ISLAMIC AND CHRISTIAN HOLY PLACES

AL-AQSA MOSQUE (AL-HARAM ASH-SHARIF)
Al-Aqsa is one of three mosques considered the holiest and are the restricted destination for Muslims’ pilgrimage; it is located in the southeast corner of the Old City, covering one-sixth of its area (a total area of 144,000 m²), and partially sharing with the Old City its eastern and southern walls. Muslims believe that Prophet Muhammad [Peace Be Upon Him (PBUH)] ascended to heaven from a rock (called the Rock of the Ascension) located in the middle of today’s AlAqsa Mosque.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHER
The Church of the Holy Sepulcher, known to Eastern Orthodox Christians as the Church of the Resurrection, is considered Christianity’s holiest site as it stands on the area which is believed to encompass both the Golgotha (or Calvary), where Jesus [PBUH] was crucified, and the tomb (Sepulcher), where he was buried.

AL-QIBLI MOSQUE
Al-Qibli Mosque was built by the Umayyad Caliph Abd Al-Malik Ibn Marwan and was completed by his son Al-Walid in the year 714. It is located at the southern end of Al-Aqsa Mosque and is considered the first Islamic physical structure ever to exist on its grounds. It is supported by marble columns extending from north to south, and includes seven naves, with the center and largest one covered by a huge silver dome.

ARMENIAN CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JAMES
The Armenian Cathedral of Saint James is located at the heart of the Armenian Orthodox Patriarchate in Jerusalem, on a site believed to be the burial place of the Apostles St. James the Great (son of Zebedee) and St. James the brother of the Lord. The cathedral dates back to the Crusader occupation of Jerusalem in the 12th Century and is mainly decorated with ornaments from the 18th Century.

THE DOME OF THE ROCK
The Dome of the Rock is located at the center of the highest courtyard within Al-Aqsa Mosque, almost the center of the whole compound. It is built over what Muslims believe to be the Rock of the Ascension and represents the oldest complete form of Islamic architecture. The building is one of a kind, as it is the only Islamic structure which has not been imitated anywhere in the Islamic or non-Islamic world.
CHURCH OF SAINT MARK
This Syrian Orthodox church is said to be the first church the Apostles chose to build when they received the Holy Spirit. It is also claimed to be the place where Jesus Christ [PBUH] celebrated the Last Supper with His Holy Apostles and then washed their feet. It houses a very precious icon of the Virgin Mary painted by Saint Luke the Evangelist.

THE ANCIENT AQSA
This prayer hall is located under the middle corridor of Al-Qibli Mosque and is accessible through a stone staircase located near its entrance. The hall consists of two very large corridors running north to south, which were used as a passageway for the Umayyad princes coming through the double door overlooking their palaces south of Al-Aqsa. They remained abandoned for centuries until 1998, when they were cleaned and re-opened for prayers.

CHURCH OF SAINT MARY OF THE KNIGHTS/SAINT MARY OF THE GERMANS
This church was built by the Teutonic Knights in 1143, when Jerusalem was under the rule of the Crusaders. It was housed in a building serving both as a hospice to aid sick crusaders when they arrived in Jerusalem and as a hostel for pilgrims. The property has been seized by the Aish HaTorah Yeshiva and is no longer used as a church.

AL-MUSALLA AL-MARWANI
A massive subterranean hall located in the southeastern corner of Al-Aqsa Mosque built by the Umayyad Caliph Abd Al-Malik Ibn Marwan in preparation for the construction of the Dome of the Rock and Al-Qibli Mosque. The basement has a surface of 4,500 m² and consists of 16 vaulted naves constructed with long barrel-like arches. It was named Al-Musalla Al-Marwani in honor of the Umayyad descendants of Marwan after its renovation in 1996.

CHURCH OF SAINT TOROS
The Church of Saint Toros is one of the least known churches of the Old City as it is located inside the Armenian Patriarchate of Saint James and is therefore not easily accessible to non-Armenians. Yet it has a significant importance to the Armenian community due to the fact that it houses a collection of 4,000 Armenian illustrated manuscripts, making it the second largest collection of such a kind in the world after one in Armenia. This importance is illustrated by the fact that when former Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan visited Jerusalem and the Holy Land, the Church of Saint Toros and its manuscripts featured prominently on his itinerary.
AL-BURAQ MOSQUE

Al-Buraq Mosque is a small subterranean praying room at the southwestern corner of Al-Aqsa Mosque. It is only accessible via a 21 stone-step staircase inside AlAqsa. Its current state goes back to the Mamluk times; but it used to be larger until part of it was closed during the early 20th. Its main gate is located in the western wall, but is sealed with stone. Al-Buraq Mosque is open for prayers.

ECCE HOMO ARCH

The arch, which spans the Via Dolorosa near the Second Station of the Cross, is the remnant of a ramp built by the Romans in the year 70 as part of the entrance gate leading to the Roman forum. According to tradition, it is under this arch that Pilate uttered the words “Ecce Homo” (“Behold the Man”) at Jesus Christ’s [PBUH] trial (John 19:5).

THE MOROCCAN MOSQUE (AYYUBID)

This ancient mosque is located in the southwestern part of Al-Aqsa Mosque, next to the Moroccan Gate. It was built during the 12th or 13th Century of the Ayyubid era. However, the accurate year of its construction and the name of its founder remain unknown. The mosque was dedicated to the followers of the Maliki School of Jurisprudence but today it is used as the western hall of the Islamic Museum where rare archeological and artistic Islamic collections are displayed.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Built by the German Emperor Kaiser Wilhelm in 1898, it is the newest church in the Old City, standing on the site of the 11th Century Church of St. Mary of the Latins. It is part of a complex called Muristan (“hospital” in Persian), which was run by the Knights Hospitallers. After climbing the 178 steps of its tower, one can enjoy a magnificent bird's-eye view of the whole area.

NOUR AD-DIN ZINKI (SALAH AD-DIN) PULPIT (AYYUBID)

Nour Ad-Din Zinki ordered the building of this pulpit in 564 AH/1168 AC with the idea to have it placed inside Al-Aqsa Mosque after its liberation from the Crusaders; however, he died before this happened. When Salah Ad-Din liberated Jerusalem he brought the pulpit from Aleppo to Al-Qibli Mosque. It is made of cedar wood and decorated with ivory and sea shells. The original was destroyed in Al-Aqsa’s arson in 1969 and replaced with an identical one by the Jordanian Government in 2003.

MARONITE PATRIARCHAL EXARCHATE IN JERUSALEM

The complex includes a church and a guest house established in 1895 to welcome visitors to the Holy Land. It is run by Maronite nuns from the congregation of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. The roof of the
A guest house offers a magnificent view of the Old City, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the Dome of the Rock, and the Mount of Olives.

**BORHAN AD-DIN PULPIT**

This marble pulpit is located in the southern part of the Dome of the Rock’s courtyard. The Supreme Judge Burhan Ad-Din Bin Jamaa’ ordered its construction in 709 AH/1309 AC to replace a smaller wooden one. The pulpit is topped with a mesmerizing dome called the Dome of the Scale and has two niches carved in its body: one is under the speaker’s chair while the other is on its eastern side. Today, the pulpit is out of use, in spite of being the only exterior pulpit within Al-Aqsa’s compound.

**POOLS OF BETHESDA AND SAINT ANNE’S CHURCH**

According to Byzantine tradition, the site is associated with the home of the Virgin Mary and her parents. It developed into a healing sanctuary between 150 BCE and 70 CE, where Christians believe Jesus [PBUH] healed a disabled man. A church commemorating the miracle was erected in the 5th Century, which was replaced by the current Church of St. Anne in the 1130s. The edifice was given to France by the Ottomans as a gesture of gratitude for their aid during the Crimean War (1854-56).

**DOME OF THE CHAIN (UMAYYAD)**

The Umayyad Caliph Abdul Malik Bin Marwan ordered the building of this dome to the east of the Rock of Ascension in 72 AH/691 AC to serve as a prototype for the construction of the Dome of the Rock. It is an open building with eleven sides which are based on eleven marble columns, while the dome is sitting on a hexagonal drum. The faience decorating the dome was brought to Al-Aqsa Mosque by the Ottomans in 969 AH/1561 AC.

**QUEEN HELEN COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Accessible from the right side of the front yard of the Holy Sepulcher, this church was built above an underground water cistern, which probably provided the water used during the building of the Holy Sepulcher. The cistern was discovered in the 4th Century by Queen Helen, mother of Constantine, the first Roman sovereign to formally adopt Christianity.

**THE DOME OF ASCENSION**

The Dome of Ascension was built in commemoration of Prophet Mohammed’s (PBUH) ascension to heaven (Al-Mi’raj). It is a small octagonal dome based on 30 marble columns; the open space between the columns was later sealed using marble slabs. The Dome has a niche pointing towards the Qibla (direction of prayers) and a smaller dome resembling a crown on top of it. The Dome’s accurate year of construction and its founder’s name remain unknown.
SAINT SAVIOR MONASTERY AND CHURCH

The monastery was bought from the Ottoman Empire by the Franciscans in 1559 after they were exiled from the Upper Room of the Cenacle on Mount Zion. It was the first site to provide a space of worship for Catholics. It was also used as a school, a printing press and a pharmacy which became famous in Jerusalem for making the sabun, an antiseptic soap with many uses.

SULEIMAN'S DOME

This dome is located in the northern part of Al-Aqsa Mosque, southwest of the Gate of Darkness. Historians believe it was first built during the Umayyad era but later renovated during the Ayoubi era. The octagonal dome is based on 24 marble columns, inside of which a small rock is displayed, believed to be a piece taken from the Holy Rock of Ascension. Today, it serves as headquarters for female preachers in the Jerusalem Waqf Directorate.

VIA DOLOROSA (THE WAY OF THE CROSS)

Via Dolorosa (Latin for the “way of suffering”), also known as the Passion of the Christ, retraces Jesus’ [PBUH] path carrying the cross of His crucifixion from the Antonia Fortress, where He was condemned to death by Pilate, to the Golgotha. The tradition of retracing the final steps of Jesus [PBUH] started in early Christian times. After many changes and revisions throughout history, the current fixed path was recognized in the 18th and 19th centuries.

THE BANI GHANIM GATE MINARET

The Ayoubi judge Sharaf Ad-Din Bin As-Sahib built the Bani Ghanim Gate Minaret in 677 AH/1278 AC. It is a square-shaped minaret located near Bani Ghanim’s Gate which is considered the most decorated amongst the minarets of Al-Aqsa. With a height of 38.5 meters it is also the highest minaret inside Al-Aqsa. The western tunnel dug by the Israeli Occupation authorities has weakened the minaret’s foundations, which called for its renovation in 2001.

THE MOUNT OF OLIVES

To Judaism, Christianity and Islam, the Mount of Olives and the adjacent Kidron Valley are said to be where the dead will rise and humanity will be assembled and judged by God. The mount is mentioned both in the Old and New Testaments and is believed to be the place on top of which the Messiah will appear. Christians associate the Mount of Olives with the life of Jesus [PBUH], as evident in the presence of several churches there.
THE TRIBES GATE MINARET/THE SALAHYA MINARET

The Tribes Gate Minaret was first built next to the Tribes Gate by the Mamluk Governor of Jerusalem Saif Ad-Din Qatlo Pasha. It used to be a square shaped minaret until the Ottomans ordered its reconstruction in 1007 AH/1599 AC, making it the only cylindrical shaped minaret inside Al-Aqsa. The Tribes Minaret was renovated twice, first in 1927 after being impaired in an earthquake, and second in 1967 because it had sustained some damages during Israeli raids.

BASILICA OF THE AGONY/CHURCH OF ALL NATIONS

This Catholic Franciscan basilica was built between 1919 and 1924 on the site where, according to the New Testament, Jesus [PBUH] had his last prayer before being betrayed and arrested by the Romans. It succeeds two previous churches (the 4th to 8th Centuries Elegant Church and a 12th Century Crusaders church). The site is commonly known as the Church of all Nations because its construction was funded by twelve nations. The Rock of the Agony is still preserved today in front of the altar.

THE MOROCCAN GATE MINARET

The Mamluk Judge Sharf Ad-Din Bin Fakhr AdDin Al-Khalili built the Moroccan Gate Minaret in 677 AH/1278 AC next to the Moroccan Gate. The 23 meters high minaret is the shortest minaret inside Al-Aqsa Mosque and is standing without any foundations. The top of the minaret was damaged in an earthquake that hit Jerusalem in 1922 and was repaired by the Islamic Supreme Council who added a dome to it, which was later covered with lead sheets.

CHAPEL AND MOSQUE OF ASCENSION

The Chapel of Ascension is both a Christian and Muslim holy site and is identified as the place where Jesus [PBUH] ascended into heaven 40 days after the Resurrection. A first edifice was built on the site in 390 by Poimenia, a Roman aristocratic woman of the imperial family. Muslims added a stone dome and a mihrab in 1200, as well as a minaret and a mosque in 1620 (the Mosque of Ascension). The footprint of Jesus’ [PBUH] right foot can be seen inside the chapel.

THE GATE OF THE CHAIN MINARET

Prince Saif Ad-Din Tankaz Bin Abdullah An-Nasiri built this minaret in 730 AH/1329 AC next to the Gate of the Chain. The square-shaped minaret can be accessed through Al-Ashrafiya School. It is built on a square base and topped with a covered porch resting on a set of stone columns. The minaret has been restored by the Supreme Islamic Council in 1922 after being damaged in an earthquake. Israeli forces banned Muslims from entering and using this Minaret to “protect” Jewish worshipers at Al-Buraq Wall (“Western Wall”) which the minaret overlooks.
CHURCH AND MONASTERY OF SAINT MARY MAGDALENE

This church was built in 1888 by the Russian Tsar Alexander III in memory of his mother Empress Maria Alexandrovna. It is a famous landmark of Jerusalem with its seven gilded onion-shaped domes, all topped by a Russian Orthodox cross. A large fresco above the iconostasis depicts Mary Magdalene presenting a red egg (symbolizing the Resurrection and eternal life) to the Roman Emperor Tiberius so as to express her condemnation of Jesus [PBUH]’s crucifixion.

AL-BURAQ WALL

Al-Buraq Wall is the southwestern section of the Al-Aqsa Mosque’s wall, some 50 m long and approximately 20 m high. It is part of Al-Aqsa Mosque and is considered an Islamic property as Muslims believe it is where Prophet Muhammad [PBUH] tied the winged creature, Al-Buraq, before ascending to heaven during his Night Journey (Al-Isra’ wa Al-Mi’raj). The Jews call it “The Wailing Wall” claiming it is the remaining part of their destroyed Temple. At least until the 15th Century, Jews used to pray at the Mount of Olives which is separated from the Old City by the Kidron Valley.

CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY’S TOMB

The presence of a church in Gethsemane dates back to the 6th Century. It was destroyed and rebuilt several times throughout history. Today’s Orthodox church is shared between Armenians and Greeks. It houses a tomb believed to be that of Mary’s parents, Joachim and Anne. Members of the family of Baldwin I, the third Crusader King of Jerusalem, are also buried there.

THE CITADEL MOSQUE

This mosque can be found inside an impressive medieval fortress located near Jaffa Gate, in the Old City of Jerusalem. The fortress was renovated and expanded by the Ottoman Sultan Uthman Suleiman II in 1530. The mosque area is nearly 144 m², it has two mihrabs: a stone niche on the left and another one called the Niche of Prophet David [PBUH] on the right. There is also a high platform supported by marble pillars which may have been used by high ranking officials. The site also comprises a minaret which was built in 1655.

DOMINUS FLEVIT

The current Catholic Dominus Flevit Church (“the Lord Wept”) was built in 1954-55 on the site of a small chapel erected by the Franciscans in 1881. It was designed by the Italian architect Antonio Barluzzi in the form of a tear to signify the tears shed by Christ [PBUH] when foreseeing Jerusalem’s destruction (New Testament). The site includes a 2nd Century necropolis, 3rd and 4th Century Byzantine tombs, and a 5th Century monastery.
AD-DISSI MOSQUE

Ad-Dissi Mosque is located in the Armenian Quarter; it was endowed by Al-Kameli Ibn Abu-Sharif in 1487, but later named Ad-Dissi Mosque after a member of the Ad-Dissi family. Demolition works carried out by the “Jewish Quarter Development Company” (1967-1976) severely damaged the structure of the mosque, which called for its renovation by the Islamic Waqf. Today, visitors can enter the mosque through a low steel gate leading to a small corridor that continues to the prayer area.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

The Evangelical Church of the Ascension was built on the highest point in Jerusalem, 850 m above sea level. Its tower is approximately 45 m high. It is located within the Augusta Victoria Hospital compound, whose construction was decided in 1898 by the German Emperor Wilhelm II and his wife Empress Augusta Victoria during their visit to Palestine in order to provide healthcare for both pilgrims and people suffering from malaria. The mosaics inside the church were designed by Schaper and Pfannschmidt and realized by Puhl and Wagner.

THE GRAND UMARI MOSQUE

This mosque is located in the Ash-Sharaf neighborhood of the Old City. It was restored by the Umayyads and attributed to Umar Ibn Al-Khattab, the Second Rightly Guided Caliph, who visited Jerusalem in the year 638. Today, the mosque is surrounded by Jewish institutions, including a Jewish synagogue and two Ashkenazi schools, built on the ruins of Arab property destroyed after the occupation of the city in 1967. The mosque has a nearly 15 m high minaret, a mihrab, a grass-ground shaft on the rooftop and a room in the basement.

GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

The Garden of Gethsemane is believed to be a site of prayer frequented by Jesus [PBUH] and His disciples. The Gospels identify it as the place where Jesus [PBUH] went the night before His crucifixion, and where He was betrayed by Judas and arrested by the Romans. According to the Eastern Orthodox Church tradition, Gethsemane is the garden where the Virgin Mary was buried and assumed into heaven after her dormition on Mount Zion. Some of the ancient olive trees growing there are said to be 900 years old.

AL-QAIMARI MOSQUE

Al-Qaimari Mosque is situated near the shrine of the Ukasha Mosque – where Prince Husam Ad-Din Al-Qaimari is buried along with his two brothers – at the northwestern corner of the Old City, immediately to the right upon entering through the New Gate. It has a well-built dome overlooking Jerusalem. Another shrine, belonging to a Turkish woman called Sultana Qamara Bint Abdullah, can be found in the southern side of the mosque’s yards.
RUSSIAN CONVENT OF ASCENSION

The convent was built in 1870-1887 on the site where, according to the Orthodox tradition, Jesus [PBUH] ascended to heaven 40 days after the Resurrection. The 64 m high bell tower, which symbolizes the ascension to heaven, was the first Christian bell to operate in Jerusalem. It is said to have been erected so as to let pilgrims unable to reach the Jordan River see it.

Ar-Rasasi Mosque (Ottoman)

This mosque is located in Al-Wad neighborhood, on the second floor of Ar-Rasasiya School which was built by Bayram Gawesh Bin Mustafa, one of Suleiman the Magnificent’s officers, in 1540. It is provided with an exquisite dome decorated with stalactites. The building is made of black and white bricks and was named “Ar-Rasasiya” due to the use of cast lead (“rasas” in Arabic) instead of mud to fuse the bricks together.

CENACLE

The Cenacle is widely agreed to be the room where Jesus [PBUH] took His last meal with His Apostles. It is also believed to be the site of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles at Pentecost. The place is more commonly called the Upper Supper Room or Upper Room (with the lower level hosting the Tomb of David). The present building with its Lusignan or Cypriote Gothic arches dates back to 1335 and is located on the site of a 5th Century basilica known as Hagia Sion (Holy Zion), or the Mother of all the Churches. It was turned into a mosque by Suleiman the Magnificent in the mid-16th Century, hence the presence of a mihrab, a cupola and a minaret.

The Red Minaret Mosque

This mosque is located in As-Saadiya neighborhood, at the intersection of Al-Bastami and Ash-Shaddad alleys. The mosque was established by Sheikh Alaa Ad-Din Al-Khalwati Ibn (Al-Khalawatiya is a Sufi order) before 1533. It is regarded as one of the first Ottoman monuments in Jerusalem. It is called the Red Minaret due to the color of the stone used to build it. The mosque’s prayer room area is 36 m². It has a beautiful mihrab and its roof is arched with a star shape at the center.

DORMITION ABBEY AND HAGIA MARIA SION ABBEY

The Dormition (“eternal sleep”) Abbey was built on the site where Christians believe that Mary lived and died after the Resurrection of Jesus [PBUH]. The present German Benedictine abbey was completed in 1910 and stands on the ruins of an ancient Byzantine church erected by Emperor Constantine (Church of Hagia Sion, i.e., Holy Zion).
UMAR IBN AL-KHATTAB MOSQUE

When the Second Muslim Caliph Umar Ibn Al-Khattab came to Jerusalem in the year 636, he visited the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and met with the Christian Patriarch Sophronious who invited Umar to pray inside the Church. However Umar declined to do so, in fear of Muslims considering it their right to pray there in the future. He therefore went outside to pray with his companions. At the beginning of the 11th Century, a mosque was built at the same location where Umar had prayed that afternoon in commemoration of this incident of interfaith tolerance.

SAINT GEORGE CATHEDRAL

This Anglican cathedral was built in 1893 in a neo-Gothic style. During World War I, the church was closed and the bishop’s house was used as the Ottoman General’s headquarters and personal residence. The cathedral is characterized by its 35 m tall tower, which is the only free-standing tower in Jerusalem. It was erected in memory of King Edward VII and completed in 1912.

AL-KHANQAH AS-SALAHYA

Al-Khanqah (lodge) As-Salahiya is one of the important landmarks of the Old City. It is located in the Christian Quarter, close to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. It was named after Salah Ad-Din Al-Ayyubi who endowed it. The building comprises a mosque, a school, a public sitting room, rooms for military officers, a dining room for wayfarers, small rooms for guards, and a very small room for Salah Ad-Din Al-Ayyubi’s spiritual retreat. Al-Khanqah As-Salahiya continued to be a beacon of light until the British occupation of Palestine.

SANCTUARY OF THE ELEONA/ CHURCH OF THE PATER NOSTER

The Pater Noster Church was built by the Crusaders in 1106 on the ruins of a Byzantine basilica erected by the mother of Constantine the Great, Queen Helena, over a cave where Jesus [PBUH] taught his disciples the “Our Father” (Pater Noster) prayer. Today, the Lord’s Prayer is displayed in the sanctuary in 164 languages.

BAB AR-RAHMA CEMETERY/AL-ASBAT GATE CEMETERY

Bab Ar-Rahma Cemetery, located alongside the eastern wall of the Old City, is considered one of the oldest Islamic cemeteries in Jerusalem. It is named after the closed double gates known as Bab ArRahma and Bab At-Tawba (also called the Golden Gate). It is where Prophet Muhammad’s [PBUH] companions Ubada Ibn As-Samit (d. in 644) and Shaddad Ibn Aws Al-Ansari (d. in 677) are buried. The road leading up to Lions Gate splits the cemetery into two parts: the southern side which is called Bab Ar-Rahma Cemetery, and the northern side which is called Al-Asbat Gate Cemetery.
CHRIST CHURCH
Consecrated in 1849, it is the first Protestant church in Jerusalem and probably the oldest Protestant church in the Middle East. Christ Church was built by a missionary society from London, UK, and is owned by the Anglican missionary in England.

MAMILLA CEMETERY
The Mamilla (Ma’man-Allah) Cemetery has been used by Muslims since the 7th Century, and its remains can be found in a small wood west of Jaffa Gate. After falling under Israeli occupation in 1948 a large section of the former 158 acres cemetery was transformed into an Israeli public park. Other parts were covered with asphalt and used as a parking lot, or disappeared altogether under buildings. Nevertheless the few remaining tombstones bear witness to what was once the major Islamic graveyard of Jerusalem.

CHURCH OF ANNUNCIATION
This church, not to be confused with the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, is part of the Melkite Greek Catholic Patriarchate in Jerusalem. It was built by Patriarch Maximus Mazlum in 1844, and stands out as the only church in the Old City to be entirely decorated with frescos.

BARAKA KHAN CEMETERY/AL-KHALIDI LIBRARY (AYYUBID)
The Baraka Khan Cemetery, located on the southern side of Bab As-Silsila Road, is named after its founder, Prince Husam Ad-Din Baraka Khan Bin Dawlat Khan AlKhawarizmi, who came to Jerusalem to assist in driving out the Crusaders. He was killed when the cemetery was constructed and then buried there. The cemetery consists of an open courtyard, three tombs and a room housing the famous Al-Khalidi Library (Al-Maktabat Al-Khalidiyya) with its large collection of ancient manuscripts. It is distinguished by its main northern front which includes an entrance with lateral stone seats.