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Jerusalem old city map

The creation of an extended Jewish Quarter within Jerusalem's walled Old City occurred at the expense of over 6,500 Palestinian residents, who were summarily expelled from it between June 1967 and April 1968. The artificially imposed Quarter was constructed on the ruins of demolished Palestinian properties with little regard for the Old City's predominantly Mamluk-era (13th-15th Century) architecture. As a result, the modern apartment complexes, parking lots, tourist observation platforms and boutiques of the Jewish Quarter clash with the aesthetics of the historic Muslim, Armenian and Christian Quarters. Like all Israeli settlements in occupied East Jerusalem, the Jewish Quarter is linked directly to West Jerusalem infrastructure and services, with the Nabi Daoud and Al-Magharbeh Gates serving as Jewish public transport terminals as well as checkpoints. Within the city walls, the Jewish Quarter's 'borders' are not marked by checkpoints except in the eastern portion, which abuts the 'Wailing Wall' (Al-Buraq Ash-Sharif). Here stringent security checks limit Palestinian access to or through the disputed holy place and the site of the demolished Mughrabi Quarter. Beyond the limits of the expanded Quarter, settlers belonging to some of Israel's more extreme racist movements have, since the mid-1970s, seized and occupied dozens of Palestinian properties. In doing so they have received the support – both in terms of legal 'creativity' and financial sponsorship - of successive Israeli governments and the WJMQ. Both, the current mayor of Jerusalem, Nir Barkat, and Prime Minister Netanyahu have been long-standing proponents of property seizures in and around the Old City, while former Prime Minister Ariel Sharon had himself 'obtained' a property deep in the Muslim Quarter. As of 2014, over 1,000 Jewish settlers live in the Muslim, Christian and Armenian Quarters, with the greatest concentration in the area of the Muslim Quarter adjacent to Al-Haram Ash-Sharif. In 2013, 3,329 Jews lived in the Old City, comprising a little over 8% of the total population - 39,865 - within the walls. The 30,328 Muslims (76%) represented the overwhelming majority, while Christians accounted for the remaining 16% (6,208), including 4,577 Christians of Palestinian origin and 1,631 Armenians. Of the four quarters, the Muslim Quarter is by far the largest, covering 480 out of the total 900 dunums that make up the Old City. In comparison, the Christian Quarter covers 192 dunums, the Armenian 126 dunums, and the Jewish Quarter's slight expansion since the 1967-1968 expropriations leaves it covering 122 dunums. Calculating the housing density of the Muslim Quarter after excluding the 135 dunums of Al-Haram Ash-Sharif, reveals the largest Quarter to be one of the most densely populated places on earth, with a rate of about 88 persons per dunum. As of 2014, the average rate for the four Quarters combined stands at 50.8 people per dunum (without the Al-Haram Ash-Sharif), while the rate in the modern Jewish Quarter is nearly half this, at 27.3 people per dunum. The rates in the Christian and Armenian Quarters are even lower, respectively, 23.8 and 12.9 people per dunum. Quarter Population Area (dunums) Persons per dunum 1 Including the 135 dunums of Al-Haram Ash-Sharif compound. If this area is not counted, the population density in the Muslim Quarter rises to 88.8! 2 Excluding over 1,000 settlers occupying houses in the Muslim and Christian Quarters. 3 Including the Al-Haram Ash-Sharif compound. If this area is excluded, the average population density rises to 50.8. Muslim 30,328 480! 63.2 Christian 4,577 192 23.8 Armenian 1,631 126 12.9 Jewish 3,329! 122 27.3 Total 39,865 920 43.333 Source: Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies, Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem 2013; previous editions. The Old City houses some 25 mosques, 65 churches and 20 synagogues. However, a survey conducted by Jewish, Muslim and Christian scholars in 2000, produced a catalogue of as much as 326 holy places within or just beyond the Old City walls, being places of worship, religious academies, monasteries, hostels, tombs and retreats. Of these, 108 are considered primarily sacred to Muslims, 154 to Christians and 64 to Jews. Israel's pursuit of settlement within the walled city and its denial of free Palestinian access to the city of Jerusalem as a whole, and the Old City in particular, has increasingly limited the freedom of non- Jews to enjoy their basic right to worship. Policies preventing Palestinian access to holy sites in the Old City - including during the holy month of Ramadan or for Christmas and Easter services - are in absolute contravention of International Law. Since 1981, the Old City has been listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. In 1999, UNESCO adopted a resolution demanding international investigation into Israeli violations of the Geneva and Hague Conventions in regard to Israel's discriminatory policies pertaining to access and worship within the city. Notwithstanding this, Israel began to fit the Old City's non-Jewish Quarters with up to 500 closed-circuit security cameras. Ostensibly for the 'protection' of the extremist settler groups living in these quarters, the installation of the monitoring system in the densely populated city, has only underscored the ethnic inequality inherent in Israel's expansionist occupation of the ancient city and gives the lie to Israeli claims of a 'unified' Jerusalem. Copyright © Haatika.co.il, All Rights Reserved. Jerusalem - In groups of twos, threes and families, visitors shuffled towards the ticket booth at the City of David archaeological park. Sunscreen was reapplied, mineral water sipped, and shekels exchanged for paper tickets. It is a typical touristic scene that plays out thousands of times daily across Jerusalem. But the City of David park, located in the heart of a Palestinian neighbourhood in East Jerusalem, is not a regular attraction. It is a touristic settlement managed by Elad, a private political organisation that facilitates the purchase and takeover of Palestinian homes in the Old City and occupied East Jerusalem in an effort to increase Jewish settlement. The City of David site features prominently, in large, bold red letters, on the Israeli tourism ministry's official Old City map, which is distributed free of charge at official tourist information centres in Jerusalem. But the nearby al-Haram al-Sharif, or the Noble Sanctuary, a 14-hectare compound that comprises Islam's third holiest site, al-Aqsa Mosque, as well as the Dome of the Rock, is only referred to by its Jewish name: the Temple Mount. Although these major tourist attractions have always been promoted in most touristic literature about Jerusalem, al-Aqsa Mosque is illustrated on the official Old City map - albeit anonymous - while the Dome of the Rock is mentioned. Meanwhile, dozens of sites of questionable historical importance, many of them Jewish settlements in the Muslim and Christian quarters of the Old City, are highlighted by the mapmakers in an "Old City Legend" numbered guide. The map labels dozens of historically unimportant sites while omitting key non-Jewish holy sites in its 'Old City Legend' key [Nigel Wilson/Al Jazeera] Among 57 numbered sites, almost half are buildings occupied by Jews in the Muslim quarter of the city, many unknown to licensed tour guides. A number of yeshivas, Jewish religious schools, as well as synagogues purchased by Jews in the Muslim quarter of the Old City, are managed by the Ateret Cohanim organisation, a right-wing nonprofit organisation that seeks to replace Palestinian residents of the city with Jewish-Israeli settlers. Like Elad, Ateret Cohanim is a nationalistic settler group. In recent years, it has pursued a legal campaign to evict Palestinian families from their homes in the Old City in order to replace them with Jewish families. "There are a bunch of sites that are not only historically unimportant, but that are run by settlers," said Betty Herschman, director of international relations and advocacy at Ir Amim, an Israeli human rights NGO that gives tours of East Jerusalem to diplomats and other parties. "That is to the detriment of historically relevant Christian and Muslim sites, which you would think would be far more prioritised on a map of the Old City, the hub of the three major monotheistic religions." One licensed Jerusalem tourist guide, who did not want to disclose his name, noted that the map favoured Jewish sites regardless of their touristic value and appeared religiously skewed. This map, in addition to erasing important Muslim and Christian holy sites in the Old City, completely erases entire neighbourhoods around the historic basin, supplanting them not only with Hebrew names but with the names of settlements. Betty Herschman, Israeli NGO director "When I saw it, I thought it was a map for only Jewish tour groups," he told Al Jazeera, surprised to learn that it was being distributed at the main tourist information centre by Jaffa gate. "The narrative it shows is quite exclusive to one religious group." While buildings like Beit Wittenberg, Beit Danon and Beit Eliyahu feature among the list of 57 sites, there is no room on the list of the numbered sites for the Church of St Anne or the Church of the Redeemer, although the latter is on the map with a tiny, hard to find name. Aziz Abu Sarah, a Jerusalemite who cofounded Mejdi Tours, told Al Jazeera that the exceptions do not make sense from a business perspective. "I think that a lot of Israeli tour operators and tour guides, even right-wingers, would agree with me that a touristic map should show the treasures of the city," said Abu Sarah. "I grew up in Jerusalem. St Anne's Church, which I think is one of the most amazing places, is not on the map. There are many Christians coming to Jerusalem, and they are going to get a map that doesn't identify their holy sites. It's not a smart decision." The Israeli Ministry of Tourism defended the map when contacted by Al Jazeera. "The map, which was produced in cooperation with tour guides and took into account their recommendations and the vast knowledge they have accumulated, is useful and convenient, listing the main tourist sites," the ministry said in a statement. However, Abu Sarah suggested that the inclusion of certain sites inside and outside the Old City walls seemed to promote a Jewish nationalistic representation of East Jerusalem. "Politically speaking, it adds sites that are controversial, like the settlements in East Jerusalem, and I think that makes it political and one-sided. In many ways, there is a national narrative, and perhaps this is where the national narrative is going." READ MORE: Israel's 'gun guards' terrorise East Jerusalem Indeed, the Palestinian neighbourhoods outside the Old City walls are absent on the map, apart from Ras al-Amud, while Jewish-only settlements built in those neighbourhoods are represented. The City of David is easily spotted, but the neighbourhood of Silwan that surrounds it is not labelled. Palestinian communities, including At-Tur, Wadi al-Joz and Issawiya do not appear, but the settlement of Maale Har Hazettim is labelled with the Star of David. "This map, in addition to erasing important Muslim and Christian holy sites in the Old City, completely erases entire neighbourhoods around the historic basin, supplanting them not only with Hebrew names but with the names of settlements," Herschman told Al Jazeera. "These settlements, added Herschman, are built by radical settlers within the heart of Palestinian neighbourhoods; namely, Bet Orot, a community of 150 settlers living in the Palestinian neighbourhood of At-Tur, that does not even appear on the map. Maintaining the Palestinian identity of East Jerusalem is a crucial plank in the "two-state solution" to the Israeli-Palestinian impasse as the neighbourhoods would form the capital of a future Palestinian state. In this context, the settlements are seen as an attempt to disrupt Palestinian territorial contiguity in East Jerusalem in order to ruin Palestinian plans to have East Jerusalem as its capital city. "The map is legitimising private settlement around the historic basin," Herschman told Al Jazeera. "This is a form of consolidating Israeli control of arguably the epicentre of the most critical point of Jerusalem - which is itself the epicentre of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. So there are extremely important political consequences involved." Source: Al Jazeera jerusalem old city map pdf. jerusalem old city map national geographic. jerusalem old city map gates. printable map of old city jerusalem. map of old city jerusalem israel. jerusalem old city walking tour map. current map of old city of jerusalem. google maps jerusalem old city

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