

REALCORP 2013

Planning Times

20-23 May 2013, Rome, Italy

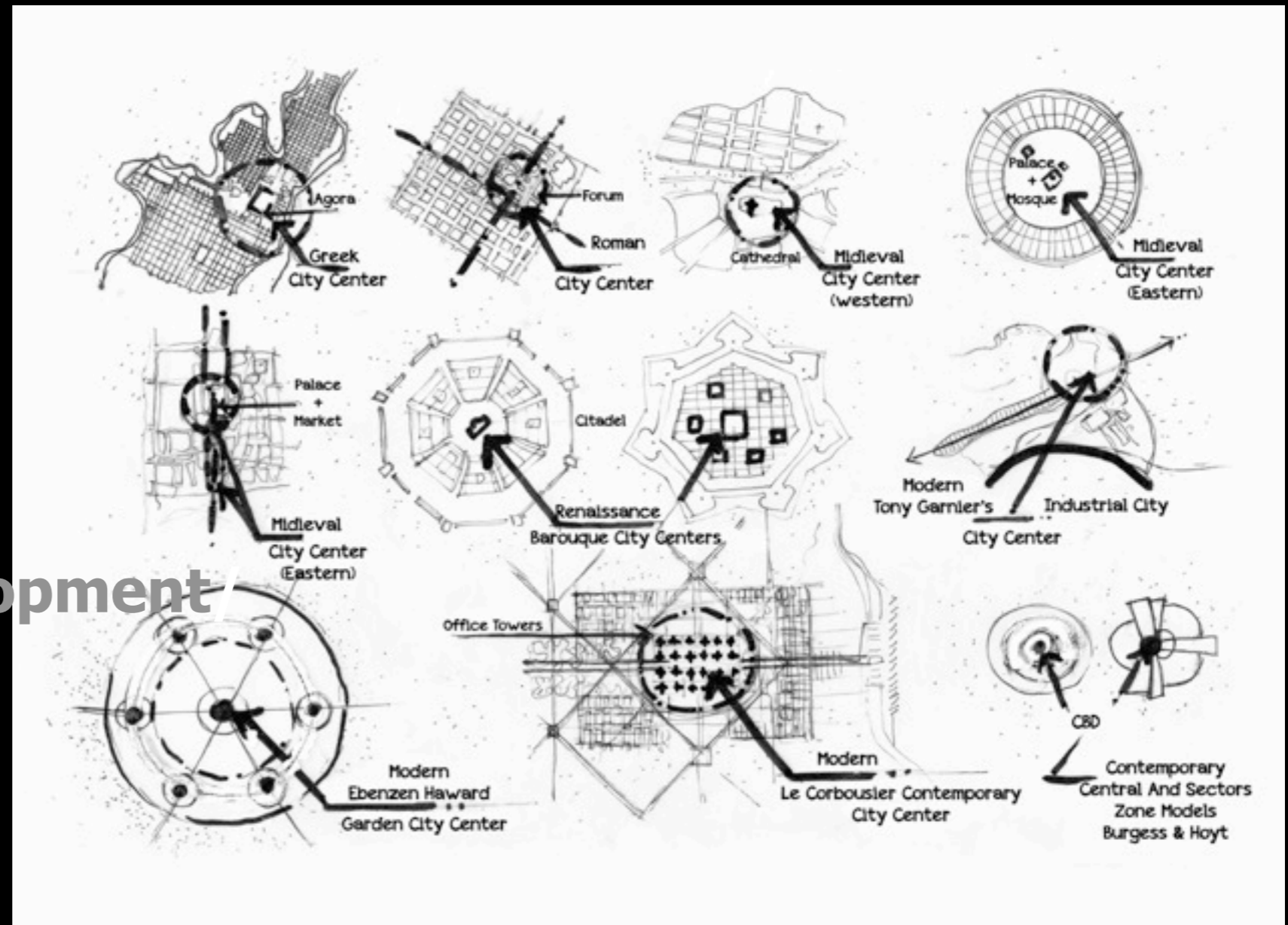
The Heart of the City: A Socio-Cultural Perspective

Heba Safey Eldeen

MIU_Egypt

The Heart of the City: A so-long-studied theory

- Location
- Shape
- Type
- Capacity
- Activities
- Identity
- Change/Development
- Growth
- Immigration



Physical Planning Measures

The Heart of the City: A so-long-studied theory

- Location
- Shape
- Type
- Capacity
- Activities
- Identity
- Change/Development/
Growth
- Immigration

CBD

Down Town

City Center

City Heart

City Place

Physical Planning Measures !!!

The Heart of the City: A so-long-studied theory

- Location
- Shape
- Type
- Capacity
- Activities
- Identity
- Change/Development
- Growth
- Immigration



Is that all?

CBD

Down Town

City Center

City Heart

City Place

Physical Planning Measures !!!

Towards the Humanization of Urban Life



CIAM

**meeting place of
the arts**



Le Corbusier

**repository of the
community's collective
memory**

**natural expression of
contemplation/quite enjoyment of body
& spirit**

I. Richards

Towards the Humanization of Urban Life



Philip Johnson

spirit of community

**expression of the
collective mind and the spirit of
community**



Jacqueline Tyrwhitt

The Heart of the City: A Socio-Cultural Perspective

REALCORP 2013_Planning Times_ 20-23 May 2013_Rome_Italy
The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

The Heart of the City: A Socio-Cultural Perspective

What:

The Concept: A Fresh Look

Why:

**Incorporating Socio-Cultural Measures
in City Planning**

How:

Case of Cairo:

- **Theoretical Review**
- **Grounded Observation**

The Cairo Phenomenon: A Chronological Review

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The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective



Medieval Cairo

Change/Development Along History

The Cairo Phenomenon: A Chronological Review



Medieval Cairo

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The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

Belle Epoch - Paris of the East

Change/Development Along History **Between World Wars**

The Cairo Phenomenon: A Chronological Review

gTimes_ 20-23 May 2013_Rome_Italy
from a Socio-Cultural Perspective



Belle Epoch - Paris of the East



Between World Wars
Change/Development Along History

The Cairo Phenomenon: A Chronological Review

Liberalization - Modernization

Change/Development Along History

The Cairo Phenomenon: A Chronological Review

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The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective



Liberalization - Modernization



Change/Development Along History

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The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

Centralization - Nationalization

Open-Door Policies & Beyond
Change/Development Along History (Greater Cairo Region)

The Cairo Phenomenon: A Chronological Review

nes_ 20-23 May 2013_ Rome_ Italy
in a Socio-Cultural Perspective



Centralization - Nationalization



REA

Open-Door Policies & Beyond
Change/Development Along History (Greater Cairo Region)

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Turn of the Millennium



Change/Development Along History (Greater Cairo Region)

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Turn of the Millennium



Change/Development Along History

(Greater Cairo Region)

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The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

Today - Peripheral Cairo

Change/Development Along History (Greater Cairo Region)

The Cairo Phenomenon: A Chronological Review



Today - Peripheral Cairo



Change/Development Along History (Greater Cairo Region)

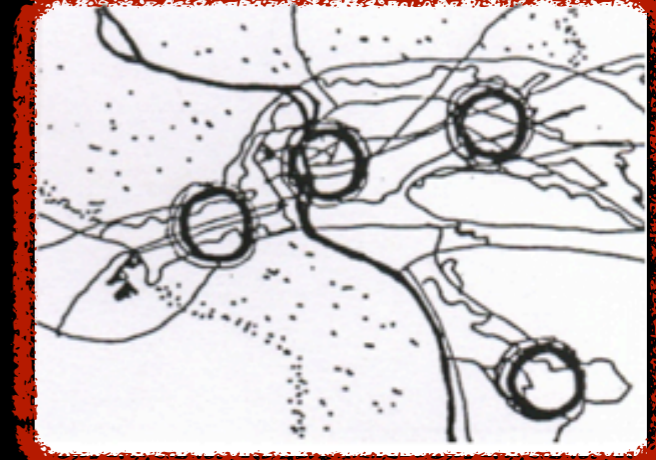
3rd Millennium Cairo



1. Historical Districts



2. 19th Century Districts



3. Early 20th Century



4. Post-Mid 20th Century



5. Gated Communities



6. Informal Areas

Several Cities within the GCR

(Greater Cairo Region)

3rd Millennium Cairo

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The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective



Environmental Behavioral Aspects NOT CONSIDERED !!!

3rd Millennium Cairo

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The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

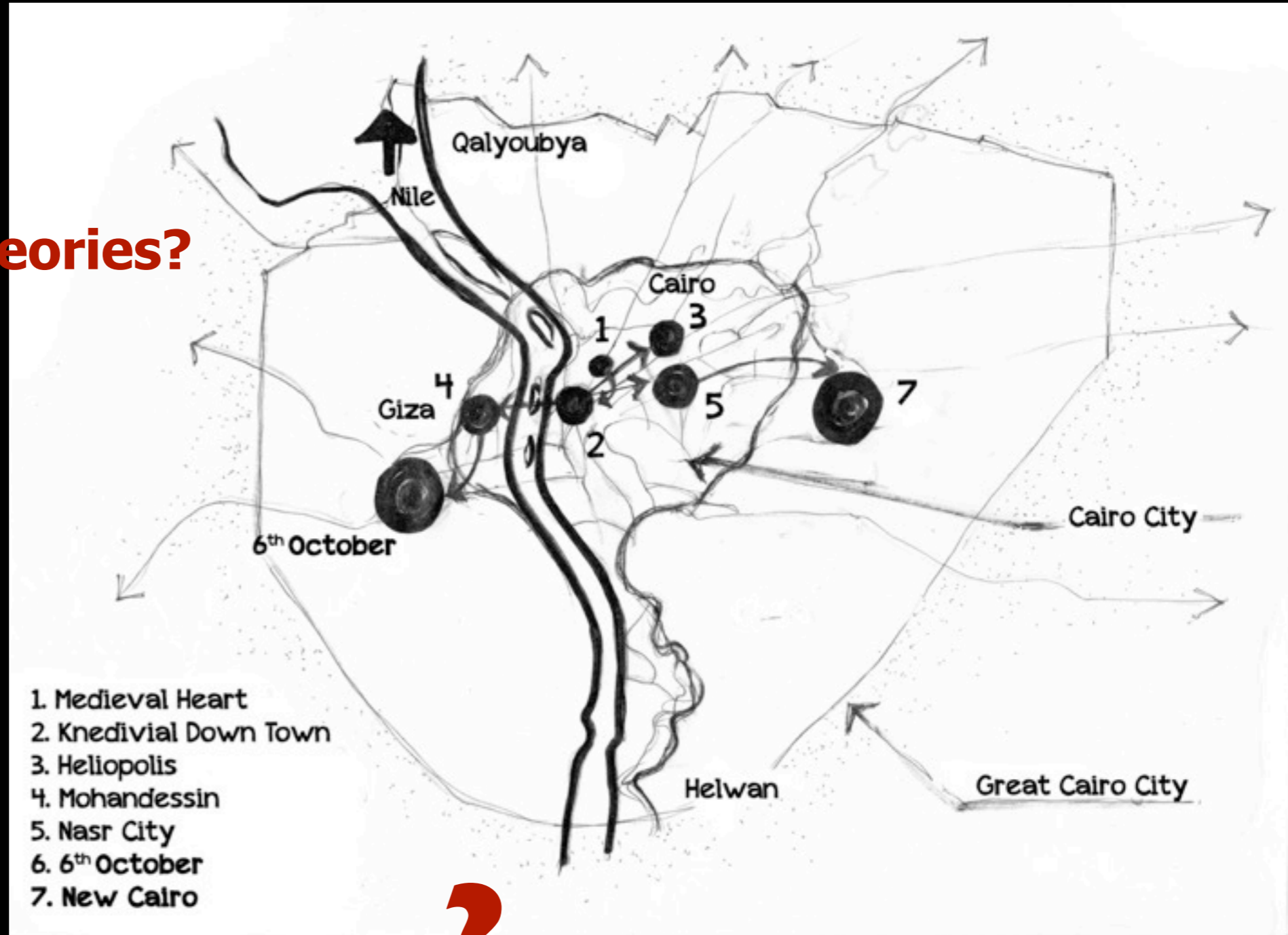


Environmental Behavioral Aspects NOT CONSIDERED !!!

The Heart of the City:

A so-long-studied theory

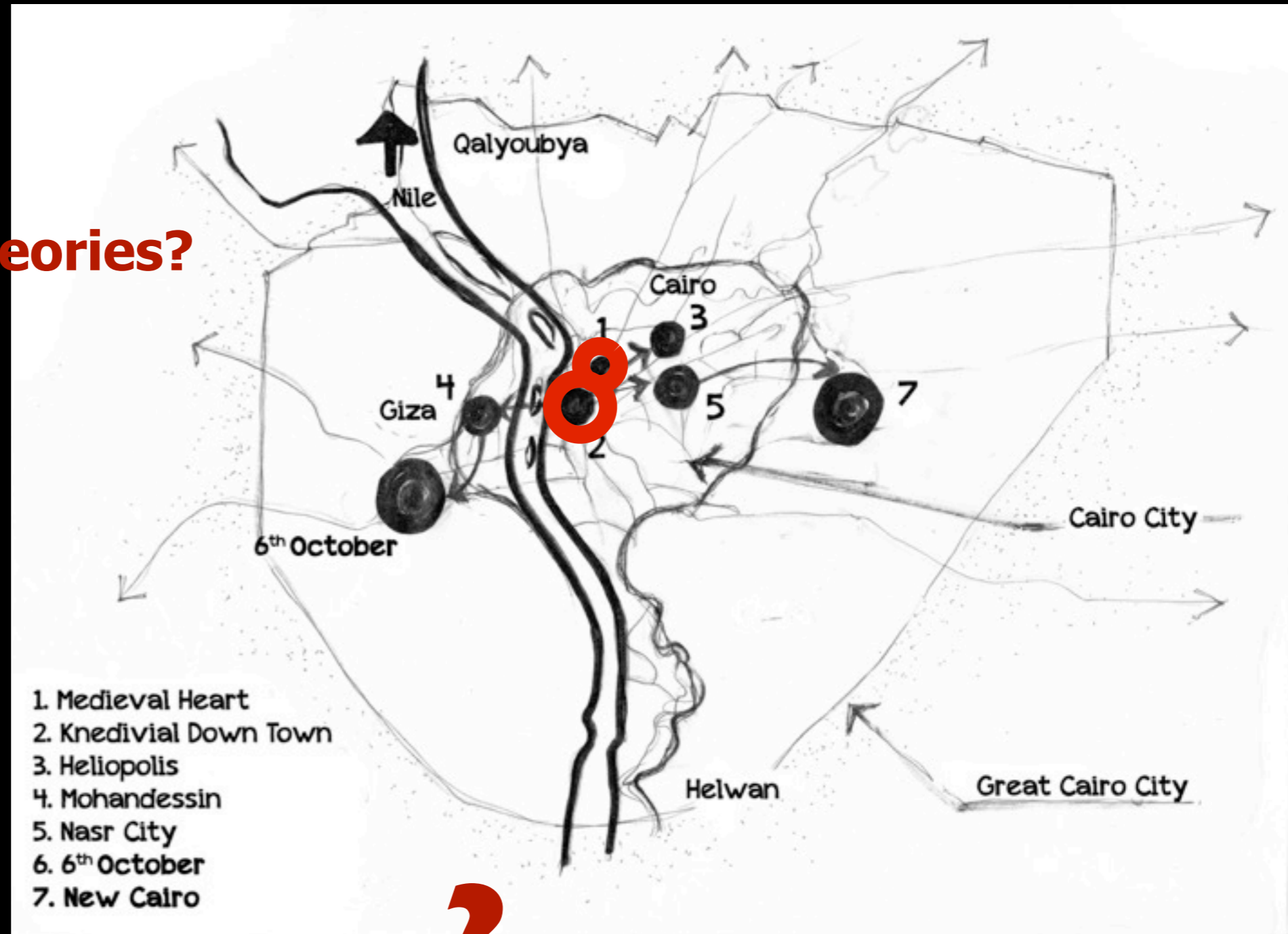
Cairo's Heart:
Followed all theories?



Physical Planning Measures ?

The Heart of the City: A so-long-studied theory

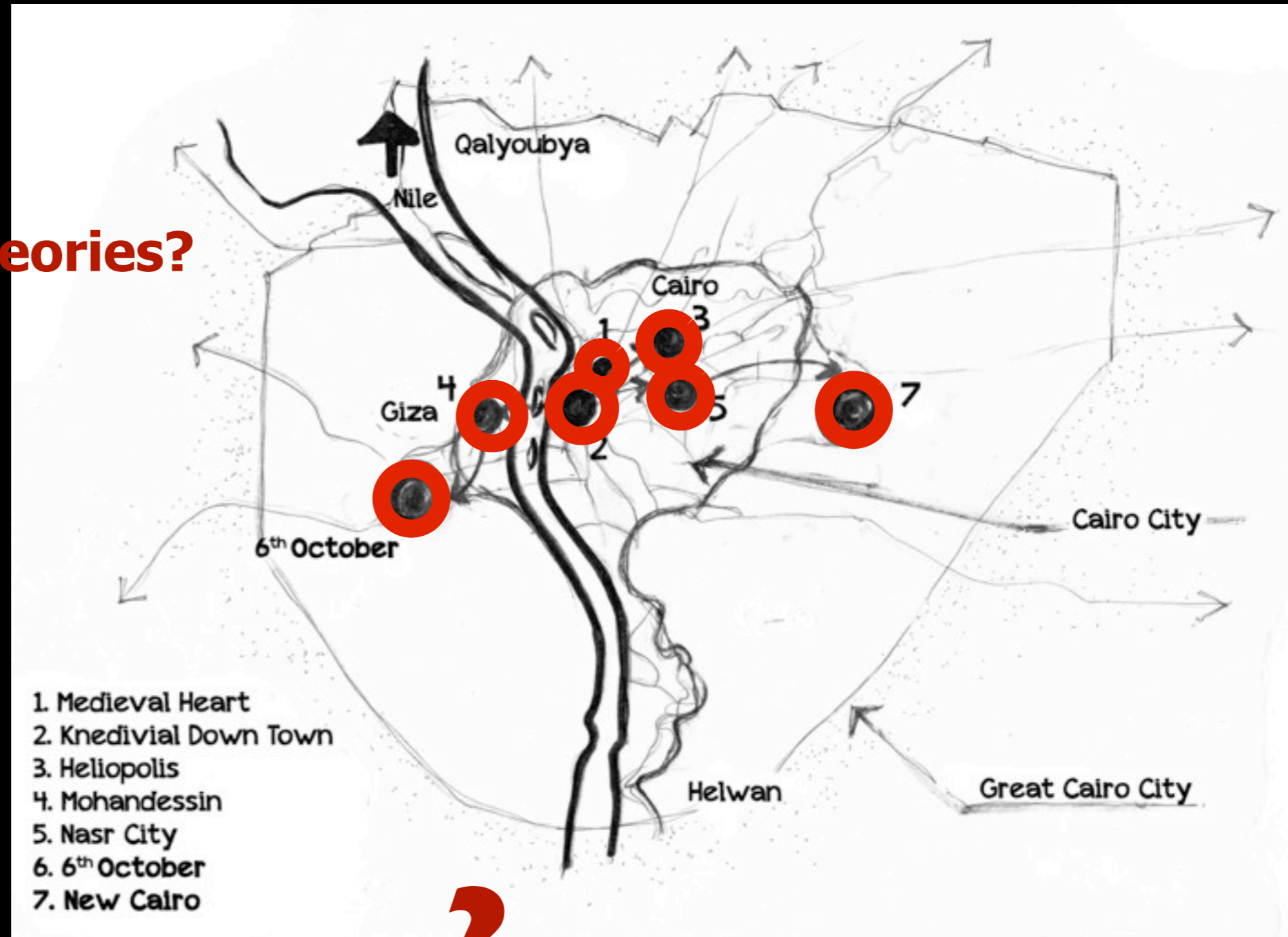
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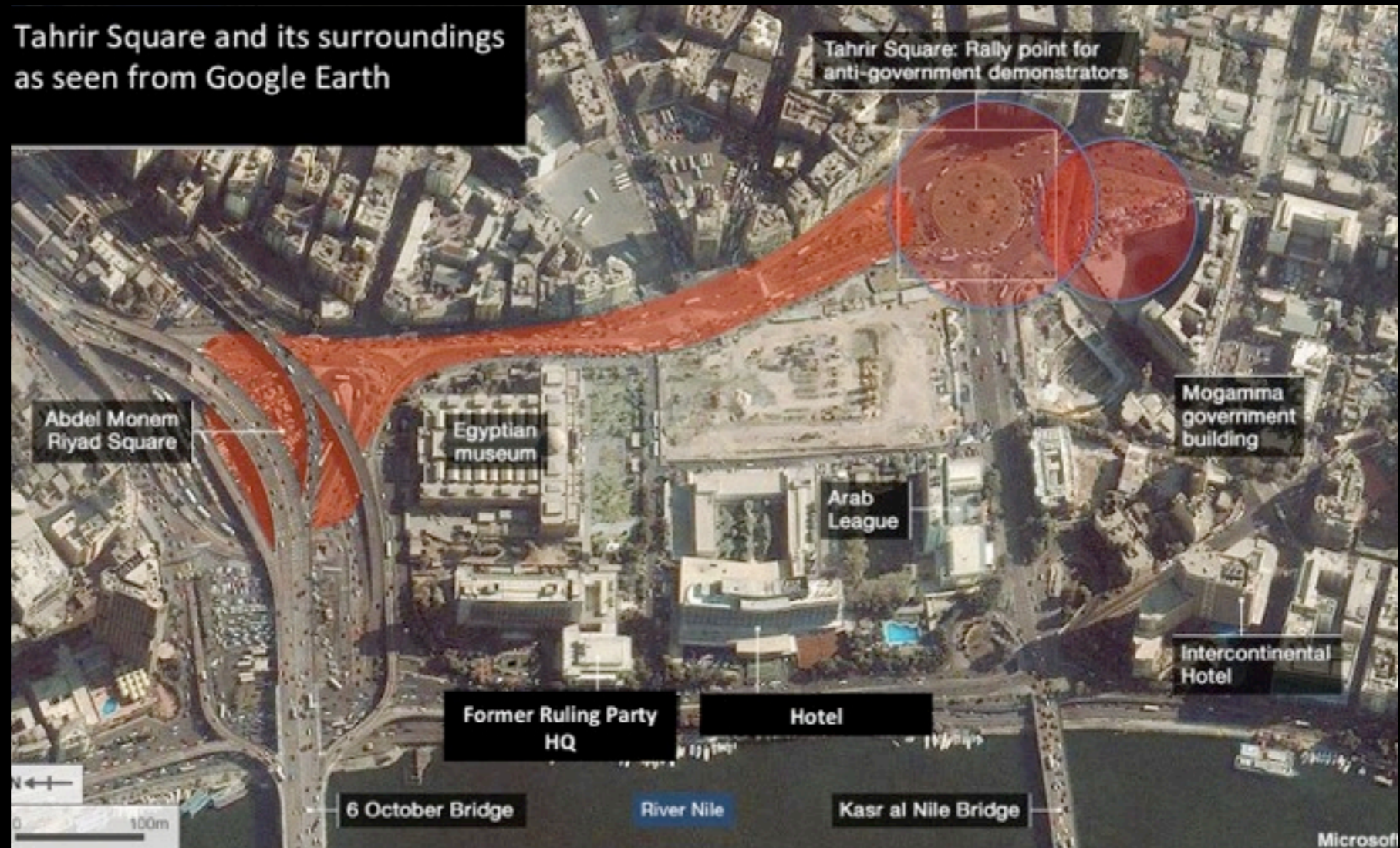
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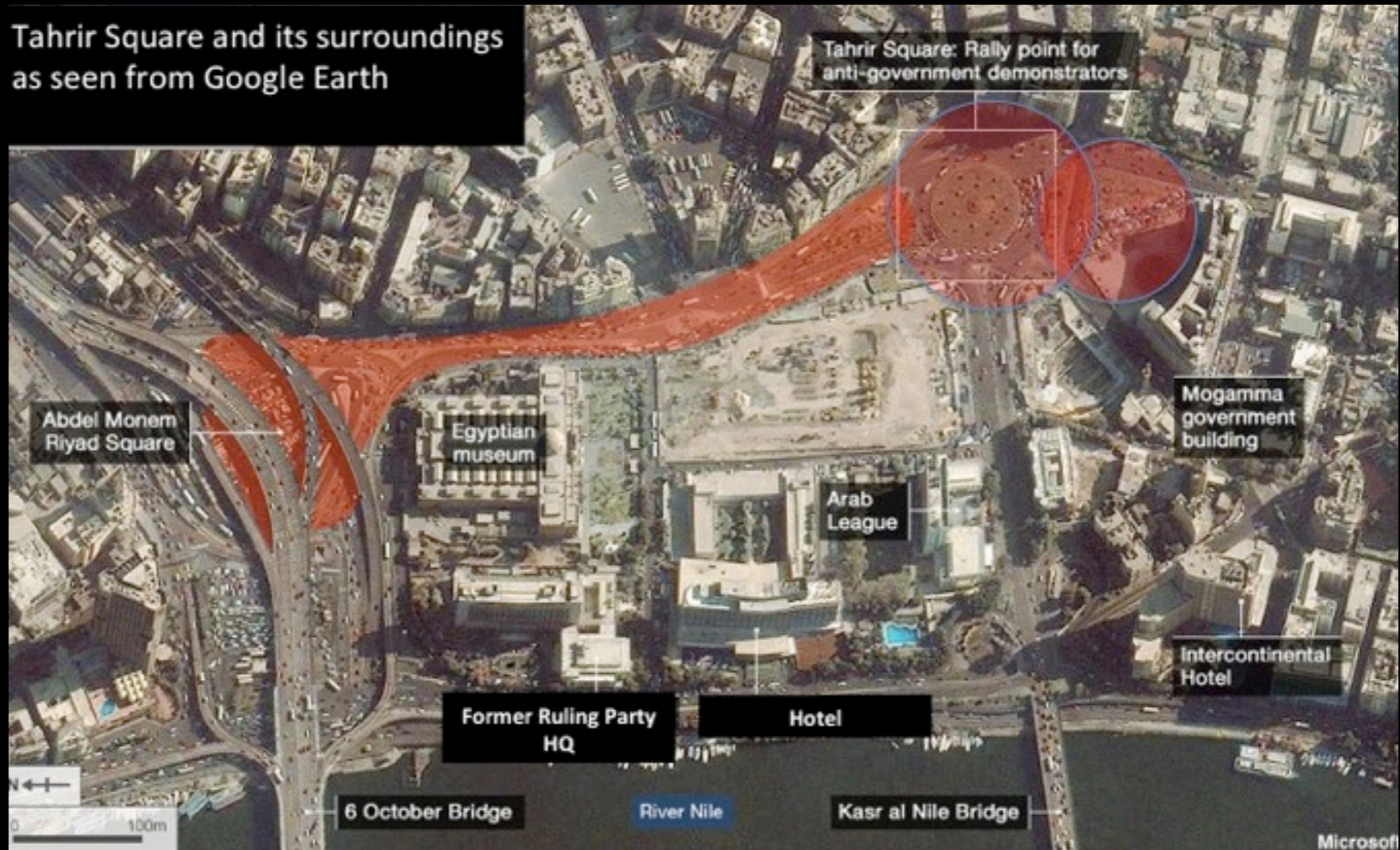


Physical Planning Measures ?

Tahrir Square on Revolt:



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The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective





The Heart of the City:

A so-long-studied theory

Cairo's Heart:
Followed all theories?

Physical Planning Measures !!!

The Heart of the City:

A so-long-studied theory

**Cairo's Heart:
Followed all theories?**

**Revolution:
Case Changed**

Physical Planning Measures !!!

The Heart of the City:

A so-long-studied theory

**Cairo's Heart:
Followed all theories?**

Terms Revisited ?

**Revolution:
Case Changed**

Planning Vs. Politics ?

Questions:

Democratic Urbanism ?

Physical Planning Measures !!!

Tahrir Square on Revolt:

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The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective



Tahrir Square on Revolt:

With Whom?

Doing What?



In What Context?



Who?

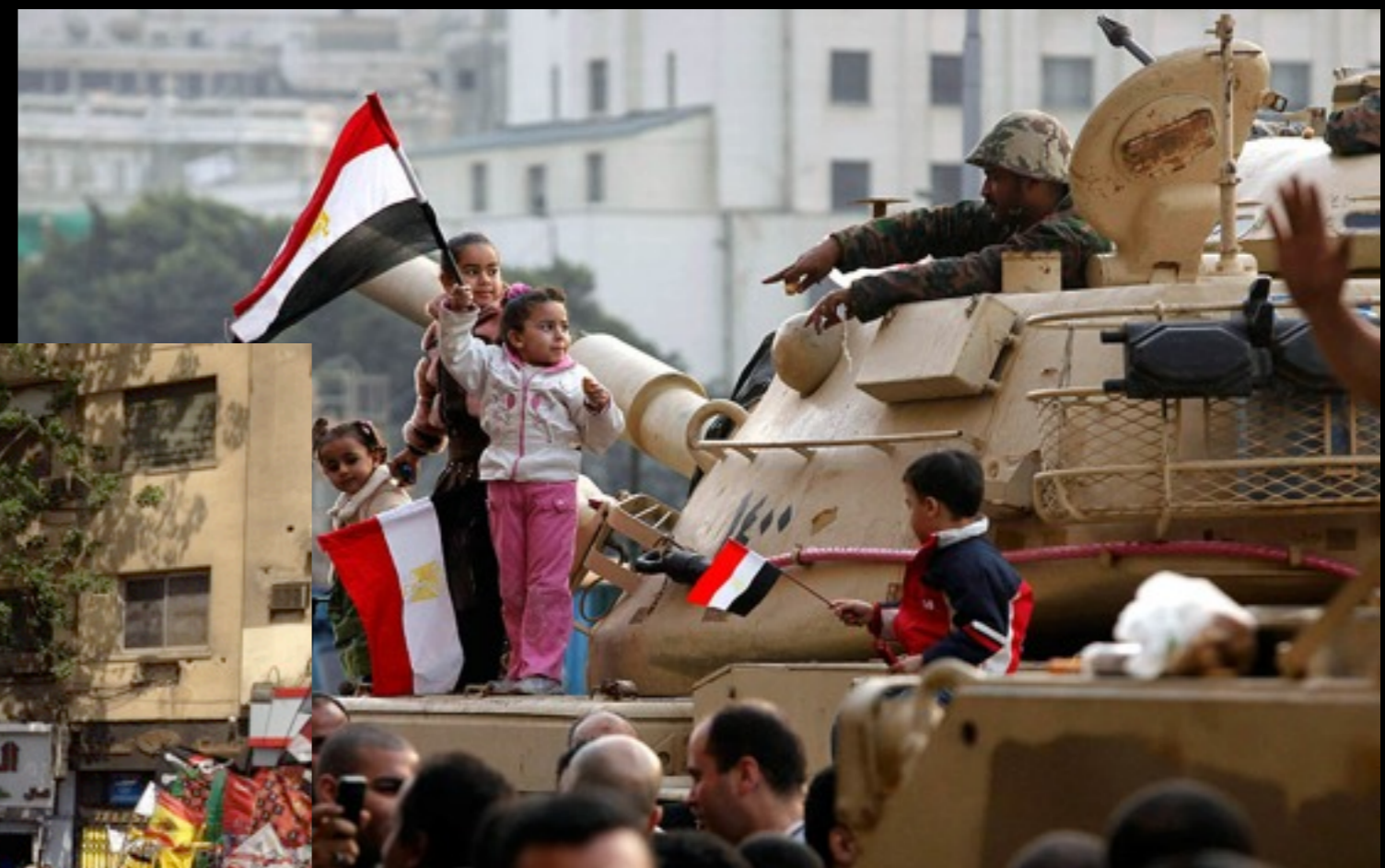
Observations & Reflections_[1]

Rejuvenation of the Old Heart

Observations & Reflections_[1]

Rejuvenation of the Old Heart

July 2013_Rome_Italy
Journalist's Perspective



Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts



Abbaseya: Army Supporters

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts

Nasr City: Former Generals Supporters

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts



Nasr City: Former Generals Supporters

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts

Shubra & Maspiro: Copts

Observations & Reflections [2]

The Newer Hearts



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Shubra & Maspiro: Copts



Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts

Mohandeseen:Anti MB

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts



Mohandeseen:Anti MB

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts

REAL CORP 3 Rome Italy perspective



Mokattam: Pro MB

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts

Heliopolis: Former Regime Supporters

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts



Heliopolis: Former Regime Supporters

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts

Ethadeya: Clashes between Pro & Anti MB

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts



Ethadeya: Clashes between Pro & Anti MB

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts

Peripheral Cairo: Detached

Observations & Reflections_[2]

The Newer Hearts

Peripheral Cairo: Detached



Observations & Reflections_[3]

The Urban Poor



HERE TO STAY

Observations & Reflections_[3]

The Urban Poor

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The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective



HERE TO STAY

Observations & Reflections_[4]

Emerged Street Arts

Graffiti & Performance Arts

Observations & Reflections_[4]

Emerged Street Arts



Graffiti & Performance Arts

Observations & Reflections_[5]

Changing Env. Behavior

Observations & Reflections_[5]

Changing Env. Behavior

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The Heart of the City from a Socio-Cultural Perspective



Harassment - Aggression - Rivalry

Discussion

Discussion

**How Can Urban Planning
Improve Cairo's Resilience
To Political & Social Changes
Caused By The Upheaval Era
We Are Living In ?**

Discussion

**How Can Urban Planning
Improve Cairo's Resilience
To Political & Social Changes
Caused By The Upheaval Era
We Are Living In ?**

**How Can We Make Use
Of This Transitional Period
Towards An Urban Democracy
Of Our Victorious City ?**

The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

A CHANGING ROLE OF THE HEART IN PRESENT DAY CAIRO SOCIETY

The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

**A CHANGING ROLE OF THE HEART
IN PRESENT DAY CAIRO SOCIETY**

**MAKING PEOPLE VISIBLE
IN THE PLANNING PROCESS**

The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective



The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective



The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

CHARACTERISTICS

The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

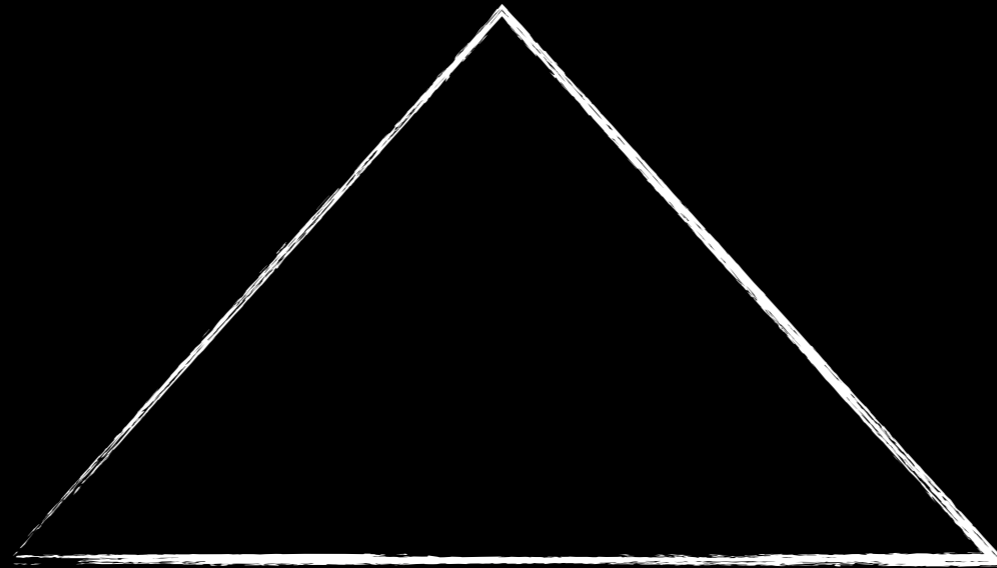
CHARACTERISTICS

- Walk-in / Stay-in for a while
- Social & Cultural Exchanges
- Talking / Watching & Experiencing
- Lively / Diverse / Safe & Comfortable

The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

CHARACTERISTICS



The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

CHARACTERISTICS

Protection

crime/traffic/accidents/
unpleasant climate conditions
(quality of walking & staying)



The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

CHARACTERISTICS

Protection

crime/traffic/accidents/
unpleasant climate conditions
(quality of walking & staying)



Comfort

safe/healthy

The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

CHARACTERISTICS

Protection

crime/traffic/accidents/
unpleasant climate conditions
(quality of walking & staying)

Comfort

safe/healthy

Enjoyment

human scale/ pleasant climate
(quality of attractions)



The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

Activities/Uses	Social	Necessary	Optional
Everyday Uses			
Visitors/ Customers			
Recreational Visitors			
Visitors to Events			

The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

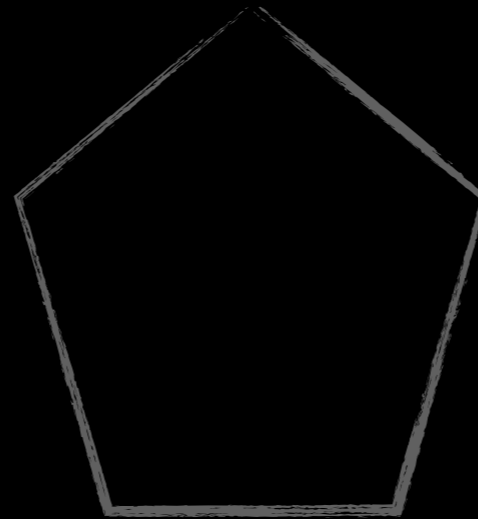
Activities/Uses	Social	Necessary	Optional
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Visitors to Events			

The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

HUMAN DIMENSION

WITHIN THE CITY



Location / Accessibility - Use for Public Purposes

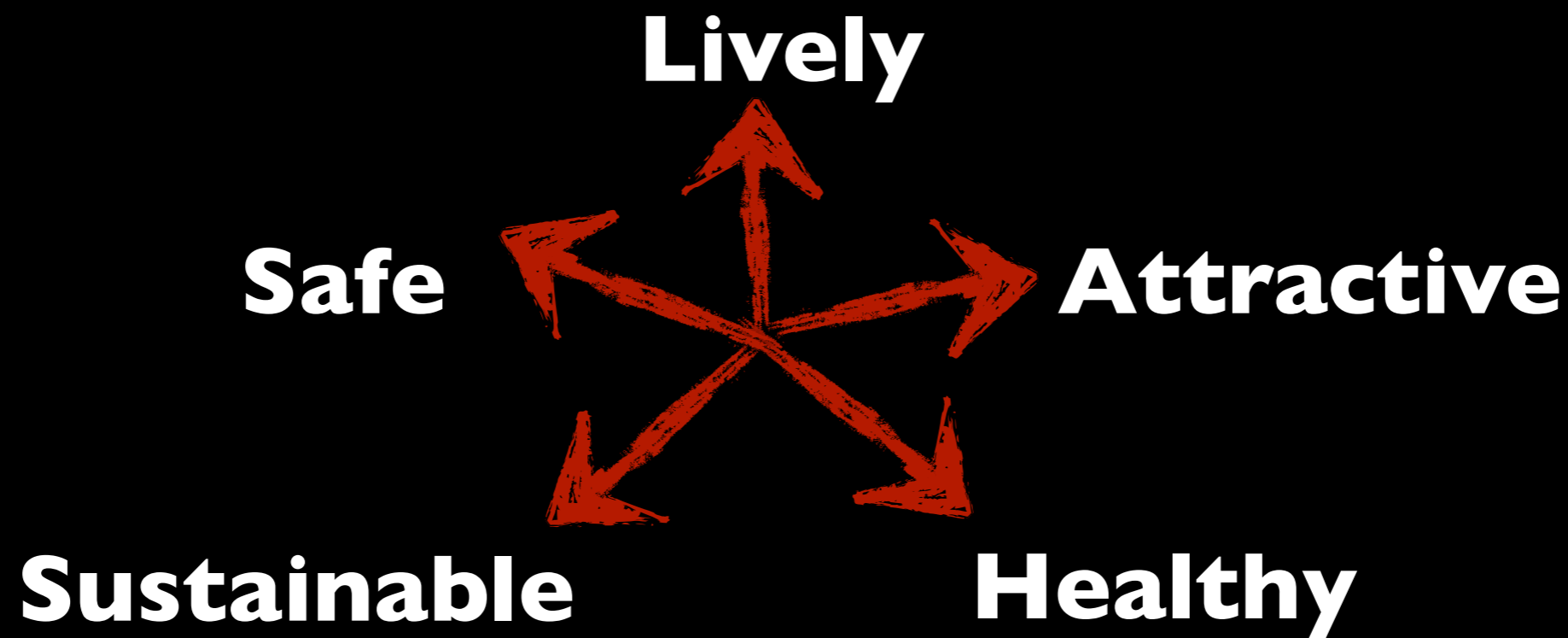
Ceremonial Everyday Purposes - Specific Political Purposes

The Heart of the City

from a Socio-Cultural Perspective

HUMAN DIMENSION

WITHIN THE CITY



Location / Accessibility - Use for Public Purposes

Ceremonial Everyday Purposes - Specific Political Purposes

Conclusion

Towards a DEMOCRATIC Urbanization

Conclusion

Redefinition:

Heart = City's Reference Point \neq CBD

Inviting Public Life to the City

Large Space/Complex Society

Towards a DEMOCRATIC Urbanization

Conclusion

Redefinition:

Heart = City's Reference Point \neq CBD

Inviting Public Life to the City

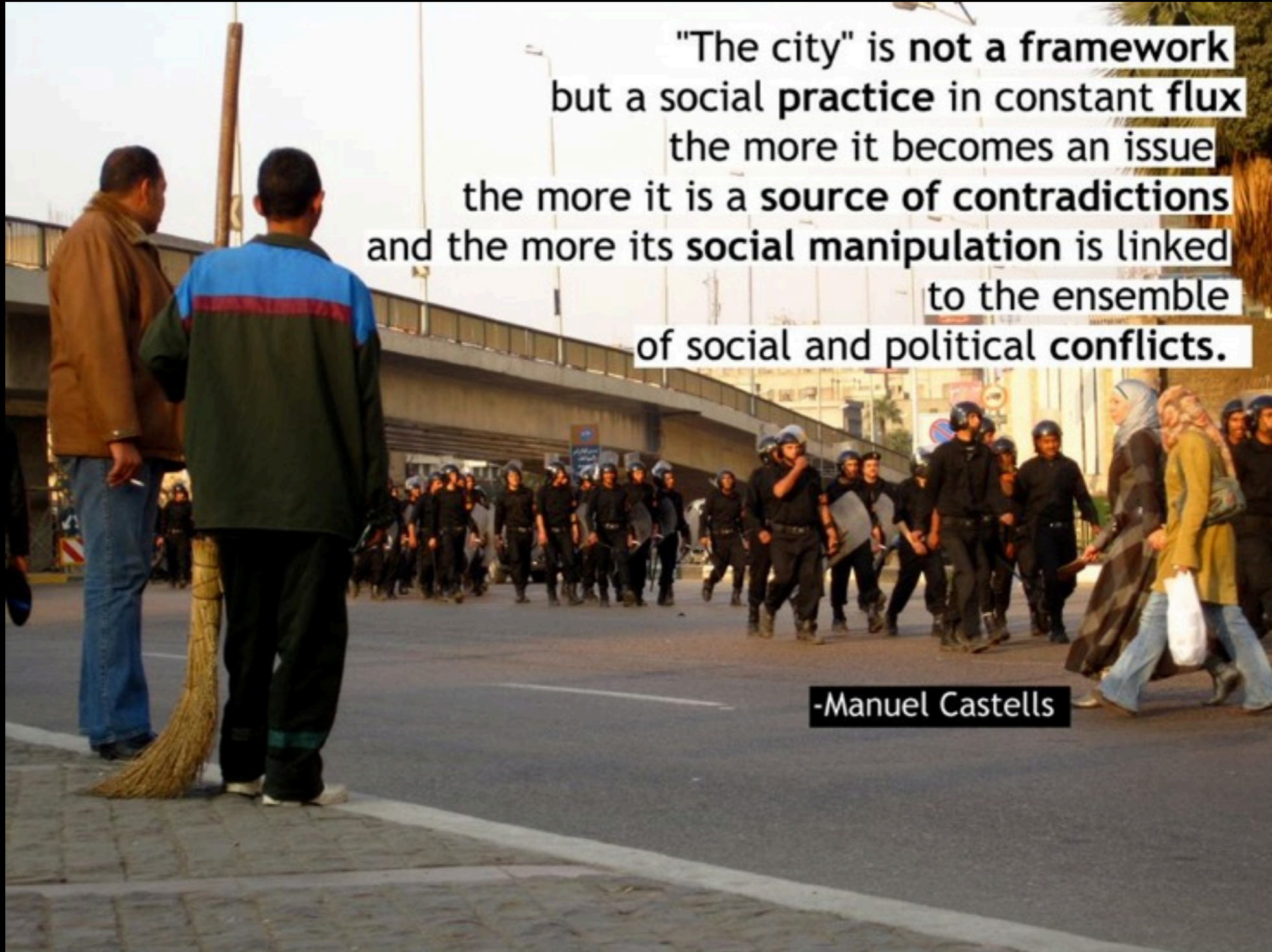
Large Space/Complex Society

Towards a DEMOCRATIC Urbanization

Connect Urban Planning with Democracy

Conclusion

The Heart of the City: A Socio-Cultural Perspective



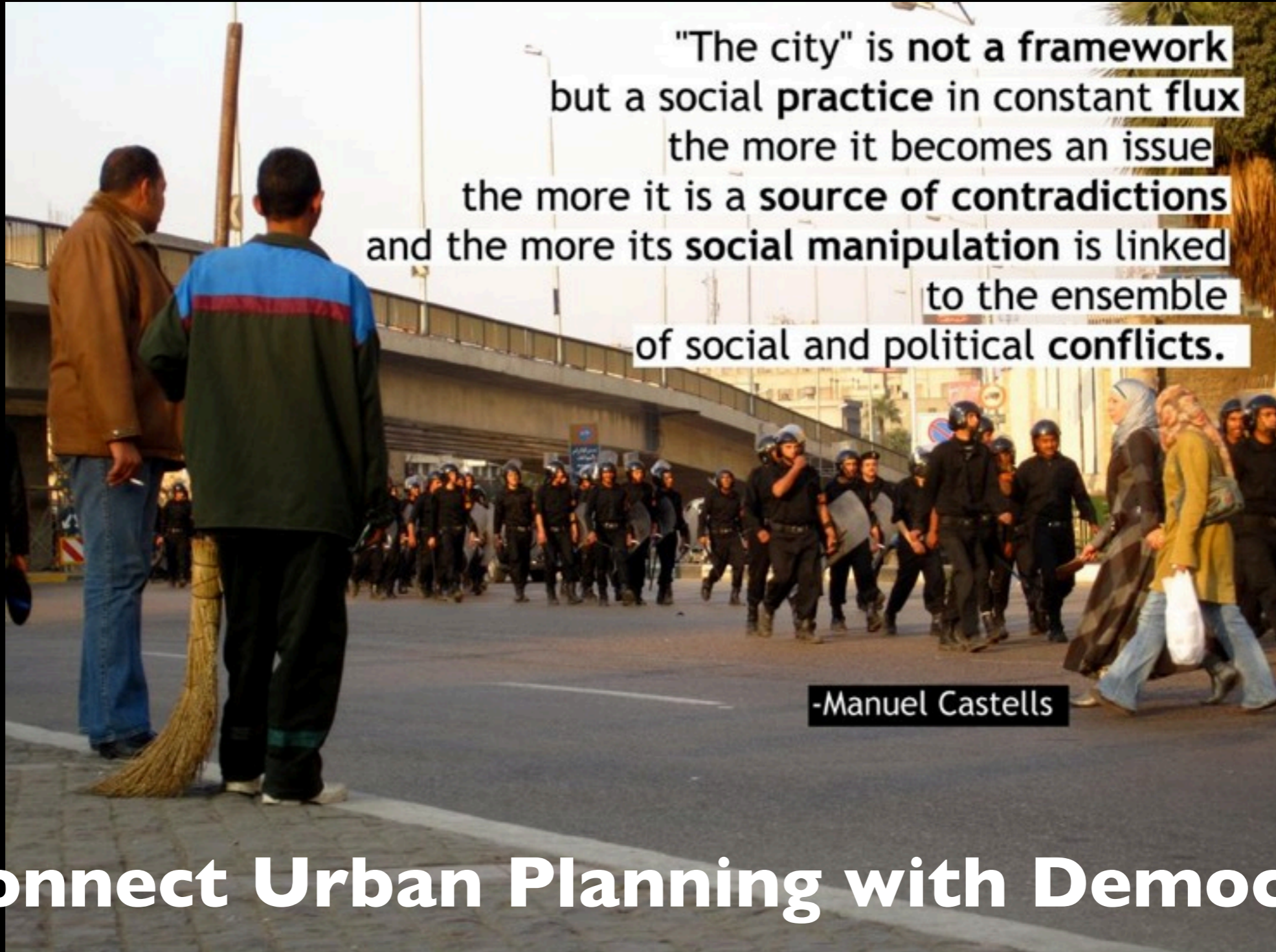
"The city" is not a framework
but a social practice in constant flux
the more it becomes an issue
the more it is a source of contradictions
and the more its social manipulation is linked
to the ensemble
of social and political conflicts.

-Manuel Castells

Towards a DEMOCRATIC Urbanization

Conclusion

The Heart of the City: A Socio-Cultural Perspective



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but a social practice in constant flux
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Connect Urban Planning with Democracy

Towards a DEMOCRATIC Urbanization

Thank You ...