

Beit Iksa 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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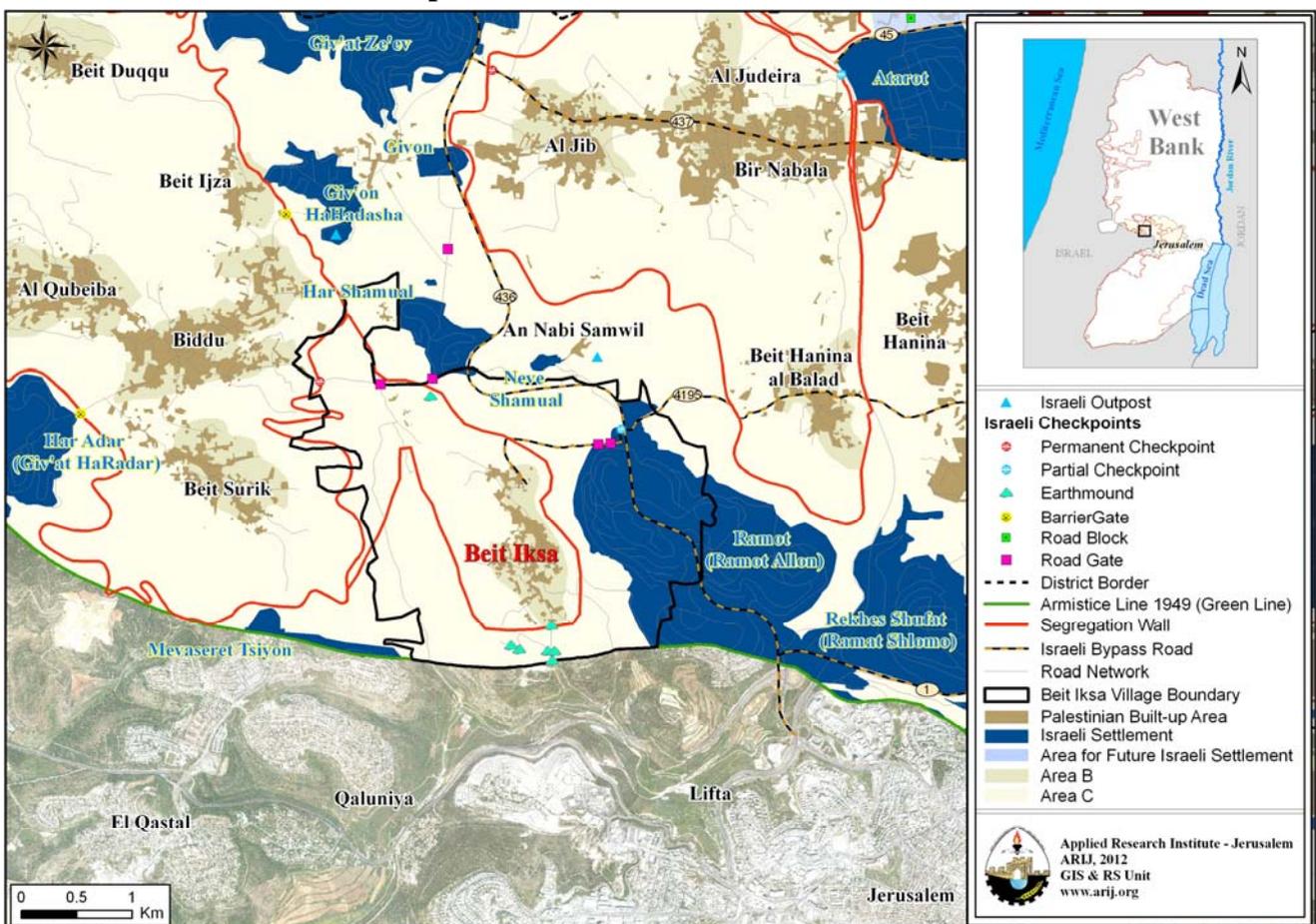
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Beit Iksa Village Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Beit Iksa is a Palestinian village in Jerusalem Governorate located (horizontally) 6.5km north-west of Jerusalem City. It is bordered by Beit Hanina al Balad and Shu'fat villages' lands to the east, An Nabi Samwil village to the north, Beit Surik town to the west, and the occupied lands of Lifta village (1948) to the south (ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012) (See map 1).

Map 1: Beit Iksa location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012

Beit Iksa is located at an altitude of 747m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 595mm. The average annual temperature is 16 °C and the average annual humidity is approximately 60.4% (ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012).

Since 1964, Beit Iksa has been governed by a village council, which is currently administrated by 6 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority. The Village Council owns a permanent

headquarters and a vehicle for the collection of solid waste. It also possesses a tractor and water and electricity maintenance devices (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of Beit Iksa, including (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010):

- Establishing and maintaining the drinking water network.
- Solid waste collection, road construction, pavement and rehabilitation, street cleaning and social development services.
- Protecting historical and archeological sites.
- Implementing projects and case studies for the village.
- Organizing the processes of construction and license issuing.
- Providing means of transportation.
- Constructing and managing kindergartens.
- Protecting governmental properties.
- Constructing schools of all levels.

History

A supply and clothing store for the armies of Saladin existed in Beit Iksa, and so the village was named Beit Iksa ('house of clothing'). Beit Iksa village is a very old village and its date of establishment is unknown. The earliest residents of the village are thought to have come to the area as part of Saladin's efforts to liberate Jerusalem (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010) (See photo below for Beit Iksa village).

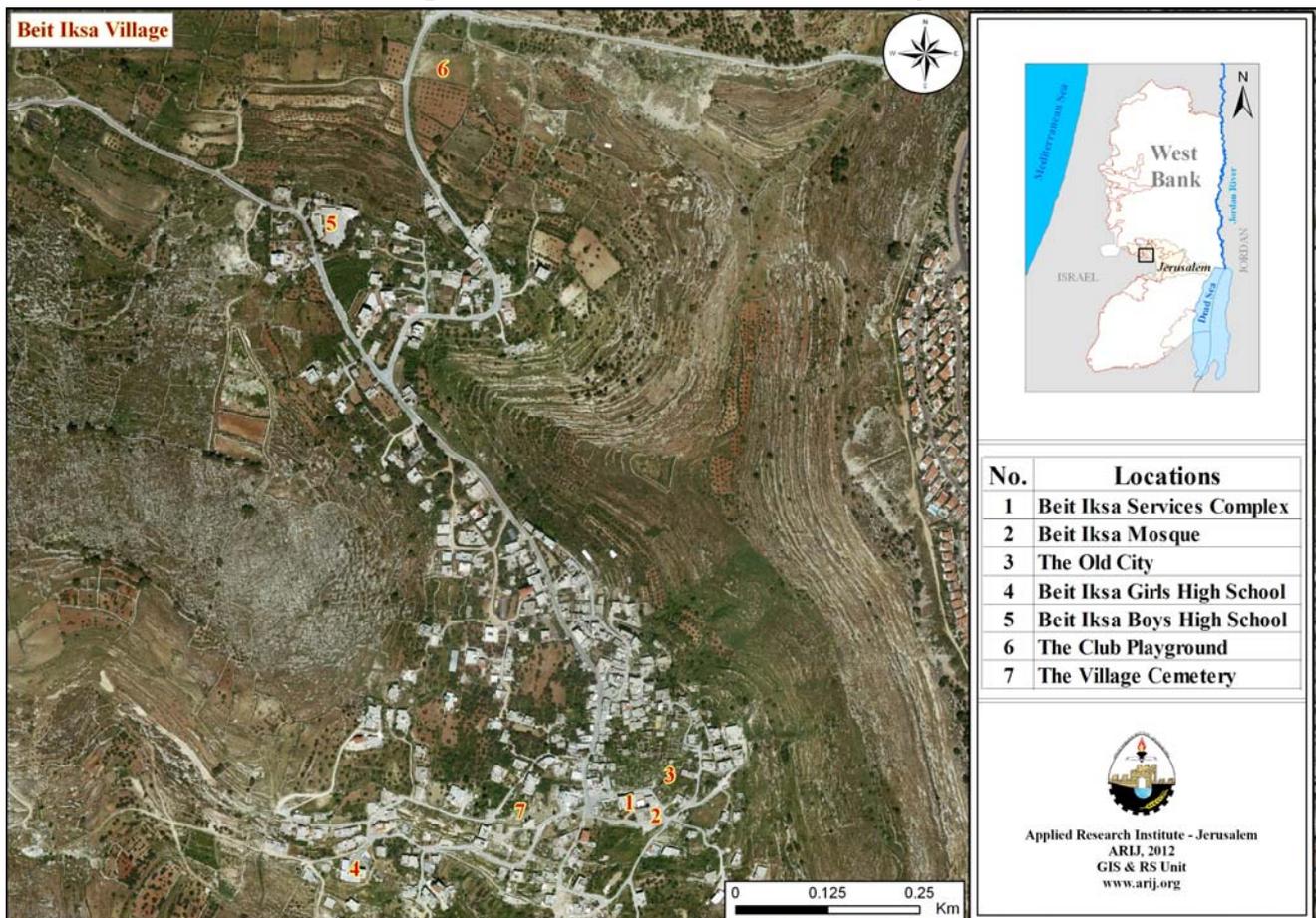
Photo 1: Beit Iksa village



Religious and Archaeological Sites

There is one mosque in the village, Ash Sheikh Taym Mosque. There are several sites of archaeological interest in the village: a historic castle called 'Alali Abd al Qader, and two ruined sites; Khirbet Samri and Khirbet Al 'Alawnah (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010). Additionally, there are Khirbet al Burj (meaning tower) which contains the remains of a tower and a tomb, and Khirbet al Louza which contains the ruins of an inn and a pool (Al Dabbagh, 1991) (See Map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Beit Iksa Village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Beit Iksa in 2007 was 1,708, of whom 868 were male and 840 female. There were 362 households living in 424 housing units.

Age Groups and Gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by PCBS in 2007 showed the distribution of age groups in Beit Iksa was as follows: 34.7% were less than 15 years old, 45.4% between 15 - 64 years of age, and 3% 65 years of age or older. Data additionally showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the village is 103.3:100, meaning that males and females constituted 50.8% and 49.2% of the population respectively.

Families

Beit Iksa residents are from several families, mainly the Abd al Wahhab, Hamayel, Zayed, Muhammad and Al 'Etyaniyah families (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

Immigration

The field survey conducted by ARIJ showed that around 400 people have left the village since Al Aqsa Intifada in 2000 (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate among Beit Iksa population was approximately 5.2%, of whom 83% were females. Of the literate population, 9.4% could only read and write with no formal education 17.8% had elementary education, 33.8% had preparatory education, 17.4% had secondary education, and 16% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Beit Iksa by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: Beit Iksa population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment, 2007

Sex	Illite- rate	Can read & write	Elem- entary	Prepa- ratory	Second- ary	Associate Diploma	Bach- elor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Un- known	Total
M	9	50	88	193	83	31	37	-	9	1	1	502
F	44	45	93	150	94	49	37	-	-	-	1	513
T	53	95	181	343	177	80	74	-	9	1	2	1,015

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are 2 public schools in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) (see Table 2) (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

Table 2: The Schools in Beit Iksa by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Beit Iksa Girls High School	Government	Females
Beit Iksa Boys High School	Government	Males

Source: Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011

In the village there are 488 students, 41 teachers, and 24 classes (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011). The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 12, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 20 (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

There is one local kindergarten, Beit Iksa Charitable Society Kindergarten, which is run by a private body. The kindergarten was responsible for 78 children in 2011 (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

The schools face difficulties due to the Israeli occupation, primarily a checkpoint at the entrance to the village which hinders the access of teachers from outside the village (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

Health Status

There are very few health centers available in Beit Iksa village: a governmental health center, a private physician clinic and a private medical laboratory. In case of the absence of required health services and in emergencies, residents of Beit Iksa go to Al Amal Center, the Medical Relief Center or the Red Crescent Clinic, all located in Biddu town around 3km from Beit Iksa (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

The health sector in the village faces many obstacles and problems, mainly (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010):

1. The lack of a resident physician in the village.
2. The lack of an ambulance.
3. The lack of a radiology center.
4. The lack of a dental clinic.
5. The lack of specialized doctors in the village.

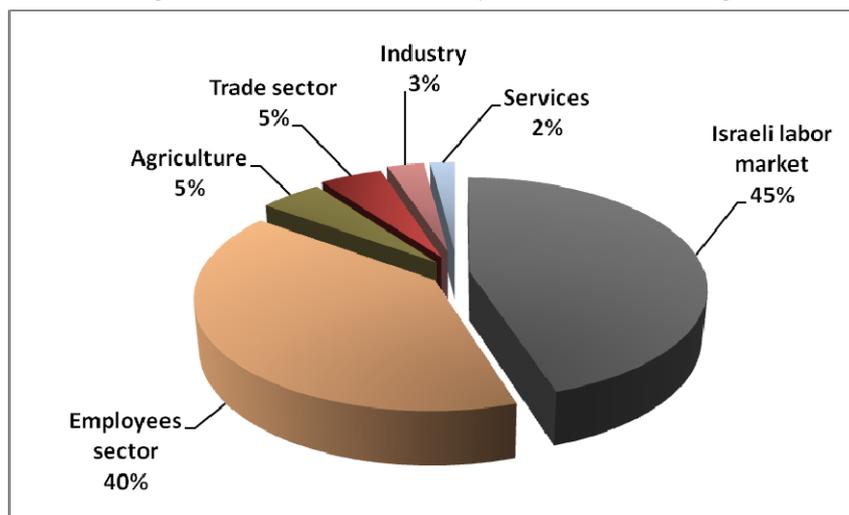
Economic Activities

The economy in Beit Iksa is dependent on several economic sectors, mainly the Israeli labor market, which absorbs 45% of the workforce (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010) (See Figure1).

A field survey conducted by ARIJ in 2010 showed that the distribution of labor by economic activity in Beit Iksa is as follows:

- Israeli labor market (45%)
- Government or private employees sector (40%)
- Agriculture sector (5%)
- Trade sector (5%)
- Industry (3%)
- Services sector (2%)

Figure 1: Economic activity in Beit Iksa village



Source: Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010

In terms of commercial and industrial productions in Beit Iksa village, there are 9 grocery stores, 2 different services stores (hair-dressers) and 3 professional workshops (carpentries) (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

The unemployment rate in Beit Iksa has reached around 20% in 2010 (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010), and it was found that the social groups most affected in the village as a result of Israeli restrictions and procedures are (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010):

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

Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census (2007), 32.5% of Beit Iksa's labor force was economically active, of whom 88.5% were employed, and 67.3% were not economically active, of whom 51.2% were students and 37.2% were housekeepers (See table 3).

Table 3: Beit Iksa population (10 years and above) by sex and employment status-2007

SEX	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Un-known	Total
	Employed	Currently Un-employed	Un-employed (Never worked)	Total	Students	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking for work	Other	Total		
M	240	18	15	273	181	2	25	16	3	227	2	502
F	52	1	4	57	169	252	34	-	1	456	-	513
T	292	19	19	330	350	254	59	16	4	683	2	1,015

Source: PCBS, 2009.

Agricultural Sector

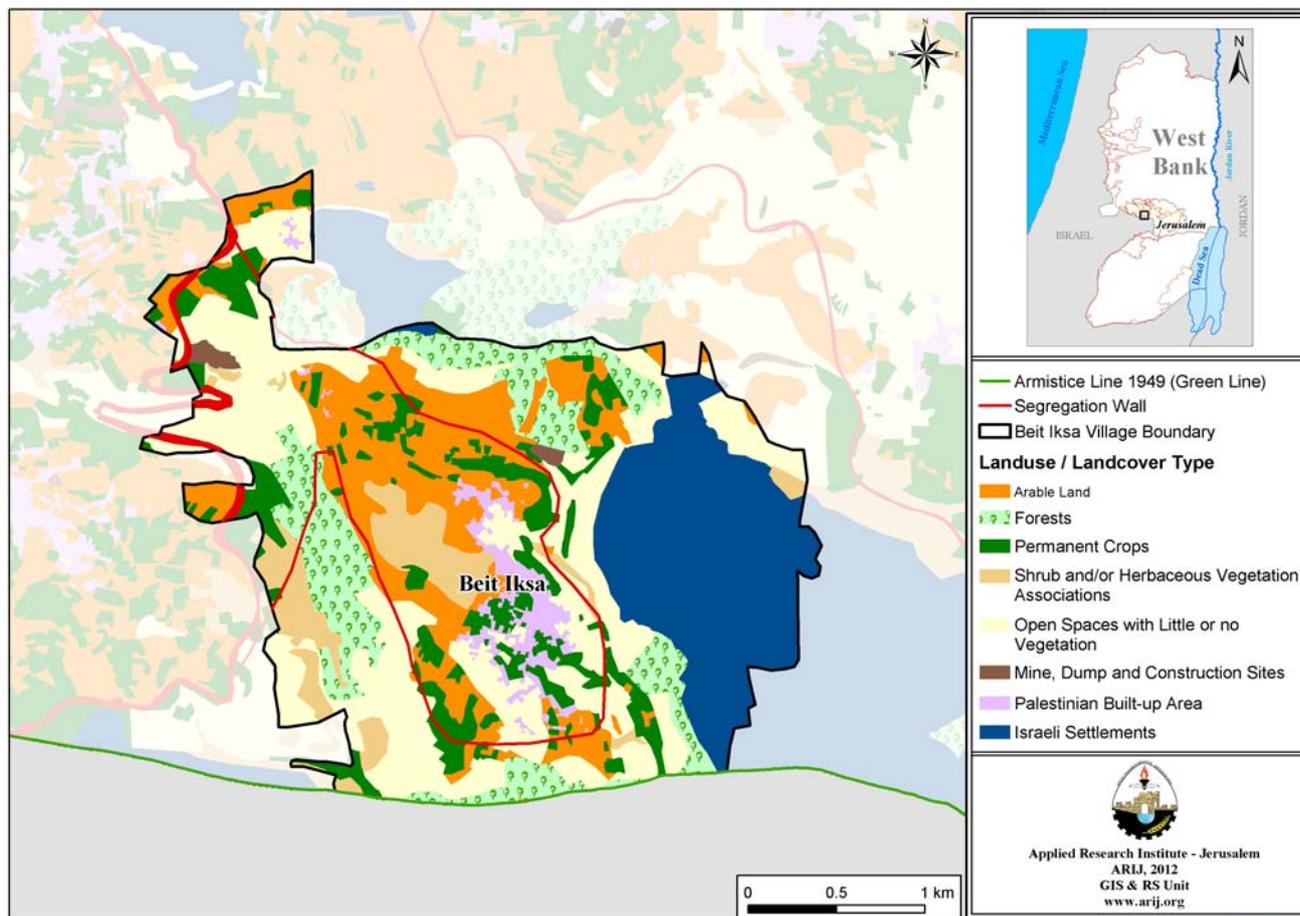
Beit Iksa has a total area of around 7,989 dunums of which 2,849 are considered 'arable' land and 257 dunums are registered as 'residential' (See table 4 and map 3).

Table 4: Land use and land cover in Beit Iksa village in 2010 (area in dunum)

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (2,849)				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					
7,989	257	894	0	567	1,388	0	1,008	2,205	43	1,629

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2012.

Map 3: Land use/land cover in Beit Iksa village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

Table 5 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Beit Iksa village is known for the cultivation of olives; there are 482 dunums of land cultivated with olive trees.

Table 5: Total area of fruit and olive trees in Beit Iksa village (dunum)

Fruit trees	Rainfed	Irrigated
Olives	482	0
Citrus	0	0
Stone-fruits	20	0
Pome fruits	9	0
Nuts	6	0
Other fruits	85	0
Total Area	602	0

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Beit Iksa only cereals, particularly wheat and barley, are being cultivated covering an area of about 15 dunums (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 2% of the residents in Beit Iksa rear and keep domestic animals such as goats, sheep, broiler chickens, and bees (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010) (See Table 6).

Table 6: Livestock in Beit Iksa village

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
0	300	250	0	0	0	0	3,000	0	82

* Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

There are also around 12 kilometers of agricultural roads in the village suitable for tractors and agricultural machinery only (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

The agricultural sector in the village faces some obstacles, mainly:

- The lack of capital.
- The confiscation of lands.
- The lack of economic feasibility.
- The difficulties in accessing agricultural lands.

Institutions and Services

Beit Iksa village has no governmental institutions, but a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These services include (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010):

- **Beit Iksa Village Council:** Founded in 1964 by the Ministry of Local Government with the goal of solving issues in the village and providing various services to its population.
- **The Cooperative Transportation Society:** Founded in 1957 by the Union of Associations in order to provide the residents with transportation services.
- **The Charitable Society:** Founded in 1974 by the Union of Associations. The Society includes a kindergarten and a sports club.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Electricity and Telecommunication Services

Beit Iksa has been connected to a public electricity network since 1981. It is served by Jerusalem Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village. Approximately 90% of the housing units in the village are connected to this network. However, the village residents face some problems concerning electricity, mainly (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010):

1. The network does not cover all neighborhoods of the village.
2. The cost of electricity is high.

Beit Iksa is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 80% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

Transportation Services

3 public buses and 20 illegal/unlicensed cars are the main means of transportation in Beit Iksa village (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010). There are 2.2km of designated 'main' roads and 6.7km of 'secondary' roads (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010) (See Table 7).

Table 7: Roads in Beit Iksa village

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Sub
Paved & in good condition	0.7	0.7
Paved but in poor condition	1.5	3
Unpaved	-	3

Source: Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010

Water Resources

Beit Iksa is provided with water by the West Bank Water Department through the public water network established in 1980 and approximately 100% of the housing units are connected to this network (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010). The quantity of water supplied to Beit Iksa in 2010 was approximately 96,000 cubic meters/ year; therefore, the average rate of water supply per capita in Beit Iksa is 154 liters per day (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010). However no Beit Iksa citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are recorded at around 45%. These losses happen at the main source, major transport lines, in the distribution network, and at the household level, thus the rate of water consumption per capita in Beit Iksa is 85 liters per day. Water supply for Beit Iksa residents is low compared with the minimum quantity of 100 liters proposed by the World Health Organization (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

There are 20 rainwater harvesting cisterns and one water spring located in the village (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

Sanitation

Beit Iksa lacks a public sewerage network with most of the village residents using cesspits, endocrines, and open channels as their main means of wastewater disposal (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 116 cubic meters, or 42,240 cubic meters annually. At the individual level in the village it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is 68 liters per day, depending on the consumption rate. The wastewater collected by cesspits and endocrines is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with no regard for the environment. There is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to both environmental and public health (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

Solid Waste Management

Beit Iksa & Beit Surik Village Councils are considered the official bodies responsible for managing the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by the citizens and establishments in the village. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee (around 16 NIS/month) has been charged to the population served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. However, only 30% of these fees are collected from the citizens (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

Most of the population in Beit Iksa benefit from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags and then transferred to 50 containers¹ distributed throughout the village. The responsible authority collects the solid waste three times a week, and then transports it randomly using a waste vehicle to land jointly owned by Beit Iksa and Beit Surik villages and located 2km from the village, where it is buried (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Beit Iksa is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from Beit Iksa residents is nearly 1.2 tons, or 436 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

Environmental Conditions

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

Water Crisis:

- Water cut-offs by the West Bank Water Department for long periods of time in summer in several neighborhoods of the village.
- High rate of water losses, because the water network is old and in need of rehabilitation and renovation.

¹ Each with a capacity of 1m³

- The lack of a public water reservoir in the village to cover the residents' water needs water cut-offs.

Wastewater Management

- The absence of a public sewage network means that Beit Iksa residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits, endocrines and open channels 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. All of these methods cause environmental damage and health problems and facilitate the spread of epidemics and diseases in the village. This wastewater also contaminates the groundwater because most cesspits are built without lining, allowing wastewater to enter into the ground and avoiding the need to use sewage tankers. Additionally, the untreated wastewater collected from cesspits by sewage tankers is disposed of in open areas with no 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 Beit Iksa 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 hazardous to human health, 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 and the governorate to separate hazardous waste from non-hazardous waste, so hazardous and industrial solid waste are collected with non-hazardous waste and transported to landfill.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical Status of Beit Iksa Village

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28th September 1995 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Beit Iksa village was divided into areas 'B' and 'C'. Approximately 591 dunums (7.4% of the total village area) were assigned as area 'B', where the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) 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 camps. Most of the village's population resides in area 'B' which constitutes a very small area in comparison to the total area of the village. Approximately 7,398 dunums (92.6% of the total village area) is classified as area 'C', where Israel retains full control over security and administration. 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 and open spaces (Table 8).

Table 8: The geopolitical divisions of Beit Ikksa village according to the Oslo II interim agreement of 1995

Area	Area in dunums	Percent of Total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	591	7.4
Area C	7,398	92.6
Nature Reserve	0	0
Total	7,989	100

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012

Beit Ikksa Village and Israeli Occupation Practices

Hundreds of dunums of land have been confiscated from the village by Israeli authorities for different Israeli purposes. These include the construction and expansion of settlements and outposts, and the construction of the Segregation Wall, through which Israel aims to control the north-west of Jerusalem governorate because it includes the settlements constituting part of the Giv'at Ze'ev bloc. This plan is part of Israel's plan to annex all settlements in the West Bank into Israel, considering them an essential part of the State of Israel because "[annexation] contributes to security, to political standing, to the economy and to the demographics of the Jewish people in the land of Israel" as stated by former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to former American president George Bush (11th April 2005). The following is a detailed description of land confiscations in Beit Ikksa.

During the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory, the Israeli government confiscated 1,545 dunums in Beit Ikksa village to establish two Israeli settlements: Har Samuel² and Ramot³ (Ramot Alon). These settlements are currently inhabited by around 43,000 Israeli settlers (Table 9).

Table 9: Israeli Settlements constructed over Beit Ikksa lands

Settlement Name	Year of construction	Area confiscated from Beit Ikksa (dunums)	Population of settlers
Har Samuel	1996	15	500
Ramot (Ramot Alon)	1973	1,530	42,250
Total		1,545	42,750

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012

Israel has also confiscated lands from Beit Ikksa to construct bypass roads 436 and 4915 to connect Israeli settlements established on the village's lands with other Israeli settlements. More problematic than the road itself, the IOF have drawn a buffer zone alongside the bypass which extends 75m on each side of the road.

² Har Samuel is part of the Giv'at Ze'ev settlement bloc.

³ Ramot lies within the Jerusalem Municipality Israeli borders, drawn illegally and unilaterally after 1967.

Beit Iksa Village and the Israeli Segregation Wall Plan

The Israeli Defense Ministry has made many modifications and changes to the route of the Segregation Wall in Beit Iksa. These changes were made to avoid geographic obstacles in the village that hindered the construction of the Wall. These changes, and their negative impacts upon the village, are detailed below.

Maps issued by the Israeli Defense Ministry on their webpage (30th June 2004 and 20th February 2005) showed that the Wall would isolate Beit Iksa from its neighboring villages to the north-west of Jerusalem City, and illustrated the area to be annexed to Israel, including Giv'at Ze'ev and other Israeli settlement blocs around Jerusalem City.

On 30th June 2006, the Israeli Ministry of Defense published an amendment to the Wall route in Beit Iksa. This amendment excluded the village from the isolated area, proposing that it would be surrounded by the Wall on the eastern, southern, and western sides, whilst the northern side would be open for village residents to travel to and from the village at any time. Although the built-up area in the village is outside the Wall under the new amendment, the amendment will seize a large area of agricultural lands and open space in the village, in addition to the lands previously confiscated.

According to the final amendment to the Segregation Wall route, issued on 30th April 2007, the Wall will extend 9 km over the lands of Beit Iksa and isolate 7,838 dunums (98% of the total village area) from the south-eastern and south-western sides of the village. The isolated lands include open space and agricultural lands that constitute a major source of capital for the village's residents. The village remains isolated from the neighboring Palestinian villages to the northwest of Jerusalem City; the amendments issued in 2006 and 2007 have not yet been implemented. Residents of Beit Iksa are not allowed to travel to Jerusalem City, and the only exit is through an Israeli checkpoint established on the north-western entrance. Only citizens with an ID indicating that they are residents of Beit Iksa are permitted to enter and exit the village (Table 10).

Table 10: The land classification of lands to be isolated in Beit Iksa Village according to the amendment of 30th April 2007 - Jerusalem Governorate

No.	Land classification	Area (dunums)
1	Agricultural areas	424
2	Open space	675
3	Israeli settlements	522
4	Wall zone	145
Total		1,766

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012

Ramallah City as a Substitute for Jerusalem City

Since the outbreak of the Second Intifada in 2000, Palestinians living in Beit Iksa and other villages have lost their link to Jerusalem City, previously the primary source of employment, educational, and health services. Residents of Beit Iksa have therefore started to use Ramallah City to fulfill these needs. Until 2002, Palestinians living in Beit Iksa were able to use Israeli bypass road 443 to access Ramallah; they have now been prohibited from using this road by Israeli authorities and must travel using indirect roads with poor infrastructure to Ramallah and to other villages. This has caused many people from Beit Iksa to move to Ramallah to avoid delays and disruptions caused by Israeli obstacles to travel and routine mistreatment at Israeli checkpoints.

Israeli Military Orders Issued in Beit Iksa Village

The Israeli occupation authorities have issued a set of military orders to confiscate lands in Beit Iksa village for different military purposes. These include:

1. Israeli military order 108/03/T: issued on 31st December 2003 to confiscate 334.3 dunums in Beit Iksa, Biddu and Beit Surik for construction of the Segregation Wall.
2. Israeli military order 109/03/T: issued on 31st December 2003 to confiscate 334 dunums of lands in villages of Beit Ijza, Biddu, Beit Iksa, and Beit Duqqu for construction of the Wall.
3. Israeli military order 76/04/T: issued on 25th November 2004 to confiscate 263.7 dunums of lands in villages of Biddu, Beit Surik, Beit Iksa and An Nabi Samuel for construction of the Wall.
4. Amendment to Israeli military order 76/04/T: issued on 8th December 2011 to confiscate 149.7 dunums in Biddu, Beit Iksa, and Beit Surik for the construction of the Segregation Wall. The amendment included extending the validity of the order until 2014 to complete construction of the Wall.
5. Israeli military order 89/06/T: issued on 26th November 2006 to confiscate 565 dunums of lands in Beit Surik, Beit Iksa and An Nabi Samuel for construction of the Wall.
6. Amendment to military order 86/06/T: issued on 8th December 2011 to confiscate 456 dunums of lands in Beit Iksa, Beit Surik and An Nabi Samuel for the Wall construction. The amendment included extending the validity of the order until 2014 to complete construction of the Wall.

Development Plans and Projects

Implemented Projects

Beit Iksa village council has implemented several development projects in Beit Iksa during the past five years (See Table 11).

Table 11: Implemented development plans and projects in Beit Iksa during the last five years

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Construction and finishing of classrooms	Educational	2010	ANERA
Rehabilitation of part of the main road	Infrastructure	2009	Aqsa Fund/ Islamic Development Bank
Construction of retaining walls	Infrastructure	2007	PECDAR

Source: Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010

Proposed Projects

Beit Iksa 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. Expanding the structural plan of the village.
2. Paving internal and external roads.
3. Constructing agricultural roads.
4. Supporting transportation.
5. Establishing harvesting cisterns.
6. Renovating the water network.
7. Establishing a boys' club and a women's club, and rehabilitating the stadium.
8. Rehabilitating the center for people with special needs.
9. Providing a center for the civil defense.

Village Development Priorities and Needs

Beit Iksa suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 12 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the village council's feedback (Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010).

Table 12: Development priorities and needs in Beit Iksa

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
Infrastructural Needs					
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*			9.1km*
2	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks	*			10km
3	Extending the Water Network to Cover New Built up Areas	*			3km
4	Construction of New Water Networks	*			3km
5	Rehabilitation/ Construction of New Wells or Springs	*			rehabilitating a cistern and a spring
6	Construction of Water Reservoirs	*			1,000 cubic meters
7	Construction of a Sewage Disposal Network	*			15km
8	Construction of a New Electricity Network	*			3km
9	Providing Containers for Solid Waste Collection	*			50 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	*			1 health center
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		*		
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools		*		
3	Purchasing of New Equipment for Schools	*			
Agriculture Needs					
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural Lands	*			500 dunums
2	Building Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	*			20 cisterns
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock	*			20 barracks
4	Veterinary Services	*			
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*			600 tons per year
6	Construction of New Greenhouses	*			25 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses			*	
8	Field Crops Seeds	*			
9	Plants and Agricultural Supplies	*			

*2.1km are main roads, 2km are sub roads and 5km are agricultural.

Source: Beit Iksa Village Council, 2010.

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