

JERUSALEM: FACTS AND FIGURES

by Aish.com and Yvette Miller

"If I forget you Jerusalem, let my right hand lose its strength. Let my tongue cling to my palate if I fail to recall you, if I fail to elevate Jerusalem above my highest joy." (Psalms 137:5)

The name Jerusalem has two parts: **Yira and shalem**, which means "vision of peace."

For **over 3,000 years**, Jerusalem has been the capital of Israel

The Jewish people are the only nation who face Jerusalem while praying. All prayers ascend to Heaven from the **Temple Mount**, the gateway to Heaven. (Talmud, Brachot)



TIMELINE:

BCE: Before the Common Era / CE: Common Era



Jacobs dreams of the ladder in Jerusalem

1675 BCE

Abraham and the Binding of Isaac in Jerusalem



1003 BCE

King David makes Jerusalem the Jewish capital



963 BCE

King Solomon builds the Holy Temple in Jerusalem



1000 years
of Jewish
Jerusalem



Maccabee revolt reestablishes Jewish independence

164 BCE

322 BCE

Alexander the Great conquers Jerusalem



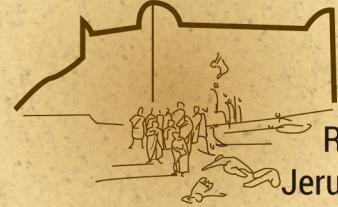
50 CE

Advent of Christianity



70 CE

Roman legions conquer Jerusalem and destroy the Temple



2000 years of Jewish Jerusalem

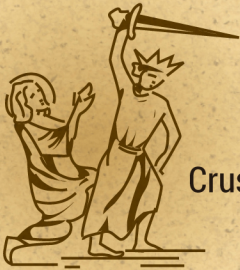
610 CE

Advent of Islam



1099

Crusaders conquer Jerusalem, massacring Jewish and Muslim inhabitants



1247

The Mamluks rule Jerusalem



3000 years of Jewish Jerusalem

1517

Jerusalem becomes part of the Ottoman Empire



1922

Jerusalem becomes administered by the British



1948

Jordan rules eastern Jerusalem, denying Jews their legal right to visit the Western Wall



1967

Jerusalem is reunified under Israeli control

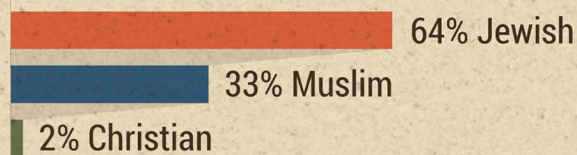


The Jewish nation is commanded to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem 3 times a year to celebrate the holidays of Sukkot, Passover and Shavuot.

Medieval maps show Jerusalem at the epicenter of Asia, Europe, and Africa.



Jerusalem is Israel's largest city, with a population of **760,800**:



Jerusalem is Israel's leading tourist destination: **3.5 million** tourists visit annually.

In 1918, Hebrew University of Jerusalem was established by Jewish intellectuals including Albert Einstein
Today, Hebrew U has **23,000 students** from **65 countries**, including **2,000 Muslim staff and students**.



Hebrew U faculty has won **8** Nobel Prizes

In 1860, **Yemin Moshe** became the first Jerusalem neighborhood built outside the Old City walls.



Jerusalem's String Bridge, designed by Santiago Calatrava, evokes the strings on King David's harp. It accommodates Jerusalem's light rail trains, pedestrians, and bicyclists.



The Walls around Jerusalem's Old City were built by Suleiman the Magnificent in **1536**. They are 4 km long.



Jerusalem's Old City is divided into Jewish, Christian, Muslim and Armenian Quarters



400 high-tech companies are based in Jerusalem



In **2012**, a new 5-mile bike trail opened in Jerusalem along the path of a defunct railway



Jerusalem's Mount of Olives cemetery has **150,000** Jewish graves, dating back to the 15th century



26,000 runners compete in the annual Jerusalem Marathon



3,800-year-old pottery has been found in the City of David archeological excavations, next to Jerusalem's Old City.

Jerusalem has over **2,000** archeological sites



Next year in Jerusalem!