

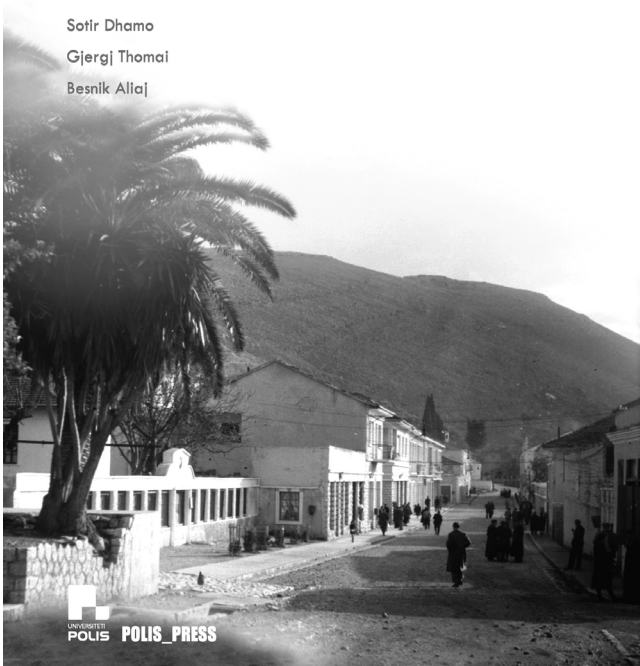
Saranda, Qyteti i Munguar -Saranda, The Absent City

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SARANDA QYTETI I MUNGUAR

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The book "Saranda, the Absent City", by the authors Sotir Dharmo, Gjergj Thomai, Besnik Allaj (2022), delves into the layers of a city's history, exploring the moments and factors that shaped its perception, continuation, and transformation. The authors provide a narrative which unfolds as a testament to the city's hidden soul, a source of both nostalgia and the imaginary of the transformative process. In a time when cities struggle to define their identity, "The Absent City" defines the importance of research focused on the city, emphasizing its relevance for future values and actions. This book is focused on the narrative is the concept of the absent city, a dichotomy between the real and imaginary, or the existing and desired city. The quest for understanding becomes a journey to investigate and revive a series of absent cities. As a continuation of the series, "Saranda" further explores the impact of change on the city. The authors focus into projects, visions, and the intellectual energy invested in designing the city, examining their profound effects on its future trajectory and to contemplate the intricate relationship between thought, action, and the evolving urban landscape.

The authors employ a mix of descriptive and analytical language to describe the complexity of the city's evolution which it feels very fluently. The rhythm is likely deliberate, as the narrative seems to unravel the layers of the city's history, emphasizing the significance of each element in shaping its identity. This prudent rhythm suggests a thorough and reflective approach to the narrative which indicates a description of a blend of nostalgia and forward-looking optimism. The author seems to balance the exploration of the city's past with a focus on its potential for positive transformation of the various metaphysical systems of knowledge. The contemplative nature of the writing may require readers to invest time in reflecting on the concepts presented, making it a more immersive but potentially demanding reading experience. Overall, the authors' aims to provide a well-suited approach for those who enjoy thought-provoking and intellectually stimulating narratives about the

dynamics of urban development. The book appears to follow a well-organized structure, progressing chronologically through key periods in Saranda's development. The inclusion of "Aspects of the absent city" in each chapter suggests a consistent thematic thread, providing coherence to the overall narrative. Several major themes emerge from the structure outlined. The highlighted theme appears to revolve around the concept of the "absent city," emphasizing the disparity between envisioned plans and the actual development of Saranda. The effectiveness of conveying themes will depend on the author's ability to balance detail with accessibility. The detailed exploration of plans and projects must be accompanied by clear explanations and contextualization, especially for readers less acquainted with urban planning terminology. The recurring theme of the "absent city" should resonate with readers interested in urban studies, but it's crucial to ensure that the narrative remains engaging and does not become overly academic.

The inclusion of the theme, "Aspects of the absent city," adds a layer of continuity and reflection, emphasizing the disparity between envisioned plans and actual urban development. The authors' commitment to exploring the historical, professional, and contextual aspects of each period is commendable and contributes to a nuanced understanding of Saranda's identity. The book's strengths lie in its detailed examination of regulatory plans and designed projects, offering valuable insights into the factors shaping the city. The thematic exploration of professional situations, tourism, and the impact of plans adds richness to the narrative. Constructively, there is a potential challenge regarding pacing and accessibility, particularly for readers less familiar with urban planning terminology. Ensuring clarity in conveying complex ideas and finding a balance between depth and accessibility will be crucial to maintaining reader engagement. In summary, "Saranda, the Absent City" is a commendable exploration of urban development, offering a thorough examination of Saranda's history. With a focus on balancing detail and accessibility, the book has the potential to engage a

diverse readership interested in urban studies and the dynamics of city planning. The inclusion of the recurring theme, "Aspects of the absent city," adds a layer of continuity and reflection, emphasizing the disparity of the absent city, a dichotomy between the real and imaginary, or the existing and desired city, emphasizing its relevance for future values and actions. The author's commitment to exploring the historical, professional, and contextual aspects of each period is commendable and contributes to a nuanced understanding of Saranda's identity.