

Al Farisiya Village Profile

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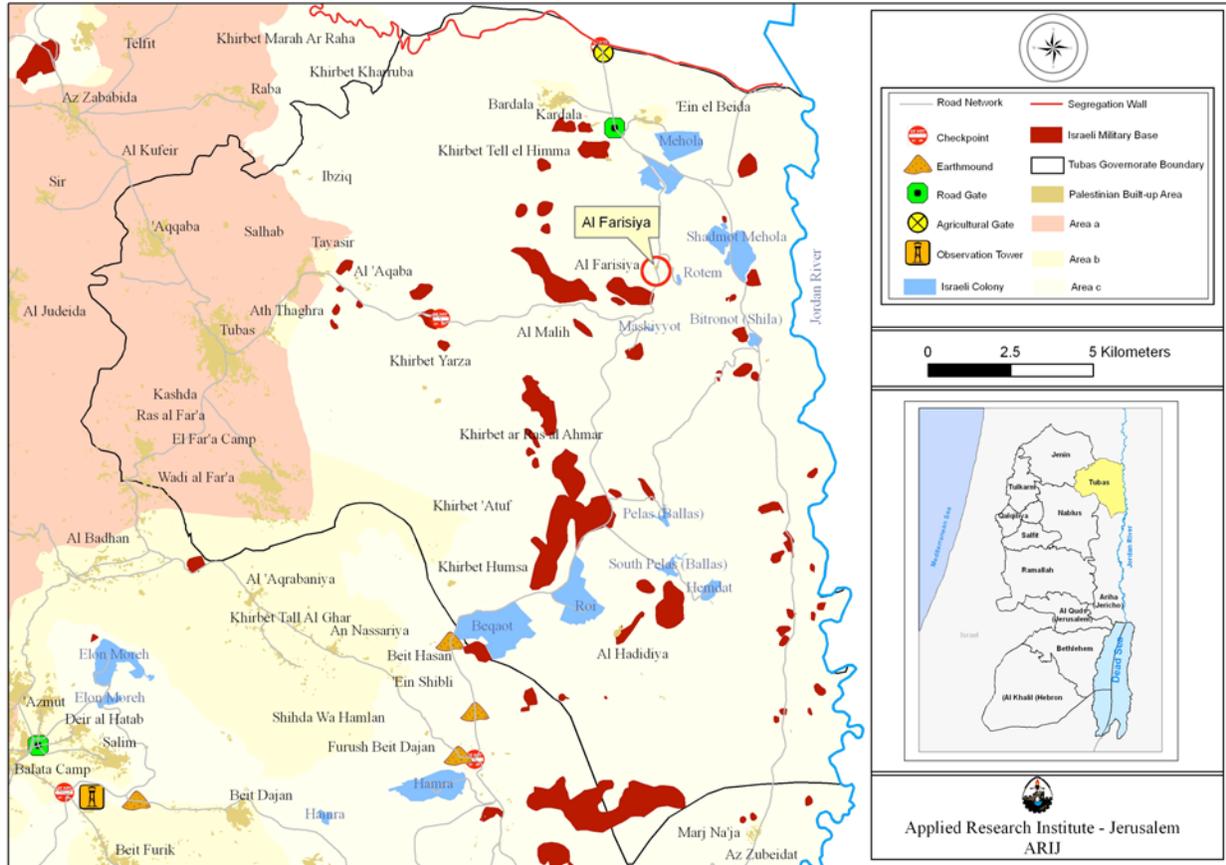
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Al Farisiya village profile

Location and Physical characteristics

AL FARISIYA is a Palestinian village, which is located 13 km to the east of Tubas city, in the northeastern part of West Bank. Al Farisiya village is bordered by the Jordan River to the east, 'Ein el Beida to the north, Tayasir to the west and Tammun to the south.

Map 1: Al Farisiya location and borders.



The total area of Al Farisiya village is 7,200 dunums, 200 dunums are classified as 'built up' areas, 2000 dunums are for agricultural use, whilst 2500 dunums are forests and open space area and 2500 dunums have been confiscated.

Al Farisiya village is located in a low-level area of land and is surrounded by mountains at moderate an elevation of -77 m below sea level. It has a moderate climate; the mean annual rainfall in Al Farisiya village is 270 mm, the average annual temperature is 22 °C and the average annual humidity is 51 % (ARIJ GIS).

In 2002 the first Project committee has been established in the village to govern its development. Currently the project committee comprises of 6 members who were elected during the 2005 local authorities' elections. The operations and responsibilities of the project committee include:

1. Administration, planning and development;
2. Social development services;
3. Infrastructural and maintenance.

History

The word Al Farisiya (The Persians) refers to the time when they were overcome in that area, thus the area after that named Al Farisiya.

The area has been settled since the Turkish time, when the Abu Mehzen family (owners of the land) came from Tubas city and settled their. The area used to be mostly agricultural and abundant with water which can not be utilized today.

Al Farisiya photo



Demography and Population

In 1997, the total population of Al Farisiya village was 156 people, of which 80 were males and 76 were females. There were 20 households resident in 23 housing units (1997 census).

Age groups and gender

The data of the 1997 census reveals that the classification of population of Al Farisiya by age groups and sex. The data shows that 39.7 % are less than 15 years, 56.4 % are in the age group 15- 64 years and 3.8 % are 65 year and above (See table 1)

Sex	Age				Percentage
	0 -14	15 -64	65 +	Total	
Male	31	44	5	80	51.3
Female	31	44	1	76	48.7
Total	62	88	6	156	100

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

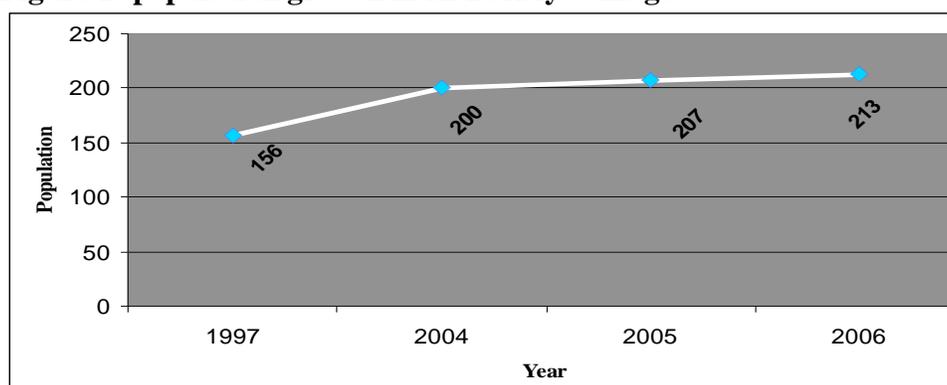
The sex ratio in the village was 105.3 males for every 100 females. Males constitute 51.3 % of the population and females constitute 48.7 %.

The estimated population of Al Farisiya village by mid 2005 was 207 and in mid 2006 increased to 213. The data in table 2 indicate that the population of Al Farisiya grew by 32.7 % between 1997 and mid 2005 and in 2006 will increase by 2.9 % (an increase of 7 people).

	1997 census	Mid-year population in		
		2004	2005	2006
Al Farisiya	156	200	207	213

Source: <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/populati/pop10.aspx>

Figure 1: population growth in Al Farisiya village



Families:

All the population of Al Farisiya village belongs to one main family: Dargameah family 100 %.

Religious and Archeological Sites

Except for one place considered an unexplored archeological site in the village - called Ein Alshak - there are no other historical or religious places.

The Economy

The dominant economic activity in the Al Farisiya village is agriculture; it has a small and fertile agriculture land which covers 2000 dunums, approximately 90% of the residents are engaged in agricultural activities which form their main source of income. They rely on the keeping livestock as well as crop and vegetable cultivation. The second main income source for the residents is the Israeli labor market, which has decreased significantly due to increasing Israeli closures, and fewer workers are given permits to work inside Israel.

Labor Force Construction

In 1997, the percentage of participants in the labor force in Al Farisiya was 71.2 % of the total population of the village; womens participation was assessed to be 47.7 % (53 women in total). The labor force in Al Farisiya consists of 111 people in total, of which 55.8 % are economically active people and 43.2% are non-economically active people. Of the economically active people 91.9 % are employed people, 8.1 % are unemployed people.

The largest groups of non-economically active people are the students and housewives, who constitute 31.9 % and 53.2 % respectively. Table 3 shows the labor force in Al Farisiya village in 1997.

Table 3: Al Farisiya 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	Unabl e to work	Not working & Not looking For Work	Other	Total	
M	39	2	3	44	10	-	2	1	-	13	58
F	18	-	-	18	5	25	1	-	3	34	53
T	57	2	3	62	15	25	3	1	3	47	111

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

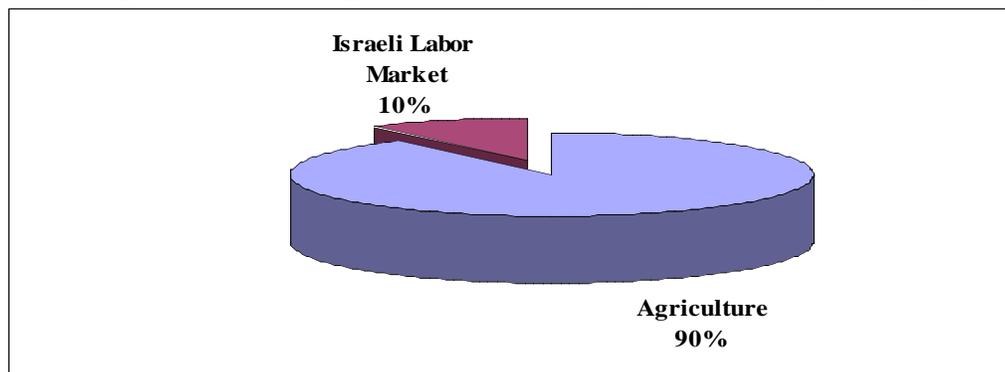
Since the outbreak of the second Intifada in September 2000, most of the Palestinian migrant labor force could not reach their places of work in Israel and settlements. As a result, the workers have lost their primary source of income and many have returned to work on their lands.

Based on the survey conducted by ARIJ and ACH in November 2005, the share of the population working in the various sectors of the economy is listed below by percentage:

- The agricultural sector 90 %,

- Israeli labor market 10%.

Figure 1: Percentage of economic activity in Al Farisiya village



The survey also indicated that the social groups most affected by Israeli measures in Al Farisiya during the second Intifada are: 1) small farmers, 2) families maintaining 6 individuals and more, 3) former migrant workers in the Israeli labor market, 4) housewives and children and 5) small traders.

The average household income in Al Farisiya village has been severely affected by the Israeli procedures since the beginning of the Intifada. In 2000, the average household income was 1500 NIS. Today however it has declined sharply to 500 NIS. The result is that the average household income has decreased by 65 % in only four years.

Education

In the 1997 census, the education status in Al Farisiya indicated that about 34.2 % of the residents were illiterate, with women (63.2 %) comprising a greater percentage of illiterates than men (36.8 %) were. Of the literate population, 25.2 % of residents could read and write, 22.5 % completed elementary education, 13.5 % completed preparatory education and 3.6 % completed their secondary education, and one person has a Bachelor degree. Table 4 shows the education status in Al Farisiya by sex and education attainment in 1997.

Table 4: Al Farisiya Population (10 years and over) by sex and Educational Attainment

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & Write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PHD	Total
M	14	15	16	9	3	-	1	-	-	-	58
F	24	13	9	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	53
T	38	28	25	15	4	-	1	-	-	-	111

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

At the end of the 2004/2005 scholastic year, the data collected by the survey indicated that there were no educational institutions in Al Farisiya. There is no school or even kindergarten, the students get their education in Ein Albeda village which is six km away. The lack of

transportation and the distance of the schools from the village is the main obstacle to students in the village.

Health Status

Al Farisiya is suffering from shortages of health institutions; the data collected through the survey indicates that there are no health clinics in the village. There is one maternity clinic, yet there is no pharmacy to provide medicine to the residents. In addition to the shortage of health institutions the residents face many obstacles to access health services in nearby localities due to the Israeli closures or check points and lack of transportations.

Infrastructure, Natural resources and Services

Al Farisiya does not have any institutions; there are no societies or clubs. The residents rely on the institutions in Tubas for the needs of agriculture or women.

- **Telecommunication services:** Al Farisiya village is not connected to the telecommunications network.
- **Water services:** Al Farisiya village has no water network; the residents depend mainly on one spring in the village for domestic consumption and for animals. As well as the spring, the residents bring water from near by localities where they face difficulties from Israeli restrictions on movements and increases in the cost of transportations.
- **Electricity services:** Al Farisiya village is not connected to the electricity network.
- **Solid Waste Collection:** There is no solid waste management system in the village, the residents randomly disposal of solid wastes anywhere.
- **Sewage Disposal Facilities:** Like other Tubas Governorate localities, Al Farisiya village has no sewage network. All households must therefore dispose of their wastewater in cesspits.
- **Transportation services:** The roads network in Al Farisiya is not suitable for transportations. The 2km of roads in the village are not paved completely and need expansion for transportations.
Also Al Farisiya has a lack of transportation means, passengers use vehicles and buses travel to Tubas city from Ein Albeda village.

Agriculture Sector

The dominant economic activity in Al Farisiya is agricultural. As we have mentioned above 90 % of the residents of Al Farisiya are engaged in the agricultural sector and depend for their livelihood on plant production and livestock. The total area of Al Farisiya is 7,200 dunums; the agricultural area covers 2,000 dunums. The survey data indicated that most of the agricultural

land cultivates field crops and farmers produce 100 tons per annum for domestic consumption and for animals. Also the residents of Al Farisiya keep livestock, the data of field survey conducted in the village indicates that all the households in the village are breeding local animals, and there are 3000 goats and 2000 sheep which are the main source of income for the residents.

Impact of Occupation Practices

As indicated above, about 2500 dunums of Al Farisiya land has been confiscated, of which 300 dunums have been confiscated during the second Intifada. In addition to the land confiscation Al Farisiya is surrounded by Israeli settlements (Rotem) from the east and one military base from the north. 15 tents have been demolished which belong to the village farmers and Israeli forces also construct flying checkpoints periodically at the east side of the village.

Plans and Development Projects

The project committee in Al Farisiya is preparing to set up a plan for the development of the village, which includes various new projects. The developmental projects, which have been planned, are listed in table 5.

Table 5: Development plans and projects in Al Farisiya village

Project	Type	Budget
Forges production	Agriculture	50,000 USD
Provide water tanks	water	30,000 USD
Built zareba for animals	Agriculture	30,000 USD
Water connection project	water	10,000 USD
Electricity generator per households	electricity	60,000 USD