Since the occupation of Jerusalem in the 1967 war, Israel has used many tactics to change its Islamic identity. Extremist Jews wanted to blow up and destroy Al Aqsa mosque and replace it with a Jewish temple.

It is a Zionist strategy to project the Dome of the Rock (Gubbai Al Sakra), a gold-domed structure in the centre of the Noble Sanctuary, particularly in photographs, to draw the attention away from Al Aqsa Mosque. The Dome of the Rock is the structure of the holy place under occupation, which is the second most important site in Islam.

Palestinian state with Al Quds (Jerusalem) as its capital.

The IN DEFENCE OF OURS Initiative also aims to highlight the ongoing occupation of Jerusalem and Al Aqsa mosque by Israeli forces. The initiative’s primary goal is to raise awareness about the illegal Israeli occupation of Jerusalem and to promote international support for the Palestinian cause. The campaign seeks to mobilize global action to protect Al Quds, the third holiest city in Islam, from Israeli aggression.

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The Peninsula

Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem

By K. naz

The State of Israel was created in 1948 after driving out the Palestinians and grabbing their land in an act of violence. It is a fact that the Zionists have adopted a policy to expand their borders through wars and occupation. During the six-year war in 1967 Israel captured the Sinai Peninsula, Golan Heights and Sinuij Pegueens, which were the territories of Jordan, Syria and Egypt respectively. Israel’s first invasion of Sinai was during the Suez crisis in 1956. After signing the Camp David Treaty with Egypt, the first peace agreement with any Muslim nation, Israel withdrew from entire Sinai region. The final status of the Gazi Strip, which was also taken over by Israel during the war was not discussed in the treaty. In 2005, Israel unilaterally withdrew from Gaza and it is now under the control of the Palestinian Resistance movement, Hamas. However, occupation, in West Bank and Golan Heights has been going on for the past 85 years. Israel’s occupation of East Jerusalem, which is a part of the Holy City of Makkah, was an Arab tribe who came to Palestine in a.d. 750. The first occupation of Jerusalem by the Crusaders invaded and ruled over Jerusalem for almost 90 years. In 1187, the city was liberated from the Crusaders by the Islamic commander Salahuddin Ayyubi who permitted Jews and Muslims to return and settle in the city.

Al Aqsa is the second mosque on earth and was built 40 years after the construction of the Grand Mosque in Makkah. Most scholars agree that the place of sanctuary was changed to the Dome of the Rock (Qubbat Al Sakhra), a gold-domed structure in the center of the Noble Sanctuary, particularly in photographs, to draw the attention away from Al Aqsa Mosque. The Dome of the Rock is the structure of the holy place under occupation, which is the second most important site in Islam.

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