Spaces of Charisma and the Charisma of Spaces

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Outline

• Charisma and space?
• Weber: charisma and regimes
• Space and emergence & transformation of charisma
• Typology of 5 relations between space and charisma
  – Heritage sites (traditional regimes)
  – Futuristic places (rational / bureaucratic regimes)
• Nation-states & ideal types of charismatic places
• Zeche Zollverein is both (hybrid)
  – Changed from futuristic to heritage
  – Now combination of both
Charisma and space

- Charismatic leadership in (national) context
- Non-human charisma as social construction
  - Charismatic organizations
    - Animals
    - Comets
    - The frontier
    - Local business elite
    - Prosperous regions, Silicon Valley
    - Cities
- Charisma has been linked to space, but not studied systematically
Die drei reinen Typen legitimer Herrschaft

Three types of regime

• **Traditional**
  – Morality (*wertrational*)
  – *Past* success

• **Rational** (Bureaucratic)
  – Efficiency (*zweckrational*)
  – *Future* results

• **Charismatic**
  – Sudden revolutionary event
  – Extraordinary charismatic leader
The desert has produced many charismatic prophets
Emergence and transformation of charisma and space

- Charismatic leader revolutionizes established order from the outside
- Successful charismatic leader spreads control over territory
- Institutionalisation of charisma
- Transformation into other regime type
  - Rational bureaucratic (organisation of movement)
  - Traditional (legitimation by charismatic past)
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Monuments and Heritage sites

• Sites linked to charismatic past
• Legitimation of traditional regime
  – Morality
  – Past
• Constructions by present regime
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National pilgrimage Meteora

• Travel in space & time
• Original charisma
Table 1 Different types of charisma in time and space

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Present charisma in away places:
Health spa’s: Pamukkale
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The charisma of the Promised Land

- Promise of better land to be entered in future
- Contrast bad daily life
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Futuristic places:
Seattle:
space needle
Futuristic places

• Special symbolic sites
  – Constructed with political goal
• The better future is already visible and visitable today
• Legitimises bureaucratic regimes
  – Efficiency
  – Improve daily life in future
Futuristic places: Futuroscope
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Nationalism and backward and forward looking charismatic places: From ideal type to reality
Nationalism and transformation of the charisma of places: from backward to forward
Changing charismatic meaning of a place
Zeche Zollverein, Essen, Ruhr, Germany
Old image of Ruhr area
Changing image of Ruhr area: 1 Green
Changing image of Ruhr area: Exiting culture
Zeche Zollverein’s changing charisma

• Old charisma of winding tower
  – Coal basis industrialisation
  – Centre of local community: identification

• Zeche Zollverein: size matters
  – Futuristic place of 1920s (modernity)

• Connects now two types of spatial charisma
  – Heritage site industrial past (UNESCO, museum)
  – Futuristic place of new Ruhr area (Design)
Industrial charisma: winding tower
Two types of spatial charisma as regional policy

• State project
  – Hundredths of mio. Euro
  – Concentration of regional development
  – Icon for new identity:
    • Internal
    • External

• Link local and regional
  – Local charisma of industrial past
  – Regional charisma of a new and better future
    • Based on culture and creative economy
    • New design cluster: businesses, exhibitions, school
    • For whole Ruhr area

• Symbol for new Ruhr area
Charisma and Space

• Space important in creation charisma
• Charisma of space used for legitimation other regimes
• Charismatic place outside daily life in regime

• **Heritage site**
  – Good past
  – Morality
  – Backward looking traditional legitimation

• **Futuristic place**
  – Better future
  – Efficiency
  – Forward looking rational legitimation

• **Combination** of these ideal types help us understand symbolic places and their politics