



**Seminar's Theme:**

Processes, politics and urban dynamics of cultural heritage in Morocco

**Organization:**

Ana Neno (Ph.D student in joint supervision, University of Coimbra and the University of Marrakesh, within the program “Heritages of Portuguese Influence”, CRIA-UC Researcher, Laboratoire Culture, Patrimoine et Tourisme FLSH-UCAM)

**Scientific coordination:**

Prof. (Ph.D) Sandra Xavier (Teacher of the Department of Life Sciences of the UC, CRIA-UC Researcher) and Prof. (Ph.D) Walter Rossa (Coordinator of PIP)

**Dates:**

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2014

**Guest Speakers:**

Prof. (Ph.D) Maria Cardeira da Silva (FCSH-UNL)

Prof. (Ph.D) Ouidad Tebaa (FLSH-UCAM)

Prof. (Ph.D) Hamid Trikki

Prof. (Ph.D) Hassan Kamil (FLSH-UCAM and ENAM)

**Film Projection:**

*The Jewish memory of Safi* – by Amine and Hicham ESAV, short film documentary, 2013, arab with french subtitles.

**Synopsis:**

Safi is probably the only town of Morocco where the Jewish community didn't created a Mellah (Jewish neighborhood). Until the 60's decade of the twentieth century this community disappeared from their homeland along with the other Jewish communities of allover Morocco that went abroad.

Despite the departure of the community many traces remain in the cultural practices, the memories and architecture

profoundly inscribed in the town of Safi.

This short film traces these memories through the testimonies of the habitats of Safi, crossing cultures and voices around the town.

*Al-Halqa – In the Storyteller's Circle* by Thomas Ladenburger, documentary film, 90min., Germany, 2010, arab with english subtitles.

Synopsis:

On Djemaa el Fna Square in the Moroccan city of Marrakech, Abderahim El Maqori tells stories that he has been collecting in his mind and heart since he was a child.

Now that he is growing older, he is teaching his son Zoheir the tricks of a dying trade. In the Halqa, the storyteller's circle, the boy practices his skills and his father provides blunt criticism.

Once Zoheir, who got his name from a story that Abherahim told the day he was born, is ready for it, he and his father travel to Fez, the intellectual capital of Morocco, for the ultimate test on the large city square.

The camera follows the pair on their journey, which is interspersed with stories about ghosts, kings, shoemakers and animals, and we get to see the special bond between father and son, who certainly do not agree with one another all the time.

Zoheir has to find his own style for a new generation of listeners, who do not only want to hear about days long past, but also get information about things like AIDS. For the rest, the Halaiqi are not alone in wanting to keep the folk traditions intact.

Zoheir 's favorite actor Mohamed Hassan El Joundi explains why he records stories of bygone eras in his studio: stories nurture people and teach them to have ambitions and dreams.

#### **Host Institution for the event:**

University of Coimbra

#### **Objectives for the Seminar:**

With this seminar we try to open a space for discussion about the issues involved within the processes of patrimonialisation and how these processes reflect in the urban dynamics, in the Moroccan context. The chosen theme emerged from the need of thinking about the questioning raised within a research project about the Processes and Politics of Patrimonialisation, within the case study of Portuguese origin cultural heritage of Safi.

The chosen method to make this discussion possible was the presentation of three communications around this subject by three specialists in the domain of cultural heritage and that are familiarized with the context in debate. We will be honored to have among us the experience of Prof. Cardeira da Silva, which contributed in this area with the project “Castelos a Bombordo: Practices of the Monumentalization of the Past and the discourses of cultural cooperation between Portugal and the arab and islamic countries”, or with works like “Morocco: Tourists, Indigenous and Anthropologists” or “Muslims in their Cities”, the experience of Prof.

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Ouidad Tebaa, President of the Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences of Marrakesh, responsible for the doctorate program “Tourism, Heritage and Territorial Management” and with a large production on the issues of heritage and tourism associated to the case study of the Square of Jemaa el Fna, the experience of Prof. Hamid Trikki, original from the town of Safi, historian, with several works dedicated to the cultural heritage of Safi like “La colline des potiers: Histoire d'une ville et de sa poterie” or of Marrakech “Medersa de Marrakech” and the experience of Prof. Hassan Kamil, agronomic engineer and anthropologist, developed researches in North and West Africa, teaching anthropology in the Master program Tourism, Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development in UCAM, as well as in the National School of Architecture of Marrakesh.

Envisioning a dialogue between these researchers with very different backgrounds with the same main theme: the processes, politics and urban dynamics of cultural heritage in Morocco, we would like the speakers to expose their points of view, according to their academic experiences and fieldwork practices, stimulating a discussion that can be very prolific to the academic and non academic publics and to students and researchers that have been developing their projects in this area.

**Program:**

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2014:

9h00: Opening of the public session seminar. Presentation of the theme panels and speakers.

**Panel 1 – Patrimonialisation and Tourism, urban dynamics**

09h30: Prof. (Ph.D) Maria Cardeira da Silva

10h00: Prof. (Ph.D) Ouidad Tebaa “Patrimonialisation et tourisme en milieu urbain: cas de Marrakech”

10h30: Debate

11h00 Coffee Break

**Panel 2 – The politics of cultural heritage in Morocco – practices and conservation**

11h30: Prof. (Ph.D) Hamid Trikki

12h00: Prof. (Ph.D) Hassan Kamil

12h30: Debate

13h00: lunch

14h30: private session with PIP-UC Ph.D students within the context of the seminar lectured by Prof. Sandra Xavier

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2014:

16h30 documentary film projection followed by debate