FÉLAGIÐ ÍSLAND - ÍSRAEL (ICELAND - ISRAEL SOCIETY)

PILGRIMS IN JERUSALEM

The sanctity of Jerusalem is deeply rooted in the conciousness of the three big monotheistic faiths -Judeism, Christianity and Islam. Jerusalem is the city of the Temple of Salomon, of the Church of the Holy Sepulcre and of the Dome of the Rock. Three sites, three symbols.

The most substantial spiritual expression of the linkage to Jerusalem is shown in the pilgrimage of masses of believers. This exhibition documents, through the eye of the camera of Swiss photographer Leonardo Bezzola, the footprints of the pilgrims, sons of three faiths, as they can be found in Jerusalem itself.

Through the centuries the pilgrims have left behind them works of art and religious expression. Some of these have been splendidly captured by Leonardo Bezzola.

The exhibition is brought to Iceland by the Embassy of Israel, in Oslo, and the Iceland-Israel Society.

Shalom

LIST OF PHOTOS

- 1. Jerusalem within the walls: street signs in the roots of pilgrims, directing them to places of pray and holy sites.
- 2. A glass board showing the Jewish prayer: If I forget you, O Jerusalem, may my right hand forget her cunning. The board hung in a Jewish house in East Europe and is part of the Israel Museum collection.
- 3-5 The text: "If I forget you, O Jerusalem, may my right hand forget her cunning, on gates of various houses which were built in the second half of the 19th century outside the Walls.
- 6. The motive of the gate is shared by the three faiths as symbol for the entrance to Jerusalem and metaphonicly the entrance of the Messiah. In the photo: a gate above an ancient wall in the yeard of the Armenian Patriarchate.
- 7. A symbolic entrance gate, in the yard of the Armenian Patriarchate
- 8, The text "Open the gates and a rightous people will come" on an entrance gate in neighbourhood of the Buchara Jews. On the left the word "Zion" in a David Shield.
- 9. A view of the Jewish Holy Sites, printed on material from the 19th century. Shows Salomon's Temple, the Western Wall and graves of kings and saints, from the Collection of the Israel Museum
- 10. A wood-cut of 1864: A view of the Jewish holy sites: The tour "Holy cities", Jerusalem, Hebron, Safed and Tiberias, Israel Museum
- 11. Watercolour: A view of the Jewish holy sites, graves of Rabbies and holy people. Collection of Israel Museum
- 12. Watercolour: A view of the Jewish holy sites; graves in the Mount Olive, Hebron, Safed and Tiberias. Israel Museum.
- 13. Ketubbah, Watercolour (Jewish marriage certificate)
- 14. Christian pelgrims in the 19th century used to return from their tour decorated with tatoos as an proof to their pilgrimage. In many of the tatoos appear the church of the Holy Sepulchre, Israel Museum.
- 15. A tatoo describing Jesus riding his donkey, Israel Museum.
- 16-18 1718, Blancs which were brought by Armenian pilgrims, showing scenes from the life of Jesus and tales of the Bible. St. James Cathredral in Jerusalem
- 19. Engraved stones (Rotive stones) to mention the fulfilling of the vow of pilgrimage. The Yard of St. James Cathedral.
- 20. Crosses from the 16th and the 18th century. Brough to Jerusalem by Greek Pilgrims. The Greek Orchodox Museum Jerusalem.
- 21. A soap melting form for Christian pilgrims in Jerusalem, 19th century. Grafman collection.
- 22. "Mother of pearl" industry for Pilgrims. Still flourishing in

Bethlechem.

23-30. Wall painting in the fronts of Muslem Houses in Jerusalem within the walls. Those painting welcome the pilgrims to Mecca returning to Jerusalem. The major motives, the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem, and the Stone of the Ka'aba in Merca, the name of the pilgrim, texts from the Kurian and the words "Allah" and "Muhammed".

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