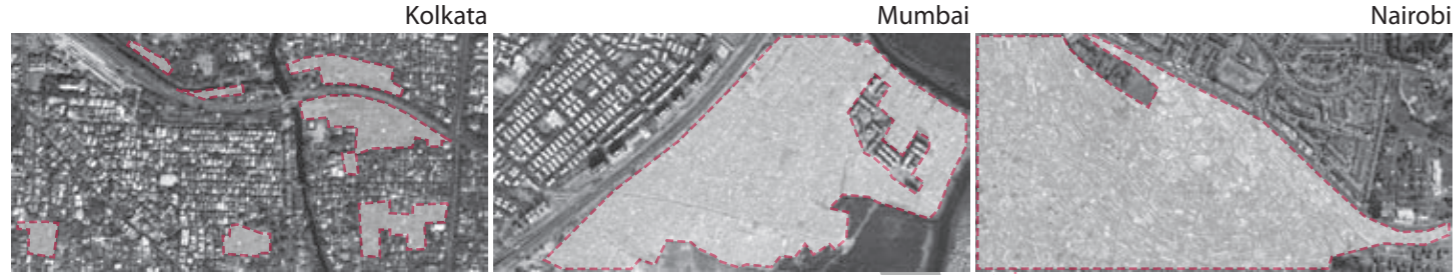


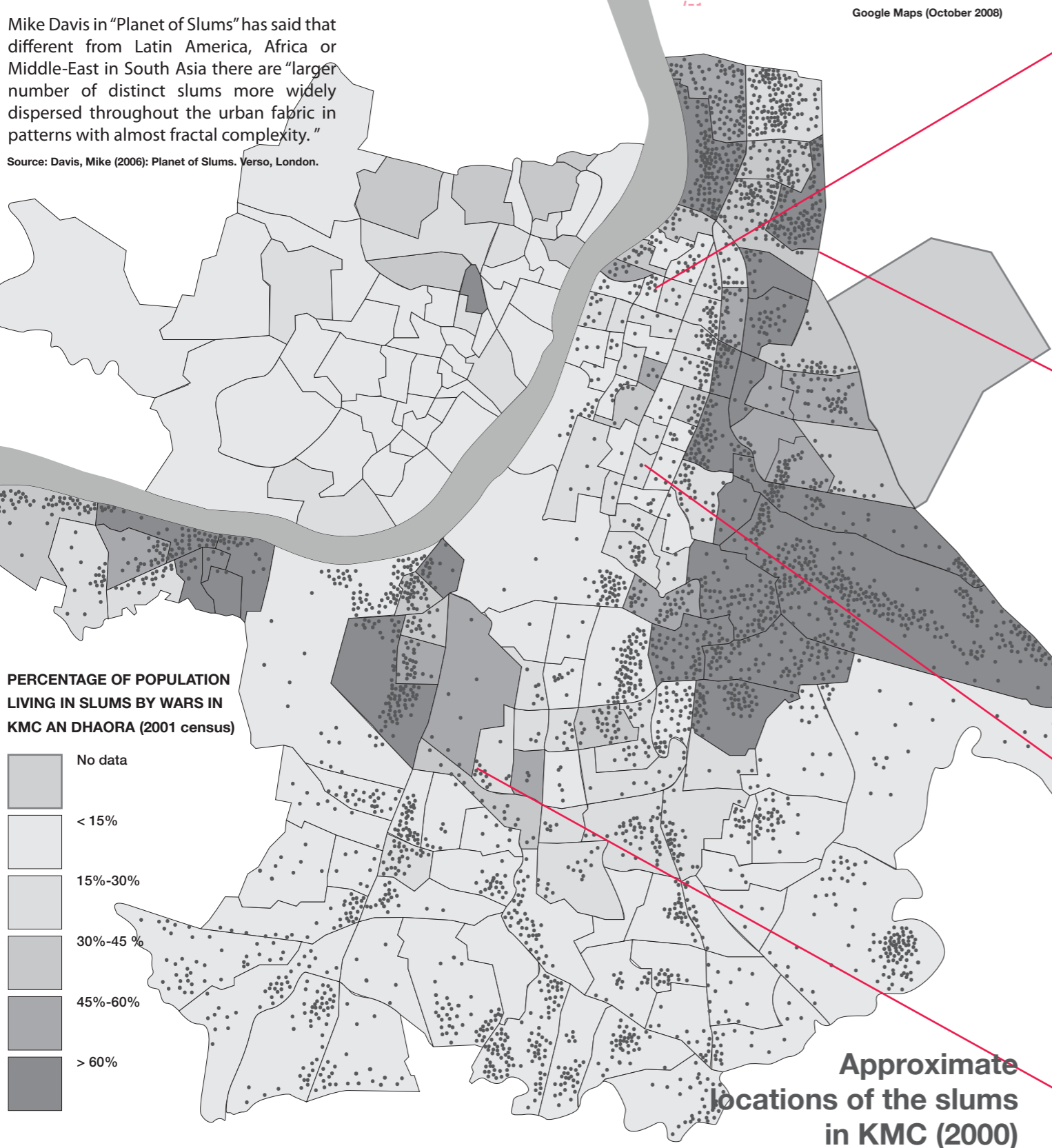
# INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS

## Kolkata



Mike Davis in "Planet of Slums" has said that different from Latin America, Africa or Middle-East in South Asia there are "larger number of distinct slums more widely dispersed throughout the urban fabric in patterns with almost fractal complexity."

Source: Davis, Mike (2006): Planet of Slums. Verso, London.



Approximate locations of the slums in KMC (2000)

Migration

Location / density

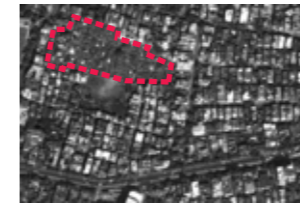
Built by

Ownership of land

Materials / legal state

Types of informal settlement

In separate heterogeneous waves from neighbouring districts and states to look for work and better living.



Within city, near industries



Landlord



Dwellers



Landlord



KMC



Semi-pucca



Pucca



Legal

Alternative spelling for bustee is "Basti". In Bengali it means a habitation, dwelling, residence or colony.



Bustee

"Thika tenant" - any person who occupies land under another person.

Bustee

Together, homogeneous groups. Most refugees from East-Bengal / Bangladesh, especially around 1947, in mid-1960s and in 1970s.



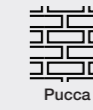
Outskirts of the city, by land used for cultivation or canals



KMC



KMC



Pucca



Legal

"Pucca" - "cooked" structures; built to endure; either of bricks, cement, roofing tile, etc. Also spelled as "pukka" or "pakka".



Refugee Colonies

Refugee Colonies

Disperse, flowing. Many stay in the same place for a longer period, leaving one's things along the street during the day.



On streets, under bridges



Dwellers



Landlord



KMC



Kutcha, tents



Illegal

"Kutcha" - "crude"; structure of temporary nature; built either of mud brick, bamboo, thatch, etc. Also spelled as "kuccha" or "kaccha".



Settlements of homeless

Settlements of homeless

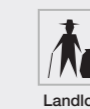
Heterogeneous, flowing. Mostly from neighbouring districts and states to work either seasonally or for a longer period.



Along roads, railway, canals



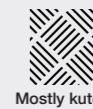
Dwellers



Landlord



KMC



Mostly kutcha



Illegal

"Juhpri" - a settlement along streets  
"Kaldhar" - along canals, bodies of water  
"Udbustee" - along railway

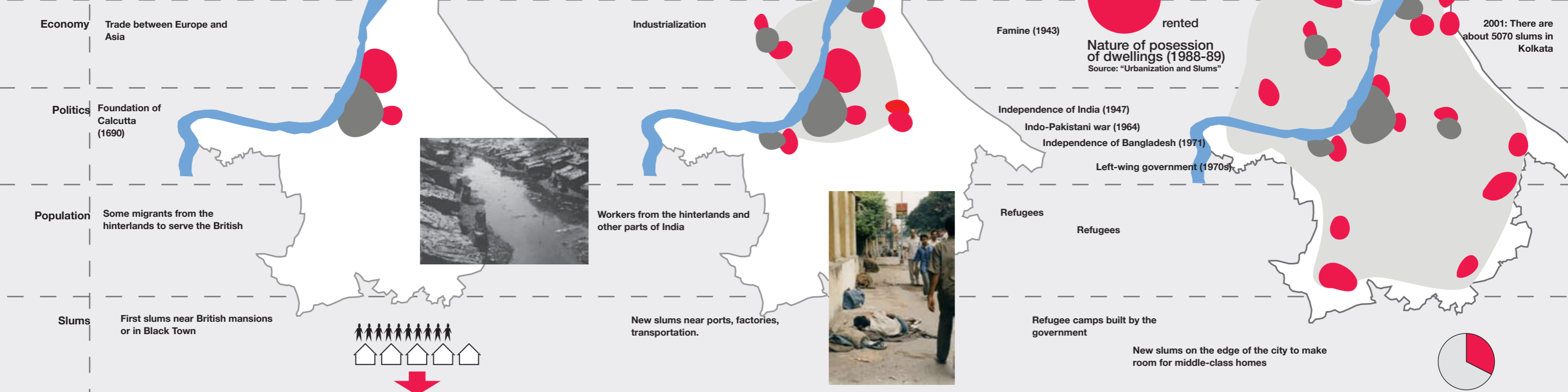


Squatter settlements

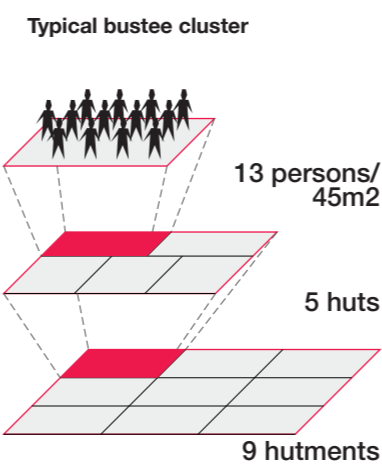
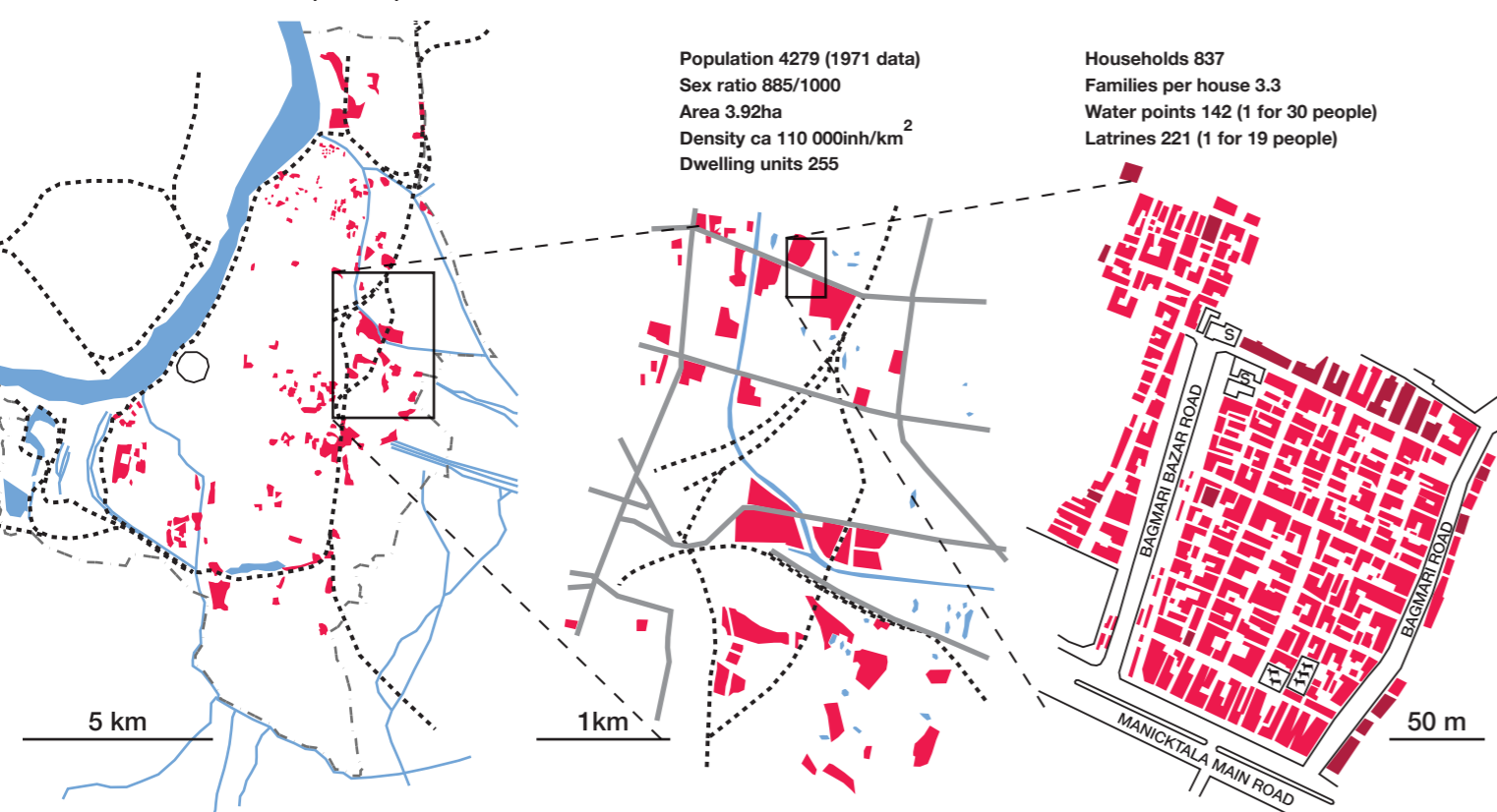
Squatter settlements

# INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS

## Timeline



### Portrait of Manicktala bustee (1981-82)



**Calcutta Municipal Act (1899)**

- A cluster of huts or structures occupying an area of at least 10 katthas (about 1/6th of an acre) of land, - not exceeding in aggregate, area of one bigha (1/3rd acre).

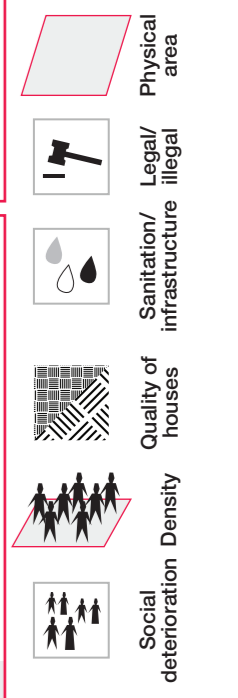
- bearing a premises number or occupying two or more plots of land which are adjacent to one another and

- dirty run-down housing,  
 - a densely populated usually urban area marked by crowding,  
 - poverty, and social disorganization

Merriam-Webster Online (Oct. 2008)

- Inadequate access to safe water;  
 - Inadequate access to sanitation and other infrastructure;  
 - poor structural quality of housing  
 - overcrowding  
 - insecure residential status

UN Expert group (2002)



Sources: Racine, Jean (Ed.) (1990): Calcutta 1981: the City, its Crisis and the Debate on Urban Planning and Development. Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi; Thomas, Frederic C. (1997): Calcutta Poor. Elegies on a City above Pretense. An East Gate Book, London/New York.; Bardhan Roy, Maitreyi (1994): Calcutta Slums: Public Policy in Retrospect. Minerva, Calcutta.

Sources: Roy, Prodipto/Das Gupta, Shangan (Ed.) (1995): Urbanization and Slums. Har-Anand Publications, New Delhi; Ramaswamy, Venkateswar (2008?): The City from Here: Urban Development and Slum communities in Kolkata. In: Does Culture Make A Difference?: Progress and Development in India and Its Implications for International Cooperation: Conference Papers. Seagull Books, Calcutta; Kundu, Nitai (2003): UNDERSTANDING SLUMS: Case Studies for the Global Report on Human Settlements 2003. The Case of Kolkata, India; (2003) The Challenge of Slums: Global Report on Human Settlements. Part 1. UN-Habitat; merriam-webster.com (October 2008)