

Khirbet Al Malih profile

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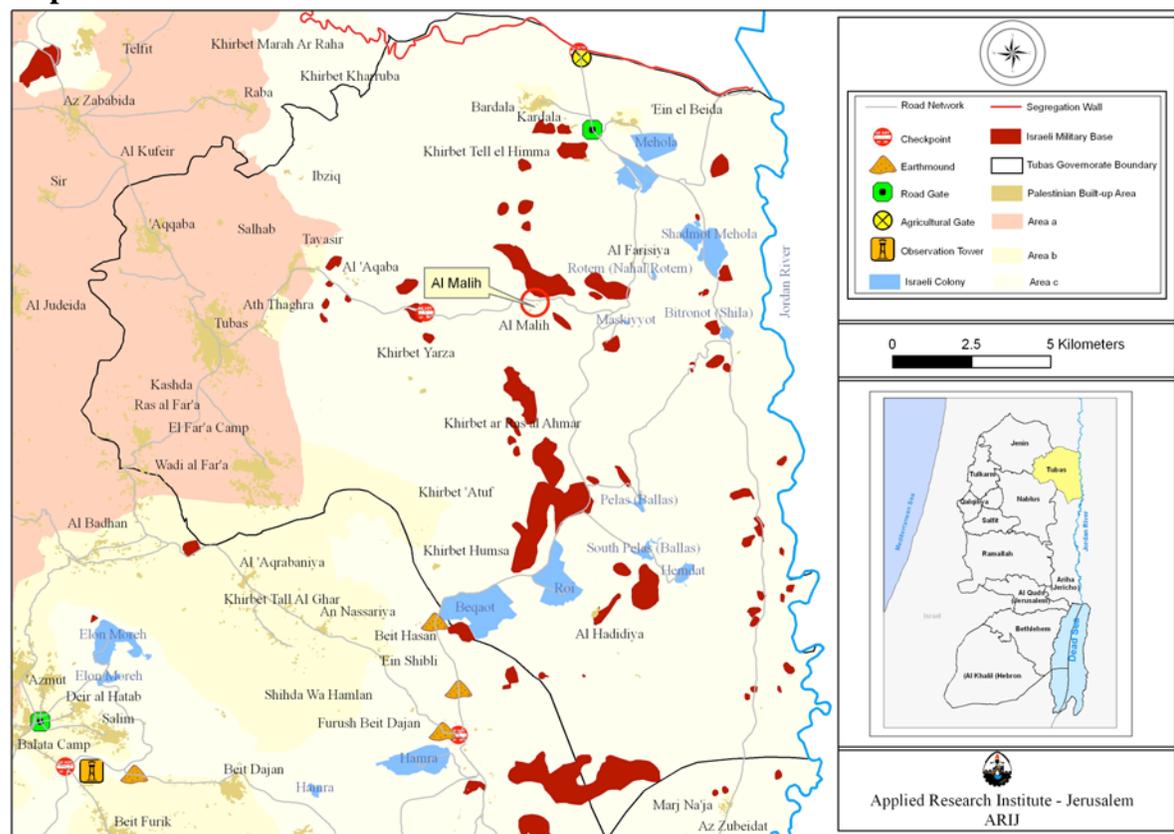
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Kh El Maleh profile

Location and Physical characteristics

KH EL MALEH is a Palestinian village, which is located 10 km to the east of Tubas city, in the northeastern part of West Bank. Kh El Maleh village is bordered by the Jordan River to the east, Al Farisiya and Valley to the north, Tayasir village to the west and Kh 'Atuf to the south.

Map 1: Kh El Maleh location and borders



The total area of Kh El Maleh village is 19,000 dunums, which represents approximately 2.7 % of the Tubas Governorate's land area. 500 dunums are classified as 'built up' areas, whilst 12,000 dunums are agricultural area, 4,000 dunums are forests and 3500 dunums are confiscated areas.

Kh El Maleh village is located in a level area of land at a moderate elevation of 32 m above sea level. It has a moderate climate; the mean annual rainfall is 294 mm, the average annual temperature is 21-22 °C and the average annual humidity is 53 % (ARIJ GIS).

In 2002 the village was governed by a Project committee appointed by the Ministry of Local Authorities. Currently the project committee consists of 6 members.

History

El Maleh means "salty": its name is derived from the nearby El Maleh spring in, which is salty water. The history of El Maleh dates back to the Turkish period when Turkish people first settled it. The current residents (Daraghma family) have dwelt in the area for 50 years. They came from Tubas and Hebron in search of grazing and water as they are farmers and breed animals.

Demography and Population

In 1997, the total population of Kh El Maleh was 151 people, of which 77 were males and 74 were females. There were 25 households resident in 27 housing units (1997 census).

Age groups and gender

The data of the 1997 census reveal the classification of the population of Kh El Maleh by age groups and sex. The data showed that 50.3 % are less than 15 years old, 45.0 % are in the age group 15-64 years and 4.7 % are 65 years old and above (See table 1)

Sex	Age				Percentage
	0 -14	15 -64	65 +	Total	
Male	45	28	4	77	51.0
Female	31	40	3	74	49.0
Total	76	68	7	151	100

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

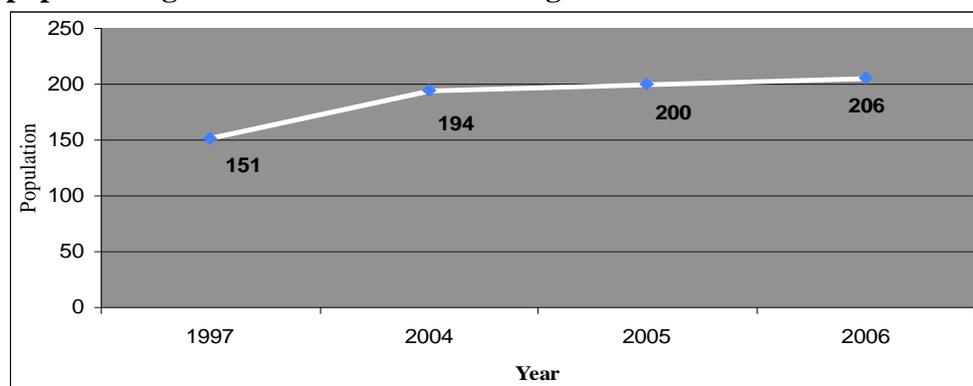
The sex ratio in the village was 104 male for every 100 females. Males constitute 51.0 % of the population and females constitute 49.0 %.

The estimated population of Kh El Maleh village is 200 by mid 2005 and in mid 2006 will increase to 206. The data in table 2 indicate that the population of Kh El Maleh grew by 32.4 % between 1997 and mid 2005 and in 2006 will increase by 3.0 % (an increase of 6 people).

Table 2: Projected population for Kh El Maleh village 2004 -2006

	1997 census	Mid-year population in		
		2004	2005	2006
Kh El Maleh	151	194	200	206

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

Figure 1: population growth in Kh El Maleh village**Families:**

The population of Kh El Maleh is comprised of four main families: Al Darawsheh 60 %, Al Zowahrea 20 %, Al Majeadah 10 % and Al Bashareaat and Bany Audeah 10%.

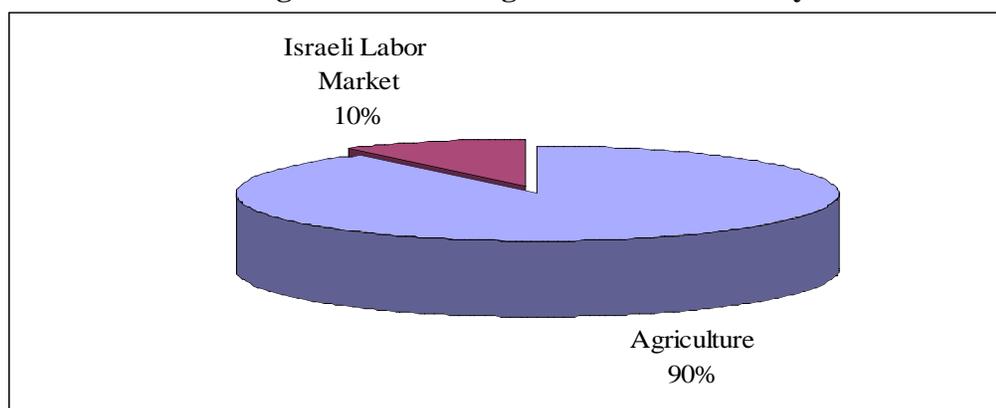
The Economy

The residents of Kh El Maleh are totally dependant on agricultural activities. 90 % of the residents raise local animals and agricultural production is the main livelihood for them and forms the main source of income. The residents depend a little on the Israeli labor market, which decreased after 2000 due to Israeli closures, and fewer workers being given permits to work inside Israel.

Labor Force Construction

In 1997, the results of the census indicate that 61.6 % of the total population participates in the labor force. Womens' participation was assessed to be 35.1 % (53 women in total). The labor force in Kh El Maleh is 93 people in total, of which 80.6 % are 'economically active' people and 19.4% are 'non-economically' active people. Of the economically active people, 100 % are employed people. The largest groups of non-economically active people are the students and those unable to work, who constitute 66.6 % and 22.2 % respectively.

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 represented in figure 2 :

Figure 2: Percentage of economic activity in Kh El Maleh

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

The average household income in Kh El Maleh has been heavily affected by the Israeli procedures since 2000. In 2000, the average household income was 1500 NIS. Today however it has declined sharply to 500 NIS; a decrease of 65 % in only four years.

Education

In the 1997 census of the education status in Kh El Maleh, results indicated that about 43.0 % of the residents were illiterate, with women (75.0 %) comprising a greater percentage of illiterates than men (25.0 %). Of the literate population, 18.3 % of residents could read and write, 26.8 % completed elementary education, 7.5 % completed preparatory education and 4.3 % completed their secondary education. Table 3 shows the education status in Kh El Maleh by sex and education attainment in 1997.

Table 3: Kh El Maleh Population (10 years and over) by sex and Educational Attainment

Sex	Illite- rate	Can read & Write	Elemen- tary	Prepa- ratory	Seco- ndary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	M A	P H D	Total
M	10	10	12	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	40
F	30	7	13	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	53
T	40	17	25	7	4	-	-	-	-	-	93

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

Until 2005 according to the field survey in Kh El Maleh there were not any educational institutions there. The students get their education in nearby villages like Tayasir and Ein el Beida. The students face many problems in their education such as the fate of other

villages where they get their education, lack of transportation to reach schools and lack of electricity in the village.

Health Status

Also Kh El Maleh has not got any health institutions; there is no maternity clinic or midwife, there is no pharmacy and medicines store. The residents get their health services from Tubas city and nearby villages. The Israeli closure and restrictions in addition to lack of transportation has increased the difficulties of residents in reaching health services in nearby villages.

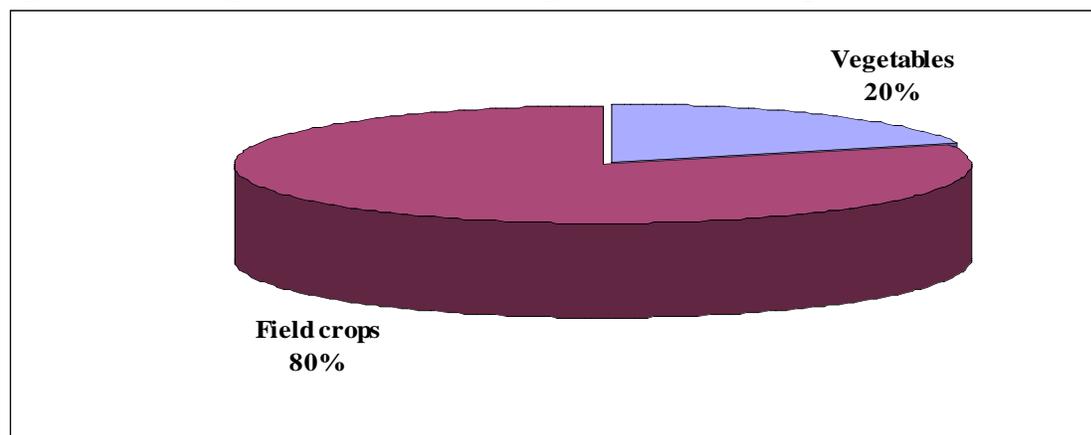
Infrastructure, Natural resources and Services

Kh El Maleh is lacking in all types of institutions and infrastructure services. There is no electricity, no water network, there is no telecommunication network and there are no other public services like transportation or solid waste or sewage management.

For water use, the residents depend on two springs near the village for both household consumption and animals.

Agriculture Sector

In spite of the availability of a large area for agriculture (12,000 dunums) in Kh El Maleh, this area is not utilized for agriculture due to shortages of funds for rehabilitation of the land and difficulties arising due to Israeli procedures and military training. As mentioned above most of the residents (90 %) depend on agricultural activities, especially raising local animals. The data of the Ministry of Agriculture indicate that the total agricultural area in Kh El Maleh is 12,000 dunums; the cultivated area has reached 6,160 dunums, of which 1200 dunums are for the cultivation of vegetables and 4940 dunumes are for the cultivation of field crops. (Ministry of Agriculture 2004)

Figure 3: Percentage of cultivated area of vegetables and field crops in Kh El Maleh.

Based on the survey conducted by ARIJ and ACH, Kh El Maleh produces 150 tons of field crops, all of the products being used for livestock consumption.

90 % of the residents of Al Farisiya village also keep livestock. Data from the Ministry of Agriculture indicate that there are 485 head of cattle: 430 goats and 4700 sheep.

Impact of Occupation Practices

Kh El Maleh is suffering heavily from Israeli procedures. In the last 30 years Israeli forces have confiscated a large area from the village for military training and military bases. The village is surrounded by Alhamamat military base from the north and Kopra checkpoint from the east. The Israeli forces routinely set up flying checkpoints on the routes of the village.

About 50 families are directly affected by Israeli procedures. The Israeli occupation destroyed one house, bulldozing and burning 500 dunums of field crops; and confiscated more agricultural lands. These procedures have a direct impact upon the essential rights of the residents, such as the right to food security and access to health and water.

Plans and Development Projects

Kh El Maleh is a rural area and has been neglected in basic infrastructure and development projects. Recently the Project committee has implemented a project to rehabilitate an agriculture cistern, funded by the Almoloniati society.

The Project committee in Kh El Maleh has set up a plan for development of the village, which includes various new projects. The developmental projects, which have been planned, are listed in table 4.

Table 4: Development plans and projects in Kh El Maleh

Project	Type	Budget
Build adequate house units for residents	Infrastructure	100,000 USD
Provide personal electric generators	Infrastructure	20,000 USD
Provide Ambulance for the village	Health	30,000 USD
Provide water resources as network, water tanks...	Water	40,000 USD
Set up Veterinary clinic	Agriculture	15,000 USD

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