

## Summaries

### **Allaoua AMMARA et Zeineb MOUSSAOUI: *Algiers in the Middle Age***

*Algiers has along history. Already a Phoenician trading post in the first millennium B.C., the Algiers colony, Icosium, was founded by the Romans after 202BC. It became an important city under their emperors then was probably partially destroyed after a vandal attack. Given up to Rome then annexed by the Byzantine Empire, the ancient town of Algiers seems to have lost all role during the last Byzantine century up to the Moslem period. As for the majority of central Maghreb towns, Algiers history is unknown until the middle of the 10<sup>th</sup> century, at which date the town would have been founded again by Bulukin, the powerful central Algeria Sanhaja chief's son, at the Fatimid period. Renamed Gaza'ir Bani Mazghanna, the town passed under the Sanhaja Berber emirs' control, then from the 11<sup>th</sup> century on, by the Hammadid dynasty. Dominated by the Almoravids at the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> century, Algiers becomes one of their most important towns some years later. Conquered by the Almohid armies, it knew wars opposing Marrakech caliphs to the Bau Ghaniya from Majorca. A major stake for the Hafsids, Ziyanids and Merinids, the town was finally dominated and governed by the Ta'libu Arab tribe, infiltrated in the Mitidja in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, until it was taken over by another member of this tribe, Arruj 'Abdel al-Rahman( 874/1470), who became the patron saint of the city, thus showing this Arab clan's political and religious domination at the end of the Middle Ages.*

**Keywords:** Algiers - medieval history - al Talini - Moslem urbanism - Berber dynasties - Bulukin b. Ziri.

### **Samia CHERGUI: *Religious property, (The Waqf), and Algiers urbanisation in the Ottoman period***

*In the Ottoman Algiers where the urban network had very quickly reached a considerable density and where fewer and fewer grounds apt to receive the smallest construction were found, we can measure the importance of religious property foundations, the "habus". By offering a juridical framework to the central Ottoman power as well as to the Algiers population facilitating real estate operations of a quite often minor scale, they aimed at playing a significant role in urban development and in urban space organisation, as early as the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The present text tries to determine the relationship that the town keeps up with the Waqf foundations. In the light of information given by archive documents from the Ottoman period administration, we are led to determine the degree of the "habus" act involvement concerning Algiers, in other words, in a reurbanisation of the town.*

**Keywords:** Algiers - "habus" - religious foundation - urban reform - urbanisation - topography - Ottoman.

**Fouzi BOUDAQQA: *Some aspects of the urbanisation process in the town of Algiers***

*This research considers certain aspects of the Algiers urbanisation process by analysing some architectural models known in the town, proceeding by those conceived under colonial authority whose creation answered the military, social and commercial needs of that period. By these missions reserved for the town, the French occupant put a new mode of functioning into practice opening the city to its environment and adding new districts, destroying the ancient walls, establishing roads and public squares, actions creating a new European town in harmony with the Algiers ancient structural architecture. It was also a question of different architectural Algerian State conduit models according to the urban plan provisions brought into operation until now, with their coherences and transforming the colonial period functional model to that of post independence.*

*This research also underlines the negative character of certain aspects stemming from a disorganised urbanisation, poor mastery of an uncontrolled growth process in urban management, besides these difficulties this answers positively to social mutations and to social needs aiming at life in a suitable space where environment and setting enable one to thrive.*

**Keywords:** Algiers - urbanisation process - urbanisation plans - setting and life quality - urban management.

**Madani SAFAR ZITOUN: *Algiers today: a town searching for its social markers***

*The main subject of this article is current urbanisation dynamics. Exploiting the most recent data, essentially from the 2008 population and habitat census, the author submits a certain number of figures for criticism, and a number of stereotypes and sociological myths concerning peopling, evolution and social reconstruction, in the Algiers agglomeration, for examination. After having demolished the Algiers macrocephalism thesis and the myth of maintaining its demographic supply by "rural exodus", the author underlines the extraordinary amplitude of residential spreading observed over the last 20 years, evolving at the same time as a strong tertiary commercial employment movement in the hyper Algiers centre zone, which contributes to aggravate urban functioning problems. In the second part the author not only examines the extent of these movements, but also their social context. He shows that the reoccupation of the Algiers Sahal municipalities situated in the extension of upper class Algiers hilltop districts has been carried out by a well favoured social strata of the Algiers population, and how much the public program destined for middle classes (hire purchase) contributes to convict them into the greater outskirts peripheral enclaves and to depopulate the town centre of its most cultivated and dynamic population. In the last part he finally develops, the scope and spatial localisation of precarious habitat and highlights its essentially endogenous nature, namely that produced by new households originating from the town of Algiers and not from outside the county. He concludes by general*

considerations accentuating this new segregative distribution of Algiers urban space and the sociological implications of this situation.

**Keywords:** Algiers - residential spreading - residential mobility - social segregation - social myths.

**Nora SEMMOUD: *The neighbourhood, new meanings, new urbanity forms, for the Algiers eastern periphery***

*The urban question is treated in this article through the urban strategies which have been elaborated by the inhabitants in their residential settlement. The appropriation modes enable us to have access to the representations, sociability forms, to the identity build-up and the way they redefine the neighbourhood, so that they join it to the town. Appearing thus in households, the ways of life, adaptation practices, residential spatial organisation adjustment are witnesses of new urbanity forms. A urbanity, which by its inhabitants' actions for their districts urban and social integration, takes on the form of citizenship.*

**Keywords:** urbanity - appropriation modes - neighbourhood - ways of life - Algiers.

**Tahar BAOUNI: *Transport in the Algiers agglomeration urban planning strategies***

*This article aims at highlighting the importance of transport as an urbanisation tool for an urbanism that the Algiers agglomeration has experienced since independence. One must emphasize that the Algiers urban policy has been influenced by a permanent questioning about tools and implements for amenities and spatial planning. Firstly it's a matter of giving a general outline relating to urbanisation strategies recommended in the main equipment elaboration during the post colonial period, in the circumstances the 1985 structural arrangement, the POG (General orientation plan), the PUD (Urban development guideline), the PDAU (Amenities and urbanism guidelines), the GPU (The greater urban project plan). Secondly, the considerations mentioned in this paper consist in analysing the relationship between transport dimension and the urbanisation options elaborated in the different urbanism plans.*

**Keywords:** Algiers - planning - transport - implements - urbanisation.

**Larbi ICHEBOUDENE: *Reflections about Algiers urban governorship. Institutional prerogatives and political monopolies***

*We try to treat the governorship question in our article. After a brief reminder of the state of things in a theoretical field approach, the governorship question is considered based on the Algiers town experience. The problematic governorship terms are on the one hand socio-political stakes presiding over the urban society future and its capital, on the other hand, over what is relative to the capitals somewhat precarious statutes and management institutions, of its*

urban government. To begin with, it is imperative to govern, if not to manage an urban organism, to ensure its inherent functions and satisfy its citizens' needs through its institutions and structures. But difficulties appear in the conceptual modes and putting policies into practise which are free from the worry of objectives and means being adequate, thus neglecting demands and coherence in the relationship between State institutions and town council officials in charge of social urban daily management problems.

It would be interesting to question ourselves on the reasons for this progressive prerogative drifting from municipalities towards the county council (Wilaya). In the case of Algiers, the county council institution, in defiance with laws regulating municipal missions, is gradually assuming municipal attributes to the point of destituting the municipal structure of its main functions, the grounds for its existence.

**Keywords:** urban governorship - State institutions - local communities - municipal capacity - daily life - Algiers.

**Khaoula TALEB IBRAHIMI: *Algiers related in fiction and essays, Algiers a stage production***

*“Algiers a white city on a black background”, it is a contrasted but also fascinating image which Chawki Amari, Adlene Meddi and other novelists or essay writers give us in a sometimes serious setting but more often in a corrosive humour gripped by reality even when it drifts into absurdity !*

*Algiers a theatre of shadows which sum up happy events and unhappy ones that the country has experienced these last years, but which also translates its inhabitants impulses and yearnings, those of citizens who pace up and down its roads every day ,who can hate it or love it madly.*

*Algiers narrated also, by its researchers who question urban cultural expressions to understand their sense which would be the base for forming a new Algerois identity, more in harmony with the urban, social, cultural, and economic evolutions that the city has known since independence.*

**Keywords:** Algiers - contrasted image - stage setting - evolution - shadow theatre - urban cultural expressions - new Algerois identity.

**Cherif BENGUERGOURA: *Alimentation, an indicator and social relations. Observations on current practices in the Algiers milieu***

*This article considers representations vested these days in our food consummation in Algeria. An unexpected happening for some decades, this revaluation of edible goods where food practices are decoded and finally tend to superimpose signs to that of exchange of goods. Two objectives can be discerned: social contact and bargaining around social recognition. The text, made up of two parts, each ordered in two chapters, tries to bring out the qualifying character of nourishment which, in the conditions of a society that has become hierarchical, functions beyond satisfying food needs, as a vector indicating social rank. What we can bring to attention from the practices we*

observe nowadays in the Algiers region, is that alimentation makes up a social symbol, intervening in social attribute reallocation.

**Keywords:** alimentation practices - Algiers milieu - edible goods - social bargaining - social recognition - social symbol.

**Kahina DJERROUD: Algiers, categorical districts/languages practised: What sociolinguistic correlations?**

*This article aims at relating the results of a study that we carried out in our Masters course, where the main objective was to highlight sociolinguistic correlations between different categories of Algiers districts and the languages used there. In order to do so, we led a sociolinguistic research in two districts, one so called “popular”: Belcourt/Belouizdad, the other “residential”: Hydra. The sixty-two people who were studied, were given a questionnaire, then interviewed about their linguistic and spatial representations. By a qualitative analysis of discourse and speakers we were able to derive interesting results: there is really and truly a stereotype discourse structuring linguistic and spatial representations in Algiers.*

**Keywords:** Urban sociolinguistic - sociolinguistic correlation - residential and popular districts - spatial linguistic segregation - representations - linguistic practices.

**Karim OUARAS: Algiers graffiti, between language and discourse. Walls which speak...**

*Firstly what interests us in this research, is the mixture of languages, cultures, discourse and identities expressed through graffiti in the city of Algiers. We want to know how this mixing is experienced in a milieu which shows at the same time, after J Calvert’s terms, a unification and coexistence tendency, and a linguistic conflict, of which the graffiti are a symbolic expression adding to the other language practises carried out.*

*In this article, we insist on the discursive context of the Algiers graffiti, which “speaks” and which “says” things. We are interested by the putting into words and signs of this Algiers urban ethnological sociolinguistic dynamics, which make up the melting point of a plural linguistic Algerian and everything it, carries like identity specificities, social cultural, regional or other specificities. Understanding the discourse conveyed through these practices would help enormously to think of the town as a social system by identifying the population categories which live there. There is an interdependence between the town and the strong relationships of force which clearly govern Algiers at the neighbourhood level of the “Houma”. It’s from this interdependence between the city of Algiers and its social components that the urban problematic is formulated in this article.*

*The town walls, on which we see a plural dimensional dynamism, are in some ways a gallery for expression and a stage on which the authors’ graffiti represent themselves. They appropriate this urban space which is fundamentally public, developing discourse about their daily lives, using different languages*

*(French, Algerian Arabic, Classical Arabic, Tamazight, English and others....) and an arsenal of graphic representations following the horizontal structure of the districts and also the vertical structure of social strata.*

*The questions that we can ask are numerous concerning this language phenomenon characterising Algiers as elsewhere. The ethnological sociolinguistics of Algeria is represented in a crude way through these markings of this visible space which can be seen on the walls, which talk. What does Algerian graffiti reveal about Algerian society in general and its populations in particular? How does this relationship between Self and the Other link us in this particular language practice? Is there a correlation between the discourse held and graffiti practices and the languages chosen for expression?*

*A socio ethnological linguistic, semiotic and discursive graffiti analyses in the Algiers milieu would enable us to understand to analyse and to visualise even slightly, the complexity of Algiers and the populations living there. This could lead us to suggesting a study of linguistic policies, worthy of such a name, which would take into account the degrees of use and language recognition, in vivo, taking equally into account the diversity of Algerian society in all its dimensions.*

**Keywords:** Graffiti - Algiers - plural linguistics - lived - ethnological sociolinguistic dynamics - discursive content.