

# **Kamran Khan - The Walled Slums : Through The Looking Glass Into Peshawar's Belly**

*tribune.com.pk. May ,2014.* Peshawar: It is said behind every beautiful face is a story. The same is true for the provincial capital or, as it was known in the halcyon days, the city of flowers.

Peshawar, which was once known for its clean air, greenery and quiet roads, has now turned into another disfigured urban sprawl.

As the semi-organic expansion continues, one really has to struggle to find glimpses of the old city. Some reasons behind the rural-to-urban migration are routine - more jobs and better education. Others are more pressing - displacement due to militancy and military operations. Regardless of the cause, more and more vehicles spill into the streets daily. And the city's resources and support systems are caving in under the pressure.

Read more: <http://tribune.com.pk/the-looking-glass-into-peshawars-belly/>

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## **Thathiana Gurgel - The Growing Middle Class Of Brazil's Slums**



Ills.: [thisbigcity.net](http://thisbigcity.net)

*thisbigcity.net*. May, 2014. Brazil's burgeoning middle class have an important place in the country's slums. This finding is part of a survey released by the newly created *Instituto Data Favela* which established that, in 2013, 65% of the country's slum-dwellers belonged to the middle class. In 2003, this proportion was 33%.

Celso Athayde, creator of youth group *Central Única de Favelas* (CUFA) and *Instituto Data Favela*, explains that the National Department of Strategic Affairs considers a family to be middle class, or 'class C' when their monthly income is in the range of R\$1,064 to R\$4,591 (US\$480 to \$2,060). "But we are not only interested in the middle class," he argues, "We want to benefit all community residents through sustainable and comprehensive development, achieved through economic avenues."

Somewhat inevitably, this research also showed that the lower classes have decreased in Brazil's slums. Class D (where income is between R\$768 and R\$1,064 ) and class E (income less than R\$768) fell from 65% in 2003 to 32% in 2013. Athayde believes this was achieved by an overall reduction in extreme poverty driven by the economic growth experienced across the country in recent years, which in turn has resulted in an increase of employment and entrepreneurship among the population.

Read more: <http://thisbigcity.net/the-growing-middle-class-of-brazils-slums/>

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# **The Wilson Center - Comparative Urban Studies Occasional Papers**

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The Wilson Center seeks to be the leading institution for in-depth research and dialogue to inform actionable ideas on global issues.

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The Wilson Center, chartered by Congress as the official memorial to President Woodrow Wilson, is the nation's key non-partisan policy forum for tackling global issues through independent research and open dialogue to inform actionable ideas for Congress, the Administration and the broader policy community.

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# **Open University - Social Housing and Working Class Heritage**

Social Housing: Winners and Losers - Social Housing and Working Class Heritage

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## **Brain Pickings**



Maria Popova. Photograph by Elizabeth Lippman for The New York Times

*Brain Pickings* is the brain child of Maria Popova, an interestingness hunter-gatherer and curious mind at large, who has also written for *Wired UK*, *The New York Times*, Harvard's Nieman Journalism Lab, and *The Atlantic*, among others, and is an MIT Futures of Entertainment Fellow.

*Brain Pickings* is a human-powered discovery engine for interestingness, a subjective lens on what matters in the world and why, bringing you things you didn't know you were interested in — until you are. Founded in 2006 as a weekly email that went out to seven friends and eventually brought online, the site was included in the Library of Congress permanent web archive in 2012. Here's a little bit about my 7 most important learnings from the journey so far.

Most of all, *Brain Pickings* is a record of my own becoming as a person — intellectually, creatively, spiritually — and an inquiry into that grand question of how to live, of what it means to lead a good life.

Enjoy: <http://www.brainpickings.org/>

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# Edward Glaeser - Triumph Of The City

Triumph of the City: how our greatest invention makes us richer, smarter, greener, healthier and happier

Speaker: Professor Edward Glaeser

Chair: Professor Henry Overman

This event was recorded on 14 March 2011 in Sheikh Zayed Theatre, New Academic Building

Building and maintaining cities is difficult and density has costs, but in this presentation Professor Edward Glaeser will argue that these costs are worth bearing, because whether in London's ornate arcades or Rio's fractious favelas, whether in the high rises of Hong Kong or the dusty workplaces of Dharavi, our

culture, our prosperity, and our freedom are all ultimately gifts of people living, working, and thinking together — the ultimate triumph of the city.