

Chapter VI: Jerusalem

40. Overview

According to Syrian textbooks Jerusalem was established by an Arab people 4,500 years ago and has been inhabited by Arabs ever since. The Jews are never mentioned as inhabitants of the city, neither in the past nor in the present. The Syrian textbooks do not refer to Jerusalem as a city holy to the Jews, nor are their holy places there mentioned alongside those of Muslims and Christians.

The presence of the Jews in Jerusalem is portrayed as that of foreign occupiers. They are also accused of violating the holy places of both Muslims and Christians. Hence, it is the duty of every Muslim to evict them all from the city. Such an action assumes the character of purification, since the Jews defile the place with their mere presence.

41. A City Founded by the Ancient Arabs which has been Arab Ever Since

"[Jerusalem] is the Canaanite city of Jebus." (History of Arab Civilization, Grade 10, p. 171)

"Jerusalem is considered among the most ancient cities of the world. It used to be called Jebus, after its inhabitants, the Jebusites, who built it in the year 2500 BC. They are relatives of the Canaanites, for they emigrated from Yemen with the second Arab wave towards the land of Syria." (National-Socialist Education, Grade 10, p. 118)

"Jerusalem is Arab and our forefathers lived there for thousands of years." (Reader, Grade 3, pt. 2, p. 25)

42. An Arab City Occupied by Israel

"Jerusalem is Arab and our forefathers lived there for thousands of years. But the Zionist aggressors have occupied the city of Jerusalem and killed and expelled many of its people... Jerusalem is Arab... and it will remain Arab forever." (Reader, Grade 3, pt. 2, p. 25)

"In what Arab country is the city of Jerusalem to be found? Who occupies this city now?" (Civics, Grade 4, p. 9)

"Jerusalem today is an injured city. Her blood flows and the echo of her call for help fills the horizon. For she is under Zionist occupation and her

people have to suffer ill treatment. (Reader and Literary Texts, Grade 8, p. 196)

"Jerusalem will remain Arab, and will remain the light of freedom

Our nation's flag will be flown high, in spite of barbarism

Above her summits, in spite of [all] trials

Above her hills, over [all] times

The Arab people will liberate her, and eliminate the usurper's existence

And return her smile to her, so she shall become a lighthouse for every proud [man]

For Jerusalem is ours, in spite of [all] trials

Jerusalem is ours, over [all] times

All the children shout, in a roaring and a loud voice:

Jerusalem has been our nation's, and she will remain [so] for generations

Jerusalem is ours, in spite of [all] trials

Jerusalem is ours, over [all] times." (Conversation, Reader, Expression and Recital, Grade 2, pt. 2, p. 29)

"Connect each word with the one that suits it:

Jerusalem - Arab [Jerusalem is Arab]." (Conversation, Reader, expression and Recital, Grade 2, pt. 2, p. 21)

43. A Holy City to Muslims and Christians. Jews are not Mentioned in This Context

"[Jerusalem] is a blessed city among Muslims and Christians alike in all parts of the world." (Reader and Literary Texts, Grade 8, p. 194)

"It [Jerusalem] has an important religious position among Christians and Muslims." (History of Arab Civilization, Grade 10, p. 171)

44. Only the Muslim and Christian Holy Places are Mentioned, not the Jewish Ones

"It is the pure city that God has blessed... Christ lived there... and Muhammad went thither [in his Midnight Journey - Isra' - according to Muslim belief] and thence he ascended to Heaven [Mi'raj - according to Muslim belief]... Al-Aqsa Mosque is there, as well as the Dome of the Rock... and the Holy Sepulcher. (Reader, Grade 3, pt. 2, pp. 24-25)"

45. Israel Desecrates the Muslim and Christian Holy Places in Jerusalem

"In Jerusalem we have brethren whose Sanctuary has become the spoils of the wolves. (Grammar, Eloquence and Prosody, Grade 12, p. 130)

"Our enemies... allow their soldiers to become insolent towards the Holy Sanctuary. They already inspired one of their citizens to set fire to the al-Aqsa Mosque... History shall not forgive them for this abominable crime which offended the sentiments of Arabs and Muslims in all places." (Reader and Literary Texts, Grade 8, p. 196)*

*[Al-Aqsa Mosque was set on fire in 1969 by a mentally-ill Christian Australian tourist, not by an Israeli citizen.]

"The continuous assault on the holy places, as al-Aqsa Mosque has been exposed to arson more than once, the assault on the Holy Sepulcher, offenses against Christian clergymen and their imprisonment, violation of the sanctity of al-Aqsa Mosque by Israeli soldiers and settlers challenging the sentiments of Arabs and Muslims before and after every Friday prayer and, lastly, Israel's latest attempt to dig the tunnel underneath the al-Aqsa Mosque building in order to destroy it..." (National-Socialist Education, Grade 10, p. 118)

46. Muslims Should Liberate the Holy Places from the Jews

"The defense of al-Aqsa is a duty of every Muslim, male and female, because God has purified it and has blessed its surroundings, and it is impermissible that the enemies of God defile it." (Islamic Education, Grade 6, p. 57)

"There will be no peace of mind so long as al-Aqsa Mosque and the Holy Sepulcher are in the hands of the oppressors." (Grammar, Grade 10, p. 61)

"The capital of Arab Palestine shall not return to her original owners except by [sacrifice of] soul and blood, and that is a trust tied to our necks." (Reader and Literary texts, Grade 8, p. 196)



Reader, Grade 6, pt.2, p. 94