

Ruth Kark

Jaffa
A City in Evolution
1799-1917

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YAD IZHAK BEN-ZVI PRESS. P.O. BOX 7660, JERUSALEM 91076, ISRAEL This volume deals with the transformation of one of the world's oldest port cities—Jaffa, from a small, walled settlement, to one of the major harbors on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean. The period between the Napoleonic siege and the First World War (1799-1914) was among the most eventful in Palestine's history, and one in which Jaffa often played a central role. The growth of Jaffa and Tel Aviv into metropolitan Tel Aviv is modern Israel's most dramatic urban-geographical process. In part, the seeds of this change were sown as early as a century ago.

Professor Kark, adopting an inductive perspective, has undertaken an historical and geographical reconstruction of the city, as it was, based on documentary sources and field observations.

She has also depicted broader spatial and temporal processes, thereby creating a synthesis which emphasizes the interplay of political, demographic, social, economic and regional forces. Thus the city is presented within a more generalized framework.

Ruth Kark is an Associate Professor of Geography at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She has written and edited several books and numerous articles on the historical geography of Israel. Her research interests include study of land use and patterns of land ownership in Palestine between 1880 and 1948, urban and rural settlement processes and characteristics, and the influence of Western civilizations on the Holy Land.

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