



STATE OF PALESTINE
PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION
NEGOTIATIONS AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

AL-**القدس** QUDS UNMASKED

JERUSALEM VISUAL GUIDE

2024



Contents

5	Introduction
6	I. Israel's Jerusalem City Plans
16	“Greater Jerusalem” Plan
18	Jerusalem “City Center” Plan
19	Silicon Valley
20	II. Israel's Colonial Settlements
22	Major Plans in Progress
26	III. Israel's Colonial Settlements: Infrastructure Projects
37	IV. Israel's Colonial Settlements: Enclaves
40	In Focus: Sheikh Jarrah
42	In Focus: Silwan
44	V. Israel's Oppressive Policies in Jerusalem
45	1. ID Revocations
46	2. Home Demolitions
47	3. Forced Home Evictions
48	4. “Israelization” of Education
49	5. Settler Terror
50	6. Assaults on Right to Worship
51	7. House Arrests
52	8. Closure of Palestinian Institutions
53	9. High Taxes (Old City Shops)
54	10. Withholding of Bodies of Martyrs
55	11. Surveillance
56	Conclusion
58	Endnotes



Jerusalem in 1961 ©Universal Images Group North America LLC / Alamy Stock Photo

Introduction

Jerusalem is the heart of Palestine and the Arab world. Since the Nakba of 1948, the city has suffered radical demographic and geographical changes due to Israeli policies of forcible displacement and annexation. Since the ethnic cleansing of dozens of Palestinian neighborhoods and villages in the western parts of the city, Israel has consistently violated its obligations under the UN Charter, UN resolutions, and international law, creating an unprecedented culture of impunity for over 75 years.

Following the Israeli aggression of June 1967 that led to the occupation of all of Jerusalem, the Palestinians left in the city were stripped of their political rights and turned into "permanent residents," while thousands were prevented from returning to their birthplace, beginning a process of isolation of the city from the rest of Palestine and the Arab world through the tools used by Israel's colonial-settler enterprise. This goes from land expropriations and home demolitions to the separation of families and the exile of political and religious leaders. The Israeli occupation continues its policies that deny the rich multicultural history of the city and its Arab identity to turn it into an exclusive Jewish city. Based on its racist laws, including the Jewish Nation-State Law, the occupying Power refuses to implement its obligations while promoting radical Zionist groups that have led to the current situation where even the Status Quo of the Holy Sites is being threatened and religious symbols, including Mosques, Churches, and cemeteries, are often under attack.

This visual guide provides a perspective of how all those processes have intertwined since 1948 in the form of an ongoing Nakba (Catastrophe) aimed at perpetuating the denial of the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine, including the right to self-determination.

1

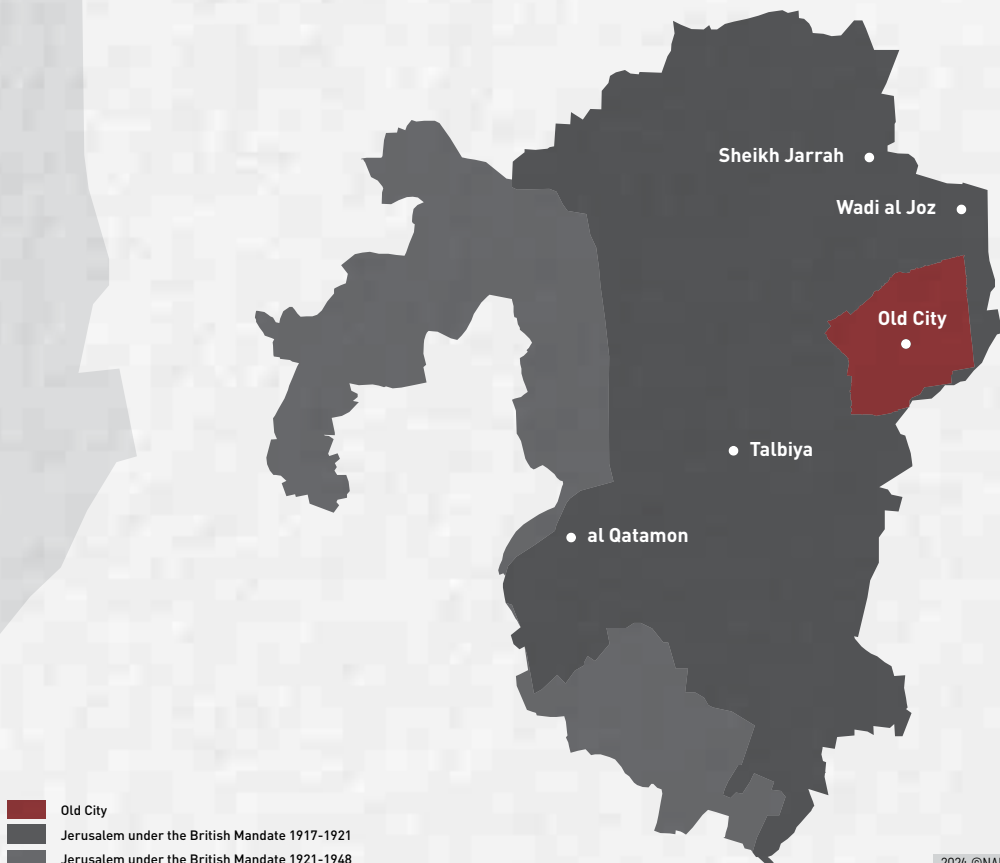
I. Israel's Jerusalem City Plans

Throughout history, colonial powers have consistently used planning as a tool of dominance of the colonized lands and their indigenous population. The progress of the planning process for the occupied City of Jerusalem from the British Mandate (1917 - 1948) to Israel's occupation and illegal annexation in 1967, all the way until its exclusive dominance in the present day is a clear manifestation of how the dynamics of the planning process serve the colonial goals, notably in controlling the geography and demography of the City for the benefit of an exclusive Jewish Israeli supremacy, in total disregard of the fundamental rights and interests of the indigenous Palestinian population. To this date, there is a deliberate ambiguity in where the municipal boundaries of occupied Jerusalem actually lie, as Israel works relentlessly to redefine Jerusalem as an exclusive Jewish Israeli City and expand its borders to include other parts of the occupied West Bank.

During the British Mandate, the planning process for Jerusalem favored the Jewish presence, even though the total area of the Jewish Quarter in the Old City of Jerusalem did not exceed five dunums. At the time, the number of its inhabitants did not exceed 70 families.¹ Therefore, with the influence of Zionist leaders, the borders of the municipality in 1917 were demarcated expansively to the western side to allow the inclusion and expansion of Jewish communities of Givat Shaul, Sakenat Montefiore, Beit Hakerem, Shekenat Hapoalim, and Beit Fajan, while leaving out large Palestinian villages that have always been part of Jerusalem and its suburban area, including Al-Tur, Shuafat, Lifta, Deir Yassin, Silwan, Al-Isawiya, Ein Karem, Al-Malha, and Beit Safafa, among others.

With the demarcation of municipal borders in 1921, the borders of the Old City were included, in addition to the neighborhoods of Bab Al-Sahira, Wadi Al-Jouz and Sheikh Jarrah from the northern side. From the southern side, the border line ended at the walls of the Old City. The borders also included the western side that contained large Jewish communities and some Palestinian communities, including Qatamon, Al-Baqa'a Al-Fawqa, Al-Tahta, Al-Talibiyah, Al-Wa'ariyah, Sheikh Badr, and Ma'man Allah.

Jerusalem Under British Mandate



Upon the United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution in 1947, the City of Jerusalem would be brought under international governance, conferring it a special status due to its shared importance for the three monotheistic religions: Islam, Christianity, and Judaism. The resolution defined the boundaries of Jerusalem, which included, in addition to the City itself, Abu Dis to the east, Bethlehem to the south, Ein Karem, Motsa, Qalunya to the west, and Shuafat to the north.

Corpus Separatum Jerusalem



- Old City
- Jerusalem under the British Mandate 1921-1948
- Corpus Separatum Jerusalem

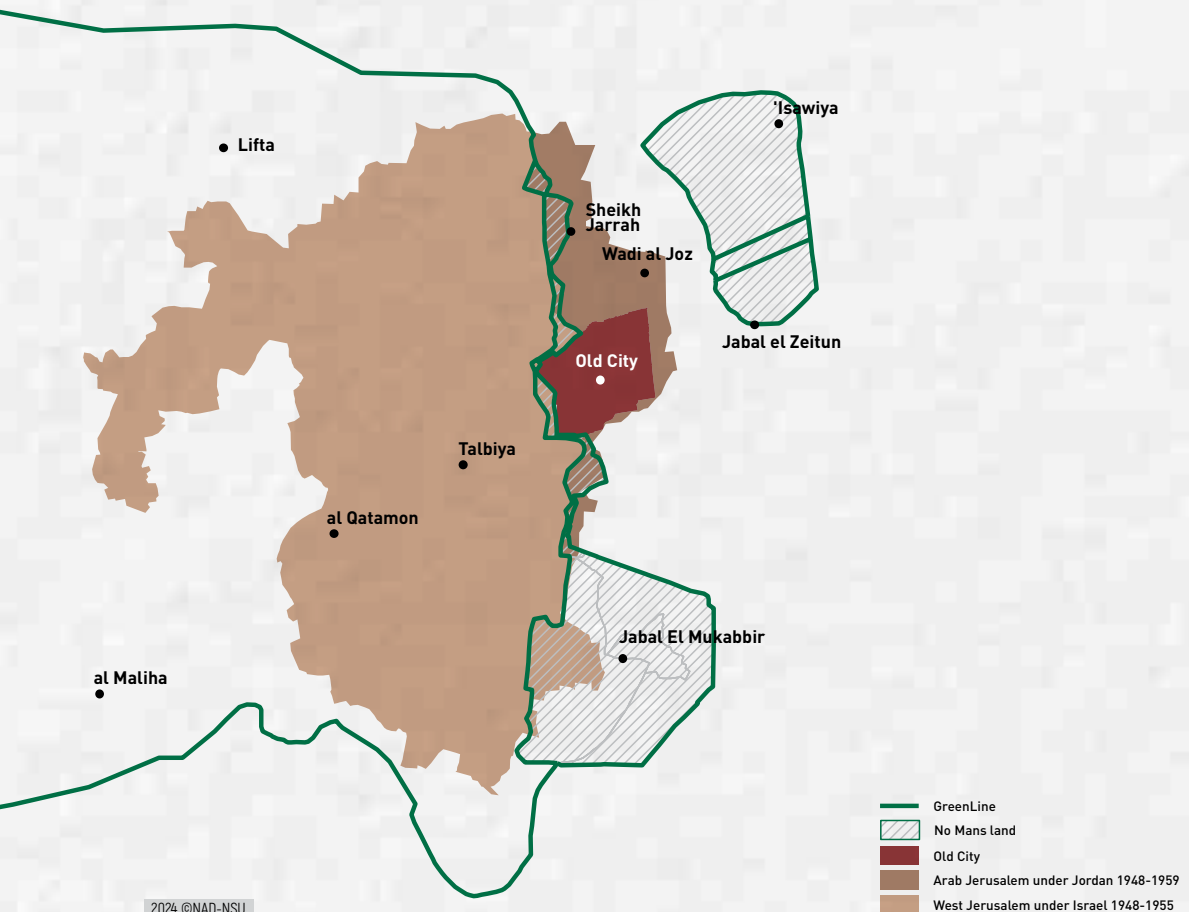
In the aftermath of the Nakba of 1948, and upon the cease-fire agreement signed between the Jordanian and Israeli authorities, Jerusalem was divided into two main parts, as follows:

1	Palestinian areas under Jordanian control	2,220 dunums	11.48%
2	Occupied Palestinian Territory (Western)	16,261 dunums	84.12%
3	Areas under the supervision of the United Nations	850 dunums	4.39%
Total		19,331	100%^a

The demographics at the time facilitated Israel's takeover of the western part of the City with an established majority of 100,000 Jews. At the same time, Palestinians in the eastern part of Jerusalem, including the Old City, composed the majority of the population. The Israeli forces ethnically cleansed the Palestinian neighborhoods in the western part of Jerusalem, and withdrew the Jewish population that had resided in the Old City and the surrounding enclaves of "Neve Yacoub" and "Atarot"³ due to their inability to consolidate their military control in these areas at the time.

No significant amendments to the division armistice line were made until 1967.

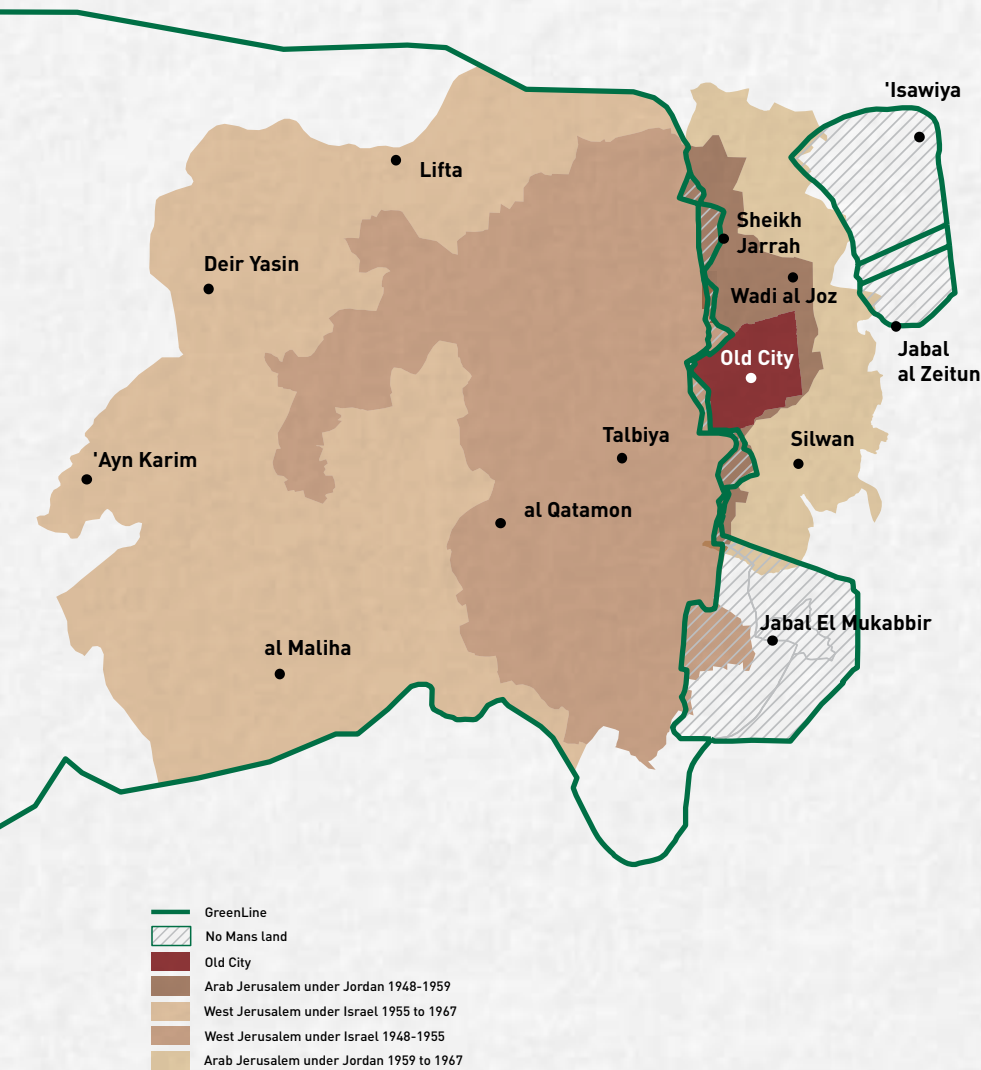
Jerusalem Divided by the Green Line (After the Nakba of 1948)



In 1952, the first plan for the boundaries of Jerusalem (for the eastern part of Jerusalem) was approved by the Jordanian authorities, and it included the areas of Silwan village, Ras al-Amud, al-Sawwanah, Ard al-Simmar, and the southern part of the village of Shuafat. In 1959, the area under this municipality's jurisdiction was 6.5 km², while the area of the built-up part did not exceed 3 km².

As for Western part of Jerusalem, Israel's newly established municipality expanded its area to 38 km² to include the new neighborhoods of Kiryat Yovel, Kiryat Menachem, Ir Ganim, and the villages of Ein Karem, Beit Safafa, Deir Yassin, Lifta, and Malha. Israel's municipality began preparing the first master plan for the City in 1964.⁴

Jerusalem 1948 - 1967



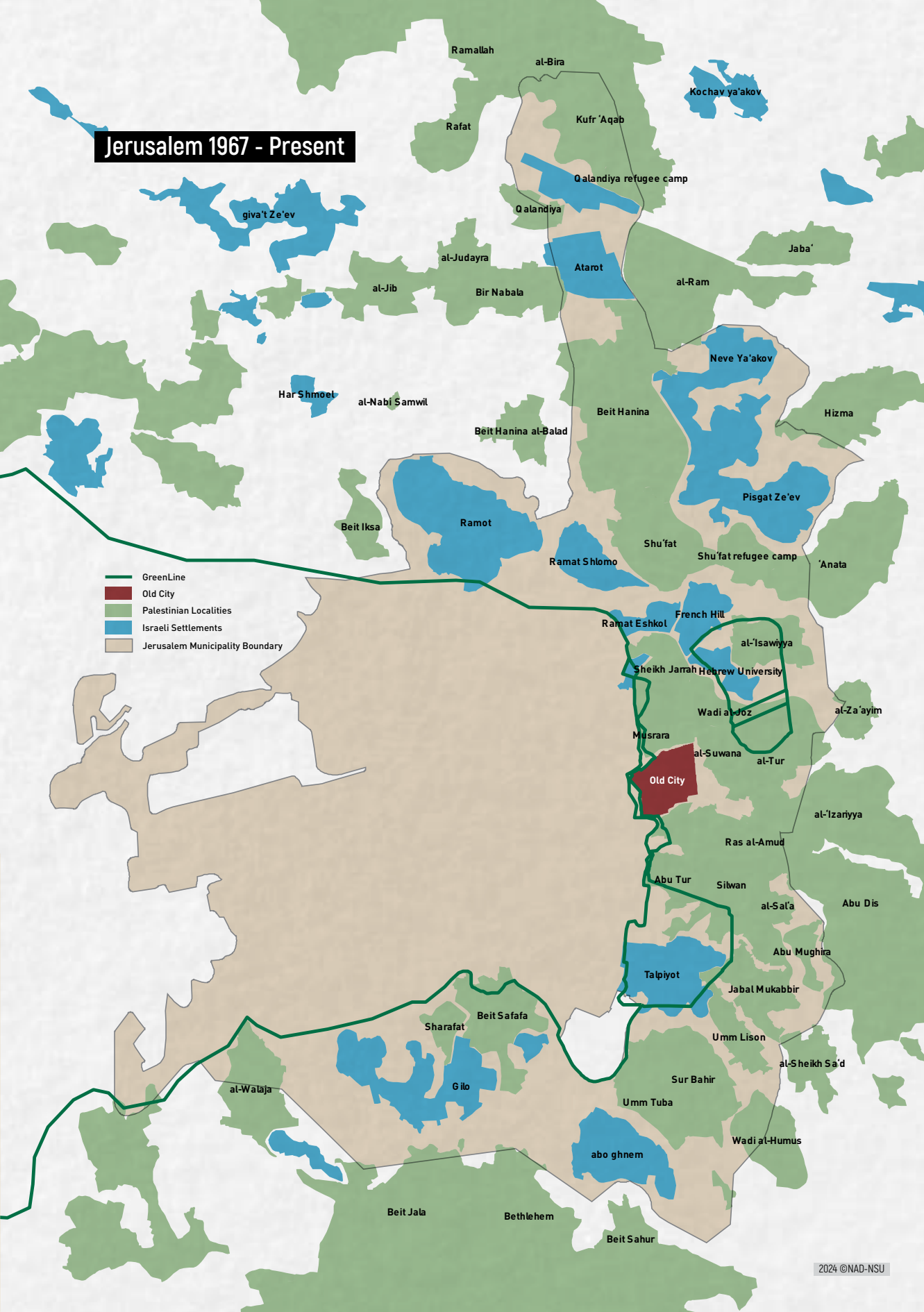


In 1967, Israel occupied and illegally annexed the eastern part Jerusalem and acted immediately to impose its exclusive control over it and Judaize the City at the demographic and geographic levels. To fulfill these objectives, Israel took the following measures:

1. Unilaterally Unifying the eastern and western parts of Jerusalem under Israeli Control: Announcing the unification of the borders of the municipality of Jerusalem in 1967, contrary to international law.
2. Expanding Municipal Borders: The municipal borders were expanded to include 28 Palestinian villages and cities, while expelling all Palestinian population centers from them. With that, the area of the municipality of Jerusalem had expanded from 6.5 km² to 70.5 km²,⁵ and the total of Jerusalem's combined area (eastern and western parts) became 108.5km². Another border expansion was made in 1990 to the west, where the total area became 126km².⁶
3. Expanding Settlements in Occupied Jerusalem: Building "rings" of Jewish settlements to surround the City from all sides while creating geographic and demographic facts on the ground.
4. Reducing Palestinian Population: Israel's geographic plans were largely connected to its demographic objectives of achieving a Jewish Israeli majority of occupied Jerusalem's population while simultaneously imposing rigid, discriminatory policies to reduce the number of Palestinians. As a result, whereas the Palestinian population composed the vast majority of Jerusalem's total population in 1967, in 2016, Palestinians composed a mere 38% of its population.
5. Land Control & Land Grab Policies: Israel's land confiscation and settlement policies, including the creation of settlements and their infrastructure inside Palestinian neighborhoods, have resulted in the loss of Palestinians' control over a large percentage of their lands, which went down from 100% to a mere 13%.



Jerusalem 1967 - Present



During the Jordanian rule over the West Bank, the Jerusalem Governorate was divided into three districts: Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and Jericho.

After the war of 1967, Israel included part of the Jerusalem District within the Israeli-defined municipal borders, and the other part of the District fell under Israeli military control.

After the Oslo Interim Accords, the Jerusalem Governorate under the Palestinian National Authority included only the District of Jerusalem, excluding Jericho, Ramallah, and Bethlehem.



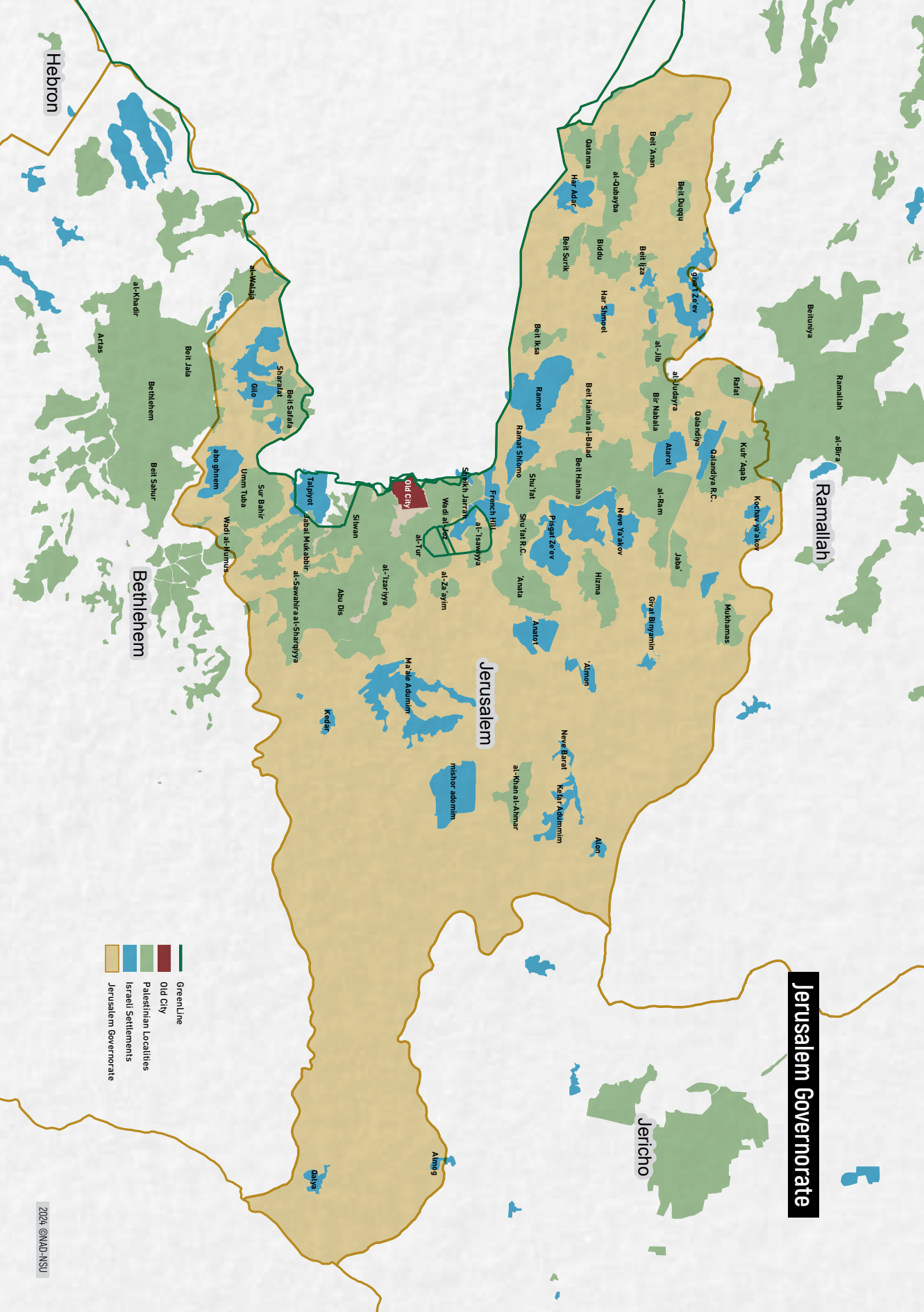
©SOPA Images Limited/Alamy Live News



©Ryan Rodrick Beiler / Alamy Stock Photo

Jerusalem Governorate

- GreenLine
- Old City
- Palestinian Localities
- Israeli Settlements
- Jerusalem Governorate



“Greater Jerusalem” Plan

In line with Israel's policies to alter the demography in Jerusalem to its favor by reducing the Palestinian population, drastic changes were also made to the landscape to correspond to its demographic objectives. The first plan for “Greater Jerusalem” was presented in 1993, and sought to create a new demographic reality to achieve a Jewish majority (of 88% Jewish Israelis and 12% Palestinians), and to eventually enhance the Israeli concept and status of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

For this purpose, Israeli settlements in occupied Jerusalem would be expanded, and 58,000 new settlement units would be approved,⁷ in addition to the creation of an industrial zone and a web of new roads to connect Israeli colonial-settlements outside the municipal boundaries to occupied Jerusalem through “corridors,” including the “Maale Adumin” and “Gush Etzion” settlements (comprising within them a total of 19 settlements), both located in the occupied West Bank, as well as settlements around Ramallah, including “Givaat Zeev”.

Large swathes of the West Bank were annexed to achieve the “Greater Jerusalem” plan, as 75% of the Israeli- defined “Greater Jerusalem” actually lies in the occupied West Bank,⁸ isolating Palestinian areas and destroying any possibility for their future development and growth. Advanced infrastructure is an important part of the plan, and 1.75 billion shekels were allocated for improving and creating new infrastructure, including roads, tunnels, railways, and public transport routes to better connect the Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank to the areas inside the municipal borders of occupied Jerusalem.



Jerusalem “City Center” Plan

The “City Center” plan is one of the major plans that Israel set to Judaize the historic landmarks of occupied Jerusalem and to expand Jewish Israeli settlements in it. This plan would effectively eliminate Palestinian presence from one of the most vibrant areas in Jerusalem, a center of economic and social activities, and a residential area as well. The Palestinian Jerusalemite life will be negatively impacted with long-term constraints on all its spheres, from housing, trade, and employment to education, culture, and movement, resulting in a significant deterioration of the already dire situation of Palestinian Jerusalemites.

The “City Center” plan encompasses an area of approximately 689 dunums in the area of Bab al-Zahra and Wadi al-Joz; It extends from Sultan Suleiman Street and the Old City walls from the south to Uthman ibn Affan Street from the north, and Wadi al-Joz Street from the east to the longitudinal road on the seam between eastern and the western parts of Jerusalem (known as “Road No. 1”).⁹ It includes Salah Eddin, al-Zahra, Al-Rashid, and al-Masoudi streets. According to this plan, the number of housing units within its zone is largely restricted to prevent accommodating the natural growth of the Palestinian population. This Plan also classifies 146 buildings, 20 complexes, and four centers for conservation as historic buildings, which directly inhibits any possibility for Palestinian urban growth.¹⁰

Moreover, the plan seeks to practically destroy a whole neighborhood to build an economic settlement project on its ruins. It also changes the names of the historical monuments in the Old City in general, and in the Damascus Gate area in particular. It restricts the merchants of the Musrara area by closing down parking lots, which would weaken the commercial activities therein.¹¹ As such, the plan significantly reduces the space for employment and commercial activity by 37,800 square meters,¹² and will aggravate the already crippled economic situation among Palestinians in occupied Jerusalem.





Wadi Joz neighborhood ©Hagai Agmon-Snir

Silicon Valley

In 2020, Israel's illegitimate Jerusalem municipality announced its plan to create a "Silicon Wadi" in the Palestinian neighborhood of Wadi Al Joz in the eastern part of occupied Jerusalem. According to the plan, it would host mega high-tech, financial, commercial, and hospitality businesses - inspired by the US Silicon Valley. The master plan for this project designates an area that covers 250,000 km² of Palestinian lands¹³ in a strategic location close to the Old City as an "advanced high-tech zone". The implementation of this plan would cause the forced evictions of dozens of small Palestinian shops and auto repair garages established before the occupation of the City in 1967, leading to the loss of the only source of income for hundreds of Palestinian business owners and their families. With the planned construction of multiple sixteen-story buildings in the area, the plan would further obliterate and alter the City's Palestinian face and its Arab character, threatening its unique architectural heritage.¹⁴

2

II. Israel's Colonial Settlements (in and around occupied Jerusalem)

One of the critical features of Israel's policies in occupied Jerusalem is the construction and expansion of colonial settlements as a tool to solidify its character as a Jewish Israeli City, impose everlasting facts on the ground, and shift the demographics of the City towards its objectives.

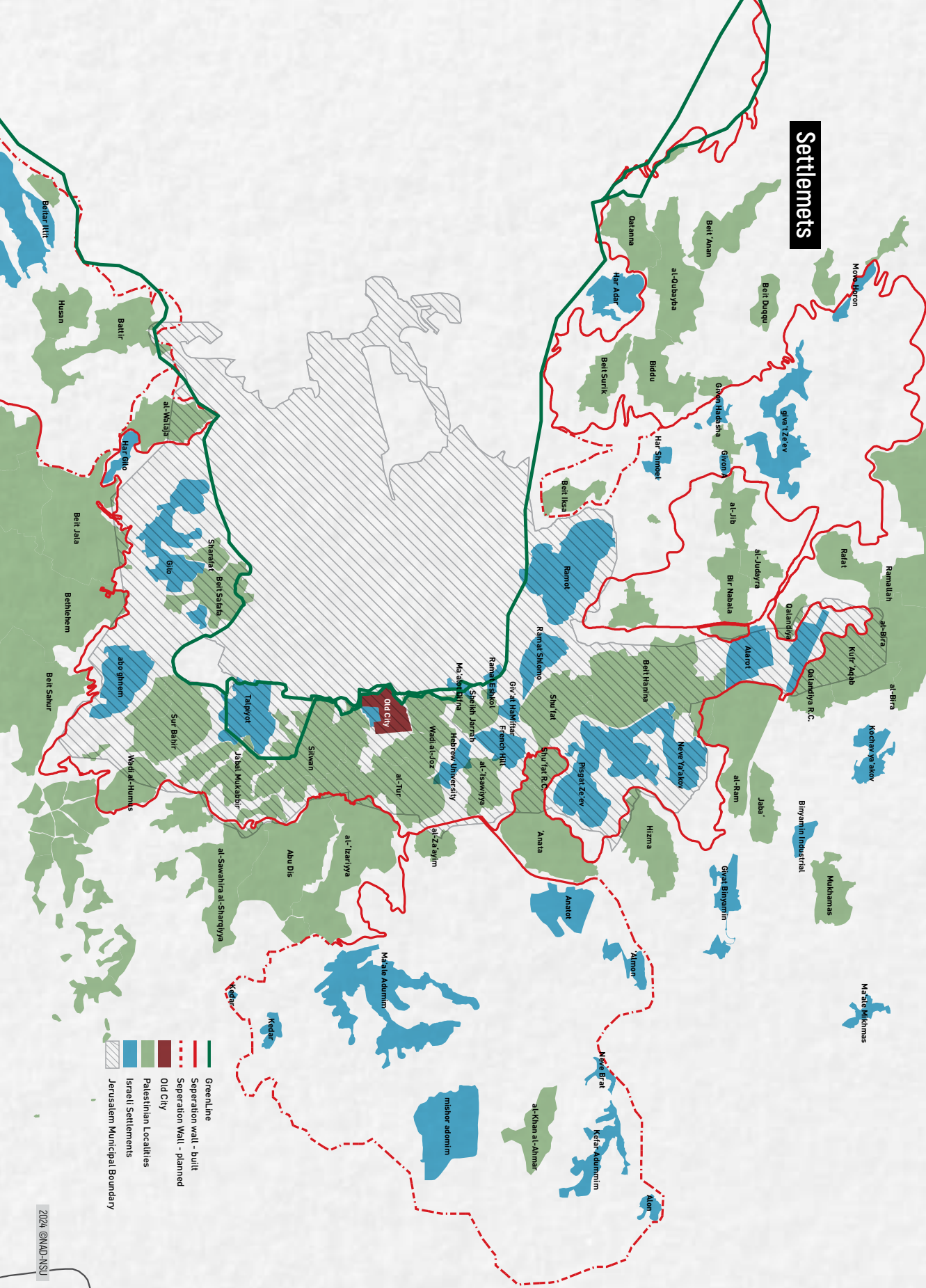
Israeli settlements are strategically built and expanded in three main "rings":¹⁵ The first ring comprises settlements inside the Old City and around it, while the second ring is composed of the settlements within the borders of Israel's Jerusalem municipality, and the third ring includes the settlements that fall outside the municipal borders, surrounding them. Currently, there are:

- Twenty-six state-authorized settlements within the Israeli-imposed municipal boundaries and outside of them;
- Nine colonial installations (settlement outposts¹⁶) in Palestinian neighborhoods inside the Israeli-imposed municipal boundaries, within and around the Old City;
- Nine colonial installations (settlement outposts) outside the City's municipal boundaries (i.e., in the rest of the occupied West Bank).¹⁷

For the establishment of settlements within the borders of Israel's Jerusalem municipality, Israel confiscated 24 km² of land, equivalent to 35% of occupied Jerusalem, on which 15 Israeli settlements were built with 60,000 housing units.

The 3rd ring of settlements around occupied Jerusalem includes three main settlement areas: "Ma'aleh Adumim", "Gush Etzion", and "Givat Ze'ev". One of the core Israeli objectives has been to ensure the direct connection between the 3rd ring of settlements and Jerusalem, while simultaneously expanding them geographically and demographically. Accordingly, Israel's future settlement and infrastructure projects have been developed in a connective manner to annex the settlements in the occupied West Bank as per the Israeli colonial scheme of "Greater Jerusalem."

Settlements



- Greenline
- Separation wall - built
- - - Separation Wall - planned
- Old City
- Palestinian Localities
- Israeli Settlements
- Jerusalem Municipal Boundary

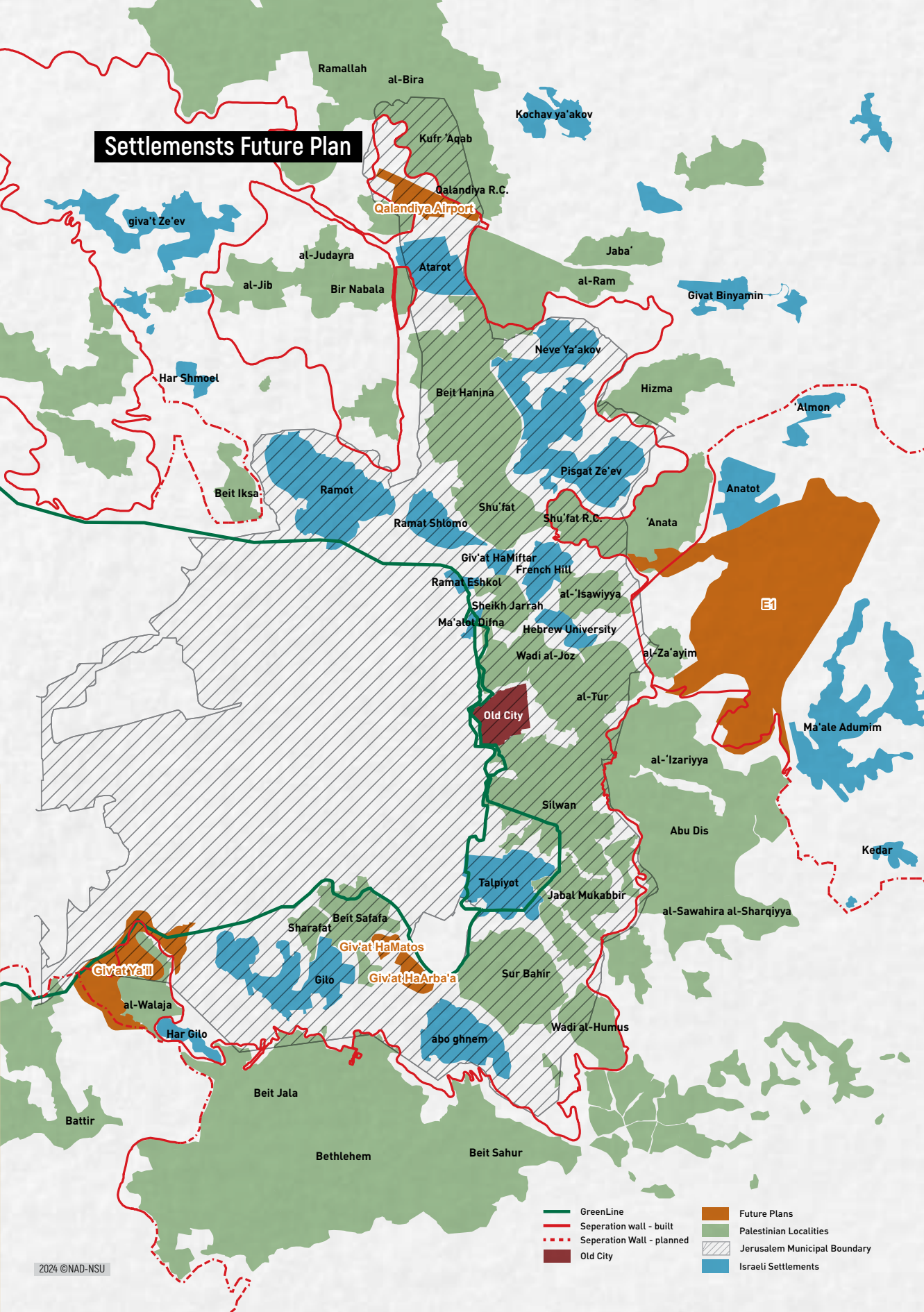
Major Plans in Progress

“Givat Hamatos”: This settlement was established on lands belonging to the village of Beit Safafa and the town of Beit Jala, and served to prevent any Palestinian expansion from the southwest since it besieges the Palestinian villages that lie within the Israeli-defined municipal borders of Jerusalem, separating them from the rest of occupied West Bank. While the current area totals 170 dunums, the structural plan for this settlement indicates that its total area will become 980 dunums, with plans to replace its temporary buildings with new permanent ones, amounting to 4,140 housing units. The settlement is included in the “Jerusalem 2020 Plan”, where a tourist area with hotels will be established, in addition to thousands of housing units to be built in the same area. Such a touristic area in close proximity to Bethlehem seeks to offer an “alternative Bethlehem” to tourists and pilgrims. It would blow the already-fragile Palestinian economy, which is heavily dependent on tourism.

“Atarot”: It is classified as one of 24 “industrial settlements” in the occupied West Bank¹⁸ and was established on 1,530 dunums (378 acres) of lands confiscated from the Palestinian village of Beit Hanina, and 56 dunums from the villages of Al-Ram and Dahiyat al Bareed.¹⁹ The “Jerusalem Master Plan” identifies “Atarot” as a key industrial area²⁰, and currently hosts various businesses. The annexation wall encircles the area designated for the Atarot industrial zone, and completely separates it from Al-Ram and Qalandia, thereby fragmenting the area and breaking up the territorial contiguity of the West Bank.²¹ Due to its “business” nature, the settlement is very well-connected to major roads. It possesses a developed infrastructure, making it an attractive environment for businesses, thus resulting in an increased demand for the land in this area. The “Jerusalem 2050 Plan” envisions the employment of some 400,000 people in a “gigantic center of employment” in “Atarot”. As it sets it as a major employment center, the plan recommends the development of an additional subway line once the worker population exceeds 160,000 people.²² With this vision in mind, in 2020, the Israeli Ministry of Housing submitted a building plan to the Israeli Jerusalem municipality to construct 9,000 new housing units for Israeli settlers in the “Atarot industrial settlement”.²³



Settlements Future Plan



“Har Homa”: The construction of the “Har Homa” settlement in occupied Jerusalem was started after the Oslo Interim Accords, and its establishment was key to creating a physical barrier between occupied Jerusalem and Bethlehem. The expansion of “Har Homa” seeks to connect it with the “Gilo” settlement, which will be expanded by additional 89 housing units, to create a contiguous Israeli built-up area along the southern boundary of occupied Jerusalem, detaching Bethlehem and the southern West Bank from the City while isolating the Palestinian town of Beit Safafa. In 2020, plans were presented for constructing additional 570 housing units in the extension of “Har Homa” to the west. In 2022, Israel’s Jerusalem municipality approved what is known as the “lower aqueduct plan” south of Kibbutz Ramat Rachel near “Givat Hamatos” and “Har Homa” for the construction of a new settlement with 1,465 housing units.²⁴

“Ramat Shlomo”: This ultra-orthodox settlement in occupied Jerusalem was built in the 1990s, after the Oslo Interim Accords. By 2010, it comprised 1,300 housing units, with a population of 14,500 settlers.²⁵ Israel plans to expand the settlement by additional 1,530 housing units, where currently about 1,000 housing units out of the 1,530 in the plan are under construction, some of which are ready for occupancy.²⁶





Bab Shams [Gate of the Sun] Palestinian Protest Camp in 2013 (Behind is Ma'ale Adumim Settlement)@Imago/Xinhua/ Alamy Stock Photo

The **"E1" colonial project**: This project is the administrative Israeli name given to the area located in the eastern gateway of Jerusalem, within the boundaries of the illegal Israeli settlement of "Maale Adumim", covering around 12,443 dunums of the lands of Al Tur, Anata, Azariya, and Abu Dis. The plan consists of 4,000 settlement housing units for Jewish Israeli settlers, ten hotels, and an industrial zone. This colonial project is particularly alarming as it expedites the realization of Israel's objective of a "Greater Jerusalem" by imposing radical and permanent changes on the geographic and demographic scopes: It will permanently sever the north of the West Bank from its south while connecting all the settlements located in the eastern region and outside Israel's Jerusalem municipality borders with the settlements within the borders, thus transforming the Palestinian villages into ghettos besieged by the settlements. Accordingly, it will block the vision of East Jerusalem as the Capital City of Palestine, and the possibility of any future Palestinian development toward the East. Additionally, the "E1 colonial project" threatens approximately 3,700 Palestinians with forcible transfer and displacement²⁷, and seeks to replace them with 100,000 Israeli settlers with the planned expansion of the "Maale Adumim" settlement (to include the settlements of "Kedar", "Maale Adumim", "E1", "Alon", "Kfar Adumim", "Alamon", "Neve Prat", and the "Industrial Zone Mishur Adumim").

3

III. Israel's Colonial Settlements: Infrastructure Projects

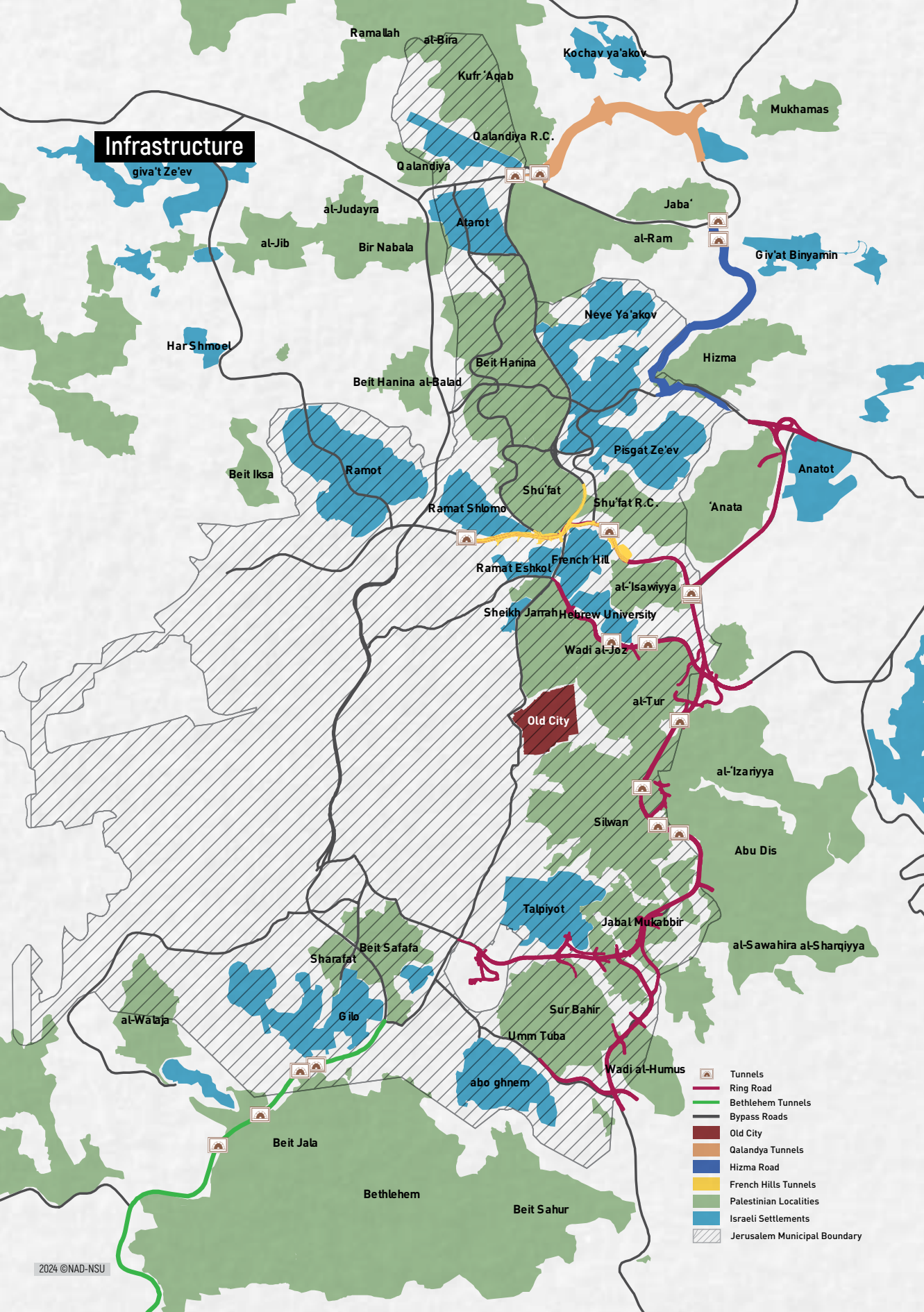
Establishing new Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestine and expanding existing ones necessarily include a broad set of infrastructure projects and services to serve the settlements, their connectivity, and their increasing settler population. Such infrastructure projects directly cause further land dispossession for Palestinians. They are a tool for Israel to advance its demographic and annexation objectives, and to consolidate the "Greater Jerusalem" vision within a broader "Metropolitan Jerusalem"²⁸, with a fragmented, minimal, and isolated Palestinian presence.

For this purpose, the Israeli occupation authorities have invested billions of shekels in roads and transport infrastructure, and several major bypass roads and tunnels were opened, connecting the settlements within the borders of Israel's Jerusalem municipality while mainly contributing to the increase of the settler population. In some cases, new roads have contributed to a settler population increase by a staggering 90% in less than one decade.²⁹

While the interests of the settlers are prioritized in such colonial infrastructure projects, in terms of ensuring their connectivity to Jerusalem and inside the Green Line in a swift, rapid manner, Palestinian movement continues to be hindered by the annexation wall and checkpoints, which largely serve the settlements themselves and their associated infrastructure.

Thus, the cost of colonial settlement infrastructure is borne by Palestinians; just like settlements themselves, their infrastructure is also enabled by confiscating more Palestinian lands, and further diminishing their geographic integrity and any prospects of a political solution.

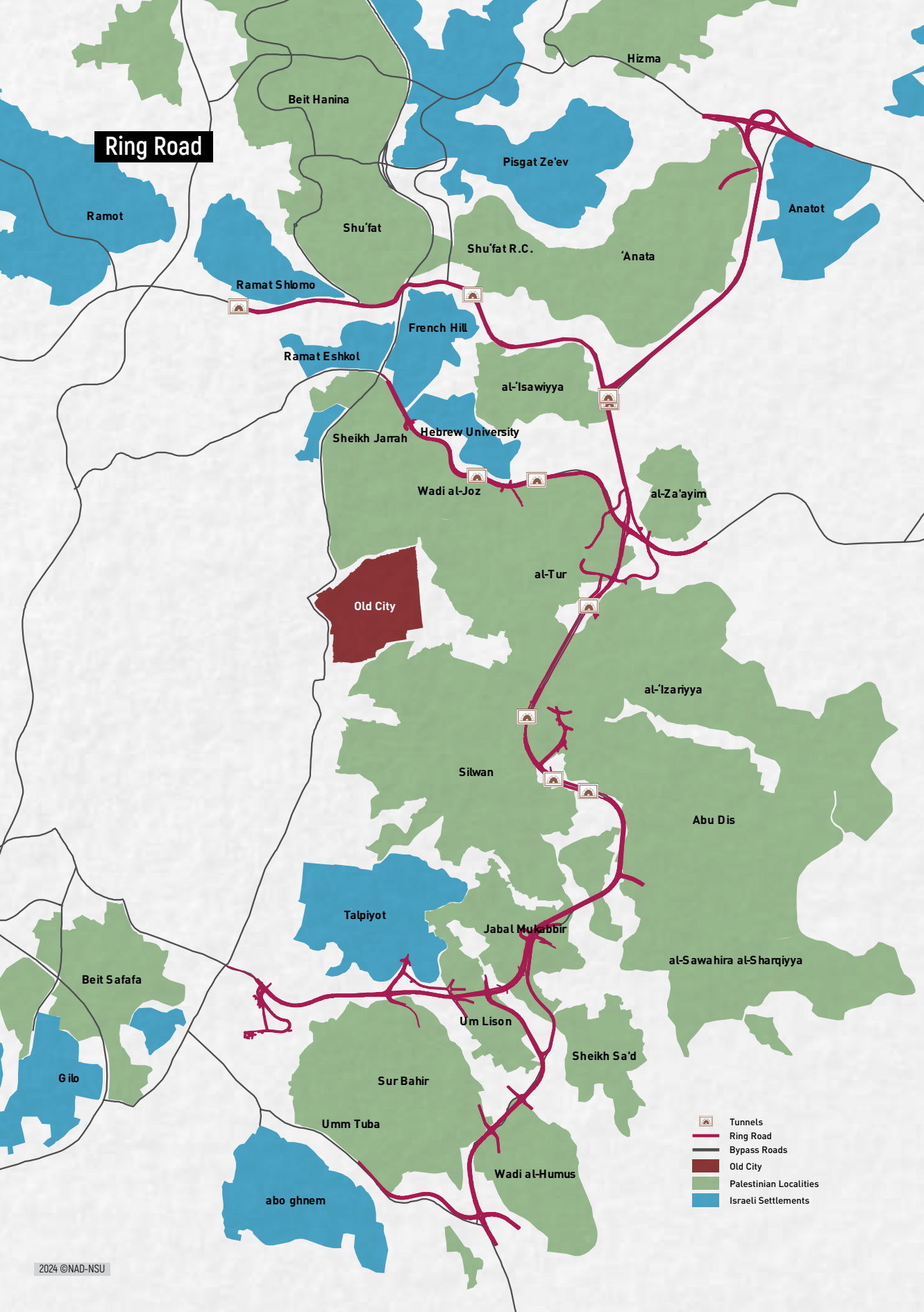
Infrastructure









The main settlement infrastructure projects in and around occupied Jerusalem include:

Ring Road / American Road: It is considered one of the strategic projects, serving as a *de facto* annexation project under the guise of infrastructure. This project will expand the boundaries of Israel's Jerusalem municipality from an area of 126 km² to 600 km², or what is equivalent to 10% of the area of occupied West Bank, without effectively having to declare it as annexation. For the implementation of this project, Israel confiscated 1,070 dunums from lands belonging to the Palestinian villages of Sur Baher, Abu Dis, Al-Tur, and Anata, and allocated a massive budget for it (approximately \$500 million USD). This project consists of a number of tunnels and bridges, and aims to establish industrial barriers to prevent the development of Palestinian villages and limit their growth, falling between settlements and their bypass roads. The project also links the settlements inside and outside the Old City of occupied Jerusalem. Three tunnels will be opened under this project, which will pass under the village of Al-Eizariya (with a length of 1,200 meters), cutting through the Mount of Olives to reach the road leading to Route 1, and linking the "Ma'ale Adumim" settlement to occupied Jerusalem. Two tunnels will also be opened in Abu Dis with a length of 200 meters under this project.





Ring Road

-  Tunnels
-  Ring Road
-  Bypass Roads
-  Old City
-  Palestinian Localities
-  Israeli Settlements

Bethlehem Tunnels: The "Bethlehem Tunnels Road" was one of the bypass roads that Israel paved right after the Oslo Interim Accords to allow a fast commute for the settlers residing in settlements outside the Jerusalem borders to Jerusalem, and inside the Green Line, without having to pass through Palestinian cities. It is a key route for the development of the settlements in the area. In 2019, Israel confiscated additional parcels of lands from the Palestinian village of al-Khader and the town of Beit Jala to widen the Tunnels Road, and serve the connection between the "Gush Etzion" settlements and occupied Jerusalem, further destroying the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Battir/ Al Makhroun Valley ("Palestine Land of Olives and Vines: Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem"). Israel intends to open an additional tunnel and another bridge in parallel with the existing tunnels and bridge to ease the heavy traffic on that road. The desired effect of the Tunnels Road was immediate: within six years, the population of the settlements along the road doubled, and has grown by five folds in 22 years : from 15,515 settlers in 1995 to 30,853 settlers in 2001, and to 76,976 settlers in 2017.³⁰



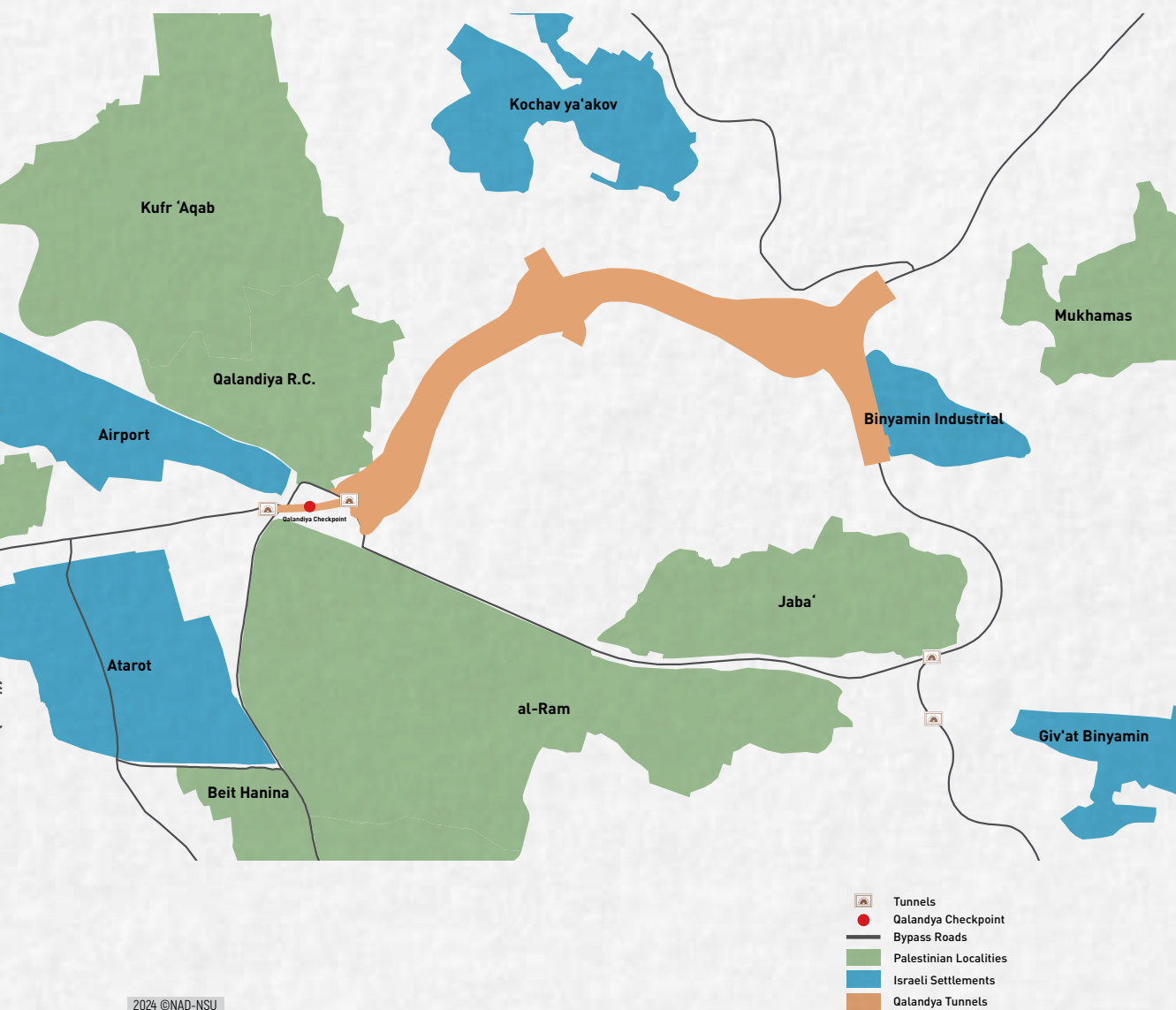
Bethlehem Tunnel



-  Tunnels
-  Bethlehem Tunnels
-  Bypass Roads
-  Palestinian Localities
-  Israeli Settlements
-  Jerusalem Municipal Boundary

Qalandia Tunnel: In 2021, Israel tendered the “Qalandia Underpass” project, confiscating 931 dunums of lands from several Palestinian villages, including Mikhmas, Jaba, Al-Ram, Qalandia, and Kufur Aqab. This project seeks to connect the settlements in the Ramallah area, in the Jordan Valley, and in the northeast into occupied Jerusalem and inside the Green Line, without traffic jams, turning the settlements in the Ramallah area and the Jordan Valley into attractive residential areas for thousands of new settlers. Additional plans for developing webs of roads in the Ramallah – Jerusalem areas are ongoing³¹, which would be linked to the Qalandia Tunnels, and, together with them, would connect Jerusalem and the “Ma’ale Adumim” settlement, and enable the construction of settlements in the area as planned for the “E1” colonial project.

Qalandia Tunnel



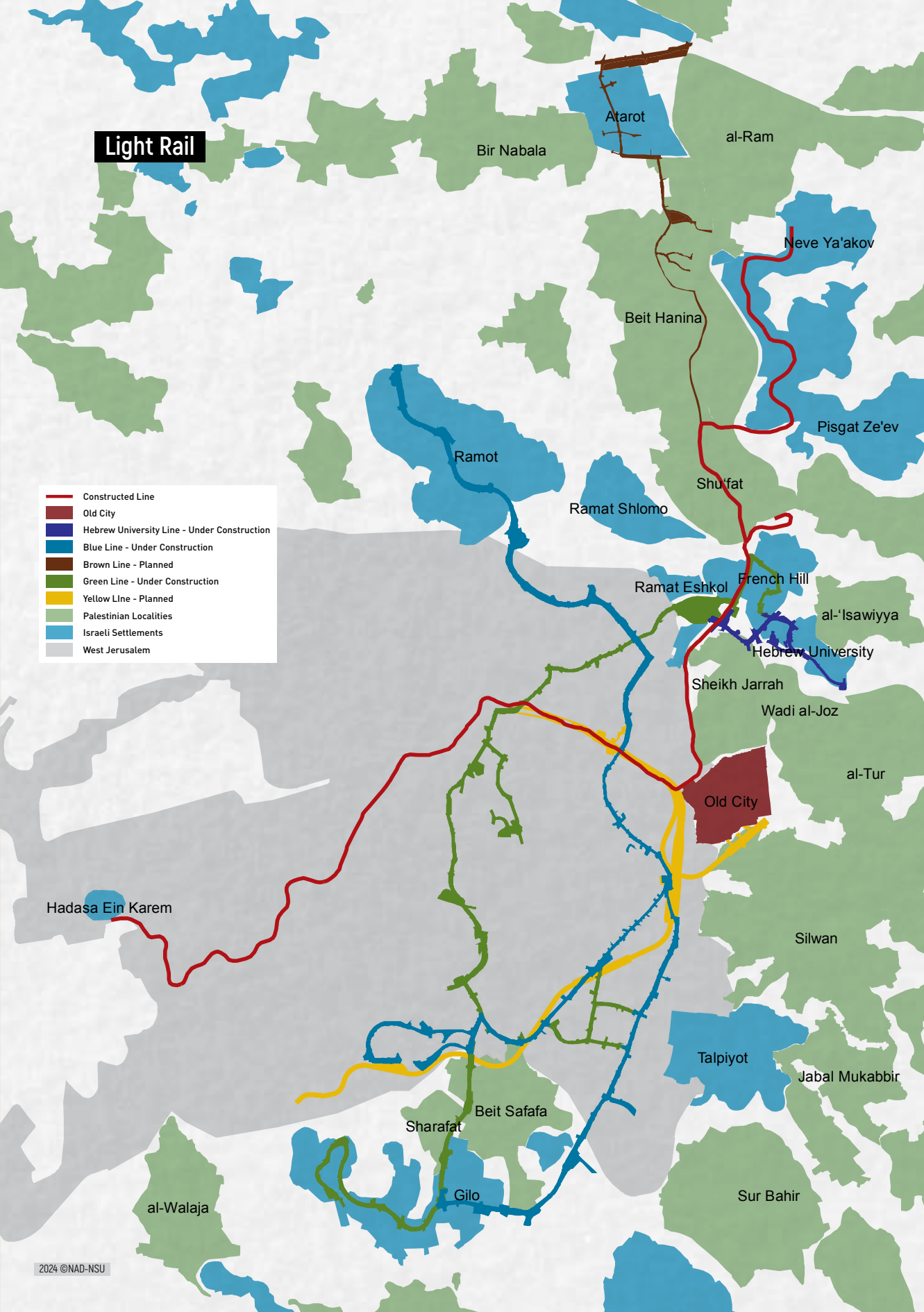


Light Rail: With a vision to consolidate settlements in occupied Jerusalem and ensure their swift connectivity to each other and within the City, Israel implemented the Light Rail project over several phases. The most recent plans for this project are scheduled for completion in 2025. It will create five new railroads with a total of 27 kilometers of tracks and 50 stations to connect the settlements of "Gilo" in the south, Al-Masharif mountain (Mount Scopus) to the north of Jerusalem, Ein Kerem to the west, and Nabi Yakoub to the north.³²



Light Rail

- Constructed Line
- Old City
- Hebrew University Line - Under Construction
- Blue Line - Under Construction
- Brown Line - Planned
- Green Line - Under Construction
- Yellow Line - Planned
- Palestinian Localities
- Israeli Settlements
- West Jerusalem



Cable Car: The Cable Car is a major project with the Judaize Jerusalem's Old City (and the surrounding area) and has been approved by Israel as a national interest in 2018. The project entails the establishment of four stations; the first one is near the Khan Theater (the Ottoman station), the second is located near the David Gate in Mount Zion, and the third station will be on the roof of the Kedem complex near the Mughrabi Gate, overlooking the village of Silwan. The fourth station will be in the Mount of Olives, terminating the route near the Lions' Gate. According to the plans, the cable car route will pass over numerous Palestinian houses in Silwan and Wadi Hilweh, exposing them to the threat of demolition, and the lands that fall under the route will be confiscated, including Church-owned lands. The cable car will be supported by the construction of 15 massive eight-story-high columns along its route, which will ruin the historic landscape of the Old City, inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Danger. Moreover, the Cable Car route will alter the traffic route in the Old City of Jerusalem towards the colonial site of the City of David in Silwan instead of entering through the Jaffa Gate and the Muslim and Christian Quarters, damaging Palestinian economic and commercial activity in the area.

Cable Car



IV. Israel's Colonial Settlements: Enclaves

4

Settlement enclaves are strategically and deliberately designed to exist in the Palestinian neighborhoods of occupied Jerusalem. They usually start with settlers take-over of adjacent Palestinian homes, which are then expanded and connected to one another in the heart of Palestinian neighborhoods, eventually gaining autonomy and a "legal" status.

Settlement enclaves are spread in Palestinian neighborhoods throughout occupied Jerusalem, including in the Muslim and Christian Quarters of the Old City, Silwan, Sheikh Jarrah, Al-Tur (Mount of Olives), Ras al-Amud, and Jabal al-Mukaber.

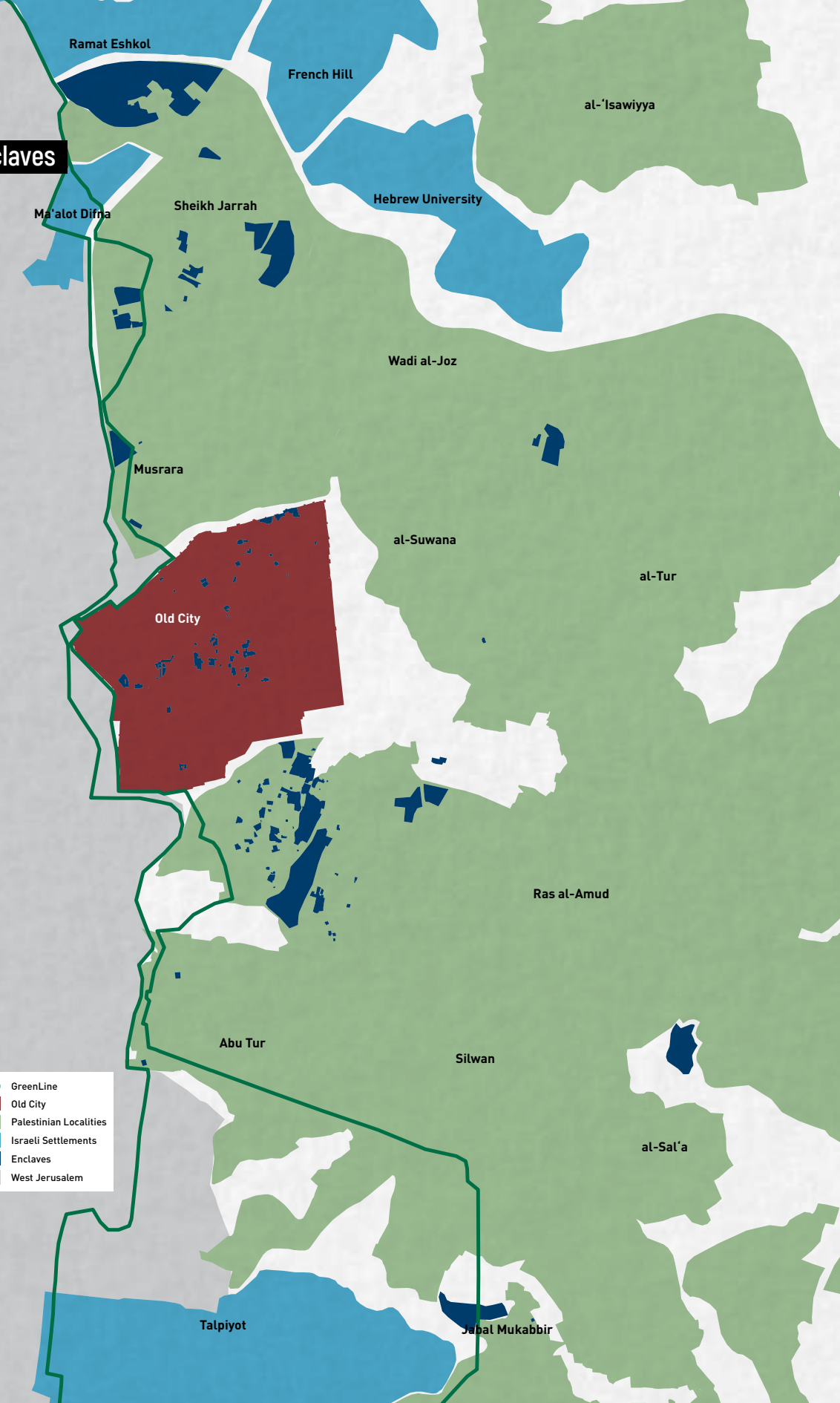
There are around 230,000 Jewish Israeli settlers living in 10 settlements in occupied Jerusalem, of them, an estimated number of 3,000 settlers live in enclaves inside nine Palestinian neighborhoods in the City³³. In 2023, the occupation authorities promoted 19,000 settlement units in occupied Jerusalem, in addition to approving several other colonial settlement projects³⁴, which would effectively further increase the settler population in the City.

The establishment and strategic placement of such settlement enclaves is crucial to imposing and asserting an exclusive Jewish identity and control over occupied Jerusalem; this necessarily entails an Israeli apparatus of policies and laws designed to oppress, dispossess, and displace any Palestinian presence in the City. Moreover, the placement of the settlement enclaves in proximity to the Green Line and the promotion of their growth therein demonstrates Israel's intentions of erasing the line between "East" and "West," as well as the Green Line, and asserting its control over all of Jerusalem in a *de facto* manner.

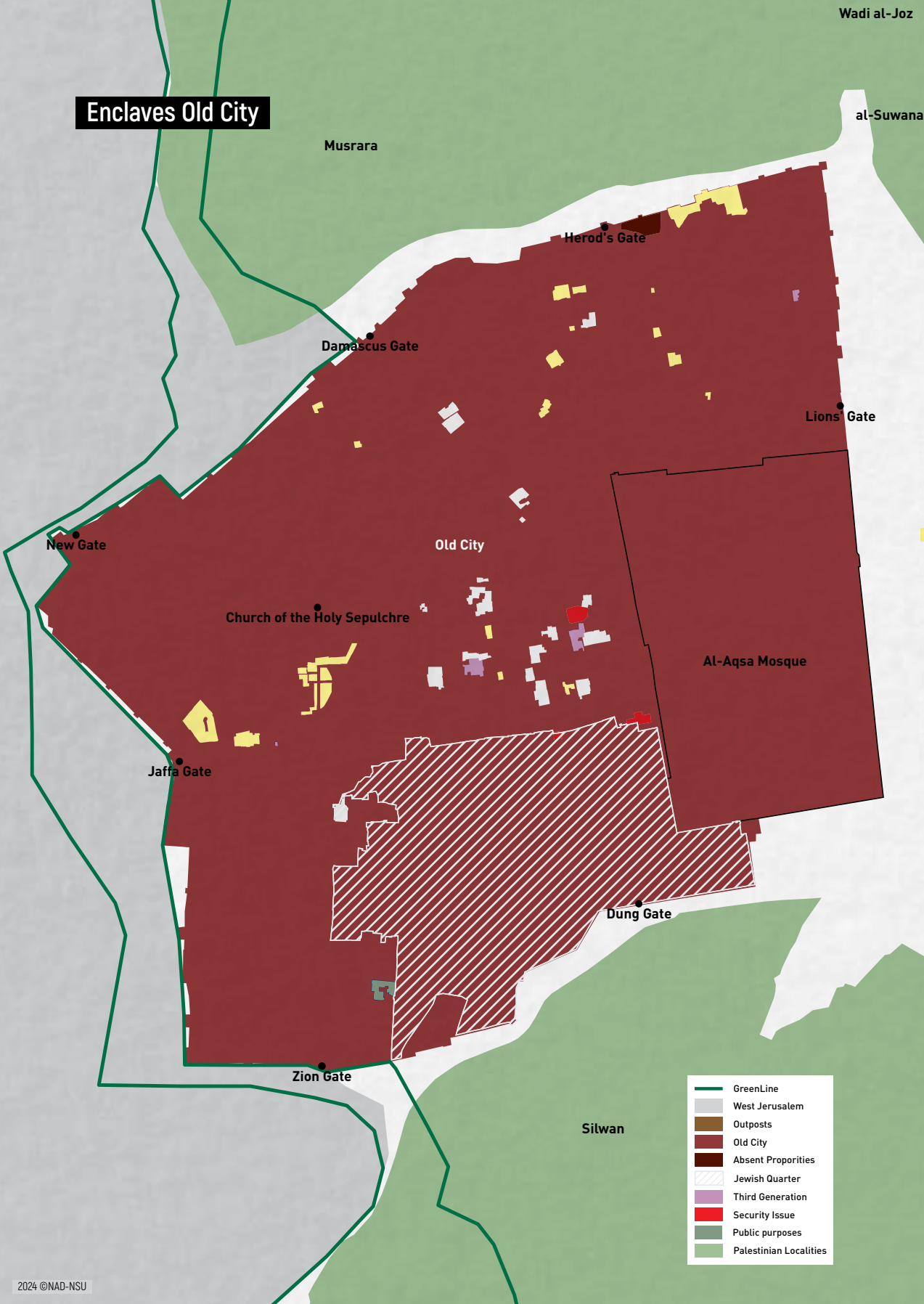
Settlement enclaves have drastic consequences on Palestinians in occupied Jerusalem: besides eroding their historic presence and narratives, they confine their spaces, de-develop their areas, prevent any future plans for their growth, and forcibly displace them through forced evictions, expulsions and home demolitions. As such, 175 Palestinian families are under the threat of forcible transfer and displacement for the benefit of settlement enclaves and their infrastructure.³⁵ Settler organizations play a major role in the eviction of Palestinians from their homes and spaces, and work under the auspices of, and in full cooperation with the Israeli occupation authorities. Settlement enclaves are normally characterized by the presence of radical and aggressive settlers who assault Palestinian residents systematically, as well as a heavy presence of occupation forces, including the Israeli police and militarized mercenaries from private companies.³⁶ The Israeli occupation forces occasionally block Palestinian movement in these areas with checkpoints, and often provoke Palestinians residents. As such, the settlement enclaves areas are active spots of Israeli aggression and violence against their Palestinian residents.

Enclaves

- GreenLine
- Old City
- Palestinian Localities
- Israeli Settlements
- Enclaves
- West Jerusalem



Enclaves Old City



- GreenLine
- West Jerusalem
- Outposts
- Old City
- Absent Proprieties
- Jewish Quarter
- Third Generation
- Security Issue
- Public purposes
- Palestinian Localities

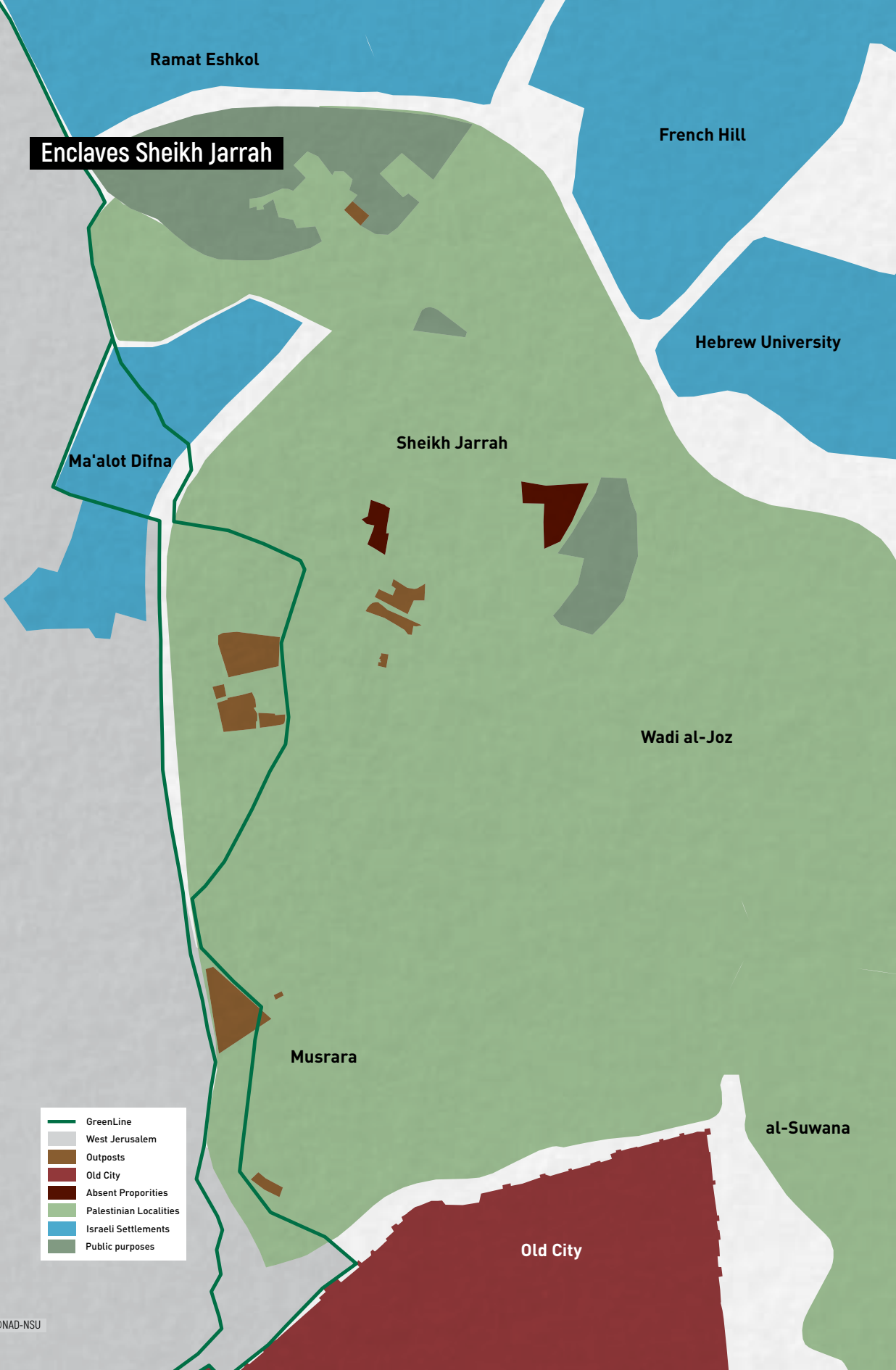
In Focus: Sheikh Jarrah

Sheikh Jarrah is a Palestinian neighborhood in occupied Jerusalem, less than one kilometer to the north of the Old City walls. It is strategically targeted by the occupying Power for its location that would ensure connectivity to settlements inside Jerusalem's Old City, and assert Jewish Israeli dominance. Thus, the neighborhood has been threatened by well-resourced radical settler organizations who work in coordinated efforts with the Israeli occupation authorities to take over the entirety of the neighborhood.

After the Nakba of 1948, the Jordanian authorities, in agreement with UNRWA, settled 28 Palestinian families in Sheikh Jarrah, who were made refugees from the western part of Jerusalem, and from other parts of the land of historic Palestine, granting them ownership rights in return of relinquishing their refugee status. However, when Israel annexed the eastern part of Jerusalem in 1967, it did not recognize the established rights of Palestinian families in the neighborhood, and a process of protracted legal battles and forced evictions was initiated by various settler groups who are active in the displacement of Palestinians for the benefit of Jewish settlers, claiming ownerships of property in the neighborhood. Since the beginning of 2020, Israeli courts have ordered the evictions of 13 Palestinian families in Sheikh Jarrah. In April, 2024, the Israeli Magistrate's Court ruled that 20 Palestinians from the family of Saleh Diab would have until 17 July, 2024 to leave their Sheikh Jarrah home. The judge also decided that the settler group Nahalat Shimon was owed 80,000 shekels (\$21,000)³⁷. Currently, there are three compounds inhabited by approximately 72 families at risk of forced evictions in Sheikh Jarrah.³⁸

This is made possible by the Israeli "legal" and judicial systems which allow Jewish claims to property owned before 1948 to be immediately restored, but does not allow Palestinians to make the same claims to their rights to properties that they were forced to leave in the western part of Jerusalem in 1948.





In Focus: Silwan

Silwan is a historic town located to the south of Jerusalem's Old City, and its case is a clear demonstration of how Israel, working with radical settler organizations, exploits religion and archaeology to displace Palestinians, take over their land, and replace them with Jewish Israeli settlers.

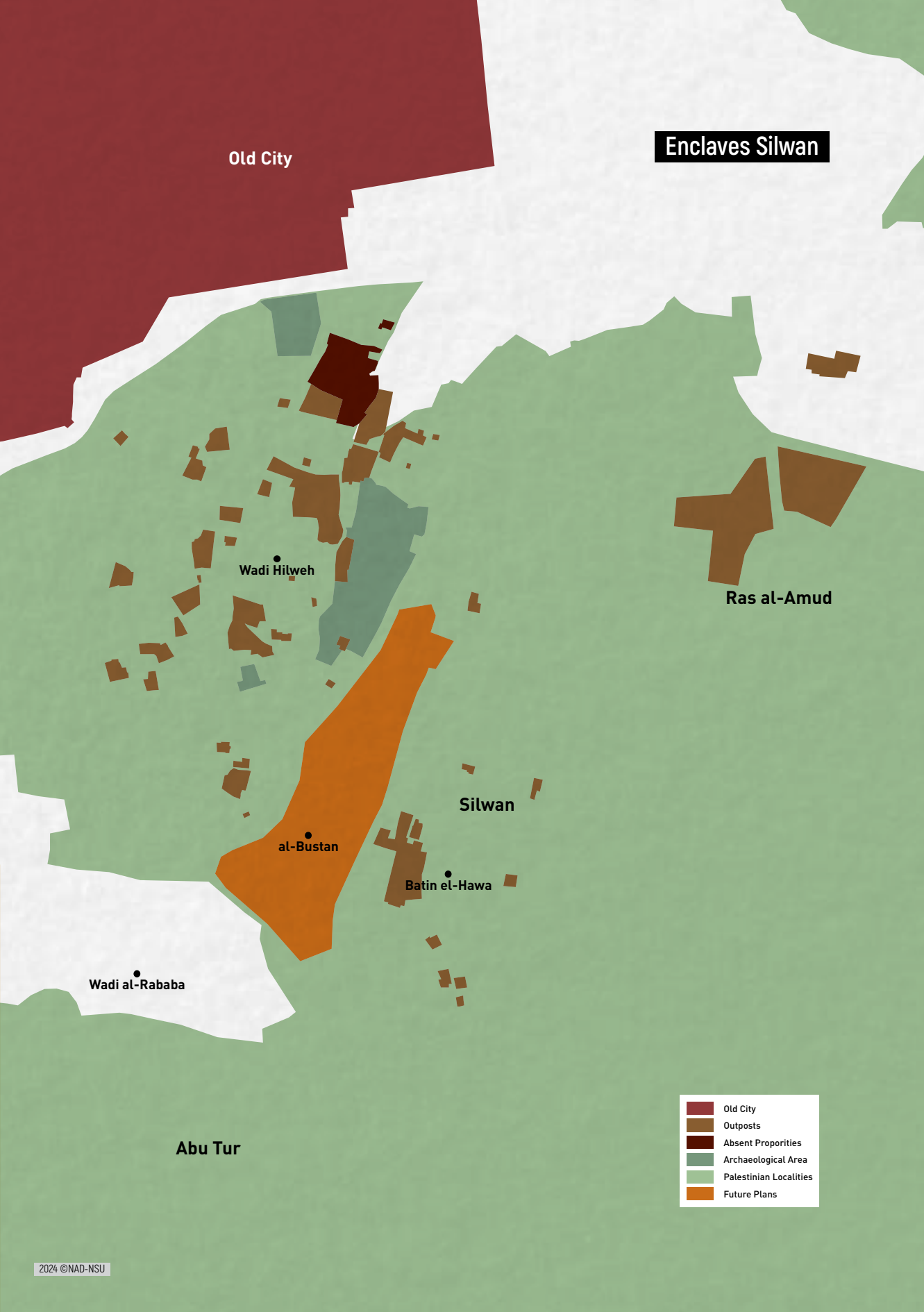
Silwan has been heavily targeted by Israeli settler groups, and Palestinian residents of the town have been facing forced evictions and home demolition orders under various pretexts, including biblical ones, claiming that Silwan stands today where the biblical "City of David" once was.

As such, a total of 97 Palestinian families are at risk of being evicted from their homes in the Batan Al Hawa neighborhood of Silwan, on the grounds that the land on which their homes are built was owned by Jewish parties until 1948. Since 2015, 14 Palestinian families have been evicted from the neighborhood.³⁹ Since 2005, residents of the al Bustan area of Silwan have received warnings to demolish more than 100 homes for building without a permit⁴⁰, in favor of an Israeli settler organization that seeks to turn the land into a national park and link it to the archaeological "City of David" site.⁴¹ In April 2024, the Israeli Supreme Court, decided that 15 Palestinians must leave their Silwan home, the Israeli court claimed the home was the property of the settler organization Ateret Cohanim, which obtained the interests of a trust that allegedly purchased the site before the creation of Israel in 1948⁴².

Israeli authorities have been conducting intensive excavations in Silwan, digging for evidence of ancient Jewish history. Such excavations are carried out underneath Palestinian homes without the approvals of the house owners, and have induced serious damages to their foundations, resulting in the collapsing of several homes and the displacements of their residents.

With the "City of David" site, Silwan has been turned into a tourist-settlement enclave in occupied Jerusalem, and an attraction site for hundreds of thousands of tourists who are exposed to an exclusive Jewish Zionist narrative for Jerusalem, standing in areas from where Palestinians have already been displaced and expelled. While this makes it a profitable source for settler-run museums, Palestinian businesses in the area are impoverished and suffer from Israeli policies of closures and regular aggression.





Old City

Enclaves Silwan

Wadi Hilweh

Ras al-Amud

Silwan

al-Bustan

Batin el-Hawa

Wadi al-Rababa

Abu Tur

- Old City
- Outposts
- Absent Proprieties
- Archaeological Area
- Palestinian Localities
- Future Plans

5

V. Israel's Oppressive Policies in Jerusalem

Israel's control over Jerusalem was initiated by its occupation of the western part of the City in 1948, followed by the occupation of the eastern part and its annexation in 1967, effectively expanding its boundaries by tens of thousands of dunums in a unilateral manner, forcing drastic demographic alterations for the benefit of the Jewish-Israeli colonial settler project.

Israel's exclusive control over Jerusalem exceeds the control over the land and forcing demographic alternations, and extends to all aspects of Palestinian life: sovereignty, politics, fundamental rights, historic and religious narratives, culture and economy. With the clear objective of forcing the indigenous Palestinian Jerusalemites out of their home City, Israel has designed its widespread and systematic policies to meet this objective, from the discriminatory planning regime which enables the confiscation of property, home demolitions and forced evictions, to inadequate services, and the deliberate de-development of Palestinian neighborhoods and villages, to the transfer of Israeli settlers in settlements and the deliberate obstruction and fragmentation of Palestinian economy.

As such, Palestinians in occupied Jerusalem struggle with ongoing forceful displacement, dispossession, and appropriation of their land, culture, narrative, and historical sites, all enabled through the application of Israeli laws, policies, and administrative practices- each one of them amounting to grave breaches of international law in and by itself.

1. ID Revocations

Upon its occupation and annexation of the eastern part of Jerusalem in 1967, Israel held a population census in the annexed areas, and Palestinians who happened to be absent at the time of the census for any reason (including those who were forcibly displaced) lost all their rights and status to reside in (or even visit) their home City. The remaining Palestinians were treated by Israeli authorities as mere “residents” in their indigenous homeland, and were given the peculiar status of “permanent residency,” an inferior status that does not confer full citizenship rights and is very easily revocable at the total discretion of the Israeli Ministry of Interior. Moreover, Palestinians who hold this status bear the burden to constantly prove to the Israeli occupation authorities that their “Center of Life”⁴³ is in Jerusalem to be able to preserve it, a requirement applicable only to Palestinians. The “permanent resident” status was used by Israel to forcibly expel over 14,701 Palestinians⁴⁴ from their City, and more recently, Israel introduced additional laws to expel more Palestinians through ID revocations, including the “Breach of Allegiance” law which was introduced in 2018, and demands Israeli-defined allegiance from Palestinians to their occupying authorities. Israel also uses collective punishment measures to revoke the IDs of the families of alleged Palestinian “attackers.”



2. Home Demolitions

Israel implements a discriminatory planning and building policy in Jerusalem which allows Jewish Israeli settlements to grow and develop unabated, while limiting, isolating and shrinking Palestinian growth in the same City. For this purpose, Israel designated large areas of occupied Jerusalem as “National Parks,” where development is forbidden by law, composing about one-third of the land around the Old City of Jerusalem, as well as, confiscating privately-owned Palestinian lands, and lands that lie within or adjacent to the areas of Palestinian neighborhoods and villages to secure a Jewish-only contiguity from the Old City to settlements to within and outside the Israeli municipal borders

As a matter of policy, Israel’s Jerusalem municipality does not issue urban plans for Palestinian neighborhoods, which means they cannot obtain building permits, and lack basic services and infrastructure. In addition to that, and with effectively no lands left available for their development and population growth due to the described Israeli policies, Palestinians are left with a mere 13% of their land available for construction – which is already occupied with construction and is overpopulated. Accordingly, due to the discriminatory nature of the planning process on the one hand, and the expensive, complex bureaucratic and political process of planning, building permits are not attainable for Palestinians, and they are left with no choice but to resort to building without permits. Since 2009, 1,864 structures, including homes, were demolished in the eastern part of Jerusalem following Israeli demolition orders for building without permits.⁴⁵ During the past two years (until the end of May 2024), almost 60% (234) of the Palestinian homes and structures in occupied Jerusalem were demolished by their owners to avoid the hefty Israeli fines of demolition that the house owners have to pay for the cost of the demolition. Moreover, Israel demolishes the homes of Palestinians accused of carrying out “attacks” using British Emergency laws from the British Mandate era, which constitutes an act of illegal collective punishment. Between 2022 and the end of May 2024, five homes were demolished in occupied Jerusalem following punitive orders.⁴⁶





©Matan Golan / Alamy Stock Photo

3. Forced Home Evictions

Forced evictions are one of the commonly used methods to establish a Jewish presence in the heart of Palestinian neighborhoods in occupied Jerusalem, by expelling the Palestinian residents and then erasing the Palestinian identities from their neighborhoods. Forced evictions have been used excessively recently, notably in the neighborhoods of Silwan and Sheikh Jarrah. Forced evictions are carried out using discriminatory laws, and discriminatory applications of the law, with pretexts including claimed purchases of the lands, whether fraudulent or under pressure, masquerading as "real estate" disputes. In all cases, and irrespective of the claims made, the eventual outcome remains the same: Palestinians are forced out of their homes in a deliberate and systematic manner, and Jewish Israeli settlers replace them.

According to the UN, some 218 Palestinian homes across occupied Jerusalem have active eviction cases against them, most of which were initiated by settler organizations.⁴⁷ Some 970 people, including 424 children, are at risk of displacement.⁴⁸

4. "Israelization" of Education

In order to obliterate the Palestinian history, society, and political narrative within Palestinian youth in Jerusalem, Israel sought to immediately control Palestinian education and curriculum right after its occupation and annexation of Jerusalem in 1967, by passing a law that places education under its authority. Since then, Palestinian education in Jerusalem has been facing a myriad of challenges imposed by Israeli policies, including shortage of classrooms, restrictions on permits for teachers from the occupied West Bank, checkpoints, harassment and inspections by Israeli soldiers and settlers. To assert full control over Palestinian curriculum in the schools of occupied Jerusalem, the Israeli occupation authorities formulated a five-year plan (2018-2022) to take control over education in Jerusalem. The plan is based on six action points⁴⁹:

1. Emptying the Old City from schools, and taking control of its historical buildings and turning some of them into tourist attractions.
2. Closing UNRWA schools in Jerusalem and absorbing their students in schools that teach the Israeli curriculum.
3. Closing any private school that refuses to teach the Israeli curriculum.
4. Closing private kindergartens and opening Israeli municipality-run kindergartens.
5. Opening community centers aimed at normalizing with Israel through various activities targeting children and youth.
6. Deploying "citizen police" in Jerusalem neighborhoods, which work in conjunction with the Israeli Ministry of Social Affairs.

Israel conditioned any financial support and funding for schools with their application of the Israeli curriculum to coerce Palestinian schools into adopting Israeli curriculum.⁵⁰





©Sipa US/Alamy Live News

5. Settler Terror

Settlement expansion in Jerusalem necessarily brings in an increased number of Jewish Israeli settlers, in line with Israel's demographic policies of forcing a Jewish Israeli majority of Jerusalem's population. Particularly in occupied Jerusalem, settler population is characterized by its ideological and radical nature. Settler crimes are in fact one tool of forcible displacement of Palestinian Jerusalemites, which goes beyond the loss of land and property to Israeli settlement, and extends to the deliberate creation of a coercive environment for Palestinian families in the targeted areas. As such, settlers create a situation of systematic violence and terror, fueled by radical and ideological motives, which targets Palestinians with total ease and institutionalized impunity.

Settler crimes include killing, constant physical and verbal assaults, especially around settlement-enclaves, trespassing and intrusion of private residences, closure of streets, damage to homes, arsons, vandalizing properties, including of churches and mosques, as well as other forms of daily harassment.

6. Assaults on Right to Worship

In the aftermath of its illegal annexation of the eastern part of Jerusalem in 1967, Israel imposed its illegal control over the Holy sites in the City, and has, since then, manipulated such control to create a Jewish dominance in line with its objective to Judaize occupied Jerusalem – not only in defiance of international law and consensus pertaining to Jerusalem, but also violating its centuries old Status Quo.⁵¹ In a City with significant historic and religious value, hosting Holy sites for the three monotheistic religions, Israel denies Palestinians' their rights to worship in their own Holy sites, in freedom and safety, seeking to erase any non-Jewish religious heritage, and, at the same time, it simultaneously ensures the fulfillment and protection of Jewish religious rights and freedoms across occupied Jerusalem. The main features of Israel's attacks on religious freedoms, Muslim and Christian, include imposing very high taxes on non-Jewish religious institutions, harassment, assaults on celebrants during Holy festivities, and the permits system, which effectively prohibits millions of Muslim and Christian Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip from accessing their Holy sites in occupied Jerusalem and practicing their religious rights.

Moreover, ultranationalist Jewish settlers systematically invade Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound (Haram Al Sharif), the third holiest site in Islam, attempting to perform Jewish rituals. Such provocative Jewish settler invasions are accompanied by Israeli armed forces, irrespective of the restriction on Jews entering the mosque's courtyards under the historic *Status Quo* agreement, and regularly invoke the eruption of clashes in occupied Jerusalem. Israeli forces also regularly and arbitrarily prevent Palestinians from entering Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound, or close the Gates leading to it as a punitive measure, and introduce entry restrictions pertaining to age and gender on Palestinian worshippers at their own discretion.





7. House Arrests

One of the methods commonly used by Israel to impose its arbitrary punitive restrictions on Palestinians in occupied Jerusalem is the policy of house arrests. A house arrest order is normally issued by the Israeli occupation authorities against children below 18 years of age in occupied Jerusalem, and notably against children of 14 years and below, although house arrest orders have also been issued against adults, including journalists and human rights workers.

While the home is a place of safety and shelter, house arrests turn them into prison cells, and parents or family members living in the house of the child put under house arrest are forced to sign a pledge to monitor and prevent the child from leaving the house, effectively turning them into prison wardens on behalf of the occupying Power, and creating psychological barriers between parents and their children. The children put under house arrest must wear a tracking device, and their daily activities, meanwhile, are entirely hindered, including those tied to their basic rights such as attending school or seeking medical treatment, since violating the Israeli court order means paying hefty fines.⁵² House arrests create a sense of loss among children of their social security and psychological stability because they are kept in a confined area for days or months without being permitted to leave the house or get fresh air and sunlight.⁵³

8. Closure of Palestinian Institutions

Israel's policy of closure of Palestinian institutions in occupied Jerusalem comes in a broader context of diminishing any aspect of Palestinian identity and presence in the City. Throughout history, Jerusalem has been a vibrant hub of the Palestinian political, cultural, social, and economic spheres, and a central place for shaping the Palestinian national identity. Israel's control over occupied Jerusalem has actively sought to fragment any Palestinian presence in the City at all levels: political, cultural, civic and communal. Thus, Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem have been directly targeted with closures under different pretexts, from "illegal" political affiliations to unpaid bills. Since 2000, Israel has shut down more than 42 Palestinian institutions in occupied Jerusalem⁵⁴, and it continues to renew the closure of 28 active Palestinian institutions, associations, and bodies. The most prominent institutions included the Orient House, closed in 2001 after being looted and raided. The Orient House served as the headquarter of the Palestinian Liberation Organization in Jerusalem and symbolizes the Palestinian resilience and national aspirations in the City. The occupation authorities continue to attack Palestinian organization with raids, closing off events, arresting and intimidating staff, and freezing the bank accounts of the organizations to paralyze their work.





©Saeed Qaq / SOPA Images/Sipa USA

9. High Taxes (Old City Shops)

The isolation of occupied Jerusalem from the rest of the occupied West Bank, and the arbitrary policies practiced against Palestinians in occupied Jerusalem have resulted in a situation of economic fragility and hardships among Palestinian Jerusalemites. In such a discriminatory setting, Palestinians in occupied Jerusalem suffer from high rates of poverty and unemployment. As some areas have the lowest socio-economic rankings, the majority of Palestinian Jerusalemites live below the poverty line, with low labor force participation and inadequate income.⁵⁵ As means of "silent forcible transfer," Israel imposes very high municipal taxes on Palestinian shop owners in the Old City, which, combined with the lack of Palestinian customers who cannot access occupied Jerusalem, has led the merchants to accumulate very large amounts of debt and to eventually close off their businesses. It is estimated that 250 shops have been forced to close by Israel's Jerusalem municipality due to the accumulation of debt from taxes.⁵⁶ The militarization of the Damascus Gate and the harassment of street vendors have also aggravated the economic situation for Palestinian businesses in the Old City.

10. Withholding of Bodies of Martyrs

As a tool of subjection, psychological torture and deterrence, Israel kidnaps and withholds the bodies of Palestinian Martyrs in morgues and in “numbers cemeteries”, a numbering system that replaces their names on graves. Arbitrarily and on its discretion, Israel decides on the fate of the withheld body, which can take up years. There are more than 256 bodies in the cemeteries of numbers.⁵⁷ The Israeli occupation authorities use the withheld bodies of martyrs as bargaining chips in prison exchange negotiations. The crime of withholding the bodies of Palestinian martyrs was upheld by Israel’s High Court in 2019 and later by its “Security Cabinet”, allowing the withholding of any slain Palestinians accused of staging attacks on Israelis. Such policy has very grave psychological impacts on the affected family members, who wait for years until they learn the fate of their martyred family member and live in chronic despair until they do.





©Eddie Gerald /Alamy Stock Photo

11. Surveillance

Israel is one of the world's most advanced surveillance technology innovators and has been using its advanced technologies in service of its colonial objectives to control Palestinians, intimidate them, and cripple their resistance. In the aftermath of the second intifada, and in addition to the heavy presence of Israel's occupation forces across the occupied Jerusalem, Israel has turned the City into a spot of advanced technology surveillance against Palestinians, facilitated by the fast-paced innovations in digital and biometric surveillance, which allowed the extension of its surveillance to all parts of the City, notably in sensitive neighborhoods, like Sheikh Jarrah, Silwan, and Wadi Al Joz.

Managed by both Israel's Jerusalem municipality and private settler organizations, the occupation authorities have installed CCTV cameras across occupied Jerusalem. These cameras are equipped with predictive policing and biometric monitoring capabilities, such as face recognition linked to several databases.⁵⁸ Such intensified and increasingly high-tech surveillance in occupied Jerusalem has led to the erosion of civil and political rights for Palestinian Jerusalemites. The increase of video and biometric surveillance and digital monitoring "has constrained Palestinian Jerusalemites' freedom of movement, impeded their right to privacy, and eroded their freedom of expression on and offline."⁵⁹

Conclusion

The facts cannot be denied and are too evident to be hidden. The Israeli occupation has built a system of laws, policies, and practices that, beginning with the violation of resolution 181 in 1948, aim at changing the identity of Jerusalem. What has been happening in occupied Jerusalem could not have taken place if the Israeli occupation did not enjoy a culture of impunity that makes a mockery of the whole idea of a rules-based international order.

If a city with the historical, religious, and cultural significance of Jerusalem cannot mobilize the international community for the sake of fulfilling international law and honoring the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine, then there are important questions regarding the willingness of the international community as a whole to preserve and restore the historical legal Status Quo of the city and its religious sites.



The laws, policies, and practices explained in this publication represent a combination of actors: Consensus among the vast majority of Israeli political parties, foreign funding, including through organizations that enjoy tax exemptions in several Western nations, radical Zionist settlers supported by Israeli politicians, Israeli occupation forces that are not held accountable by anyone for their systematic human rights violations, an Israeli judicial system fully complicit with the violation of international law, as well as a number of members of the international community willing to reward this reality whether by action or inaction, all provide the context for this reality to be perpetuated in time.

The international community should not just recognize the situation's urgency but act upon it. Failure to do so will not just undermine any prospects of reaching a political solution but will put at risk the cultural and religious mosaic of the city, including its status as a World Heritage Site, by promoting the disappearance of the Arab Palestinian Muslim and Christian identity of Jerusalem.

The Israeli occupation and its colonial-settler regime, including its Jewish supremacy policies, should be the top priorities for any party aiming to achieve a political solution in Palestine and the long overdue implementation of international law.



Endnotes

- 1 Arab Studies Society
- 2 Hadawi, Sami: "Jerusalem Map 1947"
- 3 Both settlements, "Neve Yacoub" and "Atarot", were established in the 1920s. Although Jewish population withdrew from "Neve Yacoub" in 1948, the settlement, which lies in the eastern part of occupied Jerusalem, was re-established in 1972. "Atarot" was included in the unilaterally-expanded borders of Jerusalem, and is currently a major industrial settlement
- 4 Arab Studies Society
- 5 *Ibid*
- 6 *Ibid*
- 7 Dr. Nasr, Suad: "Study of Master Plan 2000", Engineering Center for Studies and Planning – Haifa – Civic Coalition for Palestinian Rights in Jerusalem
- 8 De Jong, Jan: "Israel's Greater Jerusalem", p47
- 9 MIFTAH: "Policy Paper on Israel's <City Center Plan", (7 July 2021), available at:
<http://www.miftah.org/Display.cfm?DocId=26707&CategoryId=4>
- 10 Adalah: "The Illegality of Israel's East Jerusalem City Center Plan", (March 2022), available at:
https://www.adalah.org/uploads/uploads/EJ_City_Center_Plan_Position_Paper.pdf
- 11 MIFTAH, *Ibid*
- 12 Adalah, *Ibid*
- 13 Arnaout, Abd Al Raouf: "Silicon Disaster Threatening Wadi Al-Jawz", Jerusalem Quarterly 85, [2020], available at:
<https://www.palestine-studies.org/sites/default/files/jq-articles/A%20%E2%80%9CSilicon%E2%80%9D%20Disaster%20Threatening%20Wadi%20al-Joz.pdf>
- 14 *Ibid*
- 15 A term used to describe the concentration of settlements within and around the municipal boundaries of Jerusalem
- 16 Outposts are settlements established on occupied Palestinian territory without official approvals from the Israeli government, yet they receive a certain type of governmental support and/or funding. Consecutive Israeli governments continue to retroactively "legalize" the "outposts" as a matter of policy.
- 17 Jerusalem Story: "The Three Israeli Settlement Rings in and around East Jerusalem: Supplanting Palestinian Jerusalem", [22 October 2022], available at:
<https://www.jerusalemstory.com/en/article/three-israeli-settlement-rings-and-around-east-jerusalem-supplanting-palestinian-jerusalem>
- 18 Industrial settlements are characterized by the construction and operation of factories and the production of goods. They serve as hub for Israeli and International businesses that operate the factories and deliver relevant services.
- 19 Marya Farah, "The Atarot Exception? Business and Human Rights under Colonization", 80, Jerusalem Quarterly [2019], available at:
<https://www.palestine-studies.org/en/node/1649529>;
The Applied Research Institute Jerusalem, "Ar Ram Town Profile" [2012] 19, available:
http://vprofile.arij.org/jerusalem/pdfs/vprofile/Ar%20Ram_EN.pdf
- 20 Jerusalem Municipality, Local Outline Plan Jerusalem 2000: Report No. 4 (August 2004), available at:
http://www.alhaq.org/cached_uploads/download/alhaq_files/en/wpcontent/uploads/2018/03LocalOutlinePlanJerusalem2000.pdf
- 21 Al Haq: "Atarot Settlement: The Industrial Key in Israel's Plan to Permanently Erase Palestine", available at:
https://www.alhaq.org/cached_uploads/download/2020/06/02/atarot-settlement-interactive-1591084307.pdf
- 22 *Ibid*, 29
- 23 Peace Now, "Plan Advanced for a New Settlement in Atarot in the Heart of Palestinian East Jerusalem" (18February 2020), available at:
<https://peacenow.org.il/en/plan-advanced-for-a-new-settlement-in-atarot-in-theheart-of-palestinian-east-jerusalem>

- 24 Peace Now: "Plans for 3557 units in East Jerusalem were approved at the Local Committee", (5 January 2021), available at:
<https://peacenow.org.il/en/plans-for-3700-units-in-east-jerusalem-will-be-discussed-at-the-local-committee-on-january-5>
- 25 Peace Now: "On Developments in Givat Hamatos and Ramat Shlomo" (12 November 2020), available at:
<https://peacenow.org.il/en/on-developments-in-givat-hamatos-and-ramat-shlomo>
- 26 *Ibid*
- 27 Fact Sheet: Jerusalem's Gate Keepers:
https://www.nad.ps/sites/default/files/jerusalem_gate_keepers.pdf
- 28 Israeli plan that comprises of approximately 1,000 square kilometers of the Jerusalem area and its suburbs, in addition to parts of Ramallah to the north, and Bethlehem and Hebron to the south. Its aim is to connect the Israeli settlements that surround Jerusalem, with the borders of the Jerusalem Municipality and its settlements.
- 29 In Bethlehem, see: Peace Now: "Developing Roads = Developing Settlements: Case Study of the Lieberman Road", 2015, available at:
<http://peacenow.org.il/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/leiberman-road-report.pdf>
- 30 Peace Now: "Confiscation Orders Issued for the Widening of Bethlehem Bypass Road for Settlers", (9 September 2019), available at:
<https://peacenow.org.il/en/confiscation-tunnels-road>
- 31 Including Az-zayem road, the "Quarries" road.
- 32 J24: "New Jerusalem Light Rail Connecting Settlements To Start Operating In 2025", (8 May 2022), available at:
<https://jerusalem.24fm.ps/13241.html>
- 33 EU Representative Office: "Report on Israeli Settlements in the Occupied West Bank Including East Jerusalem between January –December 2021", 20 July 2022.
- 34 Data obtained from Peace Now and Ir Amim
- 35 Nir Hasson, "Israel Advances New Projects for Jews across East Jerusalem That Would Push Palestinians Out," Haaretz, (December 13, 2021), available at:
<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2021-12-13/ty-article/.premium/israel-eyes-multiple-jewish-neighborhoods-across-east-jerusalem/0000017f-e8c4-df2c-a1ff-fed5dd410000>
- 36 Four Palestinians Shot in Jerusalem's Old City, West Bank Towns Raided - Palestine Chronicle, available at:
<https://www.palestinechronicle.com/four-palestinians-shot-in-jerusalem-old-city-west-bank-towns-raided/>
- 37 Israel rules to expel Palestinians in Sheikh Jarrah, Silwan (newarab.com), available at:
<https://www.newarab.com/news/israel-rules-expel-palestinians-sheikh-jarrah-silwan>
- 38 Ir Amin: "2021 in Review: Israel's Policy in East Jerusalem", P. 10 (January 2022).
- 39 *Ibid*
- 40 The Israeli planning and building regime is inherently discriminatory against Palestinians in nature, and issuing building permits is not even attainable for Palestinian Jerusalemites.
- 41 Al Jazeera: "Silwan: Palestinian neighborhood turns into a nightly warzone," (25 October 2021), available at:
<https://www.aljazeera.com/features/2021/10/25/silwan-palestinian-neighborhood-turns-into-war-zone-at-night>
- 42 Israel rules to expel Palestinians in Sheikh Jarrah, Silwan (newarab.com), available at:
<https://www.newarab.com/news/israel-rules-expel-palestinians-sheikh-jarrah-silwan>
- 43 The "Center of Life" policy means that Palestinians have to constantly prove that Jerusalem is their Center of Life, where they have resided and continue to reside without interruption. Therefore, according to the Entry into Israel Regulations (1974) Palestinians in Jerusalem can lose their status if they "settle in another country" as: (1) living for more than seven years in a foreign country, (2) receiving permanent residency status of a foreign country, or (3) becoming a citizen of another country. The West Bank was included in the definitions of "another country".
- 44 Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem: "Israel Violates Human Rights through the Collective Punishment of the Qunbar Family", (3 October 2022), available at:
<https://www.arij.org/latest/israel-violates-human-rights-through-the-collective-punishment-of-the-qunbar-family/>
- 45 UN OCHA: "Data on demolition and displacement in the West Bank", (23 May 2023), available at:
<https://www.ochaopt.org/data/demolition>
- 46 *Ibid*

- 47 Roald Høvring: "10 things you should know about the evictions in East Jerusalem" (11 November 2021), available at: <https://www.nrc.no/perspectives/2021/10-things-you-should-know-about-the-evictions-in-east-jerusalem/>
- 48 *Ibid*
- 49 MIFTAH: "«Israelizing» education in Occupied Jerusalem", available at: <http://www.miftah.org/JerusalemCause.cfm?DocId=26813&CategoryId=39>
- 50 *Ibid*
- 51 The *Status Quo* is rooted in the Ottoman era, and describes the arrangements between different religions and religious groups over shared or contested religious sites. It mainly dictated that Muslims have exclusive control over Al-Aqsa Compound. See more: Negotiations Affairs Department: "The Historic "Status Quo" Agreement in Jerusalem and the Israeli Occupation - in Light of Israel's Attempt to Impose Municipal Taxes on Church Property", available at: <https://www.nad.ps/en/publication-resources/faqs/historic-%E2%80%9Cstatus-quo%E2%80%9D-agreement-jerusalem-and-israeli-occupation-light>
- 52 MIFTAH: "No prison like home: House arrest in occupied Jerusalem", available at: <http://www.miftah.org/JerusalemCause.cfm?DocId=26822&CategoryId=39>
- 53 *Ibid*
- 54 Al Shabaka: "Destroying Palestinian Jerusalem, one institution at a time" (29 October 2020), available at: <https://al-shabaka.org/briefs/destroying-palestinian-jerusalem-one-institution-at-a-time/>
- 55 Adalah, *Ibid*
- 56 Middle East Monitor: "Jerusalemites face relentless Israeli economic war", [21 June 2022] – Safa News Agency
- 57 Data from the Legal Aid and Human Rights Centre (JALC), and the National Campaign for Retrieval of the Bodies of Palestinian Martyrs
- 58 The Arab Center for Advancement of Social Media – 7amleh: "The Expansion of Digital Surveillance in Jerusalem and Impact on Palestinians Rights" (2021), available at: https://7amleh.org/storage/Digital%20Surveillance%20Jerusalem_711.pdf
- 59 *Ibid*



STATE OF PALESTINE
PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION
NEGOTIATIONS AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Negotiations and Support Unit (NSU)

Tel: +970 (0)2 241 1171 - 6

Fax: +970 (0)2 241 1170

www.nad.ps

☎ nadplo