

Bani Na'im Town Profile



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Background

This booklet is part of a series of booklets, which contain compiled information about each city, town, and village in Hebron Governorate. These booklets come as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Hebron 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 Azahar Needs Assessment'; a project funded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID) and the Azahar Program.

The 'Village Profiles and Azahar 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 Hebron Governorate with particular focus on the Azahar program objectives and activities concerning water, environment, and agriculture.

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 Hebron 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://proxy.arij.org/vprofile/>

Table of Contents

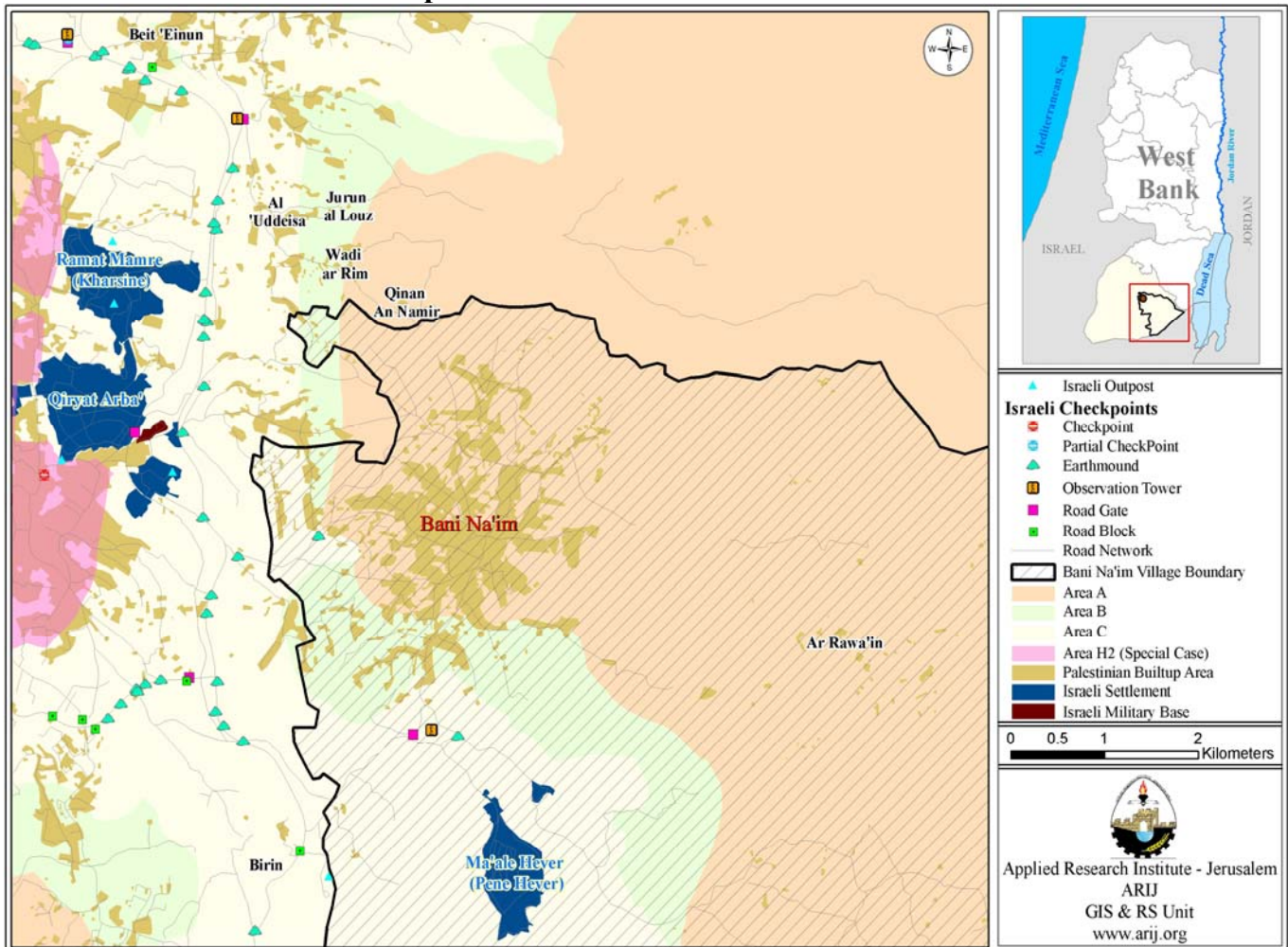
<i>Location and Physical Characteristics</i>	<u>4</u>
<i>History</i>	<u>5</u>
<i>Religious and Archaeological Sites</i>	<u>5</u>
<i>Population</i>	<u>7</u>
<i>Education</i>	<u>7</u>
<i>Health Status</i>	<u>9</u>
<i>Economic Activities</i>	<u>10</u>
<i>Agricultural Sector</i>	<u>12</u>
<i>Institutions and Services</i>	<u>14</u>
<i>Infrastructure and Natural Resources</i>	<u>15</u>
<i>Impact of the Israeli Occupation</i>	<u>16</u>
<i>Implemented Development Plans and Projects</i>	<u>16</u>
<i>Locality Development Priorities and Needs</i>	<u>17</u>
<i>References</i>	<u>18</u>

Bani Na'im Town Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Bani Na'im is a town in Hebron Governorate located seven km east of Hebron City in the southern part of the West Bank. It is bordered by Ar Rawa'in areas (مسافر بني نعيم) to the east, Sa'ir and Ash Shuyukh towns to the north, Hebron City to the west, and Yatta town to the south (See map 1).

Map 1: Bani Na'im location and borders



Bani Na'im extends over a mountainous area east of Hebron Mountains at an elevation of 958 m above sea level. The mean annual rainfall in Bani Na'im town is 369 mm, the average annual temperature is 16° C, and the average annual humidity is 61 % (ARIJ GIS).

According to the Bani Na'im Municipality, Bani Na'im includes following localities: Bani Na'im, Birin, Ar Rawa'in and Masaferet Bani Na'im. In addition, Masaferet Bani Na'im already includes ten other small localities: Mantiqat Al Ein, Mantiqat As Sahel, Mantiqat Qaber K'heil, Mantiqat Hilmi, Mantiqat Al Hamra, Mantiqat AL qurun, Mantiqat Al Mathbah, Mantiqat As Sweidat, Mantiqat Um Ar Raqam and Khor 'Atara.

A village council managed the affairs of Bani Na'im town until mid 1997. At that time, a decision by the Ministry of Local Governorate in the Palestinian Authority transferred the responsibilities to a municipal council. In 2005, a new council was elected comprised of 13 members with 30 paid employees that directs municipality affairs, which include:

1. Administration, planning and development, organizing and issuing building licenses;
2. Infrastructural maintenance of water, electricity, solid waste collection, open and paving roads and distribution of social services.

History

Bani Na'im is an ancient town dating back to the Romanian period. At that time, it was known as Kafr Brukha (كفر بروخا). (Arraf, 1996) However, during the Islamic era, the name was misrepresented as Kafr Breek (كفر بريك). And when Bani Na'im tribe settled south Palestine, the town became known as Bani Na'im until our day. (Ad Dabbagh, 1991)

Photo of Bani Na'im Town

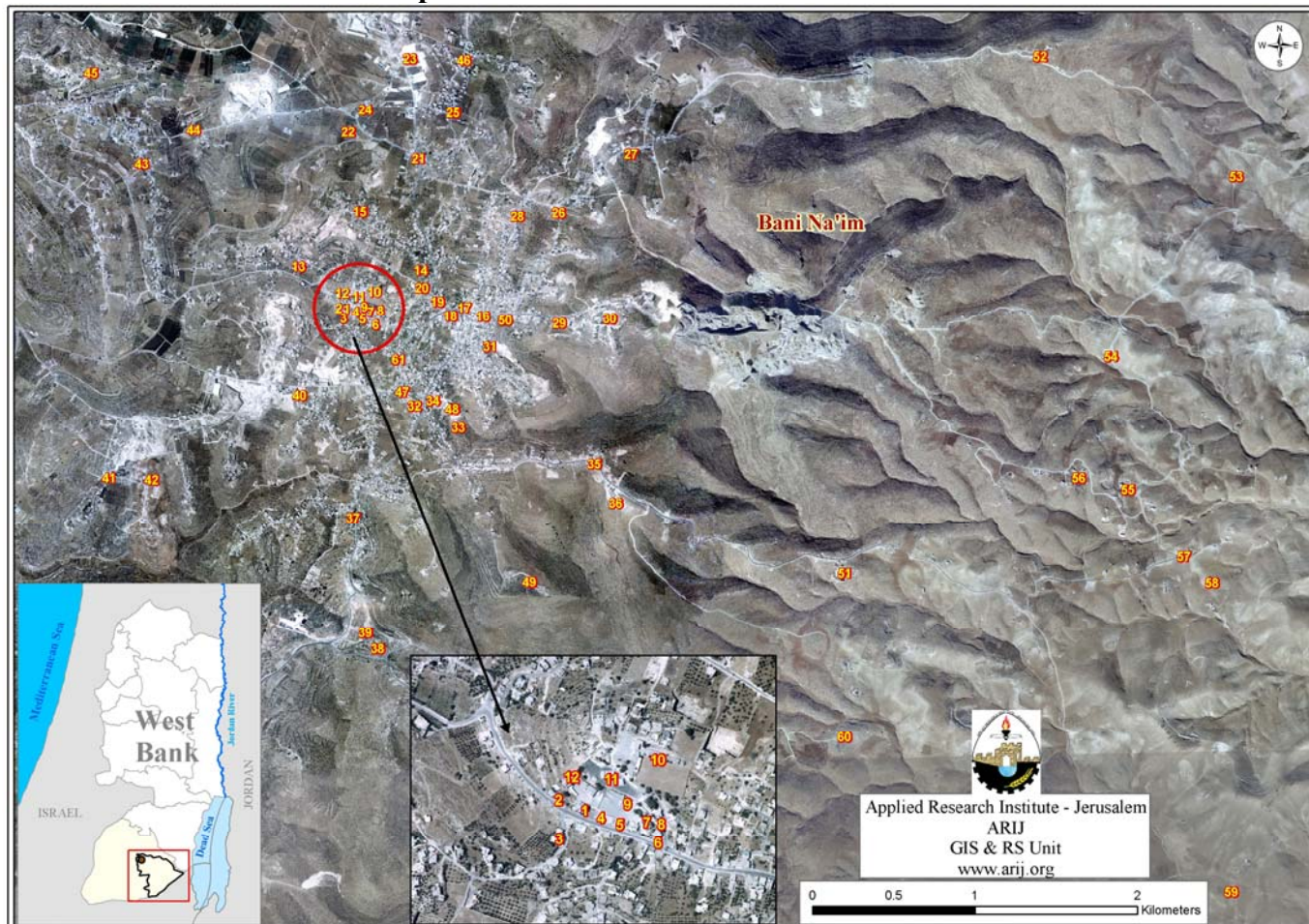


Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are various mosques and shrines in Bani Na'im town, such as Yaqin Shrine. There are also nine mosques throughout the town: As S'haba Mosque, Arabiya Mosque, At Taqwa Mosque, Abu Bakr al Seddik Mosque, Al Mohajerin Mosque, Belal bin Rabah Mosque, Lot Mosque, Al Qassam mosque and Ash Shuhada' Mosque.

A historical castle, Qasser Site, is located in the town, though is not utilized for recreational or tourist purposes. (See map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Bani Na'im town



No.	Locations	No.	Locations	No.	Locations	No.	Locations
1	Municipal	17	Town Center	33	Sahaba Elementary School	49	Cemetery
2	Police Station	18	Bani Na'im Girls Secondary School	34	Sahaba Mosque	50	Cemetery in the Old Town
3	Births Particular Hospital	19	Old Municipality	35	Al Rahman Mosque	51	Park and Nursery of the Charitable Society
4	Services Complex	20	New Reservoir	36	Reservoir Water Authority	52	Municipality of Bani Na'im Park
5	Red Crescent Center	21	Arabia Triangle	37	Yakyin Elementary Co-Education School	53	Swedes Wells
6	Government Clinic	22	Abdullah bin Masood School	38	Makam Yakyin	54	Al A'sear Wells
7	Taqwa Mosque	23	Industrial	39	Yakyin Reservoir	55	Kouachim Wells
8	Club	24	Private Park	40	Abu Baker Mosque	56	The Ain Village
9	Taqwa School	25	Arabia Elementary Co-Education School & Mosque	41	Khallet Al Warda Garden Children	57	Ain Village Mosque
10	Bani Na'im Boys Secondary School	26	Martyrs School	42	Izz al Din al Qassam Mosque	58	Badia School
11	French School	27	Khallet Al Louza Mosque	43	Khallet Abu Beada Mosque	59	Badia Mosque
12	Taqwa Girls Elementary School	28	Bilal bin Rabah Mosque	44	Garden Bani Na'im Charitable Society	60	Al Qasar Site
13	Omar bin Al Khattab Mosque	29	Trayra Mosque	45	Shuhada' Al Harm al Ibrahime School	61	Bani Na'im Women Society
14	Al Mhajren Mosque	30	Al Canady Boys Elementary School	46	Industrial Mosque		
15	Martyrs Mosque	31	Red Crescent School for the Deaf & Mute	47	Charitable Society		
16	Loot Mosque	32	Musa bin Nusair School	48	Al Rabat Elementary School		

Population

According to the second Census implemented in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in 2007 by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Bani Na'im town was 20,301 people, of whom 20,084 people were living in Bani Na'im and 217 living in Masaferet Bani Na'im. There were 3,106 households resident in 3,490 housing units. Table 1 shows the population of Bani Na'im town by locality and sex in 2007.

Locality	Male	Female	Total
Bani Na'im	10,074	10,010	20,084
Masaferet Bani Na'im.	96	121	217
Total	10,170	10,131	20,301

Source: PCBS 2008, Population, Housing and establishment Census -2007, Final Results

The population of Bani Na'im town constituted about 3.67% of the total population of Hebron Governorate, and it was considered an urban area.

Age Group and Gender

The 2007 Census showed the distribution of the Bani Na'im population by age group and sex, the largest age group was between 15-64 years, which constituted 50.1% of the total population, followed by the 0-14 age groups which constituted 46.9%, and the age group 65 and above, which constituted 3% of the total population. The sex ratio in the town was 100.6 males for every 100 females, a narrow percentage difference of 50.2% males to 49.8% females.

Families

There are many families living in Bani Naim, such as Al Manasrah, Zidan, Trayrah, Humeidat, Harahsheh, Ubeid, Amr, and others.

Education

According to the 2007 Population Census, 7.8% of Bani Na'im's residents were illiterate, of whom 72.1% were women. Of the literate population, 16.1% of the residents could read and write, 27.4% had completed elementary education, 27.3% had completed preparatory education, 14.1% completed their secondary education and 7.3% had associate diploma or bachelor degrees. Table 2 shows the education status in Bani Na'im by sex and education attainment in 2007.

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Not Stated	Total
M	288	1,081	2,081	1,763	864	156	336	3	28	12	4	6,616
F	746	1,038	1,532	1,838	998	169	243	-	8	3	3	6,578
T	1,034	2,119	3,613	3,601	1,862	325	579	3	36	15	7	13,194

Source: PCBS, 2009. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, Final Results

ARIJ field survey data from 2007 indicated that there are three levels of education in Bani Na'im town: pre-school (kindergartens), elementary and secondary education. There were 14 schools in 2007, of which seven schools for males, 5 schools for females and 2 were for coeducation. The government supervised twelve schools and two were privately supervised. The number of schools by name, stage, sex and supervising authority is shown in Table 3 and map 2.

No.	School Name	Stage	Sex	Supervising Authority
1.	Bani Na'im Boys Secondary School	Secondary	Males	Governmental
2.	Bani Na'im Boys Elementary School	Elementary	Males	Governmental
3.	Musa bin Nasir Boys Elementary School (A)	Elementary	Males	Governmental
4.	Musa bin Nusair Boys Elementary School (B)	Elementary	Males	Governmental
5.	Al Kandi Boys Elementary School	Elementary	Males	Governmental
6.	At Taqwa Boys Elementary School	Elementary	Males	Governmental
7.	Bani Na'im Girls Secondary School	Secondary	Females	Governmental
8.	Bani Na'im Girls Elementary School	Elementary	Females	Governmental
9.	Shuhada' Bani Na'im Girls Elementary School	Elementary	Females	Governmental
10.	As S'haba Girls Elementary School	Elementary	Females	Governmental
11.	Arabia Elementary Co-educational school	Elementary	Co-education	Governmental
12.	Yaqin Elementary Co-educational school	Elementary	Co-education	Governmental
13.	Abdullah bin Mas'oud Elementary School	Elementary	Males	Private
14.	Al Rebat Elementary School	Elementary	Female	Private

Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) statistics revealed that during the 2006/2007 scholastic year there were 186 classes, 5,974 students and 246 teachers in Bani Na'im town (See Table 4).

		Government	Private	Total
Male	No. of Schools	6	1	7
	No. of class	72	14	86
	No. of Teachers	95	20	115
	No. of Students	2299	446	2745
Female	No. of Schools	4	1	5
	No. of class	73	9	82
	No. of Teachers	97	12	109
	No. of Students	2519	277	2796
Co-education	No. of Schools	2	-	2
	No. of class	18	-	18
	No. of Teachers	22	-	22
	No. of Students	433	-	433

Source: Ministry of Higher Education –Hebron Directorate -2006/2007

In the 2006/2007 scholastic year, there were two kindergartens in Bani Na'im. These kindergartens provided pre-school education services to 420 children. Table 5 shows the number of kindergartens by name, number of children and supervising authority.

No.	Kindergarten Name	Number of Classes	Number of Children	Number of Teachers	Supervising Authority
1.	Bani Na'im Society Kindergarten	11	370	12	Charitable Society
2.	A Sbeah Kindergarten	2	50	2	Private

Source: ARIJ database, 2006

The municipality officials cite that the town suffers from a shortage of classrooms, in addition to the generally poor condition of school buildings.

Health Status

The main health facilities in the town are private sector initiatives, according to town data, which lists the Bani Na'im private obstetrical hospital, five private clinics, three private dental clinics and a private physiotherapy center as health services available in the town. However, a mother and childcare centre and a medical lab were two facilities that exist in the town and are run by the Ministry of Health. In addition, there are a health centre and X- Ray centre run by a charitable society. In the town, there are five pharmacies and one ambulance. Table 6 shows the number of health institutions in Bani Na'im town.

Table 6: Number of health institutions in Bani Na'im by supervising authority

Institution	Governmental	Private	Charitable	NGO
Maternity Hospital	-	1	-	-
Physician Clinic	-	5	1	-
Dental Clinic	-	3	-	-
Health Clinic	-	-	1	1
X- Ray Centre	-	-	-	1
Medical Lab	1	-	-	1
Maternity & Pediatric Center	1	-	-	-
Pharmacy	-	5	-	-
Other (Physiotherapy)	-	1	-	-
Total	2	15	2	3

Source: ARIJ database, 2006

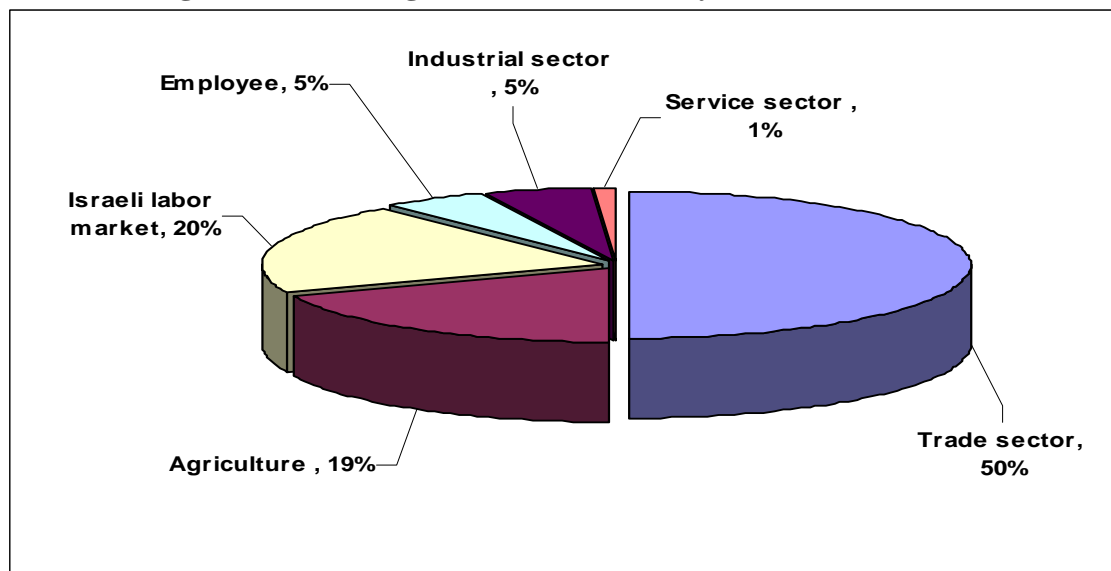
The residents of the town travel to Hebron City (seven km from the town) for treatment in emergency cases. In addition to the negative effects of Israeli closures, Bani Na'im health services suffer from a lack of needed and necessary medical equipment, medicine, clinics, and well-trained medical staff.

Economic Activities

Bani Na'im is a vibrant town in Hebron Governorate for commerce and many residents trade in carpets and used goods. According to municipality data, approximately 50% of residents are engaged in commerce, trading their goods throughout the West Bank.

The municipality collected the data listed below in 2007, showing the share of the population working in various sectors of economy by percentage:

- Trade and Commercial Sector, 50%
- Israeli Labor Market, 20%
- Agricultural Sector, 19%
- Employee in Governmental or Private institutions, 5%
- Industrial Sector, 5%
- Service Sector, 1%

Figure 1: Percentage of economic activity in Bani Na'im town

Bani Na'im town has a market and industrial zone, which includes four stone cutters, one brick factory, one sewing industry (tailors), an olive press, eleven blacksmith workshops, four carpentries, seven butcheries, thirteen clothing stores, eighty-five shops and groceries, and twenty-five other services stores.

With the increase in movement restrictions by Israeli authorities and the decline in market demand (contributing to a slow down in the stone-cutting industry and trading goods), the economic status of Bani Na'im's residents has significantly deteriorated, as many have lost their source of income and most are unemployed. Consequently, many unemployed people have turned into cultivating their lands and agricultural activities as a last resort to keep a limited source of income.

Based on ARIJ survey in 2007, the percentage of unemployment in Bani Na'im town reached 30%. The survey indicated that the social groups most affected in the town by the Israeli restrictions during the second Intifada were:

1. Small holding traders
2. Previous workers in the Israeli labour and markets
3. Families with six individuals and more
4. Small holding farmers
5. Housekeeping and children .

Labor Force

The 2007 Population Census showed that about 65% of Bani Na'im population were within the working age group of 10 years and above. Out of the 13,194 people of working age, 4,151 (31.5%) were economically active (in the labor force) and 9,034 people (68.5%) were not economically active (outside the labour force). Of the economically active population, 89.4%

were males and 10.6% were females. By labor force status 86.6% were employed, 6% were unemployed and 7.4% were unemployed and had never worked. The largest groups of the non-economically active were students and housekeepers persons, who constituted 53.9% and 36% of the non-economically active population respectively. Table 7 shows the labor force statistics from Bani Na'im town in 2007.

Table 7: Bani Na'im population (10 years and above) by sex and employment status-2007

Sex	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Not Stated	Total
	Employed	Currently Unemployed	Unemployed (Never Worked)	Total	Students	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking For Work	Other	Total		
M	3,232	226	252	3,710	2,378	6	384	47	84	2,899	7	6,616
F	365	14	62	441	2,489	3,234	341	3	68	6,135	2	6,578
T	3,597	240	314	4,151	4,867	3,240	725	50	152	9,034	9	13,194

Source: PCBS, May 2009. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, results

Agricultural Sector

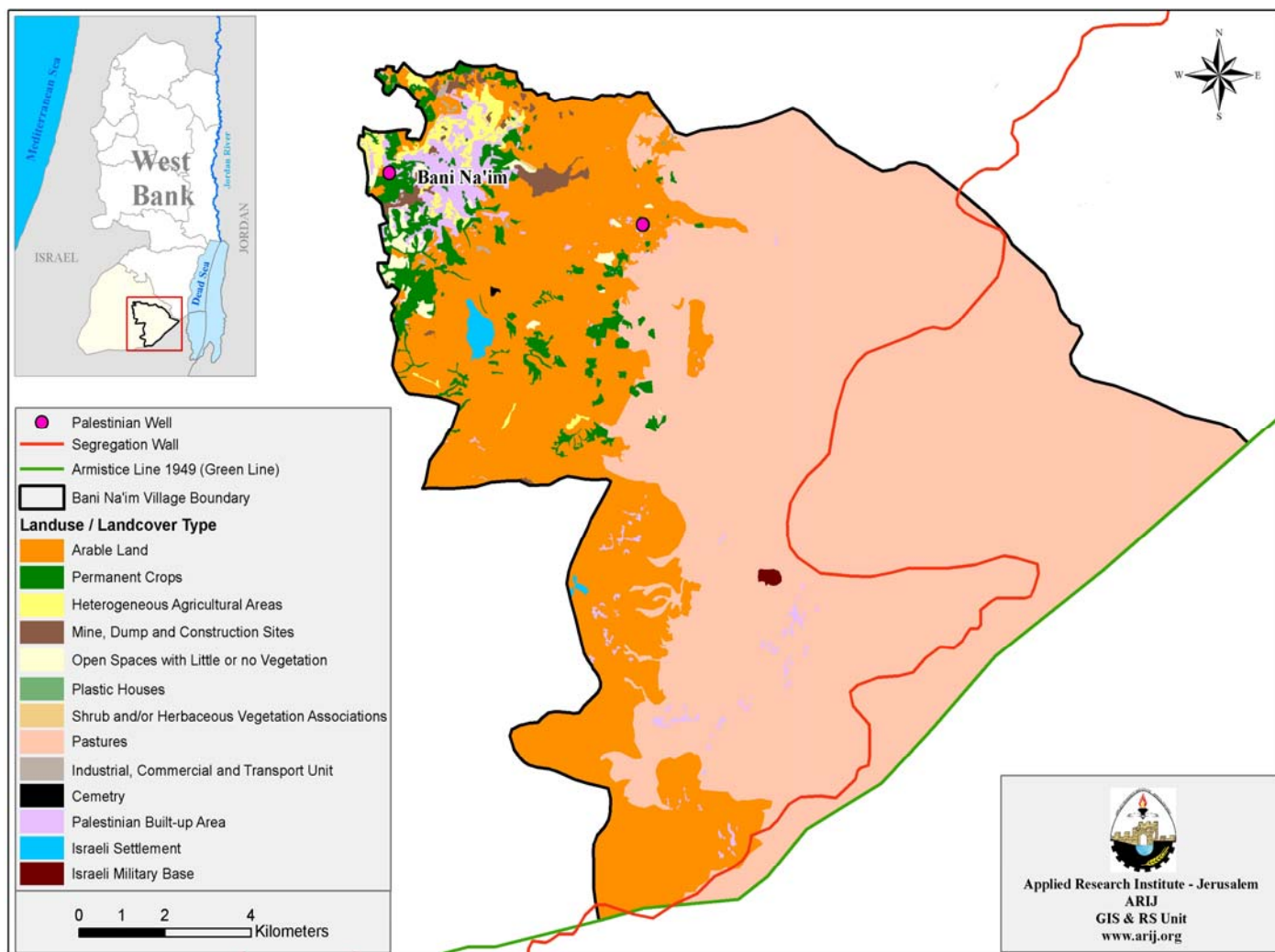
The total area of Bani Na'im town is 157,000 dunums. Arable lands constitute 71,000 dunums, of which 19,700 dunums are cultivated. The forest area in the town equals 600 dunums, while the open spaces and rangeland area are about 82,900 dunums. The town has a master plan of 8,000 dunums. (See Table 8 and map3)

Table 8: Land Use in Bani Na'im Town (dunum)

Total Area	Arable Land		Built up Area	Forests Area	Open Spaces and Rangelands
	Cultivated Area	Uncultivated Area			
157,000	19,700	51,300	2,500	600	82,900

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agricultural (MoA), 2006

Map 3: Land Use/ Land Cover and Segregation Wall route in Bani Na'im town



In Bani Na'im, there are seven dunums of greenhouses planted with tomatoes and summer cucumber. There are no tunnels in Bani Na'im town.

Table 9 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in the town of Bani Na'im. The rain-fed fruity vegetables are the most cultivated, covering an area of about 24 dunums, in addition to the irrigated leafy vegetables, which cover an area equal to 25 dunums. The most common fruity vegetables cultivated within this area are tomatoes and snake cucumber, while cabbage is the most commonly cultivated leafy vegetable.

Table 9: Total area of rain fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Bani Na'im Town (dunum)

Fruity vegetables		Leafy vegetable		Green legumes		Bulbs		Other vegetables		Total	
Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.
24	0	1	25	2	5	0	0	3	0	30	30

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

A total area of 3,315 dunums is planted with olive trees in Bani Na'im. Other trees planted in the area are mostly nuts trees, grape vines and fig trees.

Table 10: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Bani Na'im Town (dunum)

Olives Trees		Stone-Fruits Trees		Pome Fruits Trees		Nuts Trees		Other fruit Trees		Total area	
Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.
3,315	0	316	0	56	0	902	0	963	0	5,552	0

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Table 11 shows the total area of field crops cultivated in the town of Bani Na'im. Cereals, barley in particular, are the most cultivated crops covering an area of about 14,270 dunums. In addition, the residents of Bani Na'im town cultivate chick-peas and lentils.

Table 11 Total area of field crops in Bani Na'im Town (dunum)

Cereals		Bulbs		Dry legumes		Forage Crops		Stimulating Crops		other crops		Total	
Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.
14,270	0	40	0	2,335	0	1,000	0	15	0	3	0	17,663	0

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

The survey data indicates that Bani Na'im residents' rear livestock and approximately 10% also breed domestic animals. There are 144 cows, 7,000 goats, 14,000 sheep, and 500 beehives in the town, as shown in Table 12.

Table 12: Livestock in Bani Na'im Town

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Horses	Donkeys	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
144	14,000	7,000	5	70	350,000	-----	500

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

There are 115 km of agricultural roads in Bani Na'im, and though suitable for driving agricultural machinery and vehicles, they are generally considered insufficient. The Israeli Occupation Forces destroyed 500 olive trees and 800 almond trees belonging to Bani Na'im residents since the beginning of the second Intifada.

Municipal officials cite that the agricultural sector suffers from an insufficient supply of water and agricultural equipment, lack of capital and weakness of the domestic market. There are two agricultural societies that are active in the town: Livestock Society and Bani Na'im Society.

Institutions and Services

Due to its small size, most Bani Na'im residents receive official services from Hebron City, as it is the main city in the Governorate. However, there is a post office in the town, as well as a police station and security office. Listed below are also other official local institutions in Bani Na'im:

1. Bani Na'im Municipality: Established in 1997, it provides public services to residents.

2. Bani Na'im Charitable Society
3. Islamic Charitable Society
4. Cultural Forum
5. Bani Na'im Women Society
6. Red Crescent Society

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

- **Telecommunication Services:** Bani Na'im town is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 80% of the households have a telephone connection.
- **Water Services:** In 1980, Bani Na'im connected to a water network and nearly 75% of housing units are currently connected to it. The water is provided by the Palestinian Water Authority, which purchases it from the Israeli Water Company (MEKROT). Alternative water sources include cisterns, tanks and four wells in the town, in addition to a water reservoir with a 500 cubic meter capacity. Bani Na'im town suffers from many water services issues including:
 1. Water shortage during the summer;
 2. No water accessibility in the higher altitudes in the town;
 3. Insufficient water reservoir.
- **Electricity Services:** Bani Na'im connected to the electricity network in 1994 and approximately 85% of housing units are currently connected. Bani Na'im municipality manages the distribution of electricity, which is supplied by the Israeli National Electricity Company, Al Qutriya. Some of the areas within the town boundaries suffer from weak electrical current.
- **Sewage Disposal Facilities:** The sewage disposal system in Bani Na'im is chronically underfunded. There is no sewage disposal network, and the bulk of domestic and wastewater is discharged and disposed in cesspits.
- **Solid Waste Collection:** Bani Na'im municipality manages solid waste in Bani Na'im by the daily collection of solid wastes from residential areas and transportation by the municipality's own garbage car of these wastes to a dumping site located two km away. According to the field survey data, around 20 tons of solid wastes are generated daily. Burning is the main method used to dispose of the collected solid waste.
- **Transportation Services:** Transportation in the town consists of six buses and one taxi office. The 200 km of roads in Bani Na'im town are classified by: 60 km of paved roads in good condition (of which 30 km are main roads, 20 km are internal roads and 10 km are agricultural roads); 20 km are paved roads in poor condition (10 km are main roads, 5 km are internal roads and 5 km are agricultural roads); and 120 km are unpaved roads (20 km are internal roads and 100 km are agricultural). The main obstacles facing transportation of passengers in the town include:

1. The presence of road blocks and earth mounds built by the Israeli Occupation Forces
2. Shortage of vehicles and transportation services

Table 13: The condition of roads and their length in Bani Na'im Town			
Road Condition	Length of Roads (km)		
	Main Roads	Internal Roads	Agricultural Roads
Paved (in good condition)	30	20	10
Paved (in bad condition)	10	5	5
Unpaved	-	20	100
Total	40	45	115

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Since the outbreak of the Second Intifada in September 2000, a total area of 1,000 dunums of Bani Na'im lands have been confiscated by the Israeli Forces. To the southeast, Bani Na'im town is surrounded by the Israeli settlement Pene Hever, while also being subjected to one permanent checkpoint, one roadblock, and one iron gate. These checkpoints place restrictions on residents' movements, making it difficult to access health services in other localities, hindering physicians in reaching clinics and health centres, interfering with teachers and students in accessing schools and universities, as well as limiting farmers' access to their lands and crops.

Implemented Development Plans and Projects

Bani Na'im municipality has established a plan for development projects; 21 such projects have been implemented by the municipality by utilizing external funding since 2004.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

According to Bani Na'im municipality studies, the town has been suffering from a shortage of many infrastructural services. Table 14 shows the development priorities and needs in the town.

Table 14: Locality Development Priorities and Needs in Bani Na'im Town						
No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Moderately Needed	Not Needed	Notes
Infrastructural Needs						
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads		*			130 km [^]
2	Construction of New Water Networks		*			10 km
3	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks		*			5 km
4	Construction of Water Reservoirs		*			500 m ³
5	Extending the Water Network to cover New Built up Areas		*			5 km
6	Construction of Sewage Disposal Network		*			
Health Needs						
1	Building of New Clinics or Health Care Centre	*				
2	Rehabilitation of Old Clinics or Health Care Centres				*	
3	Purchasing of Medical Equipments and Tools	*				
Educational Needs						
1	Building of New Schools		*			Elementary
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools	*				Elementary secondary
3	Purchasing of New Equipments for Schools		*			
Agricultural Needs						
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural lands	*				10,000 dunums
2	Building Cisterns	*				100 cisterns
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock		*			100
4	Veterinary Services	*				
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*				
6	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses				*	
7	Field Crops Seeds	*				
8	Plants and Agricultural Supplies	*				

[^] 10 km main roads, 15 km internal roads, and 105 km agricultural roads

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