

Ibziq Village Profile



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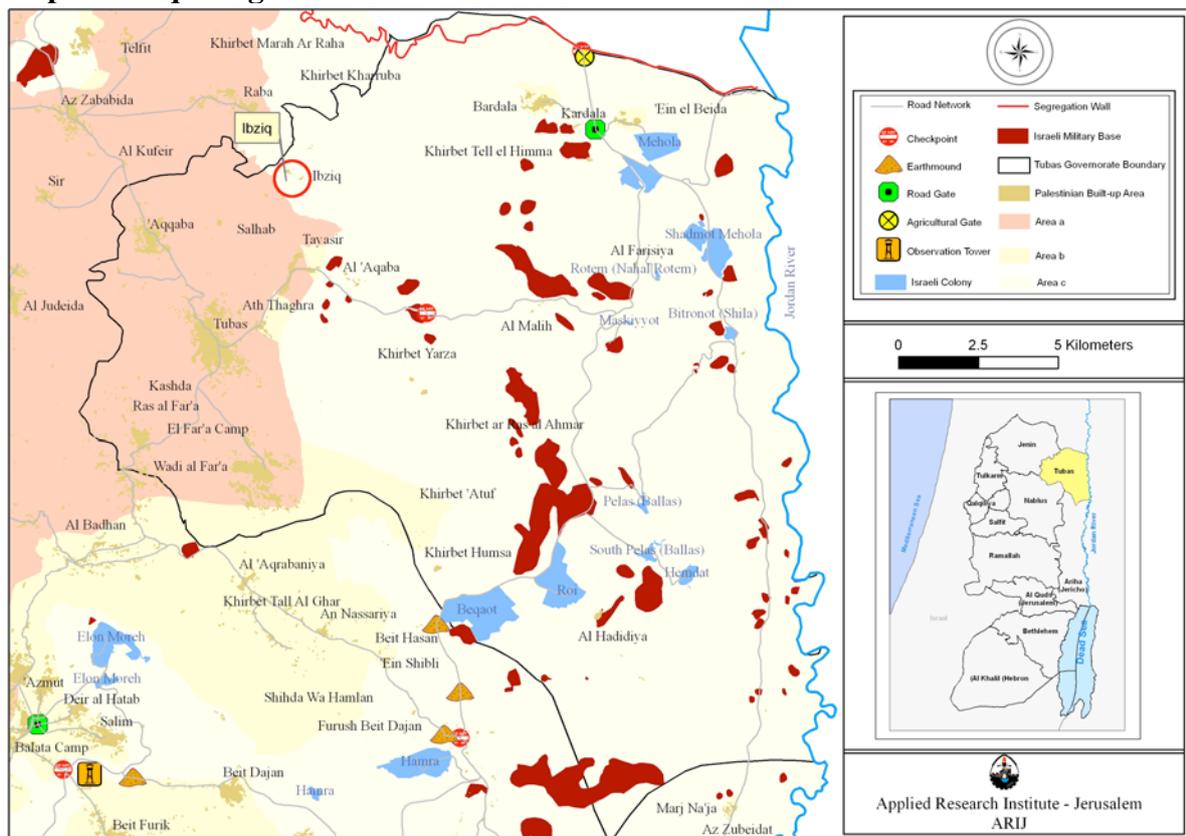
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Ibziq Village Profile

Location and Physical characteristics

IBZIQ is a Palestinian village in Tubas Governorate, located 6 km north of Tubas city, in the north eastern part of the West Bank. It is bordered by Bardala to the east, Raba to the west, Bisan (currently the segregation wall) to the north, and Tubas city and Tayasir village to the south.

Map 1: Ibziq village location and borders



The total area of Ibziq village is 14,000 dunums; this covers approximately 3.5 % of the Tubas Governorate's land area. 34 dunums are classified as 'built up' area, whilst 1500 dunums are agricultural, 3000 dunums has been confiscated by Israeli occupation, and the rest are forests and grazing lands.

Ibziq is located on a hill surrounded by mountains and plains. The village is at the moderate elevation of 447 above sea level.

Ibziq 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 Ibziq village is 368 mm; the average annual temperature is 20 °C, and the average annual humidity is 57 % (ARIJ GIS).

Ibziq has been governed by a project committee since 1997, which today comprises of 2 elected members and no paid employees. The project committee's responsibilities include:

1. Purchasing and distribute water for residents.
2. Opening new internal and external roads.
3. Distribution of humanitarian aids.

History

Ibziq is an old and historic village, various narratives and other evidences indicate that it has been settled since Roman period and through Islamic rule, where there are many castles remains in the area, such as Al'abed castle, Balqis castle, and Alkuli castle. In addition, there is Khirbet Hishkeel which goes back to 500 year (Islamic rule). Many families from Altafilia Jordan and Syria settled in the village due to its location and abundant agricultural potential. The plentiful supply of grazing area and water availability at that time were the main reasons for the people to live there. After the 1948 war, many families settled in Ibziq after they have been expelled from their homes and villages.

Photograph of Ibziq village



Demography and Population

In 1997 the total population of Ibziq village was 38 people, of which 20 were males and 18 were females. There were 10 households resident in 11 housing units/tents (1997 census).

Age groups and gender

The population of Ibziq village is classified by age groups. The data of the 1997 census reveals that 29.0 % are less than 15 years old, 66.0% are in the age group 15-64 years and 5.0 % are 65 year and above (See table 1)

Table 1: Ibziq village population by sex and age group

Sex	Age				Percentage
	0 -14	15 -64	65 +	Total	
Male	5	13	2	20	52.6
Female	6	12	-	18	47.4
Total	11	25	2	38	100

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

The sex ratio in the village was 105 males for every 100 females. Males constitute 52.6 % of the population and females constitute 47.4 %.

The estimated population of Ibziq village by mid 2005 was 200, of which 135 were males and 65 were females.

Families:

The population of Ibziq village comprises of three main families: Swafta 25 %, Turkman 65 %, and Nawaga'a (came from Hebron after family troubles) 10%.

Religious and Archeological Sites

There is no mosque in Ibziq, residents have to go to nearby localities to pray, and there be many historical sites in the area, of which are Al'abed castle, Balqis castle, and Alkuli castle. In addition, there is Khirbet Hishkeel which goes back to 500 year (Islamic rule). There are many old 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

Ibziq is an agriculture village, 3,000 dunums of its area are arable land. 90 % of the residents depend upon agriculture for living, mainly farming and keeping livestock. 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.

The second main source of income is labor inside Israel, which has also been severely affected as fewer permits are issued.

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

Labor Force Construction

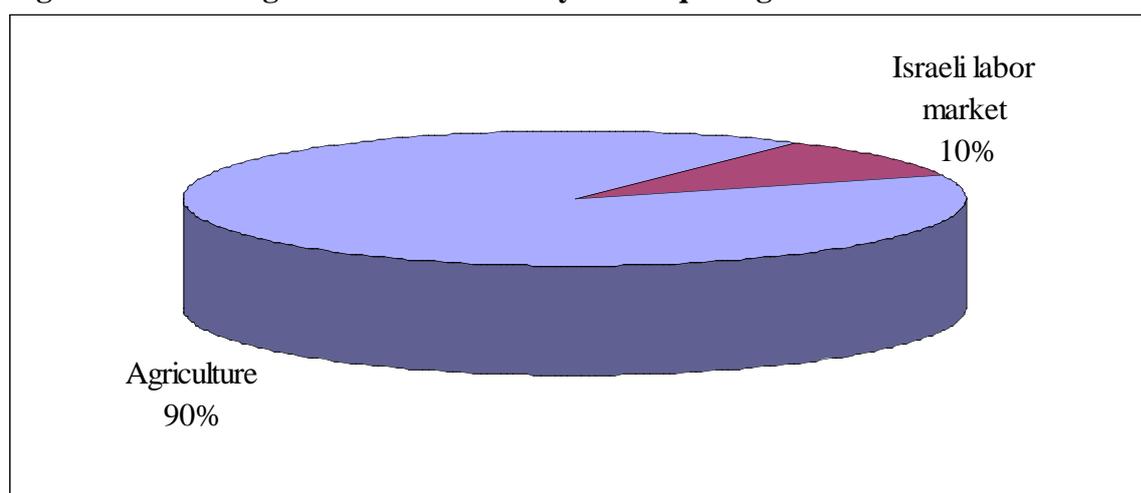
In 1997, the percentage of participants in labor force in Ibziq village was 89.4 % of the total population of the village. The participation of women was assessed to be 42.1 % (16) women in total). The labor force in Ibziq village is 34 people in total.(see Table 2)

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

Sex	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Total
	Empl- oyed	Currently Un- Employed	Un- Employed Never Worked	Total	Stud- ents	House -Wife	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking For Work	Other	Total	
<i>M</i>	17	-	1	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
<i>F</i>	3	-	-	3	1	9	-	-	3	13	16
T	20	-	1	21	1	9	-	-	3	13	34

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

Since the outbreak of second Intifada in September 2000, most of the Palestinian migrant labor force cannot reach their places of work in Israel and the Israeli settlements. As a result the workers have lost their primary source of income and many have returned to work in their lands.

Figure 1: Percentage of economic activity in Ibziq village

The average household income in Ibziq village has been severely affected by the second Intifada. Prior to this the average income stood at 5000 NIS. Today however it has declined sharply to 2000 NIS. The result is that the average household income has decreased by 60 % over a period of four years.

Education

In the 1997 census the education status in Ibziq indicated that about 33.3 % of the residents were illiterate, with women 72.7% comprising a greater percentage of illiterates than men 27.3 of the literate population, 27.3 % of residents could read and write, 21.2 % completed elementary education, 15.1 % completed preparatory education. Table 3 shows the education status in Ibziq by sex and education attainment in 1997.

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

Sex	Illite-rate	Can read & Write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PHD	Total
M	3	6	4	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	18
F	8	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
T	11	9	7	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	33

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

There are no schools in Ibziq, neither kindergarted. So students have to go to other localities such as Tayasir village and Tubas city to get their education in different levels, which put the students in continuous jeopardy and challenges to stay in school safe and sound and away from Israeli aggression.

Health Status

Ibziq village is deprived from any health services or care, where there are no clinics in village either a private doctor, so residents have to go to nearby localities to get medical attention.

Infrastructure, Natural resources and Services

There are no services what so ever provided to residents in Ibziq, where it still using the natural resources available in the area, such as food, woods to get fire and many other things. Therefore residents of Ibziq get most of their services from Tubas city as it is the main city in the Tubas Governorate.

- **Telecommunication services:** Ibziq village has no telecommunications network, instead residents use mobile phone to stay connected with others
- **Water services:** Ibziq 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. In addition there are many water reservoir in the village constructed and funded by The Arab Hydrology group for agriculture use.
- **Electricity services:** Ibziq has no electricity network, where residents use manual lights and fire.
- **Solid Waste Collection:** There is no managed solid waste collection in the village; 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 Ibziq village. 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 Ibziq, where the roads leading to the area are in a very bad condition, where cars and buses can not access. The

only way to get to village is by tractors or 4*4 vehicles. Residents have to walk for a long distance before they get to the main road where they can find a vehicle.

Agriculture Sector

Ibziq village has been subjected to several forms of Israeli aggression, Ibziq residents mainly depend on agriculture, but they were unable to reach their lands and cultivate their crops.

Israeli forces prevent farmers' access to their lands by placing checkpoints, barriers, or by declaring areas as military training zones.

The total area of Ibziq is 14,000 dunums, of which 1500 dunums are agricultural area, (1200) dunums is cultivated, and (9000) further dunums are forests and grazing areas. Out of (1200) dunums which are cultivated, (200) dunums are for the cultivation of vegetables and (1685) dunums are for the cultivation of field crops. (Ministry of Agriculture 2004)

Approximately 90 % of Ibziq population is dependent on the agricultural sector in their economic activities in addition to breeding local livestock. According to the survey conducted by Arij and AcH, there are 200 heads of cattle, 1500 goats, and 3500 sheep.

Impact of Occupation Practices

Since 1967 the Israeli occupation confiscated 3000 dunums, 2000 of those were confiscated since the break of the second Intifada for the purposes of construction of segregation wall.

In the east and west side of Ibziq Israel has constructed permanent barriers (either with cement blocks or rocks) between Ibziq and Tayasir and Bardala villages. To the north side of Ibziq, the planned segregation wall will isolate the village from other localities and will restrict resident's movement.

In 2004 the Israeli occupation migrate 10 families and destroyed their properties, and they constantly invade the area threatening to destroy it and migrate all residents to other areas, in the excuse of considering the area as a heavy military training.

The Israeli procedures to prevent the production of crops have also continued where there is continuous destruction for the planted areas with army vehicles and tanks while training.

Plans and Development Projects

Ibziq village is suffering from a shortage of decent infrastructural services and vital projects such water, schools and roads. The strategic plan for Ibziq village council includes implementing a lot of projects to develop and promote the village infrastructure and services, the shortage of funds and constant Israeli aggression toward them (isolating area, land confiscation, planned segregation wall, migrate and demolish properties, and consider area as closed military zone) are the main obstructions facing the village.

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

Table 4: Development plans and projects in Ibziq village

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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3. Ministry of Agriculture, Tubas Office.