

Salhab Village Profile



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Table of Content

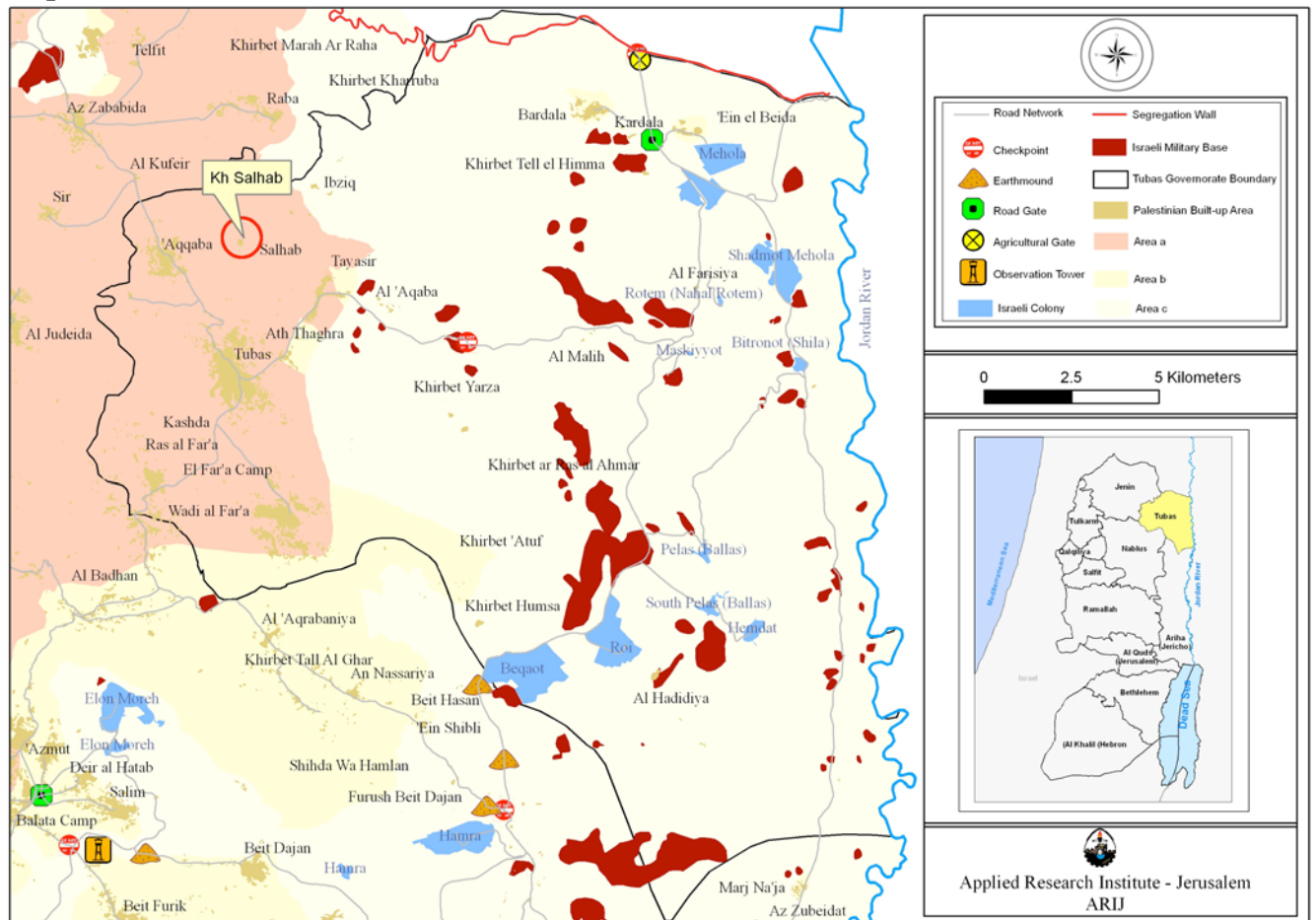
<u>LOCATION AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>HISTORY</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>DEMOGRAPHY</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>RELIGIOS AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>ECONOMY</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>EDUCATION</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>HEALTH</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>MAIN INSTITUTIONS</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>INFRASTRUCTURE</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>IMPACT OF OCCUPATION PRACTICES</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>PLANS AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>REFERENCES</u>	<u>7</u>

Salhab Village Profile

Location and Physical characteristics

SALHAB is a Palestinian Khirbat in Tubas Governorate, located 4 km north of Tubas city, in the north eastern part of the West Bank. It is bordered by Tayasir to the east, Aqqaba to the west, Raba to the north, and Tubas city to the south.

Map 1: Khirbat Salhab location and borders



The total area of Khirbat Salhab is 5,000 dunums; this covers approximately 1.5 % of the Tubas Governorate's land area. 15 dunums are classified as 'built up' area, 3000 dunums are agricultural, and 1985 dunums are forests and grazing lands.

Salhab is located on a plain area and surrounded by wide plains. The khirbat is at the moderate elevation of 430 above sea level.

Salhab area is characterized by a moderate climate; the summer is hot and dry, whilst the winter sees a lot of rainfall, the mean annual rainfall in Salhab is 388 mm; the average annual temperature is 20 °C, and the average annual humidity is 58 % (ARIJ GIS).

Salhab has been governed by a project committee since 1999, which today comprises of 3 elected members and no paid employees. The project committee's responsibilities include:

1. Purchasing and distribute water for residents.
2. Distribution of humanitarian aids.

History

Salhab is an old khirbat, where it is been inhabited since 1880 when a person from nablus decide to live there with his family. After he died, his family sold the land to the current residents and migrates to Iraq and Lebanon. Geographic location, abundant of agricultural potential, the plentiful supply of grazing area and water availability at that time were the main reasons for the people to live there.

Photograph of Salhab village



Demography and Population

In 1997 the total population of Salhab was 53 people, of which 31 were males and 22 were females. There were 8 households resident in 13 housing units/tents (1997 census).

Age groups and gender

The population of Salhab is classified by age groups. The data of the 1997 census reveals that 51.0% are less than 15 years old, 45.3 % are in the age group 15-64 years and 3.7 % are 65 year and above (See table 1)

Table 1: Khirbat Salhab population by sex and age group

Sex	Age				percent
	0 -14	15 -64	65 +	Total	
Male	17	13	1	31	58.5
Female	10	11	1	22	41.5
Total	27	24	2	53	100

Source: PCBS, May 1999. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-1997, Final Results

The sex ratio in Salhab was 120 males for every 100 females. Males constitute 58.5 % of the population and females constitute 41.5 %.

The estimated population of Khirbat Salhab by mid 2005 was 60, of which 35 were males and 25 were females.

Families:

The population of Khirbat Salhab comprises of two main families: Al-qadossa 90 %, and Abu Arra 10%.

Religious and Archeological Sites

There is no mosque in Salhab, residents have to go to Aqqaba to Pray (Aqqaba is 2 km away from salhab to the west). There are many old houses that was build in 1880 and caves in the area, in which some of them are being used by residents as animal shelters, or as a house for them if it is in good condition.

The Economy

Khirbat Salhab is an agricultural area, 3000 dunums of its area are arable land. All of the residents depend upon agriculture for living, and mainly keeping farm animals. As a result of the Israeli daily closures and restrictions, farmer's access to their lands and marketing their products became more and more difficult.

There are no shops or markets in Salhab, where residents have to get their food supply and other services from other localities such as Aqqaba village, Tubas city, and some times Jenin city.

Labor Force Construction

In 1997, the percentage of participants in labor force in Salhab village was 62.2 % of the total population of the village. The participation of women was assessed to be 26.4 % (14 women in total).

The labor force in Salhab village is 33 people in total; of which 36.0% are economically active people and 63.6 % are 'non-economically' active people, were the economically active people, 83.3 % are employed people. The largest groups of non-economically active people are the students and housewives, who constitute 33.3% and 43.0 % respectively. Table 2 shows the labor force in Kardala village.

Table 2: Salhab Population (10 years and Over) by Sex and Employment Status

Sex	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Total
	Employed	Currently Un-Employed	Un-Employed Never Worked	Total	Students	House-Wife	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking For Work	Other	Total	
M	10	1	1	12	6	-	1	-	-	7	19
F	-	-	-	-	1	9	1	-	3	14	14
T	10	1	1	12	7	9	2	-	3	21	33

Source: PCBS, May 1999. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-1997, Final Results

The survey also indicated that the most affected social groups by Israeli measures in Salhab during the second Intifada are: 1) families maintaining 6 individuals and more, 2) small farmers, 3) housewives and children.

The average household income in Salhab has been severely affected by the second Intifada. Prior to this the average income stood at 2000 NIS. Today however it has declined sharply to 500 NIS. The result is that the average household income has decreased by 75% over a period of four years.

Education

In the 1997 census the education status in Salhab indicated that about 8.0 % of the residents were illiterate, 36.0% of residents could read and write, 44.0% completed elementary education, 4.0% completed preparatory education and 8.0% completed their secondary and higher education. Table 3 shows the education status in Salhab by sex and education attainment in 1997.

Table 3: Salhab Population (10 years and over) by sex and Educational Attainment

Sex	Illite-rate	Can read & Write	Elementar y	Prepa rator y	Secon dary	Associat e Diploma	Bachelo r	Higher Diploma	Maste r	P H D	Total
M	2	8	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	16
F	-	1	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	9
T	2	9	11	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	25

Source: PCBS, May 1999. Population,

There are no schools in Salhab, neither kindergarten. Therefore students have to go to other localities such as Aqqaba village and Tubas city to get their education in different levels, and students are forced to walk to school disregards the security situations or bad weathers.

As many other rural localities in Tubas governorate, Khirbat Salhab is suffering from many problems in the educational sector such as:

1. Lack of schools and kindergartens.
2. Difficulties in reaching schools in other localities due to Israeli measures.

3. Lack of transportation to drop kids at school, especially for young students.
4. Lack of money to be able to send children to school.

Health Status

Khirbat Salhab is deprived from any health services or care, and there are no clinics in salhab either a private doctor, so residents have to go to nearby localities to get medical attention. Therefore, residents of Salhab are facing many serious problems regard health care:

1. Lack of clinics and private doctors.
2. No Pharmacies to provide patients with medical drugs.
3. No ambulances for emergencies, or in nearby localities.
4. Lack of constant transportation to go to medical centers.

Infrastructure, Natural resources and Services

There are no services provided to residents in Salhab. So residents of salhab get most of their services from Aqqaba village which is the nearest village to salhab and some times Tubas city for further services.

- **Telecommunication services:** Khirbat Salhab has no telecommunications network, instead residents use mobile phone to stay connected with others
- **Water services:** Salhab residents depend upon cisterns and water tanks to satisfy their needs for water. The water brought by tanks is detrimental and not suitable for domestic consumption, due to bad conditions of tanks, where there is no regular maintenance or repairs because of bad economical situation.
- **Electricity services:** Salhab has no electricity network, where residents use manual lights and fire.
- **Solid Waste Collection:** There is no managed solid waste collection in salhab; therefore residents dispose of their solid waste randomly in different areas. Burning is the main methods used to dispose the solid waste.
- **Sewage Disposal Facilities:** There is no sewage network in Khirbat salhab. All households must therefore dispose of their wastewater in cesspits. This is considered one of the main sources of pollution to the groundwater.
- **Transportation services:** There are no transportation services in salhab, where roads are not paved and in bad condition. Residents have to call for a private taxi from nearby localities or some of them rather to walk because of high cost of transportation.

Agriculture Sector

The total area of Salhab is 5,000 dunums, of which 3,000 dunums are agricultural area, and (1985) further dunums are forests and grazing areas. Out of (1880) dunums which are cultivated, (270) dunums are for the cultivation of vegetables and (1600) dunums are for the cultivation of field crops. (Ministry of Agriculture 2004)

All of Salhab residents are dependent on the agricultural sector in their economic activities especially breeding local livestock. According to the survey conducted by ARIJ and ACH, there are 5 heads of cattle, 50 goats, and 800 sheep.

Impact of Occupation Practices

Since the beginning of the second intifada the Israeli occupation has closed the road leading to Salhab many times, preventing people from accessing the main city in the Governorate to satisfy their basic needs. The Israeli occupation frequently constructs flying check points on the main road of Aqqaba which is connected to the road leads to Khirbat salhab. At the same time they have destroyed one animal shelter, and constantly bulldozed the agricultural area during military training, in which they totally close and isolate area from other localities. During the second Intifada there were restrictions placed on access to health services, hospitals and social relations with other relatives. Farmers are facing problems reaching grazing areas and subjected to many dangerous situations with soldiers during trainings.

Plans and Development Projects

Khirbat Salhab is suffering from a shortage of decent infrastructural services and vital projects such as water, schools and roads. The strategic plan for Salhab project committee includes implementing a lot of projects to develop and promote the village infrastructure and services, the shortage of funds and constant Israeli aggression toward the whole area are the main obstructions facing them.

The development projects set up in the plan are listed in table 4.

Table 4: Development plans and projects in Khirbat Salhab

Project	Type	Budget
Open and pave new internal and external roads	Infrastructure	NA
Build water reservoir	Water	NA
Build school and kindergarten for children	Education	NA
Build a health unit	Health	NA
Build a mosque for the village	Religious	NA

References

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2. Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistic, 1999. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-1997, Final result-Tubas district, first part Ramallah – Palestine.
3. Ministry of Agriculture, Tubas Office.