

**Title of Article:** The Spatial Economy of Abjection: The Evacuation of Maroko Slum in Nigeria

**Author(s):** Folarin, S.F.

**Outlet:** Encountering the Nigerian State, Palgrave-Macmillan, USA, 2010, pp. 55-78

**Date:** 2014

**Abstract:** Government policies in relation to ownership of landed property, acquisition of estates and tenancy, it can be argued have exacerbated the problems of poverty and spatial abjection in Nigeria. This chapter re-considers the spatial economy of abjection in Nigeria with a specific focus on evacuations of people, usually the poor and powerless, from shanties, slums and other gloomy sites in the major conurbations around the country. The chapter uses the case of evictions from the Maroko slum in Lagos as a typical example of the disempowerment that is invested, reflected and institutionalized in slums particularly in terms of their spatial, social, economic and political relations with the state and persons, groups, and institutions that control or have access to the state and its resources. Whether considered from the 'traditional' urban political economy paradigm or from the paradigm of postmodern urbanism – which lay emphasis on the spatial dynamics of urban landscape stressing their contested nature, particularly in terms of who belongs where and with what entitlements or citizenship rights – the case of Maroko reveals interesting perspectives on the spatial encounters of disempowered social forces with the typical postcolonial state.