

**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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EUME is a project at:

**Forum  
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Studien**

which is funded by:



Senatsverwaltung  
für Wirtschaft, Technologie  
und Forschung

**Urban Studies Seminar 2013 - 2014**

Chaired by Prof Ulrike Freitag and Dr Nora Lafi

**Annual Theme: The City and its Margins**

**Monday, June 16th, 2014, 5 pm**

**Exploring the City's Margins: Night Life in Two Small Towns of Muslim West Africa**

**Lecture by André Chappatte (ZMO Berlin)**

Inspired by a previous research on Muslims' alcohol consumption in discreet bars called '*maquis*' in urban Mali, this paper examines night time as a specific urban margin by investigating the fact that the night differs from the day in terms of social significance because its darkness creates a specific marginality in which activities are hidden away. Aiming at going beyond the common association of margins with poverty and vulnerability, it explores the ways in which Muslims take the opportunity to invest *the margins of the day* with activities that morally ought to remain out of public sight. Based on a recent sojourn in northern Côte d'Ivoire, this paper then introduces the potentiality of such anthropology of the night in Odienné, a border and administrative town of a country whose government is attempting to implement a process of reconciliation after ten years of civil wars.

**Dr. André Chappatte** is a Fellow Researcher at the Zentrum Moderner Orient. He recently graduated from the School of Oriental and African Studies. His PhD Dissertation focuses on young male migrants of rural origin who have moved to build better lives in the small towns of Bougouni; it explores the importance to them of being both successful and good Muslim in contemporary Mali and stresses the triple Mande-Islamic-French legacy shaping local life in southern Mali. His current research interests are public morality, secrecy, night life, and urban growth of border towns in southern Mali and northern Côte d'Ivoire.