

COMPLETED DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS

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Navigating Confined Fluidity: The Power of the 'Dash' in Greek-America

For the Greek-Americans of New York City, negotiating their identity has been at the center of establishing their ethnic consciousness. Moving between and beyond the old-fashioned Mediterranean values of their forefathers, the Greek-Americans of New York City constantly weave in and out of shifting identity contexts and social platforms, continuously reimagining their place in the world. In this thesis, I explore the various contexts within which they construct their identity, and I try to shed some light on the ways in which they fully realize their place in the big city. An experience of being 'caught in the middle', as they say themselves, epitomizes their relationship with the hyphenated identity of the Greek-American. At times, they try to escape from either the 'Greek' or the 'American' side of this polarity, and in the process of this effort, their identities constantly shift, and are transformed, yet without challenging completely the original categorical boundaries that constitute the original hyphenated identity.

Identifiable cultural markers help Greek-Americans identify other Greek-Americans, and such markers relate to both primordialist criteria and cultural expectations. The family and kinship become a repository of such intimate knowledge, and further contribute into shaping the Greek-American identity. The chapters in this thesis explore these topics ethnographically, and illustrate how the Greek-Americans of New York City often seek to escape from the rigidity of the past, redefining themselves both within a contemporary urban context and with an eye toward mainland Greece. While doing this, however, the Greek-Americans still allow their Greek: American polarity to dictate much in their lives, and often consciously resort to the past (the prestigious Greek past) to share its symbolic capital. Thus, they navigate within their hybrid identity, reimagining the contexts of their being within the realms of historical constructivism, education, and religion, all the while negotiating their position both within the realms of their Greek identity and their American experience. For the Greek-Americans of New York City, identity has become fluid — albeit within the confines of the Greek: American polarity — and it is within this confined fluidity that they shape their own experiences continually drawing upon opposite ends of the spectrum to create an identity all of their own."

Konstantinos Ardavanis' *primary research interests focus on the negotiation of identity amongst the Greek Diaspora in the United States. His research takes into account a number of interdisciplinary themes from family life to religion, church, education and politics. Drawing on a careful ethnographic account, Ardavanis examines the negotiation of hybridity amongst urban migrant communities to challenge notions surrounding creolization. Using the negotiation that the 'dash' or 'hyphen' promotes in hyphenated migrant identities as a resource or an extra set of*

resources, Ardavanis delves deep into the meaning of migration and the negotiation of ethnic identity in the contemporary urban context.

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Beirut and Reconstruction Issues: The Case of the District of Hamra and of Downtown

In recent decades, city centres around the world have been undergoing urban transformation, such as renovation, rehabilitation, revitalization or reconstruction. Beirut is one of the capital cities which have seen the rebuilding of their central squares, after a civil war which lasted more than fifteen years. My interest in researching urban transformation is not only based on the fact that a territory is a space of creation, management and even conflict resolution, but on the need also to understand how peace can be restored in a formerly divided city. It is within Lebanese territory that I wanted to question the reconstructions of central areas (Downtown Beirut and the district of Hamra¹) in order to investigate the processes at work in the evolution of the city; that is, gentrification on the one hand and “elitization” on the other, and to bring to light the underlying issues. The reconstruction of central areas is at once a way to establish a new order after a civil war and the conjunction of various strategies of demographic, symbolic, social and spatial reorganization of the territory. Thus, the districts of Hamra and Downtown are now at the centre of new conflicting tensions, including strategies of placement and displacement of the population and local actors’ strategies of appropriation of and resistance to public and residential areas. Conflicts are no longer religious. They have become political and social; particularly so since Rafic Hariri’s death (2005), which redefined the country’s political scene. Thus, my Doctoral Dissertation focuses on the duality between urban strategy and territorial re-appropriation in the new Downtown and Hamra districts of Beirut. Finally, the study of urban transformations is an excellent revelation of territorial, symbolic, social and political conflicts, which are currently taking place in Beirut. It is also a way to understand around which principles this post-war Lebanese nation is built.

Key words: Gentrification, strategies of domination and resistance, territorial and political re-appropriation, Beirut.

Dr Maya-Hélène Balhawan, a French Sociologist, was born in Saudi Arabia from Lebanese parents. During the civil war (1975-1990) she left Beirut to settle in France. She obtained her PhD in Urban Sociology from the University of Lille with a thesis titled *Beirut and reconstruction issues : the case of the district of Hamra and of Downtown*. Specializing in the Middle-East studies, particularly in Beirut studies, she became interested in city-centres transformations, focusing on reconstruction, gentrification, elitization, territorial representation and re-appropriation, and then territorial, confessional and political resistances. Dr Balhawan has taught in urban sociology, contemporary

¹ Hamra has been considered the second centre (economic and cultural) of the capital city since 1950. It is situated West of the former green line which split Beirut into two parts: the East is mainly Christian whereas the West is mainly Muslim.

sociology, social demography, and urban policy. She teaches Sociology at University of Lille and the University of Social Career, Tourcoing, France.

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Hispanic Women in Leadership: Perceptions of Their Roads to Successful Careers

The purpose of this qualitative study was to explore the perceptions of Hispanic women in leadership positions as they travelled the roads to successful careers. The study also attempted to discover how Hispanic female leaders were able to achieve professional success in the United States: what barriers they encountered and what strategies they used to overcome the obstacles. This study utilized a hermeneutic phenomenological framework to obtain, analyze, and interpret rich descriptive data in order to answer the research questions.

Standardized, semi-structured, digitally recorded interviews with twelve Hispanic females employed in leadership positions in academia, government, and the private sector provided rich descriptive data for this study. Seven essential themes emerged because of the coding and data analysis. These seven essential themes represented common characteristics of the participants of this study, and explained their professional success: (a). family, (b).winner mentality, (c).desire to give back to community, (d).religious beliefs, spirituality, and luck, (e).opportunities, (f). keeping Hispanic roots, and (g).mentoring.

The results of the study revealed that family support, hard work, self-respect, self-determination, and goal-orientation helped the participants to accomplish their career aspirations. Also revealed was a drive for success and lack of a pre-conceived sense of inequality that contributed to the professional success of the participants. The findings imply that it is necessary to create information centers for professional Hispanic females who move to this country. The Conclusions suggest that it is very important to create additional centers for English language training and establish mentoring programs for aspiring Hispanic females.

Dr. Natalia Campbell, Ed. D. is a lifelong learner and educator. She holds several graduate degrees which she earned in three different countries, USA, Spain and Belarus, using different languages, English, Spanish and Russian. Natalia Campbell earned her Doctorate in Executive Leadership (Ed. D.) from Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, TN. Her dissertation research topic is titled Hispanic Women in Leadership: Perceptions of their Roads to Successful Careers. Dr. Campbell holds an Education Specialist (Ed.S) degree from Lincoln Memorial University with double majors: Curriculum & Instruction and Educational Leadership, a Master's degree in Spanish Language and Spanish Culture from the University Of Salamanca, Spain (scholarship of the Embassy of Spain and Georgia Department of Education) and a Master's degree in Linguistics with double majors: Spanish & English and Teaching from Minsk State Linguistics University in her native Belarus. Dr. Campbell completed her specialized training in the Reading in the Classroom Program in the university Universidad Complutense, Madrid, Spain (scholarship of the Embassy of Spain and Georgia Department of Education). Dr. Campbell is a member of the IUAES Commission on Urban

Anthropology (CUA), a Board Member of the National Association of African American Studies (NAAAS) and she serves as Proposals Evaluator for the Mid Southern Association of Educational Research (MSERA). Dr. Campbell has worked in different academic settings, schools, colleges and universities in Belarus and the United States. Currently she is working with gifted students at Wadsworth Magnet School for High Achievers.

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Transformations of the Work and the Workers of Steel in the Acesita

This study analyses the transformations, during the time, in the work and labor's profiles in a specific place: the old Acesita steel mill, currently *Aperam South America*. The manufacturing plant is located in the city of Timóteo, part of the Vale do Aço (Steel Valley) region in the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais. The objective is to compose a history about the construction of a "factory-labor village" system, the formation of various generations of industrial workers and the changes in the work process from fordism till toyotism. The documented ethnographic history from the labor's point of view materializes, partially, the universal history of capitalism. Generations of Acesita workers originated a steel mill born from important international agreements. They produced handmade steel in the past and entered the XXI century driving this almost automatic factory, completely integrated to the productive and organizational flexibility of contemporary capitalism. Counting approximately 8000 employees and 4000 residences in the peek of its existence, I reconstitute the grandiosity and injustices of Acesita, contributing to the insertion of this labor's history in the history of Brazil's industrial development.

Keywords: Acesita, Labor, steel works, industrial anthropology

Dr Fernando Firmo, currently a researcher in the Department of Anthropology of the Universidade Federal da Bahia, collaborates with Group *ObservaBaía*, He is conducting his research on the fishing populations in the Bay of All the Saints, focusing the conditions of risk and vulnerability of these communities in a context marked by the pollution caused by great projects of industrial development.

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Landscape, Practice, and Tradition in a Sicilian Market

This research explores the dynamic relationship between place, history and landscape in an urban food market, Catania, Sicily. This market informs a mythological image of the island

and my main concern is what significance lies underneath this representation. I examine the ways in which this image has been constructed through ideas of history, space, landscape, modernity and tradition. Unpacking these notions in the light of my in-depth ethnography, I address how vendors and buyers frame and define their relationship with space and time.

After placing the market in relation to its historical and geo-political context, I argue that the representation of passivity and the lack of agency have contributed to the maintaining of elitist local and national powers. The use of space within the market informs a distinctive cosmology, in which the landscape constitutes the main local organising principle. The landscape is looked at as a cultural process, constantly renegotiated and re-contextualised. The principal categories of food classification ‘wild’, ‘local’, and ‘foreign’ are explanatory notions of a specific relationship between people, food and locality. The interaction between vendors and buyers cannot be understood as a purely economic transaction. Their relationship is articulated through a unique set of practices, which are analysed throughout this thesis. Senses, social interactions, culinary knowledge, and conviviality contribute to the ability to operate within the market. I look at my own ethnographic experience as a practical ‘apprenticeship’.

I also address the local ideas of tradition and modernity, mainly through the analysis of the shared fears of being left behind and of losing control over the process of change. The idea of modernisation as an ongoing process carries with it a sense of loss, of nostalgia for an idealised past.

Dr Brigida Marovelli *obtained her PhD in Cultural Anthropology from Brunel University, West London. From 2010 to 2012 she taught anthropology and research methods in social sciences at Brunel University and at Middlesex University. She was previously trained in Clinical and Social Psychology at the University La Sapienza, Rome (Laurea cum laude) and in Medical Anthropology at Brunel University (MSc). Her research interests include economic anthropology; ethnography in urban areas, especially in the Mediterranean region; the relationship between urban and rural contexts; food production and consumption; space, place and landscape; anthropology of the senses. As an independent anthropologist, she is currently preparing a monograph on the relationship between space, history and identity in a Sicilian fish market and several articles for publication. Dr Marovelli is a member of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences and of the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore.*

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A Sociological Study of Women with Psycho-Social Distress in a Resettlement Colony in Delhi

This thesis is a study of the experience of psychosocial distress faced by women living in a low-income neighbourhood in Delhi, India. It explores the intersections between socio-

cultural, political and economic conditions of a community and psychosocial distress. The study highlights the contested nature of social space and brings out the reasons for increasing distress amongst women. Feminist methods and reflexive ethnography were used for collection of data.

Psychosocial Distress amongst women is embodied and expressed through the categories of possession and illness experiences. Possession experiences are seen as powerful negotiating tools as they provide a means of communication to those who have been silenced. In addition to possession, psychosocial distress is expressed through the 'tired body' (pains, aches, sleeplessness and disinterest). Stressful daily routines, negative life events and worries about the future are related to bodily distress. Women in the field site seek help from multiple systems which include the 'traditional' or 'folk' healers. Increasingly, the legitimacy of 'traditional' or 'folk' healers is being questioned and the medical paradigm is gaining hegemony. Bourdieu's concept of doxa has been used to argue that women's distress is increasingly being 'misrecognised' as illness and 'treated' with medicines. Oppressive social conditions are medicalised and the real issues remain unaddressed. Women's movements have been instrumental in bringing out relationship between women's social position and distress. The research brings out how reduction of psychosocial distress of women implies not only a better quality of life for them but also implies better governance.

Dr Mahima Nayar is currently Assistant Professor in the Centre for Disability Studies and Action, School of Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India. She previously obtained a Masters degree in Social work and M.Phil in Psychiatric Social Work. Her research interests include gender and violence, disability, urbanization and health.

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Selling the (Post) Industrial City:

Capitalism, Power and Image Policies in Roubaix and Sheffield (1945-2010)

Based on a careful study of the evolution of urban capitalism and power in two (post) industrial cities, Roubaix (France) and Sheffield (UK), this dissertation aims at refining the regulationist analytical framework commonly used by urban studies (based on two periods: Fordism and post-Fordism) by introducing a periodization in five steps. The first part of the dissertation analyzes the emergence of the image policies in both cities at the turn of the 1960's as reflecting a process of "fordisation on urban policies". This section proposes a division of the Fordist era into two ideal-typical periods: early, then late urban Fordism. Indeed, even during the Fordist era, the industrial base of both cities evolves, some new social interests emerge and the urban governments gradually move away from the working class. The second part is devoted to the few years of the "urban sacrifice", during which

industrialization accelerates. It highlights the role of urban social movements in the divergent evolution of the image policies in both cities, as Roubaix briefly considers the conversion of its economy towards advanced services while Sheffield becomes the symbol of the struggle of the North with the economic restructuring promoted by the national government. Finally, the third section on the “entrepreneurialisation of urban policies” offers to subdivide the post-Fordist era into two sub-periods: early, then late urban entrepreneurialism. The evolution of the image policies, their production and their targets (from firms with high labor requirements to real estate development, the “creative class” and tourists) results from the continuous decline of the industry in the economic base of both cities, from the fragmentation of the working class and from the closer collaboration of the urban governments with the private interests since the early 1980’s.

In 2012, Dr Max Rousseau’s Doctoral Dissertation was awarded the first prize for the best dissertation in the field of urban studies by the Association pour la promotion de l’enseignement et de la recherche en aménagement et urbanisme, the Centre d’études sur les réseaux, les transports, l’urbanisme et les constructions publiques, the Fédération nationale des agences d’urbanisme and the Plan urbanisme, construction et architecture.

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Blood, Identity and Truth: Memories of the Dictatorial Past in Argentina

Based on a 12-months fieldwork in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, this research investigates the political activism of the Argentinean human rights organizations composed of the families of the disappeared people in the military dictatorship (1976-1983). It is central to this thesis to understand the social processes that lead these organizations to play a major role in the construction of the memories concerning the dictatorial past, as well as analysing the disputes over the definition of a public memory about the dictatorship in this national space.

From a processual perspective of culture, I analyse how the family members of the disappeared people, anchored in the kinship relations with the victims of the repression, give meaning to their own identities and experiences, whilst finding social legitimacy for their political actions. This research reveals in what measure the kinship relations has been operating as a key resource in the processes of political legitimation in Argentina, and how the blood is converted into a critical instrument when affirming the *Truth* about the dictatorial past. Besides, this work also seeks to understand the political struggles that have the juridical field as their *locus*, and the strategies performed by the families movement of the disappeared people to provide legitimacy for penal liability for the agents of the State accused of violating human rights.

The political activism of this social movement becomes then a privileged case study to reflect upon a major issue for Social Anthropology: understanding the native forms of associating social spaces conceived as being of different backgrounds and scales: the kinship and the politics, the family and the nation, the private and the public domain, the natural and the social. Therefore, I explore how the notions concerning politics, kinship, blood, identity and truth integrate the disputes over the dictatorial memories in Argentina.

Dr Liliana Sanjurjo obtained her Ph.D and Master in Social Anthropology from State University of Campinas, Brazil. Dr Sanjurjo is currently a researcher at the Center for International Migration Studies (CEMI) at the State University of Campinas. Her Research interests include Migration, Identities, Memory, Nation, Human Rights, Violence, Transitional Justice and Social Movements. Dr Sanjurjo has co-edited the volume, *Dossiê Direitos Humanos, Memórias e Políticas de Reconhecimento* (In *Revista Teoria e Cultura*, Vol. 6, No. ½. Juiz de Fora: Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora, 2011). She has authored 'Memórias em conflito nos tribunais argentinos'. *Dossiê: Memória & Ditadura* (In *Revista Espaço Acadêmico*. No. 143, Ano XII. Maringá: Universidade Estadual de Maringá, 2013); 'Sangue, Identidade e Verdade Histórica: crianças desaparecidas e memórias sobre o passado ditatorial na Argentina' (In *Sociedade e Cultura*. Vol. 15. Goiânia: Universidade Federal de Goiás, 2012) and has co-authored 'História como Espiral: Memórias e Representações sobre a Violência Política na Argentina'. (In *Anuário Antropológico*. Vol. 2011/I. Brasília: Universidade Nacional de Brasília, 2012.); 'Direitos Humanos, Memórias e Políticas de Reconhecimento' (In *Teoria e Cultura*. Vol. 6, No. ½. Juiz de Fora: Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora, 2011); and 'Argentine Emigration to Spain: Push and Pull Factors' (In C. Hansson ed. *Thoughts on Europe: Young Scholars on Contemporary European Issues, Six Essays*. Lund, Sweden: Malmö University Press, 2003).

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Identification, Discrimination and Communication: Khorezmian Migrants in Tashkent

This dissertation is based on the research conducted during 2005-2006 and 2010-2011 in the capital city of Uzbekistan. It highlights communication strategies of migrants and the formation of collective consciousness and the We. The support of family networks versus state welfare has major implications for the social organization of everyday lives of migrants as well as for social relations. The context detailed in this book represents post-Soviet urban realities on the ground where various belongings clash and kinship ties are reinforced within the safety networks.

The main argument of the thesis is constructed around contradictions regarding Uzbek identity where I describe how different groups-Uzbeks relate to each other as different ethnic groups. Besides this very critical perspective on Uzbek identity, the book also makes very innovative theoretical approach to the identity theories namely through using strategic rhetoric and discourse analysis, communication and identity theories and combining it with other theories of power relations. I explore the dynamics of interethnic relations among sub-

ethnic Uzbek groups in Tashkent. The theoretical focus in this study is on the communication aspects of collective identifications among the groups in question.

Dr Rano Turaeva-Hoehne is an Affiliated Researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle, Germany. She has published her work in peer-reviewed journals, including Inner Asia, Central Asian Survey, Post-Communist studies, Anthropology of Middle East and Anthropos. Her works address such topics as language and identity, citizenship, ethnic relations, state and society relations among others. Her current research focuses on the principles of regulation of informal economic activities of Central Asian migrants in Russia.

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Narrating the Landscape of Delhi: An Anthropological Study of Urban Space

This study is aimed at decoding the spaces of Delhi focusing on the street landscapes. The urban space of Delhi has its own characteristics and, therefore, is proper to study the interactions of spaces and practices. Theoretically, the study counts on two concepts, or de Certeau's *tactical practice* and Lefebvre's *space*.

I focus on two characteristics in the landscapes of the space. The one is strong religious colours and the other, non-partitioned spaces. First, the landscapes of Delhi are characterized by the religious colours that are dyed both by religious rituals and by everyday practices. People celebrate many kinds of memorial days in the streets. These rituals give ordinary people several opportunities to get together in the streets, to showcase their artistic talents, and to express their opinions. It contributes to diversifying the function of carriageways. Everyday practices also affect the religious colours of landscapes. Usually, several worship places are located at accessible places in a neighbourhood and get a steady flow of devotees all day long.

Another characteristic is that the streets are not strictly partitioned as a section to have a fixed function. Instead, people, vehicles, animals, vegetation are complicatedly mixed in the spaces. I interpret that it is related to the religious creeds. As for Hinduism, the concept of the One gives the resilience to the society and encourages people to think positively about the tension between these two opposing forces. In other words, the concept does not allow several Western dualisms to pervade easily in the Indian Society. As for Sikhs and Muslims, they emphasize *sewa* (community duty), congregation prayer, and so on. Their emphasis of community life or brotherhood prohibits individualism from pervading in the society and their life from becoming atomization.

Consequently, the urban space is discursive. The discursiveness resembles tactical everyday practices of ordinary people who belong to different groups. It means that the moments of space, *the perceived-conceived-lived triad*, are not broken in the space. In the space, time flows 'slowly' as the triad is 'walking' together. Sometimes, the slow time is

criticized as underdeveloped or pre-modern. However it is too much Western-centered. Rather, slow time of the city protects 'life' from 'competition'.

Keywords: Urban space, landscape, Delhi, tactical practice.

*Prior to engaging in doctoral research, **Kim Young Jin** carried out research on 'Unequal Peer Relations in an Elementary School in Seoul', between 2001 and 2005 worked in the National Folk Museum of Korea from 2001 to 2005 and then lectured at the National Kangweon University, also taking part in a research project on Civilian suffering during the Korean War in Inje, Kangwon-do Kim Young Jin has authored 'The Unequal Peer Relation at an Elementary School in Seoul', (The Folklore, Vol.10, Jun. 2002); 'Dice and Ssangyuk' (The Review of Folk Life and Culture, Vol.11, Dec. 2003); 'The History and Practice of 'Ssangyuk' (The Review of Folk Life and Culture, Vol.13, Jun. 2004) and 'Ssangyuk' (The Dictionary of Korean Periodical Ceremonies. Seoul: The National Folk Museum of Korea, 2006).*