

# جلسة حوارية

جزء من السلسلة الحوارية عن القيمة الاجتماعية للأرض  
مداخلات المحاورين

دفاعًا عن السكن في وجه سياسات التهجير

الاثنين ١٧ شباط  
منشن، زقاق البلاط

تنظيم النقاش: «استوديو أشغال عامة» و «منشن»

موضوع النقاش: عرض لتجارب وحاجات مختلفة للسكن وعن دور القضاء بتكريس الحق في السكن  
المحاورون: الاستاذ صامويل بيشاه من حركة مناهضة العنصرية للتكلم عن تجربة اللاجئين الأفارقة، المحامي شريف سليمان عن تجربة العاجزين  
عن دفع القروض، المحامية ميريام مهني عن تجربة المستأجرين القدامى، المحامية مايا جعارة عن تجربة المستأجرين الجدد، والاستاذ بلال أيوبي  
عن تجربة حملة «تحت السقف»

أدارت الجلسة: جنى حيدر

نبذة: يُعتبر الحق في السكن من الحقوق الأساسية للعيش بكرامة وتأمين العدالة الاجتماعية، ويرتبط ارتباطاً وثيقاً ببناء شبكات الأمان الاجتماعي  
والوصول إلى سُبل العيش. إلا أنّ الحاجات السكنية المتنوعة والملحة لغالبية شرائح المجتمع اللبناني، مغيّبة تماماً في السياسات والقوانين والبرامج  
السكنية القائمة.

كيف نحمي قاطني المدن من مخاطر سياسات تسخّر الأرض والمنازل لتراكم الأرباح، فتنتج ظروف سكنٍ بائسةٍ وقائلةٍ في بعض الأحيان، وتنتهج  
التهجير والإخلاء والتشرد؟

في هذه الجلسة، نناقش الحاجات المختلفة والأوضاع السكنية المتنوعة، ونتطرق إلى كيفية تفعيل القوانين والتشريعات الراهنة لتأمين الحماية  
للسكان. كذلك نساأل دور القضاء في ضمان هذا الحق، في ظلّ مشهدٍ قانوني تسوده القوى المالكة لرأس المال ومصالحها.

## نصّ المداخلة الرابعة

الأستاذ صامويل بيشاه يعرض تجربة اللاجئين الأفارقة

Sorry, I cannot speak Arabic well, and also I cannot speak English very well. If I miss a word, please connect my feelings. Thank you. Maybe you do not know where I come from, I just came from Ethiopia. I am an Ethiopian domestic worker in Lebanon. It has been eight years since I [started working] in Lebanon. Now, I came from my ground community center, but I am just representing domestic workers. Not the NGO. So I would like to talk about the housing we are facing in Lebanon. As domestic workers, we are facing too many problems. But, I think this is why we are sitting here; to see the problems. In Lebanon, mostly when we come here as domestic workers, it is not allowed to rent a house by ourselves. Because we are not allowed to go out of the employer's house, to live renting a house. So, there are many people outside, domestic workers, documented and undocumented. Mostly, the undocumented people are renting houses in specific places where they can be secure, and the least price for renting a house. So, our people are searching for houses in specific places, they cannot afford, even if they can afford a house in some popular places, they do not go there because they are not secured. And the communities who are living there are not allowed to let them rent the house beside their house. So, we go to some places where we can get some kind of security; from police, and from other matters. I do not like to mention the places, they are somewhat secret. So, the people who are renting the house, as I said before, there are two categories. The people who ran away from their employers, it means undocumented. And there are documented ones that are not in the contract of the house. Those people are renting the house as a group so they can afford the payment. So, they go there and they rent the house as a group. Like a refugees' camp and the people who live densely in Beirut and outside Beirut also, because it is an open space for us to stay there. The difficulties that we are facing in Lebanon: the first thing, we cannot get a house where we want to stay. Let's say our workplace is in Ashrafieh, like even if there is a house, nobody rents me the house.

The first thing that they told me when I said it is for me, they did not allow me to rent the house. So I have to go far to get a house where they allow me to. Or I have to search for other people so we could rent the house as a group. So it is a little bit difficult to get a house around my work. As a culture, the problem we are facing when we rent a house, our food has a little bit of a louder [stronger] smell. So the people do not like that. Everytime a holiday comes, we have to go somewhere else far where the Ethiopian community lives there densely so we can cook. No, it is not allowed to cook at the building we are living. Not all the places, there are landlords who give us a chance to cook our food and to do whatever we want. They give us some privacy. Not everywhere, but mostly, in high numbers, this is one of the problems. The other one we are facing, if one Lebanese rents a house, he can change the key whenever he wants, the landlord will not own the key. But for us, there are places where the landlord keeps one of the keys and whenever he comes without notifying the person who is renting the house, he can come in and search the house. By the time the person who rents the house is not around their house but the landlord goes and searches anything he wants. Even sometimes, when they come back from their job or when they are sitting in the house, knock and come inside without any permission. So they did not say anything because they could not get a house at other places. So they stayed there and did not say anything about their privacy. Here, I see too many things. It has been eight years since I came to Lebanon; still I am not facing a housing problem because my sponsor just gives me a house. But I am one of the representers of the Ethiopian community, so I go many places and I have the contacts of many of our Ethiopian citizens, so there are many happenings. Like, they will be arrested while going to their job or by any means the police will come and take them from their house. But after one month, without notifying these people, they just throw all their stuff outside and lock the house. Maybe they will rent the house for another person, they do not care about their stuff. So they lost their money, their precious materials, and also the stuff they were using while they were in the house. I think you understand me. After the current financial crisis, many of the Ethiopians are facing, by paying their money; the landlord does not accept Lebanese Lira. We cannot pay with Lebanese Lira, even the citizens cannot find the Dollars. If, let's say one Ethiopian girl who is working for a company or something else, will get like three hundred, three hundred fifty or lets say four hunder dollars. But this time, she is not being paid by dollar. The landlord says she has to pay in dollars. So he has to go to the Sarraf and she has to pay half of her salary to get the money. And she does not get anything. She will pay the rent and stay starving or she couldn't support herself or her family. So we are also facing the current financial crisis, as much as the Lebanese people are affected by this problem. Here, we are not asking to be treated like a Lebanese. But as much as I know, it is a human right to have a house as far as I follow and respect the laws of the country. But if something happens like I said before, like if someone is imprisoned or has a problem with the landlord, we cannot say anything; we cannot go to the lawyer or the police. Because most of these people do not have papers so we cannot ask for their rights regarding being removed from the house. So they stay outside or search for other people to stay with. The legal firms are not supporting such kind of situations. Even if they are documented and have their papers, it is not legally allowed to rent the house without [the knowledge] of the employer. Most of the employers did not allow their employees to stay outside, But there are freelancers. We know there are no free visa in this country, but we just use this word normally "freelancer". There are papers, but they are working for some cleaning organization or company but they rent the house and stay with others but the company will not pay that rent. But even if they are legal, they cannot go to a lawyer of the police station to get justice. They just cry and leave. They cannot do anything. When I say just this, I do not know how many things you are seeing outside or are informed about, the domestic workers, it is not only the Ethiopians, it is all the domestic workers who are working in Lebanon. Maybe you cannot get all the information. The housing problem is a very simple thing for us. When we are thrown out of the house, maybe we will find another friend's house and we stay there. But we did not get any justice while we are dying or being beaten by the employers. There are many things I cannot explain. But there is no justice. When

I talk about the housing problem, it is a very simple thing for us. We need justice as a human being in this country

رح إحكى بالعربي عالسرّيع يلي كان عن يقول صومائيل، هو بيشتغل مع العاملات والعاملين الأجانب الأفارقة بالتحديد بلبنان. حكى شوي عن بعض المشاكل يلي بيواجهوها بإمكانية الوصول إلى السكن لأنه هني بمجرد ما يجوا علبنان ما عندهن أي حق إنه يسكنوا لوحدهم. بدهن يكونوا ساكنين عند بيت الشخص يلي استقدمهن، يلي مفروض يكون موفهن. فالأشخاص يلي بتقرر، أو بكون عندها مجال إنها ما تكون ساكنة ببيت حدا، بيفتشوا على مساكن لنفسهن. إجمالاً؛ خياراتهم الأولى أو الوحيدة أصلاً بتكون بمجتمعات أصلاً فيها عدد كبير من الأجانب لأنه في كثير مجتمعات بتفرضهن وبترفض إنو تسكنهن بياناتها. فهني لما يروحوا يفتشوا على سكن ما يكونوا بس عم يفتشوا على السعر يلي بيقدروا يدفعوا، فيهن يدفعوا لسكن لائق أحياناً. ولكن ما عندهن فرصة يسكنوا ببعض المجتمعات لأنو ما بيتقبلوهن. هيدا الشيء بيجهن يروحوا على مساكن وضعها ما بكون إنساني. من بعض المشاكل كمان، أولاً هيدا الشيء ما بخليهن يلاقوا مساكن قريبة لشغلهن. وبيتعرضوا أحياناً لبعض المدابقات بسكنهن. مثلاً بكل بساطة لأنو أكلهن بطلع ريحة كثير مزعجا أحياناً بيمنعوهن يطبخوا بالمبنى تبعهن. فبأعيادهن بيضطروا يفتشوا على مطرح ثاني ويجمعوا ويعملوا أكل وأشياء بكل هالبساطة. والمشكلة الأكبر عندهم هي إنو لما بيتعرضوا لعملية إخلاء، تتم بطريقة جداً تعسفية بكثير من الأوقات. أولاً المالك معه مفتاح بيتهن بيغفوت ساعة يلي بدو. أحياناً يلي بصير إنهن بغيروا المفتاح وخلص إنو هني بطلوا ساكنين هون. أحياناً بيذولهن اغراضهن برات البيت. وأحياناً هني أصلاً ما بكون عندهن فرصة يمرقوا ياخذوا اغراضهن. بالإضافة لهيك ما عندهن فرصة حتى إنهن يروحوا على القضاء. فهيدي على السرّيع يلي تطرقنا لإلها.