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(CET)



Image credit: Burj el Brajneeh camp, 2015. Samar Maqusi

The Palestinian scale: reflections on socio-spatial practices inside the camp

Samar Maqusi | University College London (UCL), UK

Ph.D Course

The camp: researching violence, exclusion and temporariness

Prof.
Camillo Boano

To join the class:
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Zoom link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81144440268>

Password 480368

Mass displacement and refuge have become two conditions affecting global geographies, seas and societies, which has prompted writers and scholars to term it the “new normal.” Yet, there is nothing normal about a global system which forces mass waves of violent displacement, and further, undermines their potential for refuge and livelihood elsewhere. In her talk, Samar will reflect upon the Palestinian displacement, which has been in protraction for over seventy two years. She will illustrate the evolution of the architectural scale inside the Palestinian camp, with a focus on Burj el Barajneh camp in Lebanon. Further, she will present real examples from the camp field that demonstrate the various modes of architectural practices -scale-making, and the social, economic and political agency the Palestinian architectural scale has provided for its camp inhabitants. At a critical time of mass displacement that global communities are facing today, the talk is meant to offer insights into how displaced families and communities negotiate their refuge and livelihood utilizing the most intimate element of their lives; that of space.

Samar Maqusi is a post-doctoral researcher at the Civil, Environmental and Geomatic Engineering, University College London (UCL), working with the RELIEF centre (UCL) on a project in Lebanon, where she is researching modes of vitality in the camp and in the city. An architect and urban specialist in international development, including urban design and development in conflict areas. In 2008, Samar moved to Jordan to work with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) where she oversaw the Shelter Rehabilitation programme. She obtained her PhD from the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL. In addition, she is involved in documentary film-making, spatial installations and have exhibited her work and photography in London and the US.



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