

# Beit Safafa

Occupation Streets Dividing The Village to Residential Neighborhoods



Implemented by  
الرؤية الفلسطينية  
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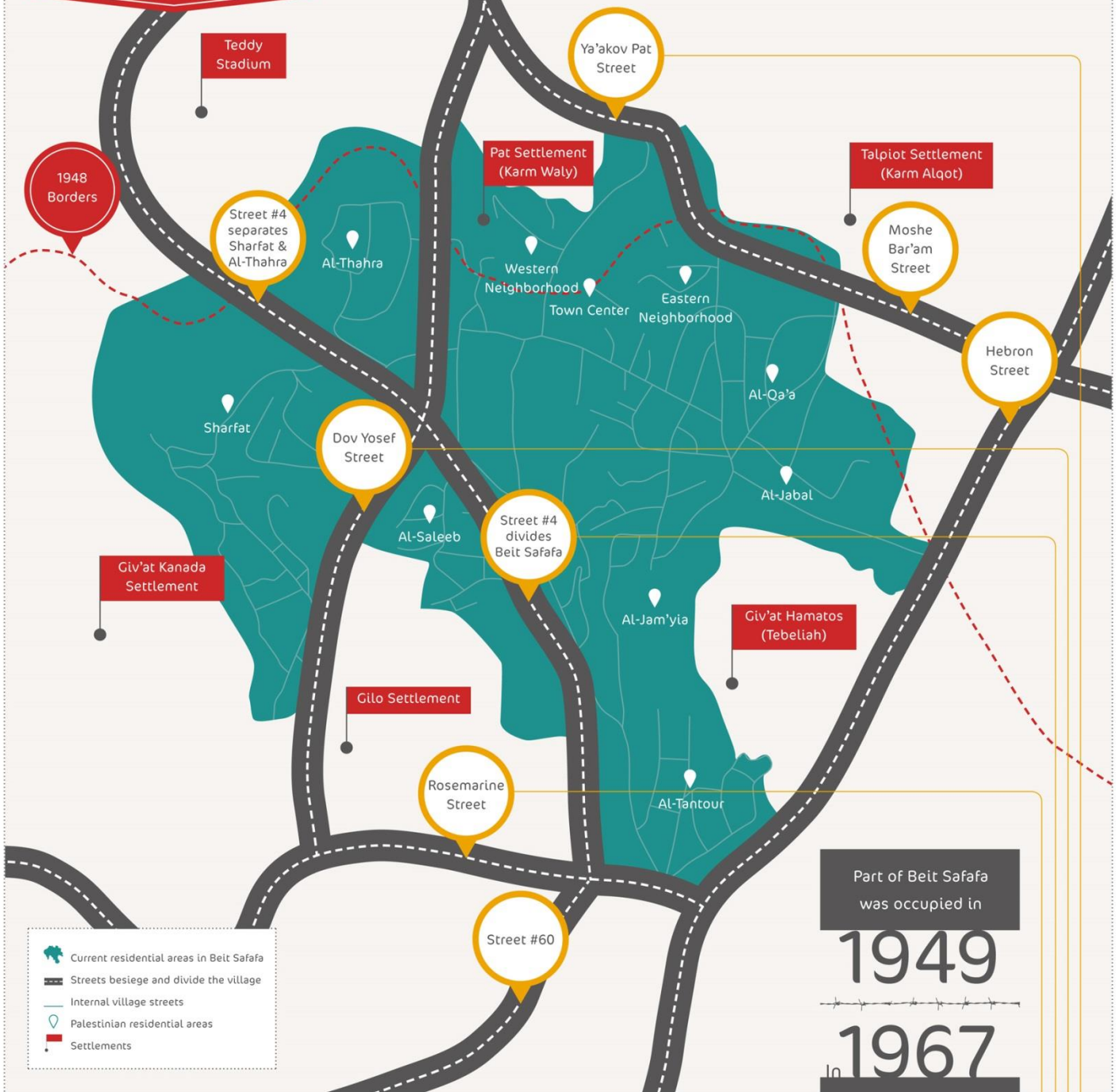
- Located 7km from Al-Aqsa Mosque, Beit Safafa is a linking point between the cities of Jerusalem and Bethlehem.
  - Historically, Beit Safafa covers an area of 5,288 dunums.
  - In 2011, the population of Beit Safafa stood at 11,200.
  - 70% of Beit Safafa's residents hold Jerusalem IDs (residency) and 30% hold Israeli passports (citizenship).
  - In 1949, in accordance with the Armistice Agreements, Beit Safafa was divided into two sections, separated by a wire fence. The Southern-Eastern third was under Jordanian control; the remaining two thirds were under Zionist control.
  - Between 1948 and 1967, the Israeli occupation:
    - Built Bat settlement and a part of the Katamon settlement on Beit Safafa's lands.
    - Built the East Talpiot residential settlement and industrial zone on Beit Safafa's lands.
    - Annexed land near the fence on the Jordanian side, and designating it as an "armistice zone."
  - In the 1970s, the occupation confiscated 200 dunums of Beit Safafa's lands in order to build Dov Yousef Street, which connects the settlements of Gilo and Bat. As a result, the areas of Sharafat and Thahra have been cut off from the center of Beit Safafa.
  - In the 1980s, the occupation confiscated around 80 dunums of Beit Safafa's lands in order to build Ya'acov Pat Street, connecting Dov Yousef Street with Moshe Bar'am Street.
  - The occupation confiscated lands from Beit Safafa to build Rosemarine Street, connecting Dov Yousef Street with "Hebron Road" on the southern borders of the village.
  - The occupation confiscated 200 dunums of Beit Safafa's lands in order to build Street 4. The street divides the areas of Sharafat and Thahra in two, carving through the center of the village to reach Street 60.
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- The Occupation authorities have not prepared any comprehensive infrastructural or organizational plans for Palestinian neighborhoods in Jerusalem. Where plans do exist, they only permit for construction zones between 25% - 75%; it is inconvenient since it does not meet the required levels for natural urban growth. On the contrary, Israeli settlements are permitted a percentage for construction zones is between 75% - 120%.
  - The Israeli occupation has constructed a belt of settlements around Jerusalem, including four situated to the south of Beit Safafa: Gilo, Har Homa, Har Gilo, and Givat Hamatos. These settlements effectively form a barrier between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, preventing urban expansion of both cities.
  - Taxation for residential areas in Beit Safafa is between 35 - 98 NIS/m<sup>2</sup> (equivalent to 10-25 USD/m<sup>2</sup>). This means that a small house or apartment with an area of 100-150m<sup>2</sup> will cost the owner 3,000-10,000 NIS/year in Israeli property tax (equivalent to 800-3,000 USD).
  - Jerusalem and its surrounding neighborhoods have some of the highest population density rates in the world. Population density in Palestinian neighbourhoods in Jerusalem reaches 13,500 person/km<sup>2</sup> compared to 9,000 person/km<sup>2</sup> in Israeli settlements in the eastern part of Jerusalem, and 8,300 person/km<sup>2</sup> in the western part of Jerusalem.

**Economic Activity**

- Israeli Labor Market: 65%
- Services: 25%
- Public and private employment: 10%
- Unemployment rate (2012): 10%

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**50%** is the percentage of land development in Beit Safafa

**75%** is the percentage of land development in Israeli settlements built on Beit Safafa lands, such as Gilo.

In 2011, the population of Beit Safafa was **11,200**.  
 30% hold Israeli passports (citizenship)  
 70% hold Jerusalem IDs (residency)



**Rosemarine:** The occupation confiscated Beit Safafa lands to build Rosemarine Street.

**Street #4:** The occupation confiscated 200 dunums of Beit Safafa land in order to build Street #4. The street divides Sharafat and Thahra into two areas, carving through the center of the village to reach Street #60.

**Dov Youssef:** In the 1970s, the occupation confiscated 200 dunums of Beit Safafa land in order to build Dov Youssef Street, which connects the settlements of Gilo and Bat. As a result, the areas of Sharafat and Thahra have been cut off from the center of Beit Safafa.

**Ya'acov Pat:** In the 1980s, the occupation confiscated around 80 dunums of Beit Safafa land in order to build Ya'acov Pat Street.