

Jerusalem – the city of faiths



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Jerusalem



The city -

- ⦿ One of the oldest and holiest cities of the world
- ⦿ Capital of various kingdoms since ages
- ⦿ Holy places to many religions
- ⦿ The heart of today's middle east turmoil

- ⦿ The city that has been united
- ⦿ Whose history can be heard in the whispering of the wind along the walls
- ⦿ Where every stone tells a wondrous story of a city that has drawn millions of faithful pilgrims for thousands of years
- ⦿ The city that in old maps appears at the center of the world and is still adored like a young bride

Overview

- ⦿ Divided into Old City and New City
- ⦿ Old City
 - Divided into quarters
 - Jewish
 - Christian
 - Muslim
 - This was the place where the Jews built the Temple, where Jesus was crucified, and where Mohammed rose to Heaven

History of Jerusalem

- Predominantly a Jewish city from 1400BC
- Holy place for Jews
 - It is mentioned about 1000 times in the Book of Genesis and other holy ancient Jewish texts
 - Ancient Jewish kings like King Solomon made several Jewish temples in the city
 - Jews believe that the son of God Abraham (the founder of Judaism) was asked by God himself to take his son to Jerusalem as an offering





- ◉ With the conquest of Jerusalem by Alexander the Great in around 300BC came the sufferings of the Jews
- ◉ Jews were killed, oppressed and thrown out of their holy land
- ◉ Jews temples and synagogues were burned
- ◉ After that the city came under the control of Roman Empire in around 60BC

- ⦿ Jerusalem – the holy land of Christians
- ⦿ Jesus Christ was crucified in Jerusalem
- ⦿ With the onset of Christianity as the religion of Roman Empire – Jews were further oppressed and even banned from the holy Christian city of Jerusalem





Via Dolorosa - the street where Christ walked to crucifixion bearing the cross





Muslim Invasion of Jerusalem

- Around 600AD the Muslims captured Jerusalem and imposed restrictions of Jews and Christians residing there
- Various Muslim tombs and mausoleums were built in Jerusalem

- Jerusalem is the third holy place for Sunni Muslims after Mecca and Medina
- It is believed that Prophet Muhammad prayed and visited Heaven in Jerusalem





After
World
War 2

- 1948 Britishers left Israel
- 1948 Arab-Israel War
 - west bank, East Jerusalem- Jordan
 - Gaza Strip- Egypt
 - West Jerusalem- Israel
- Mass exodus
 - 260,000 reached Israel in 1948–1951,
600,000 by 1972
 - between 700,000 and 750,000
Palestinian Arabs fled or were expelled

After War

- The build-up of the conflict along the Jordanian border
- Israeli raid on an Egyptian military outpost in Gaza in February 1955
- Egyptian government began to actively train Palestinian volunteers from Gaza as Fedayeen units
- 1967 six days war
 - control on Gaza strip
 - control on west bank
- The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was established in 1964. Its goal was the liberation of Palestine through armed struggle.



Before 1948 war



After 1948 war



Before 6 days war



After 6 days war

Palestinian Loss of Land 1947 to Present



Area of Dispute

1. Gaza strip of Egypt
2. West bank
3. Jerusalem



4 Peace Agreements

- Oslo Agreement (1993)
- David Camp-1 (2000)
- David Camp-2 (2000)
- Tava Agreement (2001)

Oslo Agreement (5 year “land for peace” process)



Left: Yitzhak Rabin (Israel PM)
Center: Bill Clinton (US president)
Right: Yasser Arafat (Chairman of PLO)

Palestinian Demand:

- ⦿ Independent Palestinian state
- ⦿ Jerusalem as capital of new state
- ⦿ Removal of all Jewish settlement
- ⦿ Return of Palestinian Refugee (600,000)

Israel Commitment

- ⦿ Recognition of PLO as PA
- ⦿ Transfer land
- ⦿ Educate to peace
- ⦿ PA police force and supply arm

Palestinian commitment

- ⦿ Peace
- ⦿ Recognize Israel
- ⦿ Protect holy sights

In further agreements:

- ⦿ 94-96 % west bank to Palestine
- ⦿ Gaza strip to Palestine
- ⦿ Jerusalem inhabited by Jews of Israel and rest by Palestine

Peace will never
be reached as
long as the arabs
refuses Israel's
right to exist

Current Headlines :

Achieving a Two-State Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict



SOURCE: AP/Muhammed Muheisen

Then-U.S. Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL), left, walks with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, right, as he leaves following a meeting at Abbas' headquarters in the West Bank town of Ramallah, July 23, 2008.

By **Matthew Duss** | March 14, 2013

Will Barack Obama's Speech Inspire a Generation of Israelis To Seek Peace?

Center May Run With Issue, But Bibi's Not Likely To Budge



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Barack Obama put the issue of peace talks with the Palestinians squarely back on the Israeli agenda. Will the momentum keep moving or fizzle against the opposition of the right wing?