


# 巴勒斯坦 谁要回到谁的家



2011年9月23日，巴勒斯坦国正式提出加入联合国的申请，此时距离他们宣布独立已23年，距离联合国允许他们建国已63年。

入联是为了更好地建国，建国则是为了更顺利地回家。从提交申请往回倒数，数到63年以前，甚至数到2000年以前，回家一直是这片土地上永恒的主题。

只是，当以黑衣黑帽为标准装扮的犹太人遇上以一袭白袍为传统服饰的阿拉伯人，这个主题就一直有着两条脉络。当这些脉络互相纠结，很难说清楚，究竟是谁要回到谁的家。









*The Traditional Jews do not work, but study doctrine lifelong. Photo/Quanjing*

# Holy City in the Travels – Jerusalem

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Judaism Christianity and Islam regarded here as the Holy Land. Theoretically in the history, Israel and Palestinian regarded here as the capital. In literatures, the United Nations announced that this is an international condominium area. In fact, the Israeli government is located here. Here is Jerusalem, which means "peace legacy" in Hebrew.

Right opposite the Old City of Jerusalem is the Mount of Olives, which spreads over the Christian holy place and is the final suffering place of Jesus. Standing on the mountain, you can overlook the Old City of Jerusalem, the top of the Dome of the Rock glowing golden light is clearly visible. So is the large cemetery land closely next to the gate of old city.

This gate is known as the Golden Gate, which is the main gate of the seven gates of Jerusalem. However, the thick stone has sealed the entire door up.

As the Holy Land of three religions, Jerusalem's main gate was closed as a result of different understandings of three religions. The Christianity holds that Jesus entered Jerusalem through the Golden Gate on the Sunday before the Easter. The Muslims believe that the Armageddon will be in Jerusalem, Arabs during the reign closed this gate to prevent Messiah from entering, and the legend has it that Messiah, the savior of the Jewish, cannot go through the Arab cemetery. The Jews believe that the Golden Gate will re-open when the

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Messiah comes.

In fact, the Old City of Jerusalem has Damascus Gate, Herod's Gate, Golden Gate, Zion Gate, Job Gate, however, the Damascus Gate and Jaffa Gate are the most frequently accessed. This is exit signs of different beliefs. Jaffa Gate is the starting point of well-known Commercial Street of Jaffa Road. Jews usually enter the old city through the gate, and people wearing Arab headscarves enter through the Damascus Gate, of course, including those Israeli soldiers holding an M16 and gnawing bread.

Jerusalem is divided into multiple jurisdictions based on different religious beliefs. There is no clear

dividing line between Arab and Jewish area, as well as Christian area. However, on special days, such as religious festivals, or in case of conflict, these boundaries will be cordoned off by Israeli soldiers to prohibit people of different religions from entering.

For example, it takes quite some time to follow the ancient winding corridor to go from the Dome of the Rock to the geographically adjacent Wailing Wall. Because the former are under the jurisdiction of the Arab region, and the latter belongs to the Jewish jurisdiction.

Wailing Wall is actually the historical sites of The First Templar. Jerusalem was conquered and destroyed by Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar 586 BC and the first Templar was destroyed. The reconstructed templar suffered another misfortune 70 AD, when the Romans suppressed the Jewish uprising and hundreds of thousands of Jews were killed. Jerusalem and the templar were almost razed to the ground.

Persistent feelings of the Jews for Jerusalem come from deep memory of the history. It's just like rosemary planted on the Mount of Olives as a symbol of "memory", while the memory of nation is lingering humiliation and indignation. So after "the Six-Day War" of the last century after Israel captured the city of Jerusalem, all soldiers stood in silent tribute to the Wailing Wall, which made the Wailing Wall world famous.

The gaps of Wailing Wall today are





*The Arabs usually choose Damascus Gate of Jerusalem to enter the city. Photo/Quanjing*

filled with small pieces of paper written with wishes. Nearby is telex service for those who cannot arrive in person for prey, where there will be someone folding the telexed prays into pieces of paper and fill it into the gaps. Wish is a good thing, the moment of which makes people full of hope though the wishes may not necessarily come true. Before entering the Wailing Wall plaza, visitors have to wear a white hat just like the pious prayers. Do not try to use the camera to shoot them when they think they are talking to the God. The Wailing Wall is divided into two parts, the left side is for men to pray facing the wall, and the right side is for women.

Walking in Jerusalem, you can

often see such men wearing a black wide-brimmed hat, white shirt, black muumuu. They chin up and chest out and look straight ahead, like Reeves in the "Matrix". The tourist guide said: "They are the most traditional Jews and wear in black and white since childhood." Some people asked: "what kind of work they are doing?" the tourist guide said: "a considerable number of people do not work, these traditional Jewish choose to spend a lifetime to interpret and study Judaism in Hebrew, they believe that their only value of life is to do this in Jerusalem. The source of life for such people and their family members is funded by the government, equivalent to \$2,000 monthly".

However, devoutness can also cause trouble.

Now 64-year-old Angel has lived in Jerusalem for 30 years, where she enjoyed the quiet atmosphere. However, after her husband retired and the youngest child has completed the high school, the whole family relocated to Tel Aviv. Angel said she felt tired of Jerusalem. Angel still remembered one day when she went out, an ultra-orthodox Jewish woman yelled at her and criticized that Angel was wearing inappropriately. In fact, she just dressed a little casual that day. In recent years, there are many Jewish families leaving Jerusalem as Angel's family. They have a contradictory attitude towards Jerusalem. In contrast



with the local Arabs, they love Jerusalem, but do not want to live here.

According to Jerusalem branch of the Research Institute of Israeli, 68% of Israeli Jews believe that Jerusalem is the most beautiful and holy city in Israel. At the same time, 78% said they did not intend to live in Jerusalem. In the past 29 years, the number of Jewish residents moving out of Jerusalem has exceeded the number of moving-in residents every year, and the gap is increasing. In 2006, the Jewish population leaving Jerusalem was 6,000 more than the Jews moving in, which is equivalent to the total number of the past 10 years.

Professor Hassan of Hebraic University analyzed that the Jewish population growth in Jerusalem is mainly in the ultra-Orthodox families. The families are big, the family members do not work but consider study of their religious duties as responsibilities. In recent years the poverty rate of Jerusalem is almost 44%, which is almost the highest in Israel. The Jewish classic "Talmud" wrote: "Ten measures of beauty descended to the world, Jerusalem took nine". In fact, few tourists will favor East Jerusalem.

Palestinians inhabited in East Jerusalem, which is crowded, dirty, cramped, and dilapidated compared with the West Jerusalem. East Jerusalem has only a busy street heads towards the Old City of Jerusalem in south. In this street shops are cramped, mostly clothing stores and then currency exchanges. I saw samples of RMB in one of the current exchanges, and recognized "welcome" and "crazy" and other Chinese characters among the characters of different countries on the back wall of the counter.

At the junction of the prosperous street and the north wall of the Old City, garbage pile up in the street,

the crowd scatter on the street crammed with the peels, disposable plastic cups, old newspapers in Arabic, interspersed with the sly smile of teenagers selling corns. Until when you saw the police station and the post office with big Hebraic characters, you will again realize you are in a country of Jewish governance. In contrast,

walking in the spacious and clean streets of West Jerusalem, you will unconsciously feel the smartness and superiority of the Jewish. Every shop owner and passer-by seem to be able to smell out your passport issuing country at a glimpse, they will call out loudly "Hello" in Chinese when you pass by, even though less than 20 Chinese have visited in the







past five years. Part of Abu Dis at the foot of the Mount of Olive is located in Jerusalem, neighboring East Jerusalem in the west. Yossi Beilin, former Israeli Minister of Economy said: "Abu Dis can be a dual city, both the West Bank and Jerusalem".

Today, Israel has set up a 6-feet-high wall between Abu Dis and Jerusalem. Bulldozers are still working to increase the concrete block wall height to 20 feet until now. In 2003, officer responsible for the project construction said in an interview that this was a basic measure to "block terrorist activities from expanding east into Jerusalem". On the same day, two nearly simultaneous suicide attacks occurred in Tel Aviv and

Jerusalem, 15 people were killed, and the two "suicide bombers" came from the West Bank. Now the Palestinian people have to climb over the wall very day here. Yishude, a 6-year-old first-year elementary school student wearing a school bag and green uniform skirt said: "I climb it every day." Finishing her words, she skillfully crossed the cement board and continued her way to school. Abu Dis has no school or hospital, because most people here work in Jerusalem. Many cars park on both sides of the wall to pick up commuters, men in suits and ties, workers holding tools, women holding bags and sundries and the elderly on the way to hospital all must climb over this wall. ☹

*Jaffa Road is one of the main and longest street in Jerusalem, as well as one of its oldest. The road transits the city from east to west, travelling from the Ottoman walls to the downtown to the modern towers at the city's western portal. Photo/IC*

*Israeli soldiers praying before the Wailing Wall. Photo/Quanjing*



