



DisTerrMem
Disputed territories & memory

Literature Review

The role of cultural practitioners in managing memories of disputed territories

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Part 1 of 4: Abstract

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The Relationship between Memory, Territoriality and Cultural Practice - David Clarke

Memory and Cultural Heritage: From Reconciliation and Peace Building to Pilgrimage and Tourism- Weronika
Czyżewska-Poncyłjusz, Umber bin Ibad, Joanna Wawrzyniak

Bibliography

Abstract

This literature review discusses the connections between space, memory and cultural practice from several standpoints. The first part on the *Relationship between Memory, Territoriality and Cultural Practice* brings to memory studies insights from the spatial turn in cultural and political geography. By the emphasis on 'lived' space, David Clarke raises the question of what is at stake in the memory of disputed territories, paying attention in particular to affect, embodiment and performance. By stressing individual, processual and open-ended engagements with place and memory, scholars working with affective and non-representational approaches understand place as multiple and becoming, which works against dominant accounts of geographical location that seek to define and delimit both geographically and temporally by insisting on historical fixity and an exclusionary spatial ordering. The second part on *Memory and Cultural Heritage: From Reconciliation and Peace Building to Pilgrimage and Tourism* by Weronika Czyżewska-Poncyłjusz, Umber bin Ibad and Joanna Wawrzyniak surveys recent scholarship on (i) reconciliation and peace building; (ii) heritage and reconciliation; (iii) and diasporas, pilgrimages and tourism. These fields offer insights to memory studies as it seeks to find ways in which cultural practices contribute to conflict transformation and post-conflict recovery. Recognition of the profound impact culture has on peace building and reconciliation processes leads to interdisciplinary efforts in creating models of art-based educational programs and socially engaged cultural practices on community levels that contribute to practice oriented approach to conflict resolution through culture. Special focus in this review is given to cultural practices at heritage sites which have potential to overcome antagonism and one-sidedness of memory practices, strategies, and forms in post-conflict societies. The review shows that while it is widely recognized that cultural practices might become a resource for both reconciliation and for renewal of conflicts, it is still not clear what type of heritage management is decisive in peace building and reconciliation.