

# A FEW FACTS...

**14** Governorates  
**Capital:** Damascus  
**Geographic Coordinates:** 35 00 N, 38 00 E  
**Area total:** 185,180 sq km

## POSSIBLE DAMAGE

**Population:** 17,9 million  
**Languages:** Arabic, Kurdish, Armenian, Aramaic, Circassian, French, English



"Locating Aleppo City Center"



"Locating the Syrian Arab Republic"



**PERSIAN INVASION (540-944)**

**UMAYYAD PERIOD**

**ABBASID PERIOD**



**NON-DYNASTIC RULE**

**LOCAL MIRDASID DYNASTY**

**BYZANTINE INVASION (962-1260)**

**LOCAL ZENGID DYNASTY**

**LOCAL AYYUBID DYNASTY**

**MONGOL INVASION (1260-1400)**

**MAMLUK PERIOD**



**INVASION OF TIMUR (1401-1516)**

**MAMLUK PERIOD**



**EARTHQUAKE (1822-1920)**

**OTTOMAN PERIOD**



**INDEPENDENCE OF SYRIA (1946)**

**POST-INDEPENDENCE (2011 - 1946)**



**CIVIL WAR (2011)**



حلب أقدم مدينتها موجودة في العالم

**22**



DESTROYED

**48**



SEVERE DAMAGE

**33**



MODERATE DAMAGE

**32**



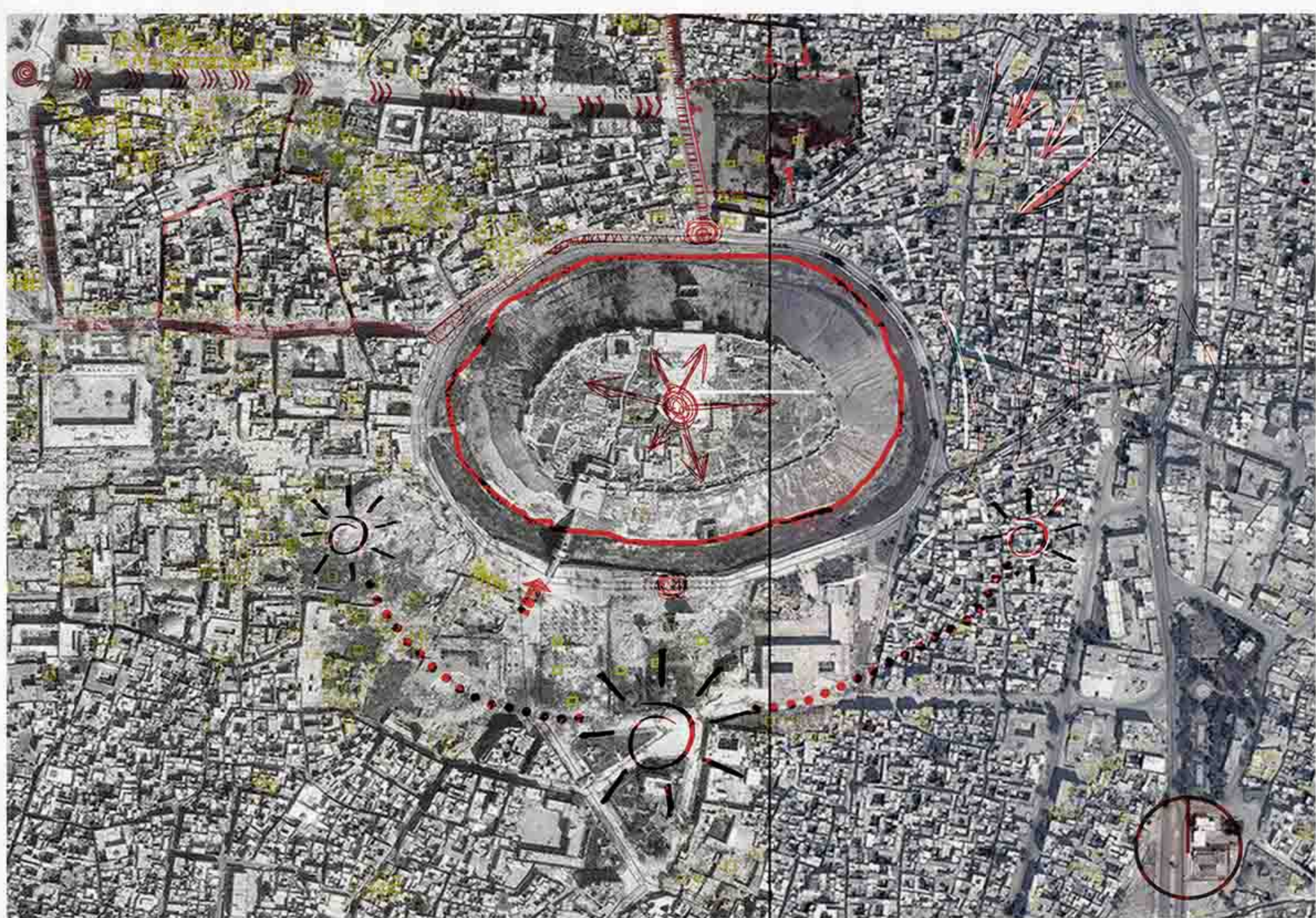
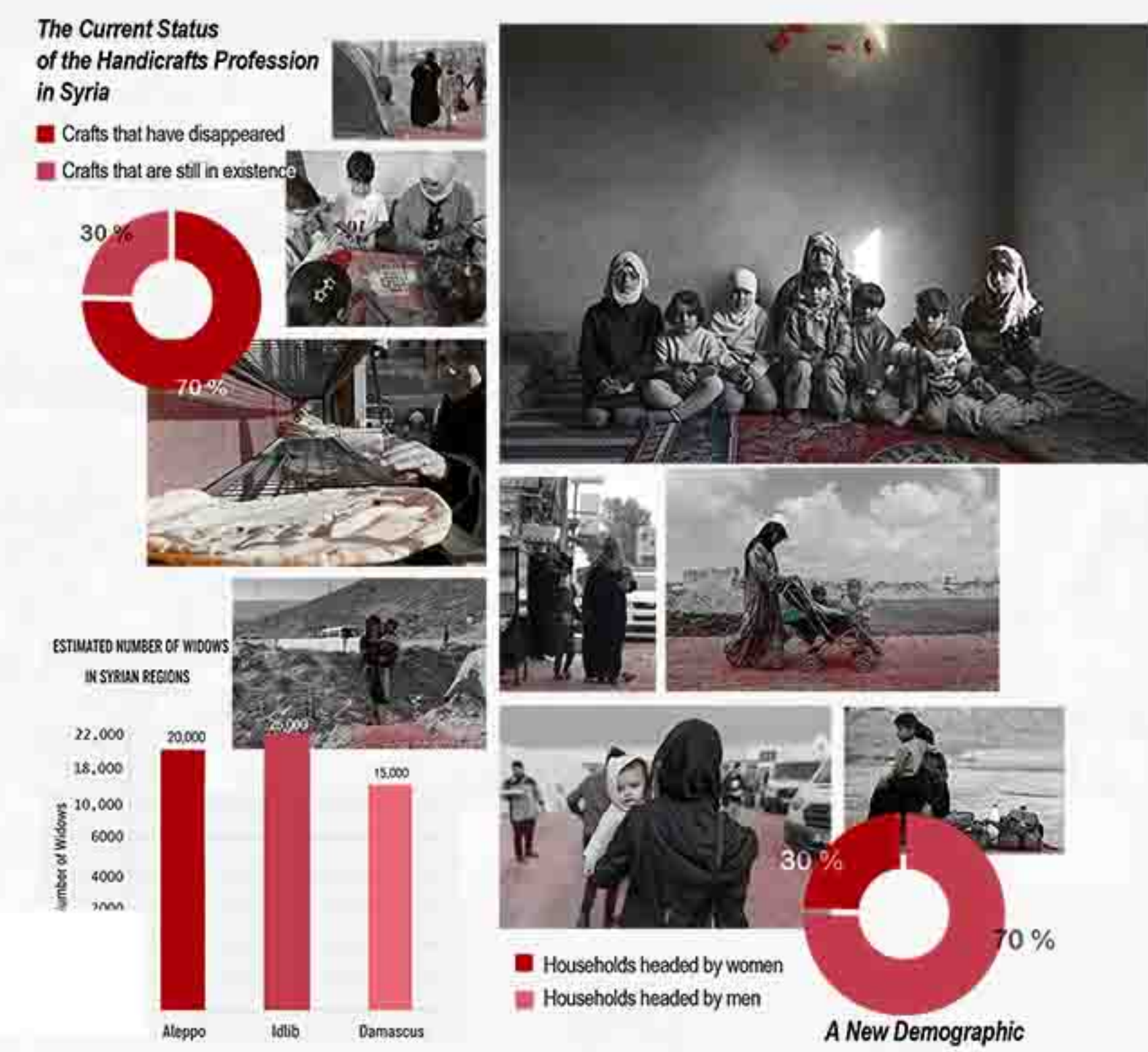
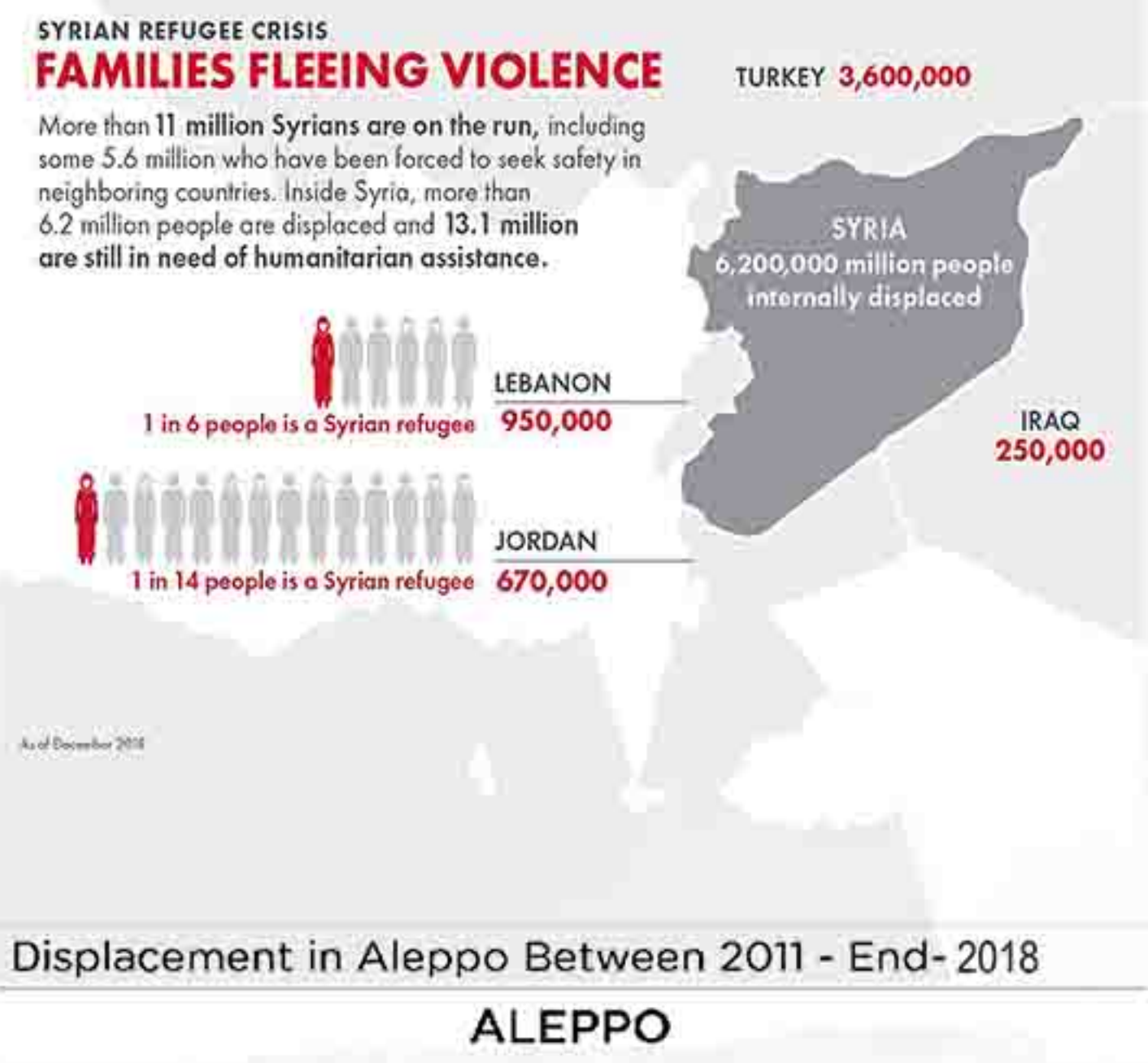
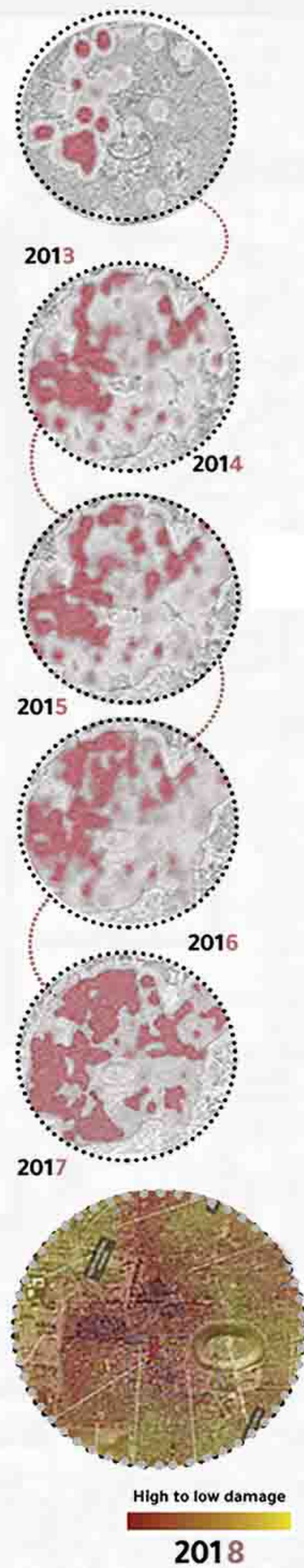
POSSIBLE DAMAGE

# Aleppo Damage Level

(Number of Heritage Locations)

DAMAGE SITE





### An Architectural and Humanitarian Study at the Heart of Aleppo

**site Analysis:** Architectural and Humanitarian Dimensions  
Our project is not merely physical reconstruction; it is a manifestation of reweaving the social fabric. Therefore, the site was chosen with great care, based on a comprehensive analysis of its urban and humanitarian dimensions

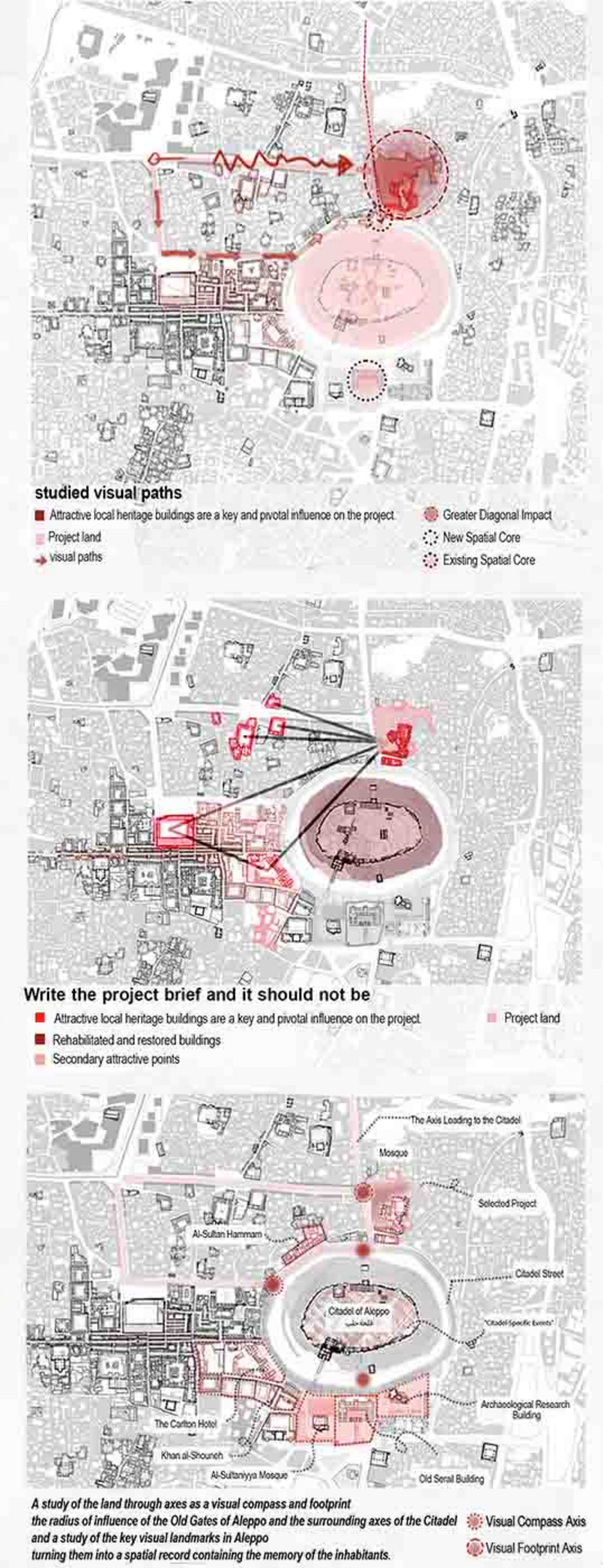
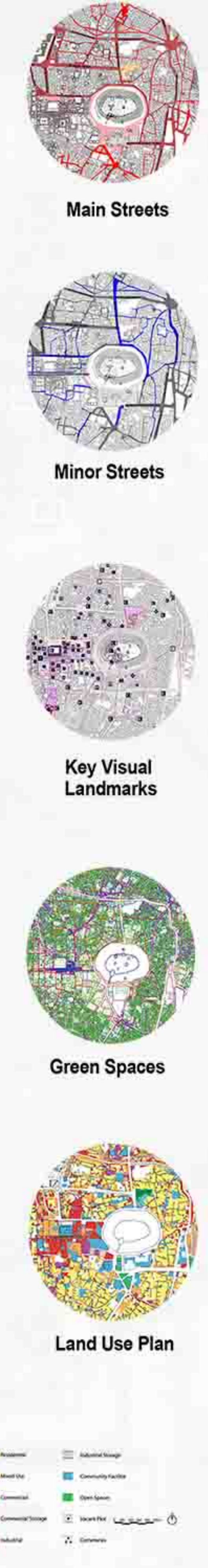
**Historical and Functional Dimensions:** Plans for the connection of Aleppo's Old Gates to the project site were prepared. These gates are not just historical landmarks, but vital axes that connect neighborhoods, making them central to the integration of widows into the local community

**Visual and Urban Dimensions:** Our visual analysis showed the land's strong relationship with the Aleppo Citadel and its strategic location near key attractions like the nearby Khans and major streets. We also considered attraction points, green areas, and land use to ensure the project's seamless integration with its surroundings

**Social and Climatic Dimensions:** We conducted a precise analysis of the neighborhood, the climatic orientation, and access roads. A statistical study of the demographic composition allowed the design to respond directly to the community's real needs

**Economic and Environmental Dimensions:** The project aims for economic sustainability by providing local job opportunities, particularly for widows, through vocational training. The design relies on sustainable principles, using local materials and traditional construction techniques adapted to the climate

**Design and Methodological Dimensions:** The project is based on a comprehensive design methodology, where the mentioned dimensions serve as starting points for the architectural solution. Our vision is a direct translation of these dimensions, a holistic approach that connects research with practice to provide solutions that go beyond physical construction to address social and humanitarian challenges



### A Study of the Gates of Aleppo and Their Connection to the Project

The project is influenced by the axes of Bab al-Hadid (connecting to the northern neighborhoods) and Bab al-Jinein (an extension towards the central souqs) in addition to the strategic dimension of Bab al-Nasr (towards the northeast) and the commercial dimension of Bab Antakiya (towards the west and the outer markets)

Gates Within the Visual Impact of the Gates' Axes  
Gates Within the Secondary, Commercial, and Strategic Impact

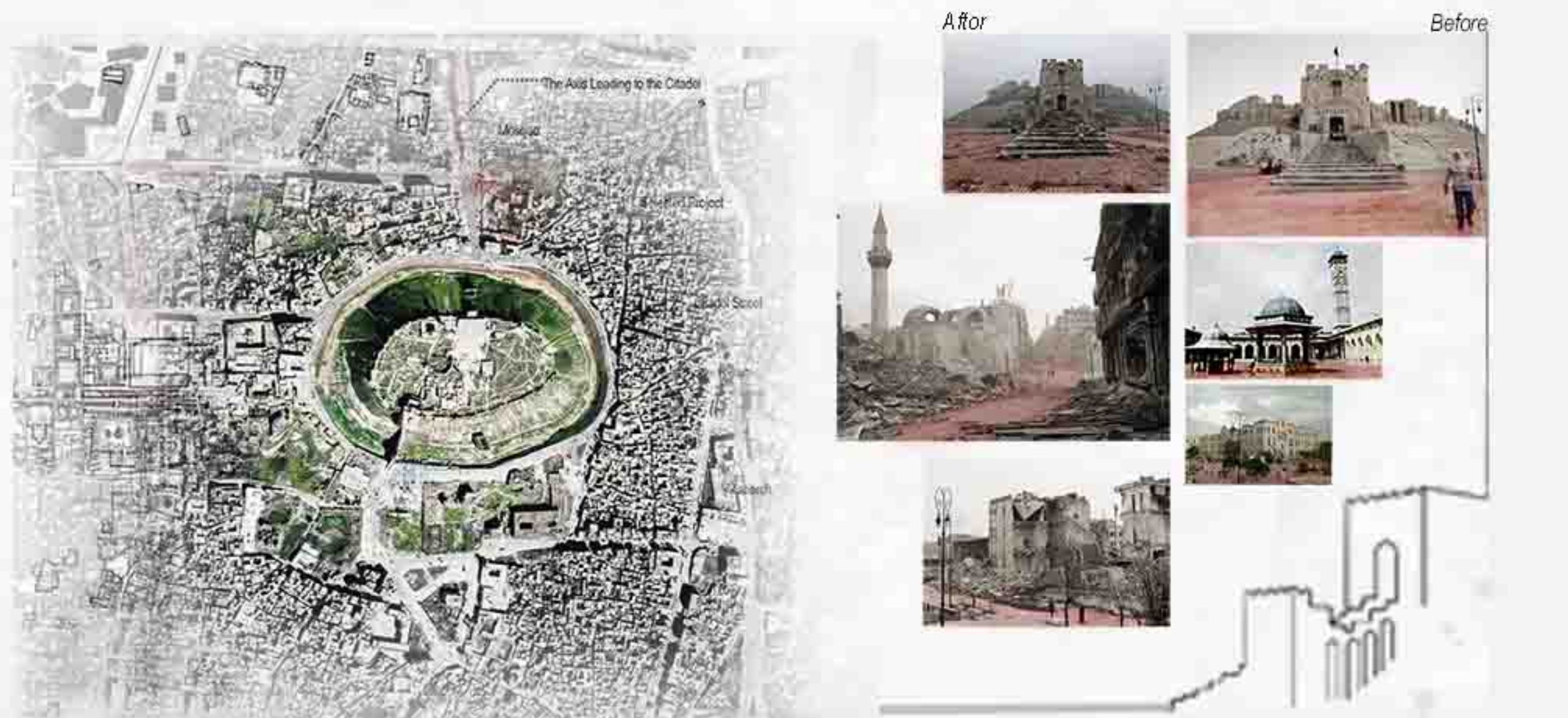
### The Importance of Aleppo's Gates in the Project Site Analysis

Aleppo's historic wall and its eight main gates are an essential part of the city's memory and collective identity. They were never just defensive structures but urban nodes, tied to markets, caravan routes, and daily life—landmarks through which residents identified their neighborhoods. Referencing their symbolism in our project grants the site a rooted historical depth and a renewed identity

The project site lies north of Aleppo's Citadel, within the visual influence of the axes of Bab al-Hadid and Bab al-Jinein; the first historically linked the northern quarters to the citadel, while the second led directly to the central markets and citadel square. These are not merely lines of movement, but urban connectors that reintegrate the site into the city and extend its historic fabric

Historically, the gates also nurtured economic and artisanal life—from bazaars and khans to workshops and specialized markets. The project builds upon this role by converting rehabilitated buildings into women-led production workshops and local exhibition spaces, while embedding small shops at the edges to support commerce. In this way, the site becomes a new economic gateway for the city

On a symbolic level, the project aspires to be a contemporary gateway: its entrances reimagined with arches inspired by the old city gates, creating transitional thresholds between past and future. Thus, the site transforms from the ground of an abandoned prison into a "Gate of Hope", opening for widowed women and the local community a space for daily life, dignity, and social belonging



## Housing Patterns for widowed women

The design is organized into integrated sections responding to social and architectural context. A courtyard-based housing typology is central, expressed through four complementary architectural modes echoing Aleppo character

The courtyard mediates between domestic life and public space, providing natural light, ventilation, and privacy while enabling widowed women to engage in daily urban life. Temporary and mobile retail stalls support micro-commerce and local economic activity

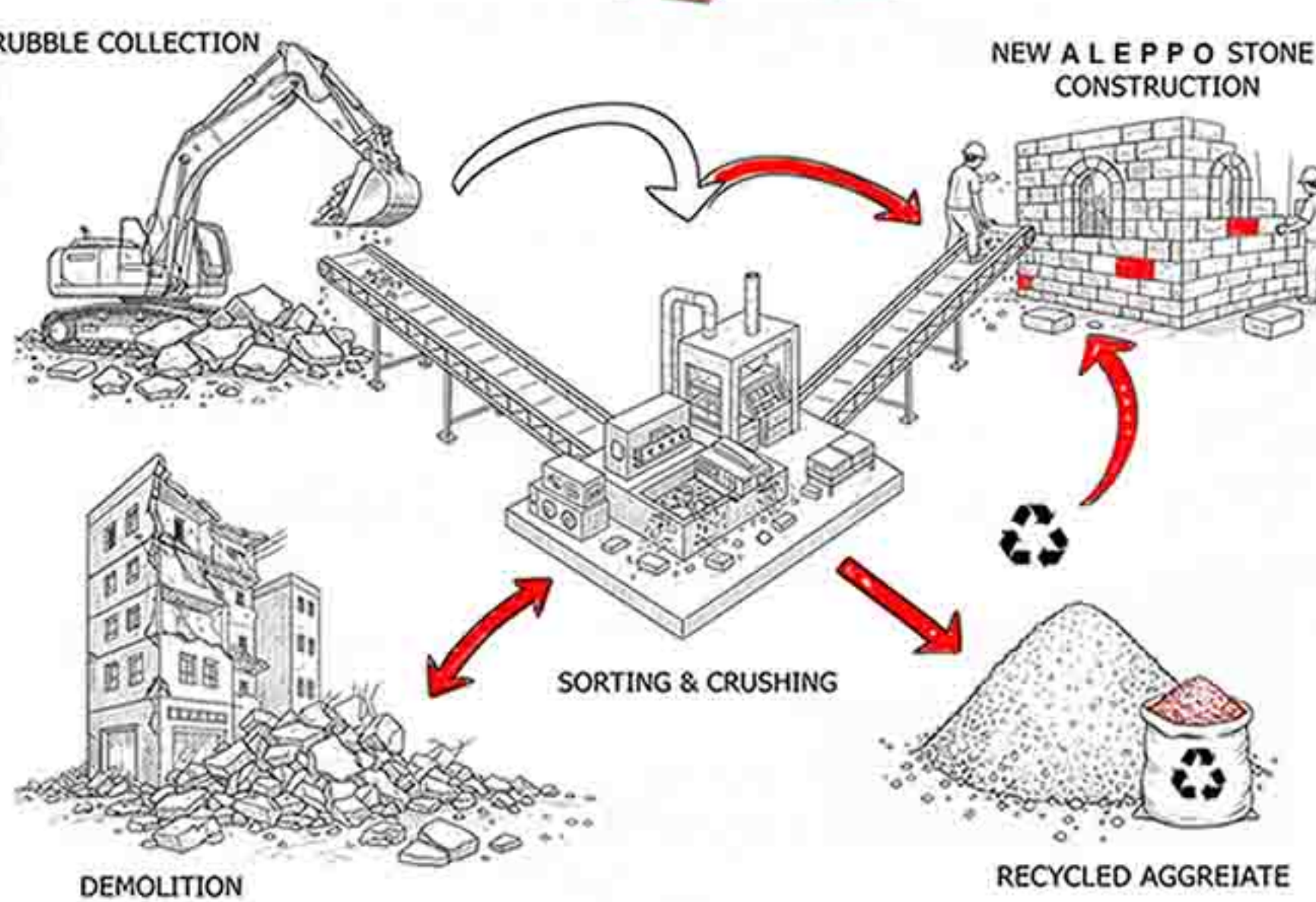
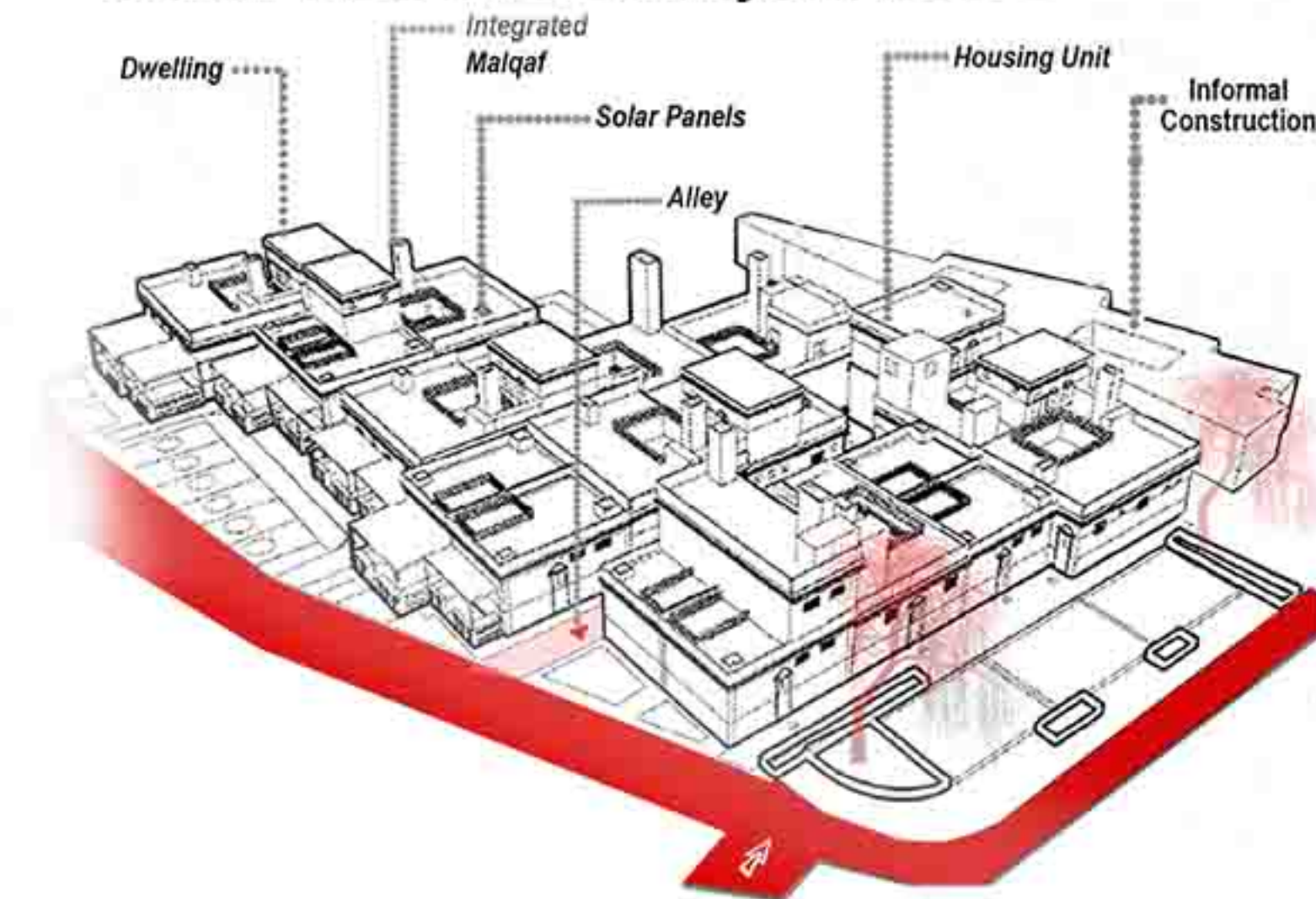
Here, architecture becomes a language for reconstruction, where every design element reshapes the community's social fabric and the memory of the place



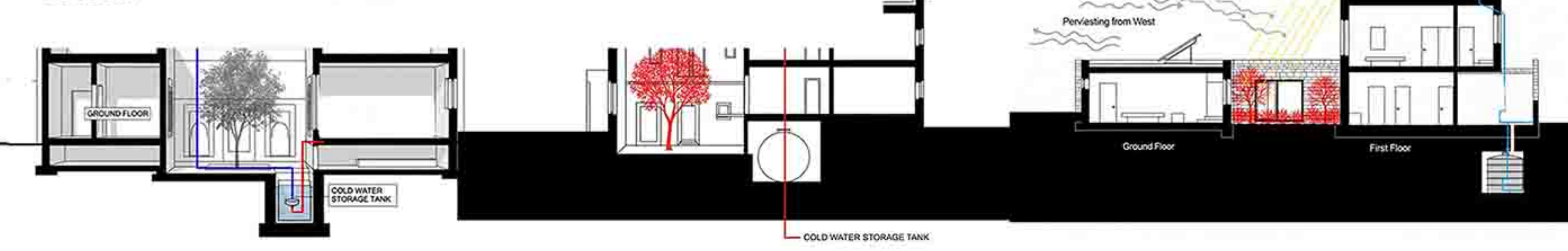
Aerial View Of a Courtyard House

**Sustainable Architectural Details:** The project adopts a sustainable approach by reusing rubble from the destruction, and incorporating it into the design and reconstruction of the damaged parts of the urban fabric. Additionally, rainwater harvesting is utilized to irrigate the green spaces. The analytical diagrams illustrate the use of authentic materials and techniques like wood and mashrabiya, leveraging local heritage to provide aesthetic and functional climatic solutions

The design of the residential building includes dedicated open spaces for internal retail shops managed by widowed women, providing them with a direct work platform



The prevailing traditional local building style in the area was adopted, ensuring the harmony of residential units with the surrounding and dominant urban fabric. This includes features like Mashrabiya, windcatchers (Malqaf), and courtyard houses, as well as the adoption of a lane-based planning style



## Housing Unit

**Type of Families**

- widow with one child
- widow with two children
- widow with three children
- widow with four children

**Unit (A)**

**Unit sizes**

the ,6x8 Using a square of dimensions of remaining units were adopted as multiples of this unit, as it is the basic reference in the design of the commercial residential units. The adoption of the main entrance to the units was inspired by the axis of the street of the shops surrounding the castle, and benefiting from the method of distribution and planning of these spaces

**Temporary retail units**

Using units to sell handicrafts and locally made products to enter the labor market and sell them to tourists and interested parties

**Unit (B)**

**Unit (C)**

**Unit (D)**

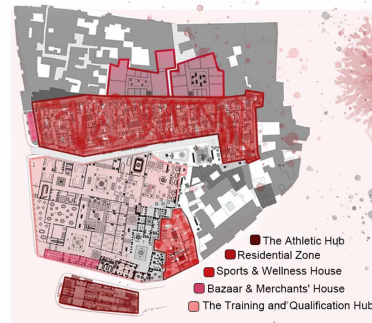
## Design Vision: Reinterpreting the Local Urban Fabric

This poster presents an integrated architectural vision that translates the humanitarian and social dimensions of the site into tangible design solutions. The core idea lies in re-shaping the traditional urban fabric through new construction that draws inspiration from the past, to meet the needs of the present, while integrating new residential buildings with rehabilitated historical structures

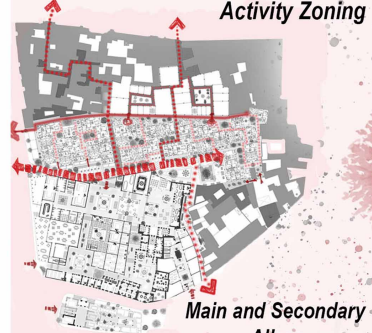
**Core Design Concept:** The displayed plans show that the Ground Floor Plan is not just a layout but a comprehensive community hub. The design centers around the Residential Building with a Tackled Courtyard, where these courtyards provide an innovative solution for both privacy and social interaction, inspired by the traditional style of Aleppian homes. It is integrated with vital sections such as a supermarket and retail shops to meet daily needs

**Empowerment Through Vocational Training:** The project includes rehabilitated heritage buildings to serve as a vital center for vocational training. Here, specialized workshops in traditional crafts like weaving, sewing, and soap making are provided. Furthermore, dedicated retail spaces for widowed women are utilized within this section, giving them a direct opportunity to showcase and sell their products, thereby ensuring their financial independence

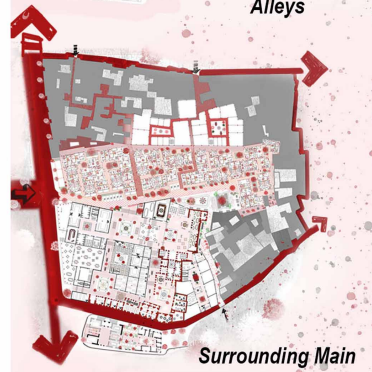
**Spaces for Gathering and Recreation:** Other buildings have been rehabilitated to function as a Meeting Place & Cafeteria and various Recreational Spaces. These places do not only serve a recreational purpose but act as hubs for fostering social connection and exchanging experiences among residents, thus rebuilding



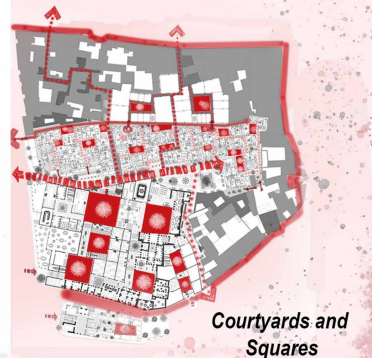
Activity Zoning



Main and Secondary Alleys



Surrounding Main Streets



Courtyards and Squares

Project Analysis



Ground Floor Plan

PROPOSED  
MASTERPLAN

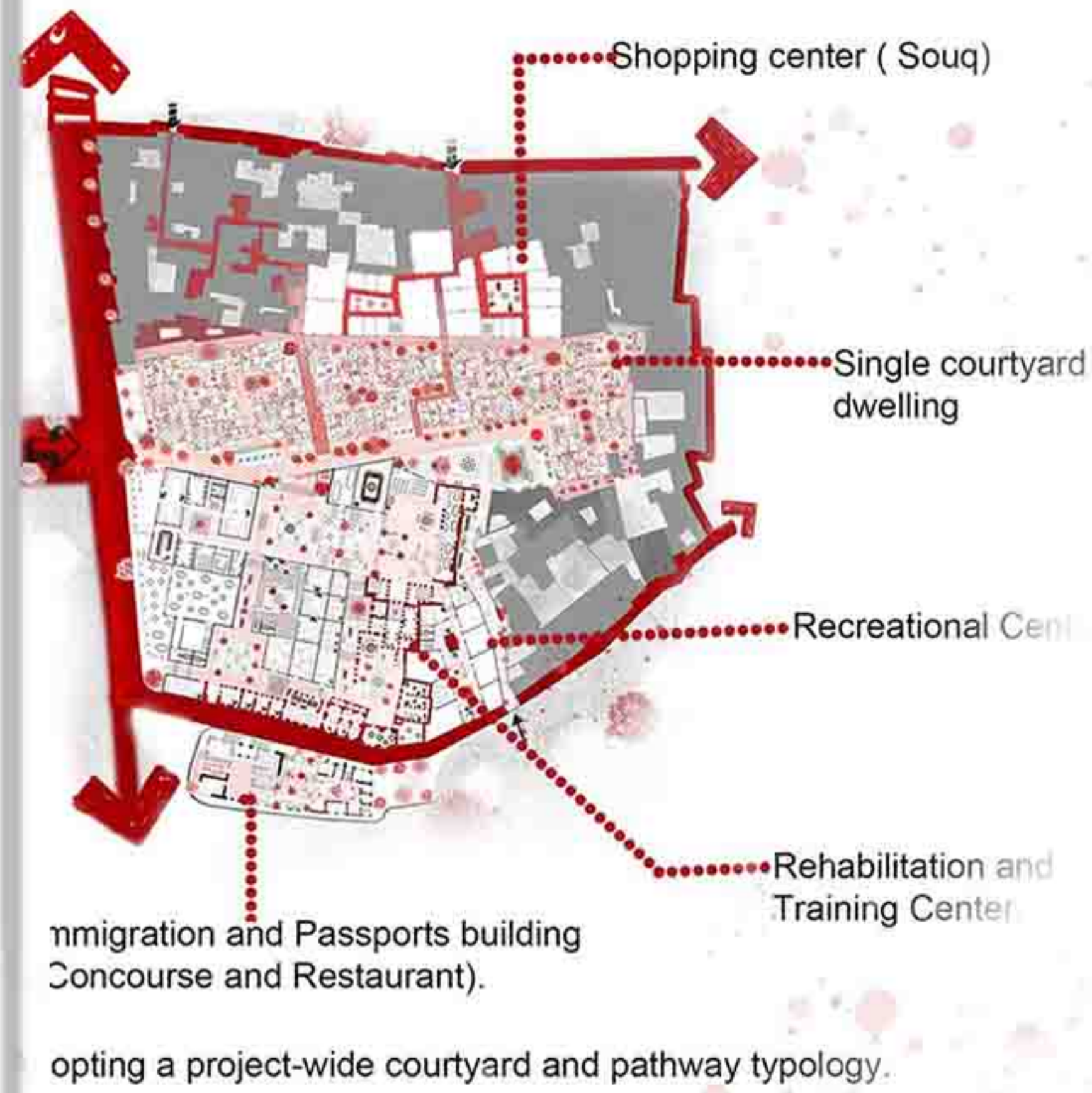
## Study of architectural plan

Our idea was not drawn from modern blueprints but from the heart of Aleppo itself. Its ancient history demonstrates its resilience, and its rich architectural legacy, specifically the traditional courtyard typology, provides a profound source of inspiration

This pattern endured for centuries, offering a comprehensive social, climatic, and humanitarian solution. The project's core is that rebuilding a city begins with rebuilding its people

The study of the human condition and the surrounding environment is an essential part of the architectural plan study in the initial and final projections

This project is more than an architectural plan; it is a story of hope and a foundation for a more resilient future where architecture can be a source of strength and renaissance



First Floor Plan





Rehabilitation and Training Center.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ





We believe the courtyard, a space that brings neighbors together, can be the cornerstone for revitalizing community. Therefore, we have generalized this concept to every space in the project, creating an integrated system of courtyards that redefines community and security.

This model for reconstruction is both conscious and sustainable. Instead of replacing heritage, the project reinvests in it by activating traditional techniques that have proven their efficiency.

We use mashrabiya for privacy and ventilation, design courtyards for natural light, and employ malqaf (windcatchers) for cooling. The project also adopts a holistic environmental approach by reusing rubble as a primary building material and harvesting rainwater to irrigate green spaces. This contributes to restoring the city's identity and achieving social and economic resilience by activating the role of widowed women, providing them with housing, skills, and job opportunities.





Immigration and Passports building  
(Concourse and Restaurant).





البركة  
والرحمة