[Template:Other uses](/wiki/Template:Other_uses" \o "Template:Other uses) [Template:Redirect](/wiki/Template:Redirect) [Template:Pp-30-500](/wiki/Template:Pp-30-500) [Template:Use dmy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_dmy_dates) [Template:Infobox settlement](/wiki/Template:Infobox_settlement) [Template:Jerusalem large](/wiki/Template:Jerusalem_large) [Template:Jews and Judaism sidebar](/wiki/Template:Jews_and_Judaism_sidebar)

**Jerusalem** ([Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en); [Template:Lang-he-n](/wiki/Template:Lang-he-n) [*Template:Transl*](/wiki/Template:Transl) [Template:IPA-he](/wiki/Template:IPA-he); [Template:Lang-ar](/wiki/Template:Lang-ar) [*Template:Transl*](/wiki/Template:Transl) [Template:IPA-ar](/wiki/Template:IPA-ar), *Bait-ul-Muqaddas*[[1]](#cite_note-1) (بيت المقدس), meaning "The Holy [City/Home]"),[Template:Ref label](/wiki/Template:Ref_label) located on a plateau in the [Judean Mountains](/wiki/Judaean_Mountains) between the [Mediterranean](/wiki/Mediterranean_Sea) and the [Dead Sea](/wiki/Dead_Sea), is one of the [oldest cities in the world](/wiki/List_of_oldest_continuously_inhabited_cities). In the ancient [cuneiform](/wiki/Cuneiform), Jerusalem was called "Urusalima", meaning "City of Peace", during the early Canaanite period (approximately 2400 BC).[[2]](#cite_note-2) It is considered [holy](/wiki/Holy_city) to the three major [Abrahamic religions](/wiki/Abrahamic_religions)—[Judaism](/wiki/Judaism), [Christianity](/wiki/Christianity) and [Islam](/wiki/Islam). [Israelis](/wiki/Israelis) and [Palestinians](/wiki/Palestinian_people) both claim Jerusalem as their capital, as [Israel](/wiki/Israel) maintains its primary governmental institutions there and the [State of Palestine](/wiki/State_of_Palestine) ultimately foresees it as its seat of power; however, neither claim is widely recognized internationally.

During its long history, Jerusalem has been destroyed at least twice, besieged 23 times, attacked 52 times, and captured and recaptured 44 times.[[3]](#cite_note-3) The part of Jerusalem called the [City of David](/wiki/City_of_David) was settled in the [4th millennium BCE](/wiki/4th_millennium_BCE).[[4]](#cite_note-4)In 1538, [walls were built](/wiki/Walls_of_Jerusalem) around Jerusalem under [Suleiman the Magnificent](/wiki/Suleiman_the_Magnificent). Today those walls define the [Old City](/wiki/Old_City_(Jerusalem)), which has been traditionally divided into four quarters—known since the early 19th century as the [Armenian](/wiki/Armenian_Quarter), [Christian](/wiki/Christian_Quarter), [Jewish](/wiki/Jewish_Quarter_(Jerusalem)), and [Muslim](/wiki/Muslim_Quarter) Quarters.[[5]](#cite_note-5)The Old City became a [World Heritage Site](/wiki/World_Heritage_Site) in 1981, and is on the [List of World Heritage in Danger](/wiki/List_of_World_Heritage_in_Danger).[[6]](#cite_note-6) Modern Jerusalem has grown far beyond the Old City's boundaries.

According to the [Biblical tradition](/wiki/Tanakh), King [David](/wiki/David) conquered the city from the [Jebusites](/wiki/Jebusite) and established it as the capital of the [United Kingdom of Israel](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Israel_(united_monarchy)), and his son, King [Solomon](/wiki/Solomon), commissioned the building of the [First Temple](/wiki/Temple_in_Jerusalem). These foundational events, straddling the dawn of the 1st millennium BCE, assumed central symbolic importance for the Jewish people.[[7]](#cite_note-7) The sobriquet of holy city (*עיר הקודש*, transliterated *‘ir haqodesh*) was probably attached to Jerusalem in post-[exilic times](/wiki/Babylonian_captivity).[[8]](#cite_note-8)[[9]](#cite_note-9)[[10]](#cite_note-10) The holiness of [Jerusalem in Christianity](/wiki/Jerusalem_in_Christianity), conserved in the [Septuagint](/wiki/Septuagint)[[11]](#cite_note-11) which Christians adopted as their own authority,[[12]](#cite_note-12) was reinforced by the [New Testament](/wiki/New_Testament) account of [Jesus's crucifixion](/wiki/Crucifixion_of_Jesus) there. In [Sunni Islam](/wiki/Sunni_Islam), Jerusalem is the third-holiest city, after [Mecca](/wiki/Mecca) and [Medina](/wiki/Medina).[[13]](#cite_note-13)[[14]](#cite_note-14)In [Islamic tradition](/wiki/Islam) in 610 CE it became the first [qibla](/wiki/Qibla), the focal point for Muslim prayer ([salat](/wiki/Salat)),[[15]](#cite_note-15)and [Muhammad](/wiki/Muhammad) made his [Night Journey](/wiki/Isra_and_Mi'raj) there ten years later, ascending to heaven where he speaks to [God](/wiki/God), according to the [Quran](/wiki/Quran).[[16]](#cite_note-16)[[17]](#cite_note-17)As a result, despite having an area of only [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert),[[18]](#cite_note-18)the Old City is home to many sites of seminal religious importance, among them the [Temple Mount](/wiki/Temple_Mount) and its [Western Wall](/wiki/Western_Wall), the [Church of the Holy Sepulchre](/wiki/Church_of_the_Holy_Sepulchre), the [Dome of the Rock](/wiki/Dome_of_the_Rock), the [Garden Tomb](/wiki/The_Garden_Tomb) and [al-Aqsa Mosque](/wiki/Al-Aqsa_Mosque).

Today, the [status of Jerusalem](/wiki/Positions_on_Jerusalem) remains one of the core issues in the [Israeli–Palestinian conflict](/wiki/Israeli–Palestinian_conflict). During the [1948 Arab–Israeli War](/wiki/1948_Arab–Israeli_War), [West Jerusalem](/wiki/West_Jerusalem) was among the areas captured and later annexed by Israel while [East Jerusalem](/wiki/East_Jerusalem), including the Old City, was captured and later annexed by [Jordan](/wiki/Jordan). Israel captured East Jerusalem from Jordan during the 1967 [Six-Day War](/wiki/Six-Day_War) and subsequently annexed it into Jerusalem, together with additional surrounding territory.[Template:Ref label](/wiki/Template:Ref_label) One of Israel's [Basic Laws](/wiki/Basic_Laws_of_Israel), the 1980 [Jerusalem Law](/wiki/Jerusalem_Law), refers to Jerusalem as the country's undivided capital. All branches of the Israeli government are located in Jerusalem, including the [Knesset](/wiki/Knesset) (Israel's parliament), the residences of the [Prime Minister](/wiki/Prime_Minister_of_Israel) and [President](/wiki/President_of_Israel), and the [Supreme Court](/wiki/Supreme_Court_of_Israel). Whilst the international community rejected the annexation as illegal and treats East Jerusalem as [Palestinian territory](/wiki/Palestinian_territories) [occupied](/wiki/Military_occupation) by Israel,[[19]](#cite_note-19)[[20]](#cite_note-20)[[21]](#cite_note-21)[[22]](#cite_note-22) Israel has a stronger claim to sovereignty over West Jerusalem.[[23]](#cite_note-23)[[24]](#cite_note-24) The international community does not recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, and the city hosts no foreign embassies. Jerusalem is also home to some non-governmental Israeli institutions of national importance, such as the [Hebrew University](/wiki/Hebrew_University_of_Jerusalem) and the [Israel Museum](/wiki/Israel_Museum) with its [Shrine of the Book](/wiki/Shrine_of_the_Book).

In 2011, Jerusalem had a population of 801,000, of which Jews comprised 497,000 (62%), Muslims 281,000 (35%), Christians 14,000 (around 2%) and 9,000 (1%) were not classified by religion.[[25]](#cite_note-25)

## Contents

* 1 Etymology[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]
* 2 History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]
  + 2.1 Age[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]
  + 2.2 Overview of Jerusalem's historical periods[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]
  + 2.3 Prehistory[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]
  + 2.4 Ancient period[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]
  + 2.5 Classical antiquity[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]
  + 2.6 Middle Ages and caliphates[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]
  + 2.7 16th–19th centuries − Ottoman rule[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]
  + 2.8 1917–1948 − British Mandate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]
  + 2.9 1948–1967 − Jordanian/Israeli rule[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]
  + 2.10 From 1967 − Israeli rule[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]
* 3 Political status[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]
  + 3.1 International status[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]
  + 3.2 Status under Israeli rule[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]
  + 3.3 Jerusalem as capital[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]
    - 3.3.1 Capital of Israel[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]
    - 3.3.2 Capital of Palestine[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]
  + 3.4 Government precinct and national institutions[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]
* 4 Municipal administration[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]
* 5 Geography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]
  + 5.1 Climate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]
* 6 Demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]
  + 6.1 Demographic history[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]
  + 6.2 Current demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]
  + 6.3 Urban planning issues[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]
* 7 Religious significance[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]
* 8 Culture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]
* 9 Media[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]
* 10 Economy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=30)]
  + 10.1 High-rise construction[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=31)]
* 11 Transportation[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=32)]
* 12 Education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=33)]
* 13 Sports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=34)]
* 14 Notable residents[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=35)]
  + 14.1 Ancient[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=36)]
  + 14.2 Medieval[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=37)]
  + 14.3 Modern[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=38)]
* 15 Twin towns and sister cities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=39)]
* 16 See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=40)]
* 17 Notes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=41)]
* 18 References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=42)]
* 19 Further reading[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=43)]
* 20 External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=44)]

## Etymology[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) A city called *Rušalim* in the [Execration texts](/wiki/Execration_texts) of the [Middle Kingdom of Egypt](/wiki/Middle_Kingdom_of_Egypt) (c. 19th century BCE) is widely, but not universally, identified as Jerusalem.[[26]](#cite_note-26)[[27]](#cite_note-27) Jerusalem is called *Urušalim* in the [Amarna letters](/wiki/Amarna_letters) of [Abdi-Heba](/wiki/Abdi-Heba) (1330s BCE).[[28]](#cite_note-28) The name "Jerusalem" is variously etymologized to mean "foundation (Sumerian *yeru*, 'settlement'/Semitic *yry* ***'to found, to lay a cornerstone') of the god*** [***Shalem***](/wiki/Shalim)***",***[***[29]***](#cite_note-29)[***[30]***](#cite_note-30) ***the god Shalem was thus the original*** [***tutelary deity***](/wiki/Tutelary_deity) ***of the Bronze Age city.***[***[31]***](#cite_note-31) The form *Yerushalem* or *Yerushalayim* (Jerusalem) first appears in the Bible, in the [Book of Joshua](/wiki/Book_of_Joshua). According to a [Midrash](/wiki/Midrash), the name is a combination of *Yhwh Yir'eh* ("God will see to it", the name given by [Abraham](/wiki/Abraham) to the place where [he began to sacrifice his son](/wiki/Sacrifice_of_Isaac)) and the town "[Shalem](/wiki/Salem_(Bible))".[[32]](#cite_note-32) The earliest extra-biblical [Hebrew](/wiki/Hebrew) writing of the word Jerusalem is dated to the sixth or seventh century BCE[[33]](#cite_note-33)[[34]](#cite_note-34) and was discovered in [Khirbet Beit Lei](/wiki/Khirbet_Beit_Lei) near [Beit Guvrin](/wiki/Beit_Guvrin,_Israel) in 1961. The inscription states: "I am Yahweh thy God, I will accept the cities of Judah and I will redeem Jerusalem",[[35]](#cite_note-35)[[36]](#cite_note-36)[[37]](#cite_note-37) or as other scholars suggest: "Yahweh is the God of the whole earth. The mountains of Judah belong to him, to the God of Jerusalem".<ref name=Naveh2001>[Template:Cite journal](/wiki/Template:Cite_journal)</ref>[[38]](#cite_note-38) [Shalim](/wiki/Shalim) or Shalem was the name of the god of dusk in the [Canaanite religion](/wiki/Canaanite_religion), whose name is based on the same root [S-L-M](/wiki/S-L-M) from which the Hebrew word for "peace" is derived (Salam or Shalom in modern Arabic and Hebrew).[[39]](#cite_note-39)[[40]](#cite_note-40)The name thus offered itself to etymologizations such as "The City of Peace",[[30]](#cite_note-30)<ref name=Hastings>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref> "Abode of Peace",<ref name=Bosworth>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref><ref name=DeGarmo>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> "dwelling of peace" ("founded in safety"),[[41]](#cite_note-41) alternately "Vision of Peace" in some Christian authors.<ref name=Harrison>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref> The ending *-ayim* indicates the [dual](/wiki/Dual_(grammatical_number)), thus leading to the suggestion that the name *Yerushalayim* refers to the fact that the city sits on two hills.[[42]](#cite_note-42)[[43]](#cite_note-43) However, the pronunciation of the last syllable as *-ayim* appears to be a late development, which had not yet appeared at the time of the [Septuagint](/wiki/Septuagint).[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

An ancient settlement of Jerusalem, founded as early as the Bronze Age on the hill above the [Gihon Spring](/wiki/Gihon_Spring), was according to the Bible named [Jebus](/wiki/Jebusite) (*e.g.*, Judges 19:10: יְבוּס, הִיא יְרוּשָׁלִָ: "Jebus, it [is] Jerusalem"[[44]](#cite_note-44)).<ref name=Gagrinp113>[Template:Google books](/wiki/Template:Google_books), p. 113</ref> Called the "Fortress of Zion" (*metsudat Zion*), it was renamed by David as the [City of David](/wiki/City_of_David),[[45]](#cite_note-45) and was known by this name in antiquity.[[46]](#cite_note-46)[[47]](#cite_note-47) Another name, "[Zion](/wiki/Zion)", initially referred to a distinct part of the city, but later came to signify the city as a whole and to represent the biblical [Land of Israel](/wiki/Land_of_Israel). In Greek and Latin the city's name was transliterated *Hierosolyma* (Greek: Ἱεροσόλυμα; in Greek *hieròs*, *ἱερός*, means holy), although the city was renamed [Aelia Capitolina](/wiki/Aelia_Capitolina) for part of the [Roman](/wiki/Ancient_Rome) period of its history.

The [Aramaic](/wiki/Aramaic_language) [Apocryphon of Genesis](/wiki/Genesis_Apocryphon) of the [Dead Sea Scrolls](/wiki/Dead_Sea_Scrolls) (1QapGen 22:13) equates Jerusalem with the earlier "Salem" (שלם), said to be the kingdom of [Melchizedek](/wiki/Melchizedek) in Genesis 14:18. Other early Hebrew sources,[[48]](#cite_note-48) early Christian renderings of the verse[[49]](#cite_note-49) and [*targumim*](/wiki/Targumim),[[50]](#cite_note-50) however, put Salem in Northern Israel near [Shechem](/wiki/Shechem) (or Sichem), now [Nablus](/wiki/Nablus), a city of some importance in early sacred Hebrew writing.[[51]](#cite_note-51) Possibly the redactor of the Apocryphon of Genesis wanted to dissociate Melchizedek from the area of Shechem, which at the time was in possession of the [Samaritans](/wiki/Samaritans).[[52]](#cite_note-52) However that may be, later Rabbinic sources also equate Salem with Jerusalem, mainly to link Melchizedek to later Temple traditions.[[53]](#cite_note-53) In Arabic, Jerusalem is most commonly known as [Template:Lang](/wiki/Template:Lang), transliterated as *al-Quds* and meaning "The Holy" or "The Holy Sanctuary".<ref name=Bosworth/><ref name=DeGarmo/> Official Israeli government policy mandates that [Template:Lang](/wiki/Template:Lang), transliterated as *Ūršalīm*, which is the cognate of the Hebrew and English names, be used as the Arabic language name for the city in conjunction with [Template:Lang](/wiki/Template:Lang). [Template:Lang](/wiki/Template:Lang).[[54]](#cite_note-54) Palestinian Arab families who hail from this city are often called "*Qudsi*" or "*Maqdisi*", while Palestinian Muslim Jerusalemites may use these terms as a demonym.[[55]](#cite_note-55)

## History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

Given the city's central position in both Jewish nationalism ([Zionism](/wiki/Zionism)) and [Palestinian nationalism](/wiki/Palestinian_nationalism), the selectivity required to summarize some 5,000 years of inhabited history is often influenced by ideological bias or background (see [Historiography and nationalism](/wiki/Historiography_and_nationalism)).[[56]](#cite_note-56)[[57]](#cite_note-57) The periods of Jewish sovereignty in the city's history are important to Israeli nationalists ([Zionists](/wiki/Zionists)), who claim the right to the city based on Jewish descent from the Israelite Kingdom of Judah, of which Jerusalem was the capital.[[58]](#cite_note-58)[[59]](#cite_note-59) The periods of Islamic, Christian and other non-Jewish periods of the city's history are important to Palestinian nationalists, who claim the right to the city based on modern [Palestinians'](/wiki/Palestinian_people) descent from many different peoples who have lived in the region.[[60]](#cite_note-60)[[61]](#cite_note-61) As a result, both sides claim the history of the city has been politicized by the other in order to strengthen their relative claims to the city,[[57]](#cite_note-57)[[62]](#cite_note-62)[[63]](#cite_note-63) and that this is borne out by the different focuses the different writers place on the various events and eras in the city's history.

### Age[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

Any city, Jerusalem included, can be defined either in current administrative terms, as the area declared by legal means to be part of a municipality; or in historical terms, as the city which resulted from a process of urban development, united into one entity by a common territory, history and by virtue of its natural and social characteristics.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) The administrative inclusion of several outlying towns and villages after 1967, which are not fully and organically included in the social, economic, and political fabric of Jerusalem proper, creates confusion regarding any definition of the city of Jerusalem. This spreads to any related issue, such as defining the age of the city.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

After the [Six-Day War](/wiki/Six-Day_War) in 1967, [Shuafat](/wiki/Shuafat) and other places defined as [East Jerusalem](/wiki/East_Jerusalem) were incorporated into the Jerusalem municipal district, in a move not internationally recognized.<ref name=Kershner>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref>[[64]](#cite_note-64) Shuafat lies about 6 kilometres north of Jerusalem's oldest historical part, the so-called [City of David](/wiki/City_of_David), and about 5 kilometres north of the walled Old City. Shuafat's history is distinct of that of its neighbour, Jerusalem, from its prehistoric beginnings through the biblical period, and throughout its later history until 1967.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

Once one disregards this distinct history of Shuafat, one can treat the age of Jerusalem as being defined by the oldest archaeological finding in Shuafat, as is being done in this article by stating an age of 7,000 years, not for Shuafat, but for Jerusalem.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

### Overview of Jerusalem's historical periods[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

[Template:Graphical Overview of Jerusalem's Historical Periods](/wiki/Template:Graphical_Overview_of_Jerusalem's_Historical_Periods)

### Prehistory[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

**Shuafat**

[Shuafat](/wiki/Shuafat) is a historically separate town and since 1967 a neighborhood some 6 km north of the City of David area and 5 km north of Jerusalem's Old City. In 2016, Israeli archaeologists announced they had unearthed a 7,000-year-old settlement from the early [Chalcolithic](/wiki/Chalcolithic) period in Shuafat.[[65]](#cite_note-65) The archaeologists describe the discovery as the oldest of its kind in the region.[[56]](#cite_note-56) The Israel Antiquities Authority asserts that the stone houses and artifacts confirm "the existence of a well-established settlement in the Jerusalem area as long ago as the fifth millennium BCE."[[66]](#cite_note-66)

**City of David and Jerusalem proper**

Ceramic evidence indicates occupation of the [City of David](/wiki/City_of_David), an area considered to be the initial nucleus of historical Jerusalem, as far back as the [Copper Age](/wiki/Copper_Age) (c. 4th millennium BCE).[[4]](#cite_note-4)[[67]](#cite_note-67)

### Ancient period[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) [thumb|upright|](/wiki/File:Jebusite_Jerusalem.jpg)[Stepped Stone Structure](/wiki/Stepped_Stone_Structure) in [Ophel](/wiki/Ophel)/[City of David](/wiki/City_of_David), the oldest part of Jerusalem

There is no evidence of a permanent settlement in the City of David area until the early [Bronze Age](/wiki/Bronze_Age) (c. 3000–2800 BCE).[[67]](#cite_note-67)[[68]](#cite_note-68) The [Execration Texts](/wiki/Execration_Texts) (c. 19th century BCE), which refer to a city called *rwš3lmm*, variously transcribed as *Rušalimum*/*Urušalimum*/*Rôsh-ramen*[[67]](#cite_note-67)[[69]](#cite_note-69) and the [Amarna letters](/wiki/Amarna_letters) (c. 14th century BCE) may be the earliest mention of the city.[[70]](#cite_note-70)[[71]](#cite_note-71) Nadav Na'aman argues its fortification as the centre of a kingdom dates to around the 18th century BCE.[[72]](#cite_note-72)The first settlement lay on the [Ophel ridge](/wiki/Ophel).[[73]](#cite_note-73) In the late Bronze Age, Jerusalem was the capital of an Egyptian vassal city-state,[[74]](#cite_note-74) a modest settlement governing a few outlying villages and pastoral areas, with a small Egyptian garrison and ruled by appointees such as king [Abdi-Heba](/wiki/Abdi-Heba),[[75]](#cite_note-75) At the time of [Seti I](/wiki/Seti_I) and [Ramesses II](/wiki/Ramesses_II), major construction took place as prosperity increased.[[76]](#cite_note-76) This period, when Canaan formed part of the Egyptian empire corresponds in biblical accounts to [Joshua's](/wiki/Joshua) invasion.[[77]](#cite_note-77) In the Bible, Jerusalem is defined as lying within territory allocated to the [tribe of Benjamin](/wiki/Tribe_of_Benjamin)[[78]](#cite_note-78)[[79]](#cite_note-79) though occupied by [Jebusites](/wiki/Jebusite). [David](/wiki/David) is said to have conquered these in the [Siege of Jebus](/wiki/Siege_of_Jebus), and transferred his capital from [Hebron](/wiki/Hebron) to Jerusalem which then became the capital of a united [Kingdom of Israel](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Israel_(united_monarchy)),[[80]](#cite_note-80) and one of its several religious centres.[[81]](#cite_note-81) The choice was perhaps dictated by the fact that Jerusalem did not form part of Israel's tribal system, and was thus suited to serve as the centre of its federation.[[76]](#cite_note-76) Opinion is divided over whether a [Large Stone Structure](/wiki/Large_Stone_Structure) and a nearby [Stepped Stone Structure](/wiki/Stepped_Stone_Structure) may be identified with King David's palace, or dates to a later period.[[82]](#cite_note-82)[[83]](#cite_note-83)[thumb|One plan of](/wiki/File:Jerusalem_Ugglan_1.jpg) [Solomon's Temple](/wiki/Solomon's_Temple), as reconstructed from indications in the Bible According to the Bible, King [David](/wiki/David) reigned for 40 years [[84]](#cite_note-84) and was succeeded by his son [Solomon](/wiki/Solomon),[[85]](#cite_note-85) who built the [Holy Temple](/wiki/Temple_in_Jerusalem) on [Mount Moriah](/wiki/Moriah). [Solomon's Temple](/wiki/Solomon's_Temple) (later known as the *First Temple*), went on to play a pivotal role in Jewish religion as the repository of the [Ark of the Covenant](/wiki/Ark_of_the_Covenant).[[86]](#cite_note-86) On Solomon's death, ten of the northern [Tribes of Israel](/wiki/Tribes_of_Israel) broke with the United Monarchy to form their own nation, with its kings, prophets, priests, traditions relating to religion, capitals and temples in northern Israel. The southern tribes, together with the [Aaronid priesthood](/wiki/Kohen), remained in Jerusalem, with the city becoming the capital of the [Kingdom of Judah](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Judah).[[87]](#cite_note-87)<ref name=autogenerated1>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> Archeological remains from the ancient [Israelite](/wiki/Israelite) period also include [Siloam Tunnel](/wiki/Siloam_Tunnel), an aqueduct built by [Judean](/wiki/Judean) king [Hezekiah](/wiki/Hezekiah) and decorated with ancient Hebrew inscription, known as [Siloam Inscription](/wiki/Siloam_Inscription),[[88]](#cite_note-88) [Broad Wall](/wiki/Broad_Wall_(Jerusalem)) a defensive fortification built in the 8th century BCE, also by Hezekiah,[[89]](#cite_note-89) [Monolith of Silwan](/wiki/Monolith_of_Silwan), Tomb of the Royal Steward, which were decorated with monumental [Hebrew](/wiki/Hebrew) inscriptions,[[90]](#cite_note-90) and [Israelite Tower](/wiki/Israelite_Tower), remnants of ancient fortifications, built from large, sturdy rocks with carved cornerstones.[[91]](#cite_note-91) A huge water reservoir dating from this period was discovered in 2012 near [Robinson's Arch](/wiki/Robinson's_Arch), indicating the existence of a densely built-up quarter across the area west of the Temple Mount during the Judean kingdom.[[92]](#cite_note-92) When the [Assyrians](/wiki/Assyria) conquered the Kingdom of Israel in 722 BCE, Jerusalem was strengthened by a great influx of refugees from the northern kingdom. The First Temple period ended around 586 BCE, as the Babylonians conquered Judah and Jerusalem, and laid waste to Solomon's Temple.[[93]](#cite_note-93)

### Classical antiquity[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) In 538 BCE, the [Persian](/wiki/Achaemenid_Empire) [King](/wiki/List_of_kings_of_Persia) [Cyrus the Great](/wiki/Cyrus_the_Great) invited the [Jews of Babylon](/wiki/Babylonian_captivity) to return to Judah to rebuild the Temple.[[94]](#cite_note-94) Construction of the [Second Temple](/wiki/Second_Temple_of_Jerusalem) was completed in 516 BCE, during the reign of [Darius the Great](/wiki/Darius_I_of_Persia), 70 years after the destruction of the First Temple.[[95]](#cite_note-95)[[96]](#cite_note-96) Sometime soon after 485 BCE Jerusalem was besieged, conquered and largely destroyed by a coalition of neighbouring states.[[97]](#cite_note-97) In about 445 BCE, King [Artaxerxes I of Persia](/wiki/Artaxerxes_I_of_Persia) issued a decree allowing the city (including its walls) to be rebuilt.[[98]](#cite_note-98) Jerusalem resumed its role as capital of Judah and center of Jewish worship. [thumb|220px|This picture shows the temple as imagined in 1966 in the](/wiki/File:Jerusalem_Modell_BW_2.JPG) [Holyland Model of Jerusalem](/wiki/Holyland_Model_of_Jerusalem) Many Jewish tombs from the [Second Temple period](/wiki/Second_Temple_period) have been rediscovered in Jerusalem. One example, discovered north of the [Old City](/wiki/Old_City_of_Jerusalem), contains human remains in an ossuary decorated with the Aramaic inscription "Simon the Temple Builder."[[99]](#cite_note-99) The Tomb of Abba, also located north of the Old City, bears an Aramaic inscription with [Paleo-Hebrew](/wiki/Paleo-Hebrew) letters reading: "I, Abba, son of the priest Eleaz(ar), son of Aaron the high (priest), Abba, the oppressed and the persecuted, who was born in Jerusalem, and went into exile into Babylonia and brought (back to Jerusalem) Mattathi(ah), son of Jud(ah), and buried him in a cave which I bought by deed."[[100]](#cite_note-100) The [Tomb of Benei Hezir](/wiki/Tomb_of_Benei_Hezir) located in [Kidron Valley](/wiki/Kidron_Valley) is decorated by monumental [Doric columns](/wiki/Doric_columns) and Hebrew inscription, identifying it as the burial site of [Second Temple](/wiki/Second_Temple) priests.[[99]](#cite_note-99)The [Tombs of the Sanhedrin](/wiki/Tombs_of_the_Sanhedrin), an underground complex of 63 rock-cut tombs, is located in a public park in the northern Jerusalem neighborhood of [Sanhedria](/wiki/Sanhedria). These tombs, probably reserved for members of the [Sanhedrin](/wiki/Sanhedrin)[[101]](#cite_note-101)[[102]](#cite_note-102) and inscribed by ancient Hebrew and Aramaic writings, are dated to between 100 BCE and 100 CE.

When [Alexander the Great](/wiki/Alexander_the_Great) conquered the [Persian Empire](/wiki/Achaemenid_Empire), Jerusalem and [Judea](/wiki/Judea) came under Macedonian control, eventually falling to the [Ptolemaic dynasty](/wiki/Ptolemaic_dynasty) under [Ptolemy I](/wiki/Ptolemy_I_Soter). In 198 BCE, [Ptolemy V Epiphanes](/wiki/Ptolemy_V_Epiphanes) lost Jerusalem and Judea to the [Seleucids](/wiki/Seleucid_Empire) under [Antiochus III](/wiki/Antiochus_III_the_Great). The [Seleucid](/wiki/Seleucid_Empire) attempt to recast Jerusalem as a [Hellenized](/wiki/Hellenistic_civilization) [city-state](/wiki/Polis) came to a head in 168 BCE with the successful [Maccabean revolt](/wiki/Maccabees) of [Mattathias](/wiki/Mattathias) and his five sons against [Antiochus IV Epiphanes](/wiki/Antiochus_IV_Epiphanes), and their establishment of the [Hasmonean](/wiki/Hasmonean) Kingdom in 152 BCE with Jerusalem as its capital.

In 63 BCE, [Pompey the Great](/wiki/Pompey_the_Great) intervened in a struggle for the Hasmonean throne and captured Jerusalem, extending the influence of the [Roman Republic](/wiki/Roman_Republic) over Judea.[[103]](#cite_note-103) Following a short invasion by Parthians, backing the rival Hasmonean rulers, Judea became a scene of struggle between pro-Roman and pro-Parthian forces, eventually leading to the emergence of an [Edomite](/wiki/Edom) named Herod.

[right|thumb|A coin issued by the Jewish rebels in 68 CE.](/wiki/File:Half_Shekel.jpg) [Obverse](/wiki/Obverse): "[Shekel](/wiki/Shekel), Israel. Year 3". [Reverse](/wiki/Obverse_and_reverse): "Jerusalem the Holy", in the [Paleo-Hebrew alphabet](/wiki/Paleo-Hebrew_alphabet) As [Rome](/wiki/Roman_Empire) became stronger, it installed [Herod](/wiki/Herod_the_Great) as a Jewish [client king](/wiki/Satellite_state). Herod the Great, as he was known, devoted himself to developing and beautifying the city. He built walls, towers and palaces, and [expanded the Temple Mount](/wiki/Herod's_Temple), buttressing the courtyard with blocks of stone weighing up to 100 tons. Under Herod, the area of the Temple Mount doubled in size.[[85]](#cite_note-85)[[104]](#cite_note-104)[[105]](#cite_note-105) Shortly after Herod's death, in 6 CE Judea came under direct Roman rule as the [Iudaea Province](/wiki/Iudaea_Province),[[106]](#cite_note-106) although the Herodian dynasty through [Agrippa II](/wiki/Agrippa_II) remained client kings of neighbouring territories until 96 CE. Roman rule over Jerusalem and the region was challenged in the [First Jewish–Roman War](/wiki/First_Jewish–Roman_War), which ended with a [Roman victory](/wiki/Siege_of_Jerusalem_(70_CE)). The Second Temple was destroyed in 70 CE, and the entire city was destroyed in the war. The contemporary Jewish historian [Josephus](/wiki/Josephus) wrote that the city "was so thoroughly razed to the ground by those that demolished it to its foundations, that nothing was left that could ever persuade visitors that it had once been a place of habitation."[[107]](#cite_note-107) Roman rule was again challenged during the [Bar Kokhba revolt](/wiki/Bar_Kokhba_revolt), beginning in 132 CE and suppressed by the Romans in 135 CE. [thumb|Roman siege and destruction of Jerusalem (David Roberts, 1850)](/wiki/File:Ercole_de_Roberti_Destruction_of_Jerusalem_Fighting_Fleeing_Marching_Slaying_Burning_Chemical_reactions_b.jpg) Following the Bar Kokhba revolt, Emperor [Hadrian](/wiki/Hadrian) combined [Iudaea Province](/wiki/Iudaea_Province) with neighboring provinces under the new name of [*Syria Palaestina*](/wiki/Syria_Palaestina), replacing the name of Judea.[[108]](#cite_note-108) The city was renamed [Aelia Capitolina](/wiki/Aelia_Capitolina),[[109]](#cite_note-109) and rebuilt it in the style of a typical Roman town. Jews were prohibited from entering the city on pain of death, except for one day each year, during the holiday of [Tisha B'Av](/wiki/Tisha_B'Av). Taken together, these measures[[110]](#cite_note-110)[[111]](#cite_note-111)[[112]](#cite_note-112) (which also affected Jewish Christians)[[113]](#cite_note-113) essentially "secularized" the city.[[114]](#cite_note-114) The ban was maintained until the 7th century,[[115]](#cite_note-115) though Christians would soon be granted an exemption: during the 4th century, the [Roman Emperor](/wiki/Roman_Emperor) [Constantine I](/wiki/Constantine_I) ordered the construction of Christian holy sites in the city, including the [Church of the Holy Sepulchre](/wiki/Church_of_the_Holy_Sepulchre). Burial remains from the Byzantine period are exclusively Christian, suggesting that the population of Jerusalem in Byzantine times probably consisted only of Christians.[[116]](#cite_note-116) In the 5th century, the eastern continuation of the [Roman Empire](/wiki/Roman_Empire), ruled from the recently renamed [Constantinople](/wiki/Constantinople), maintained control of the city. Within the span of a few decades, Jerusalem shifted from Byzantine to [Persian](/wiki/Achaemenid_Empire) rule, then back to Roman-Byzantine dominion. Following [Sassanid](/wiki/Sassanid_Empire) [Khosrau II's](/wiki/Khosrau_II) early 7th century push through Syria, his generals [Shahrbaraz](/wiki/Shahrbaraz) and [Shahin](/wiki/Shahin_Vahmanzadegan) attacked Jerusalem ([Template:Lang-fa](/wiki/Template:Lang-fa)) aided by the Jews of [Palaestina Prima](/wiki/Palaestina_Prima), who had risen up against the Byzantines.[[117]](#cite_note-117) In the [Siege of Jerusalem](/wiki/Siege_of_Jerusalem_(614)) of 614, after 21 days of relentless [siege warfare](/wiki/Siege), Jerusalem was captured. Byzantine chronicles relate that the Sassanids and Jews slaughtered tens of thousands of Christians in the city, many at the [Mamilla Pool](/wiki/Mamilla_Pool),[[118]](#cite_note-118)[[119]](#cite_note-119) and destroyed their monuments and churches, including the [Church of the Holy Sepulchre](/wiki/Church_of_the_Holy_Sepulchre). This episode has been the subject of much debate between historians.[[120]](#cite_note-120) The conquered city would remain in Sassanid hands for some fifteen years until the Byzantine Emperor [Heraclius](/wiki/Heraclius) reconquered it in 629.[[121]](#cite_note-121) Jerusalem reached a peak in size and population at the end of the Second Temple Period, when the city covered [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) and had a population of 200,000.[[111]](#cite_note-111)[[122]](#cite_note-122)

### Middle Ages and caliphates[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|220 px|right|upright|1455 painting of the Holy Land. Jerusalem is viewed from the west; the](/wiki/File:1283_Descriptio_Terrae_Sanctae.jpg) [Dome of the Rock](/wiki/Dome_of_the_Rock) still retains its octagonal shape, to the right stands Al-Aqsa, shown as a church. Byzantine Jerusalem was conquered by the Arab armies of [Umar ibn al-Khattab](/wiki/Umar_ibn_al-Khattab) in 638 CE.[[123]](#cite_note-123) Among [Muslims](/wiki/Muslims) of Islam's earliest era it was referred to as *Madinat bayt al-Maqdis* ("City of the Temple")[[124]](#cite_note-124) which was restricted to the Temple Mount. The rest of the city "... was called Iliya, reflecting the Roman name given the city following the destruction of 70 CE: *Aelia Capitolina*".[[125]](#cite_note-125) Later the Temple Mount became known as *al-Haram al-Sharif*, "The Noble Sanctuary", while the city around it became known as *Bayt al-Maqdis*,[[126]](#cite_note-126) and later still, *al-Quds al-Sharif* "The Noble City". The [Islamization](/wiki/Islamization) of Jerusalem began in the first year [A.H.](/wiki/Hijri_year) (623 CE), when Muslims were instructed to face the city while performing their daily prostrations and, according to Muslim religious tradition, Muhammad's night journey and ascension to heaven took place. After 13 years, the direction of prayer was changed to Mecca.[[127]](#cite_note-127)[[128]](#cite_note-128) In 638 CE the Islamic [Caliphate](/wiki/Caliphate) extended its dominion to Jerusalem.[[129]](#cite_note-129) With the [Arab conquest](/wiki/Muslim_conquest_of_Syria), Jews were allowed back into the city.[[130]](#cite_note-130) The [Rashidun](/wiki/Rashidun) caliph [Umar ibn al-Khattab](/wiki/Umar) signed a treaty with Christian Patriarch of Jerusalem [Sophronius](/wiki/Sophronius_of_Jerusalem), assuring him that Jerusalem's Christian holy places and population would be protected under Muslim rule.[[131]](#cite_note-131) Christian-Arab tradition records that, when led to pray at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, one of the holiest sites for Christians, the caliph Umar refused to pray in the church so that Muslims would not request conversion of the church to a mosque.[[132]](#cite_note-132) He prayed outside the church, where the [Mosque of Umar (Omar)](/wiki/Mosque_of_Omar_(Jerusalem)) stands to this day, opposite the entrance to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. According to the Gaullic bishop [Arculf](/wiki/Arculf), who lived in Jerusalem from 679 to 688, the Mosque of Umar was a rectangular wooden structure built over ruins which could accommodate 3,000 worshipers.[[133]](#cite_note-133) When the Muslims went to *Bayt Al-Maqdes* for the first time, they searched for the site of the [Al-Aqsa Mosque](/wiki/Al-Masjed_Al-Aqsa) ("The Farthest Mosque") that was mentioned in [Quran](/wiki/Quran) and [Hadith](/wiki/Hadith) according to Islamic beliefs. Contemporary Arabic and Hebrew sources say the site was full of rubbish, and that Arabs and Jews cleaned it.[[134]](#cite_note-134) The [Umayyad](/wiki/Umayyad_Caliphate) caliph [Abd al-Malik](/wiki/Abd_al-Malik_ibn_Marwan) commissioned the construction of the [Dome of the Rock](/wiki/Dome_of_the_Rock) in the late 7th century.[[135]](#cite_note-135) The 10th-century historian [al-Muqaddasi](/wiki/Al-Muqaddasi) writes that Abd al-Malik built the shrine in order to compete in grandeur with Jerusalem's monumental churches.[[133]](#cite_note-133) Over the next four hundred years Jerusalem's prominence diminished as Arab powers in the region jockeyed for control.[[136]](#cite_note-136) Jerusalem was captured in 1073 by the [Seljuk](/wiki/Seljuk_Empire) Turkish commander [Atsız](/wiki/Atsiz_ibn_Uvaq).[[137]](#cite_note-137) After Atsız was killed, the Seljuk prince [Tutush I](/wiki/Tutush_I) granted the city to [Artuk Bey](/wiki/Artuk_Bey), another Seljuk commander. After Artuk's death in 1091 his sons [Sökmen](/wiki/Sökmen_of_Artukids) and [Ilghazi](/wiki/Ilghazi) governed in the city up to 1098 when the [Fatimids](/wiki/Fatimid_Caliphate) recaptured the city. [thumb|upright|Medieval illustration of capture of Jerusalem during the First Crusade, 1099](/wiki/File:1099jerusalem.jpg)

A messianic [Karaite](/wiki/Karaite_Judaism) movement to gather in Jerusalem took place at the turn of the millennium, leading to a "Golden Age" of Karaite scholarship there, which was only terminated by the Crusades.[[138]](#cite_note-138) In 1099, the Fatimid ruler expelled the native Christian population before Jerusalem was [conquered](/wiki/Siege_of_Jerusalem_(1099)) by the [Crusaders](/wiki/Crusades), who massacred most of its Muslim and Jewish inhabitants when they took the solidly defended city by assault, after a period of siege, and left the city emptied of people; later the Crusaders created the [Kingdom of Jerusalem](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Jerusalem). The city had been virtually emptied and recolonized by a variegated inflow of [Greeks](/wiki/Greeks), [Bulgarians](/wiki/Bulgarians), [Hungarians](/wiki/Hungarians), [Georgians](/wiki/Georgians), [Armenians](/wiki/Armenians), [Syrians](/wiki/Syrians), [Egyptians](/wiki/Egyptians), [Nestorians](/wiki/Nestorians), [Maronites](/wiki/Maronites), [Jacobite](/wiki/Jacob_Baradeus) Miaphysites, [Copts](/wiki/Copts) and others, to block the return of the surviving Muslims and Jews. The north-eastern quarter was repopulated with Eastern Christians from the Transjordan.[[139]](#cite_note-139) As a result, by 1099 Jerusalem's population had climbed back to some 30,000.[[140]](#cite_note-140) In 1187, the city was wrested from the Crusaders by [Saladin](/wiki/Saladin) who permitted Jews and Muslims to return and settle in the city.[[141]](#cite_note-141) Under the terms of surrender, once ransomed, 60,000 Franks were expelled. The Eastern Christian populace was permitted to stay.[[142]](#cite_note-142) Under the [Ayyubid dynasty](/wiki/Ayyubid_dynasty) of Saladin, a period of huge investment began in the construction of houses, markets, public baths, and pilgrim hostels as well as the establishment of religious endowments. However, for most of the 13th century, Jerusalem declined to the status of a village due to city's fall of strategic value and Ayyubid internecine struggles.[[143]](#cite_note-143) From 1229 to 1244, Jerusalem peacefully reverted to Christian control as a result of a 1229 Treaty agreed between the crusading [Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II](/wiki/Frederick_II,_Holy_Roman_Emperor) and [al-Kamil](/wiki/Al-Kamil), the [Ayyubid](/wiki/Ayyubid_dynasty) [sultan](/wiki/Sultan) of [Egypt](/wiki/Egypt), that ended the [Sixth Crusade](/wiki/Sixth_Crusade).<ref name=Addington01a>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref><ref name=Pringle01a>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref><ref name=Wharton01a>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref><ref name=Askari01a>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref><ref name=Maoz01a>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref> The Ayyubids retained control of the Muslim holy places, and Arab sources suggest that Frederick was not permitted to restore Jerusalem's fortifications.

In 1244, Jerusalem was sacked by the [Khwarezmian](/wiki/Khwarazmian_dynasty) [Tatars](/wiki/Tatars), who decimated the city's Christian population and drove out the Jews.[[144]](#cite_note-144) The Khwarezmian Tatars were driven out by the Ayyubids in 1247. When [Nachmanides](/wiki/Nachmanides) visited in 1267 he found only two Jewish families, in a population of 2,000, 300 of whom were Christians, in the city.[[145]](#cite_note-145) From 1260<ref name=Grove01a>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref> to 1517, Jerusalem was ruled by the [Mamluks](/wiki/Mamluk_Sultanate_(Cairo)). During this period of time many clashes occurred between the Mamluks on one side and the crusaders and the [Mongols](/wiki/Mongols) on the other side. The area also suffered from many earthquakes and [black plague](/wiki/Black_Death).[[146]](#cite_note-146) Some European Christian presence was maintained in the city by the [Order of the Holy Sepulchre](/wiki/Order_of_the_Holy_Sepulchre).

### 16th–19th centuries − Ottoman rule[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

[thumb|David's Citadel and the Ottoman walls](/wiki/File:DavtowerS.jpg) [right|thumb|Ben-Zakai Synagogue in 1893](/wiki/File:Ben_Zakai.jpg) [thumb|right|](/wiki/File:The_Garden_Tomb_2008.jpg)[The Garden Tomb](/wiki/The_Garden_Tomb) in Jerusalem – a new holy site established by British Protestants in the 19th century.

In 1517, Jerusalem and environs fell to the [Ottoman Turks](/wiki/Ottoman_Empire), who generally remained in control until 1917.[[141]](#cite_note-141) Jerusalem enjoyed a prosperous period of renewal and peace under [Suleiman the Magnificent](/wiki/Suleiman_the_Magnificent) – including the rebuilding of magnificent walls around the [Old City](/wiki/Old_City_(Jerusalem)). Throughout much of Ottoman rule, Jerusalem remained a provincial, if religiously important center, and did not straddle the main trade route between [Damascus](/wiki/Damascus) and [Cairo](/wiki/Cairo).[[147]](#cite_note-147) The English reference book *Modern history or the present state of all nations*, written in 1744, stated that "Jerusalem is still reckoned the capital city of Palestine, though much fallen from its ancient grandeaur".[[148]](#cite_note-148) The Ottomans brought many innovations: modern postal systems run by the various consulates and regular stagecoach and carriage services were among the first signs of modernization in the city.[[149]](#cite_note-149) In the mid 19th century, the Ottomans constructed the first paved road from Jaffa to Jerusalem, and by 1892 the railroad had reached the city.[[149]](#cite_note-149) With the annexation of Jerusalem by [Muhammad Ali of Egypt](/wiki/Muhammad_Ali_of_Egypt) in 1831, foreign missions and consulates began to establish a foothold in the city. In 1836, [Ibrahim Pasha](/wiki/Ibrahim_Pasha_of_Egypt) allowed Jerusalem's Jewish residents to restore four major synagogues, among them the [Hurva](/wiki/Hurva_Synagogue).[[150]](#cite_note-150) In the countrywide [Peasants' Revolt](/wiki/Peasants'_Revolt_of_1834_(Palestine)), [Qasim al-Ahmad](/wiki/Qasim_al-Ahmad) led his forces from [Nablus](/wiki/Nablus) and attacked Jerusalem, aided by the [Abu Ghosh](/wiki/Abu_Ghosh) clan, and entered the city on 31 May 1834. The Christians and Jews of Jerusalem were subjected to attacks. Ibrahim's Egyptian army routed Qasim's forces in Jerusalem the following month.[[151]](#cite_note-151) Ottoman rule was reinstated in 1840, but many Egyptian Muslims remained in Jerusalem and Jews from [Algiers](/wiki/Algiers) and North Africa began to settle in the city in growing numbers.[[150]](#cite_note-150) In the 1840s and 1850s, the international powers began a tug-of-war in Palestine as they sought to extend their protection over the region's religious minorities, a struggle carried out mainly through consular representatives in Jerusalem.[[152]](#cite_note-152) According to the Prussian consul, the population in 1845 was 16,410, with 7,120 Jews, 5,000 Muslims, 3,390 Christians, 800 Turkish soldiers and 100 Europeans.[[150]](#cite_note-150) The volume of Christian pilgrims increased under the Ottomans, doubling the city's population around Easter time.[[153]](#cite_note-153) In the 1860s, new neighborhoods [began to develop](/wiki/Expansion_of_Jerusalem_in_the_19th_century) outside the Old City walls to house pilgrims and relieve the intense overcrowding and poor sanitation inside the city. The [Russian Compound](/wiki/Russian_Compound) and [Mishkenot Sha'ananim](/wiki/Mishkenot_Sha'ananim) were founded in 1860,[[154]](#cite_note-154) followed by many others that included [Mahane Israel](/wiki/Mahane_Israel) (1868), [Nahalat Shiv'a](/wiki/Nahalat_Shiv'a) (1869), [German Colony](/wiki/German_Colony,_Jerusalem) (1872), [Beit David](/wiki/Beit_David) (1873), [Mea Shearim](/wiki/Mea_Shearim) (1874), [Shimon HaZadiq](/wiki/Shimon_HaTzadik) (1876), [Beit Ya'aqov](/wiki/Beit_Ya'akov,_Jerusalem) (1877), [Abu Tor](/wiki/Abu_Tor) (1880s), [American-Swedish Colony](/wiki/American_Colony,_Jerusalem) (1882), [Yemin Moshe](/wiki/Yemin_Moshe) (1891), and [Mamilla](/wiki/Mamilla), [Wadi al-Joz](/wiki/Wadi_al-Joz) around the turn of the century. In 1867 an American Missionary reports an estimated population of Jerusalem of 'above' 15,000, with 4,000 to 5,000 Jews and 6,000 Muslims. Every year there were 5,000 to 6,000 Russian Christian Pilgrims.[[155]](#cite_note-155) In 1874 Jerusalem became the center of a special administrative district, independent of the [Syria Vilayet](/wiki/Syria_Vilayet) and under the direct authority of [Istanbul](/wiki/Istanbul) called the [Mutasarrifate of Jerusalem](/wiki/Mutasarrifate_of_Jerusalem).[[156]](#cite_note-156) Until the 1880s there were no formal orphanages in Jerusalem, as families generally took care of each other. In 1881 the [Diskin Orphanage](/wiki/Diskin_Orphanage) was founded in Jerusalem with the arrival of Jewish children orphaned by a Russian [pogrom](/wiki/Pogrom). Other orphanages founded in Jerusalem at the beginning of the 20th century were [Zion Blumenthal Orphanage](/wiki/Zion_Blumenthal_Orphanage) (1900) and [General Israel Orphan's Home for Girls](/wiki/General_Israel_Orphan's_Home_for_Girls) (1902).[[157]](#cite_note-157) Christian missionaries from the Anglican and Lutheran Churches arrived in the 19th Century,[[158]](#cite_note-158) as did missionaries from the Christian & Missionary Alliance (CMA).[[159]](#cite_note-159)

### 1917–1948 − British Mandate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) In 1917 after the [Battle of Jerusalem](/wiki/Battle_of_Jerusalem_(1917)), the [British Army](/wiki/British_Army), led by [General Edmund Allenby](/wiki/Edmund_Allenby,_1st_Viscount_Allenby), captured the city.[[160]](#cite_note-160) In 1922, the [League of Nations](/wiki/League_of_Nations) at the [Conference of Lausanne](/wiki/Conference_of_Lausanne) entrusted the United Kingdom to administer [Palestine](/wiki/Palestine_(region)), neighbouring [Transjordan](/wiki/Emirate_of_Transjordan), and [Iraq](/wiki/British_Mandate_of_Mesopotamia) beyond it.

The British had to deal with a conflicting demand that was rooted in Ottoman rule. Agreements for the supply of water, electricity, and the construction of a tramway system — all under concessions granted by the Ottoman authorities — had been signed by the city of Jerusalem and a Greek citizen by the name of Euripides Mavromatis on 27 January 1914. Work under these concessions had not begun and, by the end of the war the British occupying forces refused to recognize their validity. Mavromatis claimed that his concessions overlapped with the Auja Concession that the government had awarded to Rutenberg in 1921 and that he had been deprived of his legal rights. The Mavromatis concession, in effect despite earlier British attempts to abolish it, covered Jerusalem and other localities (e.g., Bethlehem) within a radius of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) around the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.[[161]](#cite_note-161) From 1922 to 1948 the total population of the city rose from 52,000 to 165,000, comprised two-thirds of Jews and one-third of Arabs (Muslims and Christians).[[162]](#cite_note-162) Relations between Arab Christians and Muslims and the growing Jewish population in Jerusalem deteriorated, resulting in recurring unrest. In Jerusalem, in particular, [Arab riots occurred in 1920](/wiki/1920_Palestine_riots) and [in 1929](/wiki/1929_Palestine_riots). Under the British, new garden suburbs were built in the western and northern parts of the city[[163]](#cite_note-163)[[164]](#cite_note-164) and institutions of higher learning such as the [Hebrew University](/wiki/Hebrew_University_of_Jerusalem) were founded.[[165]](#cite_note-165)

### 1948–1967 − Jordanian/Israeli rule[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

[thumb|left|](/wiki/File:PikiWiki_Israel_20755_The_Palmach.jpg)[Palmach](/wiki/Palmach) soldiers attack the San Simon monastery in Katamon, Jerusalem, April 1948 (battle reconstruction) [Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [Template:JerusalemCS](/wiki/Template:JerusalemCS) As the British Mandate for Palestine was expiring, the [1947 UN Partition Plan](/wiki/United_Nations_Partition_Plan_for_Palestine) recommended "the creation of a special international regime in the City of Jerusalem, constituting it as a [*Corpus separatum*](/wiki/Corpus_separatum_(Jerusalem)) under the administration of the UN."[[166]](#cite_note-166) The international regime (which also included the city of [Bethlehem](/wiki/Bethlehem)) was to remain in force for a period of ten years, whereupon a referendum was to be held in which the residents were to decide the future regime of their city.[[167]](#cite_note-167) However, this plan was not implemented, as the [1948 war erupted](/wiki/1948_Arab–Israeli_war), while the British withdrew from Palestine and [Israel declared its independence](/wiki/Declaration_of_Independence_(Israel)).[[168]](#cite_note-168) In contradiction to the Partition Plan, which envisioned a [city](/wiki/Corpus_separatum_(Jerusalem)) separated from the Arab state and the Jewish state, Israel conquered the area which later would become West Jerusalem, along with [major parts of the Arab territory allotted to the future Arab State](/wiki/1948_Arab–Israeli_War#1949_Armistice_Agreements); Jordan took control of East Jerusalem, along with the West Bank. The war led to displacement of Arab and Jewish populations in the city. The 1,500 residents of the [Jewish Quarter](/wiki/Jewish_Quarter_(Jerusalem)) of the Old City were expelled and a few hundred taken prisoner when the Arab Legion captured the quarter on 28 May.[[169]](#cite_note-169)[[170]](#cite_note-170) Arab residents of [Katamon](/wiki/Katamon), [Talbiya](/wiki/Talbiya), and the [German Colony](/wiki/German_Colony,_Jerusalem) were driven from their homes. By the end of the war Israel had control of 12 of Jerusalem's 15 Arab residential quarters. An estimated minimum of 30,000 people had become refugees.[[171]](#cite_note-171)[[172]](#cite_note-172)[thumb|Israeli policemen meet a](/wiki/File:Mandelbaum_Gate_Jerusalem.jpg) [Jordanian Legionnaire](/wiki/Arab_Legion) near the [Mandelbaum Gate](/wiki/Mandelbaum_Gate) (circa 1950)

The war of 1948 resulted in the division of Jerusalem, so that the [old walled city](/wiki/Old_City_(Jerusalem)) lay entirely on the Jordanian side of the [line](/wiki/Green_Line_(Israel)). A no-man's land between East and West Jerusalem came into being in November 1948: [Moshe Dayan](/wiki/Moshe_Dayan), commander of the Israeli forces in Jerusalem, met with his Jordanian counterpart [Abdullah el-Tell](/wiki/Abdullah_el-Tell) in a deserted house in Jerusalem's [Musrara](/wiki/Musrara,_Jerusalem) neighborhood and marked out their respective positions: Israel's position in red and Jordan's in green. This rough map, which was not meant as an official one, became the final [line](/wiki/Green_Line_(Israel)) in the [1949 Armistice Agreements](/wiki/1949_Armistice_Agreements), which divided the city and left [Mount Scopus](/wiki/Mount_Scopus) as an Israeli [exclave](/wiki/Enclave_and_exclave) inside [East Jerusalem](/wiki/East_Jerusalem).[[173]](#cite_note-173) Barbed wire and concrete barriers ran down the center of the city, passing close by [Jaffa Gate](/wiki/Jaffa_Gate) on the western side of the [old walled city](/wiki/Old_City_(Jerusalem)), and a crossing point was established at [Mandelbaum Gate](/wiki/Mandelbaum_Gate) slightly to the north of the [old walled city](/wiki/Old_City_(Jerusalem)). Military skirmishes frequently threatened the ceasefire.

After the establishment of the state of Israel, Jerusalem was declared its capital city.[[174]](#cite_note-174) Jordan formally annexed East Jerusalem in 1950, subjecting it to Jordanian law, and in 1953 declared it the "second capital" of Jordan.[[168]](#cite_note-168)[[175]](#cite_note-175)[[176]](#cite_note-176) Only the United Kingdom and [Pakistan](/wiki/Pakistan) formally recognized such annexation, which, in regard to Jerusalem, was on a *de facto* basis.[[177]](#cite_note-177) Some scholars argue that the view that Pakistan recognized Jordan's annexation is dubious.[[178]](#cite_note-178)[[179]](#cite_note-179)[thumb|left|220px|](/wiki/File:Hurvah_pre-1948.jpg)[Hurva Synagogue](/wiki/Hurva_Synagogue) in the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem [thumb|left|220px|Jordanian](/wiki/File:Arab_Legion_soldier_in_ruins_of_Hurva.jpg) [Arab Legion](/wiki/Arab_Legion) soldier in the rubble of Hurva After 1948, since the [old walled city](/wiki/Old_City_(Jerusalem)) in its entirety was to the east of the armistice line, [Jordan](/wiki/Jordan) was able to take control of all the holy places therein. While Muslim holy sites were maintained and renovated,[[180]](#cite_note-180) contrary to the terms of the armistice agreement, Jews were denied access to Jewish holy sites, many of which were destroyed or desecrated. Jordan allowed only very limited access to Christian holy sites,[[181]](#cite_note-181) and restrictions were imposed on the [Christian population](/wiki/Palestinian_Christians) that led many to leave the city. Of the 58 synagogues in the Old City, half were either razed or converted to stables and hen-houses over the course of the next 19 years, including the [Hurva](/wiki/Hurva) and the [Tiferet Yisrael Synagogue](/wiki/Tiferet_Yisrael_Synagogue). The 3,000-year-old<ref name=cem>[Mount Of Olives Jewish Cemetery](http://www.mountofolives.co.il/eng/panorama.aspx?index=4)</ref> [Mount of Olives Jewish Cemetery](/wiki/Mount_of_Olives_Jewish_Cemetery) was desecrated, with gravestones used to build roads, latrines and Jordanian army fortifications. 38,000 graves in the Jewish Cemetery were destroyed, and Jews were forbidden from being buried there.[[182]](#cite_note-182)[[183]](#cite_note-183) The [Western Wall](/wiki/Western_Wall) was transformed into an exclusively Muslim holy site associated with [*al-Buraq*](/wiki/Al-Buraq).[[184]](#cite_note-184) Israeli authorities neglected to protect the tombs in the Muslim [Mamilla Cemetery](/wiki/Mamilla_Cemetery) in West Jerusalem, which contains the remains of figures from the early Islamic period,[[185]](#cite_note-185) facilitating the creation of a parking lot and public lavatories in 1964.[[186]](#cite_note-186) Many other historic and religiously significant buildings were demolished and replaced by modern structures during the Jordanian occupation.[[187]](#cite_note-187) During this period, the [Dome of the Rock](/wiki/Dome_of_the_Rock) and Al-Aqsa Mosque underwent major renovations.[[188]](#cite_note-188) During the 1948 war, the Jewish residents of Eastern Jerusalem [were expelled](/wiki/Jewish_refugees) by Jordan's [Arab Legion](/wiki/Arab_Legion). Jordan allowed Arab Palestinian refugees from the war to settle in the vacated [Jewish Quarter](/wiki/Jewish_Quarter_(Jerusalem)), which became known as *Harat al-Sharaf*.[[189]](#cite_note-189) In 1966 the Jordanian authorities relocated 500 of them to the [Shua'fat refugee camp](/wiki/Shuafat) as part of plans to turn the Jewish quarter into a [public park](/wiki/Public_park).[[190]](#cite_note-190)[[191]](#cite_note-191)

### From 1967 − Israeli rule[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

[thumb|Map of East Jerusalem (2010)](/wiki/File:EastJerusalemMap.svg) In 1967, despite Israeli pleas that Jordan remain neutral during the [Six-Day War](/wiki/Six-Day_War), [Jordan, which had concluded a defense agreement with Egypt on May 30, 1967, attacked Israeli-held West Jerusalem on the war's second day](/wiki/Six-Day_War#West_Bank). After hand-to-hand fighting between Israeli and Jordanian soldiers on the [Temple Mount](/wiki/Temple_Mount), the [Israel Defense Forces](/wiki/Israel_Defense_Forces) captured East Jerusalem, along with the entire West Bank. On 27 June 1967, three weeks after the war ended, Israel extended its law and jurisdiction to East Jerusalem, including the city's Christian and Muslim holy sites, along with some nearby West Bank territory which comprised 28 Palestinian villages, incorporating it into the Jerusalem Municipality,[[192]](#cite_note-192)[[193]](#cite_note-193) although it carefully avoided using the term annexation. On 10 July, Foreign Minister Abba Eban explained to the UN Secretary General: ″*The term 'annexation' which was used by supporters of the vote is not accurate. The steps that were taken [by Israel] relate to the integration of Jerusalem in administrative and municipal areas, and served as a legal basis for the protection of the holy places of Jerusalem.″*[[194]](#cite_note-194) Israel conducted a census of Arab residents in the areas annexed. Residents were given permanent residency status and the option of applying for Israeli citizenship. Since 1967, new Jewish residential areas have mushroomed in the eastern sector, while no new Palestinian neighbourhoods have been created.[[195]](#cite_note-195) Jewish and Christian access to the holy sites inside the [old walled city](/wiki/Old_City_(Jerusalem)) was restored. Israel left the [Temple Mount](/wiki/Temple_Mount) under the jurisdiction of an Islamic [*waqf*](/wiki/Waqf), but opened the [Western Wall](/wiki/Western_Wall) to Jewish access. The [Moroccan Quarter](/wiki/Moroccan_Quarter), which was located adjacent to the Western Wall, was evacuated and razed.[[196]](#cite_note-196) to make way for a plaza for those visiting the wall.[[197]](#cite_note-197) On 18 April 1968, an expropriation order by the Israeli Ministry of Finance more than doubled the size of the Jewish Quarter, evicting its Arab residents and seizing over 700 buildings of which 105 belonged to Jewish inhabitants prior to the Jordanian occupation of the city.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) The order designated these areas for public use, but they were intended for Jews alone.[[198]](#cite_note-198) The government offered 200 [Jordanian dinars](/wiki/Jordanian_dinar) to each displaced Arab family.

After the Six-Day War the population of Jerusalem increased by 196%. The Jewish population grew by 155%, while the Arab population grew by 314%. The proportion of the Jewish population fell from 74% in 1967 to 72% in 1980, to 68% in 2000, and to 64% in 2010.[[199]](#cite_note-199) Israeli Agriculture Minister [Ariel Sharon](/wiki/Ariel_Sharon) proposed building a ring of Jewish neighborhoods around the city's eastern edges. The plan was intended to [make East Jerusalem more Jewish](/wiki/Judaization_of_Jerusalem) and prevent it from becoming part of an urban Palestinian bloc stretching from [Bethlehem](/wiki/Bethlehem) to [Ramallah](/wiki/Ramallah). On 2 October 1977, the [Israeli cabinet](/wiki/Cabinet_of_Israel) approved the plan, and seven neighborhoods were subsequently built on the city's eastern edges. They became known as the [Ring Neighborhoods](/wiki/Ring_Neighborhoods,_Jerusalem). Other Jewish neighborhoods were built within East Jerusalem, and Israeli Jews also settled in Arab neighborhoods.[[200]](#cite_note-200)[[201]](#cite_note-201) The annexation of East Jerusalem was met with international criticism. The [Israeli Foreign Ministry](/wiki/Ministry_of_Foreign_Affairs_(Israel)) disputes that the annexation of Jerusalem was a violation of international law.[[202]](#cite_note-202)[[203]](#cite_note-203) The final status of Jerusalem has been one of the most important areas of discord between Palestinian and Israeli negotiators for peace. Areas of discord have included whether the Palestinian flag can be raised over areas of Palestinian custodianship and the specificity of Israeli and Palestinian territorial borders.<ref name=Abbas-090900>[*Abu Mazen's speechat the meeting of the PLO's Palestinian Central Council*](http://unispal.un.org/UNISPAL.NSF/0/172D1A3302DC903B85256E37005BD90F), 9 September 2000 [Template:Wayback](/wiki/Template:Wayback)</ref>

## Political status[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further)

### International status[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

[Template:Refimprove section](/wiki/Template:Refimprove_section) While the international community regards East Jerusalem, including the entire *Old City*, as part of the [occupied Palestinian territories](/wiki/Occupied_Palestinian_territories), neither part, West or East Jerusalem, is recognized as part of the territory of Israel or the [State of Palestine](/wiki/State_of_Palestine). Under the [United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine](/wiki/United_Nations_Partition_Plan_for_Palestine) adopted by the [General Assembly of the United Nations](/wiki/General_Assembly_of_the_United_Nations) in 1947, Jerusalem was envisaged to become a [corpus separatum](/wiki/Corpus_separatum_(Jerusalem)) administered by the United Nations. In the war of 1948, the western part of the city was occupied by forces of the nascent state of Israel, while the eastern part was occupied by [Jordan](/wiki/Jordan). The international community largely considers the legal status of Jerusalem to derive from the partition plan, and correspondingly refuses to recognize Israeli sovereignty over the city.

### Status under Israeli rule[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

[thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Israel_Supreme_Court.jpg)[Supreme Court of Israel](/wiki/Supreme_Court_of_Israel)

Following the 1967 [Six-Day War](/wiki/Six-Day_War), Israel extended its jurisdiction and administration over East Jerusalem, establishing new municipal borders.

In 2010, Israel approved legislation giving Jerusalem the highest national priority status in Israel. The law prioritized construction throughout the city, and offered grants and tax benefits to residents to make housing, infrastructure, education, employment, business, tourism, and cultural events more affordable. Communications Minister [Moshe Kahlon](/wiki/Moshe_Kahlon) said that the bill sent "a clear, unequivocal political message that Jerusalem will not be divided", and that "all those within the Palestinian and international community who expect the current Israeli government to accept any demands regarding Israel's sovereignty over its capital are mistaken and misleading".[[204]](#cite_note-204) The status of the city, and especially its holy places, remains a core issue in the Israeli–Palestinian conflict. The Israeli government has approved building plans in the Muslim Quarter of the Old City[[205]](#cite_note-205) in order to expand the Jewish presence in East Jerusalem, while some Islamic leaders have made claims that Jews have no historical connection to Jerusalem, alleging that the 2,500-year-old Western Wall was constructed as part of a mosque.[[206]](#cite_note-206)[[207]](#cite_note-207) Palestinians regard Jerusalem as the capital of the [State of Palestine](/wiki/State_of_Palestine),<ref name=PalestinianPosition/> and the city's borders have been the subject of bilateral talks. A team of experts assembled by the then Israeli Prime Minister [Ehud Barak](/wiki/Ehud_Barak) in 2000 concluded that the city must be divided, since Israel had failed to achieve any of its national aims there.<ref name=Amirav01a>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref> However, Israeli Prime Minister [Benjamin Netanyahu](/wiki/Benjamin_Netanyahu) said in 2014 that "Jerusalem will never be divided".[[208]](#cite_note-208) A poll conducted in June 2013 found that 74% of Israeli Jews reject the idea of a Palestinian capital in any portion of Jerusalem, though 72% of the public regarded it as a divided city.[[209]](#cite_note-209) A poll conducted by Palestinian Center for Public Opinion and American Pechter Middle East Polls for the Council on Foreign Relations, among East Jerusalem Arab residents in 2011 revealed that 39% of East Jerusalem Arab residents would prefer Israeli citizenship contrary to 31% who opted for Palestinian citizenship. According to the poll, 40% of Palestinian residents would prefer to leave their neighborhoods if they would be placed under Palestinian rule.[[210]](#cite_note-210)

### Jerusalem as capital[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

#### Capital of Israel[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

[thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Hutz.JPG)[Israeli Foreign Ministry](/wiki/Foreign_Ministry_of_Israel) building On 5 December 1949, Israel's first Prime Minister, [David Ben-Gurion](/wiki/David_Ben-Gurion), proclaimed Jerusalem as Israel's capital,[[211]](#cite_note-211) and since then all branches of the [Israeli government](/wiki/Politics_of_Israel)—[legislative](/wiki/Politics_of_Israel#Legislative_branch), [judicial](/wiki/Politics_of_Israel#Judicial_system), and [executive](/wiki/Politics_of_Israel#Prime_Ministers_and_governments_in_the_last_ten_years)—have resided there, except for the [Ministry of Defense](/wiki/Ministry_of_Defense_(Israel)), which is located at [HaKirya](/wiki/HaKirya) in [Tel Aviv](/wiki/Tel_Aviv).[[212]](#cite_note-212) At the time of the proclamation, Jerusalem was divided between Israel and Jordan and thus only West Jerusalem was proclaimed Israel's capital.

In July 1980, Israel passed the [Jerusalem Law](/wiki/Jerusalem_Law) as [Basic Law](/wiki/Basic_Laws_of_Israel). The law declared Jerusalem the "complete and united" capital of Israel.[[213]](#cite_note-213) The *"Basic Law: Jerusalem, Capital of Israel"* is a major reason for the international community not to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital. The United Nations Security Council passed [Resolution 478](/wiki/United_Nations_Security_Council_Resolution_478) on 20 August 1980, which declared that the Basic Law is *"a violation of international law"*, is *"null and void and must be rescinded forthwith"*. Member states were called upon to withdraw their diplomatic representation from Jerusalem.[[214]](#cite_note-214) Following the resolution, 22 of the 24 countries that previously had their embassy in (West) Jerusalem relocated them in Tel Aviv, where many embassies already resided prior to Resolution 478. [Costa Rica](/wiki/Costa_Rica) and [El Salvador](/wiki/El_Salvador) followed in 2006.[[215]](#cite_note-215)Currently, there are no embassies located within the city limits of Jerusalem, although there are embassies in [Mevaseret Zion](/wiki/Mevaseret_Zion), on the outskirts of Jerusalem, and four consulates in the city itself.[[216]](#cite_note-216) In 1995, the United States Congress passed the [Jerusalem Embassy Act](/wiki/Jerusalem_Embassy_Act), which required, subject to conditions, that its embassy be moved from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.[[217]](#cite_note-217) However, [U.S. presidents](/wiki/President_of_the_United_States) have argued that Congressional resolutions regarding the status of Jerusalem are merely advisory. The Constitution reserves foreign relations as an executive power, and as such, the United States embassy is still in Tel Aviv.[[218]](#cite_note-218) Due to the non-recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, some non-Israeli press use Tel Aviv as a [metonym](/wiki/Metonym) for Israel.[[219]](#cite_note-219)[[220]](#cite_note-220)[[221]](#cite_note-221)[[222]](#cite_note-222)

#### Capital of Palestine[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Orient_House.jpg)[Orient House](/wiki/Orient_House) in East Jerusalem that served as the headquarters of the [PLO](/wiki/PLO) in the 1980s and 1990s. It was closed by Israel in 2001, two days after the [Sbarro restaurant suicide bombing](/wiki/Sbarro_restaurant_suicide_bombing).

The [Palestinian National Authority](/wiki/Palestinian_National_Authority) views East Jerusalem as occupied territory according to [United Nations Security Council Resolution 242](/wiki/United_Nations_Security_Council_Resolution_242). The Palestinian Authority claims Jerusalem, including the [Haram al-Sharif](/wiki/Haram_al-Sharif), as the capital of the [State of Palestine](/wiki/State_of_Palestine),<ref name=PalestinianPosition>In the [Palestine Liberation Organization's](/wiki/Palestine_Liberation_Organization) [Palestinian Declaration of Independence](/wiki/Palestinian_Declaration_of_Independence) of 1988, Jerusalem is stated to be the capital of the [State of Palestine](/wiki/State_of_Palestine). In 1997, the [Palestinian Legislative Council](/wiki/Palestinian_Legislative_Council) passed the Palestinian *Basic Law* (ratified by Chairman [Yasser Arafat](/wiki/Yasser_Arafat) in 2002), designating the city as such. Article 3: *"Jerusalem is the capital of Palestine."*  
See [*2003 Amended Basic Law*](http://www.palestinianbasiclaw.org/basic-law/2003-amended-basic-law), retrieved 02-06-2013; [Arafat Signs Law Making Jerusalem Palestinian Capital](http://english.people.com.cn/200210/06/eng20021006_104530.shtml), People's Daily, published 6 October 2002; [Arafat names Jerusalem as capital](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/2302961.stm), BBC News, published 6 October 2002.</ref> The PLO claims that West Jerusalem is also subject to permanent status negotiations. However, it has stated that it would be willing to consider alternative solutions, such as making Jerusalem an [open city](/wiki/Open_city).<ref name=PLO-NAD>PLO-Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD), [*Jerusalem*](http://www.nad-plo.org/etemplate.php?id=59&more=1). Retrieved 20-05-2013</ref>

The PLO's current position is that East Jerusalem, as defined by the pre-1967 municipal boundaries, shall be the capital of Palestine and West Jerusalem the capital of Israel, with each state enjoying full sovereignty over its respective part of the city and with its own municipality. A joint *development council* would be responsible for coordinated development.[[223]](#cite_note-223) Some states, such as [Russia](/wiki/Russia)[[224]](#cite_note-224) and [China](/wiki/China),[[225]](#cite_note-225) recognize the Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital. [United Nations General Assembly Resolution 58/292](/wiki/United_Nations_General_Assembly_Resolution_58/292) affirmed that the Palestinian people have the right to sovereignty over East Jerusalem.[[226]](#cite_note-226)

### Government precinct and national institutions[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

[thumb|right|The](/wiki/File:Knesset_building_(edited).jpg) [Knesset](/wiki/Knesset) building in [Givat Ram](/wiki/Givat_Ram) Many national institutions of Israel are located in [Kiryat HaMemshala](/wiki/Kiryat_HaMemshala) in [Givat Ram](/wiki/Givat_Ram) in Jerusalem as a part of the [Kiryat HaLeom](/wiki/Kiryat_HaLeom) project which is intended to create a large district that will house most government agencies and national cultural institutions. Some government buildings are located in [Kiryat Menachem Begin](/wiki/Kiryat_Menachem_Begin). The city is home to the [Knesset](/wiki/Knesset),[[227]](#cite_note-227) the [Supreme Court](/wiki/Supreme_Court_of_Israel),[[228]](#cite_note-228) the [Bank of Israel](/wiki/Bank_of_Israel), the [National Headquarters of the Israel Police](/wiki/National_Headquarters_of_the_Israel_Police), the official residences of the [President](/wiki/President_of_Israel) and [Prime Minister](/wiki/Prime_Minister_of_Israel), the [Cabinet](/wiki/Cabinet_of_Israel), and all ministries except for the [Ministry of Defense](/wiki/Ministry_of_Defense_(Israel)) (which is located in central Tel Aviv's [HaKirya](/wiki/HaKirya) district) and the [Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development](/wiki/Ministry_of_Agriculture_and_Rural_Development_(Israel)) (which is located in the Tel Aviv suburb of [Rishon LeZion](/wiki/Rishon_LeZion), nearby [Beit Dagan](/wiki/Beit_Dagan)). Prior to the creation of the State of Israel, Jerusalem served as the administrative capital of [Mandatory Palestine](/wiki/Mandatory_Palestine), which included present-day Israel and Jordan.[[229]](#cite_note-229) From 1949 until 1967, West Jerusalem served as Israel's capital, but was not recognized as such internationally because [UN General Assembly Resolution 194](/wiki/United_Nations_General_Assembly_Resolution_194) envisaged Jerusalem as an [international city](/wiki/International_city). As a result of the Six-Day War in 1967, the whole of Jerusalem came under Israeli control. On 27 June 1967, the government of [Levi Eshkol](/wiki/Levi_Eshkol) extended Israeli law and jurisdiction to East Jerusalem, but agreed that administration of the Temple Mount compound would be maintained by the Jordanian waqf, under the Jordanian Ministry of Religious Endowments.[[230]](#cite_note-230) In 1988, Israel ordered the closure of [Orient House](/wiki/Orient_House), home of the Arab Studies Society, but also the headquarters of the [Palestine Liberation Organization](/wiki/Palestine_Liberation_Organization), for security reasons. The building reopened in 1992 as a Palestinian guesthouse.[[231]](#cite_note-231)[[232]](#cite_note-232) The [Oslo Accords](/wiki/Oslo_Accords) stated that the final status of Jerusalem would be determined by negotiations with the [Palestinian Authority](/wiki/Palestinian_National_Authority). The accords banned any official Palestinian presence in the city until a final peace agreement, but provided for the opening of a Palestinian trade office in East Jerusalem. The Palestinian Authority regards East Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state.[[233]](#cite_note-233)[[234]](#cite_note-234) President [Mahmoud Abbas](/wiki/Mahmoud_Abbas) has said that any agreement that did not include East Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine would be unacceptable.[[235]](#cite_note-235) Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has similarly stated that Jerusalem would remain the undivided capital of Israel. Due to its proximity to the city, especially the [Temple Mount](/wiki/Temple_Mount), [Abu Dis](/wiki/Abu_Dis), a Palestinian suburb of Jerusalem, has been proposed as the future capital of a Palestinian state by Israel. Israel has not incorporated Abu Dis within its security wall around Jerusalem. The Palestinian Authority has built a possible future parliament building for the [Palestinian Legislative Council](/wiki/Palestinian_Legislative_Council) in the town, and its Jerusalem Affairs Offices are all located in Abu Dis.[[236]](#cite_note-236)[Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## Municipal administration[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

The Jerusalem [City Council](/wiki/City_council) is a body of 31 elected members headed by the mayor, who serves a five-year term and appoints eight deputies. The former mayor of Jerusalem, [Uri Lupolianski](/wiki/Uri_Lupolianski), was elected in 2003.[[237]](#cite_note-237) In the November 2008 city elections, [Nir Barkat](/wiki/Nir_Barkat) came out as the winner and is now the mayor. Apart from the mayor and his deputies, City Council members receive no salaries and work on a voluntary basis. The longest-serving Jerusalem mayor was [Teddy Kollek](/wiki/Teddy_Kollek), who spent 28 years—-six consecutive terms-—in office. Most of the meetings of the Jerusalem City Council are private, but each month, it holds a session that is open to the public.[[237]](#cite_note-237) Within the city council, religious political parties form an especially powerful faction, accounting for the majority of its seats.[[238]](#cite_note-238)The headquarters of the Jerusalem Municipality and the mayor's office are at [Safra Square](/wiki/Safra_Square) (*Kikar Safra*) on [Jaffa Road](/wiki/Jaffa_Road). The municipal complex, comprising two modern buildings and ten renovated historic buildings surrounding a large plaza, opened in 1993 moved from the [Jerusalem Historical City Hall Building](/wiki/Jerusalem_Historical_City_Hall_Building).[[239]](#cite_note-239) The city falls under the [Jerusalem District](/wiki/Jerusalem_District), with Jerusalem as the district's capital. 37% of the population is Palestinian, but only 10% of tax revenues are allocated for them. In East Jerusalem, 52% of the land is excluded from development, 35% designated for Jewish settlements, and 13% for Palestinian use, almost all of which is already built on.[[195]](#cite_note-195)

## Geography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]

[thumb|Astronauts' view of Jerusalem](/wiki/File:Jerusalem,_Israel.JPG) [thumb|250px|View from](/wiki/File:Panorama_from_beth_meir_5.jpg) [Beit Meir](/wiki/Beit_Meir) in the [Judaean Mountains](/wiki/Judaean_Mountains) Jerusalem is situated on the southern spur of a [plateau](/wiki/Plateau) in the [Judaean Mountains](/wiki/Judaean_Mountains), which include the [Mount of Olives](/wiki/Mount_of_Olives) (East) and [Mount Scopus](/wiki/Mount_Scopus) (North East). The elevation of the Old City is approximately [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert).[[240]](#cite_note-240) The whole of Jerusalem is surrounded by valleys and dry [riverbeds](/wiki/Wadi) ([*wadis*](/wiki/Wadi)). The [Kidron](/wiki/Kidron_Valley), [Hinnom](/wiki/Gehenna), and [Tyropoeon](/wiki/Tyropoeon_Valley) Valleys intersect in an area just south of the Old City of Jerusalem.[[241]](#cite_note-241) The [Kidron Valley](/wiki/Kidron_Valley) runs to the east of the Old City and separates the [Mount of Olives](/wiki/Mount_of_Olives) from the city proper. Along the southern side of old Jerusalem is the [Valley of Hinnom](/wiki/Gehenna), a steep ravine associated in biblical [eschatology](/wiki/Eschatology) with the concept of [Gehenna](/wiki/Gehenna) or [Hell](/wiki/Hell).[[242]](#cite_note-242) The [Tyropoeon Valley](/wiki/Tyropoeon_Valley) commenced in the northwest near the [Damascus Gate](/wiki/Damascus_Gate), ran south-southeasterly through the center of the Old City down to the [Pool of Siloam](/wiki/Pool_of_Siloam), and divided the lower part into two hills, the Temple Mount to the east, and the rest of the city to the west (the lower and the upper cities described by [Josephus](/wiki/Josephus)). Today, this valley is hidden by debris that has accumulated over the centuries.[[241]](#cite_note-241)In biblical times, Jerusalem was surrounded by forests of almond, olive and pine trees. Over centuries of warfare and neglect, these forests were destroyed. Farmers in the Jerusalem region thus built stone terraces along the slopes to hold back the soil, a feature still very much in evidence in the Jerusalem landscape.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

Water supply has always been a major problem in Jerusalem, as attested to by the intricate network of ancient [aqueducts](/wiki/Aqueduct_(watercourse)), tunnels, pools and cisterns found in the city.[[243]](#cite_note-243) Jerusalem is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert)[[244]](#cite_note-244) east of [Tel Aviv](/wiki/Tel_Aviv) and the [Mediterranean Sea](/wiki/Mediterranean_Sea). On the opposite side of the city, approximately [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert)[[245]](#cite_note-245) away, is the [Dead Sea](/wiki/Dead_Sea), the [lowest body of water](/wiki/Extremes_on_Earth) on Earth. Neighboring cities and towns include [Bethlehem](/wiki/Bethlehem) and [Beit Jala](/wiki/Beit_Jala) to the south, [Abu Dis](/wiki/Abu_Dis) and [Ma'ale Adumim](/wiki/Ma'ale_Adumim) to the east, [Mevaseret Zion](/wiki/Mevaseret_Zion) to the west, and [Ramallah](/wiki/Ramallah) and [Giv'at Ze'ev](/wiki/Giv'at_Ze'ev) to the north.[[246]](#cite_note-246)[[247]](#cite_note-247)[[248]](#cite_note-248) [Mount Herzl](/wiki/Mount_Herzl), at the western side of the city near the [Jerusalem Forest](/wiki/Jerusalem_Forest), serves as the national cemetery of Israel.

### Climate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]

[thumb|Jerusalem in snow during the](/wiki/File:Jerusalem_snow!_(11357248385).jpg) [2013 cold snap](/wiki/2013_Middle_East_cold_snap) The city is characterized by a [hot-summer Mediterranean climate](/wiki/Hot-summer_Mediterranean_climate) ([Köppen](/wiki/Köppen_climate_classification): *Csa*), with hot, dry summers, and mild, wet winters. Snow flurries usually occur once or twice a winter, although the city experiences heavy snowfall every three to four years, on average, with short-lived accumulation. January is the coldest month of the year, with an average temperature of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert); July and August are the hottest months, with an average temperature of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), and the summer months are usually rainless. The average annual precipitation is around [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), with rain occurring almost entirely between October and May.[[249]](#cite_note-249) Snowfall is rare, and large snowfalls are even more rare.<ref name=snow2013-1>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref><ref name=snow2013-2>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> Jerusalem received over [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of snow on 13 December 2013, which nearly paralyzed the city.<ref name=snow2013-1/><ref name=snow2013-2/> A day in Jerusalem has on average, 9.3 sunshine hours.

Most of the air pollution in Jerusalem comes from vehicular traffic.[[250]](#cite_note-250) Many main streets in Jerusalem were not built to accommodate such a large volume of traffic, leading to traffic congestion and more [carbon monoxide](/wiki/Carbon_monoxide) released into the air. Industrial pollution inside the city is sparse, but emissions from factories on the [Israeli Mediterranean coast](/wiki/Israeli_coastal_plain) can travel eastward and settle over the city.[[250]](#cite_note-250)[[251]](#cite_note-251) [Template:Weather box](/wiki/Template:Weather_box)

## Demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

### Demographic history[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Jerusalem's population size and composition has shifted many times over its 5,000 year history. Since medieval times, the [Old City](/wiki/Old_City_(Jerusalem)) of Jerusalem has been divided into [Jewish](/wiki/Jewish_Quarter_(Jerusalem)), [Muslim](/wiki/Muslim_Quarter), [Christian](/wiki/Christian_Quarter), and [Armenian quarters](/wiki/Armenian_Quarter).

Most population data pre-1905 is based on estimates, often from foreign travellers or organisations, since previous census data usually covered wider areas such as the [Jerusalem District](/wiki/Jerusalem_District).[[252]](#cite_note-252) These estimates suggest that since the end of the [Crusades](/wiki/Crusades), Muslims formed the largest group in Jerusalem until the mid-nineteenth century.

Between 1838 and 1876, a number of estimates exist which conflict as to whether Jews or Muslims were the largest group during this period, and between 1882 and 1922 estimates conflict as to exactly when Jews became a majority of the population.

### Current demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]

[220px|thumb|left|Guesthouse in](/wiki/File:Mishkenot_Sha'ananim_1.jpg) [Mishkenot Sha'ananim](/wiki/Mishkenot_Sha'ananim), the first Jewish neighborhood built outside the walls of the [Old City of Jerusalem](/wiki/Old_City_of_Jerusalem), on a hill directly across from [Mount Zion](/wiki/Mount_Zion) [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Jerusalem_vista.jpg)[Sheikh Jarrah](/wiki/Sheikh_Jarrah), a predominantly Arab neighborhood on the road to [Mount Scopus](/wiki/Mount_Scopus) [thumb|left|The](/wiki/File:AQ_IMG_4968.JPG) [Armenian Quarter](/wiki/Armenian_Quarter) In December 2007, Jerusalem had a population of 747,600—64% were Jewish, 32% Muslim, and 2% Christian.[[253]](#cite_note-253) At the end of 2005, the population density was [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert).[[254]](#cite_note-254)[[255]](#cite_note-255) According to a study published in 2000, the percentage of Jews in the city's population had been decreasing; this was attributed to a higher Muslim [birth rate](/wiki/Birth_rate), and Jewish residents leaving. The study also found that about nine percent of the Old City's 32,488 people were Jews.[[256]](#cite_note-256) Of the Jewish population, 200,000 live in East Jerusalem settlements which are considered illegal under international law.[[257]](#cite_note-257) In 2005, 2,850 new immigrants settled in Jerusalem, mostly from the United States, France and the former [Soviet Union](/wiki/Soviet_Union). In terms of the local population, the number of outgoing residents exceeds the number of incoming residents. In 2005, 16,000 left Jerusalem and only 10,000 moved in.[[254]](#cite_note-254) Nevertheless, the population of Jerusalem continues to rise due to the high birth rate, especially in the [Haredi Jewish](/wiki/Haredi_Judaism) and [Arab](/wiki/Arab_people) communities. Consequently, the [total fertility rate](/wiki/Total_fertility_rate) in Jerusalem (4.02) is higher than in Tel Aviv (1.98) and well above the national average of 2.90. The average size of Jerusalem's 180,000 households is 3.8 people.[[254]](#cite_note-254) In 2005, the total population grew by 13,000 (1.8%)—similar to the Israeli national average, but the religious and ethnic composition is shifting. While 31% of the Jewish population is made up of children below the age fifteen, the figure for the Arab population is 42%.[[254]](#cite_note-254) This would seem to corroborate the observation that the percentage of Jews in Jerusalem has declined over the past four decades. In 1967, Jews accounted for 74 percent of the population, while the figure for 2006 is down nine percent.[[258]](#cite_note-258) Possible factors are the high cost of housing, fewer job opportunities and the increasingly religious character of the city, although proportionally, young [Haredim](/wiki/Haredi_Judaism) are leaving in higher numbers.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) The percentage of secular Jews, or those who 'wear their faith lightly' is dropping, with some 20,000 leaving the city over the past seven years (2012). They now number 31% of the population, the same percentage as the rising ultra-orthodox population.[[259]](#cite_note-259) Many move to the suburbs and coastal cities in search of cheaper housing and a more secular lifestyle.[[260]](#cite_note-260)In 2009, the percentage of Haredim in the city was increasing. [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of), out of 150, 100 schoolchildren, 59,900 or 40% are in state-run secular and [National Religious](/wiki/Religious_Zionism) schools, while 90,200 or 60% are in Haredi schools. This correlates with the high number of children in Haredi families.[[261]](#cite_note-261)[[262]](#cite_note-262) While some Israelis avoid Jerusalem for its relative lack of development and religious and political tensions, the city has attracted Palestinians, offering more jobs and opportunity than any city in the [West Bank](/wiki/West_Bank) or [Gaza Strip](/wiki/Gaza_Strip). Palestinian officials have encouraged Arabs over the years to stay in the city to maintain their claim.[[263]](#cite_note-263)[[264]](#cite_note-264) Palestinians are attracted to the access to jobs, [healthcare](/wiki/Health_care), [social security](/wiki/Social_security), other benefits, and [quality of life](/wiki/Quality_of_life) Israel provides to Jerusalem residents.[[265]](#cite_note-265) Arab residents of Jerusalem who choose not to have Israeli citizenship are granted an Israeli identity card that allows them to pass through checkpoints with relative ease and to travel throughout Israel, making it easier to find work. Residents also are entitled to the subsidized healthcare and social security benefits Israel provides its citizens, and have the right to vote in municipal elections. Arabs in Jerusalem can send their children to Israeli-run schools, although not every neighborhood has one, and universities. Israeli doctors and highly regarded hospitals such as [Hadassah Medical Center](/wiki/Hadassah_Medical_Center) are available to residents.[[266]](#cite_note-266) Demographics and the Jewish-Arab population divide play a major role in the dispute over Jerusalem. In 1998, the [Jerusalem Development Authority](/wiki/Jerusalem_Development_Authority) proposed expanding city limits to the west to include more areas heavily populated with Jews.[[267]](#cite_note-267) Within the past few years, there has been a steady increase in the Jewish birthrate and a steady decrease in the Arab birthrate. In May 2012, it was reported that the Jewish birthrate had overtaken the Arab birthrate. Currently, the city's birthrate stands about 4.2 children per Jewish family and 3.9 children per Arab family.[[268]](#cite_note-268)[[269]](#cite_note-269) In addition, increasing numbers of Jewish immigrants chose to settle in Jerusalem. In the last few years, thousands of Palestinians have moved to previously fully Jewish neighborhoods of East Jerusalem, built after the 1967 Six-Day War. In 2007, 1,300 Palestinians lived in the previously exclusively Jewish neighborhood of [Pisgat Ze'ev](/wiki/Pisgat_Ze'ev) and constituted three percent of the population in [Neve Ya'akov](/wiki/Neve_Ya'akov). In the [French Hill](/wiki/French_Hill) neighborhood, Palestinians today constitute one-sixth of the overall population.[[270]](#cite_note-270) At the end of 2008, the population of East Jerusalem was 456,300, comprising 60% of Jerusalem's residents. Of these, 195,500 (43%) are Jews, (comprising 40% of the Jewish population of Jerusalem as a whole), 260,800 (57%) are Muslim (comprising 98% of the Muslim population of Jerusalem).[[271]](#cite_note-271) In 2008, the [Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics](/wiki/Palestinian_Central_Bureau_of_Statistics) reported the number of Palestinians living in East Jerusalem was 208,000 according to a recently completed census.[[272]](#cite_note-272) Jerusalem's Jewish population is overwhelmingly religious. Only 21% of Jewish residents are secular. In addition, [Haredi Jews](/wiki/Haredi_Judaism) comprise 30% of the city's adult Jewish population. In a phenomenon seen rarely around the world, the percentage of Jewish men who work, 47%, is exceeded by the percentage of Jewish women who work, 50%.[[273]](#cite_note-273) Jerusalem had a population of 801,000 in 2011, of which Jews comprised 497,000 (62%), Muslims 281,000 (35%), Christians 14,000 (around 2%) and 9,000 (1%) were not classified by religion.[[25]](#cite_note-25)

### Urban planning issues[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]

Critics of efforts to promote a Jewish majority in Jerusalem say that government planning policies are motivated by demographic considerations and seek to limit Arab construction while promoting Jewish construction.[[274]](#cite_note-274) According to a [World Bank](/wiki/World_Bank) report, the number of recorded building violations between 1996 and 2000 was four and half times higher in Jewish neighborhoods but four times fewer demolition orders were issued in West Jerusalem than in East Jerusalem; Arabs in Jerusalem were less likely to receive construction permits than Jews, and "the authorities are much more likely to take action against Palestinian violators" than Jewish violators of the permit process.[[275]](#cite_note-275) In recent years, private Jewish foundations have received permission from the government to develop projects on disputed lands, such as the [City of David](/wiki/City_of_David) archaeological park in the 60% Arab neighborhood of [Silwan](/wiki/Silwan) (adjacent to the Old City),[[276]](#cite_note-276) and the [Museum of Tolerance](/wiki/Museum_of_Tolerance) on Mamilla Cemetery (adjacent to Zion Square).[[275]](#cite_note-275)[[277]](#cite_note-277)

## Religious significance[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [Template:Multiple image](/wiki/Template:Multiple_image)

Jerusalem has been sacred to Judaism for roughly 3000 years, to Christianity for around 2000 years, and to Islam for approximately 1400 years. The 2000 Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem lists 1204 synagogues, 158 churches, and 73 mosques within the city.[[278]](#cite_note-278) Despite efforts to maintain peaceful religious coexistence, some sites, such as the Temple Mount, have been a continuous source of friction and controversy.

Jerusalem has been sacred to the Jews since King David proclaimed it his capital in the 10th century BCE. Jerusalem was the site of [Solomon's Temple](/wiki/Solomon's_Temple) and the Second Temple.[[7]](#cite_note-7) Although not mentioned in the [Torah](/wiki/Torah) / [Pentateuch](/wiki/Pentateuch),[[279]](#cite_note-279) it is mentioned in the Bible 632 times. Today, the [Western Wall](/wiki/Western_Wall), a remnant of the wall surrounding the Second Temple, is a Jewish holy site second only to the "[Holy of Holies](/wiki/Holy_of_Holies)" on the Temple Mount itself.[[280]](#cite_note-280) Synagogues around the world are traditionally built with the Holy Ark facing Jerusalem,[[281]](#cite_note-281) and Arks within Jerusalem face the Holy of Holies.[[282]](#cite_note-282) As prescribed in the [Mishna](/wiki/Mishnah) and codified in the [*Shulchan Aruch*](/wiki/Shulchan_Aruch), daily prayers are recited while facing towards Jerusalem and the Temple Mount. Many Jews have "[Mizrach](/wiki/Mizrah)" plaques hung on a wall of their homes to indicate the direction of prayer.[[282]](#cite_note-282)[[283]](#cite_note-283) Christianity reveres Jerusalem for its [Old Testament](/wiki/Old_Testament) history, and also for its significance in the life of Jesus. According to the [New Testament](/wiki/New_Testament), Jesus was brought to Jerusalem soon after his birth[[284]](#cite_note-284) and later in his life cleansed the Second Temple.[[285]](#cite_note-285) The [Cenacle](/wiki/Cenacle), believed to be the site of Jesus' [Last Supper](/wiki/Last_Supper), is located on [Mount Zion](/wiki/Mount_Zion) in the same building that houses the [Tomb of King David](/wiki/David's_Tomb).[[286]](#cite_note-286)[[287]](#cite_note-287) Another prominent Christian site in Jerusalem is [Golgotha](/wiki/Calvary), the site of the [crucifixion](/wiki/Crucifixion). The [Gospel of John](/wiki/Gospel_of_John) describes it as being located outside Jerusalem,[[288]](#cite_note-288) but recent archaeological evidence suggests Golgotha is a short distance from the Old City walls, within the present-day confines of the city.[[289]](#cite_note-289) The land currently occupied by the [Church of the Holy Sepulchre](/wiki/Church_of_the_Holy_Sepulchre) is considered one of the top candidates for Golgotha and thus has been a Christian pilgrimage site for the past 2000 years.[[289]](#cite_note-289)[[290]](#cite_note-290)[[291]](#cite_note-291) Jerusalem is the third-holiest city in Sunni Islam.[[13]](#cite_note-13) For approximately a year, before it was permanently switched to the [Kaaba](/wiki/Kaaba) in [Mecca](/wiki/Mecca), the [*qibla*](/wiki/Qibla) (direction of [prayer](/wiki/Salat)) for Muslims was Jerusalem.[[292]](#cite_note-292)[[293]](#cite_note-293) The city's lasting place in Islam, however, is primarily due to [Muhammad's](/wiki/Muhammad) [Night of Ascension](/wiki/Isra_and_Mi'raj) (c. CE 620). Muslims believe Muhammad was miraculously transported one night from [Mecca](/wiki/Mecca) to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, whereupon he ascended to [Heaven](/wiki/Jannah) to meet previous [prophets of Islam](/wiki/Prophets_of_Islam).[[294]](#cite_note-294)[[295]](#cite_note-295)[[296]](#cite_note-296) The first verse in the [Qur'an's](/wiki/Qur'an) [*Surat al-Isra*](/wiki/Al-Isra) notes the destination of Muhammad's journey as *al-Aqsa* (the farthest) mosque,[[297]](#cite_note-297)[[298]](#cite_note-298) in reference to the location in Jerusalem. The [hadith](/wiki/Hadith), the recorded sayings of the Prophet Mohammad, name Jerusalem as the location of the Al-Aqsa Mosque.[[299]](#cite_note-299) The [al-Aqsa Mosque](/wiki/Al-Aqsa_Mosque), derived from the name mentioned in the [Qur'an](/wiki/Qur'an), was built on the Temple Mount under the Umayyad Caliph [Al-Walid](/wiki/Al-Walid_ibn_Abd_al-Malik) to commemorate the place from which Muslims believe Muhammad ascended to Heaven.[[300]](#cite_note-300)[Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## Culture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]

[thumb|right|The](/wiki/File:Billy_Rose_Art_Garden_(14755133799).jpg) [Shrine of the Book](/wiki/Shrine_of_the_Book), housing the Dead Sea Scrolls, at the [Israel Museum](/wiki/Israel_Museum) Although Jerusalem is known primarily for its [religious significance](/wiki/Religious_significance_of_Jerusalem), the city is also home to many artistic and cultural venues. The [Israel Museum](/wiki/Israel_Museum) attracts nearly one million visitors a year, approximately one-third of them tourists.[[301]](#cite_note-301) The [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) museum complex comprises several buildings featuring special exhibits and extensive collections of Judaica, archaeological findings, and Israeli and European art. The [Dead Sea scrolls](/wiki/Dead_Sea_scrolls), discovered in the mid-20th century in the [Qumran Caves](/wiki/Qumran_Caves) near the Dead Sea, are housed in the Museum's [Shrine of the Book](/wiki/Shrine_of_the_Book).[[302]](#cite_note-302) Next to the Israel Museum is the [Bible Lands Museum](/wiki/Bible_Lands_Museum), near [The National Campus for the Archaeology of Israel](/wiki/Israel_Antiquities_Authority#The_National_Campus_for_the_Archaeology_of_Israel), which includes the [Israel Antiquities Authority](/wiki/Israel_Antiquities_Authority) offices. A World Bible Center is planned to be built adjacent to [Mount Zion](/wiki/Mount_Zion) at a site called the "Bible Hill". A planned [World Kabbalah Center](/wiki/World_Kabbalah_Center) is to be located on the nearby promenade, overlooking the Old City.

The Youth Wing, which mounts changing exhibits and runs an extensive art education program, is visited by 100,000 children a year. The museum has a large outdoor sculpture garden and a scale-model of the [Second Temple](/wiki/Second_Temple).[[301]](#cite_note-301) The [Rockefeller Museum](/wiki/Rockefeller_Museum), located in East Jerusalem, was the first archaeological museum in the Middle East. It was built in 1938 during the British Mandate.[[303]](#cite_note-303)[[304]](#cite_note-304) The national cemetery of Israel is located at the city's western edge, near the [Jerusalem Forest](/wiki/Jerusalem_Forest) on [Mount Herzl](/wiki/Mount_Herzl). The western extension of Mount Herzl is the Mount of Remembrance, where the main Holocaust museum of Israel is located. [Yad Vashem](/wiki/Yad_Vashem), Israel's national memorial to the victims of the [Holocaust](/wiki/Holocaust), houses the world's largest library of Holocaust-related information.[[305]](#cite_note-305) It houses an estimated 100,000 books and articles. The complex contains a state-of-the-art museum that explores the genocide of the Jews through exhibits that focus on the personal stories of individuals and families killed in the Holocaust. An art gallery featuring the work of artists who perished is also present. Further, Yad Vashem commemorates the 1.5 million Jewish children murdered by the Nazis, and honors the [Righteous among the Nations](/wiki/Righteous_among_the_Nations).[[306]](#cite_note-306) [thumb|right|](/wiki/File:NLI_building2.jpg)[National Library of Israel](/wiki/National_Library_of_Israel) The Museum on the Seam, which explores issues of coexistence through art, is situated on the road dividing eastern and western Jerusalem.[[307]](#cite_note-307) The [Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra](/wiki/Jerusalem_Symphony_Orchestra), established in the 1940s,[[308]](#cite_note-308) has appeared around the world.[[308]](#cite_note-308) The [International Convention Center](/wiki/International_Convention_Center_(Jerusalem)) (*Binyanei HaUma*) near the entrance to city houses the [Israel Philharmonic Orchestra](/wiki/Israel_Philharmonic_Orchestra). The Jerusalem Cinemateque, the [Gerard Behar Center](/wiki/Gerard_Behar_Center) (formerly Beit Ha'Am) in downtown Jerusalem, the [Jerusalem Music Center](/wiki/Jerusalem_Music_Centre) in [Yemin Moshe](/wiki/Yemin_Moshe),[[309]](#cite_note-309) and the Targ Music Center in [Ein Kerem](/wiki/Ein_Kerem) also present the arts. The [Israel Festival](/wiki/Israel_Festival), featuring indoor and outdoor performances by local and international singers, concerts, plays, and street theater has been held annually since 1961, and Jerusalem has been the major organizer of this event. The [Jerusalem Theater](/wiki/Jerusalem_Theater) in the [Talbiya](/wiki/Talbiya) neighborhood hosts over 150 concerts a year, as well as theater and dance companies and performing artists from overseas.[[310]](#cite_note-310) The [Khan Theater](/wiki/The_Jerusalem_Khan_Theatre), located in a [caravanserai](/wiki/Caravanserai) opposite the old Jerusalem train station, is the city's only [repertoire](/wiki/Repertory) theater.[[311]](#cite_note-311) The station itself has become a venue for cultural events in recent years as the site of *Shav'ua Hasefer* (an annual week-long book fair) and outdoor music performances.[[312]](#cite_note-312) The [Jerusalem Film Festival](/wiki/Jerusalem_Film_Festival) is held annually, screening Israeli and international films.[[313]](#cite_note-313) [thumb|upright|](/wiki/File:Jerusalem_Zoo_spider_monkey.jpg)[Jerusalem Biblical Zoo](/wiki/Jerusalem_Biblical_Zoo) The [Jerusalem Biblical Zoo](/wiki/Jerusalem_Biblical_Zoo) has ranked consistently as Israel's top tourist attraction for Israelis.[[314]](#cite_note-314)[[315]](#cite_note-315) The [Ticho House](/wiki/Ticho_House) in downtown Jerusalem houses the paintings of [Anna Ticho](/wiki/Anna_Ticho) and the Judaica collections of her husband, an ophthalmologist who opened Jerusalem's first eye clinic in this building in 1912.[[316]](#cite_note-316) Al-Hoash, established in 2004, is a gallery for the preservation of Palestinian art.[[317]](#cite_note-317)[thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Jerusalem_Great_Synagogue05.jpg)[Heichal Shlomo](/wiki/Heichal_Shlomo)

In 1974 the [Jerusalem Cinematheque](/wiki/Jerusalem_Cinematheque) was founded. In 1981 it was moved to a new building on Hebron Road near the [Valley of Hinnom](/wiki/Valley_of_Hinnom) and the Old City.

Jerusalem was declared the [Capital of Arab Culture](/wiki/2009_Capital_of_Arab_Culture) in 2009.[[318]](#cite_note-318) Jerusalem is home to the [Palestinian National Theatre](/wiki/Palestinian_National_Theatre), which engages in cultural preservation as well as innovation, working to rekindle Palestinian interest in the arts.[[319]](#cite_note-319) [The Edward Said National Conservatory of Music](/wiki/The_Edward_Said_National_Conservatory_of_Music) sponsors the Palestine Youth Orchestra[[320]](#cite_note-320)which toured [Arab states of the Persian Gulf](/wiki/Arab_states_of_the_Persian_Gulf) and other Middle East countries in 2009.[[321]](#cite_note-321) The [Islamic Museum](/wiki/Islamic_Museum) on the Temple Mount, established in 1923, houses many Islamic artifacts, from tiny [kohl](/wiki/Kohl_(cosmetics)) flasks and rare manuscripts to giant marble columns.[[322]](#cite_note-322) While Israel approves and financially supports some Arab cultural activities,[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) Arab Capital of Culture events were banned because they were sponsored by the Palestine National Authority.[[318]](#cite_note-318) In 2009, a four-day culture festival was held in the [Beit 'Anan](/wiki/Beit_'Anan) suburb of Jerusalem, attended by more than 15,000 people[[323]](#cite_note-323) The Abraham Fund and the Jerusalem Intercultural Center] (JICC) promote joint Jewish-Palestinian cultural projects. The Jerusalem Center for Middle Eastern Music and Dance[[324]](#cite_note-324) is open to Arabs and Jews and offers workshops on Jewish-Arab dialogue through the arts.[[325]](#cite_note-325) The Jewish-Arab Youth Orchestra performs both European classical and Middle Eastern music.[[326]](#cite_note-326) In 2006, a [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) [Jerusalem Trail](/wiki/Jerusalem_Trail) was opened, a hiking trail that goes to many cultural sites and [national parks](/wiki/National_parks) in and around Jerusalem. [thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Shaaey_old.JPG)[Israel Broadcasting Authority](/wiki/Israel_Broadcasting_Authority) office In 2008, the [Tolerance Monument](/wiki/Tolerance_Monument), an outdoor sculpture by [Czesław Dźwigaj](/wiki/Czesław_Dźwigaj), was erected on a hill between Jewish [Armon HaNetziv](/wiki/East_Talpiot) and Arab [Jebl Mukaber](/wiki/Jabel_Mukaber) as a symbol of Jerusalem's quest for peace.[[327]](#cite_note-327)

## Media[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]

Jerusalem is the state broadcasting center of Israel. The [Israel Broadcasting Authority's](/wiki/Israel_Broadcasting_Authority) main office is located in Jerusalem, as well as the TV and radio studios for [Israel Radio](/wiki/Israel_Radio), [Channel 2](/wiki/Channel_2_(Israel)), [Channel 10](/wiki/Channel_10_(Israel)), and part of the radio studios of [BBC News](/wiki/BBC_News). [The Jerusalem Post](/wiki/The_Jerusalem_Post) and [The Times of Israel](/wiki/The_Times_of_Israel) are also headquartered in Jerusalem. Local newspapers include [Kol Ha'Ir](/wiki/Kol_Ha'ir) and [The Jerusalem Times](/wiki/The_Jerusalem_Times). [God TV](/wiki/God_TV), an international Christian television network is also based in the city.

## Economy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=30)]

[Template:Multiple image](/wiki/Template:Multiple_image) [Template:Multiple image](/wiki/Template:Multiple_image) Historically, Jerusalem's economy was supported almost exclusively by religious pilgrims, as it was located far from the major ports of [Jaffa](/wiki/Jaffa) and [Gaza](/wiki/Gaza_City).[[328]](#cite_note-328) Jerusalem's religious and cultural landmarks today remain the top draw for foreign visitors, with the majority of tourists visiting the [Western Wall](/wiki/Western_Wall) and the [Old City](/wiki/Old_City_(Jerusalem)),[[254]](#cite_note-254) In 2010, Jerusalem was named the top leisure travel city in Africa and the Middle East by [*Travel + Leisure magazine*](/wiki/Travel_+_Leisure).[[329]](#cite_note-329)in 2013, 75% of the 3.5 million tourists to Israel visited Jerusalem.[[330]](#cite_note-330) Since the establishment of the State of Israel, the national government has remained a major player in Jerusalem's economy. The government, centered in Jerusalem, generates a large number of jobs, and offers subsidies and incentives for new business initiatives and start-ups.[[328]](#cite_note-328) Although Tel Aviv remains Israel's financial center, a growing number of [high tech](/wiki/High_tech) companies are moving to Jerusalem, providing 12,000 jobs in 2006.[[331]](#cite_note-331) Northern Jerusalem's [Har Hotzvim](/wiki/Har_Hotzvim) industrial park and the [Jerusalem Technology Park](/wiki/Jerusalem_Technology_Park) in south Jerusalem are home to large [Research and Development](/wiki/Research_and_Development) centers of international tech companies, among them [Intel](/wiki/Intel_Corporation), [Cisco](/wiki/Cisco), [Teva Pharmaceutical Industries](/wiki/Teva_Pharmaceutical_Industries), [IBM](/wiki/IBM), [Mobileye](/wiki/Mobileye), [Johnson & Johnson](/wiki/Johnson_&_Johnson), [Medtronic](/wiki/Medtronic) and more .[[332]](#cite_note-332) In April 2015, [Time Magazine](/wiki/Time_Magazine) picked Jerusalem as one of the five emerging tech hubs in the world, proclaiming that "The city has become a flourishing center for biomed, cleantech, Internet/mobile startups, accelerators, investors and supporting service providers."[[333]](#cite_note-333) Higher than average percentages are employed in education (17.9% vs. 12.7%); health and welfare (12.6% vs. 10.7%); community and social services (6.4% vs. 4.7%); hotels and restaurants (6.1% vs. 4.7%); and public administration (8.2% vs. 4.7%).[[334]](#cite_note-334) During the British Mandate, a law was passed requiring all buildings to be constructed of [Jerusalem stone](/wiki/Jerusalem_stone) in order to preserve the unique historic and aesthetic character of the city.[[164]](#cite_note-164) Complementing this building code, which is still in force, is the discouragement of [heavy industry](/wiki/Heavy_industry) in Jerusalem; only about 2.2% of Jerusalem's land is zoned for "industry and infrastructure." By comparison, the percentage of land in Tel Aviv zoned for industry and infrastructure is twice as high, and in Haifa, seven times as high.[[254]](#cite_note-254) Only 8.5% of the [Jerusalem District](/wiki/Jerusalem_District) work force is employed in the manufacturing sector, which is half the national average (15.8%).

[right|thumb|upright|150px|Mamilla Avenue adorned with upscale shops adjacent to the Old City Walls.](/wiki/File:Old_city_walls_and_mamilla_ave._at_night_-_as_seen_from_%22Rooftop%22_restauran_-_Jerusalem,_Israel.jpg) Although many statistics indicate economic growth in the city, since 1967 [East Jerusalem](/wiki/East_Jerusalem) has lagged behind the development of [West Jerusalem](/wiki/West_Jerusalem).[[328]](#cite_note-328) Nevertheless, the percentage of households with employed persons is higher for Arab households (76.1%) than for Jewish households (66.8%). The unemployment rate in Jerusalem (8.3%) is slightly better than the national average (9.0%), although the civilian [labor force](/wiki/Labor_force) accounted for less than half of all persons fifteen years or older—lower in comparison to that of [Tel Aviv](/wiki/Tel_Aviv) (58.0%) and [Haifa](/wiki/Haifa) (52.4%).[[254]](#cite_note-254) Poverty remains a problem in the city as 37% of the families in Jerusalem lived in 2011 below the poverty line. According to a report by the [Association for Civil Rights in Israel](/wiki/Association_for_Civil_Rights_in_Israel) (ACRI), 78% of Arabs in Jerusalem lived in poverty in 2012, up from 64% in 2006. While the ACRI attributes the increase to the lack of employment opportunities, infrastructure and a worsening educational system, [Ir Amim](/wiki/Ir_Amim) blames the legal status of Palestinians in Jerusalem.[[335]](#cite_note-335)

### High-rise construction[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=31)]

Jerusalem has traditionally had a low-rise skyline. About 18 tall buildings were built at different times in the downtown area when there was no clear policy over the matter. One of them, Holyland Tower 1, Jerusalem's tallest building, is a [skyscraper](/wiki/Skyscraper) by international standards, rising 32 stories. Holyland Tower 2, which has been approved for construction, will reach the same height.[[336]](#cite_note-336)[[337]](#cite_note-337) A new master plan for the city will see many high-rise buildings, including skyscrapers, built in certain, designated areas of downtown Jerusalem. Under the plan, towers will line [Jaffa Road](/wiki/Jaffa_Road) and [King George Street](/wiki/King_George_Street_(Jerusalem)). One of the proposed towers along King George Street, the Migdal Merkaz HaYekum, is planned as a 65-story building, which would make it one of the tallest buildings in Israel. At the entrance to the city, near the [Jerusalem Chords Bridge](/wiki/Jerusalem_Chords_Bridge) and the [Central Bus Station](/wiki/Jerusalem_Central_Bus_Station), twelve towers rising between 24 and 33 stories will be built, as part of a complex that will also include an open square and an [underground train station](/wiki/Jerusalem_Binyanei_HaUma_Railway_Station) serving a new express line between Jerusalem and [Tel Aviv](/wiki/Tel_Aviv), and will be connected by bridges and underground tunnels. Eleven of the skyscrapers will be either office or apartment buildings, and one will be a 2,000-room hotel. The complex is expected to attract many businesses from Tel Aviv, and become the city's main business hub. In addition, a complex for the city's courts and the prosecutor's office will be built, as well as new buildings for Central Zionist Archives and [Israel State Archives](/wiki/Israel_State_Archives).[[338]](#cite_note-338)[[339]](#cite_note-339)[[340]](#cite_note-340) The skyscrapers built throughout the city are expected to contain public space, shops, restaurants, and entertainment venues, and it has been speculated that this may lead to a revitalization of downtown Jerusalem.[[341]](#cite_note-341)[[342]](#cite_note-342) In August 2015, the city council approved construction of a 344-foot pyramid-shaped skyscraper designed by Daniel Libeskind and Yigal Levi, in place of a rejected previous design by Libeskind; it is set to break ground by 2019.[[343]](#cite_note-343)

## Transportation[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=32)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [right|thumb|](/wiki/File:Jerusalem_Light_Rail_in_Zion_Square_on_A_Rainy_morning_-_November_2011.jpg)[Light Rail](/wiki/Jerusalem_Light_Rail) tram on [Jaffa Road](/wiki/Jaffa_Road) [left|thumb|upright|250px|](/wiki/File:Jerusalem_Chords_Bridge.JPG)[Jerusalem Chords Bridge](/wiki/Jerusalem_Chords_Bridge) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Jerusalem-Central-bus-station.jpg)[Jerusalem Central Bus Station](/wiki/Jerusalem_Central_Bus_Station) Jerusalem is served by highly developed communication infrastructures, making it a leading logistics hub for Israel.

The [Jerusalem Central Bus Station](/wiki/Jerusalem_Central_Bus_Station), located on [Jaffa Road](/wiki/Jaffa_Road), is the busiest bus station in Israel. It is served by [Egged Bus Cooperative](/wiki/Egged_(company)), which is the second-largest bus company in the world,[[344]](#cite_note-344) The [Dan](/wiki/Dan_Bus_Company) serves the [Bnei Brak](/wiki/Bnei_Brak)-Jerusalem route along with Egged, and [Superbus](/wiki/Superbus_(company)) serves the routes between Jerusalem, [Modi'in Illit](/wiki/Modi'in_Illit), and [Modi'in-Maccabim-Re'ut](/wiki/Modi'in-Maccabim-Re'ut). The companies operate from [Jerusalem Central Bus Station](/wiki/Jerusalem_Central_Bus_Station). Arab neighborhoods in [East Jerusalem](/wiki/East_Jerusalem) and routes between Jerusalem and locations in the [West Bank](/wiki/West_Bank) are served by the [East Jerusalem Central Bus Station](/wiki/East_Jerusalem_Central_Bus_Station), a transportation hub located near the Old City's [Damascus Gate](/wiki/Damascus_Gate). The [Jerusalem Light Rail](/wiki/Jerusalem_Light_Rail) initiated service in August 2011. According to plans, the first rail line will be capable of transporting an estimated 200,000 people daily, and has 23 stops. The route is from Pisgat Ze'ev in the north via the Old City and city center to Mt. Herzl in the south.

Another work in progress[[345]](#cite_note-345) is a new [high-speed rail line](/wiki/High-speed_railway_to_Jerusalem) from [Tel Aviv](/wiki/Tel_Aviv) to Jerusalem, which is scheduled to be completed in 2017. Its terminus will be a [new underground station](/wiki/Jerusalem_Binyanei_HaUma_Railway_Station) ([Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) deep) serving the [International Convention Center](/wiki/International_Convention_Center_(Jerusalem)) and the Central Bus Station,[[346]](#cite_note-346) and is planned to be extended eventually to [Malha station](/wiki/Jerusalem_Malha_Railway_Station). [Israel Railways](/wiki/Israel_Railways) operates train services to [Malha train station](/wiki/Jerusalem_Malha_Railway_Station) from Tel Aviv via [Beit Shemesh](/wiki/Beit_Shemesh).[[347]](#cite_note-347)[[348]](#cite_note-348) [Begin Expressway](/wiki/Highway_50_(Israel)) is one of Jerusalem's major north-south thoroughfares; it runs on the western side of the city, merging in the north with [Route 443](/wiki/Route_443_(Israel)), which continues toward Tel Aviv. [Route 60](/wiki/Highway_60_(Israel)) runs through the center of the city near the [Green Line](/wiki/Green_Line_(Israel)) between East and West Jerusalem. Construction is progressing on parts of a [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) [ring road](/wiki/Beltway) around the city, fostering faster connection between the suburbs.[[349]](#cite_note-349)[[350]](#cite_note-350) The eastern half of the project was conceptualized decades ago, but reaction to the proposed highway is still mixed.[[349]](#cite_note-349) Jerusalem is served by [Ben Gurion Airport](/wiki/Ben_Gurion_Airport), some 50 km northwest of the Jerusalem, on the route to [Tel Aviv](/wiki/Tel_Aviv). In the past it was also served by the local [Atarot Airport](/wiki/Atarot_Airport). Atarot ceased operation in the year 2000.

## Education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=33)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Skopusberg_mit_Universitaet.jpg)[Hebrew University of Jerusalem](/wiki/Hebrew_University_of_Jerusalem), [Mount Scopus](/wiki/Mount_Scopus) campus [thumb|right|Hand in Hand, a bilingual Jewish-Arab school in Jerusalem](/wiki/File:Du-leshoni-2.jpg) [thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Academy_of_the_Hebrew_Language.JPG)[Academy of the Hebrew Language](/wiki/Academy_of_the_Hebrew_Language) Jerusalem is home to several prestigious universities offering courses in [Hebrew](/wiki/Hebrew_language), [Arabic](/wiki/Arabic_language) and English. Founded in 1925, the [Hebrew University of Jerusalem](/wiki/Hebrew_University_of_Jerusalem) has been ranked among the top 100 schools in the world.[[351]](#cite_note-351) The Board of Governors has included such prominent Jewish intellectuals as [Albert Einstein](/wiki/Albert_Einstein) and [Sigmund Freud](/wiki/Sigmund_Freud).[[165]](#cite_note-165) The university has produced several [Nobel](/wiki/Nobel_Prize) laureates; recent winners associated with Hebrew University include [Avram Hershko](/wiki/Avram_Hershko),[[352]](#cite_note-352) [David Gross](/wiki/David_Gross),[[353]](#cite_note-353) and [Daniel Kahneman](/wiki/Daniel_Kahneman).[[354]](#cite_note-354) One of the university's major assets is the [Jewish National and University Library](/wiki/National_Library_of_Israel), which houses over five million books.[[355]](#cite_note-355) The library opened in 1892, over three decades before the university was established, and is one of the world's largest repositories of books on Jewish subjects. Today it is both the central library of the university and the national library of Israel.[[356]](#cite_note-356) The Hebrew University operates three campuses in Jerusalem, on [Mount Scopus](/wiki/Mount_Scopus), on [Giv'at Ram](/wiki/Givat_Ram) and a medical campus at the [Hadassah Ein Kerem hospital](/wiki/Hadassah_Medical_Center). the [Academy of the Hebrew Language](/wiki/Academy_of_the_Hebrew_Language) are located in the Hebrew university in Givat Ram and the [Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities](/wiki/Israel_Academy_of_Sciences_and_Humanities) located near the Presidents house.

[Al-Quds University](/wiki/Al-Quds_University) was established in 1984[[357]](#cite_note-357) to serve as a flagship university for the Arab and Palestinian peoples. It describes itself as the "only Arab university in Jerusalem".[[358]](#cite_note-358) New York [Bard College](/wiki/Bard_College) and Al-Quds University agreed to open a joint college in a building originally built to house the [Palestinian Legislative Council](/wiki/Palestinian_Legislative_Council) and [Yasser Arafat's](/wiki/Yasser_Arafat) office. The college gives [Master of Arts in Teaching](/wiki/Master_of_Arts_in_Teaching) degrees.[[359]](#cite_note-359) Al-Quds University resides southeast of the city proper on a [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) [Abu Dis](/wiki/Abu_Dis) campus.[[357]](#cite_note-357) Other institutions of higher learning in Jerusalem are the [Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance](/wiki/Jerusalem_Academy_of_Music_and_Dance)[[360]](#cite_note-360) and [Bezalel Academy of Art and Design](/wiki/Bezalel_Academy_of_Arts_and_Design),[[361]](#cite_note-361) whose buildings are located on the campuses of the Hebrew University.

The [Jerusalem College of Technology](/wiki/Jerusalem_College_of_Technology), founded in 1969, combines training in engineering and other high-tech industries with a Jewish studies program.[[362]](#cite_note-362) It is one of many schools in Jerusalem, from elementary school and up, that combine secular and religious studies. Numerous religious educational institutions and [*Yeshivot*](/wiki/Yeshiva), including some of the most prestigious yeshivas, among them the Brisk, Chevron, [Midrash Shmuel](/wiki/Midrash_Shmuel_Yeshiva) and [Mir](/wiki/Mir_yeshiva_(Jerusalem)), are based in the city, with the Mir Yeshiva claiming to be the largest.[[363]](#cite_note-363) There were nearly 8,000 twelfth-grade students in Hebrew-language schools during the 2003–2004 school year.[[254]](#cite_note-254) However, due to the large portion of students in [Haredi Jewish](/wiki/Haredi_Judaism) frameworks, only fifty-five percent of twelfth graders took [matriculation](/wiki/Matriculation) exams ([*Bagrut*](/wiki/Bagrut)) and only thirty-seven percent were eligible to graduate. Unlike [public schools](/wiki/Public_school_(government_funded)), many Haredi schools do not prepare students to take standardized tests.[[254]](#cite_note-254) To attract more university students to Jerusalem, the city has begun to offer a special package of financial incentives and housing subsidies to students who rent apartments in downtown Jerusalem.[[364]](#cite_note-364) Schools for Arabs in Jerusalem and other parts of Israel have been criticized for offering a lower quality education than those catering to Israeli Jewish students.[[365]](#cite_note-365) While many schools in the heavily Arab [East Jerusalem](/wiki/East_Jerusalem) are filled to capacity and there have been complaints of overcrowding, the Jerusalem Municipality is currently building over a dozen new schools in the city's Arab neighborhoods.[[366]](#cite_note-366) Schools in [Ras el-Amud](/wiki/Ras_al-Amud) and [Umm Lison](/wiki/Umm_Lison) opened in 2008.[[367]](#cite_note-367) In March 2007, the Israeli government approved a 5-year plan to build 8,000 new classrooms in the city, 40 percent in the Arab sector and 28 percent in the Haredi sector. A budget of 4.6 billion shekels was allocated for this project.[[368]](#cite_note-368) In 2008, Jewish British philanthropists donated $3 million for the construction of schools for Arabs in East Jerusalem.[[367]](#cite_note-367) Arab high school students take the [*Bagrut*](/wiki/Bagrut) matriculation exams, so that much of their curriculum parallels that of other Israeli high schools and includes certain Jewish subjects.[[365]](#cite_note-365)

## Sports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=34)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Teddy_stadium,_Jerusalem.JPG)[Teddy Stadium](/wiki/Teddy_Stadium), [Malha](/wiki/Malha) The two most popular sports are [football](/wiki/Association_football) (soccer) and basketball.[[369]](#cite_note-369) [Beitar Jerusalem Football Club](/wiki/Beitar_Jerusalem_F.C.) is one of the most well known in Israel. Fans include political figures who often attend its games.[[370]](#cite_note-370) Jerusalem's other major football team, and one of Beitar's top rivals, is [Hapoel Jerusalem F.C.](/wiki/Hapoel_Jerusalem_F.C.) Whereas Beitar has been [Israel State Cup](/wiki/Israel_State_Cup) champion seven times,[[371]](#cite_note-371) Hapoel has won the Cup only once. Beitar has won the top league six times, while Hapoel has never succeeded. Beitar plays in the more prestigious [Ligat HaAl](/wiki/Israeli_Premier_League), while Hapoel is in the second division [Liga Leumit](/wiki/Liga_Leumit). Since its opening in 1992, [Teddy Kollek Stadium](/wiki/Teddy_Stadium) has been Jerusalem's primary football stadium, with a capacity of 21,600.[[372]](#cite_note-372) The most popular Palestinian football club is [Jabal Al Mukaber](/wiki/Jabal_Al_Mukaber_(football_club)) (since 1976) which plays in [West Bank Premier League](/wiki/West_Bank_Premier_League). The club hails from [Mount Scopus](/wiki/Mount_Scopus) at Jerusalem, part of the [Asian Football Confederation](/wiki/Asian_Football_Confederation), and plays at the [Faisal Al-Husseini International Stadium](/wiki/Faisal_Al-Husseini_International_Stadium) at [Al-Ram](/wiki/Al-Ram), across the [West Bank Barrier](/wiki/West_Bank_Barrier).[[373]](#cite_note-373)[[374]](#cite_note-374) In basketball, [Hapoel Jerusalem](/wiki/Hapoel_Jerusalem_B.C.) plays in the [top division](/wiki/Israeli_Basketball_Super_League). The club has won the [State Cup](/wiki/Israeli_Basketball_State_Cup) three times, and the [ULEB Cup](/wiki/ULEB_Eurocup) in 2004.[[375]](#cite_note-375) The [Jerusalem Marathon](/wiki/Jerusalem_Marathon), established in 2011, is an international marathon race held annually in Jerusalem in the month of March. The full 42-kilometer race begins at the Knesset, passes through Mount Scopus and the Old City's Armenian Quarter, and concludes at Sacher Park. In 2012, the Jerusalem Marathon drew 15,000 runners, including 1,500 from fifty countries outside Israel.[[376]](#cite_note-376)[[377]](#cite_note-377)[[378]](#cite_note-378)[[379]](#cite_note-379)[[380]](#cite_note-380) A popular non-competitive sports event is the [Jerusalem March](/wiki/Jerusalem_March), held annually during the [Sukkot](/wiki/Sukkot) festival.

## Notable residents[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=35)]

[Template:Main category](/wiki/Template:Main_category) [thumb|upright|](/wiki/File:Jerusalem_Tomb_of_David_BW_1.JPG)[King David's Tomb](/wiki/King_David's_Tomb) [Template:Alumni](/wiki/Template:Alumni)

### Ancient[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=36)]

* [Melchizedek](/wiki/Melchizedek), Jebusite King of Salem and priest who blesses [Abram](/wiki/Abram)
* [Abdi-Heba](/wiki/Abdi-Heba), [Hurrian](/wiki/Hurrian) chieftain
* [Zadok](/wiki/Zadok), [Levitical](/wiki/Levites) [High Priest](/wiki/High_Priest_of_Israel)
* [King David](/wiki/King_David) (c. 1040 BCE-c. 970 BCE), second King of the united [Kingdom of Israel](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Israel_(united_monarchy))
* [Araunah](/wiki/Araunah), Jebusite vendor of land
* [Solomon the Great](/wiki/Solomon_the_Great) (c. 1011 BCE-c. 931 BCE), third King of Israel
* [Hezekiah](/wiki/Hezekiah), thirteenth king of [Judah](/wiki/Kingdom_of_Judah)
* [Isaiah](/wiki/Isaiah), a major prophet of [ancient Israel](/wiki/Ancient_Israel) living around the time of 8th-century BC Kingdom of Judah
* [Joel](/wiki/Joel_(prophet)), a prophet of ancient Israel, the second of the [twelve minor prophets](/wiki/Twelve_minor_prophets)
* [Judas Maccabeus](/wiki/Judas_Maccabeus) (d. 160 BCE), leader of the [Maccabean revolt](/wiki/Maccabean_revolt) against the Seleucid Empire
* [Herod the Great](/wiki/Herod_the_Great), (d. 4 BCE), a Roman client king of Judea who expanded the Second Temple in Jerusalem and built the fortress at [Masada](/wiki/Masada)
* [Hillel the Elder](/wiki/Hillel_the_Elder) (110 BCE-10 CE), a famous Jewish religious leader and one of the most important figures in [Jewish history](/wiki/Jewish_history), associated with the development of the [Mishnah](/wiki/Mishnah) and the [Talmud](/wiki/Talmud)
* [Josephus](/wiki/Josephus) (37–100), [Jewish-Roman](/wiki/Roman_Jews) historian
* [James the Just](/wiki/James_the_Just) (d. 69), Jewish-Christian Bishop of Jerusalem
* [Simon bar Kokhba](/wiki/Simon_bar_Kokhba) (d. 135), leader of the [Bar Kokhba revolt](/wiki/Bar_Kokhba_revolt) against the Roman Empire in 132 CE

### Medieval[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=37)]

* [al-Muqaddasi](/wiki/Al-Muqaddasi) (946–1000), Arab geographer
* [Ibn al-Qaisarani](/wiki/Ibn_al-Qaisarani) (1056–1113), Arab historian
* [Judah Halevi](/wiki/Judah_Halevi) (1075–1141), [Spanish Jewish](/wiki/Sephardic) physician, poet and [philosopher](/wiki/Philosopher)
* [Fulk, King of Jerusalem](/wiki/Fulk,_King_of_Jerusalem) (1131–1143), King of the Crusader State in Jerusalem
* [Nahmanides](/wiki/Nahmanides) (1194–1270), prominent medieval Jewish rabbi and physician

### Modern[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=38)]

born 1820–1849

* [William Holman Hunt](/wiki/William_Holman_Hunt) (1827–1910), [English](/wiki/English_people) painter, cofounder of the [Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood](/wiki/Pre-Raphaelite_Brotherhood)
* [Conrad Schick](/wiki/Conrad_Schick) (1822–1901), German architect, archaeologist and [Protestant](/wiki/Protestantism) missionary
* [Yousef Al-Khalidi](/wiki/Yousef_Al-Khalidi) (born 1829–1907), Mayor of Jerusalem and Member of the Ottoman Parliament
* [Haim Aharon Valero](/wiki/Haim_Aharon_Valero) (1845–1923), banker, entrepreneur and a prominent figure in the Jewish community of 19th century Jerusalem
* [Eliezer Ben-Yehuda](/wiki/Eliezer_Ben-Yehuda) (1858–1922), a [Litvak](/wiki/Lithuanian_Jews) [lexicographer](/wiki/Lexicography) and newspaper editor credited for the [revival of the Hebrew language](/wiki/Revival_of_the_Hebrew_language) in the modern era

born 1850–1879

* [Shlomo Moussaieff](/wiki/Shlomo_Moussaieff_(rabbi)) (1852–1922), a founder of the [Bukharim](/wiki/Bukharim) neighborhood
* [Herbert Plumer](/wiki/Herbert_Plumer) (1857–1932), senior [British Army](/wiki/British_Army) officer of the [First World War](/wiki/World_War_I)
* [Menachem Ussishkin](/wiki/Menachem_Ussishkin) (1863–1941), [Zionist](/wiki/Zionism) leader and head of the [Jewish National Fund](/wiki/Jewish_National_Fund)
* [Abraham Isaac Kook](/wiki/Abraham_Isaac_Kook) (1865–1935), first [Ashkenazi](/wiki/Ashkenazi_Jews) [chief rabbi](/wiki/Chief_rabbi) of [Mandatory Palestine](/wiki/Mandatory_Palestine)
* [Khalil al-Sakakini](/wiki/Khalil_al-Sakakini) (born 1878), [Palestinian Christian](/wiki/Palestinian_Christian) scholar and [Arab nationalist](/wiki/Arab_nationalism)

born 1880–1909

* [Shmuel Yosef Agnon](/wiki/Shmuel_Yosef_Agnon) (1888–1970), Israeli [Nobel Prize](/wiki/Nobel_Prize_in_literature) laureate writer and was one of the central figures of [modern Hebrew](/wiki/Modern_Hebrew) [fiction](/wiki/Fiction)
* [Helena Kagan](/wiki/Helena_Kagan) (1889–1978), physician, Israeli pioneer in pediatrics
* [Rachel Bluwstein](/wiki/Rachel_Bluwstein) (1890–1931), [Hebrew](/wiki/Hebrew_language) poet
* [Ludwig Blum](/wiki/Ludwig_Blum) (1891–1975), [Czechoslovakia](/wiki/Czechoslovakia)-born Israeli painter, known as "the painter of Jerusalem"
* [Daniel Auster](/wiki/Daniel_Auster) (1893–1963), three time [Mayor of Jerusalem](/wiki/Mayor_of_Jerusalem)
* [Haj Amin al-Husayni](/wiki/Haj_Amin_al-Husayni) (1897–1974), a [Palestinian Arab](/wiki/Palestinian_people) nationalist and influential [Muslim](/wiki/Muslim) leader in [Mandatory Palestine](/wiki/Mandatory_Palestine)

born 1910s

* [Teddy Kollek](/wiki/Teddy_Kollek) (1911–2007), mayor of Jerusalem and founder of the [Jerusalem Foundation](/wiki/Jerusalem_Foundation)
* [Ruhi al-Khatib](/wiki/Ruhi_al-Khatib) (1914–1994), Palestinian nationalist and politician
* [Ephraim Katzir](/wiki/Ephraim_Katzir) (1916–2009), biophysicist and fourth President of Israel
* [Yigael Yadin](/wiki/Yigael_Yadin) (1917–1984), Israeli [archeologist](/wiki/Archeology), politician, and second [Chief of Staff](/wiki/Ramatkal) of the [IDF](/wiki/Israel_Defense_Forces)
* [Menachem Lewin](/wiki/Menachem_Lewin) (1918–2011) Israeli [chemist](/wiki/Chemist) working in [polymer](/wiki/Polymer), [fiber](/wiki/Fiber) and [nanotechnology](/wiki/Nanotechnology) research

born 1920s

* [Yitzhak Navon](/wiki/Yitzhak_Navon) (1921–2015), politician (fifth President of Israel), diplomat, and author
* [Yitzhak Rabin](/wiki/Yitzhak_Rabin) (1922–95), general, the fifth Prime Minister of Israel, and [Nobel Peace Prize](/wiki/Nobel_Peace_Prize) winner
* [Trude Dothan](/wiki/Trude_Dothan) (born 1922), [Austrian Jewish](/wiki/Austrian_Jews) archaeologist in Israel
* [Shlomo Hillel](/wiki/Shlomo_Hillel) (born 1923), [Israeli](/wiki/Israel) diplomat, [Speaker of the Knesset](/wiki/Speaker_of_the_Knesset), [Minister of Police](/wiki/Internal_Security_Minister_of_Israel) and [Minister of Internal Affairs](/wiki/Interior_Minister_of_Israel)
* [Walid Khalidi](/wiki/Walid_Khalidi) (born 1925), Palestinian historian
* [Uzi Narkiss](/wiki/Uzi_Narkiss) (1925–1997), Israeli general and commander of the Israel Defense Forces units in the Central Region during the [Six Day War](/wiki/Six_Day_War)
* [Rehavam Ze'evi](/wiki/Rehavam_Ze'evi) (1926–2001), [assassinated](/wiki/Assassination_of_Rehavam_Ze'evi) Israeli general, historian, founder of the [Moledet](/wiki/Moledet) party, and [Minister of Tourism](/wiki/Tourism_Minister_of_Israel)

born 1930s

* [Robert Aumann](/wiki/Robert_Aumann) (born 1930), Israeli-American [mathematician](/wiki/Mathematician) and game-theorist, received the [Nobel Prize in Economics](/wiki/Nobel_Prize_in_Economics) in 2005 for his work on conflict and cooperation through [game-theory](/wiki/Game_theory) analysis
* [Naseer Aruri](/wiki/Naseer_Aruri) (1934–2015), Palestinian scholar and activist
* [Edward Said](/wiki/Edward_Said) (1935–2003), Palestinian author and political theorist
* [A.B. Yehoshua](/wiki/A.B._Yehoshua) (born 1936), Israeli novelist, essayist, and playwright
* [Shlomo Aronson](/wiki/Shlomo_Aronson) (born 1936), Israeli [landscape architect](/wiki/Landscape_architect)
* [Amos Oz](/wiki/Amos_Oz) (born 1939) Israeli writer, novelist, and journalist
* [Reuven Rivlin](/wiki/Reuven_Rivlin) (born 1939), former [Minister of Communications](/wiki/Minister_of_Communications_(Israel)) and [Speaker of the Knesset](/wiki/Speaker_of_the_Knesset), current [President of Israel](/wiki/President_of_Israel)
* [Ada Yonath](/wiki/Ada_Yonath) (born 1939), Israeli [crystallographer](/wiki/Crystallography) best known for her pioneering work on the structure of the [ribosome](/wiki/Ribosome), winner of the [Nobel Prize in Chemistry](/wiki/Nobel_Prize_in_Chemistry) in 2009

born 1940s

* [Matan Vilnai](/wiki/Matan_Vilnai) (born 1944), [Minister of Science, Culture & Sport](/wiki/Science,_Culture_and_Sport_Minister_of_Israel), [Minister of Science and Technology](/wiki/Science,_Culture_and_Sport_Minister_of_Israel), [Minister for Home Front Defense](/wiki/Home_Front_Defence_Minister_of_Israel), Ambassador to China, [IDF](/wiki/Israel_Defense_Forces) [Major General](/wiki/Major_General)
* [Makram Khoury](/wiki/Makram_Khoury) (born 1945), [Israeli Arab](/wiki/Israeli_Arab) actor and winner of the [Israel Prize](/wiki/Israel_Prize)
* [Ehud Olmert](/wiki/Ehud_Olmert) (born 1945), former Mayor of Jerusalem and Prime-Minister of Israel
* [Mahmoud al-Zahar](/wiki/Mahmoud_al-Zahar) (born 1945), co-founder of [Hamas](/wiki/Hamas)
* [Yoni Netanyahu](/wiki/Yoni_Netanyahu) (1946–1976), commander of [Sayeret Matkal](/wiki/Sayeret_Matkal); killed in action during [Operation Entebbe](/wiki/Operation_Entebbe)
* [Nahman Shai](/wiki/Nahman_Shai) (born 1946), [Israeli](/wiki/Israel) journalist, Deputy [Speaker](/wiki/List_of_Knesset_speakers) of the Knesset, [IDF spokesman](/wiki/IDF_Spokesperson's_Unit)
* [Dan Meridor](/wiki/Dan_Meridor) (born 1947) [Israeli](/wiki/Israeli) [Minister of Justice](/wiki/Justice_Minister_of_Israel), [Minister of Finance](/wiki/Finance_Minister_of_Israel), and [Deputy Prime Minister](/wiki/Deputy_leaders_of_Israel#Deputy_Prime_Minister)

born 1950s

* [Munib Younan](/wiki/Munib_Younan) (born 1950), president of the [Lutheran World Federation](/wiki/Lutheran_World_Federation)
* [Mustafa Barghouti](/wiki/Mustafa_Barghouti) (born 1954), [Palestinian](/wiki/Palestinian_people) physician, activist, and [PLO](/wiki/PLO) politician
* [Anat Hoffman](/wiki/Anat_Hoffman) (born 1954), Israeli activist and director of [Women of the Wall](/wiki/Women_of_the_Wall)
* [Francis Martin O'Donnell](/wiki/Francis_Martin_O'Donnell), former [United Nations](/wiki/United_Nations) diplomat, Ambassador of [Sovereign Military Order of Malta](/wiki/Sovereign_Military_Order_of_Malta), author
* [Saeb Erekat](/wiki/Saeb_Erekat) (born 1955), Palestinian negotiator of the [Oslo Accords](/wiki/Oslo_Accords) with Israel
* [Sallai Meridor](/wiki/Sallai_Meridor) (born 1955), [Israeli Ambassador to the United States](/wiki/List_of_Israeli_ambassadors_to_the_United_States), Chairman of the [Jewish Agency for Israel](/wiki/Jewish_Agency_for_Israel) and the [World Zionist Organization](/wiki/World_Zionist_Organization)
* [Jamal Dajani](/wiki/Jamal_Dajani) (born 1957), Palestinian-American journalist and producer, co-founder of Arab Talk Radio
* [Uri Malmilian](/wiki/Uri_Malmilian) (born 1957), Israeli soccer player with most appearances for [Beitar Jerusalem F.C.](/wiki/Beitar_Jerusalem_F.C.) [Eli Ohana](/wiki/Eli_Ohana) (born 1957), all-time top-scorer for Israel's [Beitar Jerusalem F.C.](/wiki/Beitar_Jerusalem_F.C.)

born since 1960

* [Natalie Portman](/wiki/Natalie_Portman) (born 1981), Israeli-American actress, lived in Jerusalem until she was three years old

## Twin towns and sister cities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=39)]

[Template:Refimprove section](/wiki/Template:Refimprove_section) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Prague](/wiki/Prague), Czech Republic[[381]](#cite_note-381)\*[Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Ayabe](/wiki/Ayabe), Japan[[382]](#cite_note-382)\*[Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Fez](/wiki/Fes), Morocco[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) (by [PA](/wiki/Palestinian_Authority), not [Israel](/wiki/Israel))
* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [New York City](/wiki/New_York_City), United States *(since 1993)*[[383]](#cite_note-383)[[384]](#cite_note-384)

Partner city

* [Template:Flagicon](/wiki/Template:Flagicon) [Marseille](/wiki/Marseille), France[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

## See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=40)]

[Template:Portalbar](/wiki/Template:Portalbar)

* [List of mayors of Jerusalem](/wiki/List_of_mayors_of_Jerusalem)
* [List of places in Jerusalem](/wiki/List_of_places_in_Jerusalem)
* [List of songs about Jerusalem](/wiki/List_of_songs_about_Jerusalem)
* [Nephesh](/wiki/Nephesh)
* [Quds in Persian literature](/wiki/Quds_in_Persian_literature)
* [Walls of Jerusalem](/wiki/Walls_of_Jerusalem)

[center|thumb|800px|Panorama of the](/wiki/File:Panorámica_de_Jerusalén_desde_el_Monte_de_los_Olivos.jpg) [Temple Mount](/wiki/Temple_Mount), including [Al-Aqsa Mosque](/wiki/Al-Aqsa_Mosque), and [Dome of the Rock](/wiki/Dome_of_the_Rock), from the [Mount of Olives](/wiki/Mount_of_Olives) [Vast detailed panorama from a secret roof top](/wiki/File:Oldcityvast_detailed_panorama_from_a_secret_roof_top.png)

## Notes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=41)]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| i. | [Template:NoteIn](/wiki/Template:Note) other languages: official Arabic in Israel: [Template:Lang](/wiki/Template:Lang) [*Template:Transl*](/wiki/Template:Transl) (combining the Biblical and common usage Arabic names); [Template:Lang-grc](/wiki/Template:Lang-grc) [*Template:Transl*](/wiki/Template:Transl); [Template:Lang-xcl](/wiki/Template:Lang-xcl) [*Template:Transl*](/wiki/Template:Transl). |
| ii. | [Template:NoteJerusalem](/wiki/Template:Note) is the capital under [Israeli law](/wiki/Jerusalem_Law). The presidential residence, government offices, supreme court and parliament ([Knesset](/wiki/Knesset)) are located there. The State of Palestine (according to the Basic Law of Palestine, Title One: Article 3) regards Jerusalem as its capital.<ref name=BasicLawPal-T1A3>[2003 Amended Basic Law](http://www.palestinianbasiclaw.org/basic-law/2003-amended-basic-law). Basic Law of Palestine. Retrieved: 9 December 2012.</ref> The UN and most countries do not recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, taking the position that the final status of Jerusalem is pending future negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. Most countries maintain their embassies in [Tel Aviv](/wiki/Tel_Aviv) and its suburbs or suburbs of Jerusalem, such as [Mevaseret Zion](/wiki/Mevaseret_Zion) (see [CIA Factbook](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/is.html) and [Template:PDFlink](/wiki/Template:PDFlink)) See [Positions on Jerusalem](/wiki/Positions_on_Jerusalem) for more information. |
| iii. | [Template:NoteStatistics](/wiki/Template:Note) regarding the demographics of Jerusalem refer to the unified and expanded Israeli municipality, which includes the pre-1967 Israeli and [Jordanian](/wiki/Jordan) municipalities as well as several additional [Palestinian](/wiki/Palestinian_people) villages and neighborhoods to the northeast. Some of the Palestinian villages and neighborhoods have been relinquished to the [West Bank](/wiki/West_Bank) *de facto* by way of the [Israeli West Bank barrier](/wiki/Israeli_West_Bank_barrier),[[267]](#cite_note-267) but their legal statuses have not been reverted. |
| iv. | [Template:NoteThe](/wiki/Template:Note) website for Jerusalem is available in three languages—[Hebrew](http://www.jerusalem.muni.il/), [English](http://www.jerusalem.muni.il/en/Pages/default.aspx), and [Arabic](http://www.jerusalem.muni.il/ar/Pages/default.aspx). |
| v. | ^ [Template:Note labelTemplate:Note labelMuch](/wiki/Template:Note_label) of the information regarding King David's conquest of Jerusalem comes from [Biblical](/wiki/Bible) accounts, but some modern-day historians have begun to give them credit due to a 1993 excavation.[[385]](#cite_note-385) |
| vi. | [Template:NoteSources](/wiki/Template:Note) disagree on the timing of the creation of the [Pact of Umar](/wiki/Pact_of_Umar_II) (Omar). Whereas some say the Pact originated during Umar's lifetime but was later expanded,[[386]](#cite_note-386)[[387]](#cite_note-387) others say the Pact was created after his death and retroactively attributed to him.[[388]](#cite_note-388) Further still, other historians believe the ideas in the Pact pre-date Islam and Umar entirely.[[389]](#cite_note-389) |
| vii. | [Template:NoteThe](/wiki/Template:Note) State of Palestine (according to the Basic Law of Palestine, Title One: Article 3) regards Jerusalem as its capital.<ref name=BasicLawPal-T1A3/> But the documents of the [PLO's](/wiki/PLO) Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD) often refer to [East Jerusalem](/wiki/East_Jerusalem) (rather than the whole of Jerusalem) as a future capital, and sometimes as the current capital. One of its 2010 documents, described as "for discussion purposes only", says that Palestine has a '"vision"' for a future in which "East Jerusalem ... shall be the capital of Palestine, and West Jerusalem shall be the capital of Israel",<ref name=PLO-NAD-2010>PLO-NAD, June 2010, [*Jerusalem Non-Paper*](http://www.nad-plo.org/userfiles/file/Non-Peper/Jerusalem%20Non-Paper-%20Final%20%20June%202010.pdf) on [*Statements and Speeches*](http://www.nad-plo.org/etemplate.php?id=59), nad-plo.org; accessed 25 November 2014. Extracts from page 2:"This paper is **for discussion purposes only**. Nothing is agreed until everything is agreed.  Palestinian **vision** for Jerusalem ... Pursuant to our **vision**, **East Jerusalem**, as defined by its pre-1967 occupation municipal borders, **shall be the capital of Palestine, and West Jerusalem shall be the capital of Israel**, with each state enjoying full sovereignty over its respective part of the city."</ref> and one of its 2013 documents refers to "Palestine's capital, East Jerusalem", and states that "Occupied East Jerusalem is the natural socio-economic and political center for the future Palestinian state", while also stating that "Jerusalem has always been and remains the political, administrative and spiritual heart of Palestine" and that "The Palestinian acceptance of the 1967 border, which includes East Jerusalem, is a painful compromise".<ref name=PLO-NAD-2013>PLO-Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD), August 2013, [*East Jerusalem today – Palestine's Capital: The 1967 border in Jerusalem and Israel's illegal policies on the ground*](http://www.nad-plo.org/userfiles/file/Factsheet%202013/EJ%20TODAY_FINAL%20REPORT_II.pdf), nad-plo.org; accessed 25 November 2014, Quotes:" ... Palestine's capital, East Jerusalem ... The Palestinian acceptance of the 1967 border, which includes East Jerusalem, is a painful compromise: ... Jerusalem has always been and remains the political, administrative and spiritual heart of Palestine. Occupied East Jerusalem is the natural socio-economic and political center for the future Palestinian state."</ref> |
| viii. | [Template:Note](/wiki/Template:Note)[West Jerusalem](/wiki/West_Jerusalem) comprises approximately one third of the current municipal area of Jerusalem, with [East Jerusalem](/wiki/East_Jerusalem) comprising approximately two thirds. On the annexation of East Jerusalem, Israel also incorporated an area of the West Bank into the Jerusalem municipal area which represented more than ten times the area of East Jerusalem under Jordanian rule.[[390]](#cite_note-390)[[391]](#cite_note-391)[[392]](#cite_note-392) |

## References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=42)]

[Template:Reflist](/wiki/Template:Reflist)

## Further reading[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=43)]

* Cheshin, Amir S.; Bill Hutman and Avi Melamed (1999). *Separate and Unequal: the Inside Story of Israeli Rule in East Jerusalem* [Harvard University Press](/wiki/Harvard_University_Press) ISBN 978-0-674-80136-3
* Cline, Eric (2004) *Jerusalem Besieged: From Ancient Canaan to Modern Israel*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press ISBN 0-472-11313-5.
* Collins, Larry, and La Pierre, Dominique (1988). *O Jerusalem!*. New York: Simon & Schuster ISBN 0-671-66241-4
* Gold, Dore (2007) *The Fight for Jerusalem: Radical Islam, The West, and the Future of the Holy City*. International Publishing Company J-M, Ltd. ISBN 978-1-59698-029-7
* [Köchler, Hans](/wiki/Hans_Köchler) (1981) *The Legal Aspects of the Palestine Problem with Special Regard to the Question of Jerusalem* Vienna: Braumüller ISBN 3-7003-0278-9
* *The Holy Cities: Jerusalem* produced by Danae Film Production, distributed by HDH Communications; 2006
* Wasserstein, Bernard (2002) *Divided Jerusalem: The Struggle for the Holy City* New Haven and London: Yale University Press. ISBN 0-300-09730-1
* "Keys to Jerusalem: A Brief Overview", The Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Center, Amman, Jordan, 2010. <http://www.rissc.jo/docs/J101-10-10-10.pdf>
* [Sebag Montefiore, Simon](/wiki/Simon_Sebag_Montefiore) (2011) [*Jerusalem: The Biography*](/wiki/Jerusalem:_The_Biography), London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, ISBN 978-0-297-85265-0
* Young, Robb A (2012) *Hezekiah in History and Tradition* Brill Global Oriental Hotei Publishing, Netherlands

## External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=44)]

[Template:Sister project links](/wiki/Template:Sister_project_links) [Template:Inline audio](/wiki/Template:Inline_audio)

* [Official website of Jerusalem Municipality](http://web.archive.org/web/20070711062220/http://www.jerusalem.muni.il:80/jer_main/defaultnew.asp?lng=2)
* [Jerusalemp3](http://www.jerusalemp3.com/), offers free virtual tours in mp3 format from the Jerusalem Municipality
* [Template:Dmoz](/wiki/Template:Dmoz)

**Government**

* [Template:PDFlink](/wiki/Template:PDFlink), United Nations document related to the recent dispute over Jerusalem
* [*Basic Law: Jerusalem, Capital of Israel, Government of Israel*](http://www.mfa.gov.il/MFA/MFAArchive/1980_1989/Basic%20Law-%20Jerusalem-%20Capital%20of%20Israel), the Israeli law making Jerusalem the capital of Israel

**Culture**

* [Israel Museum](http://www.imj.org.il/), one of Jerusalem's premier art museums
* [Yad Vashem](http://www.yadvashem.org/), Israeli memorial to victims of The Holocaust

**Education**

* [Hebrew University of Jerusalem](http://www.huji.ac.il/huji/eng/index_e.htm), Jerusalem's foremost institution of higher learning
* [al-Quds University](http://www.alquds.edu/), the only Palestinian university in Jerusalem

**Maps**

* [Modern-day map of Jerusalem](http://web.archive.org/web/20070427222723/http://www.hotzvim.org.il:80/SiteFiles/1/35/901.asp), from City of Jerusalem.
* [Ancient Maps of Jerusalem](http://maps-of-jerusalem.huji.ac.il/), from the Jewish National Library at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem
* [Modern maps, post-1947](http://www.passia.org/jerusalem/maps/0_M_A_P_S.htm) from [PASSIA](/wiki/Palestinian_Academic_Society_for_the_Study_of_International_Affairs)
* [Maps of Jerusalem](http://www.israelstarnews.com/maps-of-jerusalem/), from Israel Star News

**Religion**

* [The significance of Jerusalem in Judaism](http://www.ijs.org.au/Jerusalem-a-Jewish-Perspective/default.aspx), NSW Jewish Board of Deputies
* [The significance of Jerusalem to Christians](http://int.icej.org/news/commentary/significance-jerusalem-christians), [International Christian Embassy Jerusalem](/wiki/International_Christian_Embassy_Jerusalem)
* [The City of Jerusalem in Islam](http://islam.about.com/od/jerusalem/a/quds.htm)
* [BBC: *Why is Jerusalem so Holy?*](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-26934435)

[Template:Jerusalem District](/wiki/Template:Jerusalem_District) [Template:Neighborhoods of Jerusalem](/wiki/Template:Neighborhoods_of_Jerusalem) [Template:List of Asian capitals by region](/wiki/Template:List_of_Asian_capitals_by_region) [Template:Largest Israeli cities](/wiki/Template:Largest_Israeli_cities) [Template:Holy sites in Judaism](/wiki/Template:Holy_sites_in_Judaism) [Template:Jews and Judaism](/wiki/Template:Jews_and_Judaism) [Template:Characters and names in the Quran](/wiki/Template:Characters_and_names_in_the_Quran) [Template:Cities in the Palestinian territories](/wiki/Template:Cities_in_the_Palestinian_territories) [Template:Authority control](/wiki/Template:Authority_control)

[Category:Amarna letters locations](/wiki/Category:Amarna_letters_locations) [Category:Ancient Jewish settlements of Judaea](/wiki/Category:Ancient_Jewish_settlements_of_Judaea) [Category:Ancient Hebrew pilgrimage sites](/wiki/Category:Ancient_Hebrew_pilgrimage_sites) [Category:Capitals in Asia](/wiki/Category:Capitals_in_Asia) [Category:Capitals in the Palestinian territories](/wiki/Category:Capitals_in_the_Palestinian_territories) [Category:Cities in Israel](/wiki/Category:Cities_in_Israel) [Category:Cities in Jerusalem District](/wiki/Category:Cities_in_Jerusalem_District) [Category:Cities in the Palestinian territories](/wiki/Category:Cities_in_the_Palestinian_territories) [Category:Disputed territories in Asia](/wiki/Category:Disputed_territories_in_Asia) [Category:Four Holy Cities](/wiki/Category:Four_Holy_Cities) [Category:Hebrew Bible cities](/wiki/Category:Hebrew_Bible_cities) [Category:Historic Jewish communities](/wiki/Category:Historic_Jewish_communities) [Category:History of Islam](/wiki/Category:History_of_Islam) [Category:Holy cities](/wiki/Category:Holy_cities) [Category:Islamic holy places](/wiki/Category:Islamic_holy_places) [Category:Israeli–Palestinian conflict in Jerusalem](/wiki/Category:Israeli–Palestinian_conflict_in_Jerusalem) [Category:Jerusalem](/wiki/Category:Jerusalem) [Category:Jerusalem District](/wiki/Category:Jerusalem_District) [Category:Jerusalem Governorate](/wiki/Category:Jerusalem_Governorate) [Category:Jewish holy places](/wiki/Category:Jewish_holy_places) [Category:Land of Israel](/wiki/Category:Land_of_Israel) [Category:Mixed Israeli communities](/wiki/Category:Mixed_Israeli_communities) [Category:New Testament cities](/wiki/Category:New_Testament_cities) [Category:Orthodox Jewish communities](/wiki/Category:Orthodox_Jewish_communities) [Category:Territorial disputes of Israel](/wiki/Category:Territorial_disputes_of_Israel) [Category:Torah cities](/wiki/Category:Torah_cities)