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**ITAIM PAULISTA IN SÃO  
PAULO AND CAZENGA  
IN LUANDA, ONE  
OBSERVATION THAT  
WAS COMPARED**

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*Adilson João Tomé Manuel*

Architect and Urban Planner (2014), Master's (2016) Graduation (2018). Professor of the Undergraduate Course in Architecture and Urbanism at the institution: Centro Universitário INTA -UNINTA He also teaches at the Postgraduate Program in Hospital Architecture, City Management, UNINTA.

*Luis Octavio de Faria e Silva*

Architect (1989), Master (2001) Doctorate (2008) FAUUSP. Professor of the Post-graduation: stricto sensu: Architecture and USJT; coordinator of the course: Housing and city, Escola da Cidade; in the office: "Anália Amorim & Luis Octavio de Faria e Silva arquitetos".

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**Abstract:** Observation compared what search deepen the understanding in two neighborhoods slums, one in São Paulo, Brazil, and another in Luanda, Angola. This article brings clarifications on the forms of political-administrative division in those two cities and, the light in some references of bibliography, demand characteristics us neighborhoods observed that are clues about community structures present in them, in addition to reflect on the dimension of a community and its relationship with the segmentation of the territory. It starts from the premise that these urban areas are social phenomena dynamic and legitimate, thus removing the idea sometimes adopted that they would be anomalies in the city. Physical and dynamic characteristics of spaces are identified urban observed, in addition in signals in segregation socioeconomic and space, seeking to contribute to the understanding of what we understand as its Culture of construction. The procedures used here were the observation of cartography and data, in addition to their analysis in the light of texts on the construction of space urban.

**Keywords:** Slums in São Paulo-Luanda. Urban Structure. Structures communities.

When we observed the concreteness of the urban space, some questions arise. These questions can serve as a reference when we turn to an urban reality different from the one, that we would have previously dedicated ourselves, perhaps (and quite possibly) in this subsequent observation we will not find something that perfectly fits our previously established reference, but the simple referenced search can make us realize, with regard to an urban space, what are sometimes similar issues, other complementary ones and there are even circumstances in which, upon discovering that there is nothing equivalent, precisely because of this, a striking feature can

be made explicit.

This comparative observation strategy will be used here to deepen the understanding of the structure and dynamics of a neighborhood in the city of São Paulo, in Brazil, and another in the metropolitan area of Luanda, in Angola. The chosen neighborhoods are very precarious, located on the edges of the urban fabric of two large human agglomerations, with important challenges regarding the inclusion of their marginalized population both economically and spatially.

The objective is to better understand the contemporary human habitat and this choice is due to the fact that, when we consider the entire planet at the beginning of the millennium, they already house around one third of the world's urban population (DAVIS, 2006, p. 34), in a proportion that continues to grow according to information from the UN ([nacoesunidas.org](http://nacoesunidas.org)), these precarious neighborhoods that, therefore, represent one of the faces of the environment where, for better or worse, humanity has been established. Therefore, it is fundamental to understand these neighborhoods, having as a prerogative that there is a lot to be done to reduce the difficulties of those who live in them, but also that a lot of knowledge has been accumulated in their constitution processes, that is, that they are lived spaces and that bring lessons, and it is not possible to understand them as simply something to be removed.

Thus, the choice of precarious neighborhoods in São Paulo and Luanda is inserted in order to advance in the understanding of the current human habitat. Therefore, we seek to identify specificities, values and knowledge in this compound of housing, infrastructure and equipment that we refer to as Humanity's Habitat, today. Without losing sight of the dynamics present there, especially in terms of economic issues, we can perceive potentialities and paradoxes.

It is not intended to defend, it is important to emphasize, an expansion of the urban fabric with precariousness due to a review of paradigms with regard to dealing with the so-called precarious neighborhoods already established. It is understood, we repeat, that there is knowledge accumulated there that must not be discarded in the necessary and urgent task of rearranging our current way of dealing with the planet, for which a sustainable condition, both in environmental, social and economic terms, is essential. basic prerogative. In this sense, it is necessary to understand the lesson of compactness and encouraging the use of spaces of connection and mobility by pedestrians that we find in precarious neighborhoods in general, even if due to little or no attention from the Government and lack of access to credit and consumer goods. There are those who see these precarious neighborhoods as less voracious in terms of fuel consumption when compared to the so-called formal city, which may be the subject of further reflection and which already presents itself as a disturbing paradox.

Slums in São Paulo, Musseques in Angola, what do we learn by looking at these precarious spaces in a comparative way in terms of infrastructure, equipment, land tenure regularization and constructive stability?

In the city of São Paulo, one of the boroughs with the highest rate of precariousness is Itaim Paulista, at the eastern end of its territory. One of the Districts of this Subprefecture, also called Itaim Paulista, was defined as an object of observation. Having the present article, the perspective of understanding the urban space in peripheral regions of Luanda and São Paulo, the definition of Cazenga in Luanda as an area of analysis made the aforementioned district of Itaim Paulista, in the reality of São Paulo, present itself as a

region equivalent and comparable with that Angolan urban structure.

The Itaim Paulista district has also been the subject of research under the coordination of Prof. Ana Paula Koury, from "Universidade São Judas Tadeu" (USJT), in São Paulo, which featured related events, in which both information and possibilities for that area were gathered and processed, thus presenting themselves available for consultation and analysis, something who contributed to the realization of this article.

Thus, we present an approach to the District of Itaim Paulista that we want to scrutinize and purify here, making some conclusions and intuitions a motto to observe the community of Tala-Hady, in the municipality of Cazenga, part of the metropolitan area of Luanda, in Angola, which has dimensions and geomorphological characteristics that are similar to those of the urban segment in São Paulo.

Both areas (district of Itaim Paulista and community of Tala-Hady) have streams in their, so to speak, backbone and, very often next to these bodies of water, are precarious areas, here Slums, there Musseques.

There is, as we shall see, both in the São Paulo area and in Luanda, a mosaic of urban structures, produced either from a logic associated with the so-called formal city, or in a way understood as spontaneous, which makes use of strategies present in human agglomerations since ancient times. immemorial. We understand the fragments of this mosaic as neighborhoods, which are seen as bases of communities, at least latent in the District of Itaim Paulista, the section defined as the Silva Teles neighborhood will be observed more vigorously and in the Community of Tala-Hady the segment understood as district of Madeira.

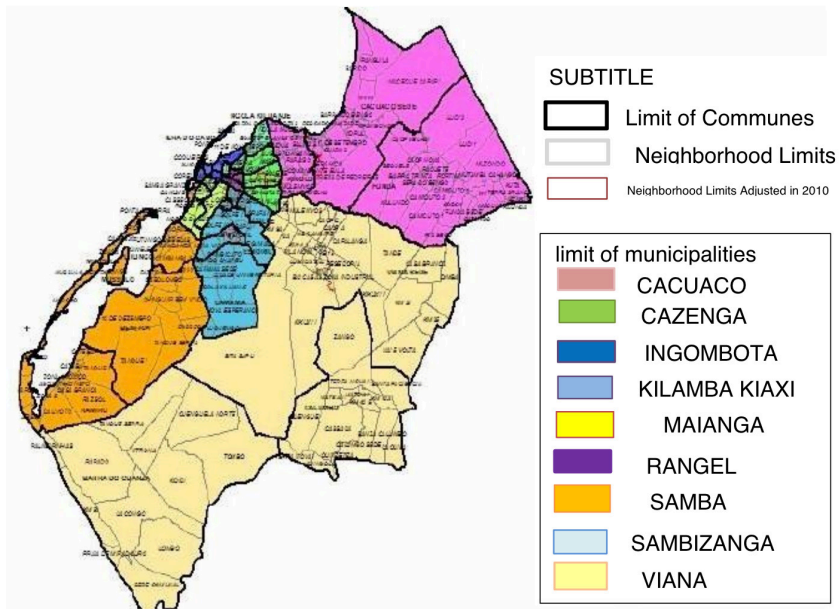


Figure.1 - Greater Luanda Map with its Municipalities (graphic scale equivalent to the Map of Figure 2). Source: *survey Development workshop, 2012*. Available in: <[http://bibliotecaterra.angonet.org/sites/default/files/dpa\\_presentation\\_novadpa.pdf](http://bibliotecaterra.angonet.org/sites/default/files/dpa_presentation_novadpa.pdf)>. Access october 10, 2015.



Figure. 2 - City map of São Paulo with emphasis on Itaim Paulista subprefecture.

Source: Available at:< <http://www.mapasparacolorir.com.br/mapa/municipio/sp/municipio-sao-paulo-subprefecturas-districts.jpg> >. Access: october 20, 2015.

It can be seen from the maps above (Figures 1 and 2) that, in terms of areas, the Municipality of São Paulo and the so-called Greater Luanda are comparable in administrative terms to what Greater São Paulo would be, the latter of very large dimensions.

The territorial divisions called Municipalities in Luanda are comparable in area to what we call Subprefectures in São Paulo. It will be important to identify the level of political independence in the so-called Municipalities of Luanda - to understand, therefore, the extent to which they are subject to a central power, as in the case of the São Paulo Subprefectures, whose representatives are defined by the Mayor of the Municipality of São Paulo, who has a territory which, as mentioned above, is equivalent to the metropolitan area of the Angolan capital as a whole.

Just as the Subprefectures in São Paulo are divided into Districts, the Municipalities of Luanda are divided into Communities. Both Districts of São Paulo and Communities of Luanda are made up of neighborhoods, which we can understand as the basic population unit of the two cities. City is the administrative territorial division in Luanda that is equivalent to the municipality in Brazil. Therefore, we have the Municipality of São Paulo and the City of Luanda as equivalent instances. The subprefectures, divisions of the municipality of São Paulo, are equivalent to the Angolan municipalities, locally called Municipal Administration. Districts here correspond to the Communities in Luanda. Precarious neighborhoods or slums here are called Musseques in Angola.

Although considering the political-administrative divisions of the two urban realities under observation, we will have as a reference the areas along the water bodies present in their landscapes, next to which

neighborhoods succeed each other and, therefore, at least potentially, communities that interact with each other.

The above objective of advancing in the understanding of contemporary human habitat, making use of two important urban agglomerations in the southern hemisphere, starts from the understanding that the city is a juxtaposition of communities, even though the hegemonic dynamics of globalization does not favor solidarity and cooperation (SANTOS, 2015) that is associated, in principle, with a community structure. It is even understood that sustainable management and construction of the city are only possible when these community structures are its foundations, its foundation.

Identifying community dynamics, to even promote actions to strengthen them, is a goal resulting from the comprehensive vision that is intended to be achieved in terms of human habitat.

Familiarizing oneself with the territorial divisions and with the landscape units associated with Hydrography is a strategy for approaching these basic population units, which are communities, "spatialized" in neighborhoods (which do not formally exist as a territorial division in the city of São Paulo, although the expression is present in the way São Paulo residents refer to their place of residence (in Luanda, in turn, Bairros are official subdivisions of the Communities), whose dimension is the subject of discussion far from finding consensus, possibly due to diversity of situations, but which in principle is related to a certain "community scale".

As a reference in the search for an understanding of what a community dimension would be, we can make use of some efforts undertaken by architects who, in relatively recent times, designed new neighborhoods and even cities that were born at once. In the project adopted for the

construction of Brasília, for example, the so-called superblocs were designed to house between 2,500 and 2,500 and 3,000 people (COSTA, 1995, p. 326), and a set of four of them would constitute a neighborhood unit with, therefore, from 10,000 to 12,000 people. Could we think that it was imagined there that communities would have as space the superblocs that, together with three others, would configure a neighborhood, understood as a neighborhood unit? Would a community be a group of three thousand people, something like a thousand families? This way, would we have a neighborhood with four thousand of them?

In the emblematic project for CECAP in Guarulhos, the team led by the architect Vilanova Artigas proposes “freguesias”, a traditional name to refer to a neighborhood unit, which would have low-gauge “double” buildings with 60 units each, organized into four blocks. eight buildings each (FERRAZ, 1997). The “freguesia”, therefore, would result in a set of 1,920 units, with a population of around 8,000 people.

The Egyptian architect Hassan Fathy, who became famous for leading the resettlement of a village called Gournia in his country of origin, whose process of analysis, identification of parameters of actions and procedures during the work, in addition to costs and difficulties, reported in a book that became a reference for the understanding of urbanism from the observation of relationships that are presented and, therefore, far from an arrogant attitude of those who develop solutions according to generic and hypothetical premises (FATHY, 1982), identified in a group of 7,000 people, potentially reaching 9,000 when they would supposedly find a certain balance, a community-based structure, even though it was not addressed in these terms by the aforementioned author.

These numbers reveal attention to relationships identified in certain existing contexts and sometimes derive from the understanding of infrastructure optimization and there are situations in which these procedures are intertwined, but it seems that these approximations tend to converge on a population scale of a neighborhood and for an arrangement with dynamics that we can read as communitarian.

What is the population of a neighborhood in São Paulo? And from Luanda? Is it possible, in these São Paulo and Angolan neighborhoods, to find situations that refer to an average of the numbers presented here as a first approximation? Are there marked differences between the size of a community in São Paulo and Luanda?

Through the observation of maps and photographs, it is intended here, starting from administrative political divisions and hydrography, but transcending especially that fragmentation often detached from effective socio-economic relations, to investigate how supposed community structures are spatially organized. The idea is to reflect on their articulation or juxtaposition in neighborhoods, whose limits or lines of contact are intended to be discussed.

Readings of the physical basis of the city have been carried out from the identification of some references, among which the limits between its parts (LYNCH, 1997) - the question is whether these limits refer to lines of contact between community structures and also if these they are rooted or, in other words, meanings and references have been sedimented in the landscape transformed by the human hand, revealing, more or less explicitly, a geomorphology and hydrography prior to their presence there.

Boundaries are linear elements, generally used or understood as paths by the observer. They are borders, linear breaks in continuity,

such as riverbanks, railways, spaces under construction, walls and walls. They are lateral references rather than coordinate axes. These limits can be more or less penetrable barriers that separate one region from another, but they can also be seams, lines along which two regions relate and meet (Figs 3 and 4). Although they may not be as dominant as the road system, for many these boundary elements are important organizational characteristics, especially in terms of giving unity to different areas, as in the contour of a city by water or wall. (LYNCH, 1997, p. 52). Streets can be understood as references that define the limits of a given territory, both external and internal, delimiting different sectors or neighborhoods, towns, districts, communities and municipalities.

There are boundaries of the Subprefecture of Itaim Paulista (Figure 5) that are reasonably clear and perceptible: this occurs when avenues constitute its boundaries, such as Avenida Marechal Tito, Avenida Córrego Três Pontes and the Itaquera-Itaquera stream. Within the same Subprefecture, there are blocks separated from each other by spaces that we can understand as limits on a local scale.

In the Municipality of Cazenga (Figure 6), whose limits are formed to the south by Avenida Deolinda Rodrigues or "Estrada de Catete", to the west Estrada do Tunga Ngo or "Estação dos Musseques", to the north the "Estrada do Cacuaco", and to the east the Estrada do Contorno from Pombal or Gamek station. At the local scale, the limits are less evident because the spatial organization, resulting from uncontrolled occupation, does not rely on clearly defined streets, even though access is provided through them, in addition to housing any and all leisure activities.

In the municipality of São Paulo, one of the boroughs with the highest rate of precariousness is Itaim Paulista and in Luanda

it is the municipality of Cazenga. Both have streams in the side, so to speak, backbone and, very often next to these bodies of water, are precarious areas, we have the slums.

There is, as we shall see, both in the São Paulo area and in Luanda, a mosaic of urban structures, produced either from a logic associated with the so-called formal city, or in a way understood as spontaneous, which makes use of strategies present in human agglomerations since ancient times. immemorial. We understand the fragments of this mosaic as neighborhoods, which are seen as community bases, at least latent – in the District of Itaim Paulista, the stretch defined as the stream of Lajeado (Jardim Silva Teles neighborhood – Figure 7) will be observed more vigorously. and in Tala-Hady Community, the segment understood as a tributary of the Cambambe River (Madeira district – Figure 8).

Houses in the Madeira district (Tala-Hady) are generally built of concrete blocks and covered with zinc plates (Figure 10). Many of them are in a permanent process of construction, since their owners take some years to build them. According to CAZENGA, Atlas 2012, the construction of their own house in Tala-Hady (Cazenga) represents a great effort on the part of families, something that we can also say with regard to Itaim Paulista. In both cases, although with local specificities, we see precariousness that are the result of urban realities marked by inequalities and, to some extent, spatial segregation.

In the city of São Paulo, there are land tenure regularization programs, linked to some urban improvements. The perspective of regularization and consequent guarantee of a place in the city is, in the case of São Paulo, an important instrument of Housing Policy in the struggle of a large contingent of residents of precarious neighborhoods in search of socio-economic integration



Figures 3 and 4: Streams of Cambambe in Cazenga and Lajeado in Itaim Paulista, which can be knowledgeable as Limits in between parts of the occupation urban. Source: Author, 2015.

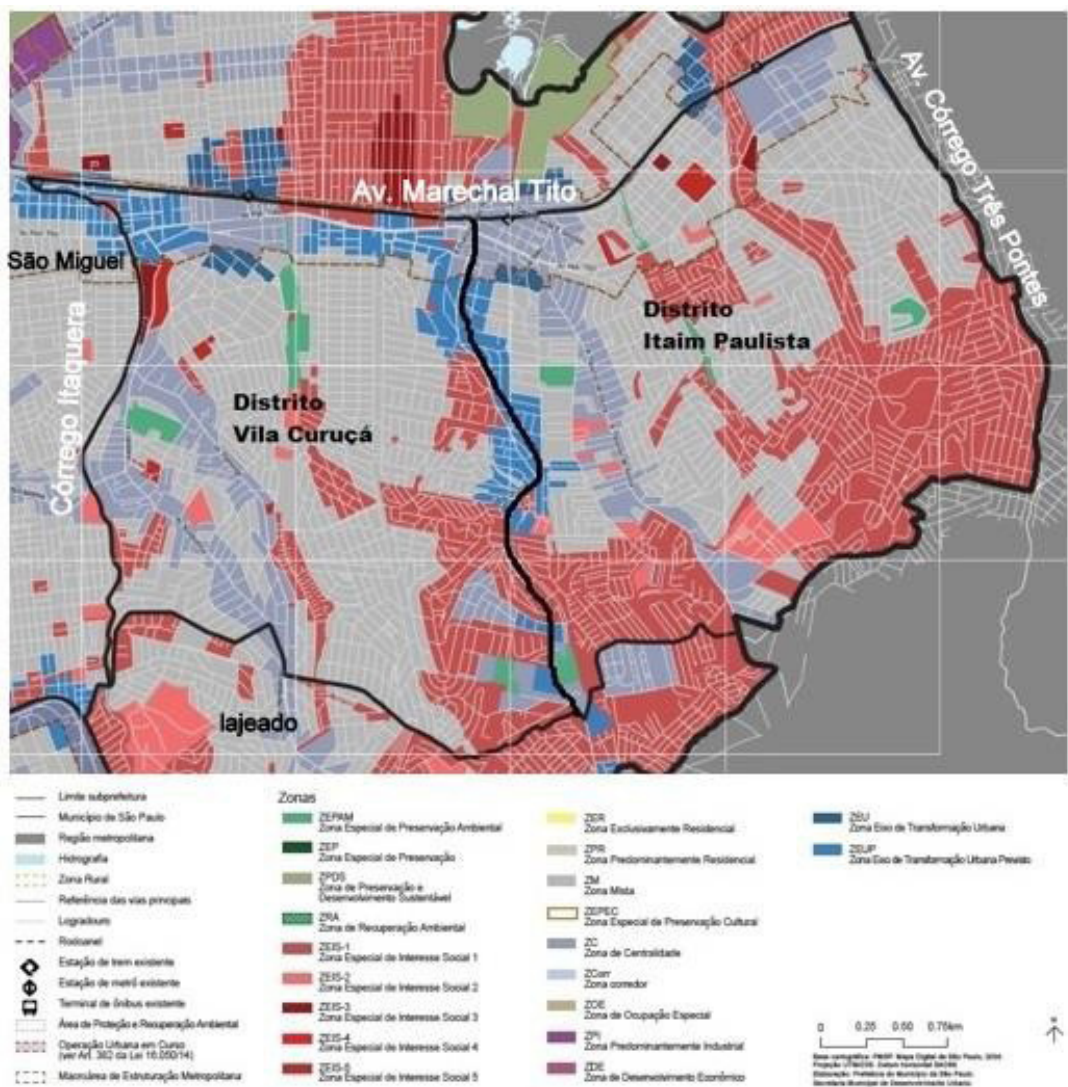


Figure 5: Limits of the subprefecture and From Districts of Itaim Paulista.

Source: Elaborated by the author with bases of the PMSP (Digital map of São Paulo), 2016.

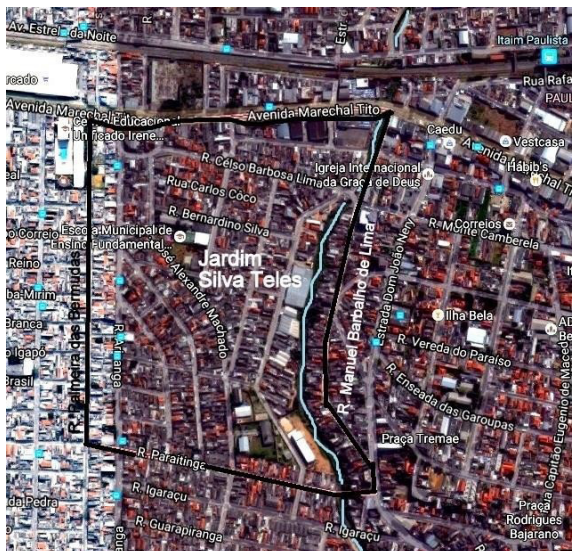




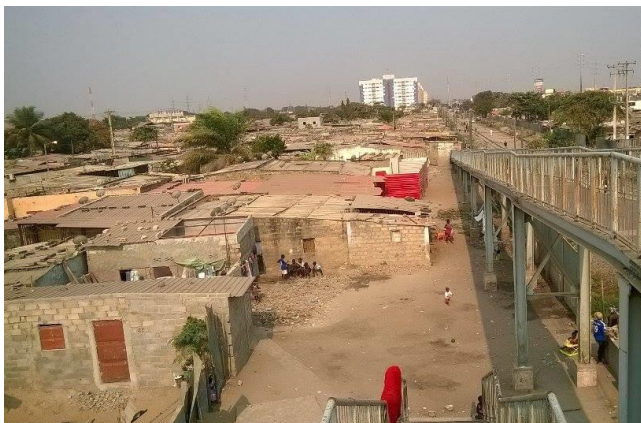
ASSENTAMENTOS RURAIS- RURAL SETTLEMENTS  
 AUTOCONSTRUÇÃO DIRIGIDA- DIRECTED SELF-CONSTRUCTION  
 BAIRRO POPULAR- POPULAR NEIGHBORHOOD  
 HABITAÇÕES SOCIAIS - SOCIAL DWELLINGS  
 MUSSEQUES ANTIGOS - OLD MUSSEQUES  
 MUSSEQUE DE TRANSIÇÃO- TRANSITION MUSSEQUE  
 MUSSEQUES ORDENADOS- ORDERED MUSSEQUES  
 MUSSEQUES PERIFERICOS - PERIPHERAL MUSSEQUES  
 URBANIZAÇÃO ANTIGA - OLD URBANIZATION  
 URBANIZAÇÃO NOVA - NEW URBANIZATION  
 ZONA INDUSTRIAL- INDUSTRIAL ZONE

Figures. 6 – Limits of the Municipality of Cazenga, and of the communities.

Source: *Development Surveyworkshop*, 2012. Available in: < <http://cazenga.forum.angonet.org/> >. Access: october 21, 2015.



Figures 7 and 8 - indication of the position of Bairro Jardim Silva Teles, and Bairro do Madeira.  
 Source:Elaborate fur author with base map Google maps, 2015.



Figures. 9 and 10: Type of housing in the district: Bairro da Madeira and Jardim Silva Teles.  
 Source: Author, 2015.

(AZEVEDO, 2007, p.14). It is identified, even so, that there is a lack of a Housing Policy that leads to the appropriation of urban space in a balanced way.

Cazenga grows every day, with new people arriving in Luanda looking for jobs and housing. The arrival of so many people have an impact on the type of housing available, the state of the streets, and the physical hazards people may face. (CAZENGA, Atlas 2012)

Both in the district of Itaim Paulista and in the Community of Tala-Hady, there is a fierce dispute for each m<sup>2</sup> in their already densely occupied neighborhoods, including irregularly on the edges of the streams of Lajeado and Cambambe, where virtually no green areas are visible.

With regard to local economic activities, some data end up bringing the neighborhoods under observation closer together. In both, we can see the important presence of work related to sewing, in Cazenga there is a peculiar form of work of the Bairro da Madeira (also present in most of Angola) which is that of the seamstresses in the open air, who do not have a workshop or protected space for their productive activity is an artisanal subsistence practice, where everyone learns the craft at home or on the street and provides services to the community (Figure 11).

While Itaim Paulista, the sewing activity (Figure 12), and the local informal commerce (Figures 13 and 14), also represent an important source of income, where a program called "São Paulo Costurando o futuro" ("building the future") was even implemented, a project SEMDET (Municipal Secretariat for Economic and Labor Development), in partnership with SENAI, SEBRAE-SP, the USP School of Arts, Sciences and Humanities (USP East region), Singer do Brasil, in addition to the Municipal Departments of Education and Coordination of Subprefectures, which in its official communication expresses the

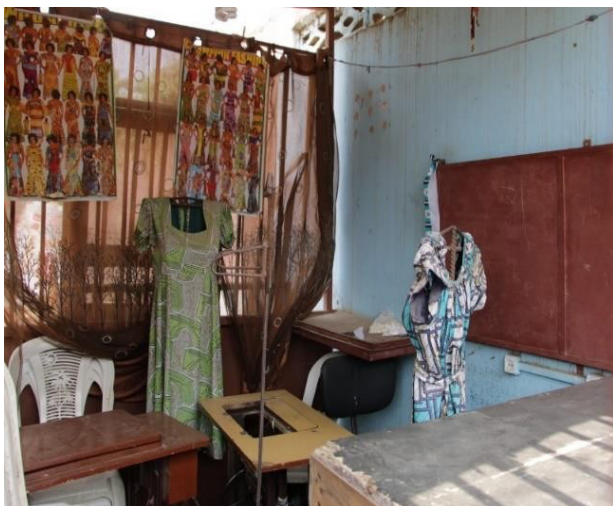
intention to qualify people from the eastern region of the capital in the sewing area and refers to companies in Itaim Paulista, one of which produces women's blouses, which make use of this local workforce.

Known as Zungueiras (Figure 15), the women who are "na zunga", an expression used to refer to street vendors, walk around the neighborhood and live on this service, an alternative to hunger in a country with few jobs. Other women's groups establish an informal market for the sale of various products on their own streets (Figure 16). It is customary to sell corn, bananas and peanuts at the door, straight from the countryside, roasted on stoves.

The table below (Figure 17) shows that the municipality of Cazenga and the Subprefecture of Itaim Paulista have comparable areas in km<sup>2</sup>. On the other hand, in terms of total average population density, the municipality of Cazenga is denser.

The population of the Municipality of Cazengais almost triple that of the subprefecture of Itaim Paulista. The Community with the highest population density is Tala Hady, due to the musseques of Vila Flor, Vila da Mata, and the neighborhood of Madeira, which are slums in risky areas, close to the stream of a tributary of the Cambambe River.

Based on the averages indicated above and the observation of occupation in the neighborhoods of Jardim Silva Teles, in Itaim Paulista, and Madeira, in Cazenga, it is estimated that the former has a population of 4,839 inhabitants on approximately 40 ha and the latter of 8,997 in less than 20 ha. In relation to the considerations raised above on the appropriate dimensions of neighborhoods, present in the projects of the superblocs of Brasília, in the CECAP parishes of Guarulhos and in Nova Gourná, in Egypt, without going into the merit of the occupied surfaces, it can be seen that the neighborhood of Madeira



Figures 11 and 12: Workshop of Sewing at the Cazenga and at the Itaim paulista. Source: Author, 2015 and subprefecture Itaim Paulista. Available in: <[http://www.prefeitura.sp.gov.br/cidade/secretarias/subprefeituras/itaim\\_paulista/noticias/?p=50264](http://www.prefeitura.sp.gov.br/cidade/secretarias/subprefeituras/itaim_paulista/noticias/?p=50264)>. Access october 22, 2015.



Figures. 13 and 14 – Business informal in the streets of Itaim Paulista. Source: Author, 2015



Figures. 15 and 16 - Business informal in the streets of Cazenga. Source: Marcelo Fleet, 2015

Subprefecture County	Community District	Area (Km <sup>2</sup> )	Population(2010)	Density Demographic (Inhabitants/km <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Cazenga</b>	Hoji ya henda	13,462	91,836	6,821
	Cazenga	14,761	494,346	33,490
	Tala Hady	10,841	276,167	25,474
Total	3	39,064	862,349	22,075
<b>Itaim paulista</b>	Itaim Paulista	12.0	224,074	18,673
	Vila Curuçá	9.7	149,053	15,366
Total	2	21.70	373,127	17,195

Figure. 17-Table comparative elaborate fur author with data of Itaim paulista and of Cazenga.

Source: Prepared by author with base in the atlas Cazenga and IBGE, 2010.

it has a population equivalent to what was considered a base structure for neighborhood relations, with the Silva Teles neighborhood having half of this contingent of people. Is it possible, from these approximations, to identify the spatialization of a community structure?

In this sense, in Itaim Paulista and Cazenga, we perceive spatialities, which are consequences of appropriations by their residents, not only functional, but also forms of life expression and communication of their residents/builders that determine configurations, never static, always in motion, generating a differentiated and conflicting space, determined exactly by its uniqueness. What is most unique about them in relation to other places in the city is the form of appropriation of their collective spaces and the intensity with which they live in it, which we can see as evidence of community relations, something that must be preserved when urban interventions are proposed. and which must serve as an example for the spatial configuration of the so-called formal city.

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