

Jerusalem etymology

A city called Rušalim in the Execration texts of the Middle Kingdom of Egypt (c. 19th century BCE) is widely, but not universally, identified as Jerusalem. Jerusalem is called Urušalim in the Amarna letters of Abdi-Heba (1330s BCE). The name "Jerusalem" is variously etymologized to mean "foundation (Sumerian yeru, 'settlement'/Semitic yry' 'to found, to lay a cornerstone') of the god Shalem", the god Shalem was thus the original tutelary deity of the Bronze Age city. The form Yerushalem or Yerushalayim (Jerusalem) first appears in the Bible, in the Book of Joshua. According to a Midrash, the name is a combination of Yhwh Yir'eh ("God will see to it", the name given by Abraham to the place where he began to sacrifice his son) and the town "Shalem".



Picture of Jeruslaem

Twin towns and sister cities:

- Prague, Czech Republic. (Twin town)
- Ayabe, Japan. (Twin town)
- New York City, United States. (Twin town)
- Marseille, France. (Partner city)

Mayors of Jerusalem

1. Daniel Auster (1948-1950)
2. Zalman Shragai (1950-1952)
3. Yitzhak Kariv (1952 – 1955)
4. Gershon Agron (1955 – 1959)
5. Mordechai Ish-Shalom (1959 – 1965)
6. Teddy Kollek (1965 - 1993)
7. Ehud Olmert (1993 – 2003)
8. Uri Lupolianski (2003 – 2008)
9. Nir Barkat (From 2008)

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