



ANNUAL REPORT

2018



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لجنة إعمار الخليل
HEBRON REHABILITATION COMMITTEE

2018



HRC **ANNUAL** **REPORT** **2018**

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Overview of HRC

Vision:

«Preserving Old Hebron as Arab Islamic City»

Mission:

«The HRC seeks to rehabilitate and renovate the historic buildings in the Old City of Hebron in order to circumvent the settlement outposts, limit their expansion, preserve the ancient historical buildings, ensure the social and economic revival, and connect the Old City with the rest of the city's fabric. It also seeks to improve the standard of living of marginalized groups by planning and implementing vital programs to ensure the economic, social and cultural revival of marginalized groups»

Values:

«Equal and just access to public services, originality, excellence, respect for human rights, transparency and professionalism as well as building domestic and international partnerships and enhancing sincerity».

Strategic Objectives of HRC:

Reviving the Old City by renovating its buildings, re-using the abandoned ones, rehabilitating its infrastructure, preserving its cultural heritage and elements of the structural unity of the buildings, preserving the urban fabric, it's historical and civilization identity.

Improving the living conditions of the population through the renovation of residential houses and linking the Old City with the new, and providing various social services that contribute to the development of housing and work conditions, and improve the environment to become attractive to the population.

Revitalizing the trade and economic movement, increasing the local and external tourism movement, and providing vital projects for employment of the population.

HRC Awards:

World Housing Award 2013:

It is an international award periodically given by London - Based Building and Social Housing Foundation in support of housing sustainable and creative development projects. HRC was awarded this award in culmination of its building project in the Old City. It was considered the best housing project among 238 projects submitted by different countries around the world to combat unemployment and poverty.



Yasser Arafat Achievement Award:

In 2008, the HRC won the Yasser Arafat Achievement Award, a prize awarded to individuals or institutions that carried out innovative creative works that had positive effects on the development and advancement of society.



The Aga Khan Award:

In 1998, the HRC won the Aga Khan Award for International Architecture, in recognition of its achievements in the reconstruction of the Old City. The award is one of the highest international awards awarded to the best architecture in the Islamic world every three years.





Our wonderful team...Thank you

Word of the Chairman of HRC

While the Israeli fierce aggression against the Old City of Hebron is increasing in terms of the colonial settlement expansion, the residents of the Old City are steadfastly resisting and the HRC continues its constant work and remarkable achievements.

The HRC is continually making exceptional achievements towards preserving the cultural and historical heritage of the Old City and achieving inclusive and sustainable development. All this is aimed at returning the Old City to its past when it was bustling with life as the beating heart of Hebron.

Based on our comprehensive vision of Hebron and its Old City, we completed this year one of the most significant projects in the whole city of Hebron. We completed the project of the infrastructure of the historical Qasaba neighborhood, which is one of the most important economic neighborhoods in the Old City. It is its economic artery and connecting point with the rest of Hebron.

Rehabilitating the infrastructure of this neighborhood was one of the significant moves towards promoting the unity of Old Hebron and New Hebron. It encourages coalesce between them and increases the number of visitors to the Old City. In addition, launching the tourist route supports this trend, as this route is characterized by important tourist stations within the Old City that encourage tourist attraction to the Old City at the local, national and international levels.

We see the outcomes of our work on the ground. The noticeable growth of tourism in the Old City and Ibrahimi Mosque can be seen as a sign of hope towards a promising tourism future.

We all have strong determination to continue our efforts to achieve our basic goal which is to breathe life into the Old City and preserve its cultural heritage in order for the coming generations to enjoy.

In the end, let me express my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the Director General of the HRC and its staff for their continuing effort towards achieving the aim of preserving this historical Old City. Let me also thank its citizens for their resilience and steadfastness.

Tayseer Abu Sneneh
Chairman of HRC.

Word of the Director General of HRC

We end up this year with a number of varied projects aimed at completing our march towards preserving and reviving the Old City. We turn over a page of the suffering of the citizens of the Old City by completing the rehabilitation of the infrastructure of the historical Qasaba Neighborhood to return the Old City and its bustling markets to its past and enable its citizens to enjoy a safe and decent life.

As Hebron is placed on the World Heritage List, we concentrated this year on rehabilitating the historical sites and tourists' attractions as part of the first tourists' route in the Old City. We launched the tourism route as a first step of an integrated plan to develop the tourism sector in the Old City by investing in its historical and architectural treasure.

Our work addresses first and foremost the needs of the citizens. We concentrate on maintaining and restoring the houses of the citizens to improve their living standards and encourage their steadfastness and strengthen their ability to defend the heritage of their forefathers. We restored and maintained this year tens of housing units in different areas of the Old City. Most of these housing units were restored by their owners through the restoration project, which is implemented in cooperation between the HRC and the citizens, the HRC provides the raw materials and the citizens implement maintenance works under the supervision of the technical office of HRC. The aim of this approach is to encourage community participation in preserving the cultural heritage of the Old City.

Finally, let me express my heartfelt gratitude to the administrative and technical staff of the HRC as well as contractors and workers who work hand in hand to reach the great achievements. I also seize the chance to thank the donor community who gave us hand to reach our goals and preserve this universal human heritage.

Emad Hamdan
Director General of HRC



**PRESERVING
HOLY IBRAHIMI
MOSQUE**



Restoration of Holy Ibrahimi Mosque

The Holy Ibrahimi Mosque is one of the main original and authentic landscapes of Hebron and its Old City. It is a cultural edifice that can be contemplated through its architectural components. Its aesthetic architectural shape grants the historical Old City a highly significant exceptional value that is incomparable worldwide.

HRC has been working hard to preserve this significant landscape since 1998 by renovating its components. The renovation process was conducted without any interventions in order to preserve its authenticity and to keep it as a model of universal human heritage.



RESTORATION OF THE GYPSUM WINDOWS WITHIN THE TOMBS OF PATRIARCHS

HRC achieved during this year the following:

- Removing the new plastering of the stone arches for restoration and dotting.
- Installing and fixing some metal structures of different parts of the Holy Mosque.
- Painting several parts of the Holy Mosque.
- Maintaining the closet of Prophet Ibrahim.
- Raising the terrace of the front yard of the Holy Mosque.
- Replacing the concrete facades of the yards, corridors and green circles with stone facades.
- Renovating the decorations and covering them with golden paper inside al-Ishaqia.
- Maintaining the lead of the roofs.



CLEANING THE UPPER PART OF THE EXTERNAL WALL OF THE MOSQUE



RESTORATION OF THE GYPSUM WINDOWS WITHIN THE TOMBS OF PATRIARCHS



CLEANING STONES OF THE IBRAHIMI MOSQUE'S MINARETS



RESTORATION OF THE DECORATIONS IN ISHAQIYAH



CLEANING STONES OF THE IBRAHIMI MOSQUE'S WALLS

It is worth mentioning that maintenance works and restoration in the Ibrahimi Mosque are carried out under exceptional conditions. The Israeli occupation forces keep controlling the area all the time and impose several restrictions:

- The Israeli occupation disrupts the work and prohibits entry of materials into the targeted area under the pretext of security check which takes up days.
- Prohibiting bidding or employing any more technicians. It subjects any employee to periodical security check.
- Arresting technicians under the pretext of security, and so obstructing the work.
- Deliberate destruction by Israeli occupation forces and settlers of lead roofs and other aspects of the project. They destroyed part of the roofs decorations, broke the decorated window of the Ibrahimi closet and damaged the decorated area of Yacob's closet.



POINTING WORK ON THE EXTERNAL WALLS OF THE IBRAHIMI MOSQUE'S



ROOF MAINTENANCE WORK





Rehabilitation and Restoration





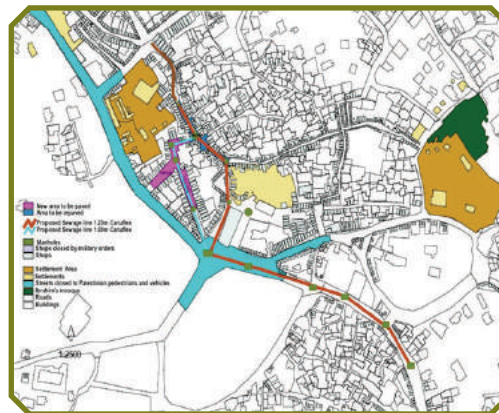
Infrastructure Rehabilitation

Completing rehabilitation of the infrastructure of al-Qasaba Neighborhood Street and Khozk al-Far area

After many years of suffering experienced by the residents of the Old City and its merchants and visitors, this project comes to put an end to the problem of sewage and rain flood in the area of Kasbah and Khozq al-Far. This problem has exhausted citizens and shop owners, hampered movement, damaged their goods and caused big damage to the historic buildings and their ancient façades because water leaks into the layers of walls.

The impact of this flood on the movement of tourists and shoppers was one of the main reasons for the economic recession in this neighborhood, which was one of the most vital neighborhoods in the Old City. There, citizens find all their daily needs, while the tourist has a real opportunity to see the traditional markets with different areas of work and goods which he does not find anywhere else in the city.

This project was implemented with the funding of the Ooredoo - Qatar Group. The work was started on 26/7/2017 and was completed on 15/5/2018.



A MAP SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE PROJECT
— THE TARGETED PART OF THE REHABILITATION
OF AL-QASBAH NEIGHBORHOOD



PICTURES OF THE ANNUAL WATER FLOOD IN AL-QASBAH DISTRICT
IN THE WINTER DUE TO LACK OF SUITABLE INFRASTRUCTURE



After this project, the Old City enjoys a safe winter this year. There is no flood of rain. Shop owners feel comfortable and stable. There is no damage to the goods and there is nothing forcing them to close their shops whenever the sky rains. Shoppers and visitors enjoy the convenience of shopping in this historic neighborhood.

The project, which is the result of joint cooperation between the HRC and the Hebron Municipality, is considered one of the most vital projects in the Old City. It supports the preservation and restoration of this historic town. As the excess water was seeping into the foundations of the buildings, causing great damage, the project contributed to their restoration by encouraging tourists and visitors to visit and make shopping in its historical markets.

The infrastructure rehabilitation project included the following elements:

- Installing two 50" diameter sewer lines.
- Installing drinking water lines with different diameters.
- Installing sewer services and household connections to all homes and shops.
- Installing pipes for electricity network and lighting units.
- Installing plastic pipes for communication network.
- Installation of interlocking stone tiles and standard stone tiles.
- Other construction works, excavations and base course.
- The length of the street is about 200 meters and a total area of 1200 M².

Two methods of sewage disposal were used in the project:

Method 1: Installation of -50inch plastic pipes. They were run from Qantara of Khozq Al-Far until Daraj al-Tananir, and two parallel pipes were installed.

Method 2: Reinforced concrete was used and molded in the site to make the drainage lines running from Daraj al-Tananir until the entrance of the old yard of the municipality. The aim of that was to use the whole area of the street from one hand and prohibit the collapse of the nearby buildings facades. The reinforced concrete was also used to support the footings and foundations of these buildings which are very fragile. It is worth mentioning that Israeli occupation authorities issued a military order prohibiting any restoration works there.

Excavation works and installation works for sewage line (Knaaflex 50)



EXCAVATION WORKS AND INSTALLATION WORKS



PREPARATION WORKS AND MATERIAL TESTS



INSTALLATION OF PLASTIC PIPES FOR ELECTRICITY AND COMMUNICATION NETWORKS



TILE WORKS ON THE STREET



REMOVAL OF INFRINGEMENTS AND OBSTRUCTIONS

Al-Qasaba Neighborhood Buildings Facades Decoration Project

To complete the infrastructure rehabilitation project in Al-Kasabah and Khozq Al-Far Street, the HRC has initiated a project to improve and beautify the exterior of the street's historical buildings and the shops located alongside the door of the old municipality until the Souk area. This area is the main entrance to the Old City and to the Ibrahim Mosque.

This project is considered as one of the most significant projects undertaken by HRC in terms of its site and objectives. HRC started this project after it finished rehabilitation of the infrastructure of the same area where it solved the problem of sewage and rain water floods. Large part of the area of Khozq al-Far and al-Qasba was drowned by this water annually.

To show the beauty of this area and its architectural features, HRC envisaged implementing this project in completion of its past work to improve the sightseeing there and remove the impact of the problems this area was suffering. These problems include:

- The flooding of the market with sewage and rainwater in the winter each year, which led to a defect in the foundations of the historic buildings and made them fragile.
- The Israeli occupation army prevented the HRC from completing the renovation work of some residential houses and shops, thus endangering the lives of pedestrians.
- Damage to the exterior façades of historical buildings and the failure to carry out maintenance work for them over previous years and non-compliance with the standards in force.
- Breach of construction rules near the street hinders the movement of shoppers, pilgrims and visitors to the Old City.
- Goods stands are installed outside shops in a random manner.
- The absence of a unified architectural design for the metal umbrellas. They are installed and painted randomly, causing a visual distortion of the facades and entrances.
- Random colors of shop doors and old metal umbrellas.

- Drinking water lines were installed on the external façades randomly and without a plan to highlight the architectural elements
- Random installation of the electricity network cables which feed the area. It is not installed according to a plan that takes into account the status of the arched buildings and narrow alleys.
- Random installation of the main and secondary cables and lines of the communications network which serves the Old City. The narrow alleys and arched entrances of the Old City were not taken into consideration during the planning of the network.

The project was funded by Ooredoo-Qatar Group and through Ooredoo Palestine. It is worth mentioning that the project was started on 11/1/2018 and was completed on 21/11/2018.



AL-QASABAH MARKET AFTER REHABILITATION

The project is designed to beautify the exterior facades of historic buildings by replacing the damaged dotting and removing all infringements on the facades and street mentioned above. Restoration of the architectural elements such as windows and wooden balconies, restoration of the doors of the houses overlooking the street and the doors of the shops and the stairs leading to it was a target of the project.

The project included installation of shops metal umbrellas which suit the architectural fabric of the Old City and use a color plan fitting into its architectural elements. Relevant plans were prepared after approval of all the designs to be implemented through this project. It helps solve most of the problems and encourage salespersons to open their closed shops and revitalize trade and tourism. It also shows the architectural elements of the Old City within its old architectural fabric.



AL-QASABAH MARKET AFTER REHABILITATION

This project has had a clear impact on the aesthetic and historical value of the old town, as well as its important impact on improving the general environment of the Old City. It has a positive impact on citizens and workers as well as tourists and visitors to the Old City. It also increased the movement of tourists and shoppers. The project thus had a qualitative contribution to the revitalization of the Old City and its traditional markets.



INSTALLATION WORKS FOR ONE OF THE SHOPS



BADRAN CAFE UMBRELLA DURING INSTALLATION

The Old City welcomes Ramadan with a new look

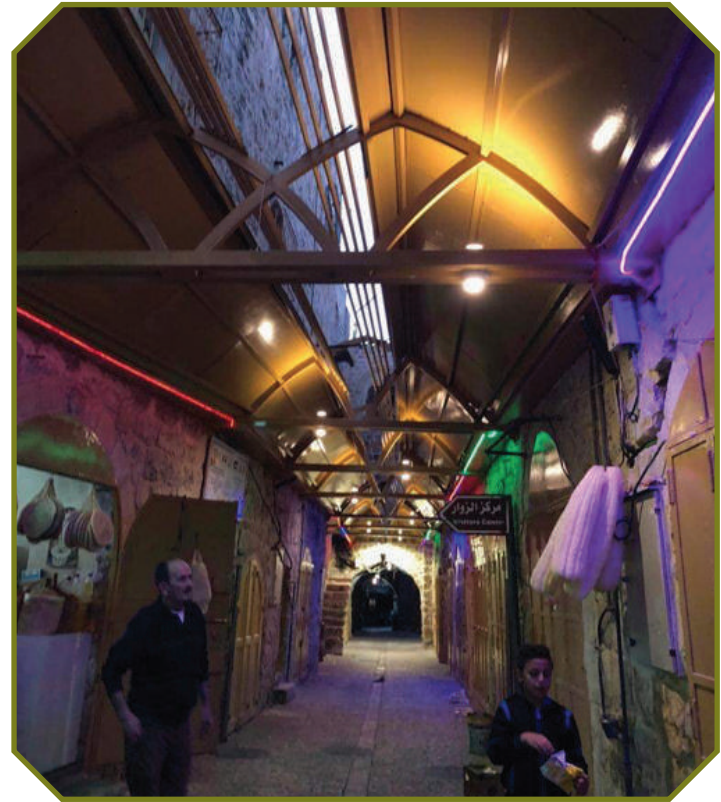


AL-QASBAH MARKET IN RAMADAN

This project also reflected an exceptional atmosphere during the holy month of Ramadan, in which the Old City usually has a remarkable activity. However, this year the Old City witnessed a revival not seen during the past years. The Old City received visitors in this holy month with a lively spirit, beauty and originality.



AL-QASABAH MARKET AFTER REHABILITATION



AL-QASABAH MARKET AFTER LIGHTING INSTALLATION



The uniqueness of this area being residential and commercial at the same time makes it represent the main entrance to the Old City, which is full of bustling markets. Due to all this, double efforts and careful planning were required to carry out the rehabilitation of the infrastructure without affecting the movement of citizens, visitors and shop owners. To do that, the renovation team continued working late into night to ensure that the work was carried out as quickly as possible.



AL-QASABAH MARKET AFTER LIGHTING INSTALLATION



PERFORM THE WORK LATE AT NIGHT

Promoting Community Participation

The HRC was keen to coordinate and follow up with the beneficiaries of the project, especially the owners of shops and merchants of the Old City, during all stages of the project. That was to inform them of the plans to be implemented and to listen to their opinions and needs. This participatory approach had a positive impact on facilitating the completion of work and understanding of the needs of the owners of shops. It allowed for more suggestions and empowerment of their role as a key partner in the process of preservation and revitalization of the Old City.



A VIEW OF THE MEETING WITH THE MERCHANTS OF THE OLD CITY TO INVOLVE THEM IN THE PROJECT



Maintenance & Restoration of houses

Maintenance and restoration of houses:

The maintenance and restoration work is the basic pillar for the preservation of the Old City of Hebron, which makes these buildings usable and suitable for the reception of residents and users. The maintenance and restoration work aims to improve the living conditions in these buildings, whether they are residential buildings or public service buildings, which help support the steadfastness of the citizens. And it constitutes the bulk of the achievements of HRC.

This year, it carried out several maintenance and restoration projects in various parts of the Old City, with a focus on targeting areas that are directly under pressure by the occupation army. These projects have the same objectives and directions, and are exposed to the same obstacles and challenges.

The following is an overview of the most important maintenance and restoration projects for the year:

First: Completion of the comprehensive restoration of Abu Daraan, Jamjoom and Iskafi hosh(traditional house):

This hosh is one of the models of traditional residential architecture in Hebron, which came as a result of the dominant family structure that depended on the extended family. The architectural structure of this mansion came in line with the needs of this family and its customs and traditions. The HRC looks at this type of residential space very carefully as it is considered the basic units of the traditional urban fabric in Hebron, which gives the Old City an outstanding architectural design.

Therefore, the preservation and rehabilitation plan for these courtyards is based on re-use of the traditional houses, taking into account the modern requirements of the current family and resulting from the different nature of social life between the present time and the past.

This type of traditional houses is divided into several apartments for nuclear families, in order to achieve privacy for each apartment by providing separate entrance and independent services, and by making the least possible interventions on the architecture of these houses.

The division of the hosh into several apartments depends on its architectural structure and the possibility of division with minimal intervention. The HRC has adopted a methodology approved through the experiment over twenty years of restoration and adaptation of this kind of traditional houses. The methodology is based on the following:

First step: the architectural documentation of the courtyards before the start of any interventions for re-use.

Second step: Redesigning the courtyards through the implementation of architectural solutions to adapt and re-use.

Third step: The implementation of the restoration work, which includes: reconstruction work and structural consolidation, surface treatment and insulation works, finding kitchens and bathrooms, the development of electricity and sewage networks.

Fourth step: Conduct the architectural documentation after implementation in order to identify and document the interventions that occurred on the building.

Fifth step: the building is occupied by the population. Restoration alone is not sufficient to preserve the building, it does not provide sustainability, and so the restoration process must be followed by a well-planned plan for inhabiting the building in order to activate its use, restore life and ensure its maintenance by its users.

Due to the extensive restoration process of the Abu Daraan, Jamjum and Askafi hosh, this hosh is transformed from abandoned dwellings that have been eroded by the effects of natural factors. The plants have grown in its walls, causing extensive damage to its architecture, it is transformed to residential units, housing five families and providing them with adequate housing and safe living.

This is considered to be a distinctive example of viable heritage that can be used anytime and under all circumstances



THESE IMAGES SHOW THE OF THE YARD AFTER USE

It is worth mentioning that the implementation of this project was carried out through the Ooredoo - Qatar Group. The project was started on 28/5/2017 and was completed on 09/05/2018.



THESE IMAGES SHOW THE OF THE YARD AFTER USE



THESE IMAGES SHOW THE OF THE YARD AFTER USE



BEFORE AND AFTER RESTORATION



BEFORE AND AFTER RESTORATION



THESE IMAGES SHOW THE VIEW OF THE HOUSE AFTER USE

Second: Project for the maintenance of the buildings of the seam zone (Phase I).

This project was funded by the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development - Kuwait

The project included dozens of, residential buildings, in addition to some ministries, clinics and shops in the center of the Old City. The project also focused on buildings adjacent to settlement outposts and military points (seam) to achieve the following objectives:

- To protect the buildings surrounded by the colonial settlement outposts, and to challenge the colonial plans to take over these houses.
- The plan was to enable the citizens of the Old City to inhabit and use these houses.
- To support citizens' steadfastness in their homes.
- Preservation of cultural heritage in the Old City.
- Reviving the commercial movement.

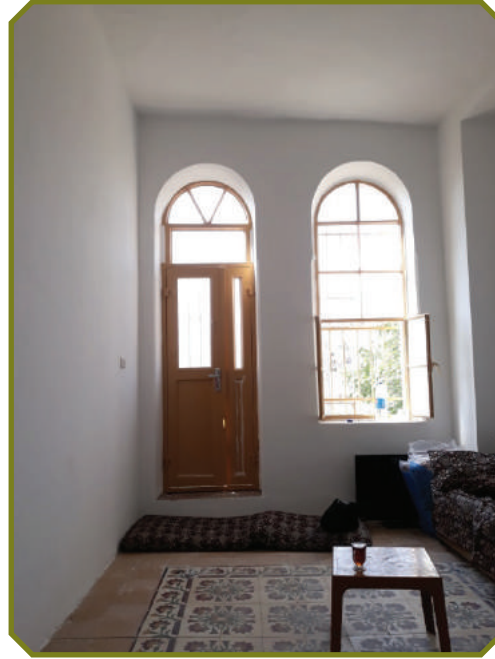
The project faced several obstacles, the most important of which is the prevention of work in some buildings and the suspension of work in others, by the Israeli occupation forces.

Work on the project was started on 17/06/2018 and is still under implementation. The completion rate is approximately 75%



BEFORE AND AFTER RESTORATION





BEFORE AND AFTER RESTORATION

Third: Project for the maintenance of the buildings of the seam zone (phase II)

This project was funded by the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development - Kuwait

The project included periodic maintenance of many houses , in additions to some offices of the ministries located in the center of the Old City and the seam areas (Tel Rumeida, Al Shuhada Street, Jabir neighborhood). During this project, the residents participated in maintenance work, using the materials provided by the HRC. This work was done under the supervision of a technical team of HRC.

The aim of the project is to strengthen the resilience of the population, improve their living conditions, preserve historic buildings and provide them with regular maintenance, and enable local residents to maintain their own homes in order to enhance community participation in the preservation and restoration of historic buildings.

Implementing this project was started on 10/07/2018 and was completed on 20/12/2018. The completion rate in this project was 100%.

The project has faced several obstacles, the most important of which is: the difficulty of entering materials to the sites because of closures by the Israeli occupation army.



PHOTOS OF ONE OF THE KITCHENS THAT WERE MAINTAINED
(BEFORE RESTORATION, AFTER RESTORATION AND INHABITATION)



DWEIK HALL BEFORE AND AFTER THE RESTORATION

Third: Grant of the International Presence Mission in Hebron (Phase I and II)
Funded by the Temporary International Presence in Hebron (TIPH)



The project represents a joint cooperation between TIPH and the HRC in order to assist the residents of the Old City and the seam areas (Tel Rumeida, Jabir Neighborhood, Wadi Al Hossain, Al Ja'abari neighborhood).

The project is based on an idea that contributes to enhancing community participation in the process of heritage conservation. The HRC provides materials for maintenance and restoration, while the residents carry out these works under its technical supervision.

- Supply and distribution of paint and painting materials. (Painting materials were distributed to approximately 56 houses)
- Supply and installation of protective nets (protection nets were distributed to approximately 12 houses)
- Supply and distribution of surface insulation materials (5000 square meters of asphalt rolls were distributed)



DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS FOR MAINTENANCE

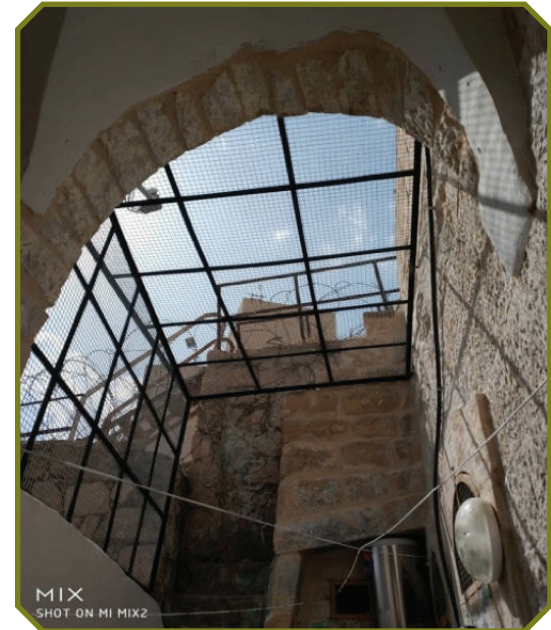
The project aims to enhance the resilience of the population and improve their living conditions, protect them from the attacks of the occupation army and its settlers, and enhance their participation in the process of preserving their historic homes.



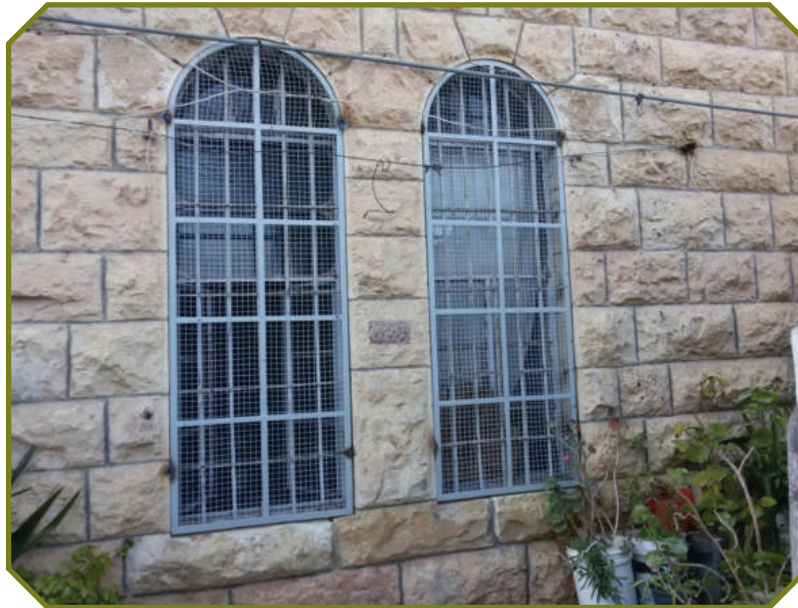
Work on the project was started on 01/04/2018 and was completed on 31/12/2018.

The project faced several difficulties, the most important of which are:

The difficulty of transporting materials to the sites because of the closures imposed by the occupation army, in addition to the arrest of workers by the occupation army.



EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE



EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE

Community participation through maintenance projects

The concept of participatory approach, which was created by the HRC as a means to achieve its goal of enhancing the participation of the local community in the process of preservation and restoration, has begun to be implemented in most of the projects implemented by the HRC. This method has proved the ability of the citizen to do everything they can to preserve their historic home and heritage. The HRC was able, through its idea of helping the residents to get the necessary materials for restoration, and so maintain and renovate their own homes by themselves under the supervision of its engineering staff.

This type of participation ensures the sustainability of the restoration projects. It is natural for the residents to become more aware of what they do, and therefore to follow up and maintain their homes. That becomes possible when they get skilled in implementing the restoration work. This pattern also enhances cooperation between the residents and the HRC and ensures the positive impact on the implementation restoration work in particular, and on the preservation of heritage in general.

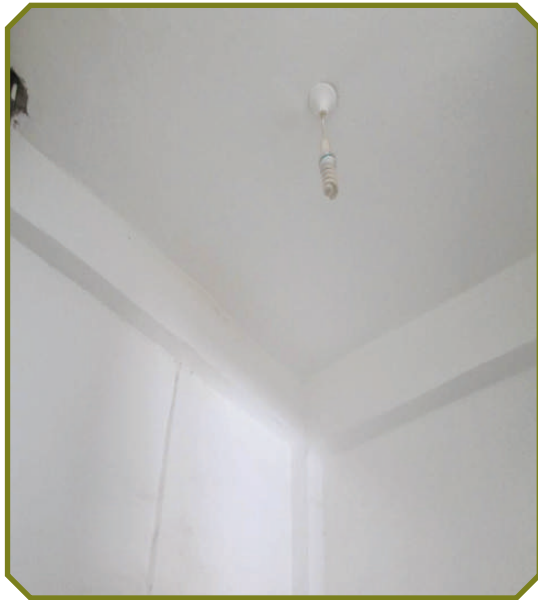
Fifth: Rehabilitation of buildings in the area of the Ibrahimi Mosque and Al Sahla Street – (Phase VI)
Financed by the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, and managed by the Islamic Development Bank.



PART OF THE RESTORATION WORK IN THE AREA

The project aims at supporting the steadfastness of the population in this area which is closed by the Israeli occupation forces. To achieve that, HRC tries to improve their living conditions and provide the necessary maintenance and repair services

The completion rate in this project was 100%. The work was started on 13/11/2016, and was completed on 17/05/2018.



BEFORE AND AFTER IMPLEMENTATION FOR MAINTENANCE



BEFORE AND AFTER IMPLEMENTATION FOR MAINTENANCE

Sixth: Project for the restoration, rehabilitation and maintenance of buildings east of the Ibrahimi Mosque (Phase I)
Funded by the Arab Monetary Fund, managed by the Islamic Development Bank

The project includes the maintenance and restoration of houses in the Wadi al-Husain area adjacent to Kiryat Arba settlement and includes the area to the right of the street from the office of the old Ragabi house until the end of Wadi al-Husain.

The project faces several obstacles, including difficulty entering materials into the area. That is a direct result of the Israeli occupation closure of the area and prohibition of entry of materials necessary for maintenance and restoration.

The project was started on 19/11/2018, and is still underway.

Seventh: Rehabilitation and maintenance of buildings east of the Ibrahimi Mosque (Phase II)
Funded by the Arab Monetary Fund, managed by the Islamic Development Bank

The project is based on the maintenance and restoration of inhabited houses with a view to improve the living conditions of the inhabitants and alleviate their suffering. This project is located in areas targeted in the Old City which is constantly exposed to the violations of the Israeli occupation and Israeli settlers. These areas are: Jaber, Salayma and Wad Al Hossain neighborhoods.

The project targets a total of 40 residential apartments, and work was started on 20/11/2018 and is expected to be completed on 20/05/2019. It includes several maintenance works, including plastering, paint, maintenance of bathrooms and kitchens and solving the problems of sewage, electricity and roofs. The most important achievements of the project during this year are:

- Maintenance of electricity network in four houses within the targeted area.
- Maintenance of bathrooms in one house.
- The establishment of a sewing factory in the house of Taher Jaber. The basement of this house was restored and exploited this way to provide employment for residents of the Old City.
- Ventilation problems have been solved in a number of rooms by opening windows.



A VIEW OF THE PROJECT'S RESTORATION WORK



A VIEW OF THE PROJECT'S RESTORATION WORK



IMAGES SHOWING THE EXECUTION OF THE TILES DURING THE PROJECT

The project is facing some obstacles because of its location in area targeted by the occupation army and its settlers. These obstacles include: the difficulty of transporting materials to the work site, the use of primitive means of transport, Israeli army and settlers provocative activities in the area on Saturdays and preventing workers from completing their work.



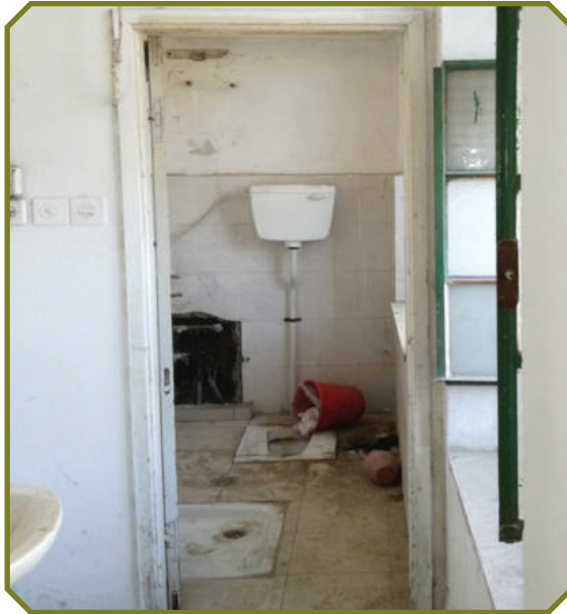
PHOTOS ILLUSTRATING THE USE OF PRIMITIVE MEANS TO TRANSPORT MATERIALS DUE TO ISRAELI DISABILITIES

Eighth: Project for the renovation of buildings in the area of Khozq al-Far along the square of the market.
Funded by Ooredoo - Qatar Group.

The project targeted residential buildings, in addition to some shops and public institutions. It also provided some beneficiaries with materials to work in partnership with HRC.



PICTURES SHOWING BEFORE AND AFTER MAINTENANCE WORK



PICTURES SHOWING BEFORE AND AFTER MAINTENANCE WORK



PICTURES SHOWING BEFORE AND AFTER MAINTENANCE WORK

The objectives of the project can be summarized as follows:

- Preservation of cultural heritage in the Old City
- Support the steadfastness of the inhabitants of the Old City
- Revitalize the commercial movement
- Activate the role of government institutions and ministries and enable them to provide their services.
- Creating jobs for local workers
- Reviving and developing the tourism movement in the Old City

One of the main obstacles facing the project is the disruption of work by the Israeli occupation forces.

Implementation of the project was started on 17/05/2017 and was completed on 30/02/2018. It is currently under maintenance for one year.

Ninth: Rehabilitation of buildings in the Old City of Hebron

Funded by the Ministry of Local Government

The project includes partial restoration work and maintenance of the buildings located in the same areas (Tel Rumeida, Shuhada Street and Ain Al Jadida). Like other maintenance and restoration projects, the project aims to enhance the resilience of citizens in the targeted areas, in addition to preserving heritage buildings.

Implementation of the project was started on 29/11/2018 up to now.

Project's achievements: partial renovation of three houses, maintenance work in fourteen houses and the supply of materials to three houses.

The project faced the following challenges:

- Difficulty entering materials into the site because of Israeli occupation restrictions.
- Workers being denied easy movement by Israeli occupation army.



SIDE OF THE OBSTACLES FACING THE PROJECT



PART OF THE MAINTENANCE OF ONE OF THE BATHROOMS



PART OF THE MAINTENANCE OF ONE OF THE BATHROOMS



Rehabilitating Public Buildings

Rehabilitating Public Buildings

In addition to its interest in residential buildings and occupancy, the HRC seeks to renovate and rehabilitate some buildings to provide various services to the population, including educational, health, social, administrative and other services, in order to improve the living conditions of the population and provide the necessary services.

Amr Family Buildings' Rehabilitation Project

Based on the "Master Plan for the Preservation and Revitalization of the Old City of Hebron," prepared by the HRC in 2014, and the recommendations arising from the need to find schools that accommodate the expected increase in population in the Old City, we turned one of the historical abandoned buildings into a basic school. This is in order to complement the efforts of the HRC to develop the education sector as one of the vital sectors in the Old City which has a great role in promoting the community and raising its culture.

The HRC has worked on the restoration and maintenance of several existing schools in the Old City. The restoration work was carried out in accordance with the needs and requirements of these schools, which focused on improving the school environment through the maintenance and renovation of the school and the provision of playgrounds and health units as well as science labs. Some other abandoned apartments were used as classrooms for other schools that suffer shortage in classrooms.

This project is the first to target the education sector in the Old City. It aims to found an integrated full school by turning one of the old buildings into a school. This building was used as a house for an extended family (Amr Family).

Restoration and reuse of historic buildings goes in line with the direction of the HRC to preserve these buildings. Their reuse is the best way to protect them against wear and tear. Such direction is of high importance since these buildings have historical and aesthetic value. The above said building dates back to Mamluk's era, and it has unique architectural elements the preservation of which is incumbent on us to hand them down to the next generations.

As the Old City situation is exceptional in light of the Israeli colonial aggression against its citizens, the restoration and reuse of its buildings is a form of protection against the colonial settlement schemes targeting the area.

The building of Amr, located in the neighborhood of Bani Dar, has the characteristics and elements that qualify it to become a school. It contains a large number of spaces (30 spaces) distributed over three architectural blocks. The space of these rooms is suitable for use as classrooms. It also has a large front yard suitable for use as a playground for the school.

The architectural challenge in adapting the building was how to achieve the link between the three blocks. Minimal interventions were made to achieve the connection between these blocks and move between the different school spaces.



ONE OF THE CLASSES IN AMR SCHOOL

Ten classrooms were rehabilitated and some rooms were re-used as science labs, a library and management offices, a teacher's room, a social counselor room, health units for students and teachers. A cafeteria and meeting room were also provided, as well as water facility and guard room.

The building rehabilitation process included the following steps:

First: the facades and different sections of the building were documented, using graphic survey.

Second: re-design and architectural solutions.

Third: restoration processes: site clean-up, demolition, connection of blocks with a suspension bridge, plastering, dotting, electricity lines, health units, pavement, roof repair, insulation work, painting and blacksmith.

The building has been re-used within the standards and specifications of the school buildings. It is worth mentioning that the design process of the building took into account the needs of PWDs, where the elements of movement that fit their needs are available.



USE MOVEMENT ELEMENTS THAT SUIT PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



PART OF THE SITE CLEANING WORK



PART OF THE STONE DECONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION WORK



CONNECT THE PARTS OF THE BUILDING THROUGH A METAL BRIDGE



CONNECT THE PARTS OF THE BUILDING THROUGH A METAL BRIDGE



A VIEW OF THE EXECUTION OF THE WORK IN THE BUILDING



A VIEW OF THE EXECUTION OF THE WORK IN THE BUILDING



A VIEW OF THE EXECUTION OF THE WORKS OF INTERIOR LINING



A VIEW OF THE EXECUTION OF THE WORKS OF INTERIOR LINING



ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL WORKS



VIEW OF THE EXECUTION OF THE TILES



VIEW OF THE SURFACE INSULATION WORKS

The impact of the project on the development process in the Old City

The project has had a clear and effective impact on the revival of the Old City and the improvement of the living conditions of its inhabitants and the development of the community. This project mainly serves the education sector by providing a school that accommodates the growing number of students in the Old City. This school accommodates 120 students and 15 teachers. This project also has a clear impact on the revival of the Old City where life appeared to return to its buildings and streets.

The occupancy of the building increased the population's sense of security and tranquility. It provided some of them with opportunities to work, contributing to reducing unemployment.

This project provided employment opportunities for approximately 12 workers per day. Moreover, this project is of great importance to protecting the cultural heritage of the Old City and preserving its historical buildings from the danger of Judaization, in addition to thwarting attempts by the Israeli occupation and its settlers to seize these buildings.



BEFORE AND AFTER RESTORATION



BEFORE AND AFTER RESTORATION

This project was funded by the Swedish Sida Foundation and through UNESCO. The project was started on 19/4/2018 and was completed on 19/8/2018.

Amr Family's School Playground Rehabilitation Project:

The aim of the rehabilitation of the building of Amr was not only to protect and preserve the building, but also to protect the front yard, which was an empty and deserted land. It was a source of annoyance to the residents of the nearby neighborhoods and the environment of the Old City and its urban appearance in general. The rehabilitation of this yard and its use as a playground serves the school and improves the general appearance of the Old City.

The area of the yard is 850 square meters. It has been rehabilitated to include a basketball court, a playground for various games. The metal gate has been installed for the stadium. The project also includes the development of health units. It is worth mentioning that these health units serve not only the school but also the visitors of Old City.

The rehabilitation of the stadium was completed in record time, despite obstacles such as the difficulty of entering and removing materials, the daily raids of the Israeli army and the provocative activities of Israeli settlers on Saturday. The work was started on the stadium on 19/11/2018 and was completed on 18/12/2018. It is worth mentioning that the rehabilitation of the school playground was funded by the Polish government.



SCHOOL PLAYGROUND BEFORE REHABILITATION





SCHOOL PLAYGROUND DURING REHABILITATION



SCHOOL PLAYGROUND AFTER REHABILITATION



VIEW OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITAION





PLUMBING WORKS AND TILING FOR THE ENTRANCE OF THE SCHOOL

Installation of playground's umbrellas:

This project includes the installation of umbrellas and establishment of the stadium for basketball. The project started on 18/12/2018 and was completed on 3/1/2019.



BEFORE AND AFTER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UMBRELLA

The project of rehabilitating Al Amr building and its additional parts was a living example of the solidarity of the institutions and the local community with the HRC and its vision to serve the Old City and improve the conditions of its residents.

In the presence of institutions' representatives and citizens of Hebron, the project was opened under the auspices of the Minister of Education and Higher Education. Professor Atef Al-Jamal, Director of Education in Hebron commended the achievement in this important area of the Old City of Hebron, the source of the Palestinian heritage and originality. He said "I have the right to take pride in the work of the HRC and its ongoing efforts to face the plans of the Israeli occupation. I'm proud of the children of this city and Amr family who have agreed to give the Ministry of Education this building to establish this school. It is one of the defiance schools we have.

Dr. Akram Amr, representative of the Amr family, said that the Amr family is proud of donating this building, which he described as the building of pride, dignity and originality. It is the building of parents and grandparents. I'm proud of having this building today as a scientific edifice.



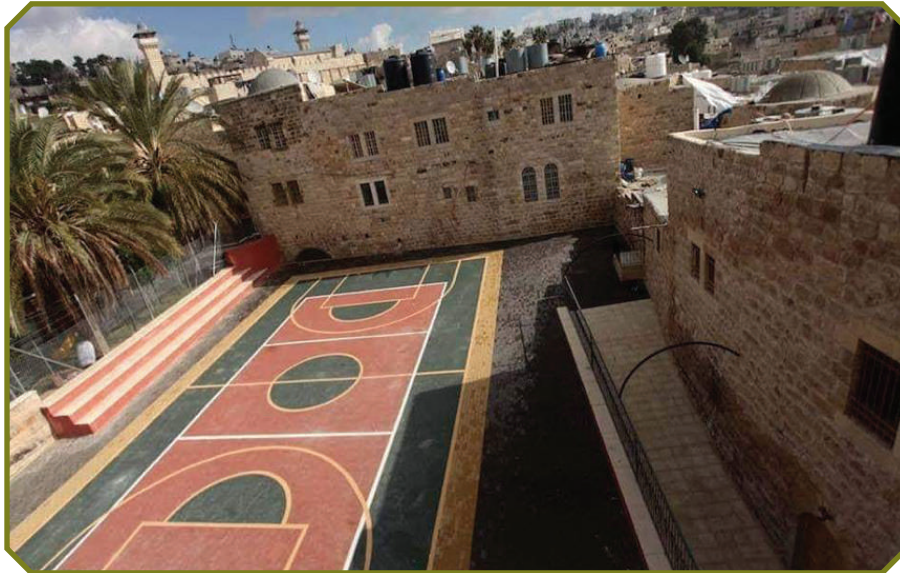
AN IMAGE SHOWING THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT WITH THE OWNERS



A PICTURE SHOWING THE HRC HANDING OVER THE KEYS TO THE SCHOOL OF THE EDUCATION DIRECTORATE IN HEBRON



SIDE OF THE SCHOOL OPENING CEREMONY



THE SCHOOL AND PLAYGROUND AFTER RESTORATION

Al-Saraya Kindergarten Maintenance Project

Al-Saraya kindergarten differs from the rest of the kindergartens located in the Old City because of its location, which is adjacent to the wall of the Ibrahimi Mosque. The children and their teachers have great difficulties in reaching it because of the surrounding barriers. In order to support the steadfastness of the kindergarten as an educational center for the children of the region, the HRC is carrying out periodic maintenance of the kindergarten and its yards



Completion and opening of the Municipal Public Services Center:

The Al Khuraisheh Building has been renovated and rehabilitated as a municipal office for the benefit of the public. The building is considered one of the distinctive buildings in the Old City due to its unique architectural character as well as its location in the center of the market which makes it easier for citizens to obtain services. It was funded by Qatar Ooredoo National Company. It was completed by the end of last year and was opened this year.



AL KHURAI SHEH FAMILY BUILDING RESTORATION



BEFOR AND AFTER MAINTENANCE



THE BUILDING IS INSIDE AFTER RESTORATION



THE BUILDING IS INSIDE AFTER USE

Glass Factory (Kanaan Land):

The aim of that is to resume glass – making in the Old City and contribute to revitalizing trade there.



KANAAN FACTORY FOR TRADITIONAL GLASS (BEFORE, DURING & AFTER RESTORATION)

Completion of the renovation and opening of a number of shops



ONE OF THE SHOPS BEFORE AND AFTER THE REPAIR

Ibn Othman Mosque Wudu' (Ablution) Facility Maintenance Project:

In cooperation with the Directorate of Islamic Endowments, a comprehensive maintenance was carried out for the Wudu Facility of the Ibn Othman Mosque. It was suffering from damage and inadequate health units as well as the absence of seats allocated for ablution.



Tourism Development Projects

Developing the tourism sector in the Old City

After the registration of Hebron on the World Heritage list, tourists began to visit the Old City. Although this influx of tourists is not as big as HRC tries to achieve. However, it bears glad tidings to the citizens of the Old City. HRC drafted an integrated plan taking into consideration all the elements of the Old City, including its architectural heritage to develop the tourist sector there.

HRC began preparing a study to invest in the historical monuments of the Old City within the main path that starts from the entrance of the Old City until the Ibrahimi Mosque. The contents of this path have been addressed in two main directions:

First: The first direction includes restoration and rehabilitation of historic buildings such as "Ibrahim Mosque, hospices and monuments, Olive and Sesame Press, Kasbah Market, Badran Cafe, Ibrahim Al Khalil Bathroom and traditional glass and beads factories.

Second: The second direction includes provision of tourism services and facilities (such as hotels, parking lots, health units, information center, drawing of road signs, rehabilitation of streets and roads, providing tourist guides, education of the local community on dealing with tourists and providing maps and prints.

Launching tourism development path

HRC organized a remarkable ceremony at the tourist cars park which is near Al-Natsha Press to launch the tourism path. Many institutions' representatives and citizens of Hebron attended the ceremony.



SIDE OF THE CEREMONY LAUNCH TOURIST TRACK

Al-Natsheh Press was the first stop in this path. It is a landmark historic building that was renovated by the HRC in 2013 as a touristic site. It tells the history of the Palestinian olive oil industry in Hebron. All the architectural and archaeological elements were preserved in the mill as a witness to the olive oil industry.



AL NATSHEH OLIVE PRESS (THE FIRST STOP WITHIN THE TOURIST ROUTE)

From the Natsheh Press, the path leads us to two of the most important Sufi venues in Hebron, the venue of Sheikh al-Shabli and that of Sheikh al-Zahid.

They reflect the period of scientific prosperity experienced by Hebron during the Mamluk period. It was a station for the scholars of religion and the elderly as well as science students.

In 2013, HRC started a process of comprehensive restoration of these venues to turn them into tourist attractions. They show the scientific importance of ancient Hebron. This distinctive style of religious architecture is a living witness to the development of this ancient city.



SUFI SHRINES (SECOND STOP WITHIN THE TOURIST ROUTE)

We move from the Sufi venues to another style of traditional presses. They were used for pressing olives and sesame. They have a unique set of machinery and equipment used in this industry. The press itself is an antique masterpiece that had to be preserved and displayed to present and future generations. They should have the opportunity to know of the industries and economic development of the Old City. To this end, the HRC has made great efforts to restore and preserve all the components of the Old City and open it to visitors and tourists.



SHAJARAT AL-DURR OLIVE PRESS (THE THIRD STOP WITHIN THE TOURIST ROUTE)

After that, the tourist path leads us to one of the most traditional crafts in Hebron, the ceramic craft that was the source of livelihood for many families in Hebron. Hebron was characterized by the continuity of its industry. It is still considered an important source of support for the city's economy.



ONE OF THE CERAMIC WORKSHOPS IN HEBRON (THE FOURTH STATION WITHIN THE TOURIST ROUTE)

We start our tour in the historic Hebron market (the Kasbah neighborhood), which has long been famous for its specialized markets and various goods. When you are wondering in these markets, you get the smell of perfumes, spices, sweets, incense, coffee and other products. In the middle of the busy markets, you encounter the historic Badran café shop and its famous courtyard. It served as a forum for the elderly and heads of Hebron's families.

They used to meet and exchanged views on various social, economic and political issues. It was used as a place of entertainment and storytelling. If you go to this café shop, you shall enjoy comfort and traditional atmosphere.



AL-QASBAH MARKET AND BADRAN COFE (THE FIFTH TOURIST DESTINATION WITHIN THE TOURIST ROUTE)



BADRAN CAFE

The path is completed until Iqnibi Press, offering tourists a different style of traditional sesame press and its products amidst many traditional artifacts and traditional Palestinian clothing. They constitute a small folk museum. The building was used as an olive press in the Ottoman period and later turned into the Sesame Press. The building consists of two main sections, each containing stone squares for sesame and an oven for parching it. The HRC has restored the site as a tourist attraction in the Old City.



A PART OF THE AQNABI (6TH STATION WITHIN THE TOURIST ROUTE)

After this tour, which is rich in distinctive sites, the path still carries many tourist treasures. It now takes us to one of the oldest baths in Palestine, to the bath of Ibrahim al-Khalil, which brings us back to the Mamluk period, which we can read clearly through its architectural style and Mamluk elements. In 2015, the HRC carried out a comprehensive renovation of the building, in which it preserved all the architectural and aesthetic elements in the building and turned it into a visitors' center for the old town, and created a small museum to display the artifacts collected from the site and its surroundings.



SIDE OF THE BATH IBRAHIM ALKHALIL AND THE SMALL MUSEUM
(THE SEVENTH STATION WITHIN THE TOURIST ROUTE)

From the Hebron bath to the milk market square, where the path leads us to the Kanaan Glass Factory. The glass industry is one of the most famous industries in Hebron. The HRC in 2017 renovated one of the abandoned halls and rehabilitated it to be a glass factory, through which the manufacture of pieces of glass in a traditional way to introduce tourists and expatriates with the mechanism of the manufacture of traditional glass, which is manufactured before their eyes.



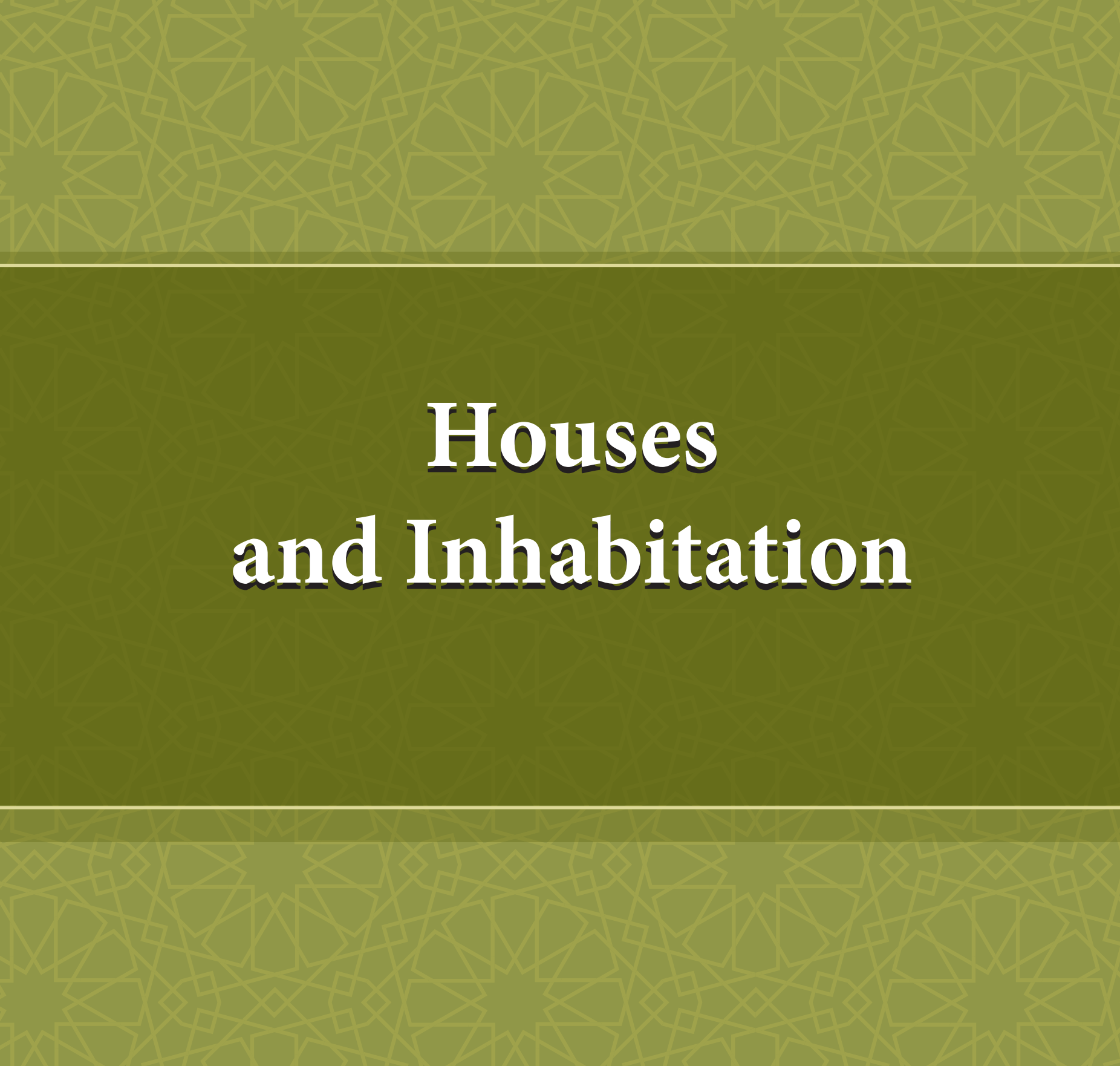
KANAAN TRADITIONAL GLASS FACTORY (8TH STATION WITHIN THE TOURIST ROUTE)

After that, the path of tourist reconstruction goes to the Friendship Park and concludes with the most sacred landmarks of the city of Hebron, the "Haram al-Ibrahimi al-Sharif". The launch of the route was accompanied by the publication of brochures on tourist attractions that fall within this track, as well as a map of the tourist route.

The restoration of the mentioned tourist attractions has translated into reality the aspirations of the HRC in the presence of a tourist movement in the old town commensurate with the elements of the Old City in order to achieve tourism development that contribute to show the cultural heritage and civilization of the Old City on the one hand and on the other contribute to improving the situation Economic development of the old town and its inhabitants.



SOME OF THE TOURIST ROUTE PUBLICATIONS

The background features a repeating geometric pattern of interlocking lines forming various polygons, set against a light olive green background. This pattern is visible in the top and bottom sections of the slide. The middle section is a solid, darker olive green color. The title text is centered in this middle section.

Houses and Inhabitation



Houses and inhabitation

Preserving the social fabric of the Old City by populating its buildings is one of the main objectives of HRC. Breathing life into the Old City can't be achieved without returning the residents to their homes there. Their return to it and revitalizing its markets and streets is necessary for its protection against the danger of the Israeli colonialist expansionist policies.

The HRC encourages housing in the Old City and its historic buildings by using all means of restoration and rehabilitation in a way that suits the requirements of modern life. It provides free housing and public services to the population such as free health insurance, certificates of proof of residence to facilitate their transactions with the academic and official bodies.

The Housing Department works according to a clear mechanism, commensurate with the uniqueness of the urban and social reality of the Old City on the one hand and the political reality imposed on it on the other. The work is carried out within clear and specific steps, which contributed to the preservation and inhabitation of the buildings of the Old City after they were abandoned as a result of the bitter reality imposed by the Israeli occupation.

The Housing Department, in cooperation with the other departments of the HRC, ensures the integrity of the work. In cooperation with the Technical Department, it provides the building's ownership information to ensure that the works are carried out in a manner consistent with the necessary requirements. It also ensures that the activities of the different departments are not overlapping. It provides HRC with proprietary information obtained from the field, in addition to coordination with the owners. It facilitates people contact with the legal unit, which in turn monitors the procedures related to the property issue.

The relationship between the inhabitant and HRC does not end after the inhabitation of the building. Rather, it is the beginning of the follow-up and the provision of the services it needs. This is done through the first visit by the Housing Department to the inhabitants to ensure that they are facing no problems that may hinder the continuity of their residence. 18 new families were accommodated in the Old City this year.

Housing Department Services

The HRC through the housing department provides many services that help the residents to stay in their homes and improve their living, health and economic conditions. It also contributes to reducing poverty and unemployment. The most important of these services are:

First: electricity and water services:

The HRC, in cooperation with the Municipality of Hebron, provides electricity and water services for the households of the Old City. The households are provided with up to 100 kW and water up to 3 m³ free of duty. During this year, 21 new households were given access to electricity and water services. The total number of the households that receive these services today is about 447 households.

Second: Free of duty health insurance:

It is considered one of the quality services offered by the Housing Department. HRC provides free health insurance for every resident in the Old City in cooperation with the Ministry of Health. It guarantees free treatment for all residents of the Old City and achieves comprehensive health development. In this context, 84 health insurance bills were issued to the residents of the Old City during the year, bringing the total number of health insurance issued by the end of this year to 1687.

Third: Proof of residence:

(395) residents were granted residency proof document to facilitate their treatment and assistance by institutions such as health, the Red Cross, the governorate, the tax department, the municipality, the social affairs department, the education office, Hebron and al-Quds universities and Palestine Polytechnic College.

The Department of Housing also assumes the following responsibilities:

- Following-up and permanent visits to buildings and people to identify the problems and work to solve them in cooperation with other sections.
- Following-up apartments that are evacuated and re-maintenance.
- Following up several cases of infringement of buildings by some citizens in violation of the law and regulations of the housing. The aim of this pattern of follow-up is to preserve the property of the citizens in cooperation with the police.
- The Social Research Section helps all job-seekers of the Old City prove their place of residence to increase their opportunity for an employment.
- The Social Research Section helps the students of the third general secondary class of the Old City and those whose grade is less than %65 to get university acceptance to complete their study.
- (18) Families of the Old City were housed during 2018.



HOUSING AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT RECEIVES AUDITORS





THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT MONITORS THE VACANT APARTMENT



THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT MONITORS THE RESIDENTS' AFFAIRS IN THEIR HOMES

Following up the situation of the population of the Old City and the closed areas there, HRC and its Housing Department made several visits to these areas to keep abreast of the housing conditions. These visits were mainly concentrated in the eastern part of the Ibrahimi Mosque. The visiting team interviewed referents in Jaber meeting hall and the applicants of Tel-Rumeida in Ibrahim al-Khalil Society.



The background features a repeating geometric pattern of interlocking lines forming various polygons, primarily squares and stars, in a light olive green color against a darker olive green background. Two horizontal bands of this pattern are visible at the top and bottom of the slide, framing a central solid dark olive green area.

Training and Capacity Building



Training and Capacity Building

The HRC is keen to enrich the expertise of the architects in the field of protection of historical buildings and preservation of its architectural elements. It is implementing several training programs that enhance the expertise of architects and supervisors in the renovation projects of historic buildings and sites. The committee also participates in local and international events, which raise the level of expertise of architects working in it and look forward to the progress made in the field of protection of cultural heritage.

Training Courses

The HRC and the Cooperation Foundation launched a specialized training course entitled "Structural Preservation and Assessment of the Structural Behavior of Buildings ". The course aimed at graduates of architects the aim of this course is to increase the capabilities of architects and contractors working in the field of building restoration in the subjects of strengthening and rehabilitating the structural and non-structural elements in these buildings. The course includes determining the types of damage suffered by the old buildings in the Palestinian cities, including examples of multiple case studies.



CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE TRAINING COURSE

Exchange of experiences

The HRC participated in the activities of the Arab Conference on Sustainable Cities to enable sustainability partners in the development of cities under the slogan "Our city is our responsibility", organized by the Municipality of Dhofar in cooperation with the First Care for Organizing Conferences and with its strategic partners the Arab Planning Institute in Kuwait, and the Arab Towns Organization in the Youth Society for Culture in Salalah.

The HRC participated in a presentation on the experience of the Committee in restoring the old town as a historic center in the city of Hebron, where they were briefed on all aspects of life in light of the obstacles and pressures imposed by the Israeli occupation on the inhabitants of the Old City. Which was achieved by the Committee for the reconstruction of Hebron in the protection of the Old City and preserve its historical features compared to what has been done in other countries do not suffer from these pressures.

The conference discussed several papers that highlighted the various issues related to the matrix of sustainable development in the Arab cities with the participation of senior officials and decision makers in the GCC countries, the Levant countries, Iraq, the Maghreb countries and North Africa. The conference aims at activating the role of comprehensive sustainable development building strategic partnerships between the public and private sectors and civil society institutions, and discussing the issues and obstacles of building and developing sustainable cities and the effectiveness of municipal councils and local administrations and methods of upgrading their performance through experimentation, Strategies in the legislative, regulatory, financial and technological dimensions, with the participation of selected politicians, decision-makers, experts, researchers, academics and economists from the public and private sectors, civil society institutions and development partners.



PART OF THE CONFERENCE

International Forum on Cities and Heritage in the Arab Countries in Morocco

The Hebron Rehabilitation Committee participated in the "International Forum on Cities and Heritage in the Arab States" which was held from 26 to 28 November 2018 under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qassimi, Ruler of Sharjah and Her Highness Princess Hasnaa, President of the Moroccan Association of Archeology and Heritage , With the participation of 16 Arab countries and a number of international experts on heritage and historical cities.

This important meeting was the result of constructive cooperation between the Regional Center for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage in the Arab World, ICCROM-Sharjah and the Moroccan Association for Archeology and Heritage, the two organizing bodies in partnership with the Ministry of Culture and Communication with the contribution of a number of governmental and non-governmental institutions in Morocco.

The meeting included a number of experiences, practical experiences and group discussion sessions, as well as many case studies from the Arab region, particularly from North Africa, the Middle East and the Arabian Peninsula, aimed at preserving the quality of life in historic neighborhoods and cities as the most appropriate way to promote cultural heritage and sustainable development.

The forum focused on three main issues: institutional and legal frameworks aimed at integrating the preservation of historic neighborhoods and cities within the framework of sustainable development and achieving a balance between the built and natural environment; building practical capacities, academic and university qualifications, encouraging scientific research and exchanging information and meaningful communication, finally, cooperation between stakeholders, as well as between competent international bodies, experts and managers of historic city sites.

The event included a series of lectures and case studies from Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia, Libya from North Africa, and a number of other case studies from Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria from the Middle East. These cases presented by a number of Arab experts reviewed a series of experiences and outstanding projects in these countries to preserve the cultural and urban heritage in these countries.

Fifth World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies (WOCMES)

The HRC participated in the Fifth World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies, held in Seville from July 2018 ,20-16. The HRC presented its experience in reviving the Old City and the violations it suffered as a result of the Israeli occupation.

Hebron on the World Heritage List

The HRC considers the registration of the Old City and the Ibrahimi Mosque as a threat to the list of endangered cultural heritage. This is a great responsibility that places before our eyes a primary goal: to remove the danger from Hebron and its ancient heritage. This requires us to exert more efforts to protect the Old City and its heritage. All ways that contribute to the lifting of Israeli attacks and violations that threatens this heritage.

In this context, the HRC, in cooperation with the Municipality of Hebron and the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, is working on the continuous follow-up of the registration file with the UNESCO World Heritage Committee. UNESCO is provided with an annual report on the state of preservation of the cultural property registered on the World Heritage List, where all projects completed to preserve and develop the site are documented and violations that threaten the cultural and architectural heritage of the registered site action is also taken to take away the site from the risk situation.

The HRC participated in an intensive workshop held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, where the exceptional value of the registered site was formulated and the management plan of the site was evaluated. The workshop was preceded with a visit by the Palestinian Ambassador to UNESCO Mr. Mounir Anastas to the old town of Hebron in order to get acquainted and discuss the issues related to the Hebron registration on the World Heritage List.



A PART OF THE VISIT EXCHANGE WITH UNESCO TO FOLLOW UP THE REGISTRATION ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST.

GIS Unit (Geographic Information System)

Within the goal of integration between the sections of the HRC and for GIS Unit to meet the needs of the sections of the Committee:

- Collaboration with the Legal Unit of the HRC and the preparation of a set of aerial maps reports and statistics to meet the legal unit's needs of documentation and preparation of the cases against the Israeli allegations, and the processing of several maps showing Israeli closures and checkpoints.
- A housing database is available to start maintenance projects so that we can link this data with geographic locations to obtain a geographic database that includes both spatial and descriptive data.
- Work on the preparation of a map for the path of tourism reconstruction.
- Work on the preparation of a geographical database of shops, including the descriptive information necessary to document the shops and know the maintenance needs of shops.
- Working with the technical office to document maintenance and restoration projects, spatial archiving of the work and providing citizens with materials and within the work plan for participation, as more than 100 apartments benefited from this plan during 2018 within the boundaries of the old town.

Activities and events



Activities and events

This year has been full of activities and events that support the process of preserving and revitalizing the old town of Hebron. These activities are:

- HRC organized an awareness meeting targeting dozens of residents of the Old City for psychological discharge and alleviation of negative pressures.
- The HRC received a German delegation to brief them on existing projects and to explore ways of financing new projects.
- A delegation from the University of Swarthmore visited the old town, where they were welcomed and had a presentation to show them the old town and the surrounding political, economic and social conditions.
- A delegation from Qatar accompanied by Wataniya Mobile to a rehabilitation project of the infrastructure in the Old City implemented by HRC.
- Ibraheim Al Khaleil Society represented by its chairman and members of the administrative board, visited the HRC and met with the Director General and staff of the Committee, and thanked the employees of the HRC and its Director General and appreciated the work that they do.



- Participation in national rallies and solidarity vigils against the US administration's decision on Jerusalem.
- The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and the HRC organized a workshop on activating the tourist route in the Hebron Old City.
- The HRC hosted a high-level delegation from the German Embassy, in order to review the projects implemented by the HRC with funding from the German government.
- The HRC hosted a British delegation, and made a presentation about the achievements of the HRC and the Old City.
- The HRC discussed with the Representative of the United Nations Program in Palestine the means of cooperation in the future, about rehabilitation of the Old City's historical buildings and its steadfast inhabitants.
- The HRC Director General received the Arab delegations participating in the Islamic Youth Conference, stressing that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Palestine and accompanied with them to visit the Ibrahimi Mosque and Kanaan Glass Factory.



- The HRC met with the Norwegian Cooperation Director to discuss ways of cooperating and the latest developments in the Old City and visited the Kanaan Glass Factory, which was recently rehabilitated by the HRC.
- HRC and TIPH signed a partnership agreement in the Old City for the rehabilitation and maintenance of buildings.
- The HRC hosted a meeting for a 100 Palestinian youth studying journalism at local universities in Hebron and Bethlehem at Shajar Al-Durr Olive press in Al-Zahed, in order to acquaint them with the situation in the Old City and help them build a supportive public opinion.
- Students of international human rights law at Hebron University visited the HRC Legal Unit and were briefed on the current situation and violations of the Old City.



- The "Turkish Bath" visitor center was opened in the old town of Hebron and was handed over to the Palestinian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities for its management and operation.



- The HRC honored its female employees on the occasion of International Women's Day.



- Three hundred women from the women's labor departments at the directorates of Awqaf in the governorates of the country were hosted. The Director General welcomed them, made a presentation to them, introduced them to the old town, and explained their political, economic and social conditions and how local institutions protect the Old City and preserve its cultural heritage.
- The HRC, in cooperation with the Ministries of Culture and Tourism, organized a seminar entitled "Mothers of the Earth and Women of the Place" in the National Culture Week 2018 at Al-Zahid.
- The Director General received a high-level Spanish delegation accompanied by Caritas Jerusalem and gave them a presentation on the suffering of the Old City and the achievements of the Committee.
- The HRC received a delegation of 18 parliamentarians from Canada to examine the situation in Hebron and the exceptional circumstances of the old town.
- The Director General of the HRC, the Governor of Hebron and the Deputy Mayor of Hebron received the Foreign Minister of Oman at the Committee's headquarters and was welcomed and gave him a presentation showing the achievements of the Committee and the conditions of the Old City of Hebron.



- The HRC received a delegation of students from Polish universities in order to review the situation in the Old City under the Israeli occupation and the continuous violations and attacks by settlers and Israeli soldiers.
- The Chairman of the HRC and its Director General received the British Secretary of State and the British Consul General in Jerusalem, where a presentation was presented to them about the Old City and the achievements of HRC.
- Visit of an American delegation to the Old City and HRC.
- Receiving the Grand Mufti of the Republic of Chechnya, Sheikh Muhammad Saleh Salah al-Din, where they were briefed on the general situation in the Old City and the Ibrahimi Mosque.
- The HRC launched the "Tourism Reconstruction Path" in the Old City, with joint efforts between it and the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities. The ceremony included folklore and exhibitions of food products and handicrafts in the presence of a number of official and legal personalities and the city's businessmen.



- The HRC received dozens of children from the Zakat Committee in Bethlehem. They were accompanied by a tour of historical sites covered by the tourism reconstruction process. They were received by the director general of Awqaf and Director General of HRC.
- Receiving a student delegation from the Faculty of Applied Professions at the Palestine Polytechnic University, in cooperation with the Student Union Council, within the "We are the pulse of the homeland" campaign.
- The HRC held a meeting with a group of human rights organizations to discuss and update the issue of the mechanisms of encroachment on barriers and closures in the Old City.
- The HRC distributed Ramadan decorations to all residents of the houses of Tel Rumeida, funded by TIPH.



- Distribution of Ramadan decorations to the areas east of the Ibrahimi Mosque, where it was during a Ramadan evening organized by the National Liberation Movement (fatah) in the neighborhood of Jabir performed by Teebah band.
- The Ramadan sweets were prepared by Wadi Al-Husain women, and the HRC provided them with the necessary materials to be prepared with funding from the Palestinian Islamic Bank in the Ibrahimi Mosque and in the areas east of the Haram.



- The HRC and the Palestine Polytechnic University signed a memorandum of understanding for joint cooperation in the service of the Old City in order to define the framework of understanding on this partnership



- The HRC hosted a high-level delegation from the Polish Representation, where they were welcomed by the director Ghassan Idris, and explained to them the situation in the old town.
- The HRC received the representative of the International Judo Federation and was welcomed by the Director General to inform him of the latest achievements of the Committee.
- The HRC hosted a delegation representing the Art Cooperation Network with the People's Architecture Center "Riwaq". A presentation was presented about the Old City and the most important work carried out by the Committee.
- The HRC hosted a diplomatic delegation from Turkey accompanied by the Director General and Director of the Awqaf Directorate on a field tour of the tourist sites in the Old City.
- The HRC received a US religious delegation and a presentation was made for them.
- The HRC received a Spanish delegation and a detailed picture of the Old City and HRC was presented.
- The HRC met with representatives of the German Federal Government to discuss the renovation of shops in the Old City.
- The HRC participated in the Tourism and Development Conference reality and challenges. The Director General participated with a scientific paper on tourism development in the Old City.
- The HRC cooperated with the Kamandjati Foundation in the musical and popular events, which included musical performances from around the world.
- The HRC met with a group of shop owners in the Old City to inform them of the structure of the HRC to organize and participate in the ceremony for the completion of the infrastructure in the Qazazin market and Khan Shahin.
- HRC participated in a conference on occupational health and safety organized by Palestine Polytechnic University.
- HRC organized a volunteer day for employees of the Palestinian Islamic Bank, where dozens of trees and agricultural seedlings were planted in various squares and gardens in the Old City. They were accompanied by a tour of tourist sites in the Old City.

- The HRC organized a meeting with lawyers in the 48th palestine, working for the HRC, the Wall and Settlement Resistance Committee and the Norwegian Refugee Council to discuss the issue of tightening at military checkpoints and obstructing the movement of citizens.
- The HRC met with an international delegation of jurists through Al Haq Organization to inform them of the political situation in the Old City and the role of the Legal Unit in following up the Israeli violations and their property.
- The HRC met with representatives of the Italian consulate to discuss the possibility of implementing new projects in cooperation with the Italian University of Seyoum.
- HRC celebrated the completion of infrastructure rehabilitation project in the market of Qazazin and Khan Shahin.



- The committee organized a collective breakfast of Ramadan for members of the board of directors of the HRC and its employees, there was competitions and entertainment.
- HRC signed an agreement with the Islamic Development Bank, including restoration, rehabilitation and maintenance of buildings in the Old City, rehabilitation of the Ibrahimi Mosque and its surroundings.
- The Director General met with the staff to view the presentation on the completion of the Jamjoom and Abu Daraan project, financed by Wataniya Mobile and Ooredoo Group and viewed a presentation on Asahla project on the 5th stage.
- The HRC held several meetings in connection with the establishment of an environmental club in the Old City, in cooperation with the Environment Quality Authority, Hebron Governorate, the Hebron Environment and the Ministry of Tourism.
- The committee met with a group of volunteers in the field of tourism and talked about organizing visits from Jerusalem and the lands of the Palestine 1948 to the Old City.
- The HRC, represented by its Director General, received the Palestinian Ambassador to UNESCO Munir Anastas. They were accompanied by Director General of the World Heritage in the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities Dr. Ahmad Rajoub and Ms. Jameela Erekat, Diplomatic Attaché in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Director of Tourism and Antiquities in Hebron Najah Abu Sarah.
- Participation of the Director General in the regular meetings of Nipeto to explore ways of developing tourism in the southern West Bank.
- In cooperation with Al-Taawon, the committee organized a graduation ceremony of a specialized course entitled "Introduction to Structural Conservation and Evaluation of Structural Behavior of Buildings" Where the course targeted graduates engineering.
- The committee met with the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics for coordination to update the data on the Old City in accordance with its specificity.
- Meeting with graduate students at various local and international universities and providing important information about their studies.

- Hosting a delegation of the leadership of the security services for the first time in official uniforms, accompanied by a field tour in the old town.



- The HRC received a student delegation from Stanford University in the United States accompanied by Msar Ibrahim, as part of a camp organized by the Palestinian Telecommunications Company.
- The HRC hosts a student delegation from various universities around the world through the Faculty of Political Science at Birzeit University.



- The HRC hosted a student delegation from the Faculty of Architecture at the Palestine Polytechnic University, explaining the current situation in the Old City and accompanying them with a tour of restoration projects under way to see how to preserve the architectural elements of the old buildings.



- Visit of Wataniya Mobile CEO Dr. Dergam Marai and a delegation from the company's executive management to HRC, where they were received by the Director General Emad Hamdan and members of the committee, the Technical Director, the Executive Director and the engineering staff the visit culminated in the conclusion of the restoration project of Abu Dar'an in the Sawakin neighborhood.



- The HRC received a delegation from the Turkish government. The Director General explained to them the importance of the city of Hebron and its old city and its sanctuary to Ibrahimi Mosque and the Israeli violations and attacks committed against the citizens and their property.



- The HRC, represented by its President and Director-General, received the Ambassador of the State of Poland.



- The Committee received a high-level delegation from Germany, where they were briefed on the projects carried out by the Committee and visiting families whose houses were renovated with funding from the German government.



- Meeting with the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Mrs. Rola Maayaa, where the certificate of registration of the city of Hebron was handed over to the World Heritage List of the Mayor and Director General of HRC.



- The Hebron Reconstruction Committee briefed a foreign delegation from Lithuania on the political situation in the Old City.



- The Committee received the delegation of a US journalist in solidarity with the Palestinian cause as part of a visit program prepared by the Cooperation Foundation.
- The HRC, represented by its President and Director-General, receives the Ambassador of Austria and its Consul General. The political situation in the Old City was explained.



- The HRC hosted the Governor of Hebron, Jibreen al-Bakri, and the Mayor of Hebron, Tayseer Abu Sneineh, and briefed them on the Committee's most recent achievements. The Director-General accompanied them.



- The HRC hosted a Norwegian delegation accompanied by the Palestinian Foundation for Cultural Exchange.
- The HRC hosted a member of the Board of Trustees of the Cooperation Foundation, Mr. Jamal Abu Ali, where he was welcomed by the Director General and briefed him on the situation in the Old City.



- The HRC hosted a student delegation from Birzeit University accompanied by a group of human rights defenders. A presentation was presented on the political situation in the Old City and the role of the Committee in protecting it from Judaization and settlement and preserving its cultural heritage.



- HRC concluded the shopping festival for grapes in the Old City in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture.



- The HRC received the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Awqaf, Hossam Abu Al-Rob, and the Director General of Awqaf, Ismail Abu Al-Halawa, and a delegation accompanying him from the ministry.



- The HRC, the Palestinian Civil Defense Directorate and the Women's Committee in the Old City meet to develop an awareness program and knowledge of the fire points in the Old City.



- The HRC met with representatives of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to monitor the Israeli attacks on the population in the Old City.
- The HRC and the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities are moving towards serious steps to launch the renovation and rehabilitation project of the Al-Herbawi building, "The former Palestine Hotel", which is located in the Bab Al-baladya Square and to be used as a museum.



- The HRC hosts a British expert in the management of museums, Mr. Neil McCrackor, where he was welcomed by the Director General Emad Hamdan had a presentation and accompanied him on a tour of sites included in the tourism reconstruction process.
- HRC adds to its successes and achievements another mark in the Old City, where it celebrated the completion of the renovation project of the complex of the Amro buildings, and its opening in cooperation with the Ministry of Education for use as a basic school.
- Participation of the Director General in the "International Forum on Cities and Heritage in the Arab States" in Morocco, where the GM presented a paper on the HRC experience in reviving the old town after it was almost empty.

- HRC held a lecture organized by the Faculty of Pharmacy at Hebron University aimed at students of the college.



- The HRC participated in the regular meetings of the Board of Directors of the Palestinian Association of Historic Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in order to follow up administrative matters and discuss ways to activate the historical awareness of the importance of historical sites.
- The HRC received a diplomatic delegation comprising many consuls and representatives of foreign missions, at the invitation of the HRC.



- The HRC receives the women of Deir Hanna, accompanied by a tour of the Old City.



- The HRC met with the Abu Sneineh Youth Forum and the Martyrs of the Ibrahimi Mosque in order to discuss the development of a plan to activate life in the area of Qaitoun and organize events and activities surrounding it.



- The HRC received the UNESCO and informed it of its achievements in renovating the Amr School in the Old City.
- The HRC participated in the regular meetings organized by TIPH in Hebron to discuss the latest developments in the Old City and the surrounding areas.
- The HRC received Canadian and American mayors and briefed them on the situation in the Old City.
- The HRC administration organized a tour of the staff to visit Amr School and see a film about the steps of restoration and rehabilitation.
- The committee met with the Dean of the Faculty of Economics at Al-Quds University to discuss the attempts to revive the economic situation in the Old City and compare it with the Old City of Jerusalem.
- The GM met with the Ministry of Tourism and the Municipality of Hebron to discuss how to develop the political situation in the city of Hebron in the presence of Undersecretary of the Ministry of Tourism and Director of Tourism and Antiquities in Hebron.
- The HRC participated in a workshop organized by UNESCO in Paris. The workshop aimed to formulate the exceptional value of Hebron, as a continuation of the Hebron registration file on the World Heritage List. It also discussed the status of preserving old Hebron and the threats to maintain and agree on corrective measures the danger of Hebron. During the workshop, a presentation was presented showing the work of the reconstruction committee in planning (overall plan) and preservation and restoration.
- HRC holds a meeting with the participation of several institutions and residents of Wadi Al-Husain area east of the Ibrahimi Mosque



- Receiving the head of the Palestinian community in Bulgaria Dr. Ibrahim Dughmush, accompanied by Undersecretary of the Ministry of Local Government Mohamed Hassan Al-Jabbarin, Director General of Projects Omar Sharqia and Advisor to the Minister of Local Government in Public Relations Walid Abu Al-Halawa, in order to get acquainted with the reality of the population in the Old City, and visit projects implemented by HRC.



- Meeting with a member of the Committee of the Territory of the Fatah movement in central Hebron Issa Abu Mayala to talk about the latest political developments in the Old City.



- The President of the Sharia Court in Hebron, the Shari'a Judge Sheikh Muhannad Abu Roumi, presents to the HRC a letter of thanks and appreciation for their efforts in the restoration of the Sharia Court.



- The HRC is discussing with the Directorate of Hebron Awqaf the rehabilitation of the Ibrahimi Mosque and its needs, and receives a letter of thanks from the late Undersecretary of the Ministry of Awqaf, Hossam Abu-Rob



- Abu Assab family visits the HRC in order to present an appreciation shield to the committee for its efforts to renovate their house at the entrance to Al-Qasbah neighborhood and to be threatened by the settlers. The family praised the work of the committee's staff which challenged the difficulties encountered by the Israeli occupation during the renovation of the house.



- Meeting with the Organizing Committee in the Old City periodically and continuously.



Legal Unit



Overview of the Legal Unit:

HRC established its Legal Unit to monitor and document the violations, crimes and attacks committed by the Israeli occupation authorities against the Palestinian citizens in the Old City of Hebron and their private and public property, defend their rights and raise awareness among them about these rights.

Its tasks include representing Palestinian victims in Israeli military courts, exposing the practices of the Israeli occupation government and the settlers against the Palestinians through mass media, addressing human rights organizations and unveiling and pursuing the Zionist colonial plans by using all possible legal means.

Key Legal Unit's Achievements in 2018:

1. Removing a caravan that was placed by the settlers in the land of the Kaial in the area of Hesba.

The Legal Unit of HRC was able to remove the caravan placed by Israeli settlers on the land of Kaial family in Al-Hesba area in the Old City of Hebron. It filed a complaint on behalf of the owners of the land against Israeli settlers' assault. This plot of land is a closed area by a military decision, and so must be protected by Israeli military forces. However, Israeli settlers removed the gate leading to it and placed the caravan.



A PHOTO OF THE CARAVAN PLACED BY ISRAELI SETTLERS ON KAIAL'S LAND

2. Evacuating Israeli settlers from Abu Rajab's building:

The legal unit of the HRC succeeded in evacuating the settlers from the Abu Rajab building. On 11 March, the Israeli Supreme Court issued a final decision to evict the settlers who stormed the Abu Rajab building. As a result, the settlers evacuated the house in the early hours of the morning of 2018/3/22.

After the evacuation of the settlers from the house, Israeli occupation army changed the keys of the main door of the building in line with the decision of the court, pending proof as to whom the building belongs. A decision in this regard shall be issued based on the petition submitted by HRC.



A PHOTO OF ISRAELI SETTLERS STORMING ABU RAJAB'S BUILDING

3. Dismantling Tents Erected in the Ibrahimi Compound Yard:

Based on the preliminary legal and judicial proceedings carried out by the Legal Unit of HRC, the tents erected by Israeli settlers were removed from the grounds of the Ibrahimi Mosque. They were erected on 2018/3/9 with the aim of holding huge festivals and celebrations. This blatant violation of the sanctity of the Ibrahimi Mosque comes in the context of the Israeli occupation attempts to Judaize the area. This area is always targeted by Israeli settlers with full support from the Israeli occupation government. It provides them with all facilities to achieve their colonial goal.



4. Dismantling Tents Erected in the Ibrahimi School Yard

Pursuant to a complaint filed with the Israeli Police by the Legal Unit HRC on behalf of the owners of the land (Ibrahimieh School Yard) located in the Al-Sahla area in the Old City of Hebron, the Israeli army's tents were removed from there on 2018/3/25.



A PHOTO OF DISMANTLING CARAVANS AND TENTS

5. Evacuating Israeli settlers from Mashhad al-Arba'in in Tel-Rumeida

HRC filed a lawsuit with the Israeli court to evacuate Israeli settlers from Mashhad Al-Arba'in in Tel Rumeida in the Old City which they turned into a synagogue. Israeli settlers attacked and turned it into a synagogue. The Court was convinced that Israeli settlers act was illegal, and so issued an order to evacuate them from the area.

6. Dismissing a lawsuit filed by Gosh Emonim, claiming ownership of al-Bakri building in Tel Rumeida

The Legal Unit of HRC succeeded in issuing a decision by the Israeli Supreme Court to cancel a petition filed by a Jewish association called - the Association for the Protection of the Land of the Forefathers- against Al-Bakri building. This association claimed that part of the disputed land was considered a Jewish settlement. The Supreme Court of Israel has ordered the cancellation of case filed by the Jewish association.

7. Evacuating Israeli settlers from Al-Qudsi and Al-Kurd families' building

Based on the complaints and petitions submitted by HRC on behalf of the owners of the buildings which is located in al-Sahla area in the Old City. They were evacuated from the building and the stored they were taking over.

8. Putting the decision of building colonial settlement housing units in the Old City on freeze.

The Legal Unit filed a petition with the Organization and Construction Council in Bet-Eil against the decision of licensing the construction of 31 settlement housing units. It was decided that the license be frozen pending the end of the judicial proceedings.

9. A precautionary order was issued prohibiting the construction of a synagogue in a land belonging to the Amr family in Qab area. The petition was filed by the Legal Unit on behalf of its owners against the expansion of a military tower to build a synagogue on the land.

10. Cancelling a military order to establish a local administration for Israeli settlers in Hebron.

The legal unit succeeded in passing a decision by the Israeli Supreme Court to force the Israeli Public Prosecution to revoke the military order or part thereof, which provides for the establishment of a local administration for settlers in Hebron.

11. Removing a staircase built by the settlers in the land of a Palestinian citizen in Wadi al-Husain area.

Based on a complaint filed by the Legal Unit of HRC on behalf of the owner of the land Mr. Munther Jabir against the establishment of the settler's staircase in his land located in the Wadi al-Husayn area of Hebron, the staircase removed.

12. Assisting in releasing some of the detainees of the Old City.

The Legal Unit has documented 70 cases of arrests among the citizens of the Old City. The release of 30 cases was successfully secured. The remaining cases were referred to the relevant Palestinian official and civil authorities or released after investigation.



A PHOTO OF DETAINEES' CASES BEING FOLLOWED UP

13. Permitting restoration of Fawaz Qafesha's house and installing a fence to protect it against Israeli settlers' assaults.

On 2018/4/25, the Israeli occupation forces prevented workers of HRC from working in Fawaz Qafisha house. After the legal unit intervened through legal correspondence with the concerned authorities and addressed the Israeli judicial authorities, workers were allowed to enter the materials and repair the house. A fence was built around the house to protect its inhabitants against Israeli settlers' attacks. This house is adjacent to Al-Zatari building which was stormed by Israeli settlers. The Legal Unit follows up this case now with Israeli judicial authorities.



A PHOTO OF ISRAELI OCCUPATION FORCES PROHIBITING WORKERS OF HRC FROM RESTORING QAFISHA'S HOUSE



A PHOTO OF ISRAELI OCCUPATION FORCES PROHIBITING WORKERS OF HRC FROM RESTORING QAFISHA'S HOUSE

14. Submission of reports to United Nations Special Rapporteurs.

The Legal Unit submitted several urgent complaints to UN special rapporteurs, including the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief and the Special Rapporteur on human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967. The complaints cover numerous human rights violations, including the assault on the Ibrahimi Mosque and archeological sites in the Old City of Hebron.

Legal Unit's Activities

1. The legal unit held a workshop entitled "The repercussions of the withdrawal of the occupying state from UNESCO". The workshop focused on the legal consequences of this Israeli decision and how to prepare for confronting and questioning the occupying state for the violations it commits in contravention of the international law.



2. Participating in a sit-in organized in solidarity with the prisoners held in Israeli prisons.



3. Making support visits to the victims of Israeli violations.



4. Participating in educative workshop.



5. Receiving victims, providing aid for them, documenting their statements and taking the necessary legal measures.



Outcomes of monitoring and documenting human Israeli occupation human rights violations:

The following charts show the total number of violations committed by the Israeli occupation army and settlers against Palestinian citizens and their properties in 2018:

Human rights violations committed by Israeli occupation forces and settlers in 2018:

In addition to the attacks carried out by Jewish settlers against Palestinian citizens and their property in the Old City of Hebron, the Israeli soldiers exchange roles with the settlers. They both carry out assaults against the Palestinian citizens of the Old City.

The total number of violations committed by the occupation army and settlers against Palestinian citizens and their properties in the Old City during the year 2018 was four hundred and ninety-nine (499) * Violations. They targeted all population groups and their private and public property.

Each incident of violation resulted in different patterns of violation and different target groups. (800) incidents of violations were carried out by Israeli occupation army and settlers against the Palestinian citizens and their property.

The graphs below show the number of violations documented by the Legal Unit per month during 2018, as well as the perpetrator of such attacks (the occupation army, settlers or both).

Reports from the Legal Unit also show that the majority of human rights violations in 2018 were perpetrated by Israeli soldiers, a percentage higher than those perpetrated by Jewish settlers, as shown in Table 1.

The total number of attacks and violations committed by the Israeli occupation army during the year 2018 amounted to (313), incident of violation, or %63 of the total number of violations.

The total number of violations committed by settlers against Palestinian citizens and their property during the same period amounted to (103) violations, or %21.

As for the violations committed by the Israeli settlers and army, they reached 82 incidents or %16 of the total number of violations.

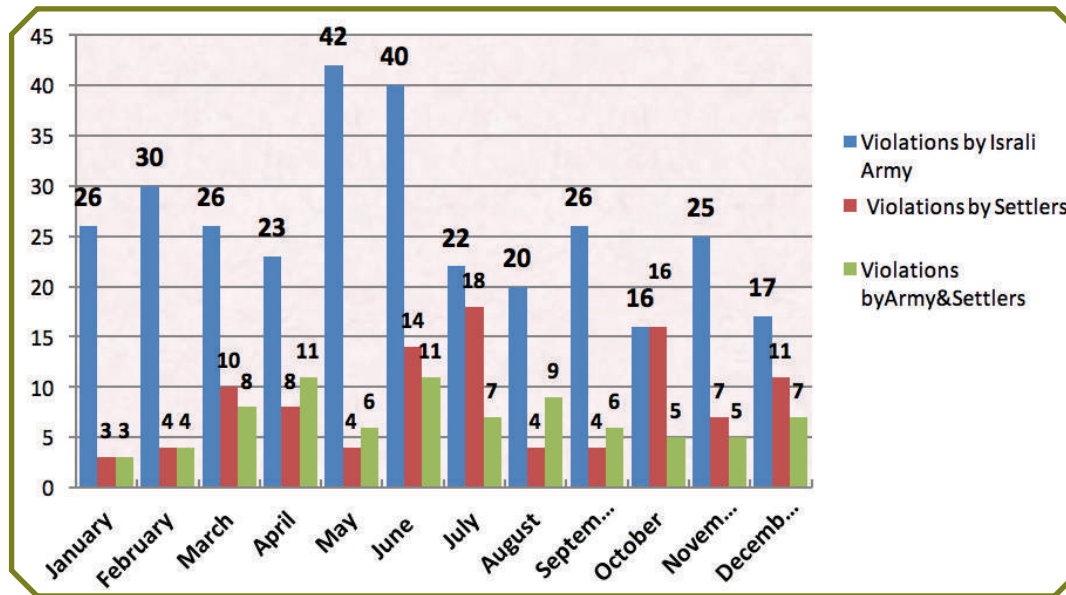


Table (1): A graph showing violations of the occupation army and settlers during 2018

Comment

The pattern of the violation: a violation committed in a specific place and time, resulting in more than one violation of the rights of citizens and their private and public property.

Incident of violation: is an occurrence that results from the violation and affects one target.

Classification of violations by targeted group:

- Violations against the citizens (men, women, children), individuals or groups, totaling (389 violations).
- Violations of private property such as shops, houses and land owned by individuals totaling 145 violations.
- Violations of public property such as streets, roads, public squares, schools and religious places ... totaling 266 violations.

The rate of attacks on the Palestinian population (individuals or groups) is greater than the attacks on public and private property as shown in the table below

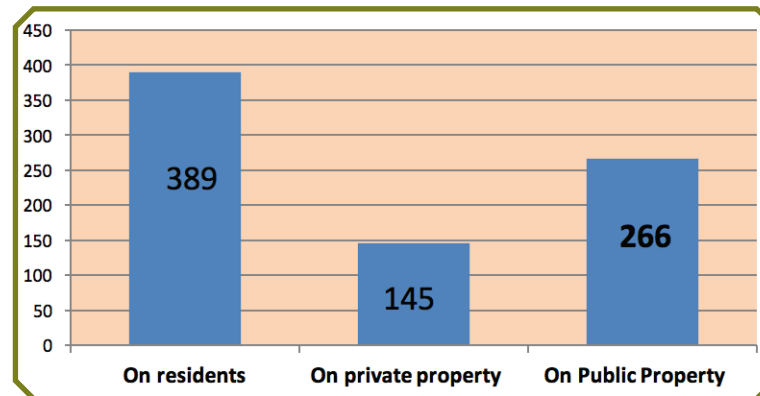


Table (2A): A graph showing violations of the occupation army and settlers against citizens and property during 2018



EXCAVATIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE SETTLERS INSIDE A BASEMENT UNDER THE HOUSE OF THE ZA'TARI FAMILY



A PHOTO SHOWING THE AMOUNT OF HISTORICAL STONES STOLEN BY SETTLERS FROM INSIDE A BASEMENT UNDER THE ZA'TARI FAMILY HOME

The following graph (2B) shows the percentage of violations committed against each of the parties targeted by the Israeli violations and assaults.

Violations against the population, 49%.

Violations against private property, 18%.

Violations against public property, 33%.

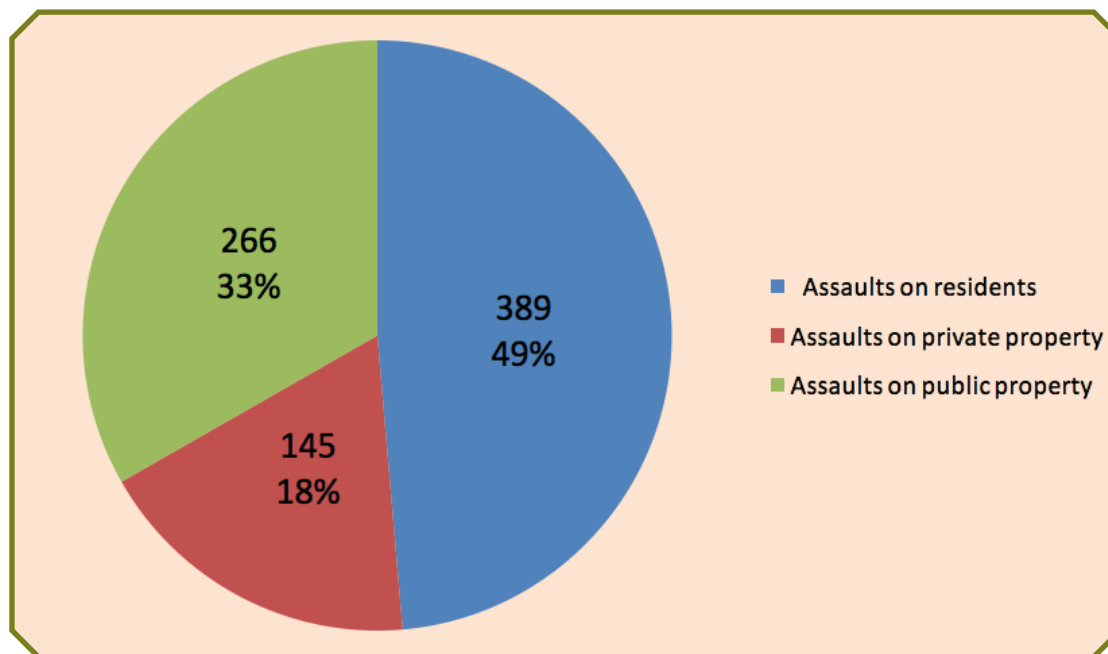


Table (2A): A graph showing violations of the occupation army and settlers against citizens and property during 2018

1. Assaults against citizens:

The assaults committed against the Palestinian citizens in the Old City as individuals or groups constitute collective violations.

- Individual violations: the violations resulting from Israeli occupation army and settlers' assaults committed against citizens categories individually (men, women, children).
- Collective Violations: Violations caused by the occupation army or the settlers against a group of citizens, such as assaulting participants in peaceful marches or obstructing the access of worshipers to the Ibrahimi Mosque and preventing them from practicing religious rites, firing or gas bombs at citizens or attacking schoolchildren.

The groups of citizens affected include children, especially school students, men and women. Due to the difficulty of documentation, the number of affected persons in each category is unknown.



The assaults of the Israeli occupation army and settlers on the targeted groups (children, women, men) can be clarified during 2018 as follows:

- Assaults on children: These assaults directly affected 63 children, constituting %35 of the total number of assaulted individuals.



- Assaults on women: 11 women and girls, or %12 of the total number of individuals who have been assaulted, were victims of the assaults.

- Assaults on men: 94 men, or %53 of the total, were assaulted.

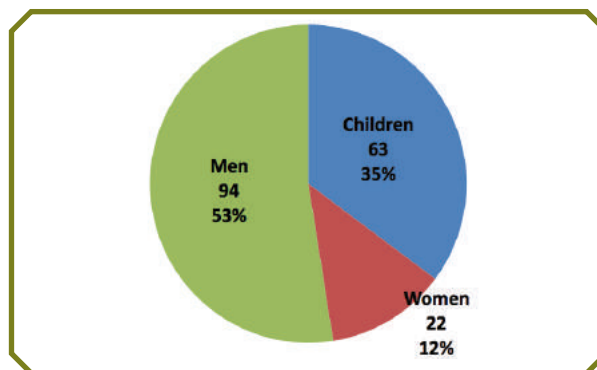


Chart 3: It shows the percentage of assaults against citizens by target group during 2018

Arrests in the Old City:

- Legal follow-up of arrests:





The Israeli occupation army arrests Palestinian citizens from the Old City, using ungrounded pretexts. These arrests are intended to displace the citizens of the Old City and to intimidate its visitors. The most cases of arrests happen when the citizens pass through the electronic gates erected by the Israeli occupation forces at the entrances of the Old City and the Ibrahimi Mosque. 76 cases of detention were carried out during 2018.

The legal unit succeeded in following-up 48 cases. Some other cases were referred to the competent Palestinian authorities for follow-up.

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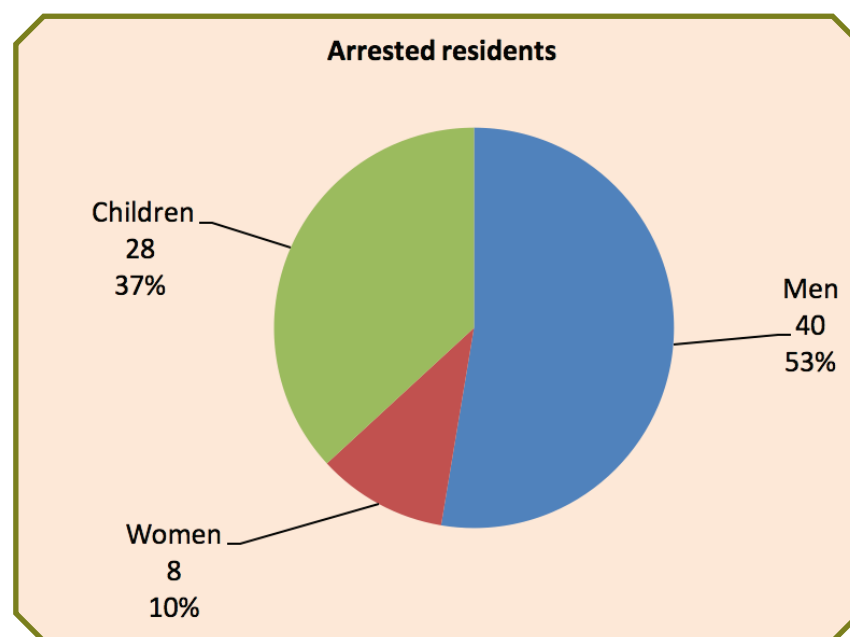


Chart 4: The graph shows the size and proportion of attacks against citizens by target group during 2018

2. Assaults on private properties:

The assaults committed against the private properties of the citizens such as homes, cars, stores and other items. The violations committed by Israeli occupation forces and settlers amounted to 145 violations.



ISRAELI SETTLERS' ASSAULTS ON CITIZENS' LANDS IN WADI AL-HUSSEIN. THEY TRIED TO CONSTRUCT A ROAD ACROSS THE AREA.



RECURRENT RAIDS ON THE HOUSE OF ARAFEH FAMILY IN AL-QASABAH NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE OLD CITY.

Assaults on public properties:

- Assaults on religious sites, streets, public squares, schools, etc.

The Israeli occupation forces and the settlers assaulted the public property in the Old City during the year of 2018. They committed (180) violation incidents distributed as follows:

- Assaults on schools, (26) assaults: %10 of all assaults against public property.
- Assaults on streets and public squares (%53 ,(141 of all assaults against public property.
- Assaults on religious sites (99) cases of assault, or %37 of total assaults against public property.



SETTLERS STORMED THE IBRAHIMI SCHOOL PLAYGROUND IN AL-SAHLA TO HOLD RELIGIOUS RITES.

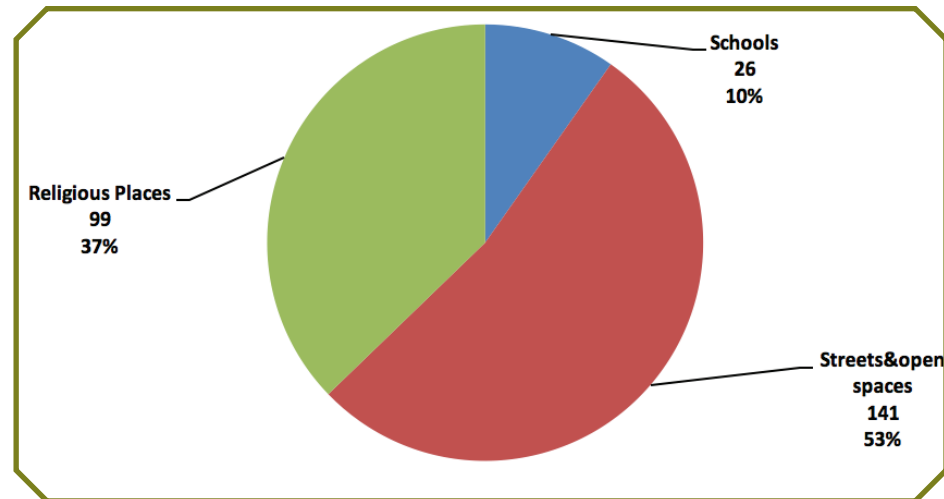


Chart 5: The size and proportion of attacks by the occupation army and settlers on public property during 2018



ISRAELI OCCUPATION ARMY ASSAULT ON A SCHOOL IN THE OLD CITY

Assault on the Ibrahimi Mosque and prevention of calling for prayer:

The Israeli occupation authorities banned calling for prayer from the minarets of the Ibrahimi Mosque (623) times during 2018. This chart shows the number of times the call for prayer was banned at a rate of approximately 52 times per month of the year.

It is noteworthy that the Ibrahimi Mosque is one of the oldest mosques in Palestine and is second in terms of sanctity and religious and historical significance after the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The occupation authorities arbitrarily and unlawfully divided the mosque after the massacre committed by a settler leader against unarmed Palestinian worshipers in the month of Ramadan in 1994. He killed dozens of prayers. Israeli occupation authorities plan to turn the mosque into synagogue.

The occupation army and the settlers continued their daily violations and attacks against this important religious and historical edifice, as well as the right of the citizens, worshipers and visitors.

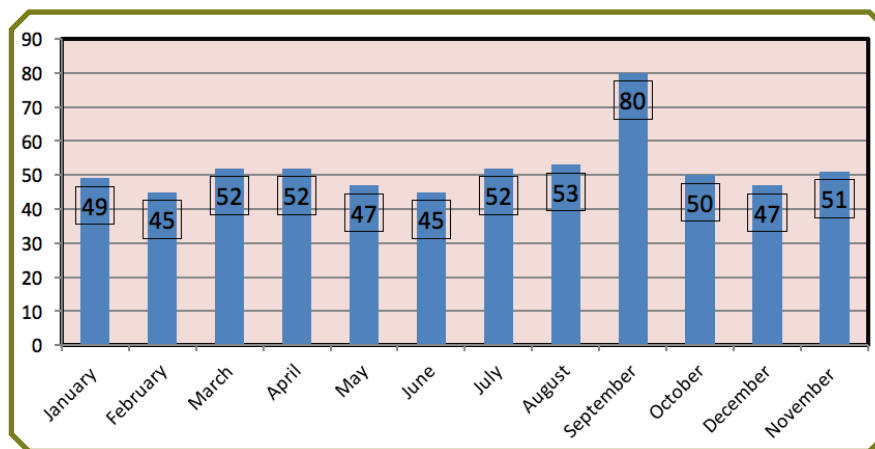


Table (6) shows the number of times the call for prayer was banned in the Ibrahimi Mosque during the year 2018



In addition to banning the call for prayer, Israeli occupation army and settlers committed other assaults against the Ibrahimi Mosque and its suburbs, including:

- The worshipers and visitors were subjected to humiliating searches and arresting.



- Assaulting the gardens of the Ibrahimi Mosque by cutting down trees and erecting tents for various celebrations.
- Repeated raids by settlers and Jewish political figures into the Ibrahimi Mosque.
- Holding celebrations in the Ibrahimi Mosque, in its park, its squares, gardens, and other spaces in the area and streets.
- Conducting military exercises in the gardens of the Ibrahimi Mosque and its squares.
- Repeated closure of the Ibrahimi Mosque in the face of the Muslim worshipers and was completely taken by the settlers, especially during the so-called Jewish holidays
- Settlers carried out excavations in the area of Yusufiya.
- Installation of stones with biblical phrases at the entrances of some rooms in Yusufiyah.
- Conducting, political, military, social and religious rites and ceremonies inside the Ibrahimi Mosque



A settler tent erected by the settlers for their celebrations in the garden of the southern part of the Ibrahimi compound.







Thanks

**to all the donors and supporters who contribute to
preserving the cultural heritage of the Old City of Hebron.**