

Summaries

Saïd BELGUIDOUM : *The New City Ali Mendjeli (Constantine), in Search of its Identity. Commercial Atmospheres and New Urbanities*

The new city of Ali Mendjeli, located 15 kilometres from Constantine, is a result of the paradoxes and contradictions of the Algerian society. Product of a voluntary urban planning, the new city is gradually inventing an identity where the image of a stigmatised town alternates with that of a town synonymous with a better life. Today, it is a home to approximately 200,000 inhabitants. Its genesis, history, design, and settlement, which have initially made it play the role of a spillway for the city of Constantine, reflect the paradoxes of Algerian urban planning. The article aims to reveal how, in the interstices of programmed urbanism, logics from below are developing, reinterpreting the processes of city making. The commercial dynamics have profoundly modified the role that the new city plays on the scale of the metropolis of Constantine by giving it an image of an attractive city.

Keywords : New town - functional urbanism - commercial dynamism - new urbanities - appropriation of public spaces.

Kheira BECHAR : *The M'zab Valley : Urban Mutations and Socio-environmental Concerns*

In a context where Saharan settlements record significant increases in population, the socio-environmental concerns, supported by reflections about sustainable development and ecological transition, extend the scope of urban research by renewing the issues. This article addresses the situation in the M'Zab valley. This territory, heir to ancestral local traditions adapted to the extreme environmental conditions of the Saharan ecosystem, is now surpassed by the consequences of urban development. Since the early 2000s, new development options are proposed through urbanization sites located outside the valley, where various social housing programmes come to settle, designed and achieved in emergency in an attempt to meet the high expectations of the population. However, the question to be raised concerns the choice of this model of extensive planning which neglects to take into account the particular ecological conditions of the region and breaks with the fundamental elements of Saharan urbanism.

Keywords : Saharan ecosystem - socio-environmental context - urban changes - extensive urban planning.

Daniela RUGGERI : *André Ravéreau and the M'Zab: Viewing, Drawing, Constructing*

In the long history of encounters, conflicts and circulations of cultural and architectural models, the work of the architect André Ravéreau represents an example of synthesis between the cultures of the Mediterranean.

This article traces the intellectual path that led André Ravéreau to significant results of confluence between the cultures of the Mediterranean basin, particularly in his projects in M'Zab (1960-1976). Thanks to his particular view of the context, Ravéreau analyses the traditional architecture, closely linked to the territory and its climate, before putting forward his architectural proposal. In Ravéreau's works in the M'Zab, we find a kind of correspondence between the site analysis phase, the project conception and the drawing; a mode of decomposition and recomposition in pieces which is proposed in the different phases of the architectural project. His drawings and projects show an extraordinary ability to bring together Western and Eastern cultures and to compose elements of different origins to give them a new unity.

Keywords : Viewing - drawing - recomposition - tradition - innovation.

Houria ARIANE et Abdelouahab BOUCHARÉB : *The Reappropriation of Public Spaces Constantine Downtown within the Hirak Context*

Since its launch, the Algerian popular hirak has stood out for its originality. Being peaceful, it fits into the category of new social movements. In this sense, it leans on the inventiveness of its actors in the mobilization of material and immaterial resources to ensure its solidarity, publicize its claims and expectations and acquire broad memberships.

Without being exclusively urban, the hirak has appropriated public spaces in the city. Urban public spaces were thus mobilized by an ingenious youth to expose not only their expectations, but also their political maturity, their know-how and their sense of creativity.

The public spaces in the downtown of Constantine, discussed in this paper, lend themselves to a reading attesting to this creative mobilization of the social movement. Thus, banal and ordinary, urban spaces are updated by new functional and symbolic attributes as well as by new memory loads.

Keywords : Constantine - public space - downtown - hirak - social movements.

Johannes FRISCHE : *Is There an Urban Youth? A Reflection in the Maghreb Context*

This article examines the category of urban youth as a social category in the cities of the Maghreb. Starting from an analysis of the urban conditions that impact the daily life of marginalized town youth, the article questions the extent to which the notion of "urban youth" is a relevant social category for understanding the social question and one of its expressions, the protest movement in the urban context?

By taking the impact of the "urban fact" on the social question through the access to work in peripheral urban areas as an entry point, it appears that precariousness is not located on the margins of the city, but is implanted in the daily spaces and produces conditions that are felt in the experience of young city dwellers who are trying to find their place in increasingly fragmented cities.

More globally, urban mutations generate different strategies (mobility, participation in protest movements) allowing young people from different social backgrounds to claim, in their own way, the right to the city, to urban integration. Finally, the article examines the important role played by urban youth in social movements and gives food for thought on the emergence of a new generational dynamic, carried by urban youth and updating the right to the city as a right to citizenship.

Keywords : urban youth - urban fact - generational dynamics - social marginality - social movements.