

## Jerusalem story told by its gardens

ירושלים גנים לה

# Keren Kayemth LeIsrael Uses Jerusalem's Gardens to Tell Its Story

Keren Kayemth LeIsrael, which is marking the 115th anniversary of its establishment this year, is nurturing Jerusalem. The KKL has planted forests around Jerusalem, and is a key partner in the establishment of the Jerusalem Park - a metropolitan park that surrounds the city of Jerusalem and preserves the unique atmosphere of the Jerusalem hills.

On the occasion of the Jubilee Year of the Unification of Jerusalem, we bring the unique stories of the city from the perspective of Jerusalem's trees and green gardens. We hope that this exhibition will bring the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you who love her" (Isaiah 66:10), to life.

Just over 3,000 years ago, King David left Hebron and made Jerusalem the capital of Judea. Since then, under the reign of the Kings of Judea and Israel, Jerusalem has become the spiritual center of the nation - the city of the King, and of the Temple.

Jerusalem has undergone many changes, which have transformed it into a fascinating and unique city. There is no other city in the world from

which a nation, exiled from its land and flung to the far corners of the earth, has been looked towards, in prayer and with hope, for two thousand years. The Mount of Olives, the Western Wall, the Gate of Mercy - all these remain engraved in the collective memory of our people.

Almost 70 years ago, we were privileged to witness the rebirth of the Nation of Israel. Jerusalem has once again become the capital of Israel and of the entire Jewish world. But the joy was incomplete - the Old City and the Holy Basin remained in foreign hands.

This situation was rectified in the Six Day War, exactly 50 years ago. The Western Wall and the walls of Jerusalem returned to the haven of the State of Israel. A visit to the city of Jerusalem is a dream shared by hundreds of millions of people of every religion and belief; and those lucky enough to fulfill their dream are uniquely touched by the great heritage and the special atmosphere suffused in every corner and stone.

The Overseas Department, The Education  
Division, The KKL