

Urban Sociology workshop  
Alexandria - Egypt

**Social Survey in Bitash, Alexandria**  
*A special focus on the Syrian community*

# Main objective

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Studying issues related to urban sociology in Bitach, in an attempt to understand the impact of a special group on the social infrastructure.

# Methodology

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Neighborhood walks, snowball interviewing, site observation, focus group meeting, off-site data collected from governmental and international organizations as well as structured and unstructured interviews with inhabitants, governmental representatives and community leaders . There are the main tools adopted to explore the area.

During the two days of the site visits, team members started to explore the community. Activities of the first day aimed to have a general overview of the community. Thus, the most pressing issues, needs, challenges and potentials were highlighted. In the second day, thematic groups focused on **Housing, Social and economic integration**. Each group targeted the main stakeholders involved within each theme with structured interviews.



# Agami Background

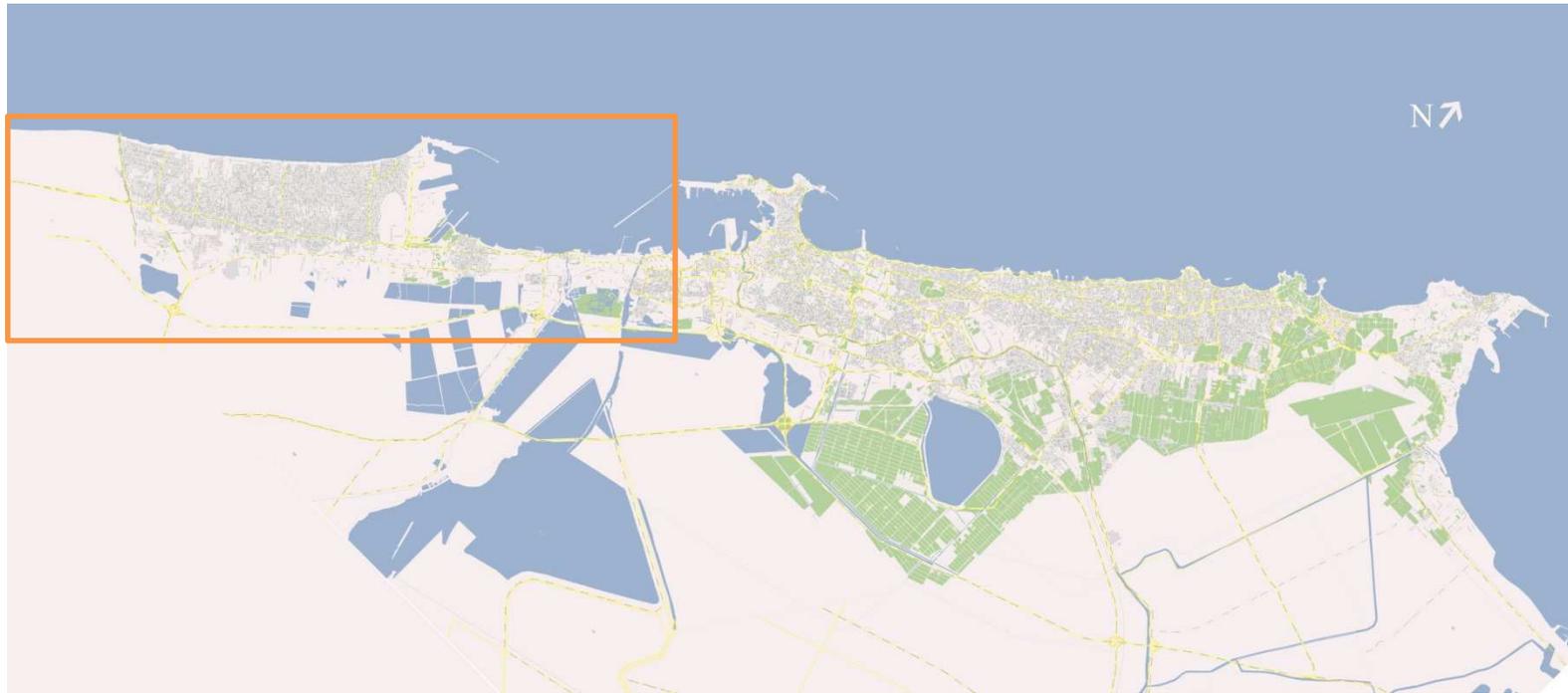
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- is a city in the Alexandria Governorate of Egypt. Situated 20 km west of Alexandria, the town is a popular destination for both local Alexandrians and tourists in Giza and Cairo.
- The city started as a compound for the elite class of Egypt in the 1950s, which then evolved into the city we know today,
- The transformation of Agami district from a summer resort to a residential area started in 1980s.
- It is important to note that most of this residential development is informal

# Maps

*The location of Agami district in Alexandria*

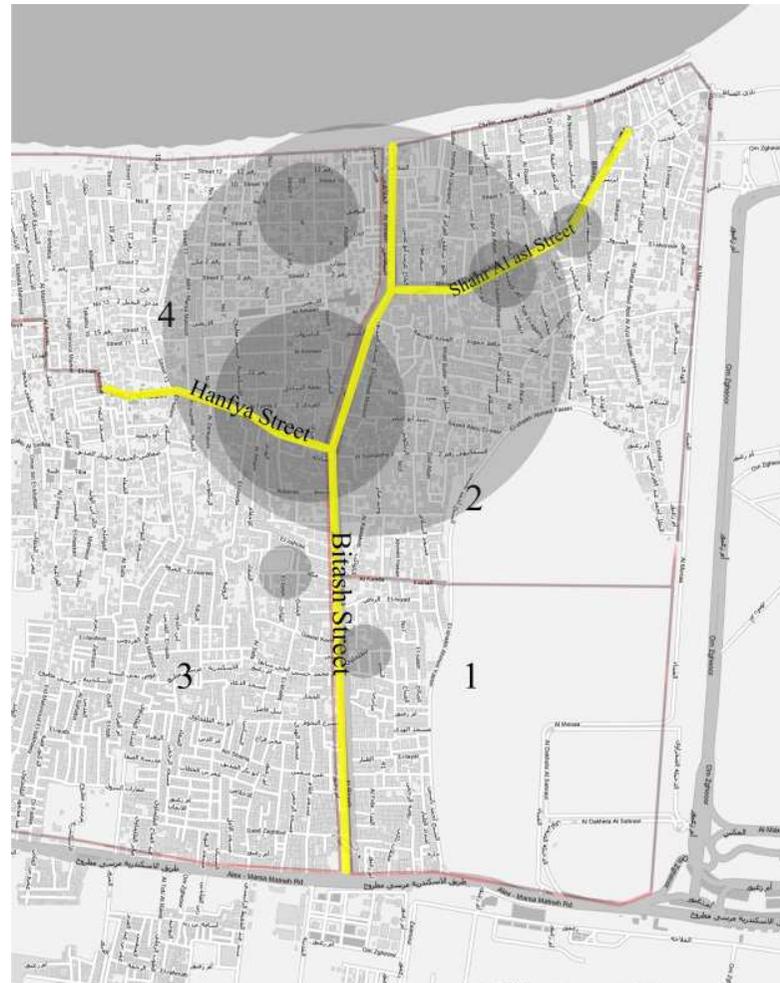
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# Al-Agami Map

Areas of study – Albitash

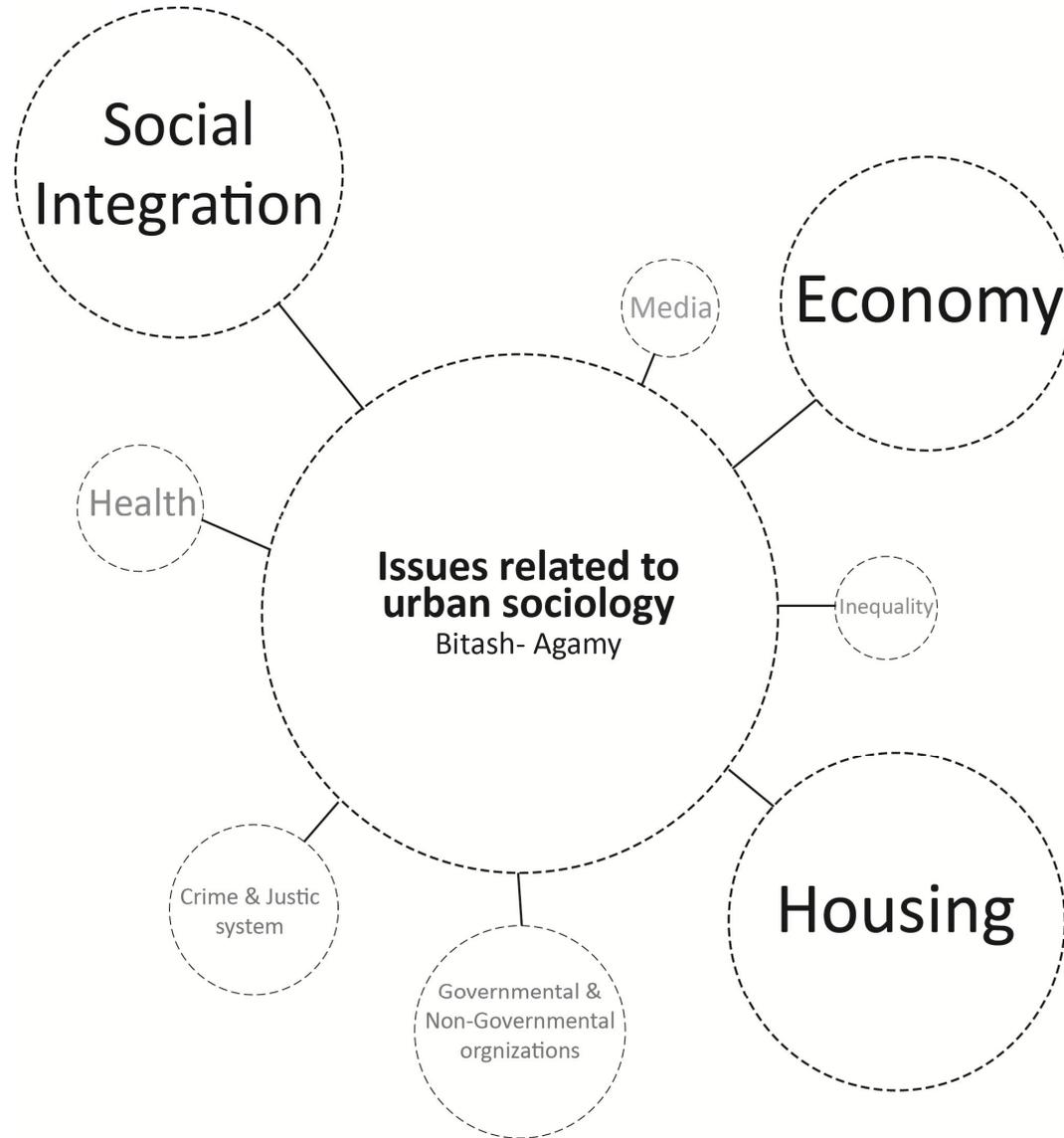
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# Social Issues

*Related to Bitash zone*

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# **Housing / Real-estate Market**

# Resources:

*Types of interviewed individuals*

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1 - Three real estate brokers.

2- Two contractors.

3- Five gate keeper.

4- Three shop owners.

5- Passerbies / Residents.

# Off-site information

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## Syrians and Housing

## Population size

2013 -Syrian people says that the rents are higher in Alexandria for Syrians because they are foreigners.\*\*

- Many of them have been told that they will have to move out of their apartments during the summer months , which is the tourist season in Alexandria.\*\*

2014 -Brokers said that rent prices increased for everyone.

-A large number of year-long contracts were made.

456,130 \*

466,081 \*

\* Administration of Agamy district Statistics

\*\* Joint assessment for Syrian refugees in Alexandria, Egypt (UNHCR-WFP-UNICEF-IOM-CARITAS and CRS)

# Observation

*Abandoned villas and new high rise buildings*

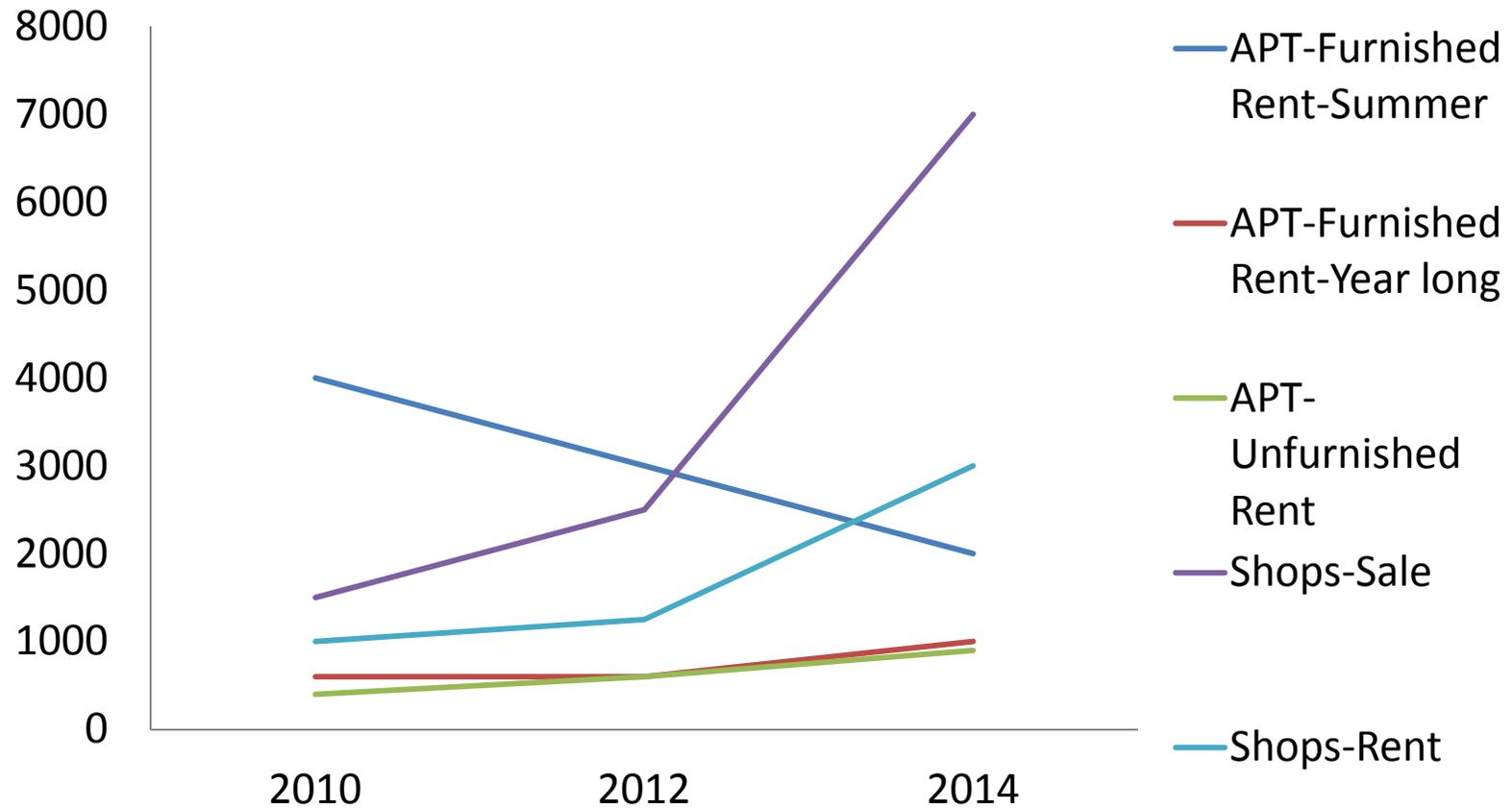
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# Real-estate prices

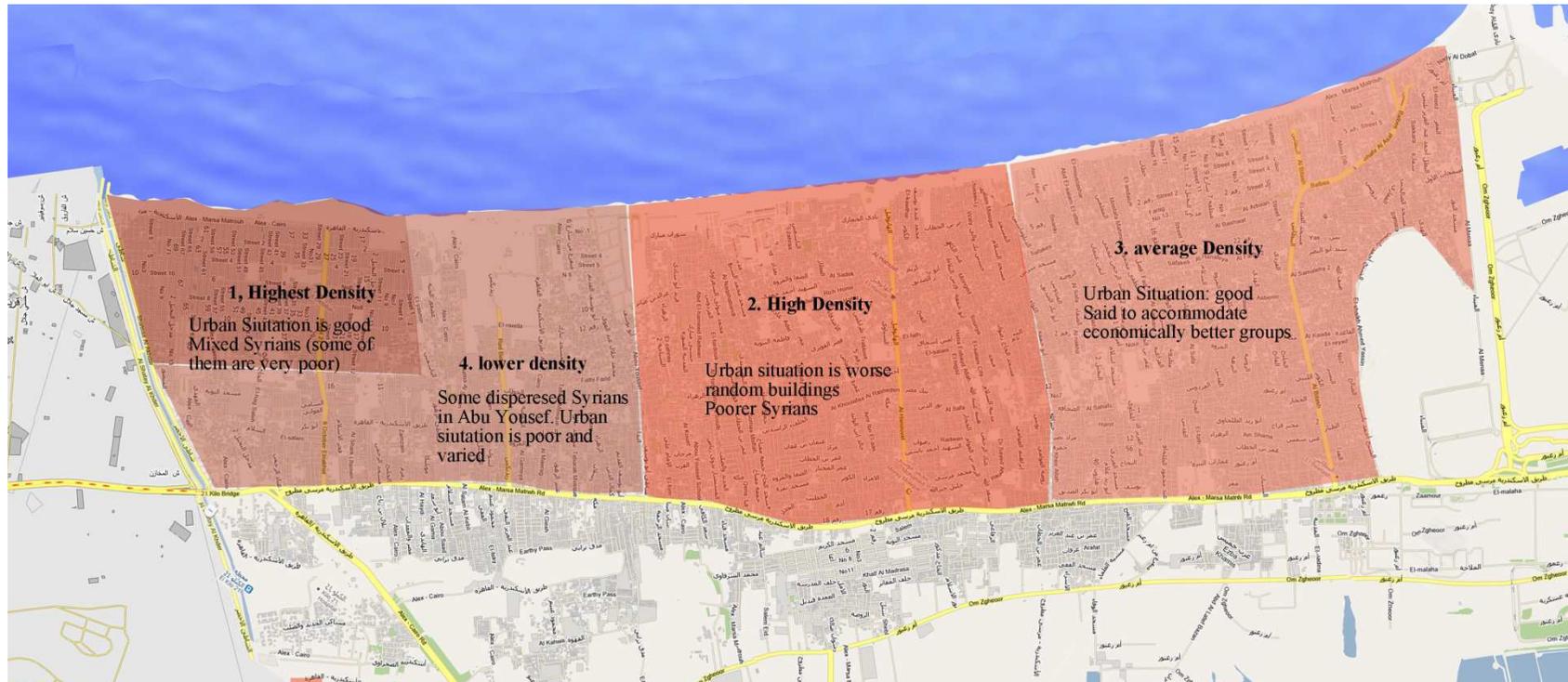
Approximate prices changes "2010-2014"



# **Social Integration**

# Syrian's distribution

Bitash- Hanoville – 6 of October



# Map



- A – EL Eman nursery
- B – Saad Ibn Aby Waqas primary School
- C - EL Hozayfa Ibn Elyamman nursery.
- D – El fardous Beach Library .
- E - Syrian block .
- F – EL BITASH preparatory & Secondary Schools .
- G- EL BITASH Primary school .
- H- EL-GAZZAR institute .

# 1<sup>st</sup> Day

“Hozafa Ibn Elyamman ” Nursery & El Eman Nursery

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\*for free → reduced fees .

\*good social integration .

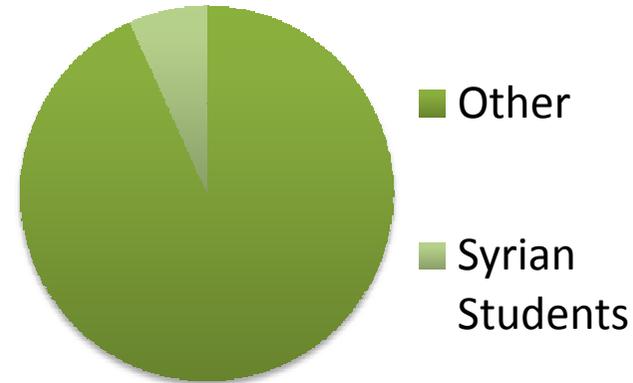


# 1<sup>st</sup> Day

saad Ibn Aby Waqass School

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- Good social integration
- No fees (like Egyptians)

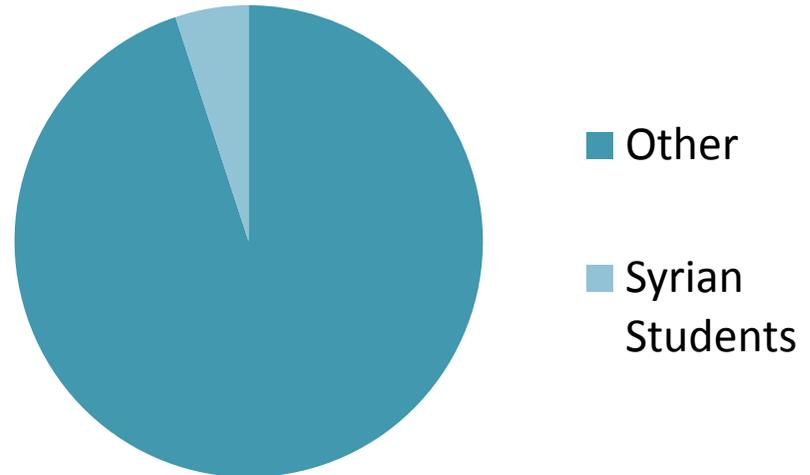


# 2<sup>nd</sup> Day

EL Bitash Primary school

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- Good social integration
- Language



# 1<sup>st</sup> day

Biankey

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- \*works at “EL Manteaa EL Horah”
- \*plans to stay in Egypt (not temporary situation)
- \*has relatives in the area
- 
- He was satisfied with everything
- ( transportations , economic , ... ect. )



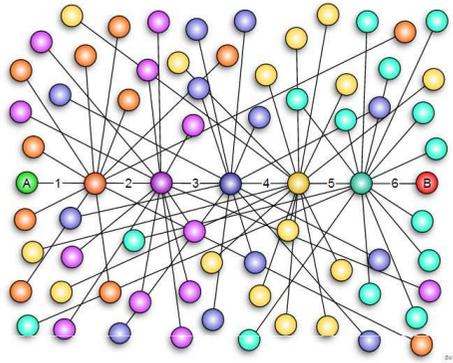
- \*temporary situation
- \*no social integration
- \*no work
- \*can't afford rent .
- \*poor furniture
- \*isolated



# General defectors

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**Syrianism of 6 October phenomena (as an example of the Syrians agglomeration)**



**(Being neighbors) informal way.**

- Social relations is more strong in the low density residential buildings.

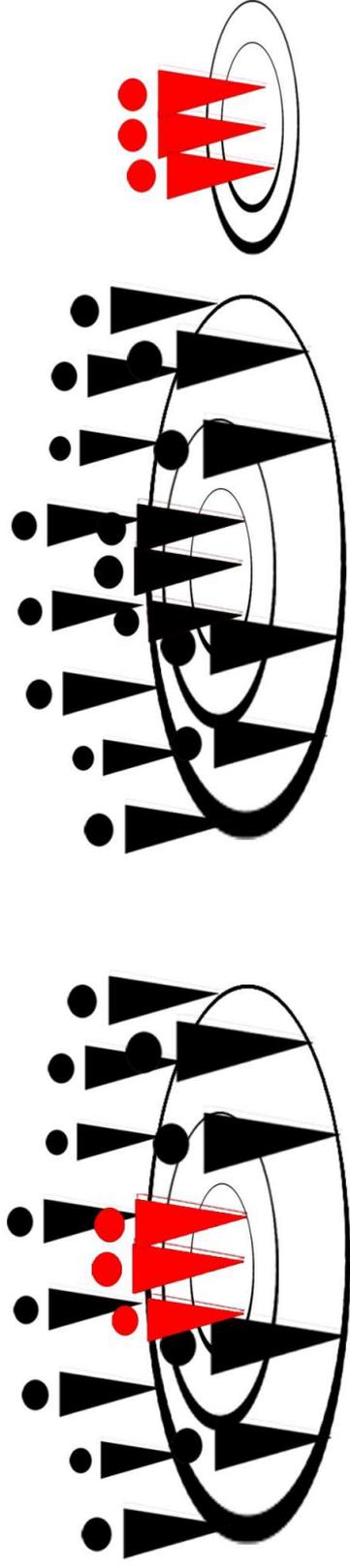


**- Disintegration in work spaces (Syrian-specific works and weak Relations) formal way.**



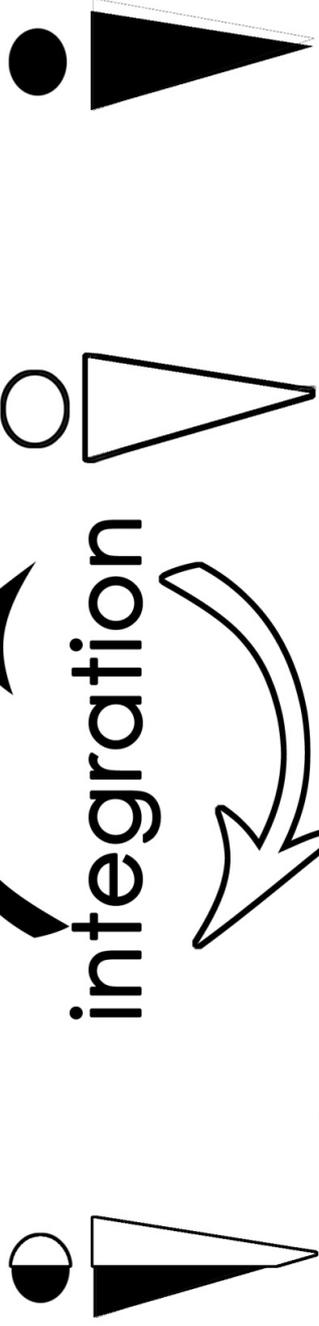
**- The role of media toward the social integration between Egyptians and Syrians.**





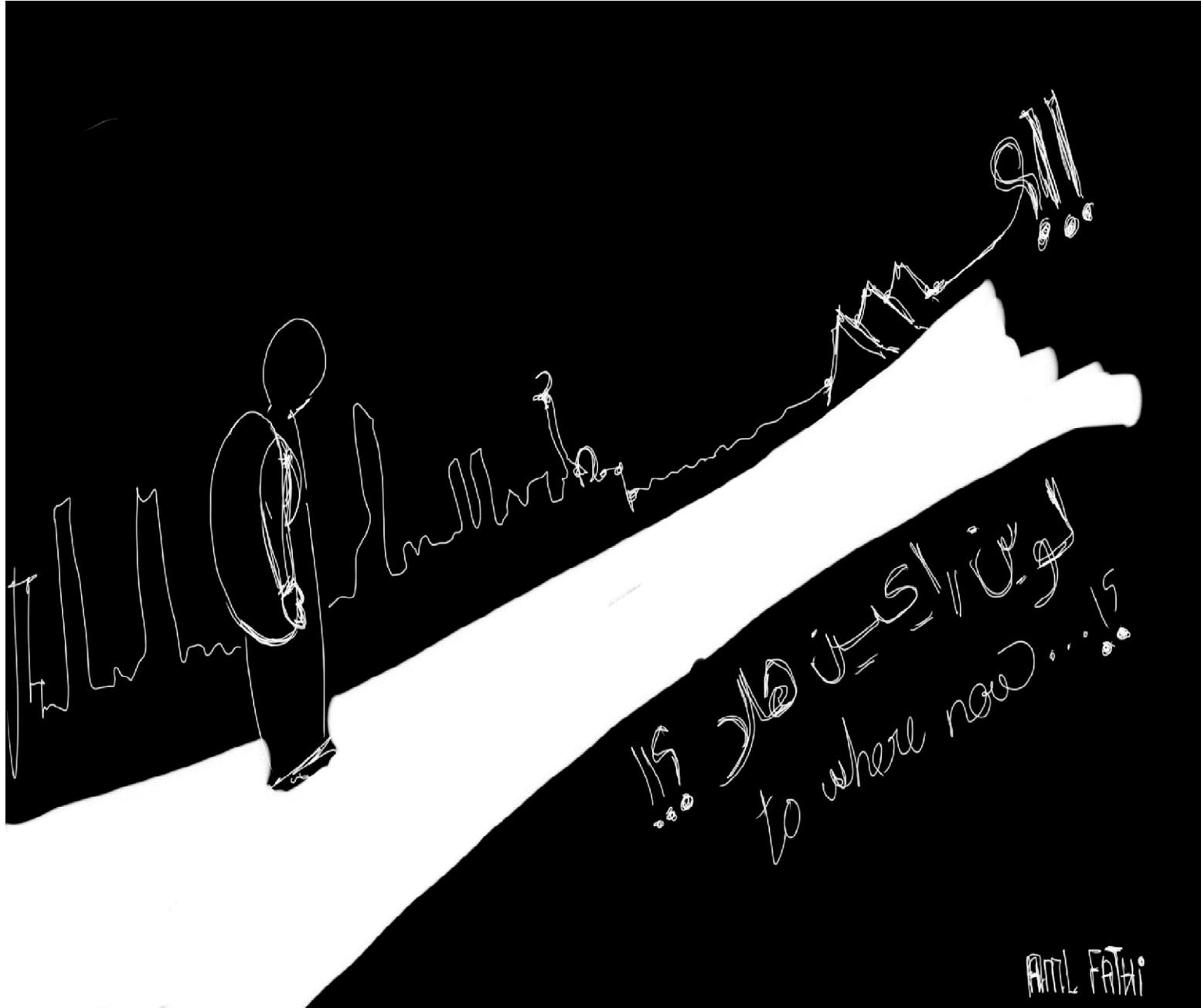
syrian      egyptian

integration



By Time

# **Economic Integration**



لوین / اکیین هان ۱۵  
to where now...! ۱۵

AMIL FATMI

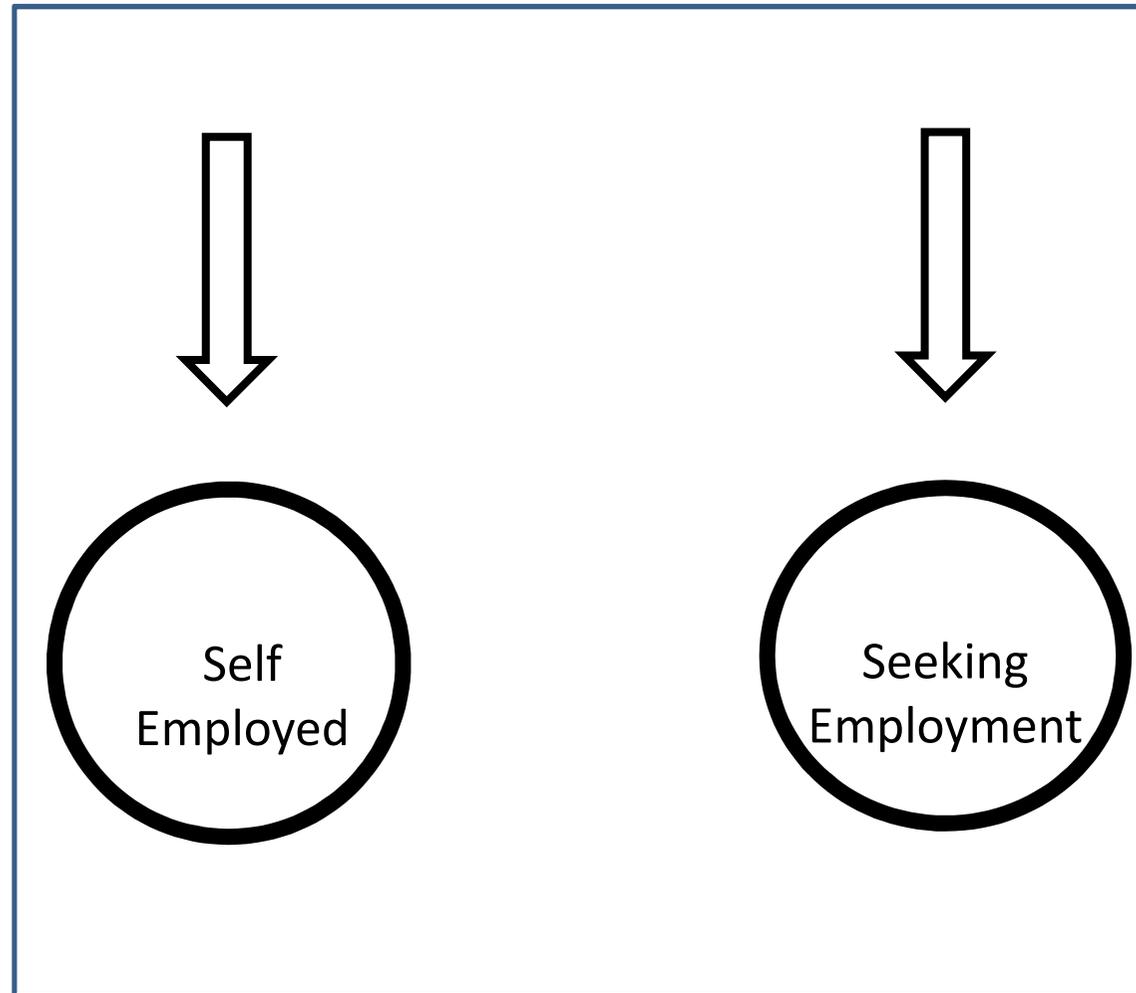
# Why Jobs

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# Kind of Work

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# Entrepreneurs

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## Who are you living with?

1-Family      2- A group of people.

This affects the kind of job they do and where they choose to live.

## Job finding journey

Most of them spend months trying to find jobs they're familiar with.

## What was your profession in Syria & What do you do here?

80% stated that their old profession is not their current one.

## What are the differences between working with Egyptians or Syrians?

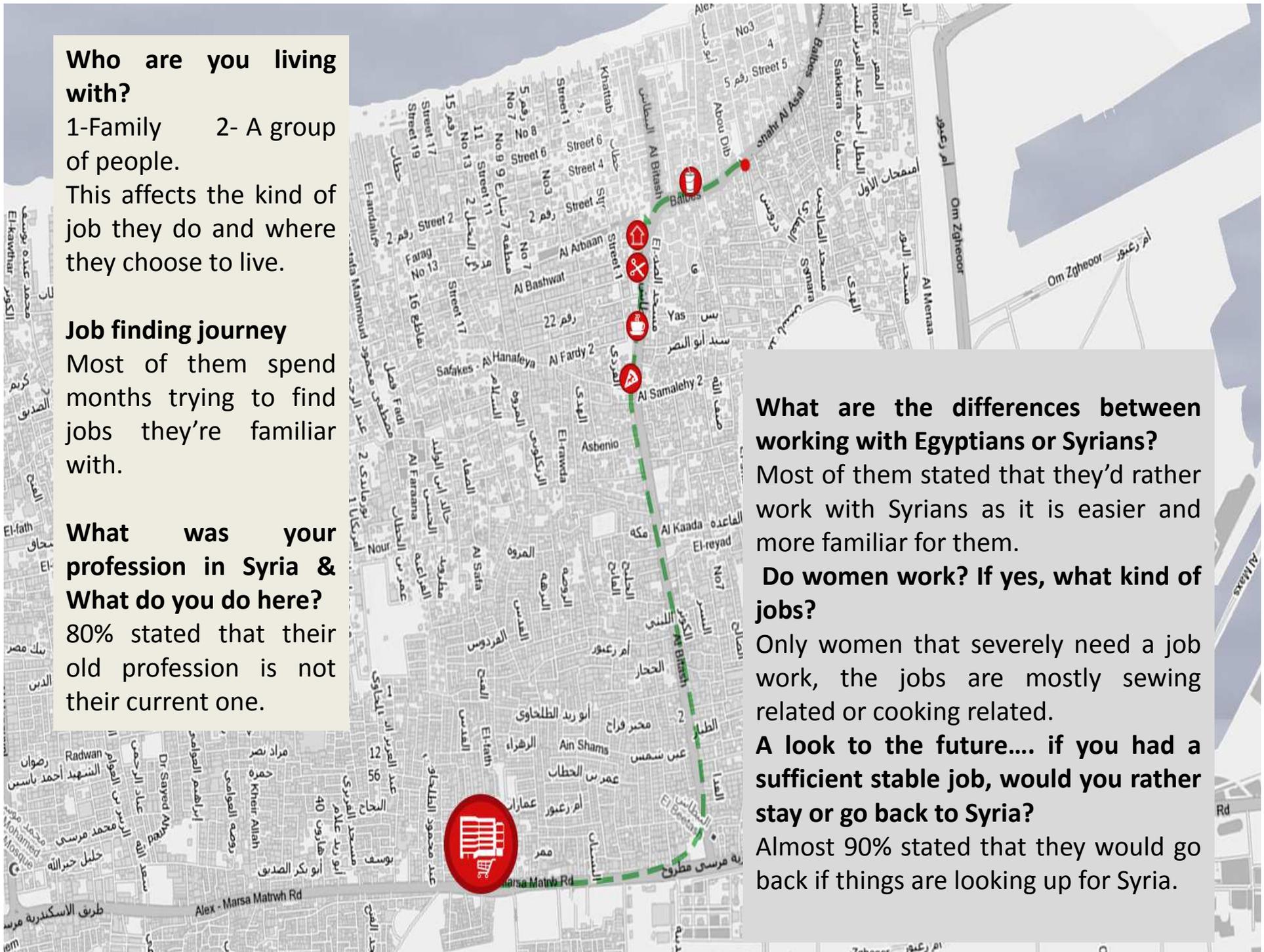
Most of them stated that they'd rather work with Syrians as it is easier and more familiar for them.

## Do women work? If yes, what kind of jobs?

Only women that severely need a job work, the jobs are mostly sewing related or cooking related.

## A look to the future.... if you had a sufficient stable job, would you rather stay or go back to Syria?

Almost 90% stated that they would go back if things are looking up for Syria.





مش عايز اتكلم , لو  
قعدت ساكت يبقى  
احسن

انا كنت بشتغل فى  
مجال الاعلانات.....و  
لم اجد وظيفة فى  
القاهرة

مش حاسس بالغيرة فى  
الشغل.....  
بس حاسسها اجتماعيا!

هما ولاد\*\*\*  
بس فايدنا

المصرى اللى شغال  
معاه رينا بعتهولى  
من السما

مفيش اى مشاكل....عم  
بنسوى باريكيو فى  
فيلا صاحب ابنى المصرى

هنا احسن من الاردن  
الحمد لله

# Inhabitant



he is a reach man live in a good  
apartment, 60 years old has 2 sons work in  
Customs.

# Inhabitant



Ahmed & Sayid live in the same apartment, Sayid has 2 children he is working in a company for 20 pounds per day, Ahmed is working as a driver they are poor, need money, fuel bad.



She is a woman who came with her family, escaped from the war, she prefers to live with the Arab people in the Agami district.

# Job Seekers



انا خجيت من سوريا ماشي  
محمد من قل احذية  
FATMAL FATMI  
25-3-2014

he refused at the beginning to talk then he said that he escaped from the syrian army walking on his own foot, he prefer working with syrians, it's easy to have a job in Egypt



فايز الكاشير  
عش حاسس بالخوف من الشغل... لكن حاسس بالانتماع  
FATMAL FATMI  
25-3-2014

he works as a cashier, he is 30 years old, feel so bad working with egyptians, lived with his wife & 3 children, his also imam in a muslim mosque ..!