

Tell Balata Archeological Park Project

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Abstract

Today most cities have been shaped by accumulation of historical layers, some of which are hidden and invisible by the urban growth. To allow and maintain an integrated development of these cities, various urbanistic factors have to be articulated – among which some social and cultural factors that must allow for the harmonious development of the city with all its age and origin components, in a context of economic and touristic pressure that has to be handled.

This paper will present Tell Balata Archeological Park Project as case study on community archeology as one element of the site management. The project is a Joint Palestinian-Dutch expedition in cooperation with UNESCO (2010-2012) funded by the Government of Netherlands. The project aims at contributing to the safeguarding of Palestinian cultural heritage and the enhancement of economic situation through tourism development, by presenting and managing one of the most important archaeological resources, the archaeological site of Tell Balata.