Record Nr. UNINA9910454962503321 Autore Ghannam Farha <1963-> Titolo Remaking the modern: space, relocation, and the politics of identity in a global Cairo / / Farha Ghannam Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2002 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 9780520230460 1-282-76255-9 1-59734-512-1 0-520-93601-9 9786612762550 1-59734-859-7 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (227 p.) Disciplina 307.76/0962/16 Soggetti Urbanization - Egypt - Cairo City and town life - Egypt - Cairo Cairo (Egypt) Social conditions Cairo (Egypt) Economic conditions Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references (p. 195-206) and index. Nota di bibliografia Relocation and the creation of a global city -- Relocation and the daily Nota di contenuto use of "modern" spaces -- Old places, new identities -- Gender and the struggle over public spaces -- Religion in a global era -- Roads to prosperity. In an effort to restyle Cairo into a global capital that would meet the Sommario/riassunto demands of tourists and investors and to achieve President Anwar Sadat's goal to modernize the housing conditions of the urban poor, the Egyptian government relocated residents from what was deemed valuable real estate in downtown Cairo to public housing on the outskirts of the city. Based on more than two years of ethnographic fieldwork among five thousand working-class families in the neighborhood of al-Zawyia al-Hamra, this study explores how these

displaced residents have dealt with the stigma of public housing, the loss of their established community networks, and the diversity of the

population in the new location. Until now, few anthropologists have delivered detailed case studies on this recent phenomenon. Ghannam fills this gap in scholarship with an illuminating analysis of urban engineering of populations in Cairo. Drawing on theories of practice, the study traces the various tactics and strategies employed by members of the relocated group to appropriate and transform the state's understanding of "modernity" and hegemonic construction of space. Informed by recent theories of globalization, Ghannam also shows how the growing importance of religious identity is but one of many contradictory ways that global trajectories mold the identities of the relocated residents. Remaking the Modern is a revealing ethnography of a working class community's struggle to appropriate modern facilities and confront the alienation and the dislocation brought on by national policies and the quest to globalize Cairo.