Who is the 'refugee'? 
من هو اللاجئ؟

A REFUGEE is a person who has been forced to leave their country to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster.
لاجئ هو شخص يُجبر على ترك دياره لأسباب متعلقة بالحرب،或多灾。
Cultural Patrimony Under Threat

Here is a selection of sites in Syria that are important to the world’s cultural patrimony.

WHAT CAN I DO TO SUPPORT CULTURAL PATRIMONY?

UNESCO, the UN agency for culture, science, and education, is developing strategies to preserve cultural heritage. There are efforts to foster international cooperation and collaboration. Discovering and promoting cultural heritage is crucial for global development, and supporting cultural heritage for sustainable development is vital. UNESCO works to ensure that cultural heritage is protected and preserved, and to promote its sustainable development. Here is a simple guide to help you promote and support cultural heritage around the world and in your community.

1. Educate yourself and others about the value of cultural heritage.
2. Support cultural heritage projects in your community.
3. Advocate for the protection and preservation of cultural heritage.
4. Support UNESCO’s work to protect cultural heritage.
5. Engage in cultural tourism and support local cultural heritage organizations.

SOURCES:

UNESCO World Heritage Centre
UNESCO Cultural Heritage Information Network
UNESCO’s Cultural Policy and Sustainable Development
UNESCO’s Cultural Heritage and Human Rights

In this section, we present a selection of sites in Syria that are important to the world’s cultural patrimony.

1. Palmyra
2. Aleppo
3. Krak des Chevaliers
4. Qasr al-Hayr
5. Deir ez-Zor
6. Palmyra Temple of Bel

These sites are threatened due to conflict and conflict-related damage. UNESCO and the Syrian government are working to protect these sites. However, more support is needed to ensure their preservation.

Syria is a cultural crossroads, a place where cultures converge and blend. Its rich history and diverse heritage are a testament to the ingenuity and creativity of its people. The cultural patrimony of Syria is under threat, and we must work together to protect it.

ENGLISH: Arabic translation is available.
Welcome to Medieval Syria
مرحبا بك في سوريا في العصور الوسطى

With a pen and paper, you're going to take a journey through the ancient
archaeological sites and historical landmarks of Syria. You will learn
about the culture, history, and daily life of the people who lived there.

STEP ONE
Explore the layout of the site before you begin. Think about what
you can see at a glance. How does the layout of the site reflect
the culture and history of the people who lived there?

STEP TWO
Once you've studied the layout, it's time to think about the daily
life of the people who lived there. What were their daily
activities? Did they have daily routines? How did they
spend their time?

Conclusion:
In this activity, we learned about the ancient
sites in Syria. We explored the layout of the
site and thought about the daily life of the
people who lived there. We also considered how
the layout of the site reflects the culture and
history of the people who lived there.
We are going to take a journey through time to experience what life was like in ancient times. You will learn about the architecture and lifestyle of the people who lived there.

**Step One:**

We are going to examine some photographs of ancient sites that have been uncovered by archaeologists. To help you visualize what these sites looked like, we have put together some pictures of the ancient city of Qanawat.

**Step Two:**

Now that we have looked at the photographs, let's look at the city of Qanawat. The town is located in the northern part of Syria and was a major trade center during the Roman Empire. In the photograph, you can see the remains of the walls and gates that were used to protect the city.

**Step Three:**

Let's imagine what life was like in Qanawat. During the Roman Empire, the city was繁荣 with trade and commerce. People from all over the world came to Qanawat to buy and sell goods. The city was also home to many temples and places of worship.

**Step Four:**

Now that we have learned about the city of Qanawat, let's think about what we can learn from this experience. We can see that the people of ancient times were very different from us, but we can also learn from their way of life and use their knowledge to improve our own lives.
**Qanawat**

Qanawat is a town located in the central region of Jordan, known for its ancient Roman ruins. The town is situated on a limestone plateau, surrounded by hills and800, and is famous for its well-preserved Roman baths, temples, and other architectural remains.

**Ancient Buildings**

The town is home to several ancient buildings, including a large temple, a basilica, and several shops. These buildings are made of stone and are in various states of preservation. The temple is the largest of the buildings, and is located at the center of the town.

**Rome and Byzantium**

The town is believed to have been occupied by the Romans in the 1st century AD, and later by the Byzantines. The ruins of the town are a testament to the architectural skills of these civilizations.

**Mosaics**

The town is also known for its mosaics, which are well-preserved and can be found in the temple and some of the other buildings.

**Archaeological Site**

Qanawat is now an archaeological site, and is managed by the Jordanian Department of Antiquities. Visitors can explore the ruins and learn about the history of the town.

**Visit Information**

Visitors to Qanawat can reach the town by car or by public transport. There are several hotels and guesthouses in the town, and many restaurants where visitors can enjoy local cuisine.

**References**

3. The Jordanian Department of Antiquities. *Qanawat: An Archaeological Site*. Available at: [Link](http://www.antiquities.gov.jo/).
**STEP TWO**

1. **LOOK AT PHOTOGRAPHS #2 AND #3.** Discuss with your partner what you think the structures in the photo may have been in ancient times.

2. The photographs show tower tombs in Palmyra. Different civilizations have created different ways to honor those who have died before us. In Palmyra, many of the citizens were buried in tower tombs. This was unusual in the Greco-Roman world. They were built in view of the city and on high grounds. Archeologists have determined they were built this way because people of that time believed that high places were sacred because they were close to the sky.

**Qal‘at al-Madiq** is a medieval fortress in northwestern Syria. In 1106 the fortress of Mamiya was purchased by the Ismailis, known as the Assassins. It was the first castle to be acquired by the group. The Assassins’ name refers to the medieval Nizari Ismailis. They were described as a secret order led by a mysterious “Old Man of the Mountain.” A class of acolytes known as the fid‘is carried out the assassinations. The Nizari did not have their own army so they relied on their fid‘is to carry out espionage and assassinations of their enemies. Over three hundred years the Assassins successfully killed two caliphs, sultans, and Crusader leaders.

**STEP ONE**

1. Discuss if you have heard of other people in today’s pop culture who are named like the Assassin’s Creed.

2. Do you think that you can culture thousand-year-old ruins today? Does the name of the Assassins or the photograph of the fortress remind you of anything? The Assassins from the Syrian Medieval Ages appear in fictional form in today’s pop culture. Examples include video games such as the Assassin’s Creed, Knights Templar, and television shows and movies.
Historic Photographs Tell a Story

Syria’s most important archaeological sites, including the temple of Baalshamin and Bel and the Roman ruins of Palmyra were destroyed by members of the Islamic State (ISIS) in the last two years. The world has also witnessed this time the fallout of Syria’s ongoing civil war that has taken tens of thousands of lives; the monumental demise of hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees across the world. Today significant aspects of Syrian culture, both ancient and contemporary, stand at the risk of destruction.

The Palace of the Governors Photo Archives plays a vital role in presenting knowledge of these archaeological sites, not only in the documentary record, but in the form of seven albums containing 647 photographs of historic sites in Syria, taken between 1919 and 1934. The result of these separate expeditions to Syria, led by Princeton University, these albums were part of Edgar Lee Hewett’s Collection at the Museum of New Mexico.

The New Mexico History Museum and Palace of the Governors is hosting the exhibition as our community’s gift to the Syrian people and as a welcome to the Syrian refugee community of New Mexico. The museum is collaborating with Santa Fe-based Curators Without Borders, which specializes in designing workshops and learning opportunities for museums and cultural institutions to respond to humanitarian crises. The Curators Without Borders’ learning labs present educational programs and digital media relating to Syrian archaeology, culture, and history, highlighting the human counterpart to the risk Syria’s ancient archaeological sites stand at the risk of destruction.

Cultural Patrimony in Conflict Areas – Arab World during the Period of the Jihad

- From Syrian folk art, 17th-century embroidered silks
- From the Syrian national collection of illuminated manuscripts
- From our companion exhibition