The Architectural Development in Haret Bab Al-Nather in Jerusalem By Amal Akram Abu-Elhawa

English summary

In spite of the small area Haret Bab Al-Nather occupies, it is considered one of the most important quarters in Jerusalem. The name it bears Al-Nather (supervisor of the two Harams), is also the name of one of Al-Haram Al-Sharif, gates, granted the harah the feeling of dignity and holiness.

It also resembles the last layer of development through the ages in Jerusalem, because of the ancient Islamic hospices, schools, zawiyas, and khans, it includes.

This thesis discusses the historical, archaeological and architectural developments of all the buildings in haret Bab Al-Nather, and the developments took place during the Mamluks and Ottomans periods.

Because the lack of resources, this thesis depended mostly on self-observations and continuous visits to all the places in this harah, and to enter every single room in its buildings.

The thesis is divided into introduction and five chapters:

The introduction discusses the history of Jerusalem through the ages, and the importance of the city in the eyes and hearts of the attendants of the three religions, especially for Muslims.

Chapter one deals with the foundation of Al-Harah and its development through the ages especially during the Islamic periods starting from the Umayyads until the Ottomans, as it discusses the importance, location, site, borders, topography and the various names given to Bab Al-Nather(the gate).

Chapter two deals with the architectural development, which took place in Haret Bab Al-Nather in the Mamluk period.

Chapters three describes and documents in detail the buildings in Haret Bab Al-Nather and their architectural features through photographs, architectural drawings, plans and elevations, especially the Ottoman buildings which were never been studied before.

1:Ribat Alaa Aldin Al-basir.

2:Al-ribat Al-Mansourv.

3:The northern part of the western portico of Al-Haram Al-Sharif.

4:Al-Mangakiya school.

5:Al-Zawiya Al-wafaia.

6:The under ground vaults (the buildings) of shahen Al-shujai (new:discovery)

7: Hassaniya school.

Chapter four studies the decorations in the buildings of Haret Bab Al-Nather and compares them with similar decorations in nearly Mamluk and Ottoman buildings.

Chapter five a conclusions summarizes the result of the study, in which many facts and discoveries were revealed for the first time, beside the documentation and elevation of the Ottoman buildings in Haret Bab Al-Nather.