

# Ath Thaghra Village Profile



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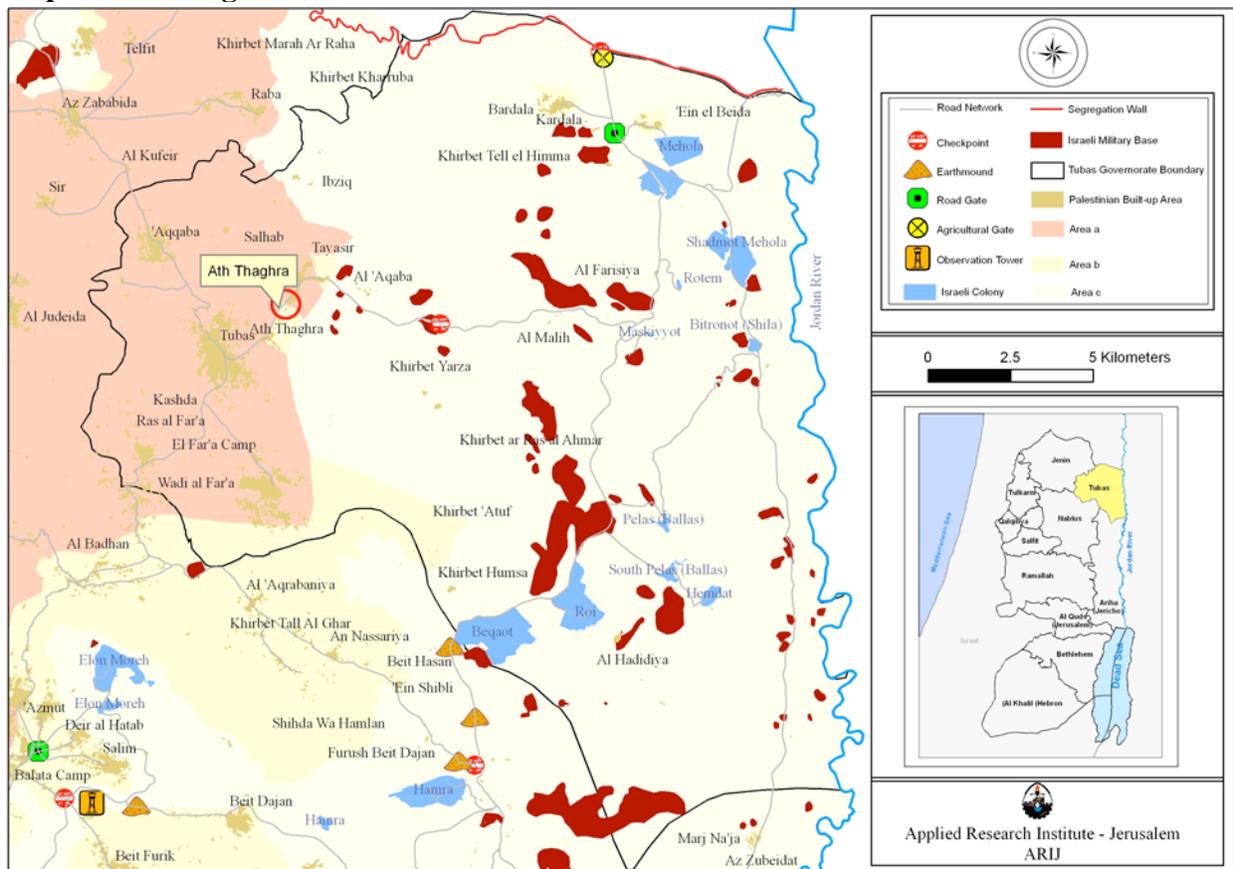
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# Ath Thaghra village profile

## Location and Physical characteristics

**ATH THAGHRA** is a Palestinian village, which is located 2 km to the northeast of Tubas city, in the northeastern part of West Bank. Ath Thaghra village is bordered by Tayasir village to the east, Kh Ebziq to the north, Tubas city to the west and Tammun to the south.

**Map 1: Ath Thaghra location and borders.**



The total area of Ath Thaghra village is 700 dunums, of which 400 dunums are classified as 'built up' areas, whilst 200 dunums are agricultural and 100 dunums are confiscated area.

Ath Thaghra village is located in a mountain area and at moderate an elevation of 353 m above sea level. It has a moderate climate; the mean annual rainfall in Ath Thaghra village is 357 mm, the average annual temperature is 20 °C and the average annual humidity is 57 % (ARIJ GIS).

In 1998, the Ministry of local Authority has appointed a Project committee to govern the village. Currently the Project committee comprises of five members who were elected during the 2005 local authorities' elections. There are cooperation between Ath Thaghra project committee and Tubas Municipality to implement projects in the village. The operations and responsibilities of project committee include:

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

## History

Ath Thaghra means the rout between two mountains, its name is derived from its location between two mountains and it is the only place which Tubas rout pass through to east. The dwelling started in the village since 1967, and the first family settled in the area Ahmad Daraghmah and his brothers whom they owned the land. Due to its location and tranquility the people started built their houses in the village.

## Demography and Population

In 1997, the total population of Ath Thaghra village was 189 people, of which 97 were males and 92 were females. There were 33 households resident in 40 housing units (1997 census).

### Age groups and gender

The data of the 1997 census reveals that the classification of population of Ath Thaghra by age groups and sex. The data showed that 43.9 % are less than 15 years, 48.7 % are in the age group 15-64 years and 7.4 % are 65 year and above (See table 1)

Sex	Age				Percentage
	0 -14	15 -64	65 +	Total	
<b>Male</b>	46	42	9	97	51.3
<b>Female</b>	37	50	5	92	48.7
<b>Total</b>	83	92	14	189	100

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

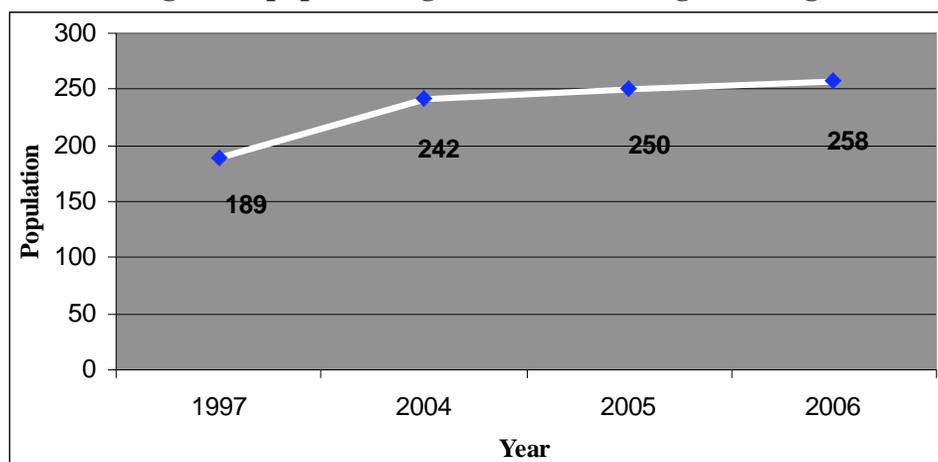
The sex ratio in the village was 105.4 males for every 100 females. Males constitute 51.3 % of the population and females constitute 48.7 %.

The estimated population of Ath Thaghra village by mid 2005 was 250 and in mid 2006 will increase to 258. The data in table 2 indicate that the population of Ath Thaghra grew by 32.3 % between 1997 and mid 2005 and in 2006 will increase by 3.2 % (an increase of 8 people).

**Table 2: Projected population for Ath Thaghra village 2004 -2006**

	1997 census	Mid-year population in		
		2004	2005	2006
<b>Ath Thaghra</b>	189	242	250	258

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

**Figure 1: population growth in Ath Thaghra village****Families:**

The population of Ath Thaghra village belongs to four main families: Daraghma 95 %, Sbah 3 %, Wahdan 1 % and Jaber 1%.

**Religious and Archeological Sites**

There is one mosque in Ath Thaghra village.

**The Economy**

The dominant economic activity in the Ath Thaghra village is agriculture; it has a small and a fertile agriculture land reach 200 dunums, approximately 74 % of the residents in the village engaged in agricultural activities. The agriculture production forms the main source of income of the residents. The second main income source of the residents is services and followed by constructions and trade. In Ath Thaghra village, there are only three shops and groceries.

**Labor Force Construction**

In 1997, the percentage of participants in labor force in Ath Thaghra was 61.9 % of the total population of the village; women participation was assessed to be 50.4 % (59 women in total). The labor force in Ath Thaghra is 117 people in total, of which 45.3 % are 'economically active' people and 54.7 % are 'non-economically' active people. Of the economically active people 94.3 % are employed, 5.7 % are unemployed. The largest groups of non-economically active people are the students and housewives, who constitute 28.1 % and 48.4 % respectively. Table 3 shows the labor force in Ath Thaghra village.

**Table 3: Ath Thaghra Population (10 years and Over) by Sex and Employment Status**

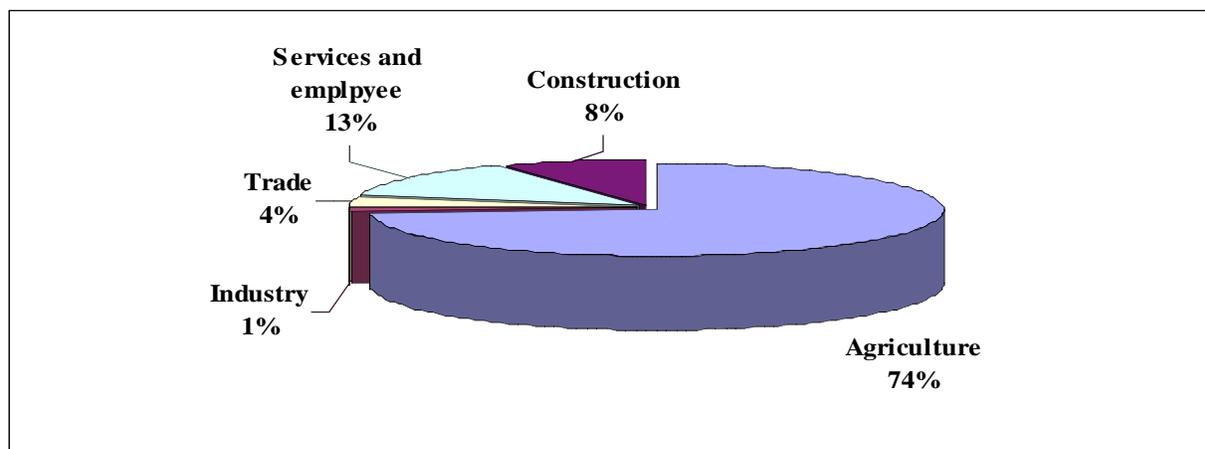
Sex	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Total
	Employed	Currently Un-Employed	Un-Employed Never Worked	Total	Students	House-Wife	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking For Work	Other	Total	
M	41	1	2	44	9	-	4	1	-	14	58
F	9	-	-	9	9	31	5	-	5	50	59
<b>T</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>117</b>

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

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 74 %,
- The industrial sector 1 %,
- The trade sector 4 %,
- The service and employee 13 %,
- The construction sector 8%.

**Figure 2: Percentage of economic activity in Ath Thaghra.**



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

The average household income in Ath Thaghra village has been heavily affected by the Israeli procedures since 2000. The average household income was 1500 NIS before 2000 year. Currently however it has declined sharply to 500 NIS. The result is that the average household income has decreased by 66.7 % in only four years.

## Education

In 1997 census, the education status in Ath Thaghra indicated that about 17.1 % of the residents were illiterate, with women (75 %) comprising a greater percentage of illiterates than men (25 %) were. Of the literate population, 14.5 % of residents could read and write, 17.1 % completed elementary education, 25.6 % completed preparatory education and 25.6 % completed their secondary and higher education. Table 4 shows the education status in Ath Thaghra by sex and education attainment in 1997.

**Table 4: Ath Thaghra Population (10 years and over) by sex and Educational Attainment**

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & Write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	MA	PHD	Total
M	5	12	11	13	7	4	6	-	-	-	58
F	15	5	9	17	9	3	1	-	-	-	59
<b>T</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	-	-	-	<b>117</b>

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

Until 2005 there were no schools in Ath Thaghra village, the students of the village get their education in Tubas city. The students of the village face many problems in their education like difficulties of transportation to Tubas city specially children, many students expose to transportation accident during travel to Tubas city and difficulty of continues of education due to increasing transportation costs.

Currently there are two private kindergartens in Ath Thaghra village providing pre-education schools for 160 children.

## Health Status

There is no any kind of health services in Ath Thaghra village even governmental or private or NGOs. The residents get the health services from Tubas city. The additional problem of access health services is that difficulty of transportations to nearby villages or to Tubas city.

## Infrastructure, Natural resources and Services

Ath Thaghra village has no any social, cultural or women institutions, mostly the residents receive like these services from Tubas city.

- **Telecommunication services:** Ath Thaghra village is connected to the telecommunication network. A few of households (10 %) have a telephone connection.
- **Water services:** Ath Thaghra village has been connected to the water network since 1973. The project committee rehabilitates partly the net work and due to the shortage of fund resources the network not completed. Almost 20 % of the households are connected to the network.
- **Electricity services:** The village has been connected with the electricity network in 1998 which supplied by Israeli Electric Cooperation. 100 % of households in the village are connected with electricity network.
- **Solid Waste Collection:** The solid waste is managed by Project committee, one to two times solid waste is collected weekly in the village. Ath Thaghra is a member in the Joint Services Council in Tubas Governorate and solid waste is collected from the residential area and sent to a shared dumping site which far 4 km from the village. Burning is the main methods used to disposal of solid waste.
- **Sewage Disposal Facilities:** Like other Tubas Governorate localities, Ath Thaghra village has no sewage network. All households must therefore dispose of their wastewater in cesspits and then disposal it near valleys. This is considered one of the main sources of pollution to the residents and to the groundwater.
- **Transportation services:** The total roads network in Ath Thaghra is nearly 3.6 km, 1.6 km are paved roads and good status, and 2 km are not paved at all. Ath Thaghra village is lack of transportation means; the residents used buses travel from Tubas to east localities and some times used Tubas taxi offices.

## Agriculture

The dominant economic activity in Ath Thaghra village was agriculture activities. As we mentioned above 74 % of the residents of Ath Thaghra are engaged in agriculture sector and depend on their livelihood on plant production and livestock. The total agriculture area of Ath Thaghra village is 200 dunums, whilst the cultivated area has reached 120 dunums.

Based on the survey conducted by ARIJ and ACH, Ath Thaghra village produces 3 tons of olive oil, 0.5 tons of nut stone and 100 tons of field crops per annum.

14 % of the residents of Ath Thaghra village also keep livestock. Data from the survey indicate that there are three heads of cattle, 31 goats, 53 sheep, and 12,000 poultry.

## Impact of Occupation Practices

Ath Thaghra village is affected directly by Israeli procedures, Tayaser checkpoint make restrictions on the movement of residents to nearby villages and their fields. Israeli forces demolished one house and bulldozing many dunums of cultivated area by field crops. Israeli military forces periodically places numerous flying check points around the village causing delaying for employees, workers and farmers to access their place of work.

## Plans and Development Projects

Ath Thaghra village is a rural area was neglected from basic infrastructure and development projects; recently the Project committee has implemented a project to rehabilitating and expanding the main road in the village.

The Project committee in Ath Thaghra has set up a plan for development of the village, which included various new projects. The developmental projects, which have been planed, are listed in table 6.

**Table 6: Development plans and projects in Ath Thaghra village**

Project	Type	Budget
Home garden for farmers	economy	-
Water connection to households	water	-

## References

1. ARIJ, 2005. Socio-economic field survey- Tubas Governorate, co-operation with Ath Thaghra project committee.
2. Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistic, 1999. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-1997, Final result-Tubas district, first part Ramallah – Palestine.
3. Ministry of Agriculture, Tubas Office.