**Transcription from Observational Walk notes**

Route in Santo Domingo: From the pass and Tetl to Manantial and back

Duration: 50 minutes

Date and time: October 31, from 12:05 to 12:52 pm

Additional notes (besides field notes): First ethnographic walk in Santo Domingo.

Observer: A

12:05 I arrive at a pedestrian alley that connects Santo Domingo with the metro. Many people are walking on Tetl street today, which is a very busy street. There are vendors on the sidewalk and the street. Among the things that people are selling are food, fruits, vegetables, spices, and different kinds of meat (there are also butcher shops nearby). The businesses that face the street are also varied. Among these businesses, there are always specialized in different products to sell. There are chicken shops, tortilla shops, butcher shops, hairdressers, hardware stores, and groceries shops. The only businesses closed right now seem to be the taquerias that open later. There are also many street stalls. The stalls are between the sidewalk and the street. So, there are two rows of vendors, and people walk along the sidewalk but also on the street, where there are also cars, buses, motorcycles, and bicycles.

The street becomes an extension of people's homes and private life and is crucial for the neighbourhood's economy. On the street, one can find practically everything necessary for daily living: all the groceries. Many street stalls sell cempasúchil flowers and Halloween costumes because of the season. Their colours are orange, purple, and black. The street colours are grey and white and mix with the various colours of stalls, signs and advertisements. There are very different smells, depending on where you walk: food, meat, incense, cars, bread, and tortillas. A lot of bread of the dead, a typical dish, is sold because the day of the dead is very soon.

I walk to the corner of Fuerza street and go back, always walking on Tetl street. I notice hand-written signs on the street. Among the signs, there is an invitation to children to sign up for a costume contest and a Day of the Dead [Día de Muertos] parade. The same house also has a sign, posted on a door, that offers W.C. services. On the walls, standing from this street, a mural about the 43 disappeared students from Ayotzinapa can be seen, and another one about the CONUR, a movement of electricity users that opposes paying high energy bills. Among the murals, is a writing that says: “Welcome: to what has no beginning or end, to the eternal struggle, for [illegible] better every day. What they call foolishness, we call Hope”.

I continue my walk entering the street market, towards Casa street, and then to Llave street, where I turn around and walk back to where I came from. I see many people in this street market that in Mexico we call "tianguis", which transforms the street into an open marketplace. In the street stalls, vendors sell clothes, prepared food, fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, books, games, household items, electronics, movies, and cleaning stuff. There is everything necessary for everyday life. The tianguis change the colour of the street: everything is dyed red due to the colour of the plastic that covers the street stalls. People talk to vendors and converse not only about prizes. The tianguis is a meeting place. I wonder if I'll recognize anyone, but there are many people here. Some of these people do all their shopping here. Some already know the sellers, so they talk about their lives. There are neighbours, probably too, walking along and meeting in this market. In the tianguis there are children in uniform, they are coming out of school. There is a stall with many activities available for children here. There are Halloween makeup signs, which will be used today. The tianguis turn the street into a vital space for the neighbourhood's economy.

I leave through Casa and Teocalli streets and walk towards the Colores Church. But there's not much activity around here today. On the houses that I walk by, there are signs, which with the house number include the name of the family that lives there. I continue walking and turn left on Tlahuilli street to walk through there until Atl street again and into the tianguis. On Tlahuilli street one can find the Santo Domingo billiards. Here the men gather to play in the afternoons and on weekends. Many of them have been coming to billiards for many years. I leave the market through Cactus and in Tetl street to the right.

On Cactus street, there is a huge 8-story building. It has an "apartment for rent" sign on the front. I also see several Neighbourhood Alarm signs: a mechanism to alert police about insecurity problems. There are also “no littering” signs on Tetl street. In addition, there are many political advertisements, among them many are from the current president, AMLO. At 12:52 I leave the neighbourhood.