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(Editor)

THE FABRICATION OF ISRAEL

About the usurpation and destruction of Palestine through Zionist spatial planning

A UNIQUE PLANNING ISSUE

V

Killing the Cities - the Example of Jerusalem/Al Quds, Hebron/Al Khalil and Jaffa in Israel

Jamal Amro

2. Destruction of the Palestinian urban Fabric and Landscape in East Jerusalem after 1967 and the Effects of the Segregation Wall

Conclusion from last chapter:

The peace process did not ease at all a solution for the so-called 'Jerusalem Question'. On the contrary: Reality shows that the Israeli policy in East Jerusalem is part of the judaizing process in whole Palestine, nowadays concentrating on Jerusalem. Israel enforces – and each Israeli government was and is involved - by planning matters the judaizing of the Old City, the environment of the Old City and the remaining eastern, northern and southern residential areas of East Palestinian Jerusalem.

The effect of all mentioned projects and measures is an intended substantial change of the historical and the Palestinian character of Jerusalem. They also influence the economy and the future of the East Jerusalem Palestinian society, which substantially depend on tourism, since the relations to the hinterland are cut off. The different activities since the occupation destroyed the central economical basis and tourism.

While the Western (new) City has all the needed means to serve international tourism with parking space, bus connections, guides and tourist information centers, the Eastern (Palestinian) City is deprived more and more from modern tourist infrastructure. Keeping and upgrading the historical landscape, valleys, villages, and the important places for the Muslims and the Christians in the east are facing more and more difficulties and obstacles, while the Jewish defined places receive the most care and attention from the Israeli governed municipality. This is fact even more in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Since the illegal and total closure for Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza following the peace agreements in Oslo, Jerusalem has lost its existential role for the Palestinian hinterland. The provocation of Sharon and the following outbreak of the Al Aqsa Intifada made tourism completely dead. The political, economic, cultural and

social situation of the Palestinian inhabitants of the city, declined dramatically. Moreover, the Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza region are denied access to basic social institutions like hospitals and schools. The Segregation Wall will complete the total isolation of the Palestinian Jerusalemites and intends to hinder establishing East Palestinian Jerusalem as the Palestinian capital in a Palestinian State. Again the geographical, demographic and cultural usurpation of Jerusalem is part of the long time before planned cleansing program for Palestine and actual since the right wing parties came into power 2008 a 'par force' judaisation is on the way, threatening Palestinians' history, identity and socio-economic basics. The so called 'unification' is understood and cemented by facts and planning as a Jewish unification of Jerusalem, hence part of the cultural genocide already started since last century.

The next section will go deeply to the effects of planning and especially the Segregation Wall in terms of destroying the geographic and demographic continuity of Palestinian Jerusalem.

V

Jamal Amro

2. Destruction of the Palestinian urban Fabric and Landscape in East Jerusalem after 1967 and the Effects of the Segregation Wall

Jerusalem, as a lively city, has been affected by what has happened since 1967 inside and around it, and thus, its features have changed over the years. This section sheds light on the urban, demographic, and area transformations which have happened in Jerusalem since the Israeli capture of the city, especially since the erection of the Segregation Wall.

2.1 Demographic and Urban Transformations in Jerusalem after 1967

In order to create a state of geographic integrity with cities inside Israel, the boundaries of Jerusalem were extended by annexing more land from the occupied West Bank, almost a two-fold extension compared to the total area of the Jerusalem governorate prior to June 1967. Thus, the current area of occupied Jerusalem governorate amounts to 126,000 dunam based on a rule stressing the annexation of more less populated land along with complete demolition of any Palestinian communities that may threaten or obstruct the intended geographic integrity, especially in the western side of the governorate. The demolition and complete depopulation of the three Latroon villages Imwas, Yalu and Beit Nuba has been a live example on the measures Israel has been taking in this respect.

The Israeli illegal measures have not stopped at this point but rather underwent serious acceleration. Namely, the Israeli occupation authorities embarked on knotting a colony belt around Jerusalem as preventive security armour for Jerusalem to be as a first defence line of its borders. This implied the adoption of a more aggressive land confiscation policy by the Israeli government, which targeted thousands of dunam from the Palestinian land under different pretexts. This policy had other dimensions including construction of Israeli colonies on the confiscated land, coupled with a serious obstruction of Palestinian urban expansion and construction growth in nearby areas as well as domination of more land, already explained. In this way, the Israelis achieved the greatest part of their plans and intentions for long years in the future.

Geographically speaking, the boundaries of the occupied city were expanded to an extent that allows the absorption of as much Jewish settlers on colonies as possible. Demographically, less populated Palestinian communities were annexed while stressing the obstruction of any urban growth of the communities. These two urban dimensions have been worsened further by the construction of the segregation wall in 2002 and the colonies belt around Jerusalem. Thus, Israel imposed this reality which received complete Palestinian and international dismissal (Mustafa 2000).

From Israel's viewpoint, it succeeded in surrounding Jerusalem and accomplishing its historic project through illegal administrative regulations and measures, which at the end will lead to imposing its authority on the Palestinian City. This also includes the annexation and domination of the various aspects of living conditions of its Palestinian people via distortions of realities and creation of new realities on the ground. These endeavours are aimed to legitimise its illegal procedures and exclude Palestinian Jerusalem in the text of relevant UN and international resolutions. However, international resolutions and conventions at the top of which Geneva

Fourth Convention for 1949 completely reject any change in the status of occupied territories. Thus, articles III - 49 and 53 of Geneva Fourth Convention for 1949 prohibits all practices of the Israeli occupation including demolition, evacuation, depopulation, and endangering the security and lives of the Palestinian citizens under occupation. In addition, world states and UN including Security Council and other international agencies and organisations still deal with Jerusalem as part of the occupied West Bank on which relevant UN resolutions apply (Security Council Resolutions: 242, 252,253,254,267,198 and General Assembly Resolutions 2253, 2254).These Resolutions stress that the international legitimacy deems the annexation of Jerusalem and changing its urban structure illegal; abort the Israeli plans for having Jerusalem as its 'unified capital' and stress the Palestinian identity of Jerusalem which is deeply rooted in the Palestinian history.

Soon after the 1967 war the Israeli government began implementing new measures to change the physical features of the Occupied Territories including Jerusalem, imposing massive Israeli housing colonies, or "facts on the ground," that would be difficult to uproot. We observed that the most significant measures pertaining to East Jerusalem's urban development were the following:

- The June 27, 1967 Israeli Knesset declaration of the application of Israel law, jurisdiction and administration to East Jerusalem.
- The decision, also issued June 27, that allowed the Interior Minister to increase the area of the Jerusalem municipality, broadening the borders of East Jerusalem to an area of 69,000 dunam. The decision was published in the Official Gazette the very same day. On March 10, 1985, the city's borders were expanded once again to 70,400 dunam, nearly 12 times the area under Jordanian rule. (Dunum = 1,000 m² or 1 ha).
- The destruction of the Magharbeh (Maghreb) Quarter, which was blasted with dynamite after giving local residents three hours to evacuate their homes. The move literally paved the way for the Israeli government to construct the Wailing Wall Plaza and the Israeli Quarter. The Israelis confiscated 116 dunam of Old City property, including the Magharbeh, Al- Sharaf, Nabi Daood, Al-Maidan, and parts of the Assyrian neighbourhoods. The confiscation included 700 stone buildings (437 workshops and stores, and 1,048 apartments, inhabited by more than 6,000 Palestinians). Prior to 1948, Israelis had owned only 105 of those buildings.
- The dissolution, on June 29, 1967, of the Jerusalem Municipal Council, elected in 1963, the confiscation of its records and properties, and the integration of the council's Palestinian employees with the West (Israeli) Jerusalem municipality. The Jerusalem Mayor, Mr. Rawhi Al-Khatib, was expelled to Jordan on March 7, 1968.
- Confiscation and seizure of Palestinian lands located in the extended municipality borders, as of September 1, 1968. Other areas were subject to "closure" as green areas or military zones (there are four military camps in East Jerusalem, Sheikh Jarrah, Anata, Nabi Ya'cob, Ar-Ram) to be used later for Israeli colonies. Between 1968 and 1991, a total of 23,548 dunam were confiscated in East Jerusalem, equivalent to 33 percent of the total area, to be added to nearly 37,348 dunam outside the zoned areas (green areas, streets, camps, etc.). The majority of this land was reserved for continued urban expansion of Israeli colonies. Teddy Kollek, Jerusalem mayor from 1965-1993, said:

"We decided from the first session of the (expanded) Jerusalem Municipal Council to classify vast areas of lands in East Jerusalem as green zones where

construction is banned, and we refused the structural zoning maps presented by Palestinian residents" (Benvenisti 1995). Due to this policy, Palestinians in Jerusalem were left with only 9,504 dunam on which to build and expand.

- Beginning in 1968, the Israeli government began to change the building and housing features of East Jerusalem, erecting 15 colonies inside its borders. In 1999, the 16th illegal colony began on Mount Abu Ghneim, near Bethlehem. The colonies drastically changed the Jewish-Palestinian ratio. In 1967, only a few dozen Israelis lived in East Jerusalem (at Hebrew University and Hadassah Hospital), but by 1998, the figure had reached 156,412 or 48 percent of the city's residents. The colonies were built in strategic locations to prevent the urban expansion and collusion of Palestinian areas, which could become the capital of a Palestinian state. While Israeli colonies were expanding, constraints were imposed on Palestinian construction through zoning schemes and delays in the issuing of building permits. Even when permits were granted, applicants were required to pay enormous sums, ranging from \$15,000 - \$20,000; such fees constituted nearly half the cost of a first-class independent building on a 200-meter area (excluding the cost of the land).
- Between 1967 and 1993, Palestinian residents could build only 10,492 housing units in East Jerusalem, compared with 44,481 units erected for Israelis. The annual ratio of Jewish-Palestinian construction during this period was 4.4:1. Another contributing factor in this disparity was the fact that Israeli construction was basically state-funded, while Palestinian construction was not.

After 1967, Israeli finance ministers began to sign confiscation orders one after the other, based on The Law of Expropriation for Public Benefit (1950). They also published them in the official newspaper (Official Gazette). Once land was confiscated, its original owners were barred from planting or building on it. New Israeli colonies were then established, preventing the land from ever being returned to its real owners and changing the Palestinian structure and identity of East Jerusalem. 71.7 percent of East Jerusalem land was confiscated from Palestinians primarily from 1968 -1970, so to quickly establish colonies and attract Israeli residents to live in them. The Israeli plans worked, and the first construction began on Ramat Eshkol, French Hill colonies and the Hebrew University (see table of East Jerusalem colonies). The following figure shows area of confiscated land in East Jerusalem and demonstrates how Palestinian lands were seized in several strategic regions for the purpose of Israeli colonies' expansion (see table1,2).

Table 1 Development of Israeli Colonies in East Jerusalem Municipality by Population and Area from 2000 to 2005

Israeli Colony	Population 2000- 2005		Area (dunam)
East Talpiot	12.158	12.854	1.195
Gilo	27.258	27.637	2.859
Giv'at Ha-Matos/Har Homa	4.604	763	2.833
Giv'at Ha-Mivtar	2.912	2.912	588
Giv'at Shapira (French Hill)	7.776	8.193	2.018
Ma'alot Dafna	3.675	3.645	380
Neve Ya'akov	20.156	20.288	1.759

Old City (Jewish Quarter)	2.476	2.279	122
Pisgat Ze'ev	41.208	36.469	5.467
Ramat Eshkol	3.252	2.917	397
Ramat Shlomo	14.318	11.348	1.126
Har Ha-Hozvim	1.246		653
Ramot Allon	40.367	37.934	4.979
Sanhedriyya Har-Murhevet	5.084	5.018	378
Total	185.244	172.248	24.754

Source: Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem, 2003 and 2001-2007

Table 2 Israeli Colonies in the East Jerusalem District by Area, Population and Year of establishment in 2000

Colony Name	Establishment Year	Area (by dunum)	No. of Population
Allon	1990	200	1,100
Geva' Binyamin	1983	369	1,020
Giv'on Hahadashah	1980	562	1,190
Giv' at Zeev	1982	5,000	10,300
Gev' on	1978	150	1,190
Almon	1982	1,540	698
Qalia	1968	417	260
Qidar	1984	494	447
Kefar Adummim	1979	934	1,690
Mishor Adummim	1974	4,100	Industrial area
Ma' ale Adummim	1975	35,000	24,900
Har Adar	1986	1,000	1,420
Kokhav Yaaqov	1984	1,600	1,640
Har Shmuel	1996	1,300	-----
Almog*	1977	-----	167
Total		52,666	44,434

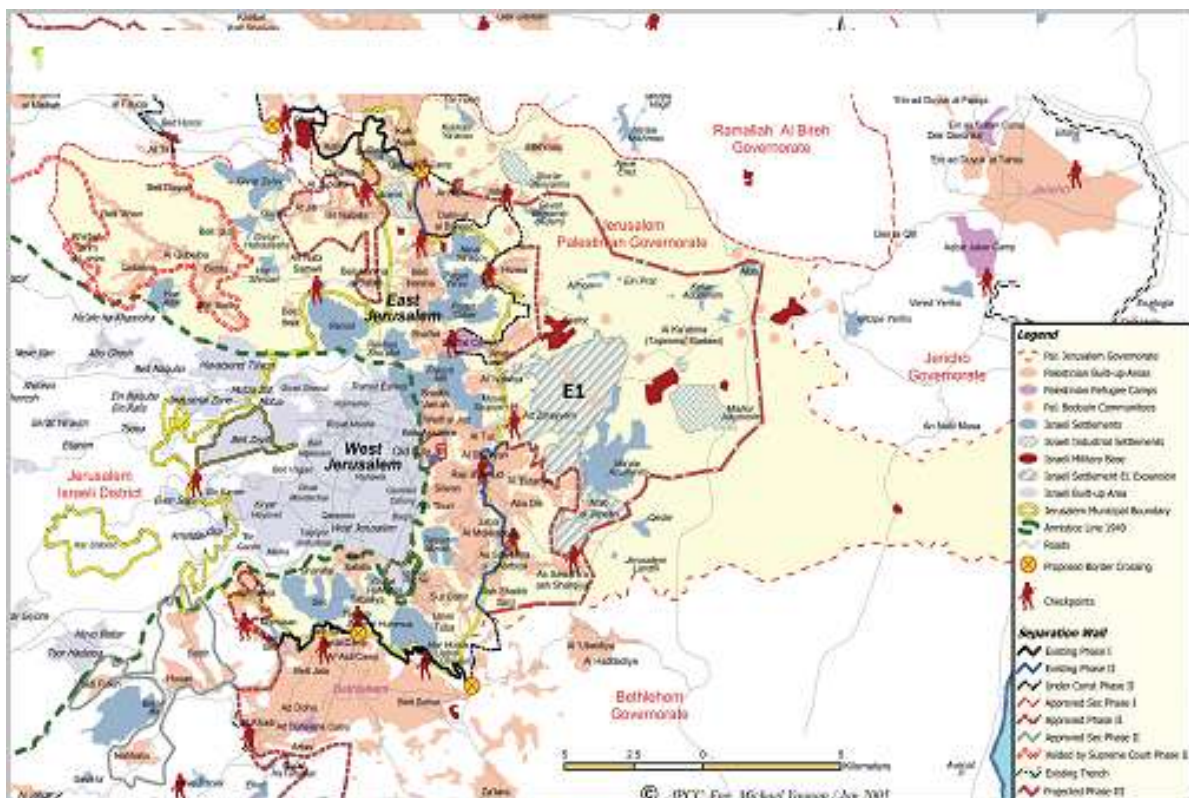
Source : Peace now movement, 2002. * Part of Almog is in Jericho Governorate.

Land was confiscated in locations where Palestinian villages and towns, if expanded, might have formed a unified Palestinian residential area. For example, land was confiscated to erect the Gilo and Har Homa colonies, so as to prevent the expansion of the Palestinian towns of Bethlehem, Beit Sahur and Beit Jalla to connect with Beit Safafa, Sharafat, Sur Bahir and Umm Tuba and also to cut them from Jerusalem. The same situation occurred when the no-man's land and Palestinian areas in Jabal

el-Mukabber were usurped to build the Eastern Talpiot colony, thus preventing any extension between the Palestinian quarters of Es-Sawahira Gharbiyye and Sur Bahir. At the same time, it forms the eastern extension of western Talpiot and, therefore, the continuous extension of Israeli construction against Palestinian continuity.

In the same way, Israeli colonies were built to obstruct continuity of Palestinian construction in north Jerusalem. This can be seen clearly if one looks at the Israeli Neve Ya'akov, Pisgat Ze'ev and Pisgat Omer colonies, which constitute a colony unit east of the Palestinian neighbourhoods of Ar-Ram, Dahiet al-Barid, Beit Hanina and Shua'fat, and thus prevent expansion in that area. The colonies prevent these quarters from connecting with Palestinian residential areas to the east, such as Jaba', Hizma and Anata. The same situation applies to the Ramot, Rekhes Shufat and Giv'at Ze'ev colonies and the Giv'on group (on the north-western border of Jerusalem), which obstruct connection between the Palestinian quarters of Rafat, Qalandia, Al-Jib, Bir Nabala, Beit Hanina and Beit Iksa. Similarly, the Israeli colonies of French Hill, Giv'at Hamivtar, Ramat Eshkol, the Hebrew University and Maa'lot Dafna prevent connection between the Palestinian quarter Shua'fat and the other quarters in Al-Tur, the Mount of Olives and the Old City (see map 1) (Rassem/Rand 2003). The nearly completed Segregation Wall fixes these belts and chains of colonies (see map 1).

Map 1 Jewish Colonies (blue) between the Palestinian Residential Areas (rose) and the Wall of Annexation and Expansion surrounding East Jerusalem



Source: JPCC 2005

All these planning measures and steps led to a sharp difference between Palestinian and Jewish living conditions, hence discrimination.

Table 3 for example shows clearly the resulting difference in density and housing provision between the Israeli and the Palestinian Jerusalemites.

Table 3 Distribution of Palestinian and Israeli Residents and Families in East Jerusalem by Areas 1983-1995 (in thousands)

Type	Area	Residents			Families			Average persons/unit	
		1983	1995	%increase	1983	1995	%increase	1983	1995
Palestinians	Beit Hanina, Kafr ' Aqab, Shu' fat	30.3	48.3	59.7	4.6	8.6	87.0	6.4	5.6
	Al' Isawiya Wadi al Joz	19.8	28.0	41.5	3.4	5.2	52.9	5.8	5.3
	Sheikh Jarrah, Bab Assahire	7.6	8.3	9.4	1.4	1.4	--	5.4	5.6
	Silwan, Ras al Amud	22.3	34.5	54.8	3.3	6.6	100.0	6.7	5.2
	Jabal al Mukkabber, Sur Bahir, Beit Safafa	14.4	21.9	54.8	2.2	4.4	100.0	6.6	4.9
	Old City, Muslim, Christian, Armenian quarters	23.5	26.6	13.2	4.5	4.9	8.8	5.2	5.4
Total Palestinians (1) in Palestinian areas		117.9	167.6	42.2	19.4	31.1	60.3	6.1	5.4
Israelis	Neve Ya'aqov, Pis gat Ze'ev	13.3	167.6	42.2	3.5	31.1	60.3	3.8	3.7
	Ramot	11.7	37.1	218.0	3.2	8.3	176.6	3.6	4.5
	French Hill, Ramat Eshkol	14.8	15.7	5.9	3.8	4.2	10.5	3.7	3.5
	The Old City, the Jewish Quarter	2.0	2.3	13.3	0.4	0.4	--	4.0	4.3
	East Talpiot	9.7	14.0	44.9	3.0	4.2	40.0	3.2	3.3
	Gilo	17.5	29.3	67.3	4.8	7.5	56.2	3.6	3.9

	Jabal Abu Ghneim – Har Homa	--	4.7	--	--	1.1	--	--	4.1
Total Israelis		69.0	153.0	121.7	22.3	42.8	91.9	3.1	3.6
Total residents in East Jerusalem areas		189.9	320.6	68.8	41.7	73.9	77.2	4.5	4.3

Source: Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics 1996

Note: Some Palestinians reside outside the defined statistical areas according to the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics. These are not included in the overview.

2.2 The Effects of Israeli Planning on Continuity of Palestinian Population and Urban Development in East Palestinian Jerusalem

During the years 1967-2000, two important factors played a role in influencing population and construction in East Jerusalem. The first of these was the attempt by Palestinians to end the Israeli occupation of lands occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem, and to work rapidly to conserve the Palestinian identity of Jerusalem and limit the changes that the Israeli authorities were undertaking. However, the Israeli administration successfully obstructed these efforts, since the Palestinians, being the occupied party, were far weaker. Second, Israel, being the occupying power, continued its systematic changes, declaring the annexation of East Jerusalem and issuing laws that served its purpose, regardless of their illegitimacy. The Israeli occupation authorities implemented a discriminatory policy against Palestinians, based on the premise that Palestinians were residents and not citizens with full rights. This sharply contradicted international law, which considered the Palestinians to be citizens of an occupied land, but it worked to the advantage of the Israeli authorities, who imposed taxes on Jerusalem's Palestinians but denied them many basic human rights. (Closure of Jerusalem 2000)

Municipal services in East Jerusalem fall far short of those offered in the areas of Israeli colonies and in West Jerusalem. In truth, this policy of discrimination is nothing new; it has been implemented for the past half century against Palestinian Israeli citizens, who still confront economic, cultural and social inequalities. However, the most decisive factors concerning discrimination in East Jerusalem that have severe impacts on urban development were land confiscation and closure, as well as the impediments placed on Palestinian construction, such as delaying the approval of zoning maps, denying Palestinians licenses to build and imposing high fees on such licenses when they were granted. The Israeli government also failed to take into consideration the differences between Palestinian and Israeli construction patterns. The Israeli municipality has been implementing a clear policy in the following areas which has its drawbacks on the urban expansion of the Palestinian citizens of the city:

- Neutralising the effect of Palestinian population growth by imposing social and economic restrictions on them and thus forcing them to leave Jerusalem.
- Continuing to confiscate the IDs of Jerusalem Palestinians, on the basis that they are in violation of residency laws that define them as temporary residents and not as centuries-old inhabitants of the city.

- Preventing the integration of Jerusalem's Palestinian neighbourhoods, so as to block a unified regional entity that could constitute the capital of a future Palestinian state. Dividing the neighbourhoods also served Israel maintain control of them.
- Imposing restrictions on Palestinian architectural activities by banning construction in certain neighbourhoods, such as Wadi El-Joz, El-Suwana, Silwan and the Nablus Road area which has forced more than 20,000 Palestinians to relocate outside Jerusalem until 2004. This has been an ongoing process since the 1970s, when the Palestinian residents of Jerusalem were forced to build in areas outside their city such as Ar-Ram, Bir Nabala and Abu Dis.

Additionally, since March 1, 1993, Jerusalem has been separated from the West Bank through the policy of closure, whereby residents of the West Bank are prohibited from entering Jerusalem without special security passes. These passes are hard to obtain and rarely granted. Because Jerusalem is the economic, cultural, religious and social centre for its surrounding areas as well as adjacent parts of the West Bank, closure has had a devastating impact. This segregation and forced isolation has led to Jerusalem's economic decline, thus, in particular, forcing more and more Palestinians to leave the city in search of other markets. These measures have had severe impacts on urban development including construction and population growth in East Jerusalem.

Still, in mid-1994, it was revealed that a strict quota system had been applied to Palestinian urban construction in Jerusalem for more than 20 years. The goal was to limit the city's percentage of Palestinians to no more than 26 percent. The ministerial committee had clearly adopted this ceiling for Palestinian construction in 1973. This is the core Israeli position that has been imposed on the Palestinian population by force and through laws. The percentage of Palestinian residents in East and West Jerusalem combined has remained nearly the same since 1967, when Israel occupied East Jerusalem and annexed it to West Jerusalem. The percentage of Palestinian residents in "unified" Jerusalem in 1967 was 25.8 percent, rising to 27.8 percent in 1977, and 28.3 percent in 1987. By 1998, the figure had reached 30.9 percent. This percentage was maintained by two methods:

1. The construction of Israeli colonies in East Jerusalem to house around 156,000 Israeli settlers by 1998 and meanwhile nearly 200.000 or more.
2. The imposition of restrictions on Palestinian residents in the areas of construction, economics and politics, which encouraged emigration from the city.

If we compare the number of housing units with those that existed in 1967, one notices that 15,542 housing units were erected during 31 years of Israeli occupation, an average of 501 units per year. The average between 1952 and 1967 was 511 units per year. Considering the increase in the average growth of the population in East Jerusalem and the subsequent need for new housing, one notices a sharp reduction in building in East Jerusalem under Israeli occupation, as compared with previous eras. This forced Palestinian families to resort to building without permits, thus subjecting themselves to fines, court cases and house demolitions. (Mustafa 2000)

2.3 The Effects of the Israeli Measures on the Landscape and Environment

In his paper, "Transforming the Face of the Holy City: Political Messages in the Built Topography of Jerusalem," Rashid Khalidi of the University of Chicago contended

that while building in Jerusalem has always been designed to meet a variety of functional needs, it has at the same time always projected religious and secular meanings and affirmed and legitimised political supremacy on the scale of the city as a whole. For Khalidi, the integration of the city organically into its environment ended in 1967 when the Israelis began their program of colony building in Palestinian Jerusalem and sacrificed the ideal of organic integration to their political agenda of urban character transformation and territorial control. In realising these goals, they have marred the surrounding skyline with fortress-like colonies exclusively inhabited by Israeli settlers that lack any organic connection to the city or the surrounding landscape. As he noted: "They are uniform in aspect, closely packed in ranks, and exude both an aggressive and a defensive aura.... Their austerity and plainness against the existing landscape and in contrast to the rest of the city's built topography reflect the very political nature of their existence; they are meant to occupy space, to cover territory, and to stake a claim to land, plainly and simply." (Khalidi 2000)

He then proceeded to give examples of the way Israeli colony activity has disregarded the relation between the city and its environment. He noted how the colonies on French Hill, for instance, have blocked the view of the city from the Palestinian city of Ramallah so that now, when one approaches from the north, the Old City no longer rises into view 'like a distant castle on a hill'. Indeed plans for new high rises in the city have obscured the Old City entirely. For example, the planned high rises in the colony of Gilo blocked the view from Bethlehem, and further cut off the two cities from each other. Moreover, the Israeli colony of Har Homa (on Jabal Abu Ghneim) has destroyed another one of the beautiful forests that once served as foils to the city. And the beautiful vistas of the Old City from Jabal Mukaber will be obstructed by the construction of high-rise hotels and towers. (Khalidi. 2000)

Similarly, as the famous writer Edward Said argued in his keynote address, "Palestine: Memory, Invention and Space," nations invent themselves in the present through the way they remember their past". (Said 1998)

Landscape is one important means by which a nation invents itself. Since Oslo, Palestinians have had greater opportunity to shape and develop their land through government-sponsored development and planning in the West Bank and Gaza. This more active relation to the land through proto-state institutions will no doubt spur Palestinian artists and writers to re-imagine landscape in a way that responds both creatively and critically to these new circumstances.

2.4 Future Schemes for Jerusalem

The Israeli schemes of expansion and seizure of Palestinian lands by Israeli occupation authorities have no limits, especially in Jerusalem. The main trend, which is gaining consensus in both the Likud and Labour parties, is to expand Jerusalem's borders to the east to reach a total area of 260 square km, more than double the area of East and West Jerusalem combined. This "Greater Jerusalem" will come at the expense of West Bank lands occupied in 1967. The colony of Maale Adumim with a total population of 22,200 in 1998 and nearly 50,000 today, would constitute Jerusalem's eastern borders. The city of Maale Adumim would be expanded so as to bring the population to 60,000, and a regional corridor of Israeli colonies would extend all the way to Virid Yeriho colony, which overlooks Jericho and further development of connecting roads will lead to Jordan. In the north, expansion is planned in the Giv'at Ze'ev colony compound and in Giv'on 1,2 and 3 to form one

bloc with the largest population concentration in Ramot. In the south, bypass roads, tunnels and bridges have been erected to link Gilo with the Gush Etzion colony compound, avoiding the Palestinian towns of Bethlehem, Beit Sahur and Beit Jalla, until the borders of Greater Jerusalem reach the Israeli colony of Gush Etzion, as planned (Cohen 1993).

In contrary to that reality by planning Israel is going to tell the world that it aims to develop Jerusalem as the future open city, where all religions have a place and no discrimination for anyone. Facts on the ground and official speakers reveal that whatever is meant, this will be only under full Israeli control.

Conclusion

East Jerusalem is considered to be the capital of a Palestinian State by the Palestinians and the Palestinian Authorities. Hence, Israel under the known geographical aims and the efforts to legitimate the judaizing by constructing or fabricating Jewish history in that important place, was concentrating through planning on several aspects. For instance, the creation of something called David City, which is then the Citadel, Mamilla area and all the surrounding of the Bab Al Khalil, Jaffa Gate; upgrading and reshaping a quarter, that was inhabited by Jews in ancient times, to the New Jewish Quarter, including everything that surrounds the most holy Jewish place, the wailing wall. Also there is the concept of re-establishing Roman characteristics like the Cardo which must be understood as one part of eliminating Palestinian witness. The same interpretation can be done for the 'Cultural Mile', which is in parts a re-invention of a 'modern Jewish culture', like the windmill quarter of the end of the 19th century and the 'green belt' around the ancient city walls. Moreover and a crucial factor for the future of the city is the establishing of the colonies in and around the eastern part of the city usurping more land and establishing a majority of Jews in new borders. Again, planning is misused for demographic and geographic changes and reshaping the map and a country against international and human law.

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