

WHOEVER OWNS THE UNDERGROUND, OWNS THE LAND

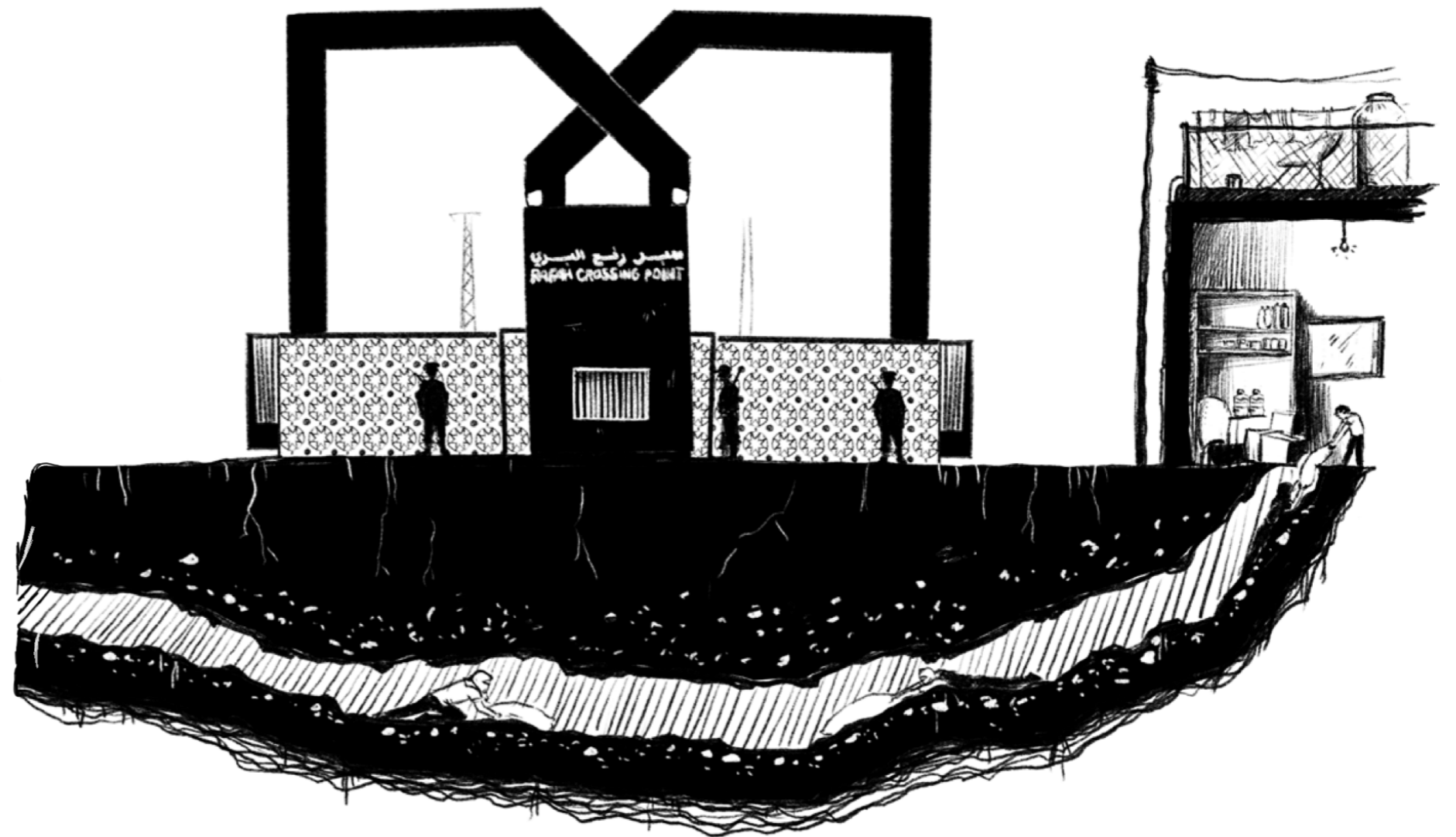
**PALESTINIANS**

**ARE BORN**

**FROM THE LAND**

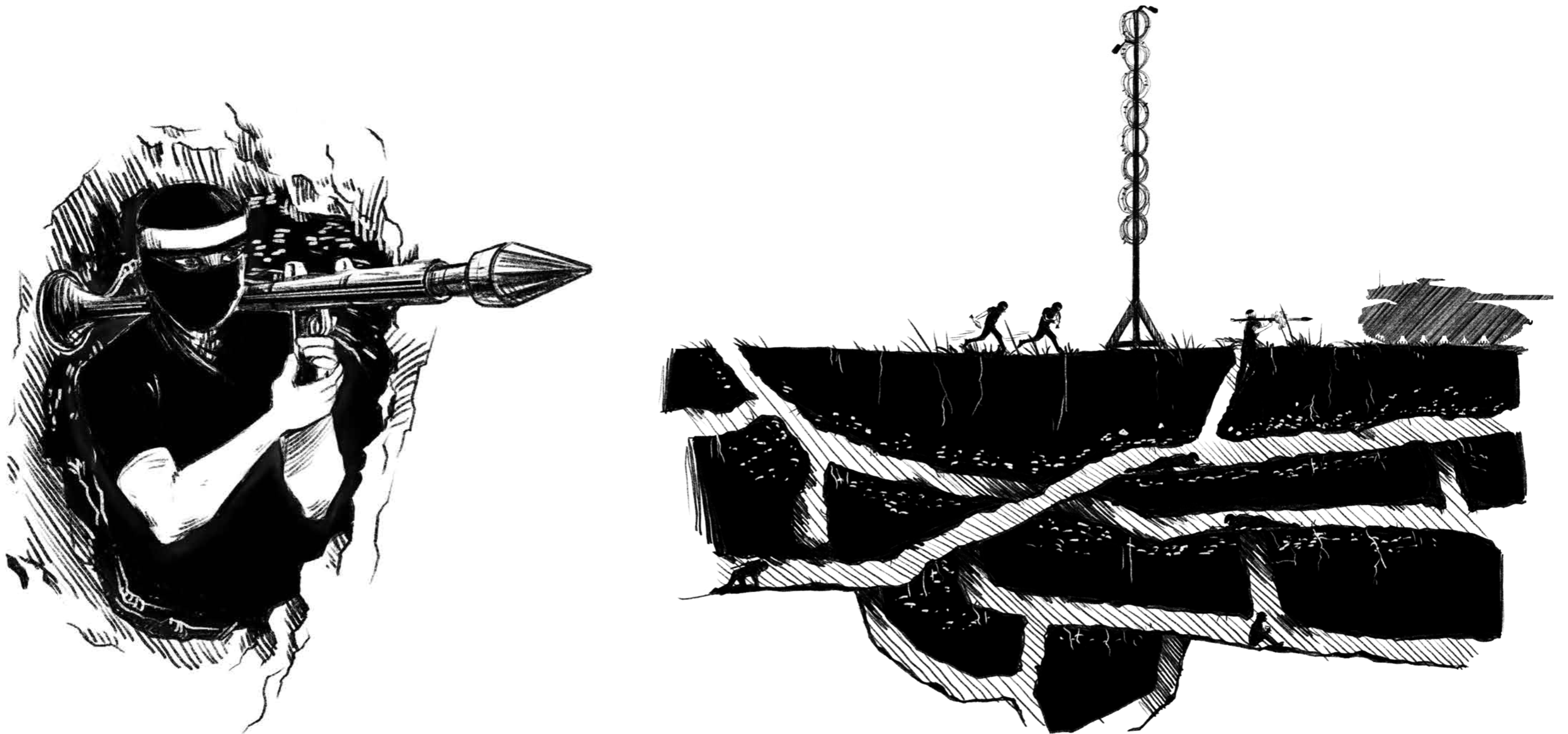
# Breaking the seige

In 2005, when Israel replaced the occupation with the total siege enforced until today, Gaza became entrapped from all sides. This prompted the Gazans to dig tunnels underneath the Palestinian-Egyptian borders to ensure that the Gazan population bring in basic goods to cover their needs. The Egyptian government drowned these tunnels.



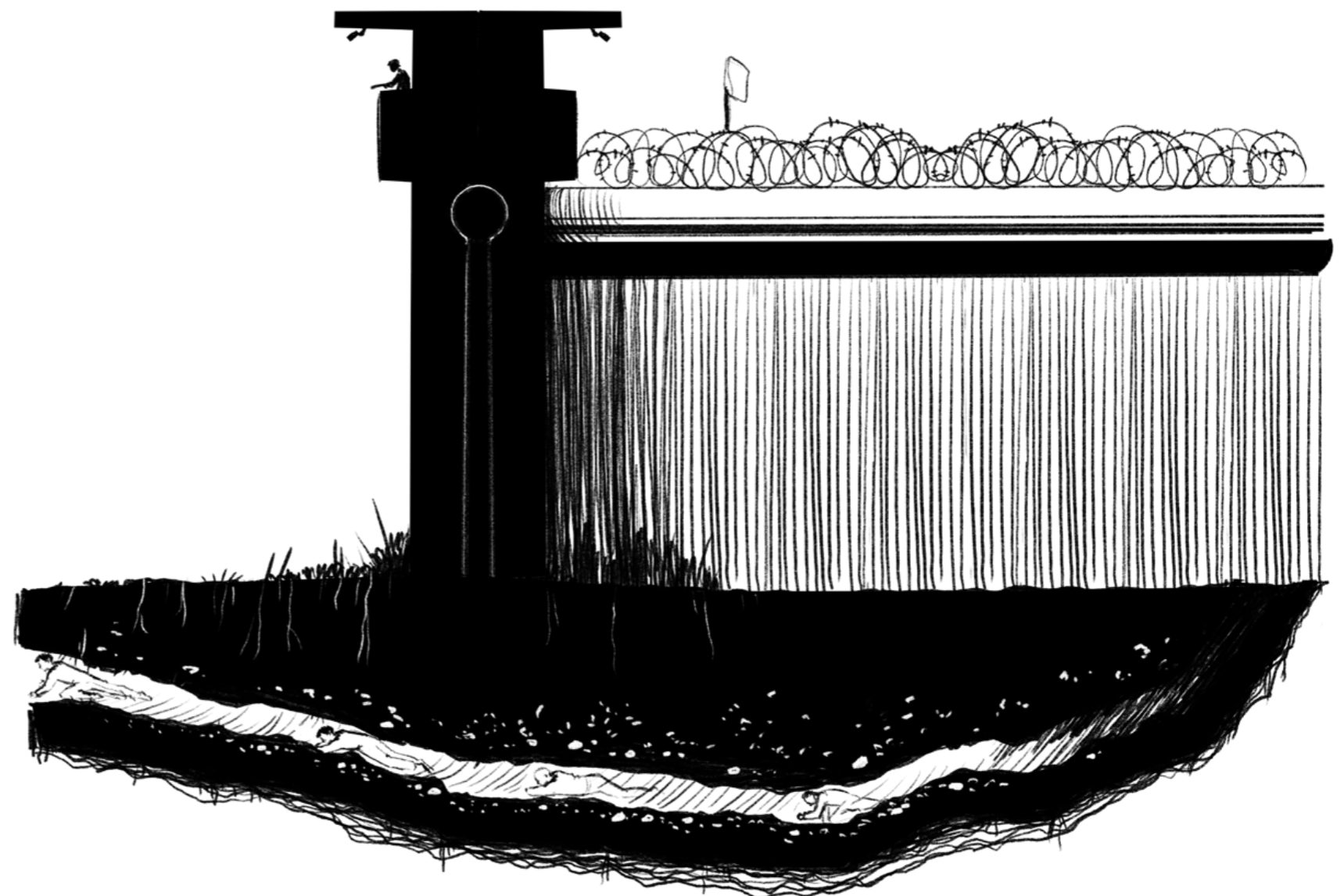
# Breaking the aggression

Within the wider context of Palestinian resistance, the employment of tunnels as a strategy has been known in Ailabun in 1964, in Jenin in 2002, Bethlehem in 2008 and 2018, and today, the tunnels in Gaza serve as a prison for captive Israeli soldiers.



# Breaking the imprisonment

In September 2021 six political prisoners escaped captivity from Gilboa Prison, which is a high-security facility known as “the Safe”. Similar attempts and escapes from Israeli prisons by digging tunnels were recorded in the Shatta Prison, Ofer Prison, Kfar Yona and Ashklon.



**“Today, what happened  
to the ones who dug  
the tunnel happened to  
me, they dug it, saw the  
light, then got caught.”**

-Waleed Daqqa, a writer in Israeli prisons, when he held his daughter for the first time

# TUNNELS IN PALESTINE

A VITAL ELEMENT  
OF ITS HISTORY  
AND ARCHEOLOGY

# The Historical Balama Water Tunnel

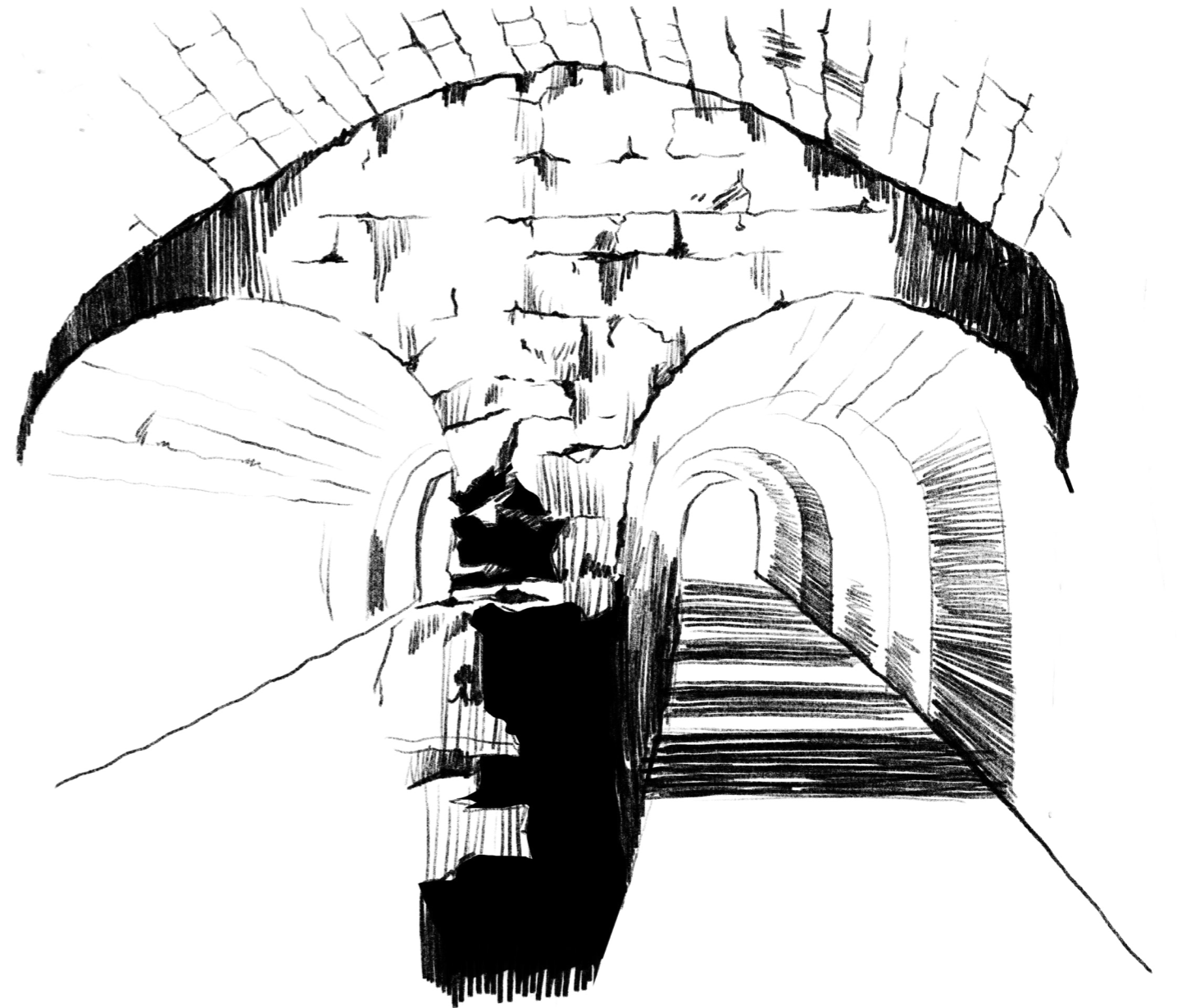
One of the oldest historical sites in Jenin is 115 meters long and dates to 1300 BC. It is mentioned in ancient Egyptian relics telling the story of the inhabitants of Khirbet Balama who used the tunnel to access a water spring located inside the tunnel in times of war.



# They tell tales of the continuous colonization throughout history

## The Templars Tunnel

A 150 meters long tunnel in Akka, used as a strategic passage to link the Templars fortress with the city's port. It was constructed during the Crusades, after the Templars left their headquarters in Jerusalem, in what they call "Temple mount", claiming that the Temple of Solomon was under Al-Aqsa mosque. In the 19th century, some passages were found under the Old City of Jerusalem.

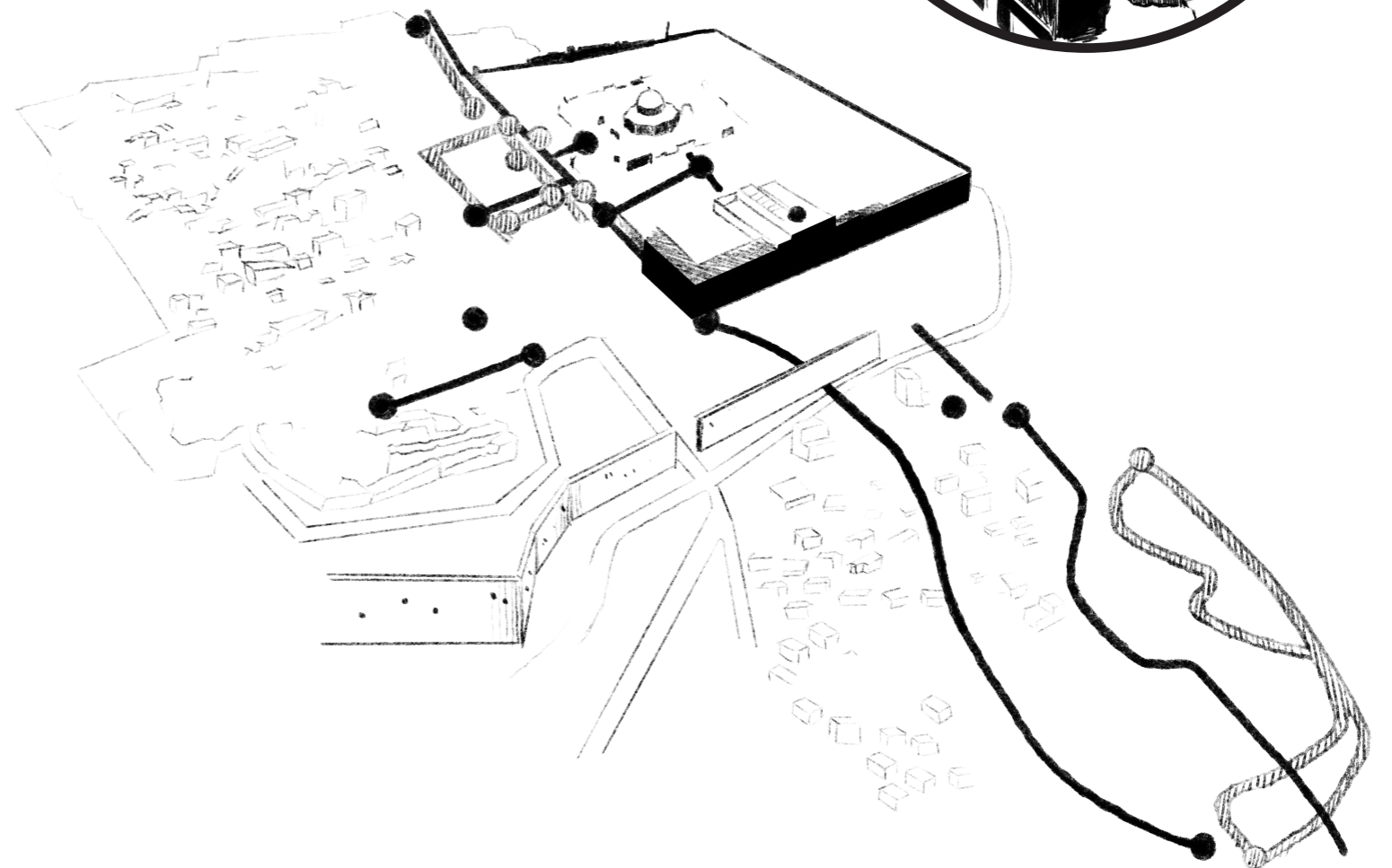




# Tunnels in Palestine are omnipresent, repeatedly sparking clashes

## Annexation from the Ground Up

The Israeli army dug tunnels underneath the Al-Aqsa Mosque in the Old City of Jerusalem in 1996. More recently, in May 2023, the Israeli government held an official meeting to discuss annexation budgets in one of the tunnels underneath the Old City of Jerusalem in a symbolic gesture of conquest.



**THE QUEST  
TO COLONIZE  
PALESTINE  
RUNS DEEP**