentrum Moderner Orient in Berlin. She is a specialist of the history of the Ottoman Empire and specifically of Arab towns of North Africa and the Middle-East.