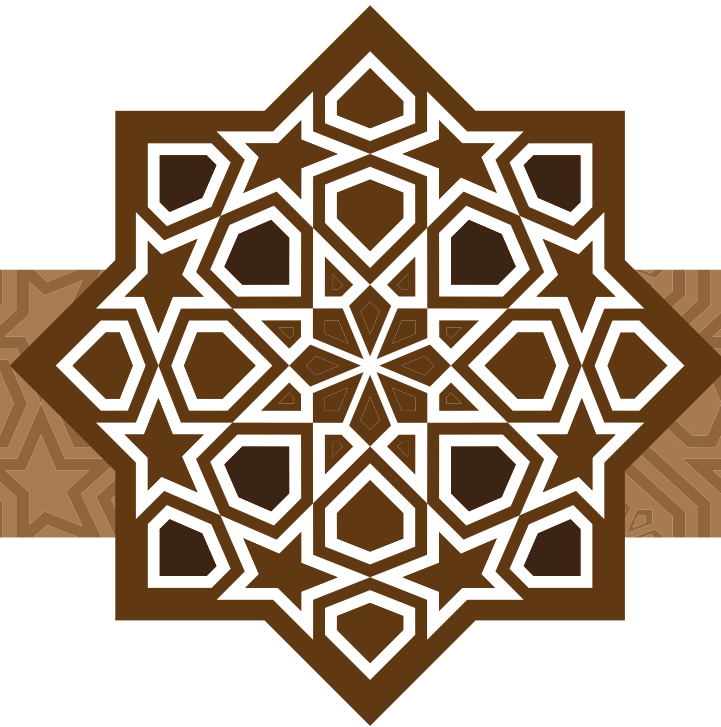


The Journey towards Integrated Cultural Heritage Goes on
Hebron Rehabilitation Committee

2015



2015



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HRC's Strategic Objectives

- Revitalize the Old City by restoring and reusing historic buildings for housing purposes
- Improve urban infrastructure and services, keep existing infrastructure's cultural heritage and architectural elements, and promote cultural and historical identity.
- Improve the living conditions of Hebron's citizens by restoring residential areas, linking the Old City with newer developments, and providing social services in order to develop attractive residential and public spaces.
- Stimulate commercial and economic life in the Old City, attract local and international tourism, and institute vital projects to increase job opportunities.

Overview of HRC

Vision: Keeping the Arab and Islamic identity of the Old City of Hebron'

Mission: HRC seeks to rehabilitate and renovate the historic buildings of the Old City of Hebron to stop Israeli colonial settlement expansion, maintain the physical integrity of historic buildings, ensure Hebron's social and economic growth, improve the Old City's contiguity with the social fabric of the rest of Hebron, encourage citizens' return to their houses, and improve the living standards of marginalized communities by planning and implementing vital programs which will guarantee socio-economic and cultural growth.

Values: Equal and fair access to public services, originality, excellence, respect of human rights, transparency, professionalism, building local and international partnerships, and loyalty.



Forewords by Chairman of HRC

In 2016, we have reaffirmed our plans for the preservation of cultural heritage in the Old City of Hebron, with hopes that in time, our efforts will successfully revitalize and restore the area as Hebron's thriving cultural heart.

Already, it is clear to the Old City's citizens, visitors, and workers that our objectives are slowly but surely being met in cultural, social, economic, and touristic sectors.

This year, which marks the 20th anniversary of our foundation, HRC has made significant achievements to be added to the annals of our past successes. All of these were aimed at breathing life back into the Old City, into its markets, alleys, and buildings. As always, HRC seeks to restore the Old City as a historical center vital to the development of Hebron city as a whole.

The course of this revitalization shall continue with the effort of the Old City's steadfast citizens and their determination to defend the heritage of their forbearers, along with the continued efforts of HRC and its engineers, architects, and management staff.

HRC's successful renovations have proved that life in the Old City is possible. It is possible to link the past with the present and continue living in one of the oldest, most fragile cities in the world. It is possible to preserve the history and identity of the Palestinian people even in the face of constant oppression.

With this report, I present to you a record of HRC's achievements in the year 2015, and extend my heartfelt thanks to all the donors and supporters who contributed invaluable to these. I would also like to thank the staff of HRC and citizens of the Old City. With their steadfastness and stamina, we were able to take a significant step towards preserving the Old City's priceless Arab and Islamic identity.

Dr. Ali Qawasmi
Chairman of HRC



Forewords by General Director of HRC

The Old City of Hebron, in particular the Ibrahimi mosque, is suffering from Israeli attempts to judaize its Islamic and Arab heritage. To our knowledge, more than half of it has already been judaized. The Israeli occupation army and settlers work hand in hand to change the identity of the Old City by targeting the architectural elements of its Arab and Muslim culture, some of which date back to thousands of years. HRC is responsible for protecting the Old City and preserving its cultural heritage. It is a national and humanitarian duty that HRC has taken on with pride. “The journey goes on towards integral management of the cultural heritage”: this is the title we chose for the year 2015 to reflect our achievements in reviving this historical city and its architectural fabric. As more buildings are restored and renovated to meet the requirements for modern life, the Old City has seen more and more families returning to live in them. HRC has also worked to improve the quality of life by developing public services and renovating infrastructure. Over the year, our projects have spanned across a range of sectors, including the provision of educational, health, social, economic, cultural, and recreational services. Additionally, rekindling tourism was a particular focus for HRC in 2015. Several historical sites were rehabilitated and began operations to support the tourism sector and investment in historical buildings.

This year was marked by the launch of a new master plan that reshapes and reaffirms HRC’s plans to preserve the Old City and rehabilitate its neighborhoods. One of our key aims is to develop the organization into a vital support and training system for architectural heritage management. To achieve sustainability in this field we have pursued efforts in the field of training the cadre and staff of HRC on cultural heritage management in the Old City. We have also continued our activities in increasing public awareness and engagement in preserving cultural heritage. We look forward to pursuing our objectives in restoring life to Hebron’s Old City. In this regard I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the staff of HRC for their continued work in this field.

Emad Hamdan
General Director of HRC

Awards Given to HRC

- World Habitat Award 2013

The World Habitat Award is an international award given annually by London-based Building and Social Housing Foundation. It is awarded to organizations that seek to support sustainable and innovative housing projects. In 2013 HRC was chosen from 238 projects worldwide as the recipient of this award for the Old City Rehabilitation Program.



- Martyr Yasser Arafat Award for Achievement

In 2008, HRC was given the Martyr Yasser Arafat Award for Achievement. This award is granted to individuals or institutions for their remarkable innovative achievements that have positive impacts on developing and advancing society.



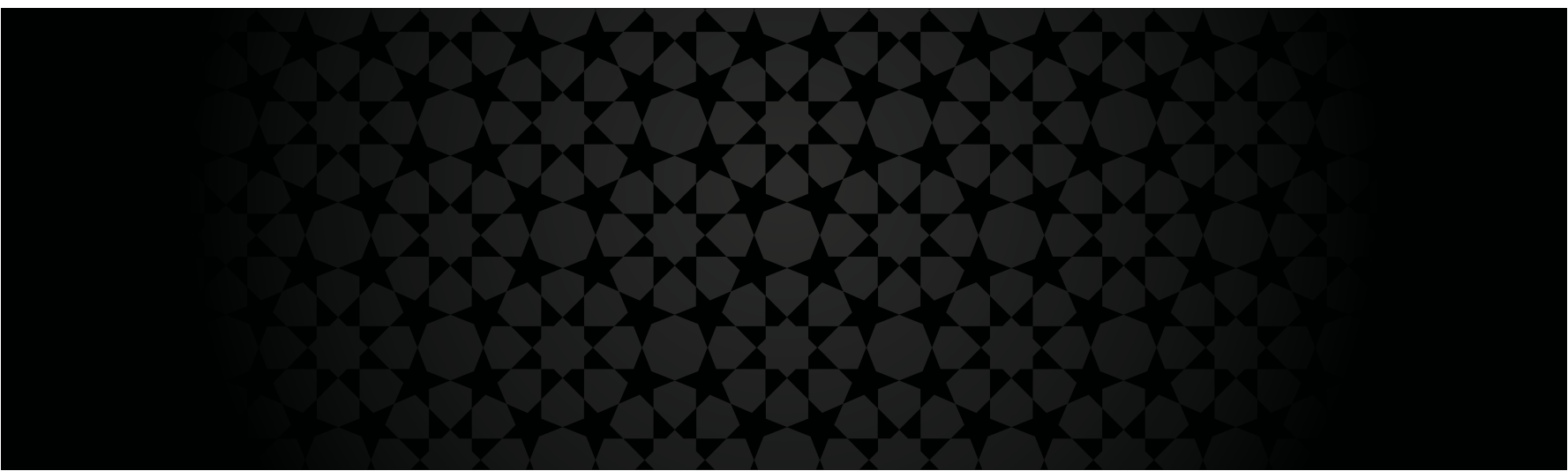
- Aga Khan Award for Architecture

In 1998, HRC was given the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in recognition of its achievements in rehabilitating the Old City of Hebron. This award is one of the most remarkable international awards given once every three years for the best architecture in the Islamic World.

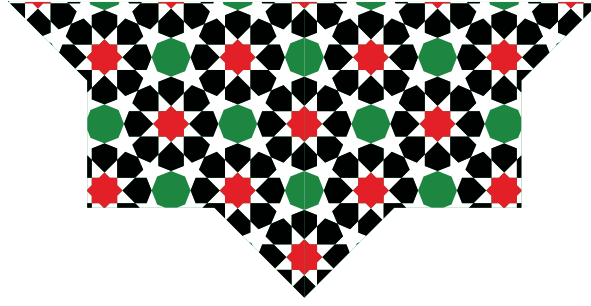




Konsey Hebr  Rehabilitasyon Komitesi







Master Plan for Preserving and Revitalizing the Old City of Hebron



Master Plan for Preserving and Revitalizing the Old City of Hebron

HRC believes that, in order to preserve the integrity of architectural heritage of a city, special attention must also be given to the individual architectural elements that compose the city, including individual buildings and social services. Consequently, architectural heritage protection is a basic part of architectural planning.

As a result of this preservation theory, preserving and revitalizing historic buildings in the Old City of Hebron requires a master plan that incorporates the Old City and its surroundings into a single entity. The master plan must also recognize the different elements and components which play significant roles in the revitalization process within the system as a whole.

HRC followed the original Master Plan that started in 1999-2000 to develop architectural heritage management in the Old City. HRC's first Master Plan was implemented through "Planning Preservation of the Old City of Hebron" project. In 2015, the original plan was updated. It was imperative to develop the initial plan and subsequently review and reconsider both the needs of the Old City of Hebron and the development policies previously utilized in order to achieve sustainable development for all sectors in light of new and changing social, economic and political needs.

This plan is a formal effective document for architectural heritage management in Old City of Hebron which will be continuously developed during the next 25 years

Master Plan's Secondary Objectives:

- Develop an updated data base of diagrams and architectural documentation mapping the architectural and socio-economic activities inside the Old City of Hebron since year 2014.
- Develop a strategy for revitalizing and preserving the Old City based on the indicators obtained from collected data
- Draft necessary regulations identifying the methods and techniques which can be used in handling buildings and open spaces, including regulation of activities that will preserve architectural heritage and promote citizens' well-being.
- Determine projects and programs that will be implemented inside the Old City during the execution of the Master Plan in order to improve citizens' living conditions, preserve the city's architectural heritage, and create economic opportunities for citizens and business people.
- Engage the population, business owners and other stakeholders in the ongoing development by providing space to express their opinion and views regarding the development and future of the Old City.
- Determine and develop monitoring mechanisms and structures during the implementation period.

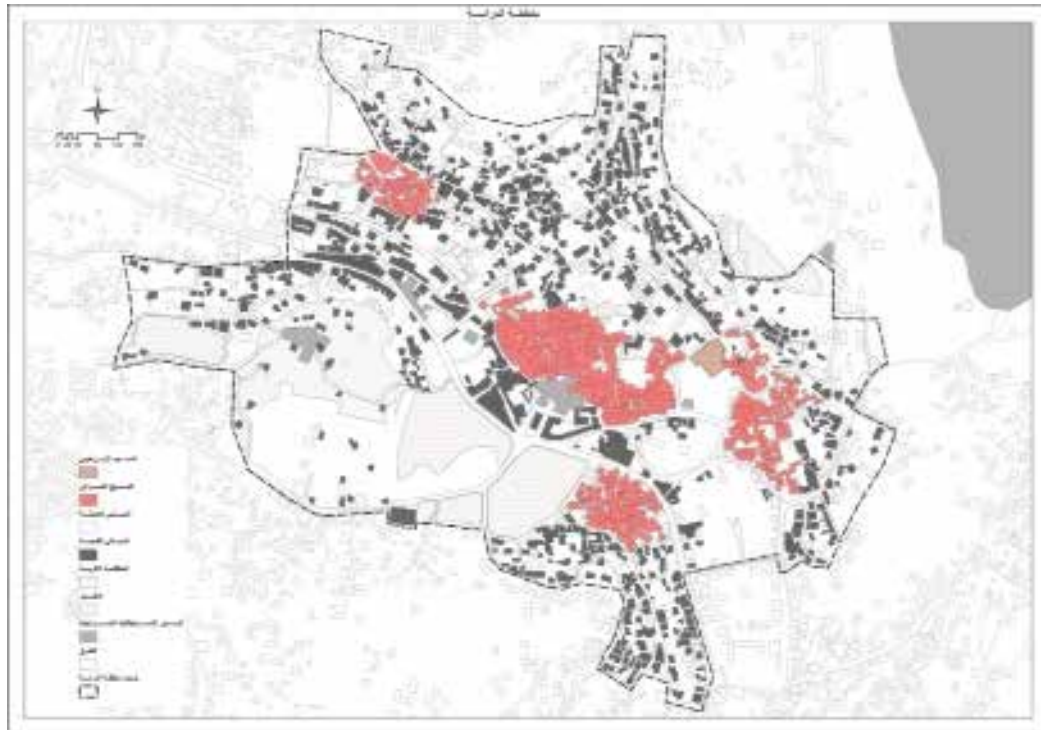
One of HRC's goals includes the adoption of the Old City onto the list of World Heritage Sites. Significant architectural heritage and importance are basic qualifying criteria and HRC works tirelessly to ensure compliance with these standards. Adoption onto the World Heritage Sites list is an integral tool for architectural management.

The Master Plan Methodology for Preserving and Revitalizing the Old City:

Updating and Developing the Database of the Old City:

27 recent engineer graduates participated in a joint program hosted by HRC, The Engineers Association, and the Palestinian Employment Fund. The engineers, with the support of the organizations, updated data on an existing database that included information needed to implement the development project. The joint program aims to create job opportunities for new engineers, promote loyalty for their home towns, and increase their capacity to preserve and develop historic areas. During the first six months of the program, the data base of the previous Master Plan was updated, with all buildings and households of the Old City being registered in the system.

The database included a description of the buildings, their internal and external structures, as well as descriptions on the type of the property, its current and past use, and other basic information. The database was also updated to include a graphic of the architectural heritage boundaries in the Old City. The staff tasked with this process utilized contemporary documentation techniques under the supervision of a specialist expert. The project included a number of studies of architectural heritage including the Old City of Hebron, traditional buildings patterns in the Old City, and its urban morphology. These studies were conducted through the cooperation of HRC and Palestine Polytechnic University. These studies constitute a basic foundation for understanding the development of the Old City and its construction and architectural elements.



Boundaries of the study for the Master Plan



Work Team during Database Updating

Sectoral Studies:

Sectoral studies aim to diagnose the current social and architectural status of the Old City, including housing, education, health, economy, and tourism prior to the planning process. The planning process relies on the data of the sectoral study to identify specific needs and requirements for each segment of the city. The needs of the different sectors of the Old City are identified based on the sectoral studies

Relevant Projects:

The needs identified by this sectoral study were translated into projects and programs covering the needs of all the sectors to develop the Old City, taking into consideration its cultural heritage.

Preservation Regulations and Rules:

The Master Plan contains a number of regulations governing the process of preserving the Old City of Hebron. These regulations govern all development activities in order to preserve the historic and architectural value of the Old City.

HRC's development plan is distinctive in that it considers the Old City as the vital life-giving center of Hebron. The Old City, under the Master Plan, is where the historical, tourist, cultural, and economic elements come together to help promote revitalization of the Old City of Hebron. Revitalization efforts require cooperation amongst different national institutions, including the Municipal Council of Hebron and Palestine Polytechnic University.

The Master Plan passed through three main management levels: the Steering Committee, the Executive Committee, and the Local Committee which was composed of local citizens in an effort to promote community participation in the development of the Master Plan.



Photos of Master Plan Committees' Meetings

Preparation of the Master Plan started in 2013 and ended in the first quarter of 2015. The final plan will be issued in the form of a book in English and Arabic with three indexes.

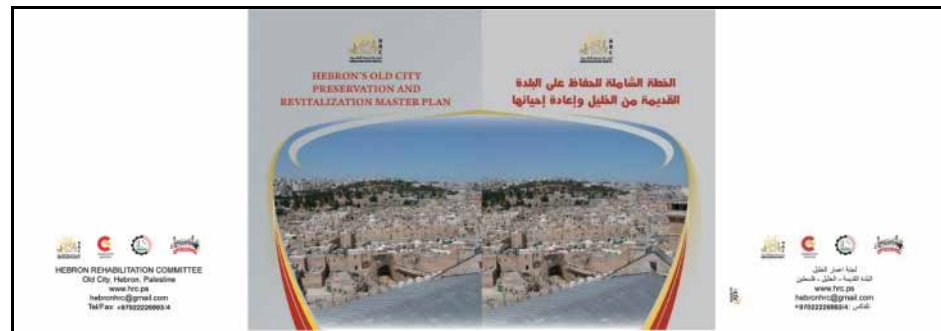
The book will consist of several chapters highlighting HRC's work. The first chapter of the book will detail why the Master Plan was drafted and its primary and secondary objectives. It will also highlight the importance of historic neighborhoods in international treaties and conventions, as well as the importance of joint planning and community participation in developing the Master Plan.

The second chapter will focus on the methodology used in developing the plan, preparation stages, implementation mechanisms and descriptions of the plan's data base.

The third chapter will focus on the methodology used in developing the plan, preparation stages, implementation mechanisms, and descriptions of the plan's database. The chapter will also focus on the guiding principles of the plan, the expected outcomes, and the Logical Frame Analysis of the Old City development in terms of the problems, objectives and developmental indicators.

The fourth chapter will present an analysis of architectural heritage of the Old City and the current political situation. It will shed light on the formation of HRC in addition to the unique obstacles faced in preserving Hebron's heritage. Finally, it will identify the scope of the plan and explain the planning standards adhered to in developing the Master Plan.

The fifth chapter of the book will present clear diagnosis of the current situations of different sectors in the Old City through strategic analysis, policies, and development strategies. Finally, the seventh chapter will present urban heritage regulations.



The book will have three indexes. The first will discuss the architectural heritage of the Old City of Hebron in terms of its elements and components, including the buildings of the Old City, its inception and urban morphology. The second index will focus on the data base of the Master Plan, the methods used in documenting the buildings, as well as the findings of different surveys. The third index will be a guideline of architectural heritage terms presenting all terms used in the area of architectural heritage and urban planning



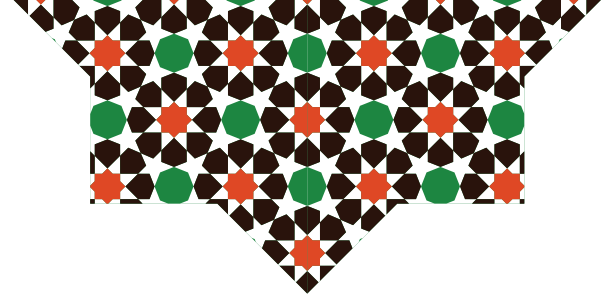
A photo from the ceremony held for conclusion of the Master Plan.



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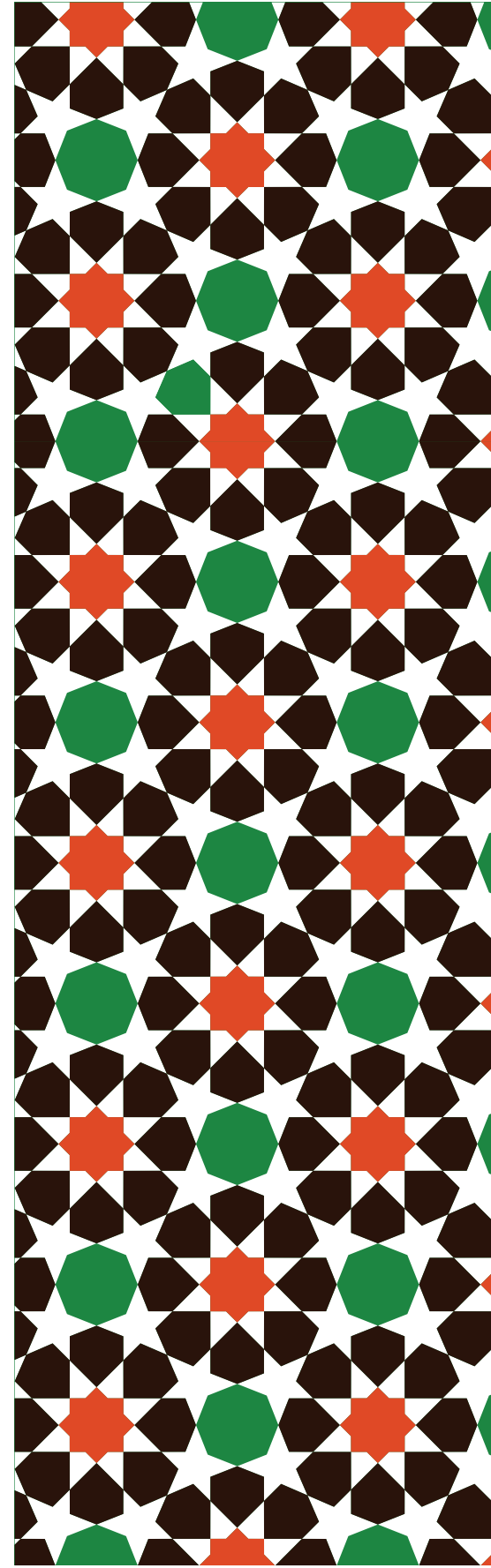
Rehabilitating Holy Ibrahimi Mosque

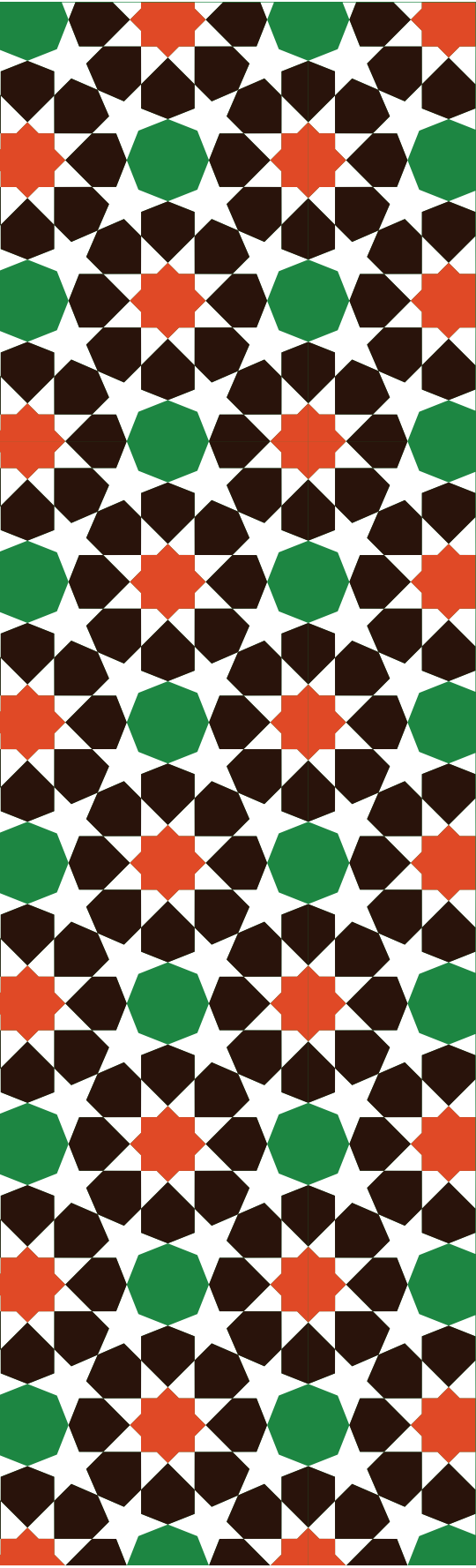


Rehabilitation of Holy Ibrahimi Mosque

Since its creation in 1996, HRC has focused on restoring and preserving the Holy Ibrahimi Mosque due to its exceptional religious, historic and symbolic significance, its connection with Prophet Ibrahim _ Peace be upon him_ and its architectural and aesthetic value.

A group of distinguished specialized artists are working on restoring the Holy Ibrahimi Mosque without altering or adding to the Mosque's original elements.





Holy Ibrahimi Mosque



Renovation Activities inside
the Holy Ibrahimi Mosque



The process of rehabilitating and renovating the Ibrahimi Mosque continued throughout 2015.

Significant achievements were made to the preservation of this lofty edifice. These achievements include:

- Renovating and plastering the outward Western entrance and the upstairs room (1600 square meters).
- Renovating the inward Western Entrance.
- Renovating and plastering the last part of the Southern Ottoman Wall (220 sm) and replacing destroyed stones.
- Renovating the decorations and marble internal verses inside the Ibrahimi Mosque.
- Full restoration of the outward Eastern Entrance including ceilings, walls and floors.
- Installing and repairing the steel of different parts of the Ibrahimi Mosque.
- Painting several parts of the Ibrahimi Mosque.
- Maintenance of the tomb of Prophet Ibrahim –peace be upon him-.
- Installing glass barriers around the raised platform of Salah ad-Din.
- Cleaning stone walls of Anbar and Yousefia for renovation and plastering.
- Covering the upper pathway which leads to the upper room with lead boards.
- Renovating and plastering the walls opposite to ablution spaces.
- Full renovation activities targeting the tower near the Western Entrance.
- Replacing decorated clay window in place of the one broken by Israeli settlers in the sanctuary of Ibrahim.
- Restoring the water well close to the Eastern Entrance.

Renovating the Ibrahimi Mosque is the biggest challenge faced by HRC due to the following obstacles:

- The Israeli occupation's control of the area frequently negatively impacts restoration efforts. Building materials must first complete and pass a security check before being allowed in the area, which can delay progress by days or weeks.
- Architects are frequently detained during work. This causes damage to their unfinished work, requiring them to restart it again when the Israeli forces release them from detention.
- Deliberate destruction by Israeli forces and settlers creates delays in completing the reconstruction. In the past, deliberate interference with restoration efforts have included: drilling holes in roofs, resulting in water damage and ceiling decorations being destroyed, as well as deliberate destruction of windows in the sanctuary.



Post-Renovation



Pre-Renovation



Post-Renovation



Pre-Renovation

Western Entrance

Eastern Entrance



Renovating Eastern Entrance



Renovating Sultan Hassan School



Walls close to the Western Entrance



Making gypsum window for the room of Prophet Ibrahim
in place of the window broken by Israeli settlers

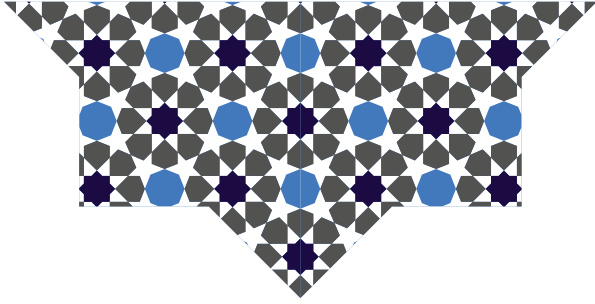


Renovating the Upper Room
over the Western Entrance



Tower Renovation Activities





Infrastructure Rehabilitation



Infrastructure Rehabilitation

To preserve the foundational integrity of the Old City, HRC seeks to rehabilitate the infrastructure of all the streets and alleyways in residential areas. The infrastructure rehabilitation projects instituted the first step in both preserving the Old City and its historic buildings. The infrastructure of the buildings is a basic component that affects both the functionality and aesthetic of the building.

Infrastructure rehabilitation activities include providing the buildings with basic public services that promote full use and functionality of the building. These services include drinkable water, sewage disposal, electricity, telephone service, and fire and road networks. Infrastructure rehabilitation also includes utilization of courtyards and nearby spaces. Through rehabilitation, neglected yards are turned into spaces that can be used as gardens, parks and playgrounds. In addition, it includes pavement of quays, installation of benches, garbage bins, signs and green areas. Public places provide the population with entertainment, increasing their quality of life.

Infrastructure renovation activities include improving and maintaining the facades, walls, doors, windows and plantation of trees. In addition, it includes removing blighted portions of buildings, and tiling internal yards with stones matching its originality.

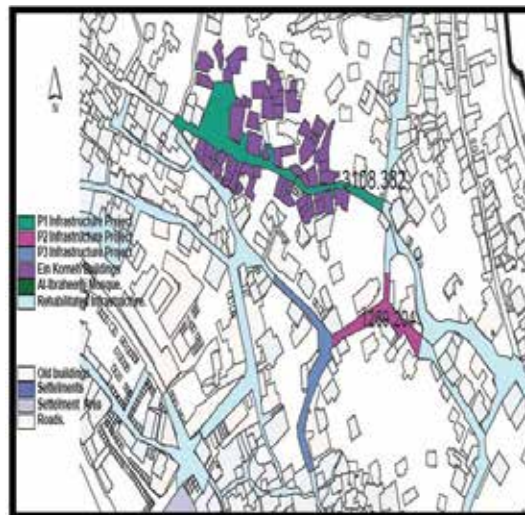
In 2015, the area of Ein Al-Qarnah was rehabilitated as an extension of the rehabilitation project of the Old City.

Presentation of the Project:

Project's name: Rehabilitation of the Infrastructure of the Roads of Ein Al Qarna \ 3rd stage.

Funded by SIDA Overview of the Project:

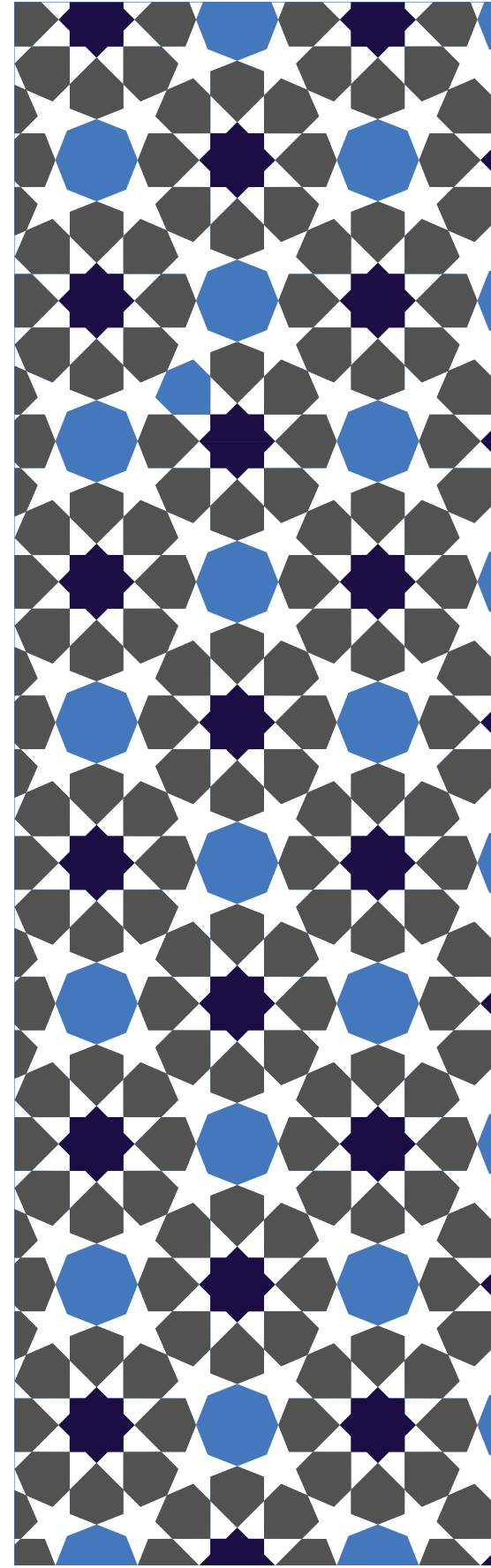
The targeted road lies in the area between Ein Al-Qarnah \ 3rd stage, the Spanish Academy, and al-Zahid Crossroad (map attached). It is 350 meters long with a total area of 2500 square meters. The project included installation of water, sewage disposal and electricity networks in addition to rainwater drainage manholes, lighting units, pavement of streets (2500 SMs), concrete pavement, and plantation of trees and creation of clean environment. A sanitary unit was built for the bus stop opposite to al-Natsha Diwan.



A map of Ein al-Qarnah site\ three stages

Project's Objectives:

- Preserve the cultural heritage of the Old City.
- Prepare and beautify the entrances of the Old City and linking it to the infrastructure of the modern city.
- Rehabilitate the infrastructure of Ein al-Qarnah and installing drinkable water, electricity and sewage disposal networks in addition to installing lighting units and paving streets.
- Create direct and indirect temporary job opportunities.
- Rehabilitate a tourist pathway in the Old City. Tourism activities grew after the rehabilitation of Ein al-Qarnah entrance.
- Build a sanitary unit for the visitors of the Old City at the tourist bus stop.
- Revitalize social life, develop the Old City, and rehabilitate the infrastructure.



Obstacles:

1. Israeli occupation control of the area. Israeli occupation forces hindered entry of construction materials and restricted workers' movement.
2. Underground obstacles, including electric transmission lines that need to be deeper. The faulty placement disrupted the work and required new excavations to match definite specifications.
3. Existence of electric poles in inappropriate locations. They were moved to more appropriate locations with new design.
4. Weather conditions such as rain and snowfall disrupt the course of work in winter.



A photo of street during trenching works





A photo of street before and after infrastructure rehabilitation



A photo of the area after infrastructure rehabilitation

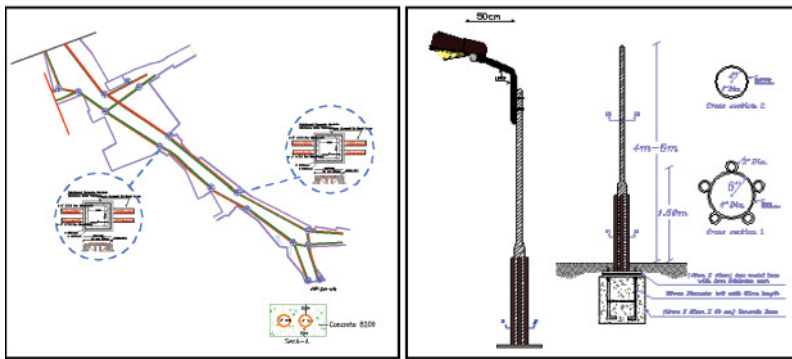


A photo of street during rehabilitation activities

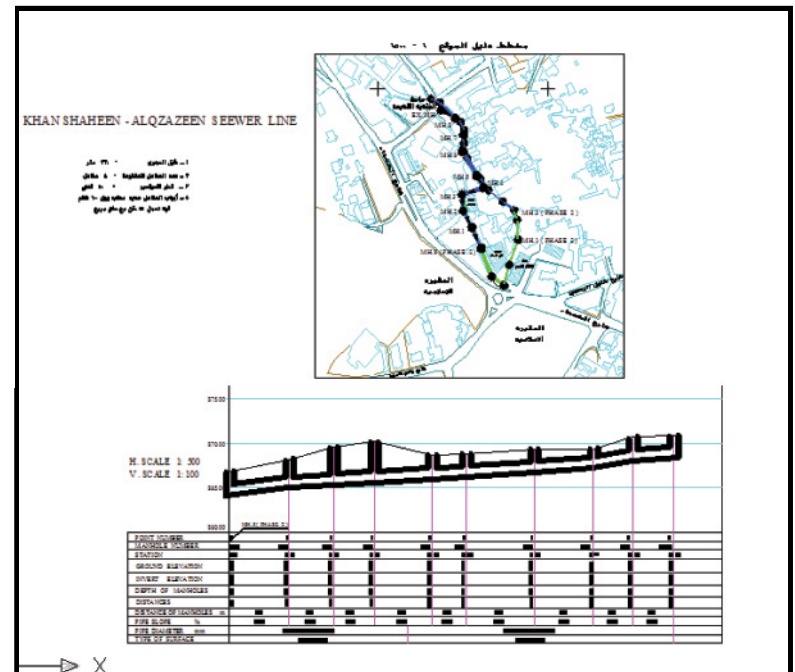


Al-Qasabah and Al-Qzazeen Street Infrastructure Design:

The infrastructure of the streets of the Old City, including the area stretching from al-Qasabah neighborhood to Khuzq al-Far, the yard of the Old Municipality, and the Roman Pathway are worn out and do not meet the needs of the Old City. The forced Israeli closure of Khuzq al-Far arcade increased the suffering of the population, shop-keepers, and visitors of the Old City. In light of this situation, HRC prepared new infrastructure design plans in order to remedy the problem. HRC put the project out to tender but the process was delayed due to winter season. It is now projected to start in March 2016.



Street Design





photos from the rehabilitation of infrastructure in Al-Rajabi 3 project







Home Renovation and Maintenance



Home Renovation and Maintenance

The Old City Cultural Heritage Management was established to renovate and maintain housing in the Old City in order to promote human inhabitation in these buildings. HRC intended to preserve the characteristics of the Old City and worked for 19 years to preserve its originality by renovating and reusing the traditional materials for buildings and roads while also being mindful of the requirements of contemporary life.

Given the oldness of the historic buildings and deleterious natural factors such as humidity, water damage and human misuse, it was necessary to implement renovation and maintenance projects to preserve the original buildings. In order to respond to the social, political and geographical needs of the area, HRC launched a comprehensive maintenance project.

Project Profile:

Project's name: Renovation and Rehabilitation of Buildings near Ibrahimi Mosque and al-Sahlah Street.

Funder: Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, managed by the Islamic Development Bank.

Project Objectives:

- **Make existing houses inhabitable by renovation and maintenance in addition to improving the living conditions of citizens of the area.**
- **Protecting the residents and passerby's against collapse of blighted houses.**
- **Rehabilitate deserted houses, repopulate them, and protecting them from Israeli settlement expansion policies.**
- **Return native citizens to their deserted homes.**
- **Create job opportunities for the citizens of the Old City.**
- **Complete the renovation activities in the area surrounded by Israeli settlement outposts.**

The current project involves renovation, rehabilitation, and maintenance of the buildings situated in the area of the Ibrahimi Mosque and Al-Sahlah Street. The activities under this project include: plastering, paving, building sanitary units, reinforcing roofs and supporting walls in addition to rehabilitating electricity and sewage networks

Project Implementation Stages:

The project is a seven-stage process targeting Al-Sahlah, Wadi Al-Hsien, Shuhada' and Tel Rumieda areas. 51 housing units were maintained in the first stage and 37 during the second stage, 62 residential units were maintained in the third stage, while 44 residential units were maintained in the fourth stage. of the project. It should be mentioned that the first and the second stages were implemented in 2015, while the other stages will be implemented in 2016.

Risks and Obstacles:

Risks\Obstacles to project's implementation	
Risks \Obstacles	Eliminating risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disruption of work by Israeli authorities.• Security clearance for building materials.• Closing the main entrances of the housing units in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Phased renovation of houses. Legal Unit following up the phases of renovation and ensuring official documents to guarantee continuity of renovation activities.• Finding alternative roads to get building materials to the area.• Installing branch entrances for the houses to be renovated.

In addition to the main project, two other maintenance projects were implemented in 2015:

- Maintenance project for 39 residential units funded by KFW.
- Maintenance project for 58 residential units funded by the Arab Bank for Economic and Social Development.

Community Engagement in Maintenance Projects

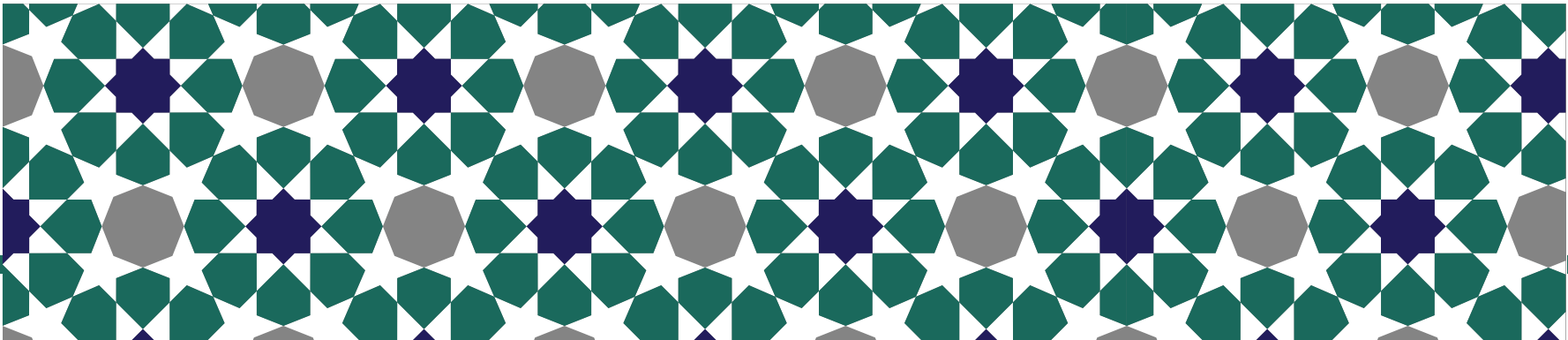
Maintenance projects created new opportunities for civilian engagement in preserving and renovating old houses. HRC has exerted maximum effort over the past years to promote this process. HRC started with employment programs within the renovation and rehabilitation projects. This effort succeeded in ensuring job opportunities for the population by engaging them in the renovation projects. The population of the Old City was consulted about the projects in workshops and sessions implemented to update the beneficiaries of the local community. Their feedback and suggestions were taken into consideration in further developments of the Master Plan.

One flaw of this system was that the methods used did not engage the population during the implementation stages. Therefore, HRC created a new method that is based on distributing the burdens of the project between the institution and the beneficiaries. HRC assumes responsibility for providing necessary materials, but allows citizens to implement the activities in accordance with the accredited standards.

This pattern of participation ensures renovation projects' sustainability by directly involving the community the projects seek to aid. This interaction creates accountability and a deeper level of investment in the final renovation of buildings . It also improves citizens' capacity by allowing them to improve and learn new skills that will help increase sustainability. Citizens will be able to conduct their own maintenance on buildings and perform daily upkeep. In addition, it promotes cooperation between the population and HRC, helping to support and encourage future renovation and heritage preservation activities in general



Photos of maintenance projects before and after implementation



Renovation and Maintenance of Sharia' Court:

The goals of renovating the Sharia Court were not focused on preserving the architectural heritage of the building since it is a modern building with little historic value. The focus of this project was to preserve citizen life in the beleaguered area that is targeted by Israeli occupation forces and settlers. It also sought to quell settlers' attempts to overtake the area including and surrounding Sharia' Court.

Sharia' Court was renovated to preserve its significant role in the community. It lacked sanitary facilities and sufficient spaces for the beneficiaries. Renovations were executed to improve the general living conditions and ensure comfortable public services for the beneficiaries and workers. The project covered maintenance works, redistribution of spaces, and furnishings.



The Courthouse **before and** after renovation





Housing Section



Housing Section:

One of HRC's main objectives is repopulating the buildings of the Old City. Repopulation efforts revitalize the Old City and also helps protect housing units against Israeli settlement expansion policies.

In addition, housing units constitute the basic elements of the structure of the Old City. Preserving these buildings cannot be effective without reusing and repopulating them in accordance with international conventions. For these reasons, HRC encourages the citizens to live in the Old City and its historical buildings, using all means of renovation to preserve the history of the buildings and meet the standards for contemporary life. HRC works to accomplish this goal by guaranteeing citizens' free housing services, in addition to public services such as free health insurance, water and electricity. HRC also provides documents proving citizens' residence in the Old City to facilitate their transactions with official authorities such as the Ministry of Education, universities, governor's office, municipal council, MoSA, MoH and taxation departments.

Blue: new population

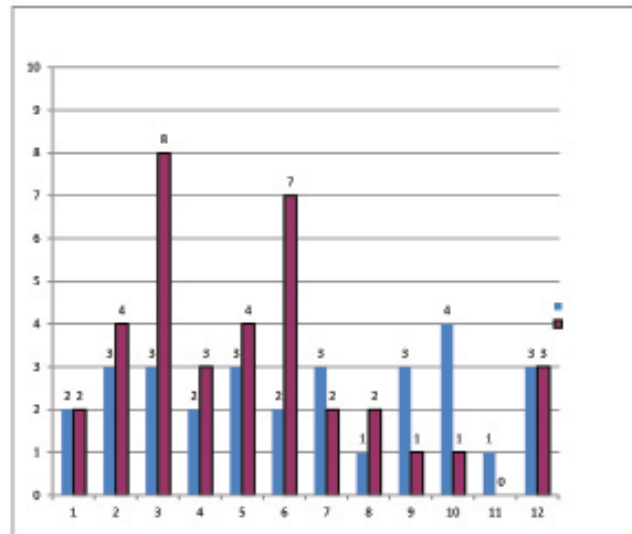
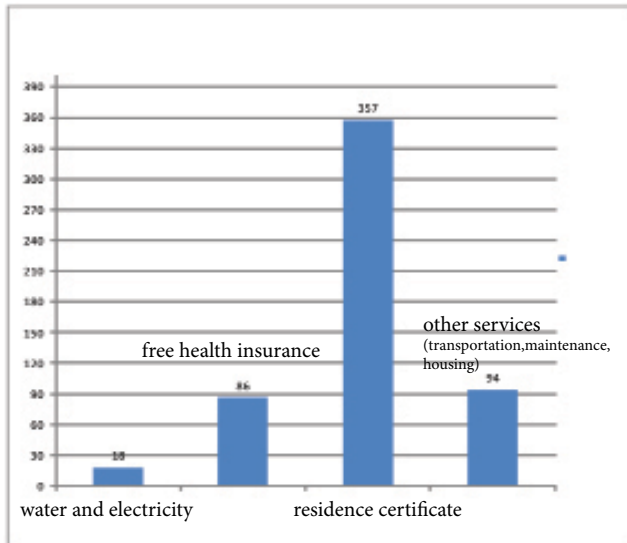
Pink: housing applications

Other services (transportation, maintenance, housing) Residence certificate for free health insurance

Water and electricity subscriptions.



Citizens' Application Processing



■ new population
■ housing application



Homes visits to care for citizens



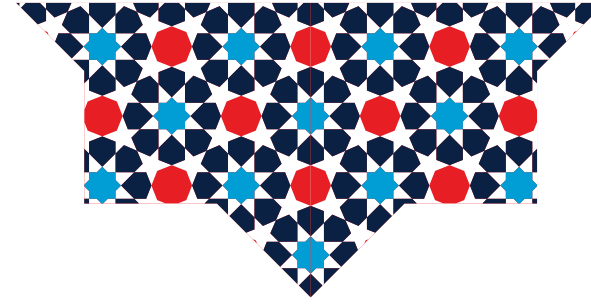
Social activities











Education and Social Sector Development



Education and Social Sector Development

Achieving effective management of cultural heritage requires that all elements of the city and civilian life be taken into consideration. This requires understanding and synthesizing all aspects of life. As such, HRC's interest goes beyond just renovating and rehabilitating residential buildings. HRC works to encompass all aspects of life in the Old City to ensure decent and secure life for its citizens. HRC included the renovation and maintenance of schools on the agenda of its priorities, given the importance of ensuring quality school buildings, adequate and comfortable classrooms, playgrounds, sanitary units, and other services such as libraries and laboratories in order to help promote learning and continued education.

A master plan was set forth for renovating the schools both within the boundaries of the Old City and its outskirts. Schools were either partially or fully renovated depending on the individual needs and requests of each school. These differential needs were listed on the bidding document in the consultation with the Ministry of Education through the Education Directorate of Hebron in order to address specific educational needs.



Main Facade of Yacobia School before and during renovation activity.



Part of schools renovation projects.



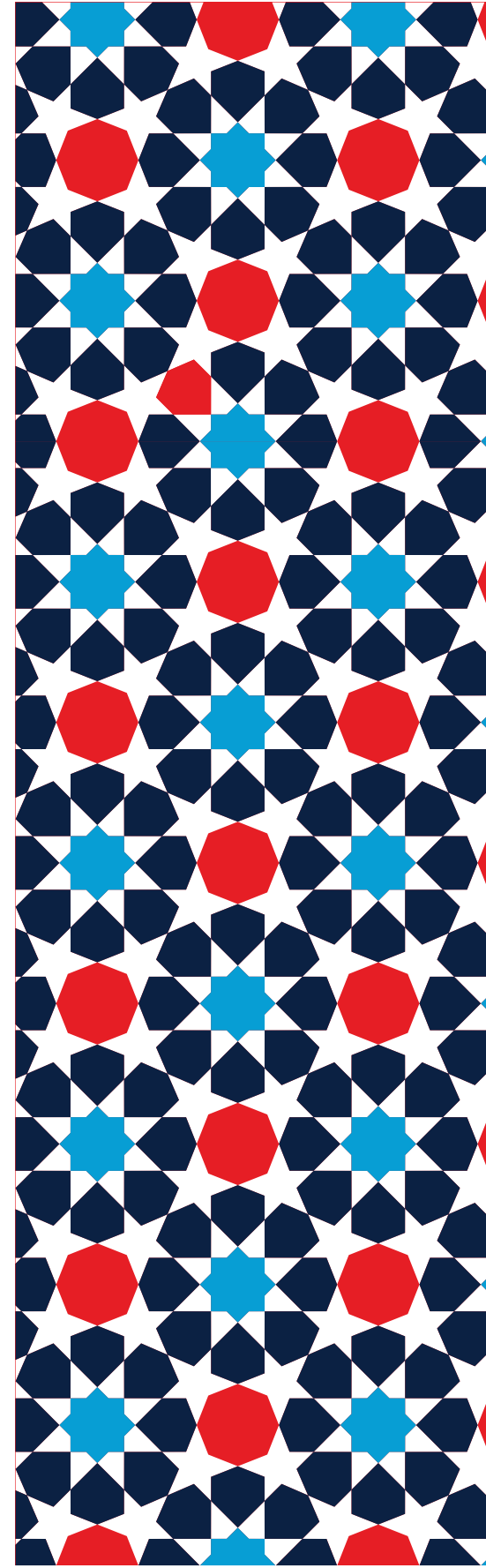
Photos of some renovated schools

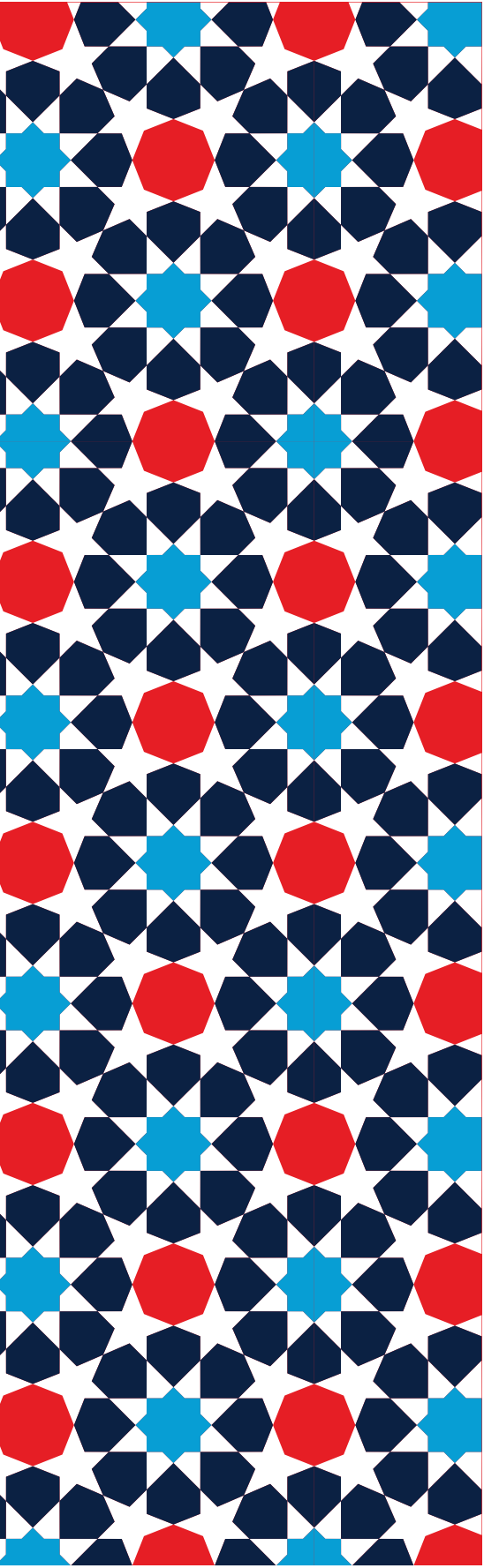
Project's Objectives:

- Preserving the cultural heritage of the Old City.
- Preserving the spatial and functional originality of the historical buildings.
- Solving school buildings problems, protecting them from humidity, and ensuring their needs were in accordance with modern education settings (sanitary units, boards, electricity network and other supplies.
- Establishing labs and libraries.
- Ensuring and preserving local community service providing facilities.

Renovated schools:

1. Algeria School.
2. Al Yaqada School.
3. Be'r as-Sabe' School.
4. Ayoobia School.
5. Al-Faiha' School.
6. Ibraheemia School.
7. Yacobia School.
8. Qortoba School.
9. Shagarat al-Dur School.





The schools were divided into three groups and presented as bids to local contractors. The bidding process allowed the contractors to work in their free time and enabled the engineers to have full control over the course of work in order to ensure high quality. Work division was as follows:

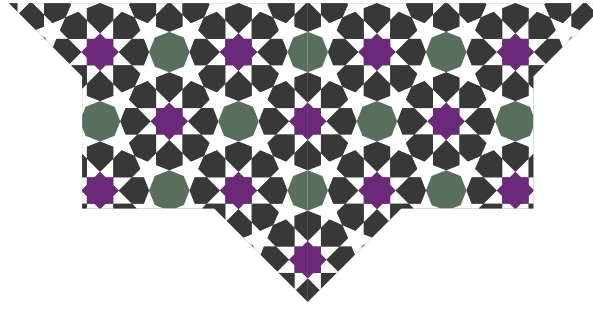
1. Renovating the first group of schools (Be'r as-Sabe' School, Ayoobia School, Qortoba School, Shagarat al-Dur School).
2. Renovating the second group of schools (Ayoobia School, Al-Faiha' School, Ibraheemia School).
3. Renovating the third group of schools (Alegeria and al-Yaqada Schools).

Obstacles:

- These schools are based in areas which are still under full Israeli occupation control, resulting in the workers' movement being restricted. Building materials were also restricted.
- which could sometimes take days.
- Working around regular school hours so as not to disturb the school children.







Reviving Economic Growth



Reviving Economic Growth

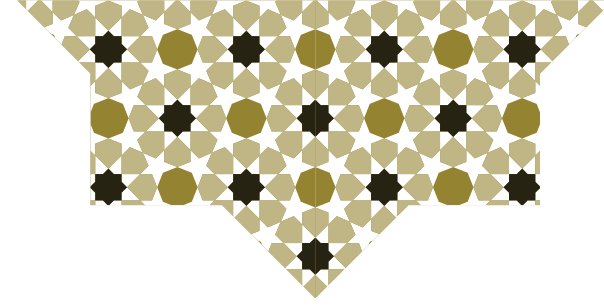
The Old City's markets perform a significant role in the economic and social vitality of the Old City. The markets were a basic part of the Old City's composure and planning. Because of this, HRC deemed it necessary to revive and preserve the historic marketplace of the Old City. Secondary results of improving and restoring the markets were increased economic activity and improved living conditions.

The activities implemented under this project were divided into several stages, during which 160 stores were restored by 2014. Two other stores were restored in 2015.

These stores were maintained and restored in accordance with basic HRC principles of reusing existing foundational structures. HRC worked to ensure basic services such as electricity, water and sewage disposal in all of the buildings. Sanitary units and kitchens were added to some of the renovated stores. The external facades of the stores remained untouched in order to preserve the cultural and historical integrity of the Old City.







Developing Tourism



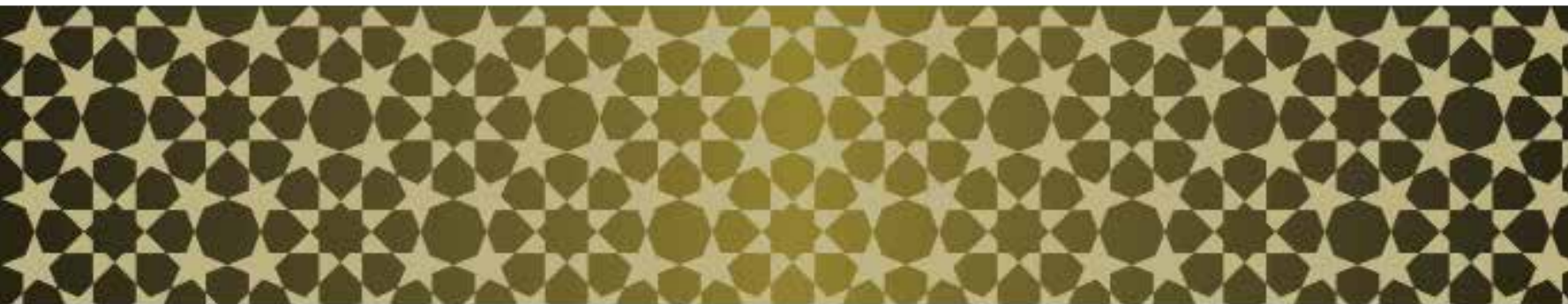
Developing Tourism

The Old City of Hebron has several tourism elements which would allow it to become a popular tourist's attraction both nationally and internationally. It has distinctive historic buildings, including Ibrahimi Mosque, Takias, tombs, monuments and historic mosques. It also has olive presses, popular markets, and architectural fabric that create a natural tourist path replete with historical and architectural value. The heritage and culture of the Old City is reflected in all aspects of the Old City, providing a look into the past of Hebron while also documenting the modern social and economic life of its population.

HRC believes that the renovation and restoration of tourist attractions will revive tourism in the Old City. Increasing tourism would provide more resources to the Old City, allowing the city to promote and educate others on its cultural heritage, as well as improve and sustain economic growth.

In 2015, significant attention was attached to the tourism sector and restoration of archaeological sites and significant heritage for tourists' attraction. The projects implemented to develop tourism sector included the following:

1. Renovating and rehabilitating Al al-Sharif Building to be reused as tourist hotel.



Project Overview:

The Old City of Hebron is considered to be an attraction for tourists and delegates. Tourists typically visit Hebron to see the Holy Ibrahim Compound in addition to its surrounding area which includes historic streets, alleyways, and commercial stores.

Due to the historic, aesthetic and architectural value of the Old City, spending one day there isn't enough. A visitor needs several days to see all of the architectural elements of the Old City. Some visitors and delegates rent accommodations outside of Hebron, often staying in Bethlehem and returning to the Old City at daylight to continue their explorations. The Old City currently does not have accommodations for tourists, including hostels, hotels or extended stay options. Thus, HRC decided to pursue developing accommodation services to help spur economic growth by creating tourists paths and repurposing abandoned shops. The findings of the survey study found that the al-Shareef building fits these needed functions.



Project Profile:

Al-Shareef building lies to the north west of the Ibrahimi Mosque near an-Nur Garden in Ein al-Qarnah in the Old City. It is a two story-building with a main entrance. The first floor has a master salon surrounded by seven spaces, four of which can be accessed through the master salon while the rest are accessed through internal stone staircase. It also has an uncovered atrium that leads to part of the rooms and the roof of the building. In addition, it has a backyard of 250 meters. After renovations, it can be used by tourists visiting Hebron.

Achievements

In the beginning of the project, both the original layout of the building and the architectural plans were documented. Once the documentation of the existing structure was complete, the building was redesigned to be used as a hotel furnished with all necessary facilities.



Plan of Hotel Layout

2. Renovating Historic Olive and Sesame Presses:

The Old City has several olive and sesame presses that are housed in historic buildings. They reflect the social and economic life of the population of the Old City. Therefore, preserving these presses will contribute to preserving the social fabric of the Old City. Restoration of these buildings will highlight the socio-economic life of Hebron's ancestors while simultaneously representing modern life and historic values of the Old City. HRC recognized the architectural and aesthetic value of the press buildings and undertook efforts to ensure their revitalization. HRC made a historic architectural study on the buildings and implemented an integral renovation plan for them to be used as tourist attractions. The goal of the revitalization was to increase tourist activity in the area and simulate certain aspects of social life in the Old City.

Tourism facilities of the Old City:
Al-Shareef Hotel, Hospice Door,
Shiekh Rasheed Monument, al-Zahid
Mosque and Monument, Dor Tree Press,
Red Crescent Museum, al-Natsha Press,
Bus Station, Sa'eed Hospice, Ibrahimi
Mosque, Istai Monument, al-Shibli
Monument, Nasir al-Din Press, Shuha-
da' Street, Visitors Center, Abu Rajab
Building.



Objectives:

- Preserve and protect historic buildings
- Support tourism industry in the Old City
- Promote cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism and other relevant institutions
- Promote knowledge about the history of the buildings, their original uses, and their link with national identity
- Connect the old City with the rest of Palestine by facilitating a national tourism path which includes Hebron as an integral component



Photos taken during
renovations



Preservation and Rehabilitation Methodology

This particular renovation method is based on the distinct elements and components of the buildings and their features, including their authenticity, functionality, and rich cultural history.

Renovation Methods:

- Conduct a historic study to highlight the history of the building and promote proper renovation and preservation
- Use of traditional materials in accordance with international renovation standards in order to guarantee protection of the building with minimum alteration
- Preserve architectural elements and preserve the original historic features
- Redesign amenities to meet the needs of the buildings, including installing a sanitary unit, a kitchen, water and electricity
- Conduct a study on lighting in order to use the most historically appropriate technologies. Chandeliers and candles were used as well as side candles with copper bases and spotlights.
- Design and install signage to guide visitors inside the building

This project was funded by the Arab Economic and Social Development Fund and lasted from June 2014 until 2015.



Photos of the press before
and after renovation



a. Renovating Eqnibi and Marqah Press:

The Eqnibi and Marqah presses are composed of different parts than the olive presses. These presses were traditionally used for crushing sesame and are composed of stone mill, parching oven, backing machine, a well and cistern.



A photo of the press before renovation



A photo of the press after renovation

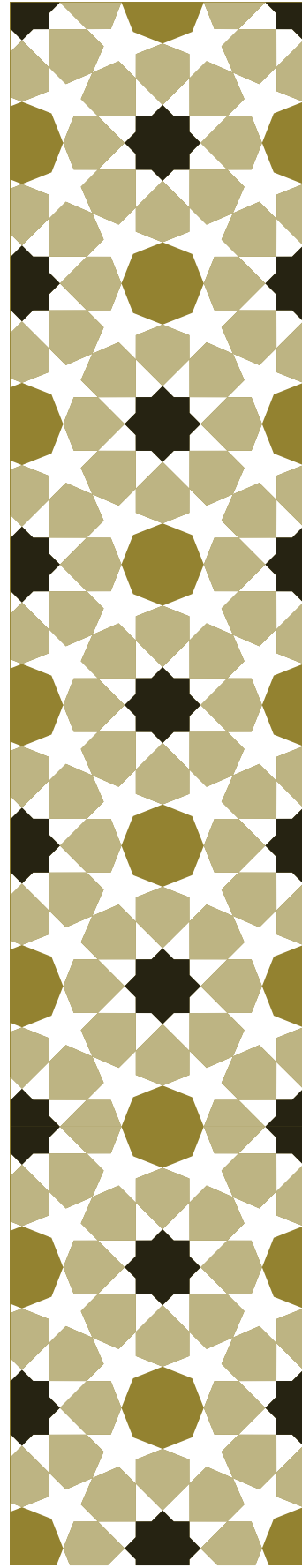


3. Crescent Building Dye Shop Renovation Project

Some stories concerning the original uses of the Crescent Building indicate that it was used as water collecting well, while others indicate that it was used as dyeing shop. It was renovated to preserve all its elements for tourism purposes.

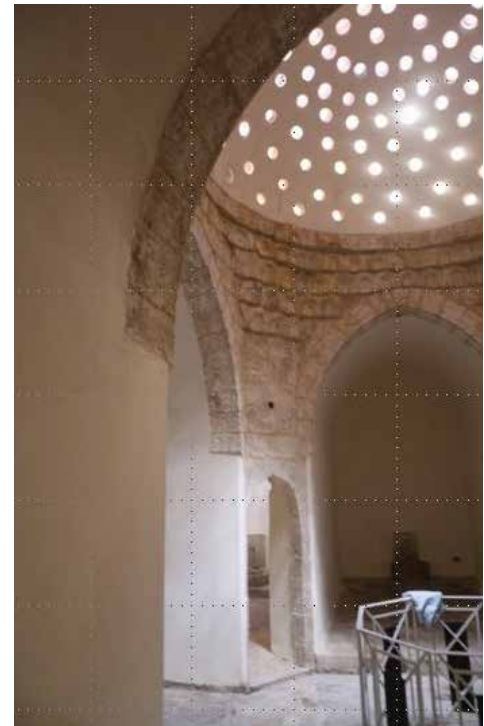


A photo of the Crescent Building before and after renovation



4. Turkish Bath Renovation Project:

HRC rehabilitated the Turkish bath in the Old City and reused it as Visitor's Center. This project, which started in mid-2014 and ended by the end of 2015, was funded by the Italian government.



A photo of the Turkish Bathroom during and after renovation



Objectives of Project:

The Turkish bath dates back to Mamluks' era and is distinguished by its architectural elements and designs. This project sought to preserve its unique functionality while also maintaining its distinct cultural and historical value as an ancient building. The goal of the project was to restore it to its original condition in order to help further tourism in the city, as well as provide an information center for tourists visiting Hebron.

On the local level, the project aimed to raise public awareness about cultural heritage by encouraging domestic tourism programs, especially encouraging visits by local schools. It also sought to train and build the capacities of the staff of HRC. This project was completed through the cooperation and partnership between HRC and the Italian Development Cooperation. This partnership included financial, architectural and cultural collaboration during the rehabilitation process. The partnership with the Italian Development Cooperation helped local contractors and craftsmen acquire Italian renovation skills. Workers and engineers were trained in Italian vocational schools, increasing the sustainability of HRC's renovation efforts. In addition, this project ensured job opportunities for workers, artists and local engineers which helped improve their local and personal economic standing.

Renovation Methods:

An analytical historical study was conducted to shed light on the elements of the building before implementation of the project. The documentation was crucial to ensure that all vital aspects of the building were preserved, and guaranteed accurate implementation of the project.

The implementation process was based on the minimum level of intervention. Traditional materials were used to preserve its architectural integrity.

5. Rehabilitating Bus Stop

In order to help increase tourist and local mobility, HRC began seeking ways to develop a bus stop in the Old City. Increasing inter- and intra-city mobility will allow increased economic growth by increasing the number of tourists, thereby revitalizing craft and gift shops that were previously abandoned in the area. The area chosen for the project was based on a study prior to renovation that helped determine that this location would meet modern needs.

Project's Profile:

The project targeted an external yard with an area of 650 square meters to be reused as a bus stop. Water-cycle of four rest-rooms (2 for males and 2 for females) was established.

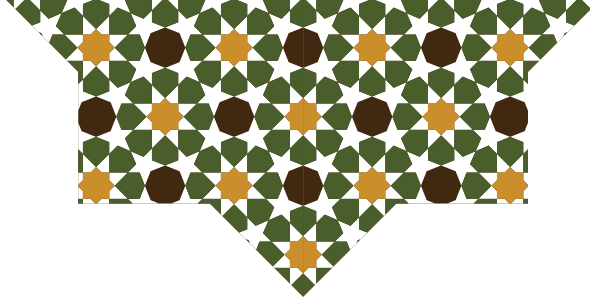


A photo of the yard before
and during renovation









Guidebook of Renovation Activities



Guidebook of Renovation Activities

Training and educating local contractors and craftsmen of traditional and technical restoration and renovation methods is critical in order to promote dyeing techniques and methods of maintaining historical buildings. Employing workers with these skills contributes to preserving the cultural heritage and arming architects and workers with new skills to improve job opportunities.

HRC made a blueprint plan to implement this project, which was funded by Spanish International Agency for Development Cooperation. The plan was used to set up a guideline of renovation activities for the renovation's staff, engineers and technical professionals in the Old City.

Objectives of Guidebook

- Document HRC experiences in preserving and maintaining the historic architectural fabric of the Old City and infrastructure rehabilitation in order to develop and refine methodologies and technical procedures.
- Preserve HRC's unique methods of renovation and restoration in order to share past experiences with new architects in the field, including those both affiliated and not affiliated with HRC. A Written Guidebook with pictures and graphics is necessary for clarifying the status and history of traditional buildings in the Old City. It is an introduction to implementing architectural solutions and interventions necessary for rehabilitating historic buildings and infrastructure. The guidebook will include case studies and realistic examples from previous experiences.



Targeted Group

The guidebook will be especially useful for new engineers who wish to work with HRC in rehabilitating and renovating historic buildings. The guidebook will function as an educational tool in teaching new architects the cultural heritage and required maintenance of the buildings in Hebron. Given the similar architectural attributes and heritage in other Palestinian cities, this guidebook will be very useful for all Palestinian architects. It can also be used as a reference for university students and researchers.

Guidebook Work Team

This guidebook was written by the staff of KR&S Firm for Engineering and Consultations under the auspices of Dr. Fahad Qawasmi and a specialized team of the engineers and workers of HRC. The team benefitted from an engineering lab, a professional cameraman, editor, graphic designer, and translator.

Work Methodology

A technical committee was established to supervise the preparation of the guidebook. This committee included members from HRC, Engineering Office Staff, and the Spanish International Agency for Development Cooperation. It identified the objective of the guidebook and its targeted group. It also prepared a suggestion for indexing the guidebook and the terms of reference of the Consultative Firm responsible for implementation and contracted with KR&S for Engineering and Consultations for finishing the project.



Rehabilitation Manual Preparation Period

KR&S Firm benefitted from the engineers and architects of HRC in preparing the guidebook. Some workshops were held with the staff of the Engineering Office of HRC, consultants, engineers, and technicians as well as international experts from the Spanish International Agency for Development Cooperation. These workshops focused on the themes and contents of the guidebook and recommendations presented to the work team to implement the project. The participants in these workshops reached a code of conduct to be followed in the renovation activities carried out in the Old City.

Guidebook's Content:

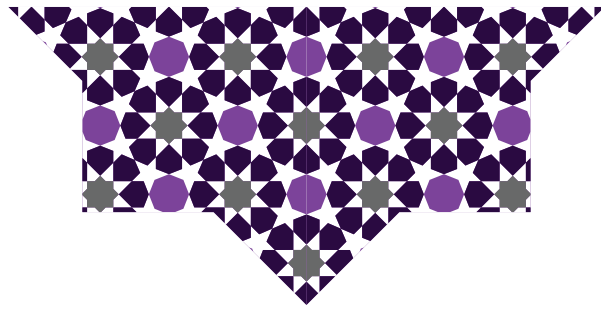
This guidebook includes five key chapters. The first chapter presents a historical geographical overview of the city of Hebron and the Old City. It also presents an overview of HRC, including its creation, objectives, sections and services. In addition, it explains why this guidebook was created and its general objectives. It also documents the basic concepts of heritage preservation, degrees of intervention, documentation methods, and renovation methods used in the Old City. Finally, it highlights the ethics and morals with which the workers should commit to.

The second chapter discusses the traditional architecture of Hebron. It classifies the historical buildings and architectural elements of the building of the Old City and the materials used.

The third chapter discusses the techniques and methods of renovation in addition to the problems and threats facing historical buildings. It analyzes these problems based on problem diagnosis, reasons of disrepair and disintegration, and suggests solutions.

The fourth chapter discusses rehabilitation activities and the nature of rehabilitation interventions which are based on the principle of restoration. Finally, the fifth chapter presents three case studies of buildings that were renovated and rehabilitated. Each case study represents a certain method of renovation and architectural preservation.





Training and Capacity Building



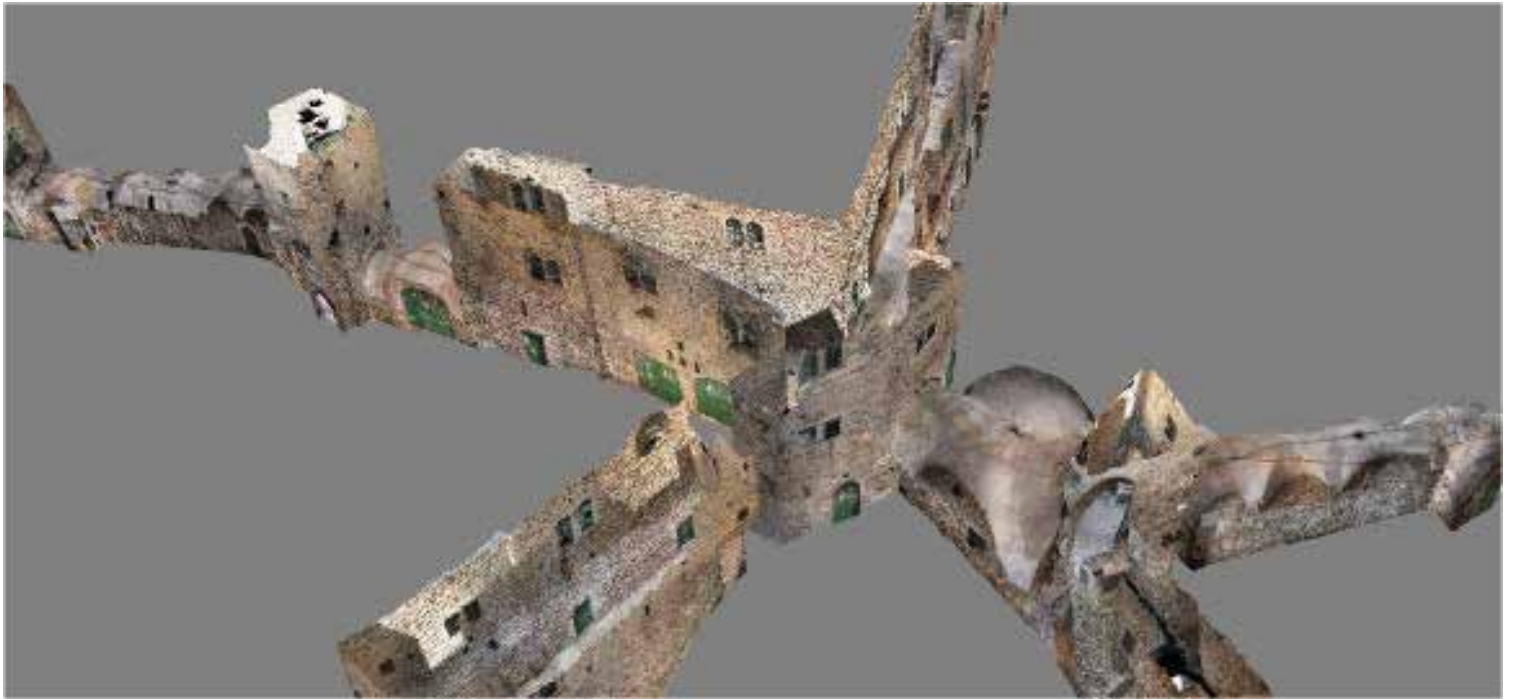
Training and Capacity Building

In order to support a sustainable program of renovation and preservation, new and experienced individuals must be continuously trained on innovative techniques. Training new generations of engineers is necessary for understanding the components of cultural heritage and historic buildings. They are going to continue the process of renovation and preservation of the Old City. HRC gave special attention to this and made sure to recruit new engineers through its projects in order to accomplish the following:

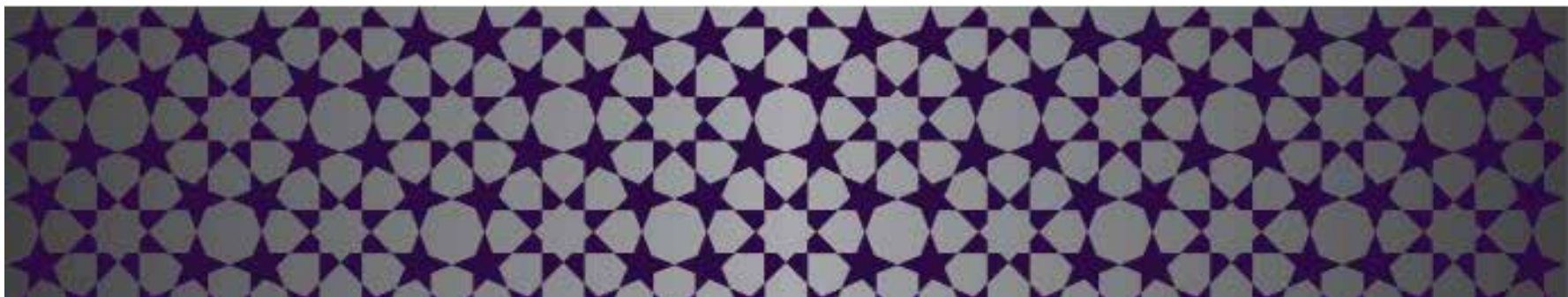
- Create job opportunities for recent engineer graduates
- Build engineers' capacities in architectural preservation
- Promote youths' connection to cultural heritage and encourage participation in preservation efforts
- Ensure the sustainability of preservation projects by preparing a new generation capable of completing the course of renovation and preservation

The most important of these projects is the joint New Engineers Employment Program for the Support of the Old City of Hebron, which started in late 2013 and ended in early 2015. It employed 27 architect engineers and surveyors. This program focused on the inclusive data base of the Master Plan for preserving and rehabilitating the Old City. It also ensured job opportunities in the Old City, which enable the new engineers to acquire working knowledge of preserving traditional buildings. This knowledge constitutes the foundation of engineers' knowledge before becoming practically engaged in renovation activities. They were trained on documenting the old buildings as well as using advanced devices and techniques.





Three-dimensional documentation of the Old City's buildings
within the Master Plan



Engineers' Experiences:

“The working period was replete with knowledge and documentation of the Old City which represented an authentic historical architectural legacy. As a female engineer, I gained first-hand experience in documenting historic and archaeological buildings and the historical description of these buildings. It enabled us to use modern programs for historic buildings documentation(ASRIX,Photoscan). These programs have accurate outcomes based on modern devices (Total Station, GPS).”

Engineer: Rawan Da'na.

"My work in the project of updating the Master Plan of the Old City was a great experience. The idea of the project is based on updating population data and connecting them to GIS in addition to making a comprehensive field survey of the Old City streets and alleyways with all the details of the infrastructure by using survey devices and data processors (CIVIL 3D) to extract the plan of the area. To get the best result of our work, we made three-dimension documentation of the historical buildings (3D DOCUMENTATION). Noteworthy is that this type of documentation is the first of its type in Palestine. We shared experiences in this regard with Spanish expert "Antonio Al Magro" in the context of the training workshops which opened for us the door to kick start our work. We also developed some techniques to fit the nature of the buildings of the Old City using PHOTOSCAN program in the documentation process."

Engineer. Hussam Edris

Experts Team Experience:



"It is clear that this work required preparing a well-organized team to make accurate documentation of all the Old City. Specialized training was carried out for the work team of professional youths who work professionally and enthusiastically".







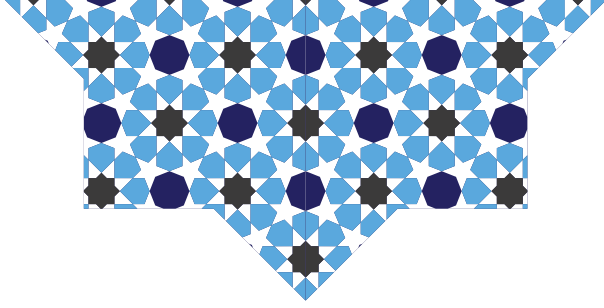
Trainees implementing 3D documentation

In conjunction with this project, a similar project was carried out with more emphasis on blueprint documentation for the purpose of rehabilitation and restoration. It was carried out in the Rajabi area. 12 buildings were documented using Stereo Plotting program.



Blueprint documentation within al-Rajabi Project





Participation in Training Courses and Tours – National and International



- Participation in Training Courses and Tours – National and International

Scientific Visit-Italy

A team of engineers and technicians from the Technical Office of HRC participated in a scientific visit to Italy from 3-9 October 2015, funded by the Italian government. The team participated in different trainings on renovation, tourism, and public safety. They also discussed themes related to promoting training programs and joint cooperation in furthering the project.

Scientific Visit –Jakarta

HRC participated in a workshop on tourism and archaeology in Jakarta, Indonesia between 5-11 April 2015. HRC staff was trained on Indonesia's experience and best practices in restoration and rehabilitation.



Scientific Visit-Italy



Scientific Visit –Jakarta

Training Workshop on Social Development

The staff of the housing section took part in a training workshop between 2014-2015. The program focused on developing services provided to people with disabilities in Palestine. It aimed to raise awareness about the needs of society, promoting coordination among relevant institutions, and improving their capacities and services.

Training Workshop on Capacity Building Regarding UNESCO World Heritage Convention

HRC participated in a training workshop prepared by UNESCO on the World Heritage Convention. It was a two-day workshop organized in November 2015 focused on empowering the participants from Palestinian government and NGOs to understand the objectives and implementation mechanism of the Convention, how to monitor cultural and natural heritage sites, and how to pursue applications for the World Heritage List.



Training courses



Training courses

Training Workshop on Tourism Development

This workshop was held in the Spanish Academy of HRC in Hebron, in cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism. A study about the development of tourism in Hebron prepared by a Japanese student was presented and discussed with the staff of HRC and Ministry of Tourism

Spoken English Course

In December 2015, HRC hosted an English-language course to develop HRC staff language skills. The course was an eight-month program and was implemented to increase the capacity and skills of the HRC staff.

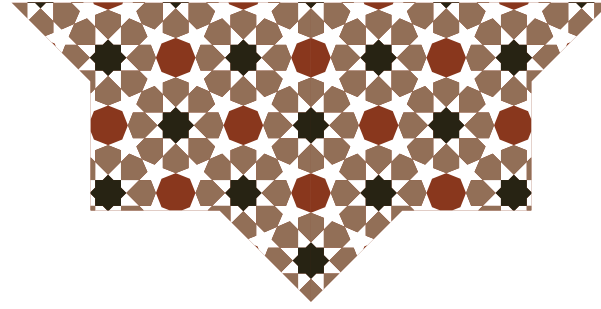


Hebron
Rehabilitation
Committee

لجنة
إحياء
القديم

International
Peer Exchange
to Hebron
Old City
Rehabilitation
Program





Experience Exchange



Experience Exchange

After HRC won the World Habitat Award, the British Housing Organization organized an official visit to the Old City of Hebron. The tour was developed in order to further understanding of sustainable housing development and innovation. The delegation was composed of representatives from other agencies competing for the award including planners, architects, project managers and journalists. The representatives came from Britain, Chile, Peru, Salvador, Spain and Turkey. HRC's Chairman, Dr. Ali AL-Qawasma and the members of the Board of Directors, including Dr. Khaled Al-Qawasmi, Kamal Hasouna, E.Ibrahim Amre, BasamTahbub, Marwan, Sultan, and D.G. Emad Hamdan received and welcomed the delegation.

Dr. Ali Al-Qawasmi welcomed the delegation and expressed his pleasure of HRC's accomplishments in winning the World Habitat Award: "Winning the award is an incentive for us to continue our effort to restore the Old City as a vital center with economic growth where its population can get their daily needs in light of the bad political and economic conditions imposed by the Israeli occupation forces."

Dr. Al-Qawasmi recounted the experience of HRC in renovating public housing in the Old City, rehabilitating the infrastructure of dilapidated houses, and how HRC sought to ensure suitable living conditions in residential areas. In addition, he informed the delegation on the economic and tourism development projects through presentations conducted by representatives of HRC's various departments, as well as field visits to the buildings being renovated. Special visits were made to Ibrahimi Mosque and Shuhada' Street.



Some reactions of the delegates are below:

“We were very pleased to grant HRC the World Habitat Award in recognition of its wonderful work in rebuilding old houses. This week while we are visiting the city of Hebron in company of a number of international experts in the area of historic cities to know about the experience of HRC, we feel pleased for the citizens of the Old City being satisfied about HRC’s mechanism of preserving the education, health and entertainment facilities and infrastructure”.

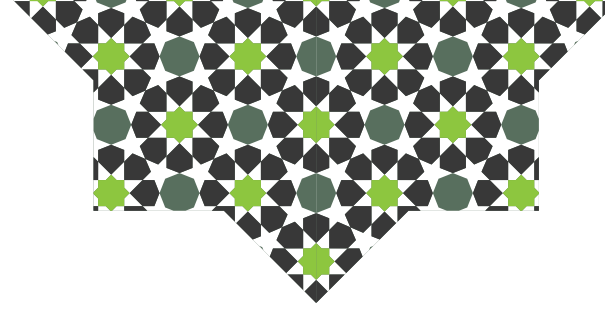
Representative of Building and Housing Organization: David

“I was surprised by seeing the Old City. My first impression was deep, full of feelings towards the families we met today and saw how steadfast they are in the face of the Israeli occupation and its discriminatory policy. I’m proud of the work done by HRC and wish to see more support and funding for the projects which preserve and protect the Old City”.

Mary from Chile.

It is worth noting that the World Habitat Award is annually granted for the projects that present practical and innovative solutions for present housing problems worldwide. 238 competitors applied for the award worldwide, with HRC's project for renovating and repopulating the houses of the Old City of Hebron of 2013 winning the award.





Legal Unit



Legal Unit:

The Legal Unit of HRC continued promoting and protecting human rights and confronting Israeli occupation army and settler violations against the Palestinian citizens and their property.

Objectives of Legal Unit

1. End Israeli settlement growth in the Old City of Hebron
2. Challenge Israeli military orders
3. Document Israeli army and settler violations against Palestinian citizens and their property
4. Increase legal awareness among citizens by taking necessary legal action
5. Expose Israeli occupation practices in the Old City by mass media and monthly reports
6. Document Israeli occupation violations in order to support civil claims pursued by Palestinian residents of the Old City of Hebron

First: Achievements

1. Ending Settler Assaults on Asa'd Abu Munshar Stores

After frequent raids by Israeli forces of the stores on Asa'd Abu Munshah and Shalalah Street, the Legal Unit of HRC began instituting legal actions. HRC filed complaints to the Israeli Legal Advisor and the Israeli High Court, which issued a decision seeking to end all assaults on the stores, and required the Israeli forces to allow the owners of the stores to return and renovate them. The court's decision was implemented in April 2015.



Photos of the roofs of Abu Munshar's stores
after restoration

2. Al-Sahla Street's Stores:

HRC submitted several petitions against the closure of the stores situated in the Old City of Hebron, increasing legal pressure on Israeli military Chief to open the stores. Some were finally reopened.



Re-opened stores in Al-Sahla Street

a. Return of Salah Abu Rajab Stores:

On 1 April 2015, the Israeli military chief ordered appropriation of Salah Abu Rajab stores and turned them into temporary military posts. The Legal Unit of HRC filed a petition with Israeli Legal Advisor, resulting in the subsequent Israeli abandonment of the stores. .



A photo of Israeli army near the stores of Salah Abu Rajab



Information Center established by Israeli settlers by Israeli settlers

3. Removing Settlement Outpost near Ibrahimi Mosque:

The Jewish Quarter Renewal Association in Hebron set up the Tourism Information Center which constituted the nucleus of a settlement outpost in the Ibrahimi Mosque area. It put up caravans in the site in preparation for taking over the area of the Ibrahimi Mosque and Old City.

After HRC filed a petition with the Israeli Legal Advisor, the Tourist Information Center was removed from the area.

4. Revealing Assaults on Closed Gold Market (Souq al-Zahab)

During its initial follow up with Israeli judicial authorities, the Legal Unit of HRC succeeded in getting a permit from the Israeli forces to screen the entirety of Souq al-Zahab, was previously closed by the Israeli military 15 years ago.

HRC visited the site on June 10, 2015 and exposed a colonial settlement process by Israeli settlers that targeted abandoned Palestinian buildings. As a result, HRC filed a claim and senior Israeli authorities proceeded to investigate the area. HRC is still following up these actions diligently to put an end to those assaults.



A photo of the staff of HRC during a field visit to closed Souq

5. Documenting Violations Against Ibrahimi Mosque

Through HRC's extensive efforts, numerous violations by Israeli settlers against the Ibrahimi Mosque and its facilities were documented. The Legal Advisor required Israeli forces to permit the staff of the Legal Unit and Islamic Waqf Directorate to visit the area. During the May 5, 2015 visit, the Legal Unit found the Mosque was damaged in many areas, including the Seven Steps and Ablution space.



A photo of wood path put up by Israeli settlers near the seven Tsteps close to the Ibrahimi Mosque

6. Thwarting a decision to build a colonial Israeli settlement road and a plan to build a settlement on the lands of the Palestinian citizens in Khalet AL-Dabi'

After Israeli settlers started to build the settlement outpost of Ramat Mimra by constructing a settlement road on the lands of Jabir Family in Khalet Al-Dabi', the Legal Unit of HCR instituted necessary legal actions. HRC obtained a decision from the High Court of Israel demanding removal of the settlement road. The colonial plan was aimed at linking the settlement outpost of Ramat Mimra with citizens' lands in preparation for Judaizing them and building settlement housing units. The High Court also ordered the Public Prosecutor to remove the dirty rubble mounds heaped by Israeli settlers within 45 days.



7. Refuting Israeli settlers' allegations regarding Abu Rajab Building (first stage)

Based on legal actions taken by the Legal Unit of HRC, the Initial Registration Committee issued a decision on 29 December 2015 nullifying the legal documents submitted by Israeli settlers to prove their possession of the Abu Rajab Building. This decision stopped the Israeli settlement plan to acquire Abu Rajab building.



8. Removal of a Military Camp at Tel-Rumeida Cemetery in the Old City of Hebron

On October 31, 2015, the Israeli army established a military camp in Tel-Rumeida cemetery in the Old City of Hebron. The Legal Unit subsequently submitted petitions to the Israeli Legal Advisor and obtained a judgment to remove the camp by the end of 2015.



After Removal of Camp



Before Removal of Camp

Second: Legal Relief for Administrative Detainees

The Legal Unit of HRC provided legal and logistical aid for Old City citizens by supplementing and supporting cases of 33 detainees left to languish in Israeli jails. Through competent authorities, HRC was able to secure their release from jail.

Third: Documentation and Complaints

The Legal Unit of the HRC challenges and documents crimes committed by Israeli occupation forces, particularly focusing on those committed after 23 September 2015 . The legal unit provides two functions:

- Field Tours and Documentation:

HRC organized tours in high-tension areas in order to reveal violations committed by Israeli forces. The Legal Unit also sought to provide legal support for the citizens of the Old City, especially in areas rife with conflict. Visiting those areas was necessary for documenting the violations and crimes continuously committed by Israeli forces.. Collected evidence supports reports that are sent to international and local human rights organizations.

- International Law Side

HRC regularly addresses the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights in Occupied Palestinian Territory. HRC calls upon the Office to immediately intervene and apply pressure on the occupying power to stop its crimes.

The Legal Unit of HRC submitted the following three complaints to Special Rapporteurs of the United Nations on 4 December 2015:

- A complaint of the summary and extrajudicial executions carried out by the Israeli army against Palestinians of the Old City of Hebron.
- A complaint of the Israeli army's treatment of Palestinian victims submitted to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture. The complaint focused on arbitrary attacks and subsequent denial of life-saving medical care to Palestinians.
- A complaint on the continuing harassment by the Israeli army and settlers towards school children. The report was submitted to the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education.

Annual Report of Israeli Violations in the Old City

The 2015 comprehensive report presents statistical data of the violations committed by the Israeli army and settlers against Palestinian citizens and their property during the year 2015. It identifies the affected people and properties in addition to the patterns of violations. It also presents the violations committed by Israeli army, including prohibiting Palestinians from restoring their stores, closure of roads, and deliberate killing of Palestinians.

Documentation and Field Activities:

Human Rights Violations during the Year 2015:

During 2015, the Israeli army and settlers committed 540 violations against the Palestinian population and their public and private properties. The 540 attacks produced 748 incidents of damaged property or bodily harm.. Attacks were mostly committed in areas close to the settlement outposts. The charts below show the number of violations documented by the Legal Unit.

The reports issued by the Legal Unit indicate that most of human rights violations in 2015 were committed by the Israeli army. Some violations were jointly committed by the Israeli army and settlers.

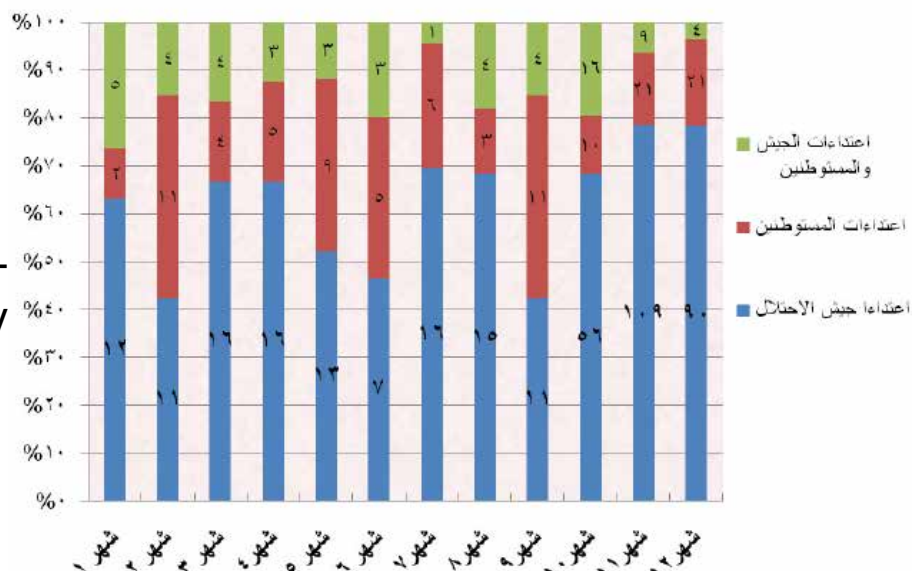
The Israeli army committed 372 violations, while Israeli settlers committed 108 violations, 69% and 20% respectively. The violations that were jointly committed by both of them reached 60 violations or 11%.

Violations by army and settler (green)

Violations by settlers (red)

Violations by occupation army (blue)

Chart (1): violations committed by Israeli occupation army and settlers during 2015



Violations by targeted group:

- Violations against the population, individually or in groups: 431 violations.
- Violations against private property including commercial stores and houses belonging to citizens: 183 violations.
- Violations against public property including streets, public yards, schools and religious sites: 170 violations.

Violations committed against citizens outnumber violations against property as shown below:

Violations against population, 431; private property, 183; public property, 170

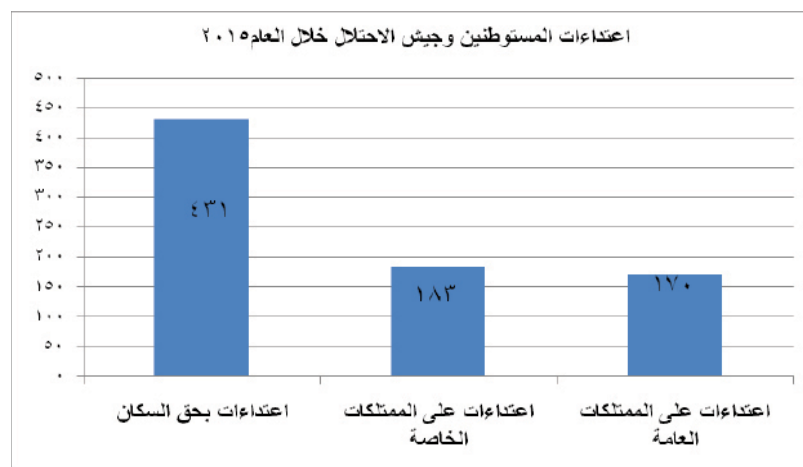


Chart (2): violations by Israeli forces and settlers against Palestinian citizens and properties in 2015.

Chart (B2): percentage of violations patterns by targeted group:

- The violations committed against the population amounted to 55%.
- Violations committed against private property amounted to 23%.
- Violations against public property amounted to 22%.

Violations against population (Blue), violations against private property (red), and violations against public property (green)

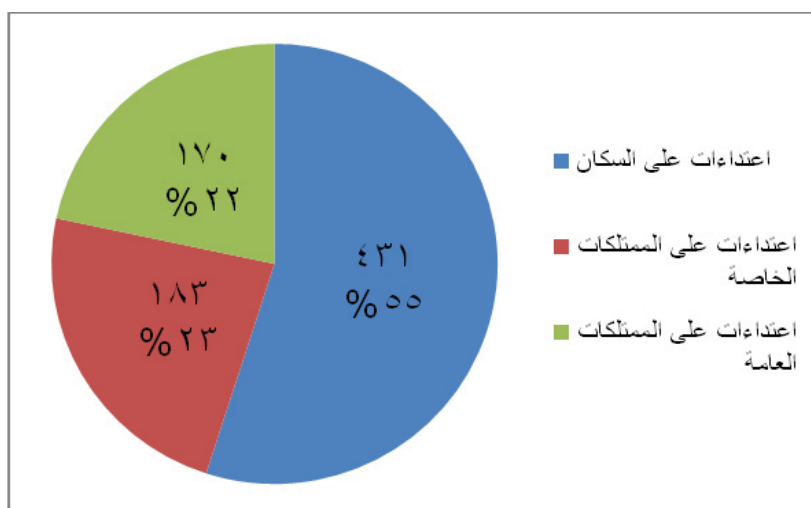


Chart (3): percentage of violations committed by occupation army and settlers against the population and their property (private and public) during the year 2015.

1. Assaults on citizens:

The assaults committed against the citizens of the Old City of Hebron are classified into two types: collective violations and individual violations

Collective violations:

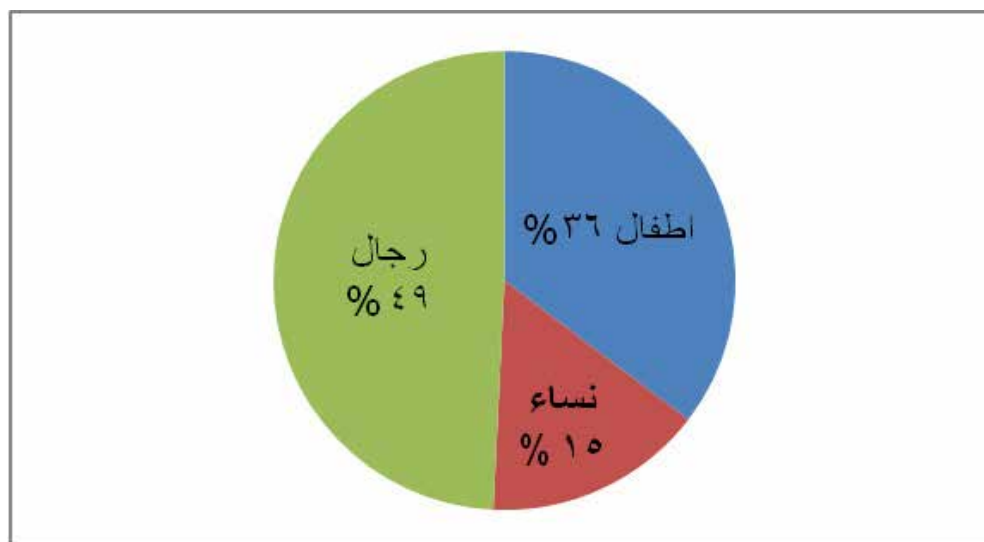
Collective violations are violations committed by Israeli soldiers and settlers against a group of citizens. These violations involve assaults on peaceful rallies, preventing people from arriving at Ibrahimi mosque for prayer, and opening fire and shooting tear gas canisters at the citizens.

Individual violations:

Violations committed by Israeli occupation army and settlers against people individually.. The staff of the Legal Unit of HRC was able to document these violations in detail.

Violations committed by the Israeli occupation army and settlers against the population by category (children, women and men) during the year 2015:

- Assaults on children: 92 children, 36% of the total number of the individuals who were subjected to such assaults.
- Assaults on women: 40, 15%.
- Assaults on men: 128, 49%.
- Children 36%; men 49%, women 15%



Lethal Attacks, Summary Executions and Extrajudicial Killing

Israeli occupation violations against Palestinian citizens increased during 2015. Nineteen people were killed in the Old City of Hebron during 2015. Most of these killing crimes were committed in October when 13 people were killed.

Martyrs of the Old City, 2015:

No.	Name	Violator	Age	Date of incident	Place of incident	Sex	Category
1.	Mahmoud Yahia Abu Jhesha	Occupation Army	20	26\4\2015	In front of Ibrahim mosque	Male	Men
2.	Hadil Salah al-Hashlamon	Occupation army	18	23\9\2015	Military checkpoint at the entrance of Shuhada' street	female	Women
3.	Muhammad Faris al-Jabari	Occupation army	19	9\10\2015	Qiryat Arab settlement entrance (Wadi al-Ghrus)	Male	Men
4.	Fadil Muhammad al-Qawasmah	Settler + soldiers	19	17\10\2015	Shuhada' street	male	Men
5.	BianAymanEseli	Occupation army	16	17\10\2015	Wadi al-Fardos checkpoint	Female	Minor
6.	TareqZyadNatshah	Occupation army	16	17\10\2015	Shuhada' street entrance	Male	Men
7.	Bashar Nidal al-Jabari	Occupation army	15	20\10\2015	Al-Ras\ near Rajabi building	Male	Minor
8.	Husam Ismael Jabari	Occupation army	17	20\10\2015	Al-Ras\ near Rajabi building	Male	Minor
9.	HishamYounis al-Eza	Occupation army	54	12\10\2015	Shuhada' street checkpoint	Male	Men
10.	Dania Jihad Ersheid	Occupation army	17	25\10\2015	In fornt of Ibrahim mosque	Female	Minor
11.	Saed Muhammad al-Atrash	Occupation army	20	26\10\2015	Near Sharia Court	Male	Men
12.	Hamam Adnan Saed	Occupation army	22	27\10\2015	Tel Rumeida settlement entrance	Male	Men
13.	Islam RafeeqEbedu	Occupation army	23	28\10\2015	Tel Rumeida settlement entrance	Male	Men
14.	Mahdi Muhammad al-Muhtasib	Occupation army	23	29\10\2015	Tareq Bin Ziad Street	Male	Men
15.	Farouq Abdel QadirSidir	Occupation army	19	29\10\2015	AshuhadaStreet\ Dabboya Settlement	Male	Men
16.	Tahir Mustafa Fanon	Occupation army	19	4\12\2015	Tel Rumeida check point	Male	Men
17.	Mustafa Fadil Abed al-Munim Fanon	Occupation army	16	4\12\2015	Tel Rumeida check point	Male	Minor
18.	EhabFathiMiswada	Occupation army	18	4\12\2015	Al-Salayma checkpoint	Male	Men
19.	Abed al-RahmanUsriMiswada	Occupation army and settlers	20	9\12\2015	Shuhada Street	Male	Men

Detentions in the Old City

• Legal Monitoring of Detention Cases

During 2015, HRC documented 33 cases of detention in which a total of 87 people were detained. HRC contributed to the release of 25 of them while the rest were referred to Palestinian authorities.

Detention Cases by Category

- 34 children, 39%.
- 41 men, 47%.
- 12 women, 14%

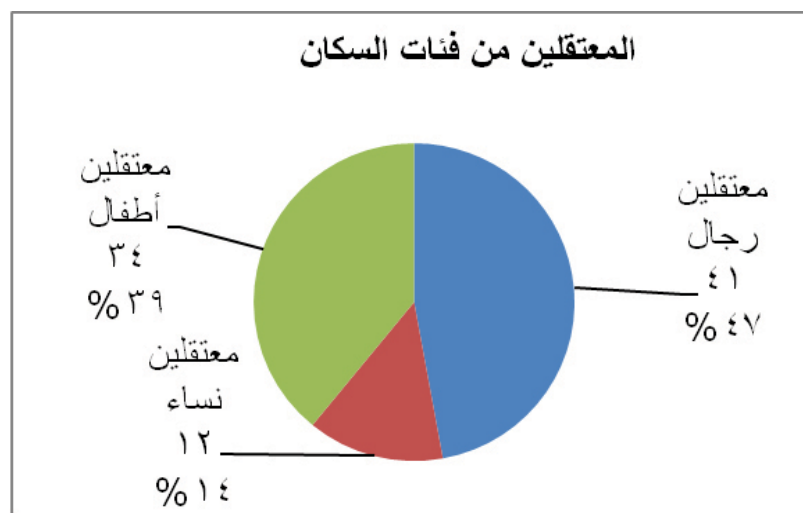


Chart (5): volume and rate of assaults against citizens by targeted category during the year 2015



2. Assaults on private property:

These assaults were committed against citizens' homes and lands in addition to commercial stores. During 2015, there were 183 assaults against private property

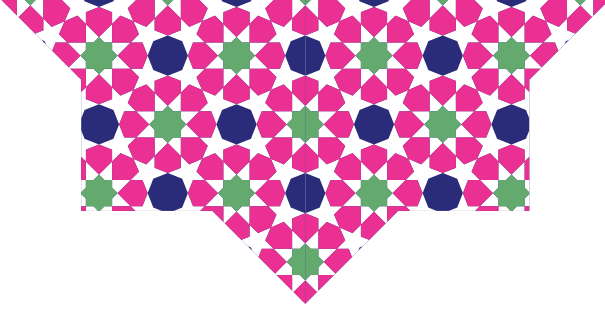
3. Assaults on public property

Israeli forces and settlers committed 170 violations against public property in 2015, including religious sites, schools, streets and other public places.

- 46% assaults on streets and public yards.
- 31% against schools.
- 23% against religious places.







Activities





Activities targeting local community



Activities targeting university students to familiarize them with the Old City and achievements of HRC





Entertainment activities aimed at alleviating children's psychological pressure.

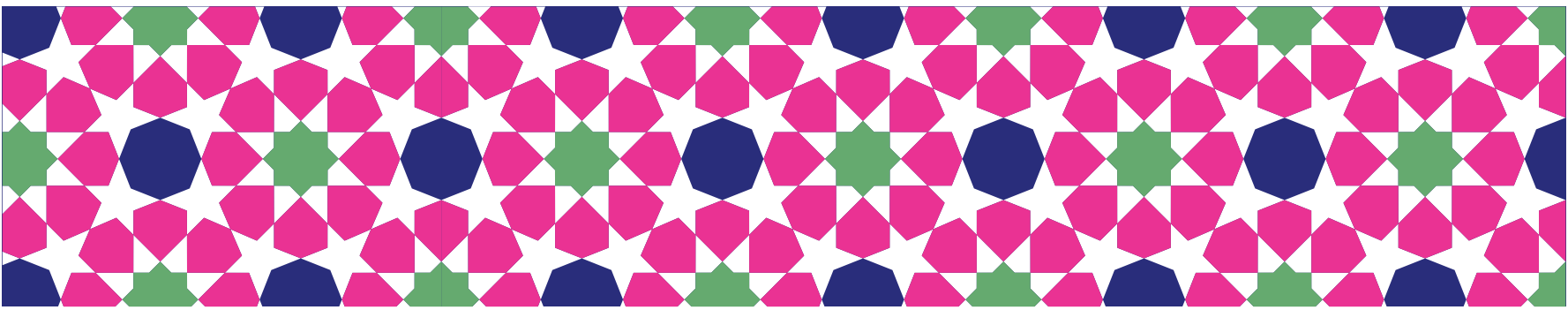


Activities targeting schools students focused on meeting their needs and encouraging them to learn



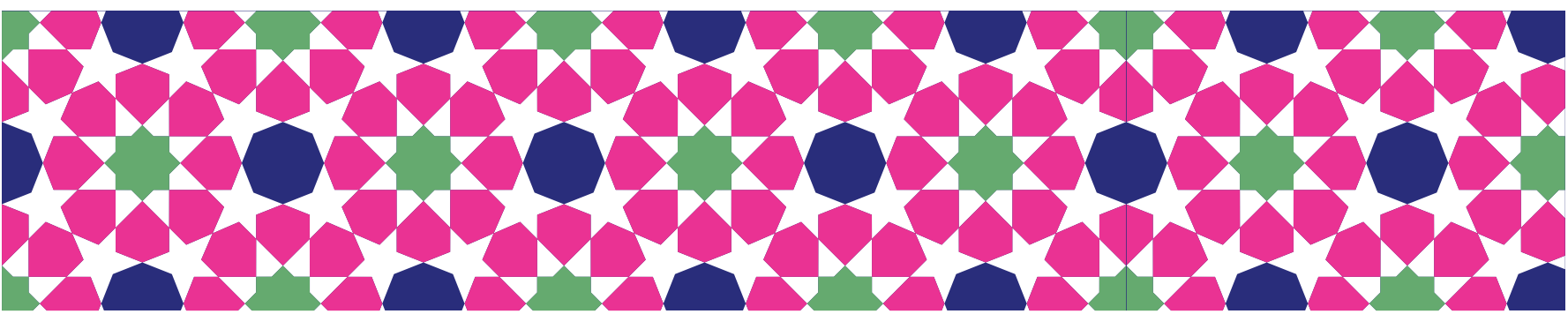


Activities supporting tourism, economy and health conditions
in the Old City





Activities targeting national and international delegations to update them on the situation of the Old City and achievements of HRC



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