

**MYTH:** East Jerusalem belongs to the Palestinians.

**FACT:** Jerusalem has been the historic capital of the Jewish people and is the undivided capital of the State of Israel.

## A CITY DIVIDED

From 1948 to 1967, control of Jerusalem was split, with the western portion controlled by Israel and East Jerusalem, including the Old City, falling under Jordanian rule. All residents of the Jewish Quarter of the Old City were expelled and many of the Jewish-owned buildings destroyed, damaged, or desecrated, including many important synagogues and cemeteries.

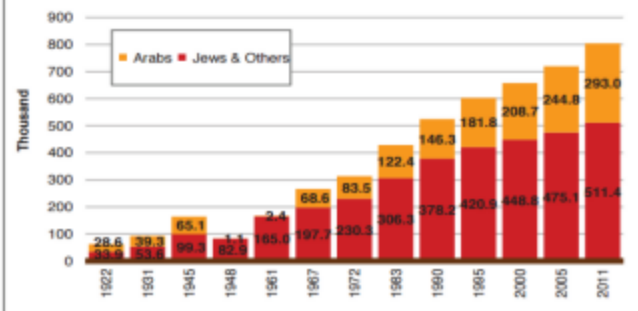
In 1967, control of Jerusalem changed again in the Six-Day War, when Israel routed Arab armies -- including Egypt, Syria, and Jordan -- and took East Jerusalem from Jordan.

The Israeli position considers Jerusalem – both western and eastern– the country's eternal, undivided capital based on its historical, religious and political claims to the holy city. Since Israel's reunification of Jerusalem in 1967, the government through successive administrations has vowed never to re-divide the city again. In 1980, the Israeli Knesset passed a Basic Law declaring reunified Jerusalem the eternal capital of Israel, while providing for freedom of access to each religion's holy sites.

For two millenia since the destruction of the Roman Expulsion 135 AD, Jews have concluded their passover Seder with "Next Year in Jerusalem."

**TWO  
MILLENNIA**

Population of Jerusalem, by Population Group, 1922-2011



Jews have had a nearly-constant presence in the Land of Israel for nearly two millenia.

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