



ISRAEL: THE JERUSALEM SYNDROME

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January 2000: the world and humanity have survived the fatal date that had inspired deep-rooted anxieties and apocalyptic fears.

December 1999: Jerusalem, Holy City to three religions. A place that attracts each year hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the globe in search of spiritual guidance. No tourist remains insensitive to its power of emotion; some are even seized by a mystical or apocalyptic fervour. It is known as The Jerusalem Syndrome. Hundreds of cases are being treated a year. At the approach of the millennium festivities, fears of collective hysteria or mass suicides organised by sects had grown in Jerusalem and nearby Bethlehem; authorities and security forces had been on full alert.

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