

# Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Profile



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## Background

This report is part of a series of booklets which contain compiled information about each city, town, and village in the Nablus Governorate. These booklets were published as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in the Nablus Governorate, and aim to depict the overall living conditions in the governorate and present developmental plans to assist in developing the livelihood of the population in the area. It was accomplished through the "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment" project which was funded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID).

The "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment" project was designed to study, investigate, analyze and document the socio-economic conditions of the villages, and the programs and activities needed to mitigate the impact of the current insecure political, economic and social conditions in the Nablus 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 Nablus Governorate. In addition, the project aims to prepare strategic developmental programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current political, social, and economic instability, with a focus on the agricultural sector.

All locality profiles are in Arabic and English, and are available online at <http://vprofile.arij.org>.

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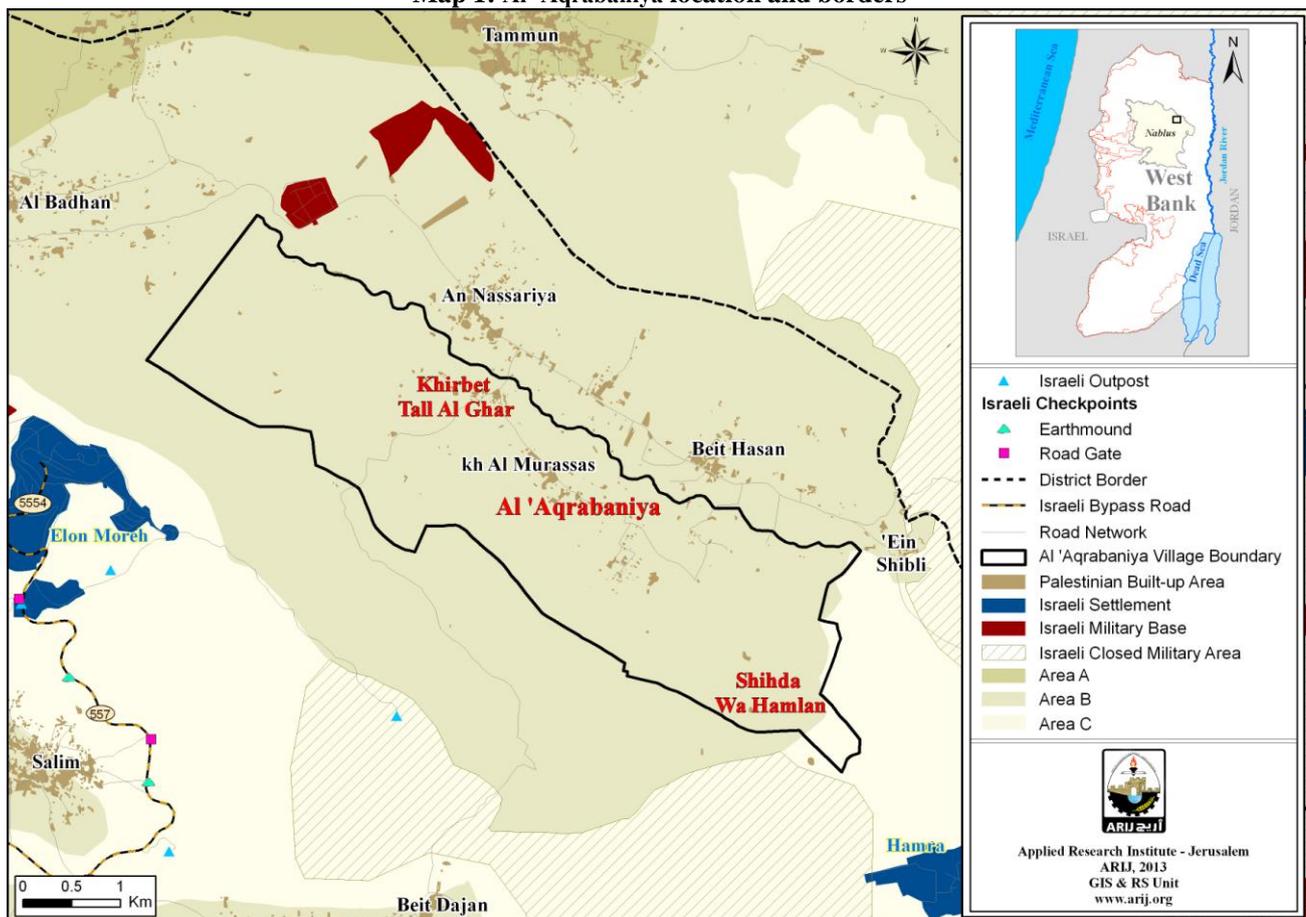
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# Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Profile

## Location and physical characteristics

Al ‘Aqrabaniya is a Palestinian village in the Nablus Governorate, located 12.1km east of Nablus City. It is bordered by Furush Beit Dajan to the east, Beit Dajan and Deir al Hatab to the south, Al Badhan to the west, and An Nassariya and Beit Hasan to the north (ARIJ-GIS, 2014) (see map 1).

Map 1: Al ‘Aqrabaniya location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014

Al ‘Aqrabaniya is located at an altitude of 13m below sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 307.04 mm. The average annual temperature is 21°C whilst the average annual humidity is approximately 56% (ARIJ-GIS, 2014).

The total area of Al ‘Aqrabaniya village consists of approximately 13,574 dunums. The borders of this locality are set according to the new local councils’ borders which were defined by the Palestinian Ministry of Local Government. The new borders of the Palestinian localities were set by the Palestinian National Authority, represented by the Ministry of Local Government, the Central Elections Commission, the Ministry of Planning and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, in the year 2011. These governmental institutions reset the borders of the localities for the purpose of

the Palestinian elections that took place in 2011. Accordingly, ARIJ adopted these new borders in this report since it found that the newly adopted borders, to a certain extent, better suit the demographic, environmental and agricultural variables and facts on the ground. Also, ARIJ uses these defined borders only for the sake of this research and study. It is worth noting that these borders do not represent the areas and borders of the private properties at the locality level and are not included in the PNA files of the private land holdings.

Since 1994, Al 'Aqrabaniya has been governed by a Village Council which is currently comprised of 9 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). The council owns its permanent headquarters which is included within the Middle Joint Services Council. The Council does not own a vehicle for the collection of solid waste (Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of Al 'Aqrabaniya, (Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013), including:

- The establishment and maintenance of the water network
- The establishment and maintenance of the electrical network
- Street cleaning, road rehabilitation, construction, paving and social services
- Implementation of projects and studies for the village

## History

The village of Aqrabaniya was named after "Al Aqraban" which is the name given to the male scorpion, of which there are many in this area (Dabbagh, 1991). The assembly was founded in 1915. The village residents originally came from Kafr Qallil, Salim, and other villages in the 1948 occupied territories (Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

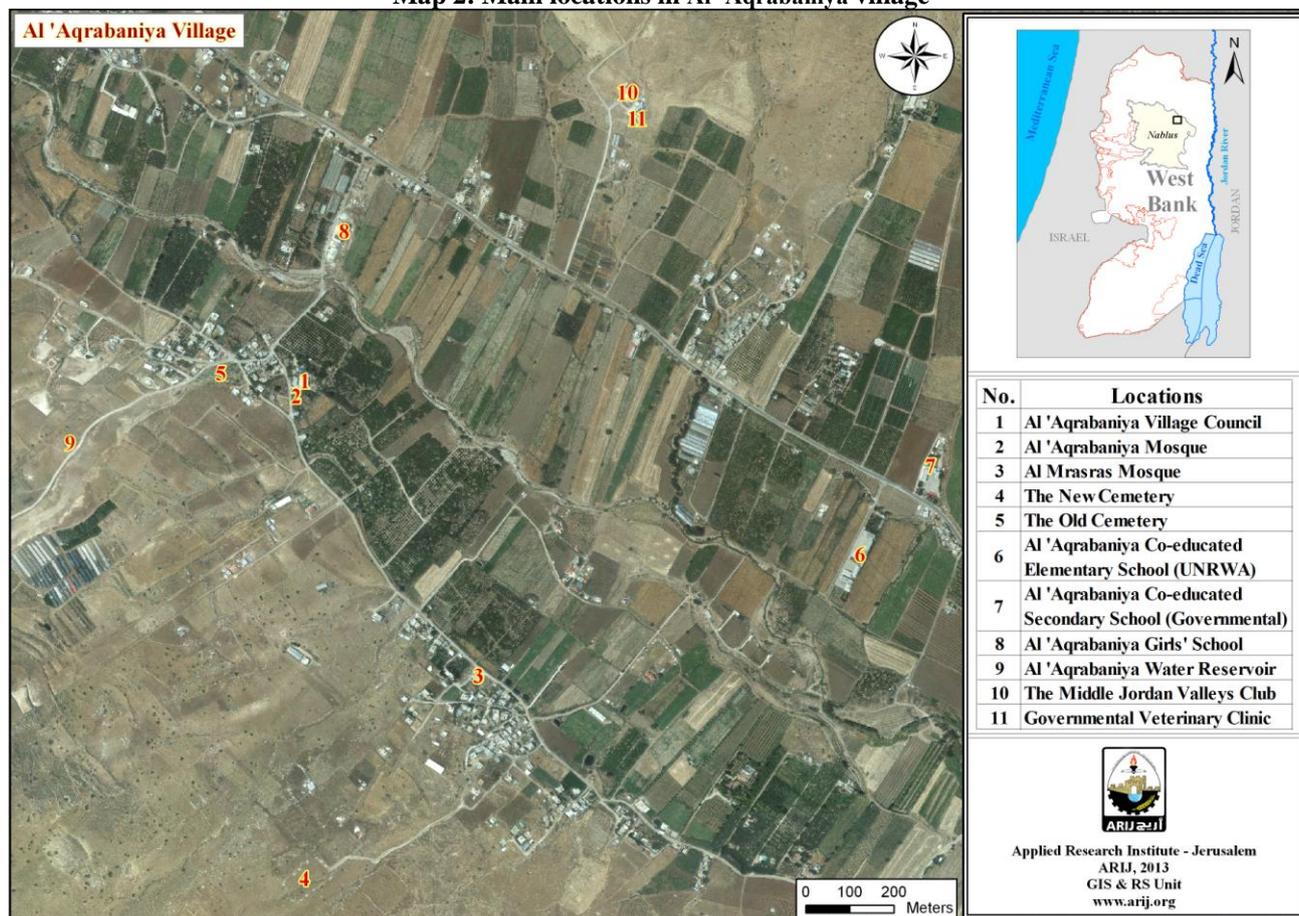
**Photo of Al 'Aqrabaniya**



## Religious and archaeological sites

There are two mosques in the village: Zayd ibn Harithah Mosque, and Muadh ibn Jabal Mosque . The village has one site of archaeological interest, the Tal Al Fokhar area. It is worth noting that this area is not eligible to be designated an official tourism site (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013) (see map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Al ‘Aqrabaniya village



source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014

## Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Al ‘Aqrabaniya in 2007 was 986, of whom 487 were male and 499 female. There were 157 households registered as living in 196 housing units.

### Age groups and gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by the PCBS in 2007 showed that the distribution of age groups in Al ‘Aqrabaniya was as follows: 42.2% were less than 15 years of age, 53% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 4.8% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the gender ratio of males to females in the village was 100:97.6 , meaning that males and females constituted 49.4% and 50.6% of the population, respectively.

## Families

Al ‘Aqrabaniya residents are from several families, including: Deab, Abu ‘Aqel, Al ‘Ajori, Asaasa, Naefah, Abu Rawa’, Abu Zuhri, Abu ‘Arooj and Mobark families (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

## Immigration

The field survey conducted by ARIJ staff shows that approximately 3 people have left the village since the Al Aqsa Intifada in 2000 (‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

## Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census of 2007, the illiteracy rate among the population of Al ‘Aqrabaniya is approximately 11.8%, of whom 69.8% are females. Of the total population, 20.8% could only read and write with no formal education, 31.4% had elementary education, 20.3% had preparatory education, 10.5% had secondary education, and 5.1% had completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Al ‘Aqrabaniya by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

**Table 1: Al ‘Aqrabaniya population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment**

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Masters	PhD	Unknown	Total
M	25	68	104	86	38	5	19	0	1	0	0	346
F	58	78	117	57	36	4	7	0	0	0	0	357
<b>T</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>703</b>

Source: PCBS, 2009

There is one public school in the village, which followed by UNRWA, which is run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education. The village does not have a kindergarten (see table 2).

**Table 2: Schools in Al ‘Aqrabaniya by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority (2011/2012)**

School name	Supervising authority	Sex
Al ‘Aqrabaniya Co-educated Elementary School	Government	Mixed

Source: Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012

There are 950 students, 37 teachers, and 27 classes in the village. The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 26 whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 35 (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012).

The educational sector in Al ‘Aqrabaniya village faces a number of obstacles, mainly:

- The lack of transportation to the schools
- The far distance of the village school from the center of the village
- The lack of paving and rehabilitation of roads that help the students to reach their elementary and secondary schools

(Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013)

## Health status

Al ‘Aqrabaniya does not have any health facilities. In the absence of necessary health services or in emergencies, patients are transferred to the governmental An Nassariya health center, or to the health center run by UNRWA in An Nassariya village, 1km away from the village (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

The health sector in the village faces a number of obstacles and problems, principally:

- The lack of a health center in the village
- The difficulty of transporting patients to the health centers, which are available in the An Nassariya village, due to the lack of transportation
- The lack of special clinics in the village
- The lack of an ambulance

(Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013)

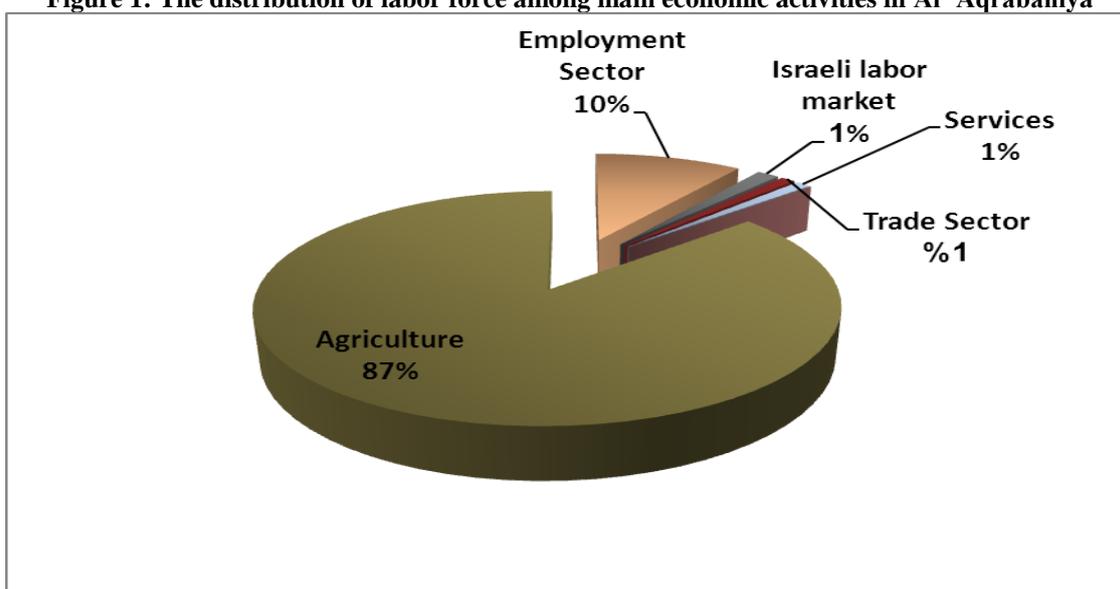
## Economic activities

The economy in Al ‘Aqrabaniya is dependent mainly on the agricultural sector, which absorbs 86.5% of the village’s workforce (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013) (see figure 1).

The results of a field survey conducted by the ARIJ team in 2013 for the distribution of labor by economic activity in Al ‘Aqrabaniya are as follows:

- Agriculture sector (86.5%)
- Government or other public employees sector (10%)
- Israeli labor market (1.5%)
- Trade sector (1%)
- Services sector (1%)

**Figure 1: The distribution of labor force among main economic activities in Al ‘Aqrabaniya**



Source: Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013

Al ‘Aqrabaniya has 3 markets and 1 Quarry (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

In 2013, the unemployment rate in Al ‘Aqrabaniya reached 30%. The groups most economically affected by Israeli restrictions have been: (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

- Workers in the agricultural sector
- Workers in the services sector

### Labor force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census of 2007, 30.7 of Al ‘Aqrabaniya’s labor force was economically active, of whom 96.2% were employed. 69.3% were not economically active, of which 45.2% were students, and 42.3% were housekeepers (see table 3).

**Table 3: Al ‘Aqrabaniya population (10 years of age and above) by sex and employment status**

Sex	Economically active				Not economically active						Not stated	Total
	Employed	Currently unemployed	Unemployed (never worked)	Total	Student	Housekeeping	Unable to work	Not working & not looking for work	Others	Total		
M	197	3	5	205	105	0	31	1	4	141	0	346
F	11	0	0	11	115	206	25	0	0	346	0	357
T	208	3	5	216	220	206	56	1	4	487	0	703

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

Source: PCBS, 2009

### Agricultural sector

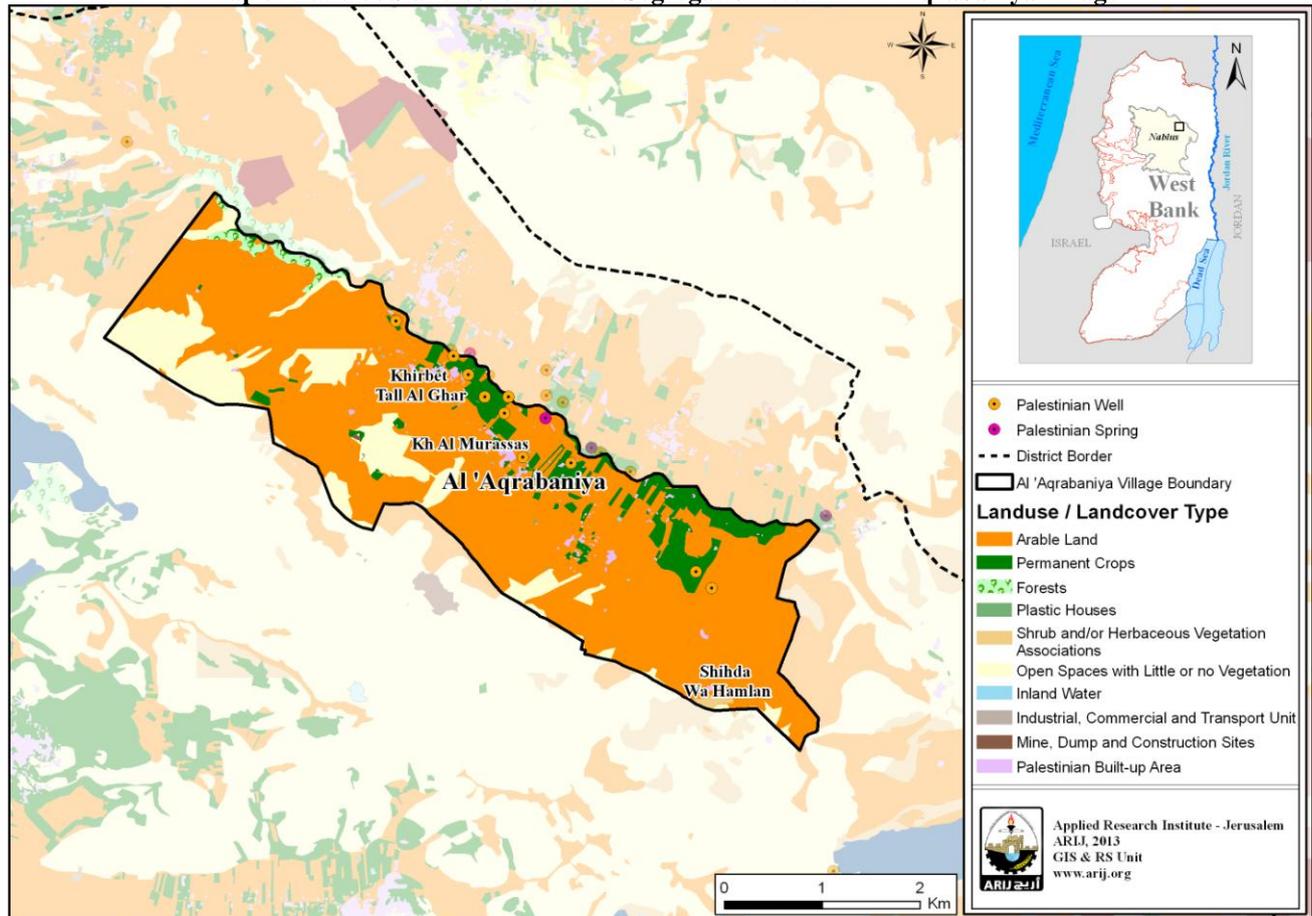
Al ‘Aqrabaniya has a total area of approximately 13,574 dunums of which 11,388 is arable land and 162 dunums are registered as residential land (see table 4 and map 3).

**Table 4: Land use and land cover in Al ‘Aqrabaniya village (area in dunums)**

Total area	Built up area	Agricultural area (11,388)				Inland water	Forests	Open spaces	Area of industrial, commercial & transport unit	Area of settlements, military bases & Wall zone
		Permanent crops	Greenhouses	Rangelands	Arable lands					
13,574	162	1,136	3	38	10,211	5	160	1,846	13	0

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2014

Map 3: Land use/land cover and the Segregation Wall in Al ‘Aqrabaniya village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014

Table 5 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Al ‘Aqrabaniya. The most commonly cultivated crops within this area are beans and green onions. In addition, there are 70 dunums of greenhouses planted with different crops (Ministry of agriculture - Nablus, 2010).

Table 5: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Al ‘Aqrabaniya (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.
0	3	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	23

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture - Nablus, 2010

The difference in size of agricultural areas between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and ARIJ’s GIS Unit is explained by the difference in each organization’s definition of land coverage and ownership. The MoA and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2011) 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 and did not consider fragmented 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. This therefore, accounts for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey conducted by the ARIJ team shows that 67% of the residents in Al ‘Aqrabaniya rear domestic animals such as sheep and goats (see table 6).

**Table 6: Livestock in Al ‘Aqrabaniya**

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broiler Chickens	Layer Chickens	Beehives
6	1,380	390	0	0	0	0	20,000	0	28

\*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Nablus, 2010

There are approximately 19km of agricultural road in the village, categorized as follows:

**Table 7: Agricultural roads in Al ‘Aqrabaniya village and their lengths**

Suitability of agricultural roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	4
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	5
For animals only	10
Unsuitable	0

Source: Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013

The agricultural sector in the village faces various problems, including:

- Lack of tanker water lines reach to all agricultural land
- Deterioration of the economic situation for the farmers, and the lack of sufficient capital
- The lack of economic feasibility of the work in the agricultural sector
- The lack of financial system to compensate the losses in the agricultural sector

(Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013)

## Institutions and services

Al ‘Aqrabaniya village has no national governmental branches, but it has a number of local organizations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include:

- **Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council:** Founded in 1994, and registered later by the Ministry of Local Government, with the aim of addressing different issues concerning the village and providing various services to its population, such as infrastructure services.
- **Al ‘Aqrabaniya Feminist Center:** Founded in 2011 by the Ministry of Interior with the aim of providing and caring for women’s issues, such as: food processing, training, sewing, and other activities.

(Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013)

## Infrastructure and natural resources

### Electricity and telecommunication services:

Al ‘Aqrabaniya has been connected to a public electricity network since 1994. It is served by the Israeli Qatari Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village, and 95% of the housing units in the village are connected to this network. The village residents face a number of problems concerning electricity, particularly the far distance of the Electrical transformer from the village, and the lack of sufficient electrical power (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

Al ‘Aqrabaniya is also connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 20% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

### Transportation services:

There are 3 taxis, 10 illegal cars, and 150 private cars in Al ‘Aqrabaniya. In the absence of a means of transportation in the village, the local residents travel through the An Nassariya taxi center (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013). The lack of access to taxis within the village is considered to be the main obstacle faced by the village residents and the neighboring villages (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013). There are 2km of main roads and 5km of secondary roads in Al ‘Aqrabaniya (see table 8).

**Table 8: Roads in Al ‘Aqrabaniya village**

Status of internal roads	Road length (km)	
	Main	Sub
1. Paved and in good condition	-	0.5
2. Paved and in poor condition	2	1.5
3. Unpaved	-	3

**Source:** Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013

### Water resources:

Al ‘Aqrabaniya is provided private water resources via wells in the village and through the public water network established in 2009. The percentage of housing units connected to the public water network is 95% (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

The quantity of water supplied to Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village in 2012 was approximately 48,000 cubic meters/year (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013). Therefore, the estimated rate of water supply per capita is approximately 118 liters/day. However, no Al ‘Aqrabaniya citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are estimated at 15% (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013). These losses happen at the main source, major transport lines, in the distribution network, and at the household level. Therefore, the rate of water consumption per capita in Al ‘Aqrabaniya is 101 liters per day (Al ‘Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

The village has eleven special water springs used in agriculture, in addition to a public water tank with a 150 cubic meter capacity (Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013). The price of water from the public network is 3 NIS/cubic meter (Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

### **Sanitation:**

Al 'Aqrabaniya lacks a public sewerage network. Most of the population uses cesspits and septic tanks as a main means for wastewater disposal (Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the approximated quantity of wastewater generated per day is 89 cubic meters, or 32,600 cubic meters annually. At the individual level, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 80 liters per day. The wastewater collected by cesspits and septic tanks is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with little regard for the environment. Here it is noted that there is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to the environment in addition to public health (ARIJ - WERU, 2013).

### **Solid waste management:**

The Joint Services Council for Solid Waste in Jericho 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, a monthly fee amounting to 15 NIS per household is charged to the residents and facilities served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services, and 100% of these fees are collected from the citizens (Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

Most of the population in Al 'Aqrabaniya benefits from the solid waste services, where waste is collected from households, institutions, shops and public squares in plastic bags and placed in 20 containers (of 1m<sup>3</sup> capacity) which are located at various points in the village. The Joint Council collects the solid waste once daily and transports it using a waste collection vehicle to Zahret al Finjan dumping site in Jenin Governorate, 30km from the village, where it is subsequently buried in an environmentally friendly way (Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Al 'Aqrabaniya is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Al 'Aqrabaniya residents is nearly 1.2 tons, or 284 tons per year (ARIJ - WERU, 2013).

## **Environmental conditions**

Like other towns and villages in the Governorate, Al 'Aqrabaniya experiences several environmental problems which must be addressed. These problems can be identified as follows:

### **Water crisis**

- The high proportion of water losses of up to 15%
- The water network needs to be rehabilitated and expanded to reach new areas
- The need for an additional water storage tank

## Wastewater management

The absence of a public sewerage network in the village means that Al ‘Aqrabaniya residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, and/or to discharge wastewater into 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 because most cesspits are built without lining to avoid the need to use sewage tankers and this allows wastewater to enter into the ground. 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 the residents' health.

## Solid waste management

Al ‘Aqrabaniya village does not suffer any problems concerning the management of solid waste, as the Joint Council for the Management of Solid Waste is responsible for the process of collecting waste from the village and disposing it in Zahret al Finjan landfill in Jenin Governorate. This landfill is the main environmentally friendly landfill serving the village, as well as most of the other localities in the Nablus Governorate.

## Impact of the Israeli Occupation

### Geopolitical status in Al Aqrabaniya village

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1995 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Al Aqrabaniya was divided into Area B and Area C. Approximately 13,299 dunums (98% of the village's total area) were classified as Area B, where the Palestinian National Authority has complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to retain overriding responsibility for security. The rest of the village's area, constituting 275 dunums (2% of the total area), was classified as Area C, where Israel retains full control over security and administration related to the territory. In Area C, Palestinian building and land management is prohibited unless through consent or authorization by the Israeli Civil Administration. The majority of Al Aqrabaniya's population resides in Area B. (See Table 9).

**Table 9: The Geopolitical Divisions of Al Aqrabaniya village according to Oslo Agreement 1995**

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of Total village area %
Area A	0	0
Area B	13,299	98
Area C	275	2
Nature Reserve	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,573</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2014

### **Israeli occupation practices in Al Aqrabaniya village**

Despite the fact that there are no current settlements and camps established on Al Aqrabaniya village lands, the village still suffers from Israeli occupation practices; settlements, camps and Israeli military checkpoints still exist not far from the village. Settlements surround the village from two sides, both the eastern side and western side. "Al Hamra" settlement is located to the east of Al Aqrabaniya, on the territory of the neighboring village of Furush Beit Dajan. "Elon Moreh" settlement is located to the west of Al Aqrabaniya, built on the territory of the neighboring villages of Deir Al Hatab and 'Azmout. "Elon Moreh" overlooks Al Aqrabaniya village from a hill top. Direct settler attacks from this settlement upon Al Aqrabaniya are common.

There is a high volume of pollutant waste water which is hazardous to the natural environment coming from "Elon Moreh", as the settlement and its industrial area allows the unrestricted flow of water onto Al Aqrabaniya village land which pollutes crops and trees. This is worsened by the fact that the settlement houses an industrial area.

Through the previous years, the Israeli occupation forces established a number of military bases in the neighboring village of An Nassariya. An Nassariya Village Council states that these bases were evacuated in 2005 as a result of the unilateral Israeli withdrawal plan in the northern settlements of the West Bank. The above-mentioned information are according to "An Nassariya" village council.

### **Israeli checkpoints on Al Aqrabaniya village**

After the outbreak of the Second Intifada in 2000, the Israeli authorities established two military checkpoints; one is located to the south-east side of Al Aqrabaniya village, while the other is located to the west.

Al Aqrabaniya village and the other neighboring villages have been negatively affected by "Al Hamra" permanent military checkpoint on main road No. 57, which is controlled by the Israeli authorities. The checkpoint was established on the road that links the Jordan Valley and Jericho to northern provinces such as Nablus Governorate and Tubas Governorates. This important road passes by Al Aqrabaniya village. "Al Hamra" checkpoint is considered a crucial military checkpoint in the West Bank because of its strategic location, as it is situated at the main entrance for Palestinians coming from northern governorate to the Jordan Valley.

There have been continuous violations by Israeli military forces against Palestinians for over 12 years at this checkpoint, including shootings, arrest procedures and denial of access. Furthermore, farmers in the Jordan Valley area have suffered from the long closure of this checkpoint and have limited or no access to their land; this area is considered "the bread basket of Palestine" and is the main source of fruit and vegetables. Consequently, there has been an increase in poverty and unemployment rates in this area, due to the closure of this checkpoint. The checkpoint still exists in the neighboring village Furush Beit Dajan, but Israeli forces have currently reduced their control over the movement of the Palestinian residents, under the current calm conditions in the area.

Al Aqrabaniya has also been affected by Al Badhan temporary checkpoint, established on the road that links Al Aqrabaniya village to Nablus city. This checkpoint had a significantly negative impact on the lives of Palestinians during the Second Intifada and the following years. The use and existence of checkpoints violate a number of Palestinian human rights. This particular checkpoint violated the right to freedom of movement between Nablus city and its villages, which in turn hindered the village's economic activity. Israeli forces have since removed this checkpoint from Al Badhan.

## Development plans and projects

### Implemented projects

Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council has implemented some development projects in Al 'Aqrabaniya during the past five years (see table 10).

**Table 10: Implemented Development Plans and Projects in Al 'Aqrabaniya during the Last Five Years**

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Built Al 'Aqrabaniya Feminist Center complex	Services	2012	Japan

Source: Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013

### Proposed projects

Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council, in cooperation with the village's civil society organizations and the village residents, hopes to implement several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA) workshop conducted in the village by ARIJ staff. The projects are as follows, in order of priority from the viewpoints of the workshop participants:

1. The need to support the children of farmers and to reserve seats for them in the study of Palestinian agricultural colleges
2. The need for paving main and internal roads
3. The need to find sufficient funds for small projects for farmers
4. The need to establish a wastewater purification station
5. The need to establish a sewerage network in the village
6. The need to find a way to combat swine and other wild animals
7. The need to find and apply productive agricultural projects
8. The need to establish and furnish the health center
9. The need for licensing and drilling of new wells
10. The need for rehabilitation of the infrastructure for the agricultural sector; the village needs more than 20km of agricultural roads

## Locality development priorities and needs

Al 'Aqrabaniya suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 11 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Village Council's perspective:

**Table 11: Development priorities and needs in Al 'Aqrabaniya**

No.	Sector	Strongly needed	Needed	Not a priority	Notes
<b>Infrastructural needs</b>					
1	Construction and paving of roads	*			26 km <sup>^</sup>
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks	*			1.5 km
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas	*			1.5 km
4	Construction of new water networks			*	
5	Rehabilitation/construction of new wells or springs			*	
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			500 cubic meter
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			15 km
8	Construction of a new electricity network	*			3 km
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection	*			20 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste			*	
11	Providing a sanitary landfill			*	
<b>Health needs</b>					
1	Building new clinics or health care centres	*			A health center
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres			*	
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools	*			
<b>Educational needs</b>					
1	Building new schools			*	
2	Rehabilitation of old schools			*	
3	Purchasing new school equipment			*	
<b>Agriculture needs</b>					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			30 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns			*	
3	Construction of livestock barracks	*			40 barracks
4	Provision of veterinary services	*			
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals	*			400 tons per year
6	Construction of new greenhouses	*			15 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses			*	7 greenhouses
8	Provision of field crops seeds	*			
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies	*			
<b>Others needs</b>					
1	Providing the village council with an agricultural tractor, Pickup and Bagger bulldozer				
2	Providing the village council with agricultural equipment				
3	The need for projects of distribution of livestock to the needy families				

<sup>^</sup> 2 km main roads, 5km secondary roads, and 19 km agricultural roads

Source: Al 'Aqrabaniya Village Council, 2013

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