



## The Pillars of Palestine

### ركائز من فلسطين

The Palestinians in Jordan  
East-Jerusalem and Israel

Culture and History  
Daily Life

Photo Book  
2024 / 1974  
W. Wiesner  
©



<https://wolfgang-wiesner.info/2024/Sm3na.mp3>

Jerusalem in my Heart, a famous Palestinian song  
performed by Lebanese artist Fairouz in Arabic

The Kingdom of Jordan was neighbouring the former British mandatory of Palestine, later being known as the State of Israel.

As 70% of Jordan's population are of Palestinian origin, either already living there or after fleeing from home during the catastrophe of expulsion Al-Nakba (النكبة), Jordan could be seen as an independent Palestinian community, especially because the kingdom became the only Arab state to offer full citizenship to refugees from Palestine without any social discrimination whatsoever. The Jordanian society can therefore make up for comparison when it comes to the characteristics of "The Palestinians" we are dealing with in this book.



The 20 Dinars banknote of Jordan is still showing the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem which Jordan lost in the Six-Day War.

Jerusalem  
القدس



Dome of the Rock  
قبة الصخرة

Temple Mount  
جبل الهيكل

In the Six-Day War (1967) East-Jerusalem and its holy places became part of Israel. After the Yom Kippur War of 1973, Israel gained further territory. It was in winter 1974 that I visited Israel and took photos of the Temple Mount and other places.



Roman Denar  
minted under  
Antoninus Pius



Roman Theatre of Amman built for  
Emperor Antoninus Pius (138-161)



First Jewish minted coins from 142 BC  
are at the origin of 'Hanukkah Gelt'  
distributed at Hanukkah celebrations.



Roman camp for the siege of Massada  
Fortress during the first Jewish Revolt  
(66-74 AC) that ended with the fall of  
Massada, located near the Israeli side  
of the Dead Sea.

The Dead Sea on the Israeli side at sunset.

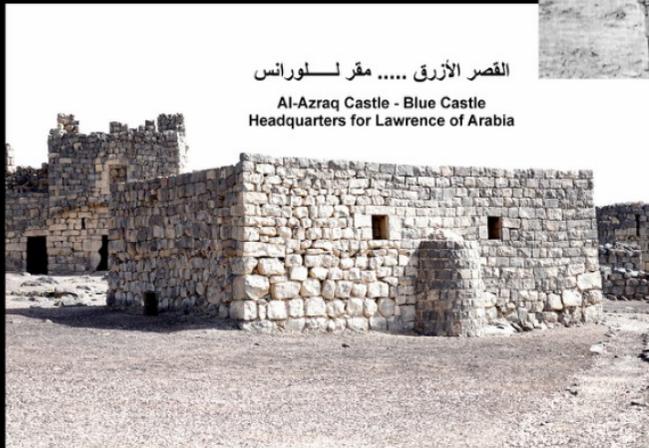
Photos were taken by me in 1974.  
The coin has Menorah candelabra  
and palm tree on different sides.



The Arab Revolt of 1916 led to the independence of Saudi-Arabia & Jordan from Ottoman rule and installation of a British protectorate in Palestine which lasted until 1948.



القصر الأزرق ..... مقر لـسـلـورانس  
Al-Azraq Castle - Blue Castle  
Headquarters for Lawrence of Arabia



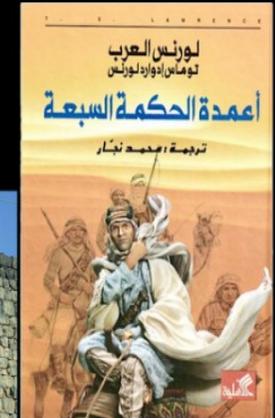
Historic photo showing the flag of Arab Revolt which was inspired and organized by an officer of the British army who was nicknamed for that 'Lawrence of Arabia'.



Coins used in British Palestine 1922 - 1948

## Lawrence of Arabia لورنس العرب

The Seven Pillars of Wisdom  
أعمدة الحكمة السبعة



Al-Azraq Castle  
قصر الأزراق  
Headquarters of  
Lawrence during  
Arab Revolt 1916



A street sign we passed when going southwards from Golan in 1974

Allenby Bridge marked the border crossing to Jordan



The Golan Heights  
هضبة الجولان



UN Post watching over the demarcation line which was separating Israel from Syria since the Six-Day War (1967)

The Austrian UN soldier was approached by our Israeli guide whom we experienced as a racist



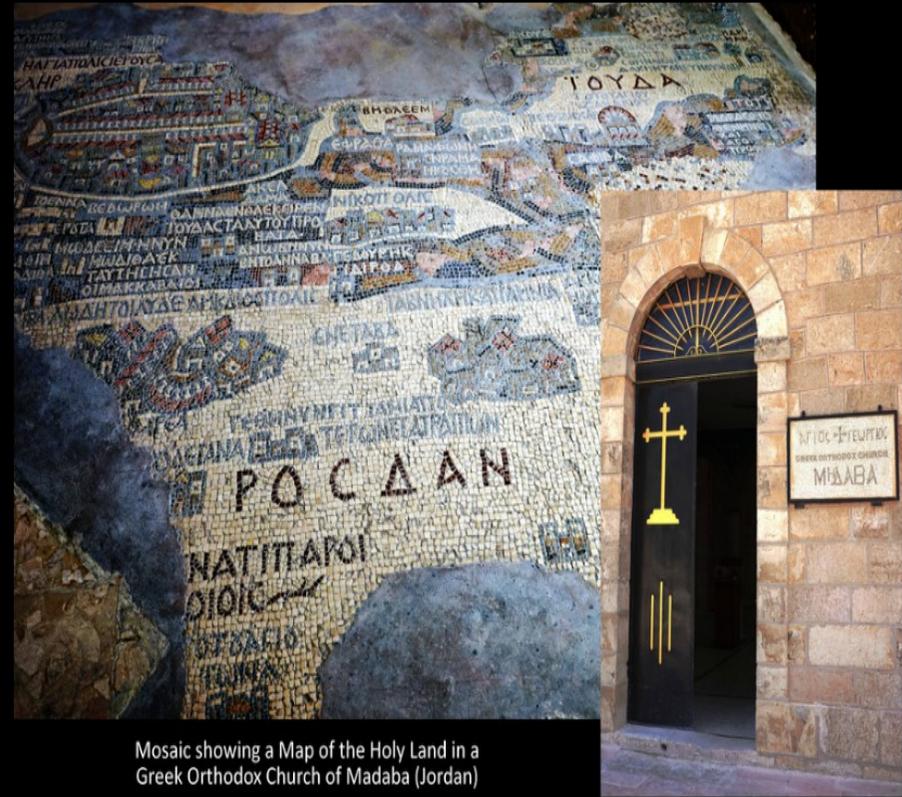
Near the Jordanian Border to Iraq and Saudi Arabia

بالقرب من الحدود مع العراق و العربية السعودية

Baptism in Lake Tiberias at the outflow of River Jordan. Both photos taken in 1974.

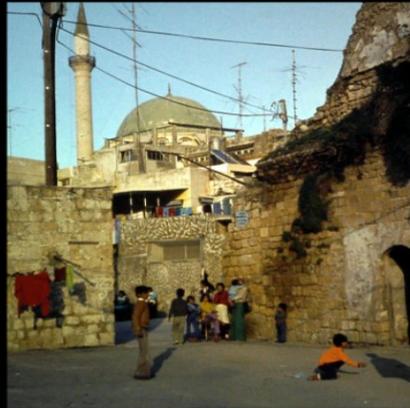


River Jordan: Near one of its sources.



Mosaic showing a Map of the Holy Land in a Greek Orthodox Church of Madaba (Jordan)

أكّا (Acre) Akko



During the Palestine War in 1948, three-quarters of the Arab population left Akko and many Jewish neighbourhoods were established. In 2011, Akko had a Jewish majority. Photos were taken in 1974 in the old town where poor Palestinians settled.

Seaport of Akko

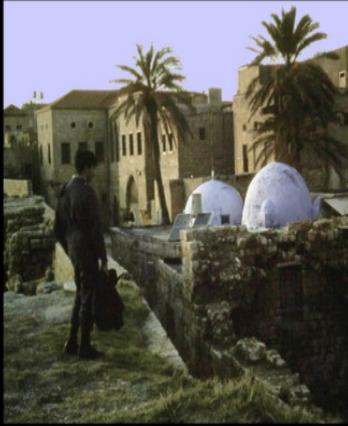
الميناء من أكّا  
الملاذ الأخير للصليبيين

Last resort of the crusaders



Ruins of a Crusaders' Fortress  
and last port of embarkation

Al-Kabri aqueduct



Photos taken in 1974:  
Israeli soldier visiting East-Jerusalem (above)  
and Palestinian farmer in Galilee (next page)

I am an Arab.  
And the color of hair: Charcoal  
And eye color: Brown.  
And my features:  
On my head is a headband on a scarf.  
And my palm is as solid as a rock.  
Don't worry who touches it.  
And my address:  
I am from an isolated and forgotten village.  
Its streets are without names.  
And all its men are in the field  
and the quarry.  
Do you get furious now ?

**Mahmoud Darwish (1941-2008)**  
my translation of his famous  
poem ' Identity Card '

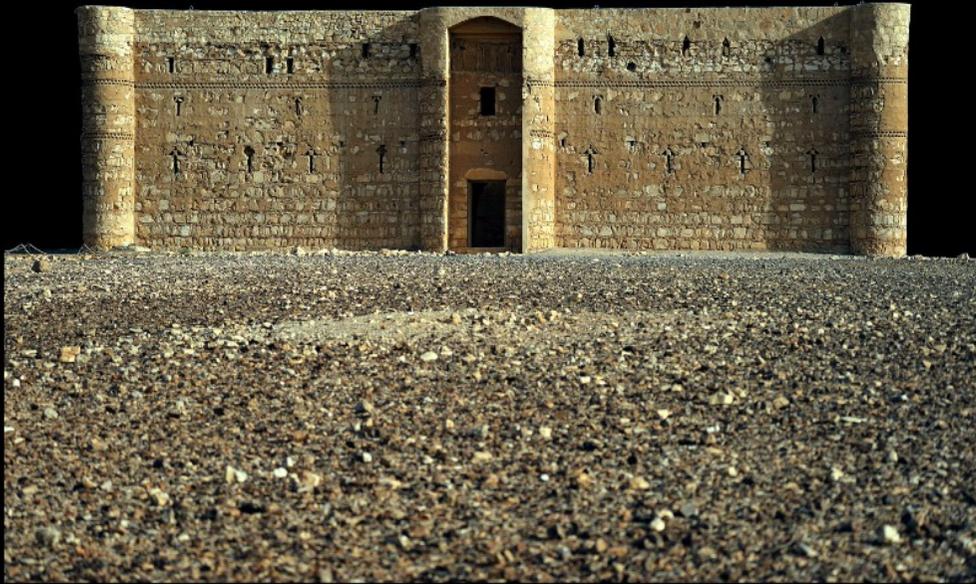
Please note:  
I am an Arab.  
You robbed my ancestors' vineyards  
and land I used to cultivate.  
To me and all my children nothing was left,  
nor to all of my grandchildren,  
except these rocks.  
Is your government going to take them  
... as it was said ?

أنا عربي  
ولونُ الشعرِ.. فحميُّ  
ولونُ العينِ.. بنيُّ  
: وميزاتي  
علي رأسي عقالٌ فوقَ كوفيّه  
وكفي صلبٌ كالصخر  
تخمشُ من يلامسها  
: وعنواني  
أنا من قريةٍ عزلاءٍ منسيّه  
شوارعها بلا أسماء  
وكلُّ رجالها في الحقلي  
والمحجر  
فهل تغضبُ؟

سجّل  
أنا عربي  
سلبتُ كرومَ أجدادي  
وأرضاً كنتُ أفلحها  
أنا وجميعُ أولادي  
ولم تتركْ لنا.. ولكلِّ أحفادي  
سوى هذي الصخور  
فهل ستأخذها  
حكومتكم.. كما قبلاً؟



Qasr Al-Kharana  
قصر الخرانة



Qusayr Amra  
قصر عمرة



The Frescos in Qusayr Amra are giving an idea of life in this hunting lodge, erected for the Umayyad Dynasty who ruled the Caliphate of Damascus.



Don't get Infected by Social Smoking !

دعاية بائع الشيشة  
The advertisement sign for a  
vendor of 'hookah' supplies.



Amman Graffiti  
Masters of the Desert



Cactus Oil  
زيت صبار

Loomi لومي  
lime fruit  
treated & dried

Vendor of Spices بائع بهارات



Street Scene in Amman شارع في وسط مدينة عمان

الشاي

Wolfgang Wiesner 2024 ©

The Cup of Tea  
طاس الشاي

طالسا



Sweets for the End of Ramadan  
حلويات للعيد الصغير





Fruit Seller in Amman بائع فواكه في عمان



Fruit and Balloons الفواكه و البالونات



Al-Hussein Mosque  
Downtown Amman

مسجد الحسين  
في وسط عمان



Bookshop in Amman مكتبة في عمان



Amman Graffiti  
Bedouin Woman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2uY3atWm0aw>



Amman Skyline

Video showing Amman during 1960-70. Sound: Amman in my Heart (Fairouz)

## رکائز من فلسطين The Pillars of Palestine

The Palestinians in Jordan, East-Jerusalem and Israel  
A Photo Book composed by Dr. Wolfgang Wiesner  
© 2024 / 1974

