

Deir Jarir Village Profile



Prepared by



The Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

Funded by



Spanish Cooperation

2012

Acknowledgments

ARIJ hereby expresses its deep gratitude to the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID) for their funding of this project.

ARIJ is grateful to the Palestinian officials in the ministries, municipalities, joint services councils, town committees and councils, and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) for their assistance and cooperation with the project team members during the data collection process.

ARIJ also thanks all the staff who worked throughout the past couple of years towards the accomplishment of this work.

Background

This report is part of a series of booklets, which contain compiled information about each city, town, and village in the Ramallah Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Ramallah 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 "Town Profiles and Needs Assessment;" the project funded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID).

The "Town 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 Ramallah 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 Ramallah 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 locality profiles in Arabic and English are available online at <http://vprofile.arij.org>.

Table of Contents

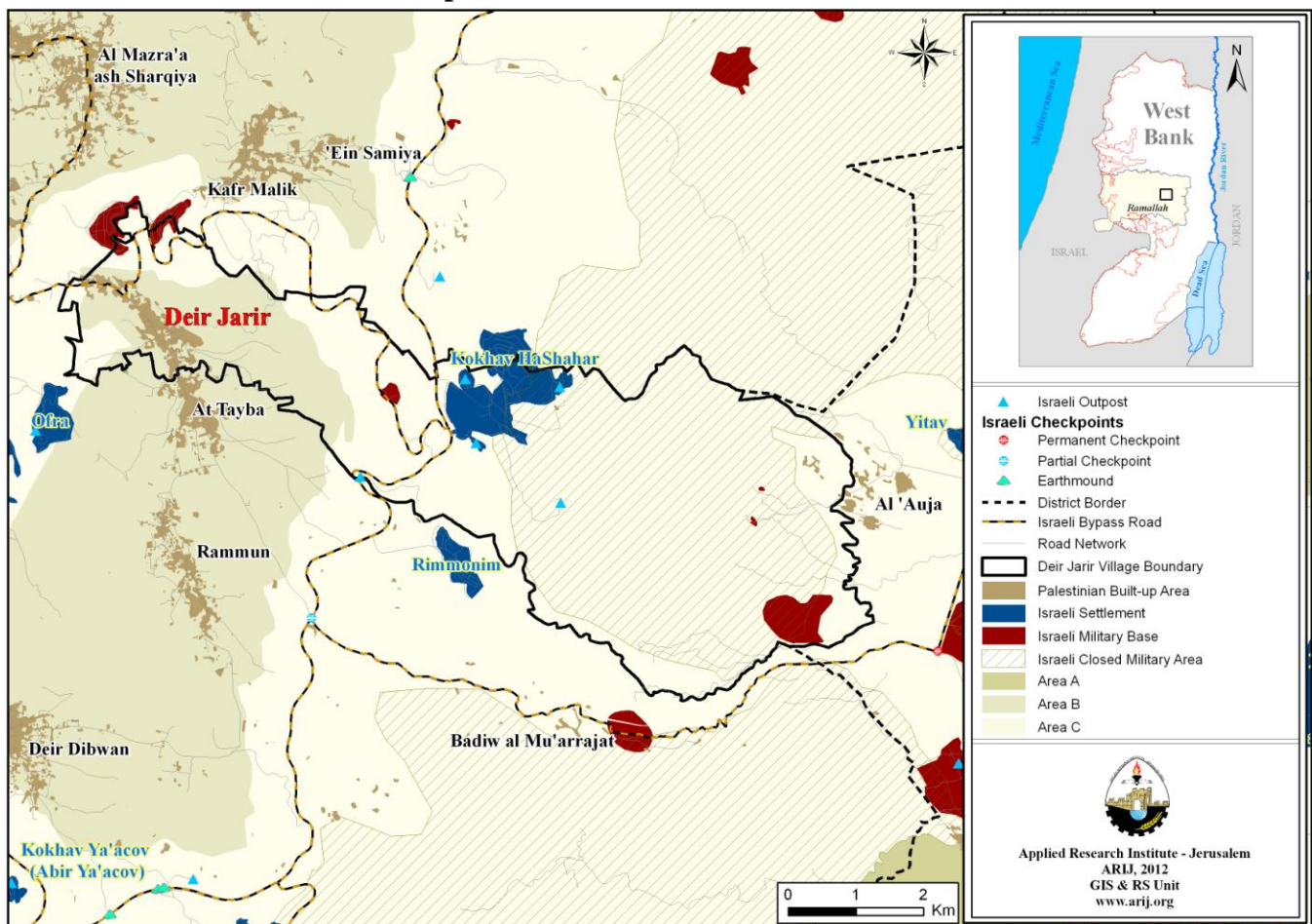
Location and physical characteristics	5
History	6
Religious and Archaeological Sites	7
Demography and Population	7
Education.....	8
Health Sector	9
Economic Activities	10
Agricultural Sector	12
Institutions and Services.....	14
Infrastructure and Natural Resources	15
Environmental Conditions	17
Impact of the Israeli Occupation	18
Development Plans and Projects	21
Proposed Projects	22
References	24

Deir Jarir Village Profile

Location and physical characteristics

Deir Jarir is a Palestinian village in Ramallah Governorate, located 12.2km northeast of Ramallah City. It is bordered by Al 'Auja village to the east, Kafr Malik and Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya to the north, Silwad town to the west, and by Et Taiyiba to the south (ARIJ-GIS, 2012) (See Map 1).

Map 1: Deir Jarir location and borders



Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2012

The village is located at an altitude of 698 m above sea level. The mean annual rainfall in the village is 425.8 mm, the average annual temperature is 17 °C, and the average annual humidity is 58% (ARIJ-GIS, 2012).

A village council was established in 1996. It is included within the Joint Services Council for Deir Jarir, Et Taiyiba and Rammun localities. The Village Council consists of nine members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority and two employees. It owns a permanent headquarters but does not possess a vehicle for the collection of solid waste (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011). Main responsibilities of the Council include:

- Management of the construction and licensing process.
- Implementing major projects and studies pertaining to village development.
- Waste collection, pavement and construction of roads, and providing social services.
- Providing kindergartens.
- Protecting historical and archeological sites in the village.
- Protecting governmental properties.

History

The village was named after a monk who resided in the village and was known as 'Jarir', whilst 'Deir' can be translated as monastery. The village was established in the 13th century (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011) (See photo below for Deir Jarir village).

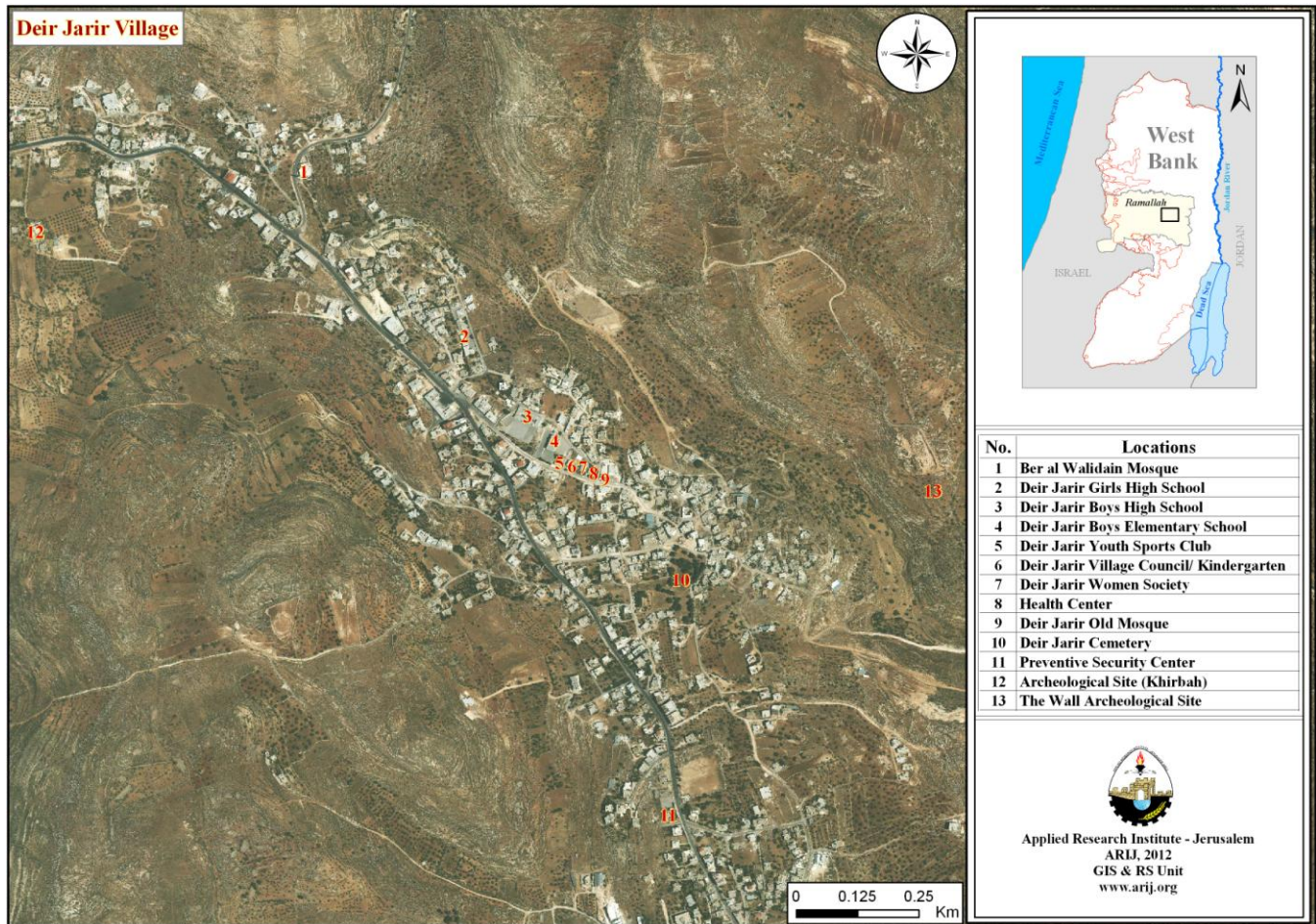
Photo of Deir Jarir



Religious and Archaeological Sites

The village has two mosques: Village Old Mosque and Bir al Walidain Mosque. There are some sites of archaeological interest in the village, including the Village Old Mosque, the Wall area (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011), the remains of a church and a crusader castle, an olive oil-press, and some khirab (ruins), such as Khirbet ‘Eshqara, An Nijma and Khirbet Rudeen (Al Dabbagh, 1991) (See Map 2).

Map 2: Main location in Deir Jarir Village



Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2012

Demography and Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) Census in 2007, the total population of Deir Jarir was 3,746 inhabitants, of whom 1,858 were male and 1,888 were female. There were 750 households and 838 housing units in the village.

Age Group and Gender

The 2007 Census results for Deir Jarir village showed the distribution of the population in terms of age group and sex, demonstrating that 37.5% of the total population was less than 15 years of age, 57.3% were in the 15-64 age group and 5% were recorded to be 65 years of age or above. The sex ratio in the village was 98.4:100, meaning that males and females constituted 49.6% and 50.4 % of the population respectively.

Families

Deir Jarir residents are from many families, principally the Ash Shaja'iya, Dar 'Ulwi, Dar Abu Salha, Al Hamadnah, Dar Mukhu, Dar 'Ajaj, and Al Kashrah families (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Immigration

The field survey conducted by ARIJ staff in 2011 shows that 10 people have left the village since the Al Aqsa Intifada in 2000 (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS, Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, 9.1% of the population were illiterate, 86.1% of whom were female. Of the literate population, 12.3% could only read and write with no formal education, 20.6% completed elementary education, 26.9% completed preparatory education, 19.1% completed secondary education, and 11.9% had a specialized academic degree (See Table 1).

Table 1: Deir Jarir population (10 years and above) by sex and educational statement

Sex	Illiterate	Can read and write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	Doctorate	Not stated	Total
M	35	150	294	413	304	44	101	-	17	2	-	1,360
F	217	191	277	332	226	81	84	1	-	-	1	1,410
T	252	341	571	745	530	125	185	1	17	2	1	2,770

M: Male; F: Female; T: Total.

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are three registered governmental schools in the village, run by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) (Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011).

Table 2: The Schools in : Al Lubban al Gharbi by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Deir Jarir Boys Secondary School	Government	Males
Deir Jarir Girls Secondary School		Females
Deir Jarir Boys Elementary School		Males
Source: Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011		

The MoEHE states that for the scholastic year 2010/2011, there were 37 classes, 983 male and female students, and 61 teaching staff. Classroom density was recorded at 16 students per class, and the average number of students per teacher was 27 (Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011).

There are two kindergartens in Deir Jarir, hosting a total of 134 children. Table 3 shows the kindergartens according to their names and supervising authority (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Table 3: The Kindergartens in Deir Jarir by name and supervising authority

Kindergarten Name	No. of Children	Supervising Authority
Deir Jarir Kindergarten	64	Private
Qaws Quzah Kindergarten	70	Private
Source: Silwad Village Council, 2011		

The village lacks a secondary/ scientific stream school, meaning that most students seek secondary education at Silwad High School in Silwad, approximately 4 km from the village (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

The education sector in Deir Jarir faces some problems, primarily the lack of an elementary school for girls (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Health Sector

There are some medical and healthcare facilities in Deir Jarir: Deir Jarir Governmental Health Center, a governmental physician's clinic, 3 private physician's clinics, a private

dental clinic, a private pediatrician's clinic, a governmental medical laboratory, a governmental motherhood and childhood care center, and a private pharmacy (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

However, the health sector in the village faces many obstacles and problems, including (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011):

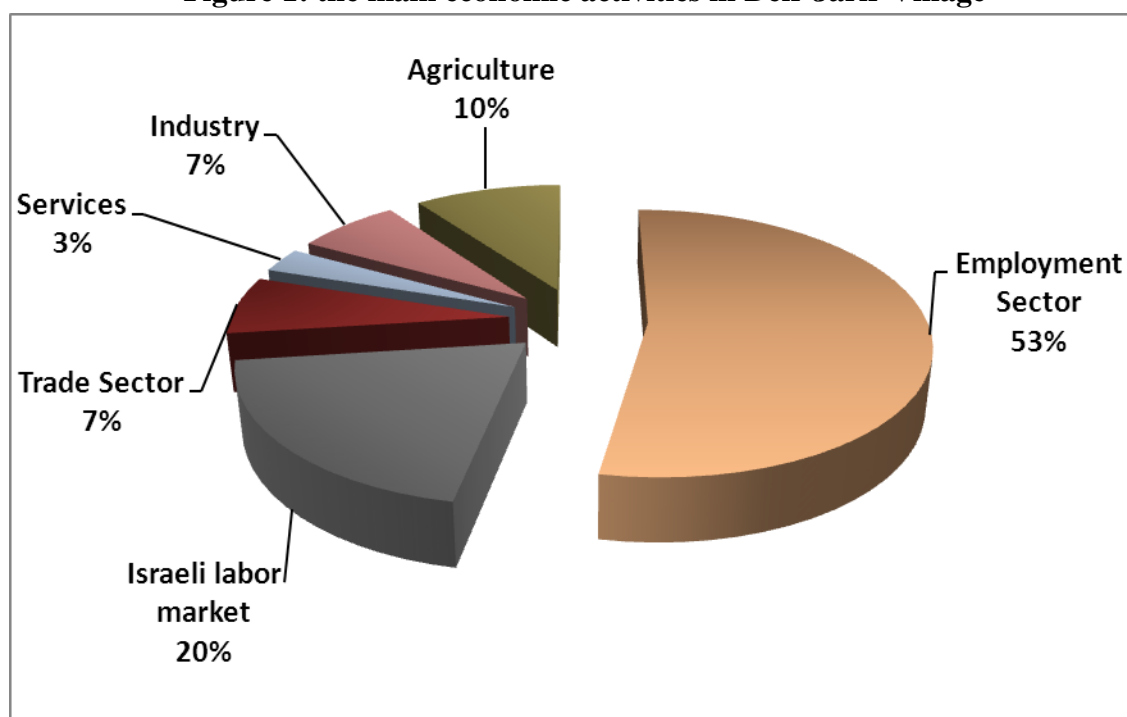
1. The lack of medical devices and equipment.
2. The lack of medical specialists.
3. The lack of medicines.
4. The lack of an ambulance.

Economic Activities

The economy of Deir Jarir Village depends on many sectors, with the *employees sector* hosting the largest percentage (53%) of the Deir Jarir labor force. The results of the ARIJ field survey indicated that the second most important sector is that of Israeli labor market, followed by the agriculture sector in third place (Figure 1).

Deir Jarir has 4 grocery stores, a bakery, 3 butcheries, 20 vegetable and fruit shops, 20 service offices, 15 shops for occupational industries such as carpentry, a stone cutting factory, 4 quarries, an agricultural nursery, one store for construction materials and another store for health tools and equipment (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Unemployment in Deir Jarir reached approximately 10% in 2011 and it persists mostly amongst people depending on the agricultural sector, services sector and trade sector for employment. Practices and procedures associated with the Israeli occupation form the primary cause of unemployment in Deir Jarir (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Figure 1: the main economic activities in Deir Jarir Village

Source: Deir Jarir Village Council

Labor Force

According to the PCBS, Population, Housing and Establishment Census in 2007, 35.2% of the population was considered economically active of which 89.9% were employed, and 64.7% of the population were non-economically active, of which 49.6% were students and 34.2% were involved in housekeeping (Table 4).

Table 4: Deir Jarir population (10 years and above) by sex and employment status

Sex	Economically active				Non-economically active						Not stated	Total
	Employed	Currently Unemployed	Unemployed (never worked)	Total	Student	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & not looking for work	Others	Total		
M	717	52	17	786	456	1	73	24	17	571	3	1,360
F	160	19	11	190	433	612	120	9	46	1,220	-	1,410
T	877	71	28	976	889	613	193	33	63	1,791	3	2,770

M: Male; F: Female; T: Total.

Source: PCBS, 2009.

Agricultural Sector

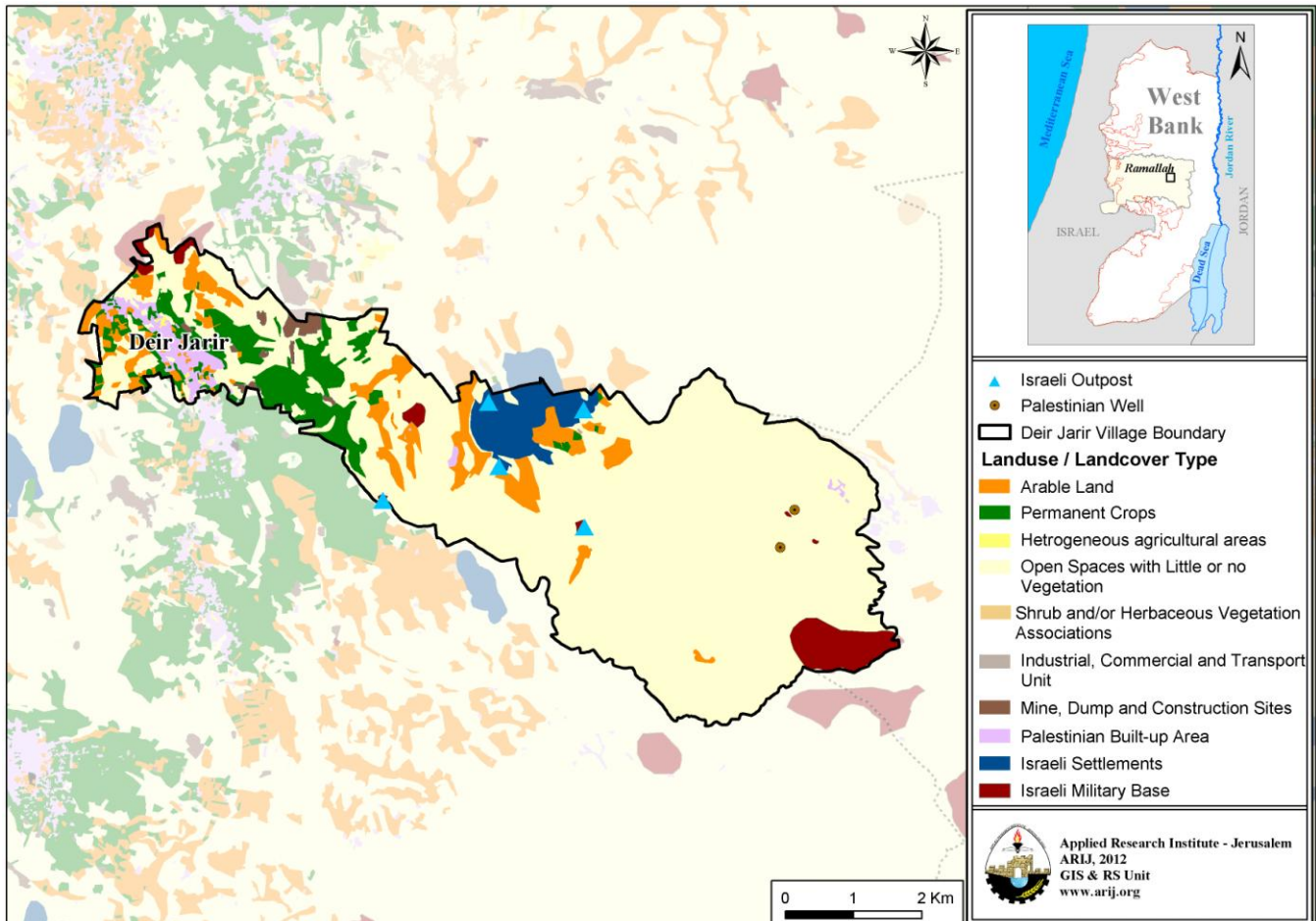
Deir Jarir Village lies on an area of 33,331 dunums, of which 5,118 dunums are arable land and 654 dunums are dedicated to residential services.

Table 5: Land use and land cover in Deir Jarir village in 2010 (area in dunum)

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (5,118)				Inland water	Forests	Open Spaces	Area of Industrial, Commercial & Transport Unit	Area of Settlement, Military Bases & Wall Zone
		Permanent Crops	Green-houses	Range-lands	Arable lands					
33,331	654	2,451	0	9	2,658	0	0	24,943	232	2,384

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2012.

Map 3: Land use and land cover of Deir Jarir Village, 2010



Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2012

Table 6 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Deir Jarir. Snake-cucumber is the main cultivated vegetables in the village.

Table 6: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Deir Jarir Village (area in dunums)

Fruity vegetables		Leafy vegetables		Green legumes		Bulbs		Other vegetables		Total area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
41	0	0	0	18	0	2	0	0	0	61	0

Rf.: Rain-fed; Irr.: Irrigated.

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Ramallah, 2009

Deir Jarir Village is famous for the cultivation of olive trees; around 963 dunums of land are planted with olives (Table 7).

Table 7: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Deir Jarir Village (area in dunums)

Olives		Citrus		Stone-fruits		Pome fruits		Nuts		Other fruits		Total area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
963	0	0	0	15	0	1.5	0	135	0	86.5	0	1,201	0

Rf.: Rain-fed; Irr.: Irrigated.

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Ramallah, 2009

Table 8 shows the total area of field crops cultivated in Deir Jarir, with cereals covering the largest area (approximately 350 dunums). The most-cultivated cereals include wheat and barley. In addition, lentils and chickpeas are the most-cultivated dry legumes in the village.

Table 8: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Deir Jarir Village (area in dunums)

Cereals		Bulbs		Dry legumes		Oil crops		Forage crops		Stimulating crops		Other crops		Total area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
350	0	13	0	37	0	5	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	430	0

Rf.: Rain-fed; Irr.: Irrigated.

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Ramallah, 2009

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 2% of the residents in Deir Jarir rear and keep domestic animals such as sheep and goats (See Table 9).

Table 9: Livestock in Deir Jarir village

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
0	1,182	713	0	0	0	0	30,000	2,000	18

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Ramallah, 2009

There are approximately 17 km of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Table 10: Agricultural Roads in Deir Jarir village and their Lengths

Suitability of Agricultural Roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	5
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	5
For animals only	7
Unsuitable	-

However, the residents face some obstacles and problems concerning the agricultural sector, primarily (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011):

- Lack of water sources.
- Difficulties in accessing agricultural lands.
- Lack of economic feasibility.
- Lack of material support of feed and medicines.
- Lack of technical support for farmers.
- Lack of pastures.
- Lack of reclamation projects of fallow lands.

Institutions and Services

Deir Jarir village has some governmental institutions, including a protective security center and a post office division, in addition to a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011):

- **Deir Jarir Village Council:** Founded in 1996, by the Ministry of local government, with the goal of taking care of issues in the village and providing services to its population.
- **Deir Jarir Youth Club:** Founded in 1996, by the Ministry of Youth & Sports. The club is interested in all sports and cultural activities for young people in the village.
- **Deir Jarir Women Society:** Founded by the village's women and concerned with providing and creating job opportunities for women, in addition to cultural and social activities.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Deir Jarir is supplied with electricity by the Jerusalem Electricity Company through a network established in 1975. All of the housing units (100%) in the village are connected to the network. However, Deir Jarir faces some problems concerning electricity supplies, mainly the weak electrical current and the sporadic power cut-offs (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Furthermore, the village is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 90% of the housing units are connected to phone lines (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Transportation Services:

18 public taxis, 60 cars and 3 buses form the main means of transportation in Deir Jarir (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011). There are 5 km of main roads and 10 km of internal roads in the village (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Table 11: Roads in Deir Jarir village

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Sub
1. Paved & in good condition	3	8
2. Paved but in poor condition	2	-
3. Unpaved	-	2

Source: Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011

Water Resources:

The water company in Jerusalem provides the village with water through a water network established in 1976. This network supplies water to almost all housing units in the village. The quantity of water supplied to the village in 2010 was approximately 92,970 m³, and therefore the amount of water consumed per person is estimated to be 68 liter/capita/day (Jerusalem Water Authority, 2011). However, no resident of Deir Jarir

consumes this amount of water due to water losses from the transfer of water and its distribution through the network from the main company provider to housing units. Such losses reach 26.5%, and therefore the average water consumption per capita is 50 liter/capita/day (Jerusalem Water Authority, 2011). This average is less than the recommended amount of 100 liters/capita/day proposed by the World Health Organization (WHO).

To determine water costs, the water authority has adopted an upward rate where the price of water increases with increasing consumption. Table 12 shows the price of water by category of consumption.

Table 12: Water tariffs of Jerusalem Water Authority adopted since 01.01.2012

Consumption Category (m ³)	Domestic (NIS/m ³)	Industrial (NIS/m ³)	Tourist (NIS/m ³)	Commercial (NIS/m ³)	Public Institutions (NIS/m ³)
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

There are 300 household rainwater harvesting cisterns in the village, in addition to 3 unused public water springs: At Tahta spring, the northern spring, and ‘Ansara spring (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Sanitation:

Deir Jarir Village lacks a public sewage network; most of the population uses cesspits as main means for wastewater disposal (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 131 cubic meters, or 47,833 cubic meters annually. At the individual level in the village, it is estimated that per capita wastewater generation is approximately 35 liters per day (ARIJ – WERU, 2012). The wastewater collected by cesspits is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys without concern for the environment. There is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to the environment and to public health.

Solid Waste Management:

Deir Jarir Village Council is responsible for the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by citizens and establishments in the village. As the process of solid waste management is costly (approximately 110 NIS/ ton), a monthly fee of about 15 NIS is charged to the population served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. However, only 60% of these fees are collected from the citizens (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

Most of the population in Deir Jarir benefit from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags. The Village Council collects the solid waste twice a week and transports it using a waste vehicle with a capacity of 3 cubic meters to a random dumping site within the village boundaries, 1 km from the village center, where it is burnt. In the absence of a system for waste separation, household waste, industrial, and medical solid waste are collected together and dumped into the same landfill (Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Deir Jarir is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day by Deir Jarir residents is nearly 2.6 tons, or 957 tons per year (ARIJ WERU, 2012).

Environmental Conditions

Like other villages and towns in the governorate, Deir Jarir 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 during summer in several neighborhoods of the town for several reasons:
 - (1) Israeli control over Palestinian water resources causes problems in 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 everyone's needs simultaneously.
 - (2) 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 means that in Deir Jarir residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, and/or discharge wastewater in the streets. This is particularly common in winter, as citizens cannot afford the high cost of sewage tankers during this period. These methods facilitate environmental damage, health problems, and the spread of epidemics and diseases in the village. This wastewater also contaminates the groundwater and water collected in household cisterns (rainwater harvesting cisterns) because most cesspits are built without lining, allowing wastewater to enter into the ground and avoiding the need to use sewage tankers. Moreover, the untreated wastewater collected from cesspits by sewage tankers is disposed of in open areas without concern for the damage it causes to the environment and to residents' health.

Solid Waste Management:

- The lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve in Deir Jarir 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.
- There is no system in the village or the governorate to separate hazardous waste from non-hazardous waste. Consequently, hazardous solid waste is collected with non-hazardous waste and transported to a landfill located in the village for disposal by burning.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical status in Deir Jarir

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel on 28th September 1995, Deir Jarir was divided into politically classified areas “B” and “C”. Approximately 5,004 dunums (15% of the village’s total area) is classified as area B, where the Palestinian National Authority has complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to have overriding responsibility for security. Area B constitutes most of the inhabited Palestinian areas, including municipalities, villages and some refugee camps. It is noted that the village’s entire population resides in area B,

which forms a small area compared to village's total land space. The rest of the village's area, constituting 28,328 dunums (85% of the total area), is classified as area C, where Israel retains full control over security and administration related to the territory (table 13). In area C Palestinian building and land management is prohibited unless through consent or authorization by the Israeli Civil Administration. Most of the lands lying within area C are classified as agricultural areas, open spaces and Israeli settlements.

Table 13: The Geopolitical Divisions of Deir Jarir– Ramallah Governorate

Area	Area in dunums	Percent of Total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	5,004	15
Area C	28,328	85
Nature Reserve	0	0
Total	33,332	100

Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2011

Deir Jarir Village and the Israeli Occupation Practices

Deir Jarir village has been subjected to a number of land confiscations for the benefit of the various Israeli interests, represented in the construction of Israeli settlements, outposts and military checkpoints on village territories as well as the construction of Israeli bypass roads to connect settlements together. The following provides a breakdown of the Israeli confiscations on Deir Jarir village territories:

Israeli Occupation Authorities confiscated 1120 dunums of land in Deir Jarir village for the establishment of a number of Israeli military bases, both north and east in the village. Additionally, during its occupation of Palestine, Israel confiscated an area of 1264 dunums from Deir Jarir village for the construction of Kokhav HaShahar settlement. This settlement is currently inhabited by approximately 1,700 Israeli settlers (table 14).

Table 14: Israeli Settlements constructed over Deir Jarir village lands

Settlement Name	Year of construction	Area confiscated	Population of settlers
Kokhav HaShahar	1977	1264	1690
Total		1264	1,690

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2011

Attacks carried out by Israeli settlers living in the illegal settlements around Deir Jarir have had a serious and significant impact on the people of Deir Jarir village and their properties. These attacks allow settlers to further control Palestinian lands adjacent to the settlements by

preventing landowners from accessing it. Settlers near Deir Jarir have also enclosed land using barbed wire and planting trees to increase their control. Settlers have also burnt and uprooted trees planted and owned by Palestinians and attacked landowners to intimidate and deter them from returning to their lands nearby the aforementioned settlements.

For example, Deir Jarir village was exposed to the attacks of settlers of "Ofra" Israeli settlement which was established on land of 'Ein Yabrud and Silwad neighboring villages; west of Deir Jarir. On evening of 21st September 2011, a group of armed settlers from 'Ofra' settlement raided Deir Jarir village predominantly in the area known as "Al Karm al 'Ateeq." Here, settlers set fire to olive groves. Residents of the village, in response, rushed to the scene of attack and prevented the expansion of fire in the region to large tracts of land. Nevertheless, the following day, settlers again set fires in the area. In the evening hours of September 22nd 2011, settlers, under the protection of Israeli soldiers, burned 25 dunums of land planted with olives in "Al Karm al 'Ateeq" area in the village; most of the olive trees in the affected territories were completely destroyed.

The Israeli Government has since confiscated further lands in Deir Jarir for the construction of Israeli bypass roads no. 458 and 449. Both roads extend a total of 11km on village lands in order to connect Israeli settlements with one another. The real threat of bypass roads however lies in the buffer zone formed by the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) besides these roads, extending approximately 75 m on each side. These buffer zones dramatically increase the total area of land affected by the construction of the bypass roads.

In addition, land from Deir Jarir has been forcefully seized by Israeli settlers, during their occupation of the village lands, in order to build 5 Israeli outposts, named as; Mitzpe Shlomo South, Maale Shlomo, West Rimmonim, Mitzpe Kramim and Ahavat Hayim Israeli outposts.

It is further noted that on 21st April 2012, Haaretz Israeli newspaper reported that settlers living in Mitzpe Kramim outpost¹ near the settlement of Kokhav HaShahar transferred 20 new mobile houses or "caravans" for the outpost in a bid to expand it. These actions occurred despite an appeal submitted by Deir Jarir Village Council to the Israeli Supreme Court against the establishment of this outpost. Until now this decision is still under discussion. The placement of Mitzpe Kramim outpost was mentioned in the report prepared by attorney Talia Sasson in 2005, regarding a range of random outposts that were set up on private Palestinian lands by Israeli settlers without a license from Israeli official bodies. The association of "Eimona" of the "Gush Emunim" settlement movement initiated to establish this outpost, while the so-called "Civil Administration" issued an order during 2011 to stop construction work at this place. However, settlers continued expansion works by adding 20 new units to the outpost. This was being done whilst a petition file against these constructions was under process in the Supreme Court. However the delay in dealing with this case on the part of the

¹Mitzpe Kramim outpost was established in 1999 on lands of Deir Jarir and Kafr Malik villages.

Israeli Civil Administration proves their collaboration with Israeli settlers and the occupation army to seize further Palestinian lands.

On 1st August 2012, residents of Mitzpe Kramim outpost near Kokhav HaShahar settlement process to market apartments in it despite the lawsuit submitted before the Israeli Supreme Court by the Palestinians of Deir Jarir village who own the lands where this settlement outpost was held. The marketing campaign targeted young couples in order to encourage them to buy apartments in this settlement area. Today there are 16 fixed buildings in the outpost and it is expected to expand to accommodate more than 40 Jewish families.

During the past two decades, Israel has built 232 outposts in the West Bank. These are considered the nucleus for the development of new settlements. Outposts are typically composed of mobile caravans which are located on lands stolen by settlers and represent a branch of a nearby mother settlement. One can note that the epidemic of Israeli outposts started with a “Sharonian” call for Jewish settlers to take control of Palestinian hilltops to prevent transferring them to Palestinians in negotiations. Although the successive Israeli governments haven’t legalized this phenomenon, they managed to find security and logistical cover to justify the act, its existence and continuity. In 2001, the Prime Minister at that time, Ariel Sharon, unleashed an expansion of outposts which has led to a significant increase in their number within Palestinian areas. Also, the IOF helped settlers move and settle in those outposts, as well as protecting and providing them with the necessary infrastructure to guarantee their continued existence.

Development Plans and Projects

Implemented projects

The Village Council of Deir Jarir has implemented several development projects during the past 5 years. For more details please see Table 15.

Table 15: Implemented development projects and plans in Deir Jarir, 2011

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Paving sub-roads	Infrastructure	2008	Ministry of Finance & Citizens Donations
Paving sub-roads	Infrastructure	2010	Ministry of Finance
Paving the main road	Infrastructure	2010	USAID
Constructing classrooms in the girls’ school	Educational	2008	Japanese Representative Office
Reclaiming agricultural lands	Agricultural	2008-2010	Dutch Representative
Rehabilitating the elementary school	Educational	2008	Arab Development Bank

Source: Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011.

Proposed Projects

Deir Jarir 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 viewpoint of the participants in the workshop:

1. Rehabilitating roads and constructing new ones in the village along with connecting the electricity and water networks to all housing units in the village.
2. Financing agricultural projects such as land reclamation, constructing agricultural roads, and rehabilitating water springs and harvesting cisterns.
3. Creating household food security and manufacturing projects, which will benefit women by filling the needs of their families.
4. Establishing recreational centers and public parks.
5. Creating productive projects to reduce youth unemployment.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

The village suffers from a significant shortage in infrastructure and services. The following table shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Deir Jarir Village Council's point of view and feedback from the ARIJ survey.

Table 16: Development Priorities and Needs in Deir Jarir

No.	Sector	Strongly needed	Needed	Not a priority	Notes
Infrastructural Needs					
1	Opening and pavement of roads	*			16 km*
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks			*	
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas	*			2 km
4	Construction of new water networks			*	
5	Rehabilitation/ Construction of new wells or springs	*			3 springs
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			3000 m ³
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			3 km
8	Construction of a new electricity network			*	
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection	*			15 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste	*			1 vehicle
11	Providing a sanitary landfill	*			
Health Needs					
1	Building of new clinics or health care centres			*	
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres	*			1 health center
3	Purchasing of medical equipment and tools	*			
Educational Needs					
1	Building of new schools	*			elementary level for girls
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			
3	Purchasing of new equipment for schools	*			
Agriculture Needs					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			200 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns	*			50 cisterns
3	Construction of barracks for livestock	*			10 barracks
4	Veterinary services	*			
5	Forage and hay for animals	*			50 tons per year
6	Construction of new greenhouses	*			15 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses			*	
8	Field crops seeds	*			
9	Plants and agricultural supplies	*			

* 6 km are sub roads and 10 km are agricultural.

Source: Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011

References

- Al Dabbagh, M. Our Country, Palestine; Chapter 8, Part Two. Kafr Qari' – Palestine. Dar al Huda Press, 1991.
- *Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ)*, 2012. Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing Unit; Land Use Analysis (2010) – Half Meter High Accuracy. Bethlehem - Palestine.
- Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ), 2012. Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing unit Database. Bethlehem - Palestine.
- Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ). 2012. Water & Environment Research Unit Database (WERU). Bethlehem - Palestine.
- Deir Jarir Village Council, 2011.
- Jerusalem Water Authority (for Ramallah & Al Bireh areas) (2011). Detection showing the amount of water sold from 1/1/2010 till 31/12/2010. Ramallah – Palestine.
- Jerusalem Water Authority (2012). Jerusalem Water Authority's Website; Data Retrieved on the first of March. <http://www.jwu.org/newweb/atemplate.php?id=87>.
- Ministry of Education & Higher Education (MOHE) - Ramallah, 2011. Directorate of Education; A database of schools (2010/2011). Ramallah – Palestine.
- Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), 2009. Directorate of Agriculture data (2008/2009). Ramallah - Palestine.
- *Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics*. 2009. Ramallah, Palestine: General Census of Population and Housing Censuses, 2007.