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# Jerusalem

Ever since its foundation in 1987, the Question of Jerusalem has been a primary focus of PASSIA's activities. Besides hosting meetings, projects include academic research, documentation, publication and cooperation with other institutions to increase both awareness and knowledge concerning the various aspects of the Holy City.

Over the years, Palestinian, Israeli, and foreign speakers from a variety of backgrounds (including scholars and academics, representatives from the three monotheistic religions, political figures, diplomats and visiting scholars or researchers) have been invited to give presentations and encourage debate on the issues at hand.

PASSIA projects intend to facilitate the exchange of information, to identify various needs and interests in the city and to encourage the development of possible future scenarios. These goals, in turn, have led to the discussion of a broad range of topics, including infrastructure, demographic and geopolitical issues, settlements and land use, 'absentee property', the Old City, religion and religious affiliation with the city, Israeli institutions, and future scenarios for the status of the city.

## Meetings on Jerusalem

(See also the *Religious Studies Unit* chapter for meetings focusing on religious aspects)

24 January 2005, Jerusalem

**Topic:** Israeli Government Decision regarding the Absentee Property Law (1950)

**Participant(s):** Al-Jazeera TV

26 January 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic:** Absentee Property Law (1950) and Jerusalem

**Participant(s):** Framine Pickup, Socio-Economic Unit, UNSCO; Nadine Hassassian, Socio-Economic Unit, UNSCO

9 February 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic:** Israeli-Palestinian Institutes and the Question of Jerusalem

**Participant(s):** Dr. Shimshon Zelniker, Director, Van Leer Institute; Amit Leshem, Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem

15 February 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic:** Current Israeli Policies in & Plans on Jerusalem

**Speaker(s):** Daniel Seidemann, Legal Advisor to IR AMIM (an organization dealing with Palestinian-Israeli relations in Jerusalem and concerned with the city's future) ►



Daniel Seidemann



Participant(s): Fadi Al-Hidmi, Welfare Association; Anwar Darkazally, Legal Advisor, NSU; Chris Ferguson, WCC, Jerusalem Rep.; Torday, OSO, UNRWA; Fou'ad Hallak, NSU Advisor; Raed Yaghmour, PCG; Tamer Maliha, PCG; Michalya Schonwald, HRW; Valentina De Bernard, UNRWA Research Office; Monica Delaguardia, UNRWA Legal Office; Vegard Pettersen, OCHA, Jerusalem; Isam Awwad, Architect; Graham Usher, Journalist; Ray Dolphin, UNRWA; Maia Hallward, American University; Gerlienke Meyer, PHRMG; Amus Gil, IR AMIM; Adnan Hussein, Engineer, General Director of the Jerusalem Islamic Waqf; Allegra Facheco, OCHA, UN, Jerusalem; Phadime Choshane, Diplomat, SAREP; Niall Holohan, Irish Representative Office, Ramallah; Khalil Assali, Radio Sawa; Simone Heil, FES; Daniel C. Brown, FES; John Bell, U of Tomb; Sarah Kreimer, IR AMIM; Naomi Nobel; Jeanette Seppen, Office of the EUSR-MEPP; Hani Ghosheh, Engineer, Manager, Jerusalem Electric Company; Catherine Nicholas, Sabeel; Xavier Abu-Eid, USP, Chile. Hasan Al Qiq, Engineer, Deniz Altayli, Elise Aghazarian, Hayat Alami, Sana Shannak, PASSIA.

3 March 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

Topic: **The Vision & Role of Youth - Jerusalem Issues**

Participant(s): Ruba Nubani, Dynamic Links, Mais Zuheika, Faisal Hussein Foundation; Marianne Albina, Right to Play; Halla Bitar, Pontifical Mission; Reem Carmi, Welfare Association; Sana Hasna, N.S.U; Manar Idris, YDD; Wassim Khazmo, Project Coordinator; Yasmine Al-Kaloti; Iman Kamel; Hazen Bulbul; Dina Al-Kaloti, Social Worker; Nashwan Abu Rmeileh, Computer Engineer; Ahmad Nashashibi, Engineer; Fadi Al-Hidmi, Welfare Association; Elise Aghazarian, Hayat Alami, Mahmoud Abu Rmeileh, PASSIA. ▼



15 March 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: The Church & Jerusalem - Perspectives of the Vatican & the World Council of Churches**

**Speaker:** Rev. Chris Ferguson, Jerusalem Representative Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, World Council of Churches ►

**Participant(s):** Ray Dolphin, UNRWA; Andy Pring, Sabeel; Dr.Naim Ateek, Sabeel; Adnan Hussein, Engineer, Waqf; Jamil Hamami, Lecturer, Al-Quds University; Russ Siler, Lutheran Pastor; Hasan Al-Qiq, Engineer; Mohammed Nusseibeh, Engineer; Simona Gallotta, Political Analyst; Samer Nusseibeh, Engineer; Samia Khoury, Volunteer; Kjell Jonasson, Secr. Int.; Robert Traer, Ethics Teacher; Elise Aghazarian, PASSIA. ▼



Rev. Chris Ferguson



19 March 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: Cultural Activities in Jerusalem**

**Participant(s):** Mais Zuheika, Projects Officer, Faisal Hussein Foundation; Marwan Bashiti, Coordinator, Old City Youth Association; Khuloud Abu Sbeih, Artist; Ahmed Nashashibi, Architect; Wahbeh Asfour, Projects Coordinator, Maan Center; Rawan Sharaf, Yabous Production; Fadi Al-Hidmi, Welfare Association; Elise Aghazarian, Hayat Al-Alami, PASSIA. ►



23 March 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: The Orthodox Church & the Old City of Jerusalem Property**

**Participant(s):** Ahmad Budeiri, BBC Radio (Arabic)

28 March 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: The Higher Islamic Council and the Question of Jerusalem**

**Speaker:** Mohammed Nusseibeh, Member of the Higher Islamic Council, Jerusalem

**Participant(s):** Issam Anani, Lawyer; Hani Ghosheh, Engineer, Jerusalem Electric Company; Mohammed Abu Ghazaleh, Service Director, Jerusalem Electric Company; Nora Carmi, Sabeel; Inas Abu Shilbayeh, Engineer; Walid Assali, Lawyer; Dr. Arafat Hidmi, Director, Al-Maqased Charitable Society; Hasan Al-Qiq, Engineer, Khaled Abu Arafah, Engineer; Yacob Abu Asab, Director; Amin Shobaki, Merchant; Jamil Hamami, Lecturer; Abed Abu Diab; Dr. Mohammed Ghosheh, Director; Abdullah Safarini, Engineer, PARK; Maria Hevzy, Student; Elyahu Maklyn, Sulha Peace Project; Elize Aghazarian, PASSIA. ▼



31 March 2005, Belgian Consulate, Jerusalem

**Topic: Jerusalem & the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict**

**Participant(s):** Guido Courtois, Belgian Consul, Jerusalem; Elio Di Rupo, PhD, Minister of State, Belgium; Alexandre Seron, Adviser; Institut Emile Vandervelde; Etienne Godin, International Secretary, Albert Aghazarian, Historian, Free-Lance Translator.



2 April 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: Cultural Activities in Palestine – Issues on Music in Palestine (I)**

**Participant(s):** Theresa PirkI, Volunteer; Sahar Othman, PR Officer, Sharek; Riad Shihabi, Old City Youth Association; Obada Alami, Marketing Consultant; Yasmin Al-Kaloti, Social Worker, YDD; Nashwan Abu-Rmeileh, Computer Engineer; Ahmed Nashashibi, Architect; Samah Tirhi, Social Worker; Marwan Bashiti, Coordinator;

Ruba Nubani, Dynamic Links T.A.; Wahbeh Asfour, Project Coordinator, Ma'an Center; Mais Zuheika, Projects Officer, Faisal Hussein Foundation; Fadi Hidmi, Welfare. ◀

8 April 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: On the Holy Places in Jerusalem**

**Participant(s):** Al-Jazeera TV; Qatar TV

9 April 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: Cultural Activities in Palestine – Issues on Music in Palestine (II)**

**Participant(s):** Wissam Murad, Musician, Sabreen Band; Arda Aghazarian; Yasmine Al-Kaloti, Social Worker, PFPPA, YDD; Riad Shihabi, Old City Youth Association; Ahmad Nashashibi, Architect; Sana Hasna, NSU; Obada Alami; Lamis Alawi, Nurse, Research Coordinator; Fadi Hidmi, Welfare Association; Elise Aghazarina, Hayat Alami, PASSIA. ►



18 April 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: Musical Issues in Jerusalem**

**Participant(s):** Ahmad Nashashibi, Architect; Wissam Murad, Musician, Sabreen; Sana Hasna, NSU; Ruba Nubani, Dynamic Links; Rasha Qutteneh; Yasmine Al-Kaloti, Social Worker, PfPPA & YDD; Riad Shihabi, Old City Youth Association; Marwan Bashiti, Coordinator, Old City Youth Association; Lamis Alawi; Fadi Hidmi, Welfare; Elize Aghazarian, Hayat Alami, PASSIA.

14 June 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: The Jerusalem Envelope: What Lies Ahead ?**

**Participant(s):** Mouin Rabbani, Senior Analyst, Middle East, International Crisis Group, Amman, Jordan.

16 June 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: Muslim-Christian Holy Places in Jerusalem**

**Participant(s):** Benoit Vandeputte, Weekly Official Catholic Program on French State TV, Le Jour du Seigneur, Paris.

14 July 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: Jerusalem in the Islamic Faith**

**Participant(s):** Al Jazeera TV.

18 August 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: Jerusalem Cultural Issues**

**Participant(s):** Omar Yousef, Architect, US.

28 August 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: On Jerusalem and the Violence in the OPT**

**Participant(s):** Qasem Khatib, MBC TV.

13 October 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: On Jerusalem**

**Participant(s):** John Bell, Visiting Researcher, University of Toronto, Canada.

18 October 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: On Jerusalem**

**Participant(s):** Samer Tarazi, Humanitarian Coordination Assistant, Central Coordination Unit, OCHA, Jerusalem; Gwyn Leurs, OCHA, Jerusalem.

8 November 2005, PASSIA, Jerusalem

**Topic: On Jerusalem**

**Participant(s):** John Bell, Visiting Researcher; Michael Bell, Former Senior Canadian Diplomat; Mike Molloy, Former Senior official at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and Citizenship and Immigration, Canada.

9 November 2005, Notre-Dame, Jerusalem (*Working Dinner*)

**Topic: On Jerusalem**

**Participant(s):** (Swedish MP's): Luciano Astudillo, MP, Social Democratic Party; Stina Larson, MP, Center Party; Erling Walivaora, MP, The Christian Democrats; Ewa Bjorling, MP, Conservative/Moderate; Carina Hagg, MP, Social Democratic Party; Yvonne Ruwaida, MP, Green Party; Christen Winback, MP, Folkpartiet, Liberal Party; Karin Thornborg, Left Party; Nils Oskar Nilsson, Former MP, Conservative/Moderate.

## Workshops and Conferences

17 December 2005, Al-Dar Hotel, Jerusalem

**Topic: The Unpublished EU Report on Jerusalem** ►

**Organized by:** PASSIA

**Participant(s):** Azzam Al-Khatib, Director of the Jerusalem Islamic Waqf; Adnan Al-Husseini, Engineer, General Director of the Jerusalem Islamic Waqf; Mohammed Nusseibeh, Engineer, Member, Higher Islamic Council; Sheikh Ekrima Sabri, Mufti of Jerusalem & Palestine; Dr. Bassem Abu Assab, Head of Peace Medical Center (PMC),



Jerusalem; Sheikh Mohammed Hussein, Director, Al-Aqsa Mosque; Fouad Daqqaq, Governor, Arab-Islamic Bank in Palestine; Dr. Mustafa Abu Sway, Professor, Al-Quds University; Sheikh Jamil Hammami, Lecturer, Al-Quds University; Ibrahim Al-Joulani, Businessman, Jerusalem; Dr. Mahdi Abdel Hadi; Head of PASSIA, Jerusalem.

12 May 2005, Ambassador Hotel, Jerusalem

**Topic: The Higher Islamic Council and the Question of Jerusalem... "One Step Forward"**

Organized by: The Higher Islamic Council, Jerusalem

1 October 2005, Royal Cultural Center, Amman

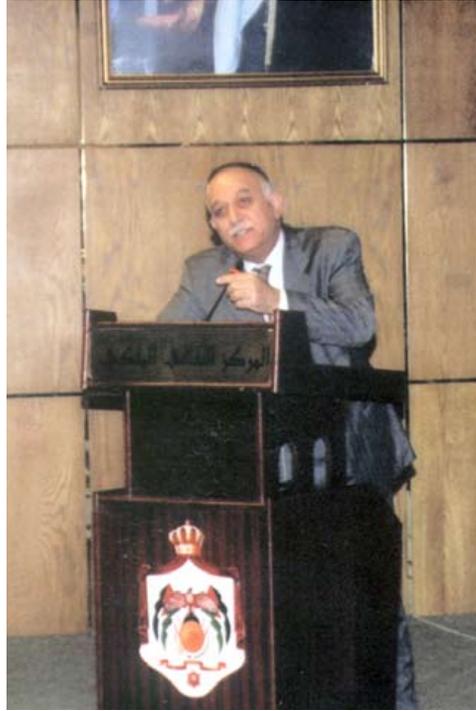
**Topic: Jerusalem Today**

Organized by: The National Committee for Steadfastness in Jerusalem, Amman ►

12-14 November 2005, Ramallah

**Topic: Jerusalem: Key to Peace and Freedom**

Organized by: The National Committee to Commemorate the Anniversary of the Death of the Late Leader Yasser Arafat ▼



## Research

From its establishment in 1987, PASSIA's activities focused much attention on the many aspects of the Jerusalem Question and related research, publication and dissemination of information.

Research work in 2005 included the following:

- Monitoring ongoing Israeli activities in the city, especially the construction of the separation barrier.
- Putting together a comprehensive chronology of events that happened in or affected in one way or another the city of Jerusalem.

The Wall in Jerusalem, December 2005

