



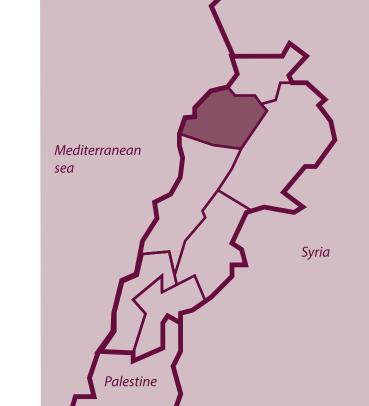


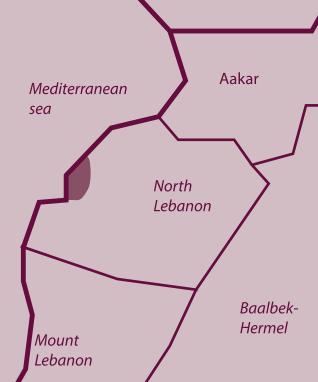




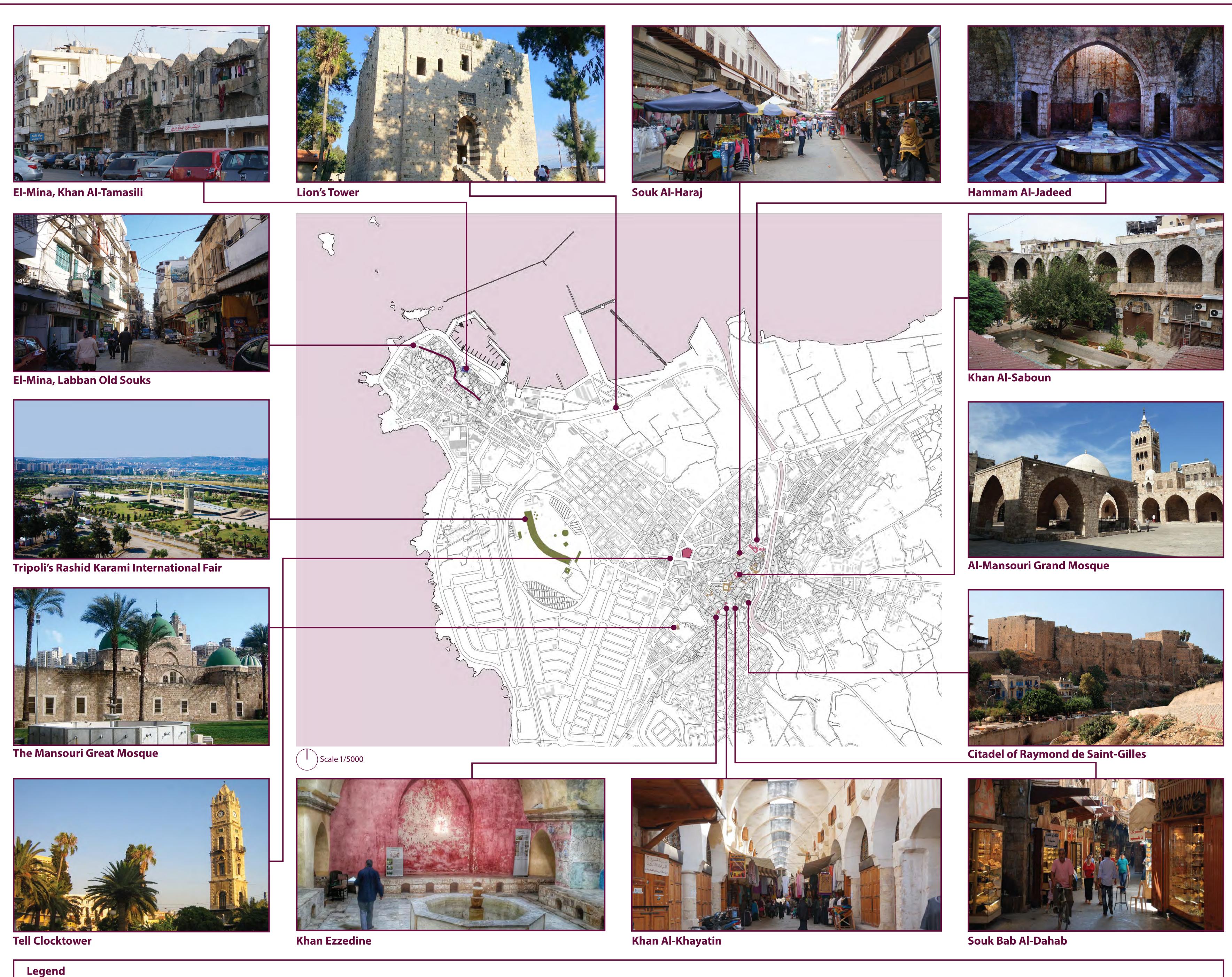
# THE PHOENICIANS' ROUTE

INTRODUCTION Tripoli, founded by the Phoenicians around 8000 B.C., is today the second largest city and main port in Lebanon. Like Beirut, the city witnessed the presence of various Mediterranean cultures and empires including the Canaanites/Phoenicians, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Umayyad, Abbasid, Crusaders, Ayyubid, Mamelukes, Ottoman and French. Facing the shores of the city, there are the Palm Islands, which known for its green turtles, and which was declared a Protected Nature Reserve by the UNESCO in 1992.





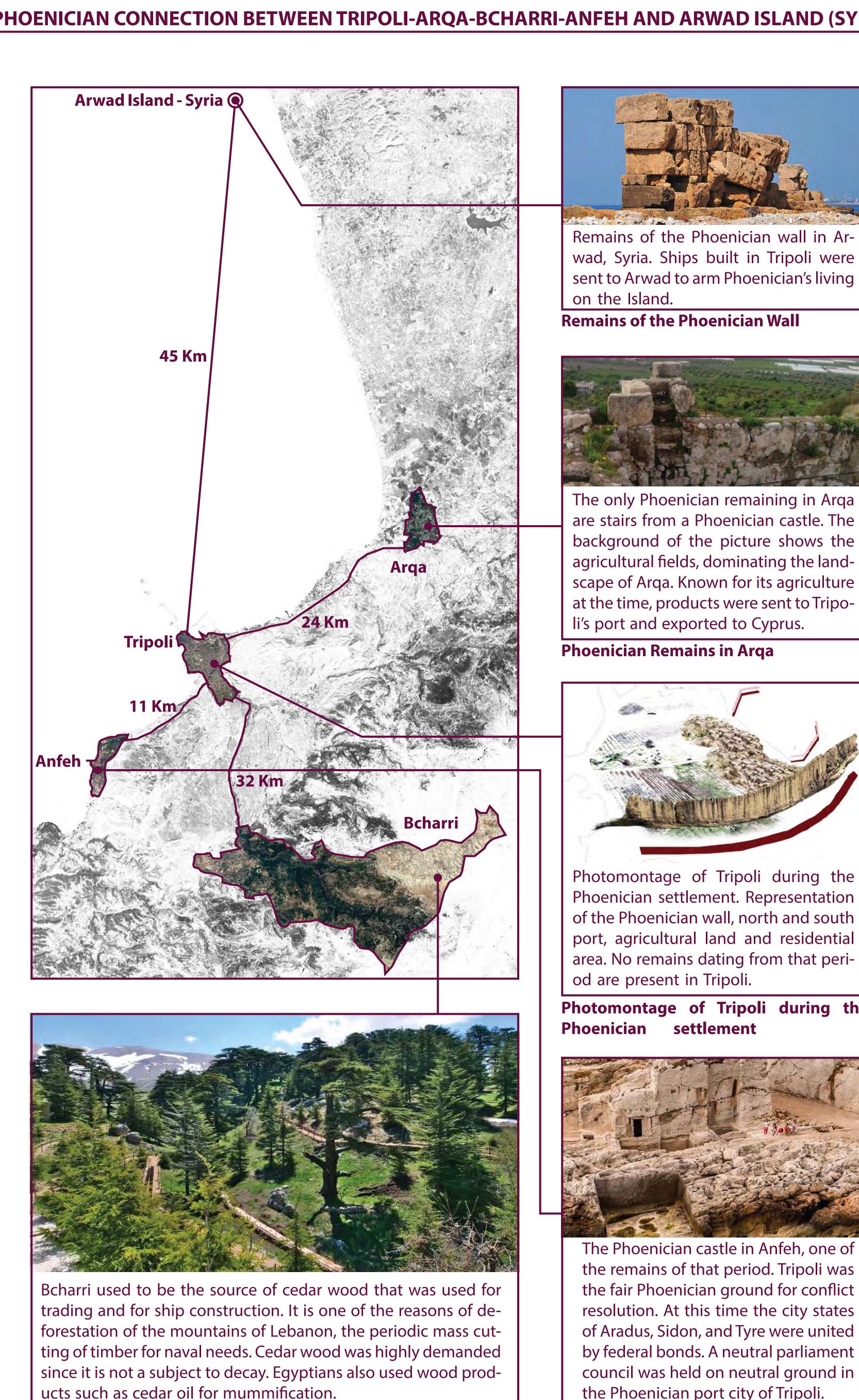
### HISTORICAL MAPPING



Ottoman Period 1516 - 1919 A.D.

### PHOENICIAN CONNECTION BETWEEN TRIPOLI-ARQA-BCHARRI-ANFEH AND ARWAD ISLAND (SYRIA)

Mameluke Period 1290 – 1516 A.D.



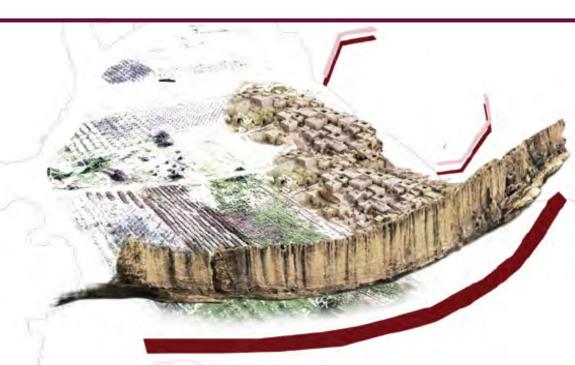
Crusader Period 1090 - 1099 A.D.



sent to Arwad to arm Phoenician's living on the Island. **Remains of the Phoenician Wall** 



The only Phoenician remaining in Arqa are stairs from a Phoenician castle. The background of the picture shows the agricultural fields, dominating the landscape of Arqa. Known for its agriculture at the time, products were sent to Tripoli's port and exported to Cyprus. **Phoenician Remains in Arqa** 



Photomontage of Tripoli during the Phoenician settlement. Representation of the Phoenician wall, north and south port, agricultural land and residential area. No remains dating from that period are present in Tripoli.

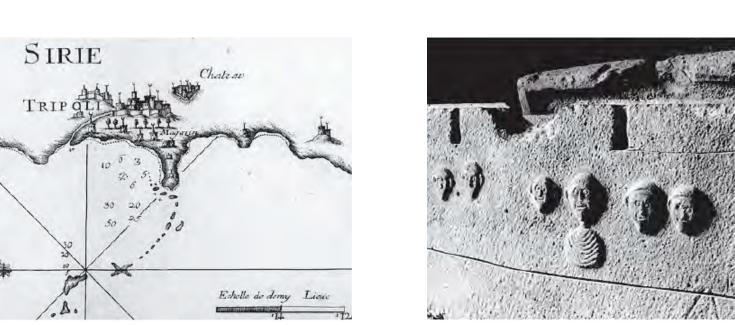
Photomontage of Tripoli during the **Phoenician** settlement



The Phoenician castle in Anfeh, one of the remains of that period. Tripoli was the fair Phoenician ground for conflict resolution. At this time the city states of Aradus, Sidon, and Tyre were united by federal bonds. A neutral parliament council was held on neutral ground in the Phoenician port city of Tripoli.

**Anfeh and Tripoli** 

### **CHRONOLOGY OF MAIN EVENTS**



1200 - 333 B.C. - Phoenician and Canaanite





French Mandate 1920 - 1943 A.D.

# 1090 - 1099 A.D. - Crusader Period

**Period** 

Established the political centrality of the city where certain remains are found as an extension to St. Gilles Citadel that acted as the old core of Tripoli.

Lebanese State 1943 - Present

332 - 64 B.C. - Hellenistic Period &

661 - 750 A.D. - Umayyad Period

64 B.C. - 635 A.D. - Roman and Byzantine

Al-Mina which originally consisted of the population travel-

ling from Arwad, Sidon and Tyre in the first Millennium B.C. But

later, and up until the fourth century A.D., Hellenistic and Ro-

man settlements occurred in the area next to today's harbor.

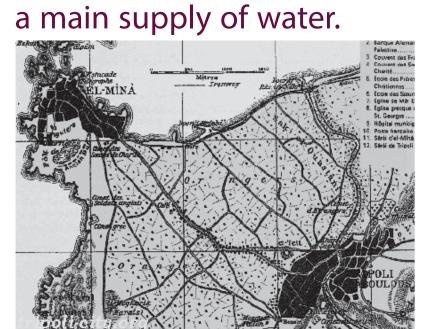
After that, no Byzantine or early Islamic remains were found.





### **1291-1516 A.D. - Mameluke Period** The Mamelukes set the Crusader's city to the ground after

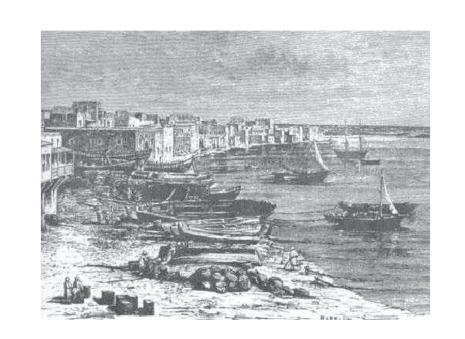
burning everything but keeping the St. Gilles Citadel and the Cathedral, today known as "Taynal Mosque", as well as some towers around the peninsula. The Mamelukes built a whole new city at the Citadel's foot and next to Abou Ali River where Tripoli has seen a big economic and political growth of power. The urban fabric of the city at the time consisted of Gates or "Bawabat", each defining its special territory and had an economic status like "Bab Al-Tabbana", "Bab Al-Hadid", "Bab Al-Ramel..." and these names still exist until recent time. The population grew next to the citadel as a sort of protection from external conquers as well as the presence of the river as

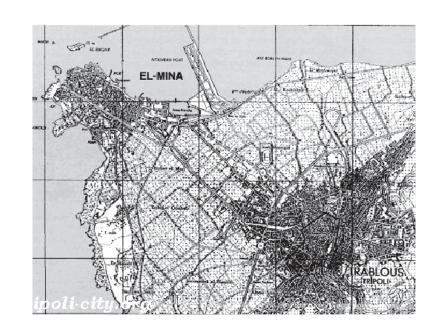




### 1516 - 1917 A.D. - Ottoman Period

Tripoli became one of three main governorates or "Wilayat"; Aleppo to the north, Damascus to the south and Tripoli. Here, Tripoli became the maritime façade of Syria from Latakia in the north to Maameltein near Jounieh as well as internal cities of Homs and Hama. But shifting in political power in 1669 towards the southern, what was called Bilad Al-Sham, signalled the beginning of long process of decline even though the city continued to grow but at a slower pace. And in 1888, the Wilaya of Beirut was established where Tripoli was then included as a secondary center. From the Ottoman rule; schools, mosques, baths, khans still exist in a common area with the Mamelukes' remains in today's old city of Tripoli. And within of what is known actually as the Old Tripoli, Old Ottoman architecture we were talking about, as well as new Ottoman architecture at the "Al-Tal" area is still found within today's defined as the historical city.





# After the Ottoman, and due to the formation of what was

known as "Lubnan Al-Kabir" during the French Mandate, Tripoli was excluded from Syria. This lead to further deterioration of the economic and political status of the city were since the Ottomans no important accomplishments were done in the city, in other words, the city was neglected but things went okay up until the Lebanese Civil War where the city, as part of whole Lebanon, deteriorated socially and economically. But, as a radial sort of urban layering of successive rules and extensions, today the French architecture extends from "Al-Tal" area towards the south-west of the city, inventing today's known as "Azmi Street" which later became a main connection between the old and the Mina city, where today the new city of Tripoli grew in between.

1920 - 1943 A.D. - French Mandate

## **EVALUATION OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND HISTORICAL BUILDINGS**

During the Phoenician period there was an important city called "Tripolis", whose name is appropriate to its nature, for there are in it three cities, at a distance of a state from one another, and the names by which these are called are the city of the Aradians, of the Sidonians and of the Tyrians. This city enjoyed the highest repute amongst the cities of Phoenicia for there, as it happens, the Phoenicians held their common council and deliberated on matters of supreme importance.

The archaeological findings dating back to the Phoenician settlements were sold to museums in Germany, Turkey, Italy and France by the governors without the consent of the citizens. People in Tripoli were kept unknowledgeable about their city's history. Citizens of Tripoli are unaware of the Phoenician civilization. Phoenicians shaped Tripoli today, they built Tripoli, a port known for its commercial activity for trading ships and cedars wood from Bcharri. The wall built by the Phoenicians at the time has no remains today and people are unaware of its existence. No remains from the Phoenicians period exist in the city, the typologies of Crusaders and Mamelukes such as mosques and hammams dominate the historical sites. Remains found were sold and now displayed in museums in Turkey and Germany.

Even the remaining mosques, hammams, khans and madrasas from the Ottoman and Crusader periods are only preserved by the citizens of Tripoli since they represent their religion. After the flood of Abu Ali river, the historical sites of Tripoli became endangered, leaving the city at risk of losing its cultural heritage. However, till today, no funds were set by the government to keep those monuments standing.





**Bcharri**