

Status of Jerusalem holy site in doubt

A clause in the UAE-Bahrain accords with Israel may open the door for Jews to pray at the Al-Aqsa Compound in violation of the status quo, according to Israeli analysts

Clause states: “all Muslims who come in peace may visit and pray at the **Al-Aqsa Mosque**, and Jerusalem’s other holy sites should remain open for peaceful worshippers of all faiths”

Israel defines Al-Aqsa as mosque structure alone, but Muslims define it as entire esplanade. Wording of clause raises fears that Jewish prayers will be allowed inside compound

AL-AQSA COMPOUND: Also known by Muslims as **Al-Haram al-Sharif** and by Jews as **Temple Mount**. Under long-standing agreement **non-Muslims can visit but cannot pray at site**

Western, or Wailing Wall: Retaining wall of mount on which Jewish temple once stood

Dome of the Rock: Muslims believe this is where Prophet Muhammad ascended to heaven

Al-Aqsa mosque: Islam’s third-holiest site after **Al-Masjid al-Haram** mosque in Mecca and **Al-Masjid An-Nabawi** in Medina, Saudi Arabia