TEZ-Vortragsreihe WiSe 21/22: Osmanische Lebenswelten. Räume und Grenzen interkommunaler Begegnung

Aris Anagnostopoulos (Kent): Of dirt and time: Urban sanitation, colonialism and modernity in post-Ottoman Crete

Zeit & Ort:
Mittwoch, 1.12.2021, 18 bis 20 Uhr c.t., ZOOM (Zugangsdaten, s.u.)

The transition of Crete from Ottoman province to the polity of Autonomous Crete was the consummation of near millennial hopes of liberation and modernization that had been cultivated for more than a century. Simultaneously, it brought the island face to face with the stark economic and social realities that essentially prevented such transformation. The cities of the island, in particular, were spaces where the power struggles of newly ascendant bourgeois groups took place, framed in ethnic and religious terms. Their efforts to transform the built fabric of the city of Iraklio into a fully-fledged western metropolis were supported by the British occupying forces, and focused particularly on sanitation and propriety. As such, they implemented a series of disciplinary techniques that were tried and tested in colonial settings. These efforts were locally associated with the efforts of city Christian bourgeois to establish their dominance. Theretofore, an ambivalent regime was created, whereby all efforts to sanitise and order the “old” city were interpreted as double-faced efforts at exploitation. This presentation will put anthropological approaches to sanitation and cleanliness, ethnographic observations from city and country, and archival research in dialogue, in order to show the ways in which embodied memories, jokes, and paradoxical statements may uncover a critical sense of modernity as unfinished project in a post-Ottoman setting.

Kurzbiografie
Aris Anagnostopoulos is an anthropologist, historian and writer. His research focuses on the poetics and politics of the past in Greece. He has done ethnoographic research in several archaeological projects in Greece and has published extensively on Ottoman heritage in Crete. He currently works as a public programs director with the HERITAGE and holds an honorary lectureship at the University of Kent.

Publikationen (Auswahl)


Zugangslink (Zoom):
https://uni-hamburg.zoom.us/j/68883840814?pwd=enF0QWE1TkpBOS9GaE0SMHhXcUVFQm09 (Meeting-ID: 688 8384 0814/Kenncode: 63153867)