

# Kafr 'Aqab Village Profile



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## Background

This report is part of a series of booklets, which contain compiled information about each city, village, and town in the Jerusalem Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all villages in Jerusalem Governorate, which aims at depicting the overall living conditions in the governorate and presenting developmental plans to assist in developing the livelihood of the population in the area. It was accomplished through the "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment," the project funded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID).

The "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment" was designed to study, investigate, analyze and document the socio-economic conditions and the needed programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current unsecure political, economic and social conditions in the Jerusalem Governorate.

The project's objectives are to survey, analyze, and document the available natural, human, socioeconomic and environmental resources, and the existing limitations and needs assessment for the development of the rural and marginalized areas in the Jerusalem Governorate. In addition, the project aims at preparing strategic developmental programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current political, social, and economic instability with the focus on the agricultural sector.

All village profiles in Arabic and English are available online at <http://vprofile.arij.org>.

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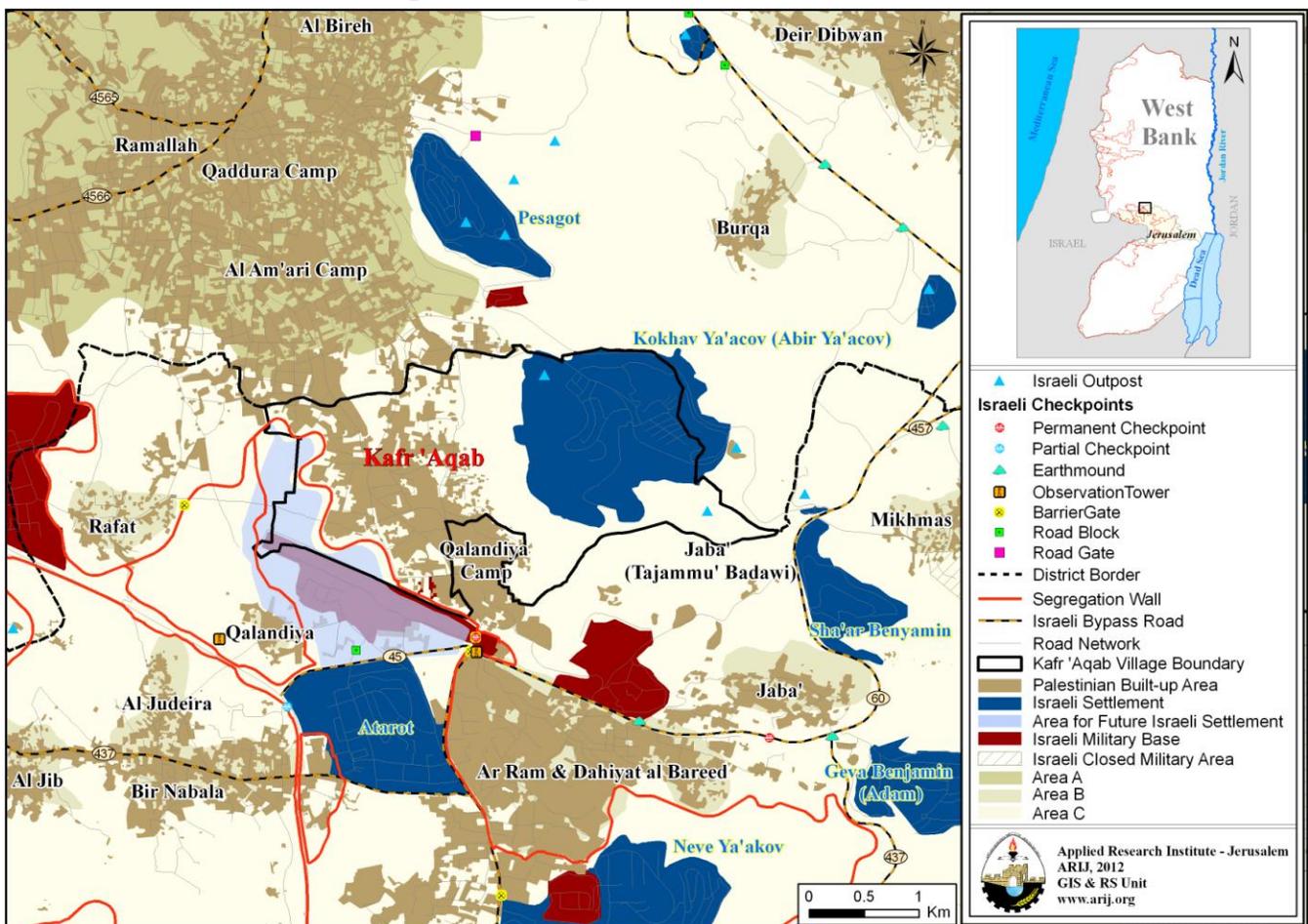
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# Kafr 'Aqab Village Profile

## Location and Physical Characteristics

Kafr 'Aqab is a Palestinian village in Jerusalem Governorate located (horizontally) 11.2km north of Jerusalem City. It is bordered by Burqa lands (in Ramallah Governorate) to the east, Al Bireh (in Ramallah Governorate) to the north, Rafat and Qalandiya to the west, and Ar Ram, Qalandiya and Qalandiya Camp to the south (ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012) (See map 1).

**Map 1: Kafr 'Aqab location and borders**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012

Kafr 'Aqab is located at an altitude of 764m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 541.2mm. The average annual temperature is 16 °C and the average annual humidity is approximately 61% (ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012).

Since 1996, Kafr 'Aqab has been governed by a village council which is currently administrated by 13 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority in addition to 6 permanent employees. The

Village Council owns a permanent headquarters, but does not possess a vehicle for the collection of solid waste (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of Kafr 'Aqab, including (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012):

- Collecting solid waste, rehabilitating, constructing, and paving roads, and providing social development services.
- Implementing projects and case studies for the village.
- Establishing a sewage network.

## History

Kafr 'Aqab was named after an Ottoman-era man called Kafeer who stayed ('Aqab: 'stay') at a well in the region in his caravan whilst passing through. The two words later developed into the village's current name (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

The village is thought to have been established around 1600 AD; some of its residents are descended from native residents and some are from other areas of the West Bank (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012) (See photo below for Kafr 'Aqab village).

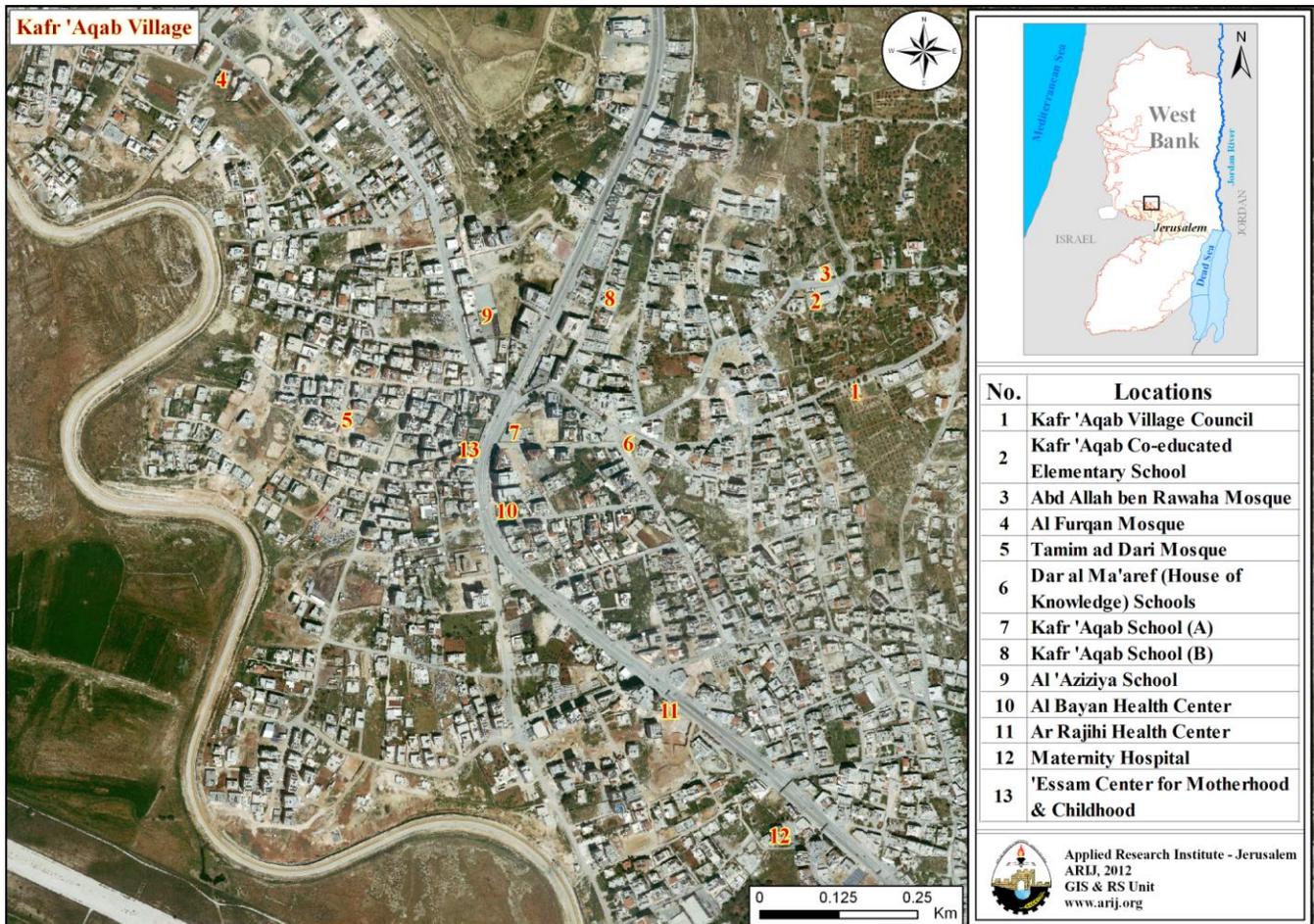
**Photo 1: Kafr 'Aqab village**



## Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are 10 mosques in the village, Abd Allah ben Rawahah, Abu Bakr as Siddiq, Al Farooq, Furqan, Tamim ad Dari, At Tawbah, Al Basheer, An Noor, Al Ferdaws and Abu Abdu abu Rmeilah Mosques. The old city is of some archaeological interest (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012) (See Map 2).

**Map 2: Main locations in Kafr 'Aqab Village**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

## Population

No census has been conducted by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) in 2007 to determine the population and housing arrangements in Kafr 'Aqab village. However, according to the Israeli Bureau of Statistics, the total population of Kafr 'Aqab in 2010 was 14,315.

## Families

Kafr 'Aqab residents from several families, mainly the Barakat, Habbas, Nassar, Abu Shariff, Abu Rmeilah and Ash Shweiki families (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

## Immigration

According to the field survey conducted by ARIJ, approximately 50 people have left the village since Al Aqsa Intifada in 2000 (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

## Education

There are two public schools in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), in addition to 4 schools run by private bodies. There are no kindergartens in the village (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011) (see Table 1).

**Table 1: Schools in Kafr 'Aqab by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority (2010/2011)**

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Kafr 'Aqab Co-educated Elementary School	Government	Mixed
Al 'Ahd Girls Elementary School	Government	Mixed
Zuhoor al Aqsa Elementary School	Private	Mixed
Dar al Ma'rifah School	Private	Mixed
Jeel al Mustaqbal School	Private	Female
Al 'Aziziya Girls High School	Private	Female

**Source:** Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011

There are 3,157 students, 185 teachers, and 112 classes (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011). The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 17, and the average number of students per class is approximately 28 (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

## Health Status

There are several health centers available in Kafr 'Aqab village. These are 3 health centers (Al Bayan, 'Esam and Ar Rajihi Health Centers), a maternity hospital, 10 private dental clinics, and 10 private pharmacies. In the absence of required health services and in emergency cases, residents of Kafr 'Aqab go to Ramallah and Al Bireh hospitals or to Jerusalem hospitals, 4km and 11km in distance from the village respectively (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

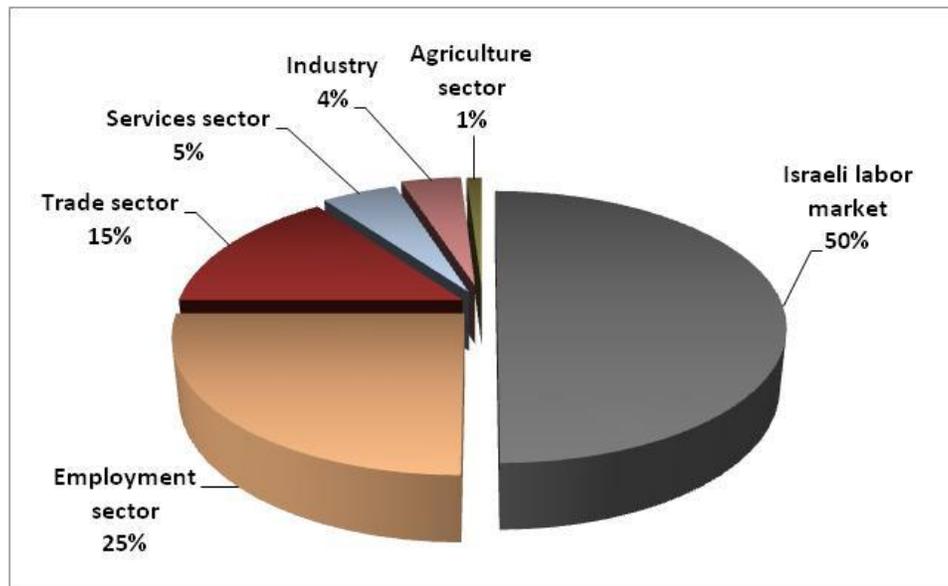
## Economic Activities

The economy in Kafr 'Aqab is dependent on several economic sectors, mainly the Israeli labor market, which absorbs 50% of the workforce (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012) (See Figure 1).

A field survey conducted by ARIJ in 2012 showed that the distribution of labor by economic activity in Kafr 'Aqab is as follows:

- Israeli labor market (50%)
- Government or private employees sector (25%)
- Trade sector (15%)
- Services sector (5%)
- Industry (4%)
- Agriculture sector (1%)

**Figure 1: Economic activity in Kafr 'Aqab village**



Source: Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012

In terms of commercial and industrial productions in Kafr 'Aqab village, there are between 50 and 100 grocery stores, 20 bakeries, 20 butcheries, 20 vegetable and fruit stores, 40 different services stores and 30 different professional workshops (blacksmith, carpentry etc.), in addition to two stone crushers (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

The unemployment rate in Kafr 'Aqab has reached around 10% in 2012, and it was found that the social groups most affected in the village as a result of Israeli restrictions and procedures are (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012):

1. Former workers in Israel.
2. Workers in the trade sector.
3. Workers in industry.

## Agricultural Sector

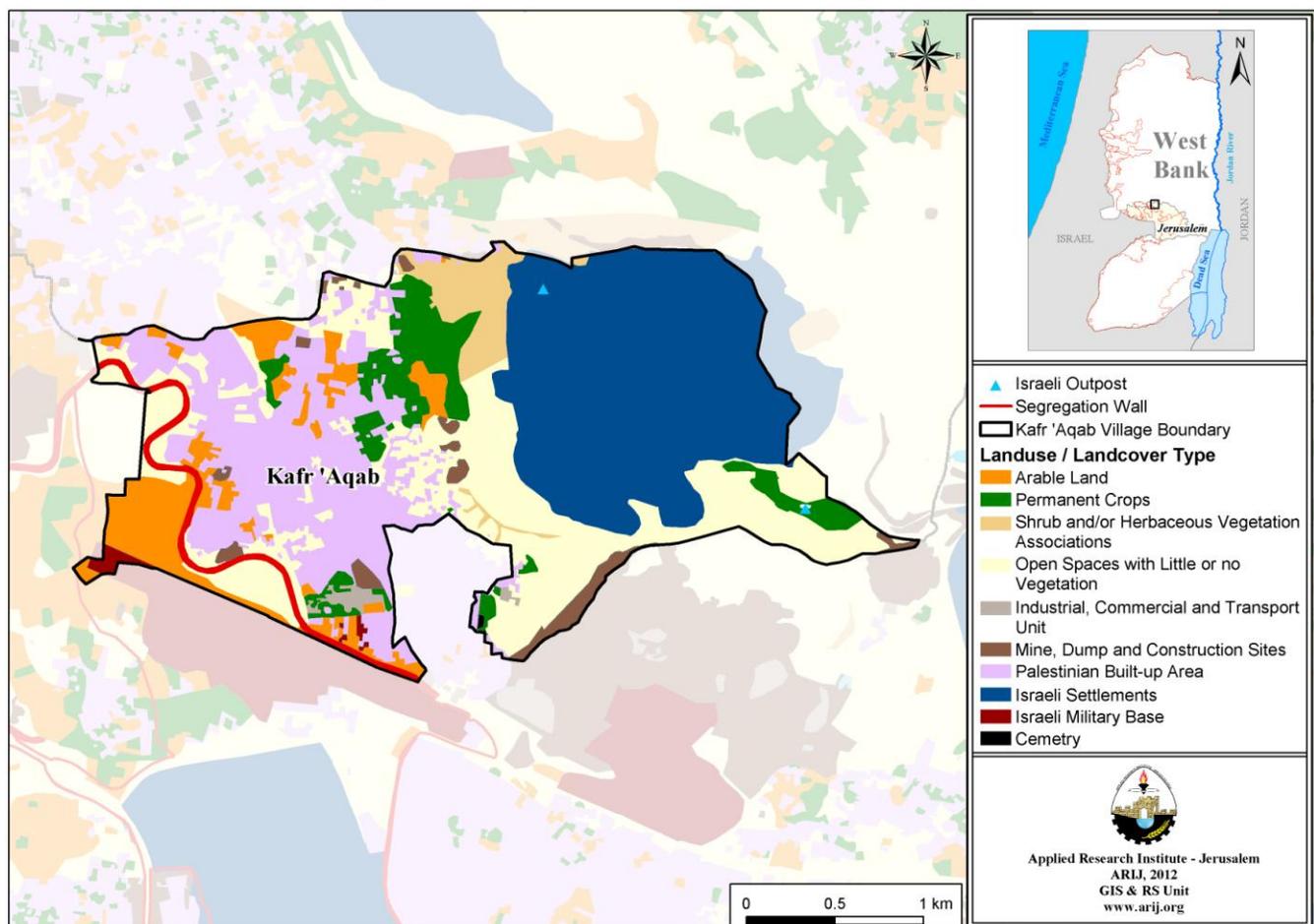
Kafr 'Aqab has a total area of around 6,665 dunums, of which 1,247 are considered 'arable' land and 1,398 dunums are registered as 'residential' (See table 2 and map 3).

**Table 2: Land use and land cover in Kafr 'Aqab village in 2010 (area in dunum)**

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (1,247)				Inland water	Forests	Open Spaces	Area of Industrial, Commercial & Transport Unit	Area of Settlements, Military Bases & Wall Zone
		Permanent Crops	Green-houses	Range-lands	Arable lands					
6,665	1,398	472	0	258	517	0	0	1,619	194	2,207

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2012.

**Map 3: Land use/land cover in Kafr 'Aqab village**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

In terms of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Kafr 'Aqab, only fruity vegetables, mainly tomatoes, are being cultivated. There is 1 dunum of land of irrigated vegetables and 1 dunum of rain-fed vegetables in the village (Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010).

Table 3 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. The village is known for the cultivation of olives; there are 440 dunums in the village cultivated with olive trees.

**Table 3: Total area of fruit and olive trees in Kafr 'Aqab Village**

<b>Fruit trees</b>	<b>Rainfed (dunum)</b>	<b>Irrigated (dunum)</b>
Olives	440	0
Citrus	0	0
Stone-fruits	6	0
Pome fruits	0	0
Nuts	5	0
Other fruits	13	0
<b>Total Area</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>0</b>

**Source:** Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Kafr 'Aqab, dry legumes, particularly chickpeas, are the most cultivated, covering an area of about 2 dunums (See Table 4).

**Table 4: Total area of field crops in Kafr 'Aqab Village**

<b>Fruit trees</b>	<b>Rainfed</b>	<b>Irrigated</b>
Cereals	0	0
Bulbs	0	0
Dry legumes	2	0
Oil crops	0	0
Forage crops	2	0
Stimulating crops	0	0
Other crops	0	0
<b>Total Area</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>

**Source:** Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and by ARIJ's GIS Unit in sizes of agricultural areas is explained by the fact that the Ministry of Agriculture and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2010) conducted a survey which used a definition of agricultural areas based on land ownership. Therefore, the areas included in the survey were those of actual holdings of agricultural areas instead of seasonal ones. The survey did not consider fragmented and small seasonal cultivated areas in residential and agricultural areas. ARIJ's survey, however, indicated the existence of a high proportion of small and fragmented holdings (home gardens) throughout the occupied Palestinian territories, thus accounting for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey conducted by ARIJ shows that 1% of the residents in Kafr 'Aqab rear and keep domestic animals (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

There are no agricultural roads in the village (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

## Institutions and Services

Kafr 'Aqab village has no governmental institutions and only one local association, which is Kafr 'Aqab Village Council. The village council was founded in 1996 by the Ministry of Local Government with the goal of solving issues in the village and providing various services to its population (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

## Infrastructure and Natural Resources

### Electricity and Telecommunication Services

Kafr 'Aqab has been connected to a public electricity network since 1967. It is served by Jerusalem Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village. Approximately 100% of the housing units in the village are connected to this network (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

Kafr 'Aqab is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 60% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

### Transportation Services

Around 1000 public taxis in addition to 50 buses are the main means of transportation in Kafr 'Aqab village (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012). There are 3km of designated 'main' roads and 22km of 'secondary' roads (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012) (See Table 5).

**Table 5: Roads in Kafr 'Aqab Village**

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Sub
Paved & in good condition	3	4
Paved but in poor condition	-	8
Unpaved	-	10

Source: Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012

## Water Resources

Kafr 'Aqab residents<sup>1</sup> is provided with water by Jerusalem Water Authority (for Ramallah & Al Bireh areas) through the public water network established in 1967. Approximately 100% of the housing units are connected to this network (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012). The quantity of water supplied to Kafr 'Aqab through Jerusalem Water Authority in 2010 was approximately 324,794 cubic meters/ year (Jerusalem Water Authority, 2011). However no Kafr 'Aqab citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are recorded at around 26.5%. These losses happen at the main source, major transport lines, in the distribution network, and at the household level, therefore the rate of water consumption in Kafr 'Aqab is 238,700 cubic meters per year (Jerusalem Water Authority, 2011).

The water authority has adopted an upward rate for the cost of water where the price of water rises with increased consumption. Table 6 shows the price of water by category of consumption.

**Table 6: Water tariffs of Jerusalem Water Authority adopted since 01.01.2012**

Consumption Category (m <sup>3</sup> )	Domestic (NIS/m <sup>3</sup> )	Industrial (NIS/m <sup>3</sup> )	Tourist (NIS/m <sup>3</sup> )	Commercial (NIS/m <sup>3</sup> )	Public Institutions (NIS/m <sup>3</sup> )
0 – 5	4.5	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.4
5.1 – 10	4.5	5.6	5.6	5.6	4.5
10.1 – 20	5.6	6.8	6.8	6.8	5.6
20.1 – 30	6.8	8.1	8.1	8.1	6.8
30.1+	9	9.9	10.8	9	9

Source: Jerusalem Water Authority, 2012

## Sanitation

Kafr 'Aqab has a public sewerage network established in 2003 (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012). The majority of Kafr 'Aqab housing units (90%) use the sewerage network as a primary means for wastewater disposal, while the rest of housing units (10%) use cesspits (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 523 cubic meters, or 190,970 cubic meters annually<sup>2</sup>. The wastewater collected through the sewerage network and by cesspits is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with no concern for the environment. There is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to both environmental and public health (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

<sup>1</sup> The available data include only people living in the Palestinian part of Kafr 'Aqab village, while the population of the other part of Kafr 'Aqab village which is subordinated by the Jerusalem Municipality, is provided with water through the Israeli company of "Gihon".

<sup>2</sup> The total amount of wastewater generated only from Palestinians living in Kafr Aqab village.

## **Solid Waste Management**

Kafr 'Aqab Village Council is the official body responsible for managing the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by the citizens and establishments in the part of the village which is under the Palestinian National Authority's control. As for the other part of the village which is subordinated by Jerusalem Municipality, the latter is considered the official body responsible for managing the collection and disposal of solid waste in it (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

Most of the population in Kafr 'Aqab benefits from the solid waste services whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags and then transferred to containers distributed throughout the village. The Village Council collects the solid waste once a week, and then transports it using a waste vehicle to El 'Eizariya dumping site, 25km from the village, where it is buried or burnt (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

The estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from Kafr 'Aqab residents is nearly 30 tons, or 10,950 tons per year (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

## **Environmental Conditions**

Like other villages and camps in the Governorate, Kafr 'Aqab experiences several environmental problems which must be addressed and solved. These problems can be identified as follows:

### **Water Crisis**

Water is cut off by the Jerusalem Water Authority for long periods of time in summer in several neighborhoods of the village for several reasons:

- Israeli control over Palestinian water resources causes obstacles to the organization of water pumping and distribution among populations. The Jerusalem Water Authority distributes water to various areas on an interval basis because the amount of water available is not sufficient to supply all citizens.
- High rate of water losses, because the water network is old and in need of rehabilitation and renovation.

### **Wastewater Management**

- The absence of a public sewage network in some neighborhoods (10%) forces the residents to use unhygienic cesspits and to discharge wastewater in the streets. This is particularly common in winter as citizens cannot afford the high cost of sewage tankers during this time. This causes environmental damage, health problems, and facilitates the spread of epidemics and diseases in the village. The use of cesspits contaminates the groundwater and water collected in domestic cisterns (rainwater harvesting cisterns), making it unfit for human consumption. This is because most cesspits are built without lining, allowing wastewater to enter into the ground and avoiding the need to use sewage tankers. In addition, the untreated wastewater collected from cesspits and

endocrines by sewage tankers is disposed of in open areas without taking into account the damage it causes to the environment and to residents' health.

### Solid Waste Management:

- The residents of the neighborhoods subordinated by Jerusalem Municipality suffer from the accumulation of waste, as the municipality collects waste only once a week in most of the neighborhoods, thus posing a danger to public health and causing the spread of bad odors (Photo 2). Noting that the population carry the Israeli IDs and are committed to pay all taxes imposed on them, however the municipality deliberately neglects these neighborhoods in Kafr 'Aqab.

**Photo 2:** Accumulation of waste in Kafr 'Aqab



- The lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve Kafr 'Aqab and the other neighboring communities in the governorate is due mainly to the obstacles created by the Israeli authorities for local and national institutions in granting licenses to establish such a landfill, because the appropriate land is within Area C and under Israeli control. Additionally, the implementation of such projects depends on funding from donor countries. The lack of a sanitary landfill is a source of pollution to the groundwater and soil through the leachate produced from the solid waste, and produces bad odors and distortion of the landscape.

## Impact of the Israeli Occupation

### Geopolitical Status of Kafr 'Aqab Village

All Kafr 'Aqab village territories (6665 dunums of land in total) are under the control of the Israeli Jerusalem municipality because they are located within the Jerusalem municipality's area of authority, identified illegally and unilaterally in 1967 after the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, East Jerusalem, Gaza Strip, and other Arab territories.

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1995 between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, which divided the West Bank into areas "A"<sup>3</sup>, "B"<sup>4</sup> and "C"<sup>5</sup>, Kafr 'Aqab village was not designated as belonging to any of these classifications. Instead, the village remained under the authority of the Israeli Jerusalem municipality.

### Kafr 'Aqab Village and the Israeli Occupation Practices

Thousands of dunums have been confiscated from the village by the Israeli occupation authorities for various purposes, including the construction of Israeli settlements, military bases, and outposts. Below is a detailed description of land confiscations in Kafr 'Aqab.

During the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory, the Israeli government has confiscated 2,037 dunums (30.6%) of land from Kafr 'Aqab village to establish the Israeli settlement of Kokhav Ya'acov (Abir Ya'acov). The settlement is currently inhabited by around 6,000 Israeli settlers (Table 7).

**Table 7: Israeli Settlements constructed over Kafr 'Aqab lands**

Settlement Name	Year of construction	Area confiscated from Beitj Duqqu (dunums)	Population of settlers
Kokhav Ya'acov (Abir Ya'acov)	1984	2,037	5,811
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,037</b>	<b>5,811</b>

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2011

<sup>3</sup>Area A: over which the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) has full (security and administrative) control.

<sup>4</sup>Area B: where the Palestinian National Authority has a complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to have overriding responsibility for security.

<sup>5</sup>Area C: where Israel retains full control over security and administration related to the territory. In area C Palestinian building and land management is prohibited unless through a permit given by the Israeli Civil Administration. Most of the lands lying within the area C are agricultural land and open areas, fertile and rich in natural water sources, which constitute a major source of income for Palestinian families.

In July 2009 a group of Israeli settlers established between 40 and 50 caravans at the western side of Kokhav Ya'acov settlement, which exists on Kafr 'Aqab village territory.

On 28<sup>th</sup> February 2007, the Ministry of Construction and Housing revealed a new settlement scheme in the area north of Jerusalem city, near Qalandiya airport and to the south of Kafr 'Aqab village within the Israeli municipal boundaries of Jerusalem. The settlement scheme includes the construction of 11,000 settlement units to accommodate Israeli settlers in the city. The Ministry of Construction and Housing plans to connect the new Israeli settlement with Kokhav Ya'acov settlement (located on Kafr 'Aqab village territory) and with 'Atarot industrial settlement through an underground tunnel and at the expense of Kafr 'Aqab village territory in the south and north-east.

Furthermore, Israeli settlers have seized land from Kafr 'Aqab village by force to establish the Israeli outposts of Kokhav Ya'acov South and Kokhav Ya'acov West on its territory. During the past twenty years, Israel has built 232 outposts in the West Bank. Typically mobile caravans established by settlers on stolen lands, outposts often form the nuclei of new settlements and tend to be an extension of a nearby 'mother settlement'. The epidemic of Israeli outpost construction began with a Sharonian call for Jewish settlers to take control over Palestinian hilltops to prevent transferring them to Palestinians in negotiations. Although consecutive Israeli governments have not officially sanctioned these illegal outposts, the state provides them with military protection and infrastructure services, facilitating their permanent existence and encouraging further expansion. After 2001 Prime Minister Ariel Sharon implicitly sanctioned the expansion of outposts, leading to an increasing number of outposts. Israeli occupation forces have assisted the Israeli settlers in moving to and settling in these outposts, in addition to protecting them and providing infrastructure to guarantee their continuing survival.

Land has also been seized from Kafr 'Aqab village to establish an Israeli military base on 42 dunums of village land for the protection of the Israeli settlement built on territory belonging to Kafr 'Aqab and neighboring villages.

### **Kafr 'Aqab Village and the Israeli Segregation Wall Plan**

The Israeli Segregation Wall has had a negative and destructive impact on Kafr 'Aqab Village. According to the last amendment, published on the webpage of the Israeli Defense Ministry (30<sup>th</sup> April 2007), the Wall extends 4km over Kafr 'Aqab's lands and isolates most of the village lands (92% of the total village's area) by excluding them outside the municipal boundaries of Jerusalem. These lands will be located east of the Segregation Wall (under the Palestinian National Authority's jurisdiction) and separated from the rest of Jerusalem city, despite its existence under the authority of Jerusalem municipality. Therefore, Palestinians living in the village and holding the blue Jerusalem ID will be deprived from their right to reside within the city boundaries. This will create a new socio-economic and geographical reality for the residents, which will be difficult to change. This policy is a clear indication of the Israeli government's aim to alter the demographic balance of Jerusalem in favor of the Israelis and to ensure its Judaization.

## **Demolition of Palestinian Homes in Kafr 'Aqab Village**

Successive Israeli governments have created numerous obstacles to the development of land in East Jerusalem, allocating large parts of the village territory to the construction of Israeli settlements and classifying other areas as 'Green Zones' where Palestinians are prevented from construction. These policies make Palestinian urbanization and expansion almost impossible, causing significant suffering to the Palestinian population.

Israeli authorities deliberately fail to regulate Palestinian land and neighborhoods in East Jerusalem, and impose endless complex laws and restrictions on construction permits in the city. These policies prevent construction entirely in some areas and incur high costs for those Palestinians applying for construction licenses in others. They force Palestinians to build without permits to house the growing population, meaning that such homes are constantly subject to the threat of demolition.

The construction of Israeli settlements in East Jerusalem has also prevented the development and expansion of Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem by restricting the territorial contiguity between Palestinian communities and confiscating land allocated for Palestinian urban construction in the city.

On 16<sup>th</sup> August 2010, an Israeli plan to demolish 30 houses in Kafr 'Aqab village as a first stage was revealed. The plan proposed the demolition of village houses in preparation for the expansion and connection of existing settlements built on the land of Kafr 'Aqab and the neighboring villages. Palestinian families receiving notices of demolition were given just one week to make legal objections.

## **Israeli Settlements of 'National Priority'**

On 12<sup>th</sup> December 2009, the Israeli cabinet approved the new map of 'national priority' areas submitted by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Under this plan, Israel determined the allocation of additional funds to Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory. The scheme had a total budget of approximately about 2 billion NIS, of which 110 million NIS was allocated to settlers living in illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories. The map included 90 Israeli settlements in the West Bank, and included Kokhav Ya'acov settlement, which is illegally built on Kafr 'Aqab village territory.

In its promotion of settlement construction in East Jerusalem (and across the West Bank), the Israeli government seeks to attract investment to the area and encourage Jewish immigrants to live and work there. These policies spare no thought for the displacement of Palestinian residents, or for the countless obstacles they create to Palestinian development and livelihoods in the area.

## Development Plans and Projects

### Implemented Projects

Kafr 'Aqab Village Council has implemented several development projects in Kafr 'Aqab during the past five years (See Table 8).

**Table 8: Implemented development plans and projects in Kafr 'Aqab during the last five years**

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Rehabilitation of internal roads	Infrastructure	2007	Ministry of Finance & Kafr 'Aqab Village Council
Establishment of water culverts	Public Services	2008	Kafr 'Aqab Village Council
Rehabilitation of internal roads	Infrastructure	2011	Kafr 'Aqab Village Council
Construction of Kafr 'Aqab Village Council headquarters	Public Services	2009	Kafr 'Aqab Village Council

Source: Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012

### Proposed Projects

Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, in cooperation with the civil society organizations in the village and the village residents, hopes to implement several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the PRA workshop conducted by ARIJ staff in the village. The projects are as follows, in order of priority from the perspectives of the participants in the workshop:

1. Establishing an additional 2km sewage network to complete the existing one.
2. Expand the existing water network by about 4km.
3. Providing a vehicle for the collection of waste in addition to 800 containers.
4. Paving internal roads and constructing 2km of agricultural roads.
5. Constructing a water tank with a capacity of 12,000m<sup>2</sup>.
6. Constructing two schools of primary and secondary levels.

## Village Development Priorities and Needs

Kafr 'Aqab suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 7 shows the development priorities and needs in the village according to the village council's feedback (Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012).

**Table 7: Development priorities and needs in Kafr 'Aqab**

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
<b>Infrastructural Needs</b>					
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*			15km*
2	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks		*		4km
3	Extending the Water Network to Cover New Built up Areas		*		4km
4	Construction of New Water Networks		*		4km
5	Rehabilitation/ Construction of New Wells or Springs			*	
6	Construction of Water Reservoirs		*		12,000 cubic meters
7	Construction of a Sewage Disposal Network		*		2km
8	Construction of a New Electricity Network			*	
9	Providing Containers for Solid Waste Collection	*			800 containers
10	Providing Vehicles for Collecting Solid Waste	*			2 vehicles
11	Providing a Sanitary Landfill			*	
<b>Health Needs</b>					
1	Building of New Clinics or Health Care Centres			*	
2	Rehabilitation of Old Clinics or Health Care Centres			*	
3	Purchasing of Medical Equipment and Tools			*	
<b>Educational Needs</b>					
1	Building of New Schools	*			all levels
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools			*	
3	Purchasing of New Equipment for Schools			*	
<b>Agriculture Needs</b>					
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural Lands			*	
2	Building Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns			*	
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock			*	
4	Veterinary Services			*	
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals			*	
6	Construction of New Greenhouses			*	
7	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses			*	
8	Field Crops Seeds			*	
9	Plants and Agricultural Supplies			*	

\*10km are sub roads and 5km are agricultural.

Source: Kafr 'Aqab Village Council, 2012

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