Lifestyle – Info-ed

Two Worlds Apart
光照不到的角落

Episodes: 8 x 60 mins
Language: Chinese
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Producer: Threesixzero Productions
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This series explores the slums that crept up, unplanned and went on to carve out a space in major famous cities. Besides delving into these glaring and yet little-known aspects of these cities, we catch a glimpse into the lives of the slums' inhabitants. We probe into how these cities manage their housing problems amidst rapid development, and see how the locals prepare to deal with these crises.

Information correct at time of printing

Episode 1: Seoul. Korea
Once one of the poorest areas in the world, "the miracle on the Han River" has seen a meteoric rise to become a bustling global metropolis. But deep in the glamorous Gangnam area lies the "last shanty town of Seoul" where makeshift dwellings have mushroomed, forming a considerable settlement. While the city continues to thrive, prosperity seems to have sidestepped its poorest inhabitants.

Episode 2: Marseille. France
Although the French advocates "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity", here lives the Romani people who have been ostracized for generations. Living in fenced illegal clusters next to the railway, they keep to themselves. Is deep-seated discrimination keeping them from integrating into the French society?

Episode 3: Osaka. Japan
Many people would think Japan has no poverty. Just next to the bustling shopping district in Osaka, there is Kamagasaki, the largest slum in Japan. After the economic bubble burst in the 90s, blue-collar workers here lost their jobs, while marginalized people move here for the low cost of living.

Episode 4: Istanbul. Turkey
In Istanbul, one of Europe's wealthiest cities, a huge divide stands between the classy Istiklal Street and the adjoining area of Tarlabasi. The city's oldest slum Tarlabasi is infamous among locals for its widespread crime. Yet the rundown neighbourhood is a vibrant kaleidoscope of diverse ethnicities and cultures, drawing in refugees, migrant workers and the poor who forge on despite adversity.

Episode 5: Ho Chi Minh City. Vietnam
Along the rivers and canals of Ho Chi Minh City, the financial hub of Vietnam, are thousands of families living in shanty houses, where highly polluted water emits foul smell. In the middle of the city itself, is a slum where residents live in dark, tiny houses, waiting for the dawn of their lives.

Episode 6: Lisbon. Portugal
Lisbon, the capital of Portugal, is the promised land for people from Cape Verde, a former Portuguese colony. Cape Verdeans migrated to Portugal as early as the 70s, but still face racial discrimination to this day. Living in the slums on the outskirts of Lisbon, they fight hard to keep their home.

Episode 7: Bangkok. Thailand
Claimed as the largest slum in Bangkok, Khlong Toei has harboured over 100,000 habitants in the city. Progress has been made over the years driven by the NGOs and residents, though hardship still stroke many households. Optimism and mutual spirits hold up the community while the community's future remains unknown as the land of the Port Authority is planned for further development.

Episode 8: Berlin. Germany
Berlin became a model modern city in just 30 years after the German reunification. In the past decade, rents have doubled, and many Berliners suddenly find themselves in dire straits. Facing the continuous influx of marginalized Eastern Europeans to Berlin, can the Germans still handle it?

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