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Black Box East: Why All Of “Us” Are Challenged To Struggle Against “Whiteness”

<https://berlinergazette.de/weisser-feminismus-dekonstruktion/>

<https://blogs.mediapart.fr/berliner-gazette/blog/131221/black-box-east-why-all-us-are-challenged-struggle-against-whiteness>

Note/Notiz

The concept of “Tsigane ma’la/mahala” or “Roma mahala” is used in this article to denote informalised, legalised and improvised living infrastructures inhabited mostly by diverse groups such as Roma(ni), Egyptians, Gipsy, Ashkali and other urban poor dwellers. These formations are racialised and either located at the outskirts of cities and villages or in the secluded areas within the city core. The material conditions of living in mahala are usually scarce and precarious. Although they live under the constant threat of eviction and/or racialised violence, the inhabitants of mahalas have managed to survive on scanty resources and improvised infrastructure for centuries. In fact, the term “mahala” or “mahalle” originates from the Arabic word for “settlement” or “quarters” and it has been introduced into the Balkan settings with the arrival of the Ottomans in the 15th century. Today its meaning is derogatory as it approximates the terms “ghetto” or “slum” and almost invariably refers to Roma mahalas.

Der Begriff "Tsigane ma'la/mahala" oder "Roma mahala" wird in diesem Artikel verwendet, um informelle, legalisierte und improvisierte Wohninfrastrukturen zu bezeichnen, die meist von verschiedenen Gruppen wie Roma(ni), Ägyptern, Zigeunern, Ashkali und anderen armen Stadtbewohnern bewohnt werden. Diese Formationen sind rassistisch geprägt und befinden sich entweder am Rande der Städte und Dörfer oder in abgelegenen Gebieten innerhalb des Stadtkerns. Die materiellen Lebensbedingungen in Mahala sind in der Regel knapp und prekär. Obwohl sie ständig von Vertreibung und/oder rassistisch motivierter Gewalt bedroht sind, ist es den Bewohnern der Mahalas seit Jahrhunderten gelungen, mit spärlichen Ressourcen und einer improvisierten Infrastruktur zu überleben. Der Begriff "Mahala" oder "Mahalle" stammt vom arabischen Wort für "Siedlung" oder "Viertel" und wurde mit der Ankunft der Osmanen im 15. Heute hat er eine abwertende Bedeutung, da er den Begriffen "Ghetto" oder "Slum" nahe kommt und sich fast ausnahmslos auf Roma-Mahalas bezieht.

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