

Qalqiliya City 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 Qalqiliya Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Qalqiliya Governorate, which aims to depict the overall living conditions in the governorate and presenting developmental plans to assist in improving 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 Qalqiliya 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 Qalqiliya 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 the focus on the agricultural sector.

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

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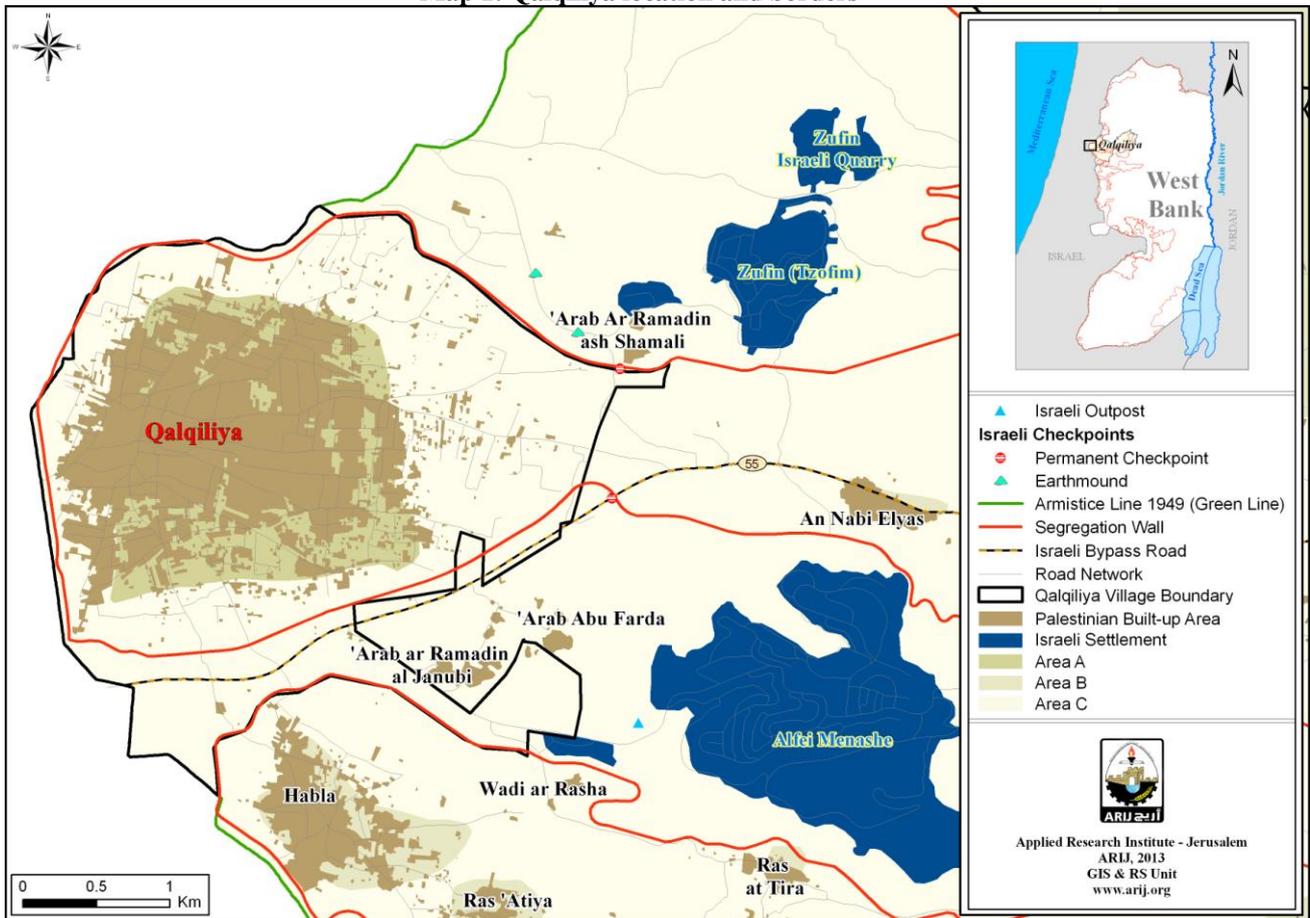
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Qalqiliya City Profile

Location and physical characteristics

Qalqiliya is the only Palestinian city in Qalqiliya Governorate. It is bordered by ‘Arab Abu Farda and ‘Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi to the east, Habla and Wadi ar Rasha to the south, the Green Line (lands of 1948) to the west, and ‘Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali and lands of 1948 to the north (ARIJ-GIS, 2013) (see map 1).

Map 1: Qalqiliya location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Qalqiliya is located at an altitude of 57m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 587.4mm. The average annual temperature is 19°C whilst the average annual humidity is approximately 63.4% (ARIJ-GIS, 2013).

The classification of the residential areas borders has been adopted in this profile based on the administrative division of Palestinian communities, according to the Palestinian National Authority(PNA). This administrative division system has been developed by the Palestinian Ministry of Planning, the Ministry of Local Government, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics(PCBS), and the Central Election Commission (CEC).

Since 1909, Qalqiliya has been governed by a Municipal Council which is currently administrated by 13 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). There are also 430 employees working for the council, which owns a permanent headquarters. The Council possesses 7 vehicles for the collection of solid waste, 10 pick-ups, 4 trucks, 2 tractors, 2 bulldozers, 3 small hammers and 2 electric cranes (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

It is the responsibility of the Municipality to provide a number of services to the residents of Qalqiliya, including:

- The establishment and maintenance of the drinking water and electricity networks.
- Waste collection, street cleaning and other public services.
- Road rehabilitation, construction and paving.
- Implementation of projects and studies for the city.
- Organization of the license processes.
- Provision of slaughterhouses and the organization of animal slaughter.
- Protection of historical and archeological sites.
- Provision of a sewerage network.
- Provision of public markets.

(Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012)

History

It is believed and is written in various novels that the name Qalqiliya originates from the word 'Qaylula' which means 'siesta', taken by travelers and passers-by at this site. This story is confirmed by the existence of a water spring, trees and the fact that Qalqiliya lies on the route of caravans coming from Syria to Egypt.

Another source suggests that the city's name came from the word 'Jaljalat' in the Canaanite era, where the word 'Jaljal' meant round stones. However, later on the letter 'j' was converted into 'q', thus the name became 'Qalqalya'. Other historians argue that that the name 'Qalqiliya' is linked to the ancient Greek castle which was named 'Qalqalya' (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

The city was established in the 19th century (1893), with its residents descending from Baqat al Hatab village in addition to immigrants from the lands of 1948 (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

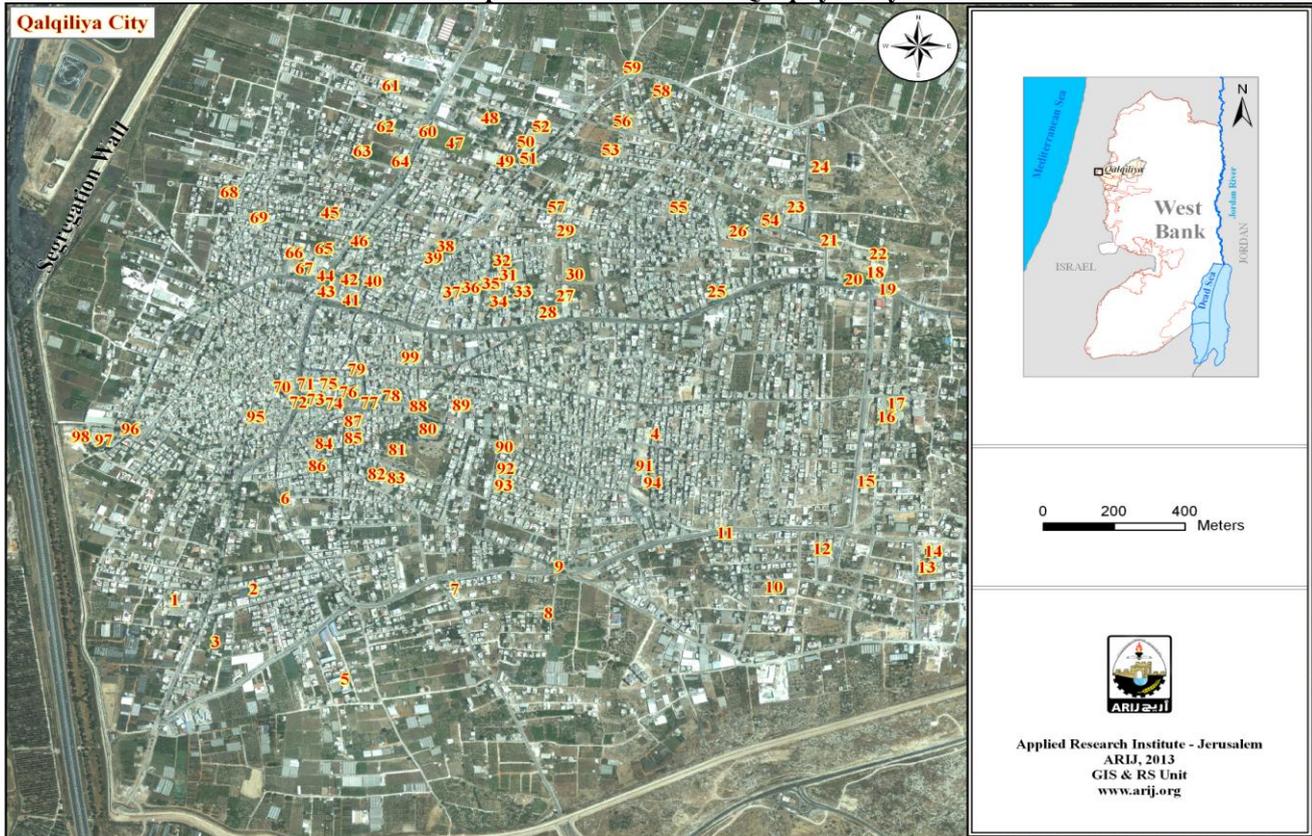
Religious and archaeological sites

There are 26 mosques in the city. The city has several sites of archaeological interest including the Turkish Saraya. All of these sites are in need of restoration in order to be qualified as tourist sites, as determined by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012) (see map 2).

Photos of Qalqiliya city



Map 2: Main locations in Qalqiliya City



No.	Locations	No.	Locations	No.	Locations	No.	Locations
1	Masqat Boys' Secondary School	26	Ash Shuhada School	51	The Boys Industrial Secondary School	76	As Siddiq Boys' Secondary School
2	Ash Shifa' Obstetric Center/ Ash Shifa' Mosque	27	Public Transportation Complex	52	As Salam Boys' Secondary School	77	Ash Shayma' Roundabout
3	The Islamic Orphanage (Old Building)	28	Directorate of Civil Status	53	Qalqiliya Directorate of Health	78	Chamber of Commerce (New Headquarters)/ Bank of Jerusalem
4	The Islamic Orphanage (New Building)	29	The Military Medical Services	54	Al Huda Radio for Quran	79	Qalqiliya Women Society
5	Yousif Odeh Elementary School	30	Civil Defense Headquarters (Under Construction)	55	Omar Ben Abdul 'Aziz Mosque	80	Abu Ali Eyad Girls' Secondary School
6	Qalqiliya Governorate/ Directorate of Public Works & Housing	31	UNRWA Boys' First Elementary School	56	The Disabled Rehabilitation Society	81	Qalqiliya Main Cemetery
7	Huthayfa Ben al Yaman Mosque	32	UNRWA Boys' Second Elementary School	57	Ibn al Qayem Mosque	82	Directorate of Education
8	Abu Thur al Ghaffari Mosque	33	UNRWA Girls' Elementary School	58	Al Eman Mosque	83	Ash Shayma' Girls' Secondary School
9	At Tabbal Roundabout	34	Qalqiliya Municipality Project	59	Khallit Yaseen Roundabout	84	The Future Private School
10	Qalqiliya Rehabilitation Society	35	Civil Defense (Current Headquarters)	60	Civil Courts Complex	85	Al Hajja Feryal Hilal Mosque
11	Abd Allah ben Abbas Mosque/ Abd Allah ben Abbas Girls School	36	Al Murabitat Society	61	Al Hasan Ben Ali Mosque	86	Dr. Thabet Hilal Mosque
12	Abd Allah Boys' School	37	Palestine Boys' Elementary School	62	Civil Affairs Liaison Office/ Directorate of Youth & Sport/ Customs Dept./ Directorate of Pow Affairs	87	Qalqiliya Health Center
13	The Vocational Training Center	38	Qalqiliya Municipality Public Library	63	At Taqwa Mosque	88	Medical Relief Center
14	Al Quds Open University (New Building)	39	The Palestinian Red Crescent Society	64	Tourism & Antiquities Dept./ Land Registration Dept.	89	Turkish School
15	Al Khansa' Secondary School	40	Al Quds Open University (Current Building)	65	Al Hajja Husniya Mosque	90	Al Khilafa Mosque
16	Mus'ab Ben Omair Mosque	41	Al 'Isra' Girls' Elementary School	66	An Naser Mosque	91	Al Omariya School
17	Islamic Studies College/ The Sharia Boys School/ The Sharia Girls School	42	Qalqiliya Girls' Elementary School	67	The Palestinian Telecommunication Company	92	Traffic Department
18	Sultan Muhammad al Fatih Mosque	43	Al Murabiteen Boys' Elementary School	68	Ibn Taymiya Mosque	93	Refugees Services Committee/ Pow Club
19	Pow Roundabout	44	The Martyr Abu Ali Eyad Square	69	Al Awda Elementary School	94	Abu 'Ayyoub al Ansari Mosque
20	Al Karama Martyrs Monument	45	UNRWA Hospital	70	Property Tax Dept./ Directorate of Local Government	95	Western Health Center
21	Islamic Religious Court	46	The Intellectuals Forum Society	71	Qalqiliya Zakat (Alms) Committee	96	Ash Sharqa (Al 'Awdah) Roundabout
22	Kids Garden	47	Municipal Stadium	72	The Civil Club/ The People Services Center	97	Ash Sharqa Elementary School
23	Darweesh Nazzal Governmental Hospital	48	Municipal Zoo & Park	73	Qalqiliya Municipality	98	Qalqiliya Dynamo Meter
24	Al Bukhari Mosque	49	As Sa'diyya Boys' Secondary School	74	Chamber of Commerce (Current Headquarters)	99	Directorate of Agriculture/ Directorate of Trade & Industry/ Directorate of Social Affairs
25	Qalqiliya Municipality Slaughterhouse	50	Ar Razi Boys' Secondary School	75	The Central Market		

source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Qalqiliya in 2007 was 40,530, of whom 20,639 were male and 19,891 female. 7,844 households were registered as living in 8,680 housing units.

Age groups and gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by the PCBS in 2007 showed the distribution of age groups in Qalqiliya was as follows: 40.9% were less than 15 years of age, 55% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 2.7% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the gender ratio of males to females in the city was 103.8:100, meaning that males and females constituted 50.9% and 49.1% of the population, respectively.

Families

Qalqiliya residents are from several families, including Nazzal, Shreim, Daood, Zeid, Kafr Saba and Al Qar'an (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, the illiteracy rate among Qalqiliya population is approximately 4.7%, of whom 75.1% are females. Of the total population, 13.8% could only read and write with no formal education, 27.4% had elementary education, 27.5% had preparatory education, 15.7% had secondary education, and 10.5% had completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the city of Qalqiliya by gender and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: Qalqiliya 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	336	2,043	4,114	4,203	2,327	543	918	23	125	28	61	14,721
F	1,015	1,934	3,799	3,731	2,192	468	902	4	20	2	55	14,122
T	1,351	3,977	7,913	7,934	4,519	1,011	1,820	27	145	30	116	28,843

Source: PCBS, 2009

There are 21 public schools in the city, 4 private schools and 3 schools run by UNRWA, all of which are supervised by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012) (see table 2).

Table 2: Schools in Qalqiliya by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority (2011/2012)

School name	Supervising authority	Sex
Abu Ali Iyad Girls' Secondary School	Government	Female
Al 'Isra' Girls' Elementary School	Government	Female
Qalqiliya Girls' Elementary School	Government	Female
As Salam Boys' Secondary School	Government	Male
Ash Shaima' Girls' Secondary School	Government	Female
Al Murabiteen Boys' Elementary School	Government	Male
As Sa'diya Boys' Secondary School	Government	Male
Palestine Boys' Elementary School	Government	Male
As Sadeeq Boys Elementary School	Government	Male
Ash Shariqa Girls' Elementary School	Government	Female
Al 'Omariya Girls' Secondary School	Government	Female
Al Khansa' Girls' Elementary School	Government	Mixed
Ash Shuhada' Co-educational Elementary School	Government	Mixed
Qalqiliya Industrial Secondary School	Government	Male
Yousif Odah Co-educational Elementary School	Government	Mixed
Ar Razi Boys' Elementary School	Government	Male
Al Odah Girls' Elementary School	Government	Mixed
The Turkish Boys' Elementary School	Government	Male
Masqat Boys' Secondary School	Government	Male
Ash Shar'iya Boys' School	Government	Male
Ash Shar'iya Girls' School	Government	Female
Tuyoor ash Sharq Elementary School	Private	Mixed
Al Eyman Private Elementary School	Private	Mixed
Abdullah ben 'Abbas Boys' Elementary School	Private	Male
Abdullah ben 'Abbas Girls' Elementary School	Private	Mixed
Qalqiliya Girls' Elementary School	UNRWA	Female
Qalqiliya Boys' Elementary First School	UNRWA	Male
Qalqiliya Boys' Primary School	UNRWA	Male

Source: Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012

In the city there are 12,286 students, 660 teachers, and 408 classes. The average number of students per teacher in the school is around 19, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 30 (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012).

There are 13 kindergartens in Qalqiliya city all of which are run by different private organizations (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012) (see table 3 below).

Table 3: Kindergartens in Qalqiliya city by name and supervising authority

Name of Kindergarten	No. of classes	No. of teachers	Supervising authority
Qalqiliya Kindergarten	2	3	Private
Al Manar Kindergarten	6	7	Private
Al Mustaqbal Kindergarten	4	5	Private
Al Aqsa Kindergarten	4	6	Private
Tuyoor al Jannah Kindergarten	3	3	Private
Bara'em al Eyman Islamic Kindergarten	7	8	Private
The Modern Education Kindergarten	5	6	Private
Al Murabitat Charitable Kindergarten	5	6	Private
Al Amal Kindergarten	3	4	Private
Al Yasmin Kindergarten	2	3	Private
The Martyrs of Al Aqsa Intifada Kindergarten	10	12	Private
Ash Shariqa Kindergarten	5	6	Private
Zahret al Mada'en Kindergarten	3	4	Private

Source: Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012

Some schools are exposed to Israeli harassment on a daily basis which creates difficulties for the students in getting to school, particularly Ash Shariqa Girls' Elementary School (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

Moreover, located in the city is Al Quds Open University, which was founded in 1998, also has a campus in the city, as well as to Ad Da'wa Islamic College which was founded in 1978. Both institutions were established by the Palestinian National Authority with the goal of providing higher education services (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

Health status

Qalqiliya has many health facilities (see table 8), including 8 ambulances owned by different bodies (the governmental sector, the Palestinian Red Crescent Society, UNRWA and the private sector) (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

Table 1 : The health facilities in Qalqiliya City by number and supervising authority

Health centers		No. of centers according to supervisory body				
		Governmental	Private	UNRWA	NGO	Charitable society
1	Physician clinic	2	10	22	-	-
2	Specialized doctor clinics					
-	Dental	1	23	-	-	-
-	Dermatologist	4	3	-	-	-
-	Diabetes	1	-	-	-	-
-	Pediatrician	5	4	-	-	-
-	Mental health	1	2	-	-	-
-	Gynecologist	4	6	-	-	-
-	Radiography	1	-	-	-	-
3	Health center	4	9	1	-	-
4	Hospital	Darweesh Nazzal Hospital	-	UNRWA Hospital	-	-
5	Radiology center	-	-	-	-	-
6	Medical laboratory	3	3	-	6	-
7	Mother and child center	3	-	1	3	-
8	Physiotherapy center	1	1	1	2	-
9	Other	-	-	-	-	-
10	Pharmacies	4	21	1	5	-

Source: Qalqiliya Municipal Council, 2012

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

- The lack of available health services in hospitals.
- The lack of capacity of Qalqiliya hospitals.
- The small number of specialized clinics.

The presence of the Israeli occupation and the Segregation Wall surrounding the city, which hinders the development of the health sector. (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012)

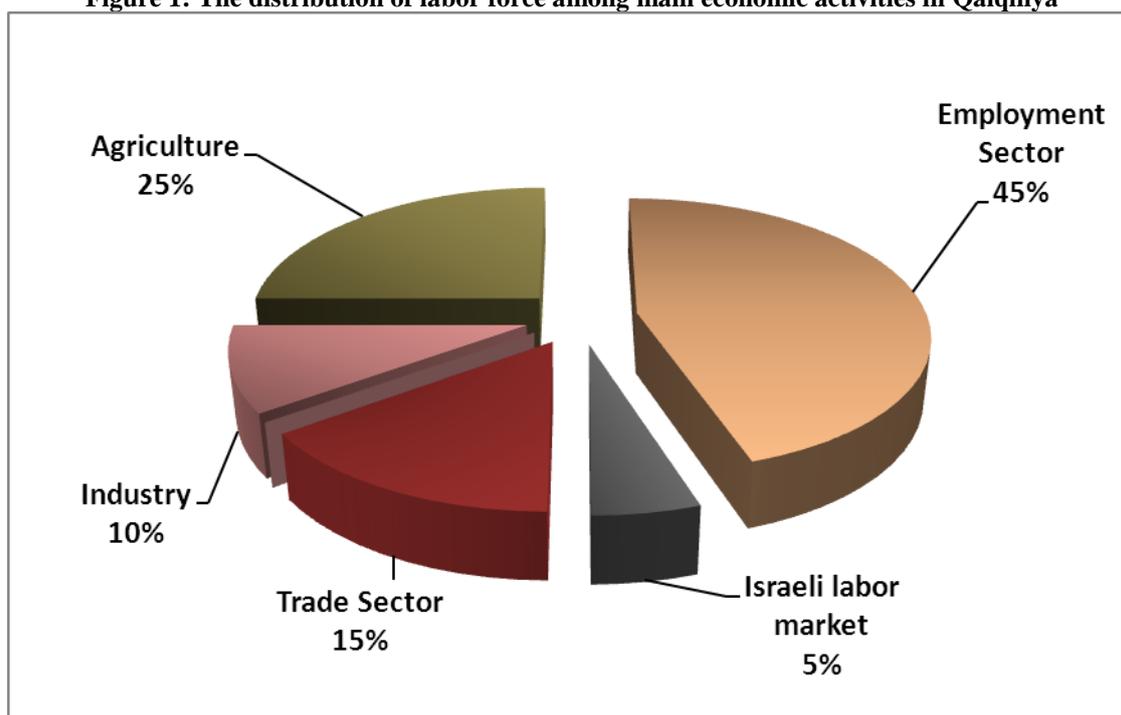
Economic activities

The economy in Qalqiliya is dependent mainly on the employment sector, which absorbs 45% of the city's workforce (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012) (see figure 1).

The results of a field survey conducted by the ARIJ team in 2012 for the distribution of labor by economic activity in Qalqiliya are as follows:

- Government or other employment sector (45%)
- Agriculture sector (25%)
- Trade sector (15%)
- Industry (10%)
- Israeli labor market (5%)

Figure 1: The distribution of labor force among main economic activities in Qalqiliya



Source: Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012

Qalqiliya has 145 groceries, 35 fruit and vegetable stores, 18 bakeries, 18 butchers, 133 service stores, 80 different professional workshops, 6 agricultural tools stores and 10 stonemasons (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

In 2012, the unemployment rate in Qalqiliya reached 22%. The groups most affected economically by the Israeli restrictions have been:

- Workers in the agriculture sector.
- Workers in the trade sector.
- Workers in the services sector.

(Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012)

Labor force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, 32.9% of Qalqiliya's labor force was economically active, of whom 84.1% were employed, 66.3% were not economically active, 52.2% were students, and 36.7% were housekeepers (see table 4).

Table 4: Qalqiliya population (10 years of age and above) by sex and employment status

Sex	Economically active				Non-economically active						Not stated	Total
	Employed	Currently unemployed	Unemployed (never worked)	Total	Student	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & not looking for work	Others	Total		
M	6,853	665	682	8,200	5,084	19	834	137	309	6,383	138	14,721
F	1,135	48	111	1,294	4,898	6,998	757	44	53	12,750	78	14,122
T	7,988	713	793	9,494	9,982	7,017	1,591	181	362	19,133	216	28,843

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

Source: PCBS, 2009

Agricultural sector

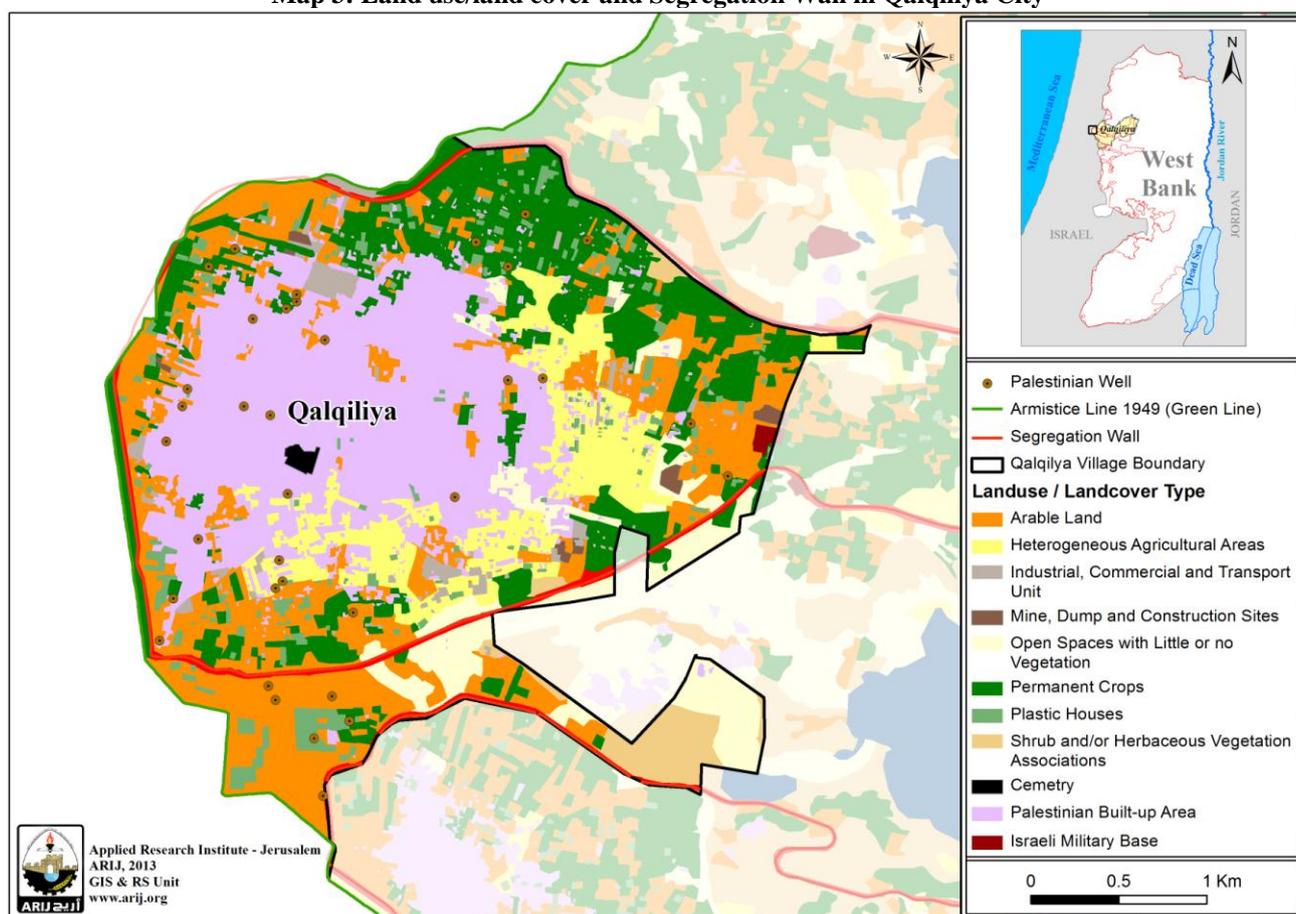
Qalqiliya has a total area of approximately 10,252 dunums of which 5,930 are arable land and 3,027 dunums are registered as residential land (see table 5 and map 3).

Table 5: Land use and land cover in Qalqiliya city (area in dunums)

Total area	Built up area	Agricultural area (5,930)				Inland water	Forests	Open spaces	Area of industrial, commercial & transport unit	Area of settlements, military bases & Wall zone	Cemeteries
		Permanent crops	Green-houses	Range-lands	Arable lands						
10,252	3,027	2,894	419	274	2,343	0	0	724	266	283	22

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2013

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Qalqiliya City



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Table 6 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Qalqiliya. The most commonly cultivated crops in this area are tomatoes and cauliflowers, and there are a total area of 633 dunums of greenhouses in the city cultivated with different crops (Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010).

Table 6: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Qalqiliya (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	225	0	590	30	33	10	100	0	680	40	1,628

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

Table 7 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Qalqiliya is famous for citrus fruit cultivation and there are approximately 1,802 dunums of land planted with citrus trees in the city.

Table 7: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Qalqiliya (area in dunums)

Olives		Citrus		Stone fruits		Pome fruits		Nuts		Other fruits		Total area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
320	0	0	1,802	0	110	0	15	0	5	4	290.8	324	2,222.8

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Qalqiliya, cereals (particularly wheat) are the most cultivated, covering an area of approximately 20 dunums (see table 8).

Table 8: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Qalqiliya (area in dunums)

Cereals		Bulbs		Dry legumes		Oil crops		Forage crops		Stimulating crops		Other crops		Total area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
20	0	0	40	7	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	30	29	70

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and ARIJ's GIS Unit for the size of agricultural areas 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 they 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. This therefore accounts for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey conducted by the ARIJ team shows that 2% of the residents in Qalqiliya rear and keep domestic animals such as sheep, cows and goats (see table 9).

Table 9: Livestock in Qalqiliya

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee hives
351	3,673	716	0	0	0	0	96,000	210,000	3,232

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

There are approximately 20 kilometers of agricultural roads in the city, divided as follows:

Table 10: Agricultural roads in Qalqiliya City and their lengths

Suitability of agricultural roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	6
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	12
For animals only	-
Unsuitable	2

Source: Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012

The agricultural sector in the city faces some problems, including:

- The lack of investment due to the limited economic feasibility of projects.
- The existence of the Segregation Wall and the continuous obstacles imposed by the Israeli occupation.
- The urban expansion in the city.
- The lack of capital for agricultural projects.
- The high prices of agricultural inputs and feeds.
- The division of the agricultural land ownerships.
- The lack of access to agricultural lands due to the location behind the Segregation Wall which makes cultivation difficult.

(Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012)

Institutions and services

Qalqiliya city has a post office, 2 post office divisions, an office for the Ministry of Labor, an office for the Ministry of Agriculture, an office for the Ministry of Social Affairs, an office for the Ministry of Interior, a chamber of commerce, a fire brigade, a police station and a national security center, in addition to a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include:

- **Qalqiliya Municipal Council:** Founded in 1909 and later registered by the Ministry of Local Government, with the aim of addressing different issues concerning the city and providing various services and infrastructure to its citizens.
- **The Chamber of Commerce:** Founded in 1972 by the Palestinian National Authority. It is a non-profit organization that provides traders with a variety of services.
- **Al Murabitat Charitable Society:** Founded in 1960 and later registered by the Ministry of the Interior with the aim of providing educational services, a kindergarten and medical services to the deaf and dumb.
- **The Palestinian Red Crescent Society:** Founded in 1994 and provides first aid, emergency and physical therapy services.
- **Qalqiliya Civil Club:** Founded in 1952 and was registered later by the Ministry of Youth and Sports. The Club invests in young people through providing them with sports, cultural and social services.
- **The Saving Charitable Society:** Founded in 2006 by the Ministry of the Interior with the aim of empowering women and providing them with physiological and medical support.
- **Qalqiliya Women's Society:** Founded in 2009 by the Ministry of the Interior. The Society's purpose is to empower women and offer social interaction, education and health awareness.
- **The Youth Creative Society:** Founded in 2004 by the Ministry of the Interior and helps young people improve their community awareness and learn new skills.

- **Hope (Al Amal) Society for the Deaf & Dumb:** Founded in 1994 and later registered by the Ministry of Social Affairs, with the aim of educating and rehabilitating the deaf and dumb.
- **The Educated Forum Society:** Founded in 1999 and later registered by the Ministry of Youth and Sports, with the aim of providing cultural awareness and training services.
- **The Cooperative Society for Agricultural Marketing:** Founded in 1963 and later registered by the Ministry of the Interior. The Society aims to provide farmers with agricultural supplies. (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012)

Infrastructure and natural resources

Electricity and telecommunication services:

Qalqiliya has been connected to a public electricity network since 1964. It is served by the Israeli Qatariya Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the city, and 100% of the housing units in the city are connected to the network. The city residents face a number of problems concerning electricity, primarily the insufficient electricity supply from the source (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

Qalqiliya is also connected to a telecommunications network and approximately 90% of the housing units within the city boundaries are connected to phone lines (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

Transportation services:

There are 400 taxis and 13 public buses in Qalqiliya (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012). There are 6km of main roads and 94km of secondary roads in Qalqiliya (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012) (see table 10).

Table 10: Roads in Qalqiliya City

Status of internal roads	Road length (km)	
	Main	Secondary
1. Paved and in good condition	4	55
2. Paved and in poor condition	2	20
3. Unpaved	0	19

Source: Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012

Water resources:

Qalqiliya is provided with water by Qalqiliya Municipal Council through the public water network established in 1960. Approximately 98% of the housing units are connected to the network (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

The quantity of water supplied to Qalqiliya city in 2012 was recorded as approximately 2.9 million cubic meters per year (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012). Therefore the estimated rate of water supply per capita is approximately 169 liters per day. However, no Qalqiliya citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are estimated at 26% (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012). These losses happen at the main source, along major transport lines, in the distribution network and at the household level. Therefore, the rate of water consumption per capita in Qalqiliya is 125 liters per day (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012). The average water consumption of Qalqiliya residents is considered good compared to the minimum quantity of 100 liters per capita per day proposed by the World Health

Organization. Each cubic meter of water from the public network costs 1.5 NIS (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

The city also has 42 artesian wells; 6 of which are used for drinking, while the rest are used for agricultural purposes. However, 9 of these wells are isolated behind the Wall. There is also a public water reservoir with a capacity of 5,000 cubic meters located in the city (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

Sanitation:

Qalqiliya city has been connected to a public sewerage network since 1960. Approximately 98% of Qalqiliya housing units use the sewage network as the means of wastewater disposal, while the remainder (2%) use cesspits (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 4,703m³ or 1.7 millionm³ annually. At the individual level it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is 100 liters per day, depending on the consumption rate. There is no wastewater treatment at either the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to both environmental and public health (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

Solid waste management:

Qalqiliya Municipal Council, in cooperation with the Joint Services Council for Solid Waste, is responsible for the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by citizens and establishments in the city. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee amounting to \$50 per year per household is charged to the residents and facilities served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. 50% of these fees are collected from the citizens (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

Most of the population in Qalqiliya benefits from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops and public squares in plastic bags, and placed in 550 containers (of 500 liter capacity) located at various points in the city. The Municipality collects the solid waste daily and transports it using a waste vehicle to the Zahret al Finjan dumping site in Jenin Governorate, 50km from the city, where it is subsequently buried in an environmentally-friendly way (Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Qalqiliya is 1.05kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day by Qalqiliya residents is nearly 49 tons, or 18,000 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

Environmental conditions

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

Water crisis

Water is cut off during summer months because the quantity of water available does not meet the citizens' water needs. The high rate of water losses from the network is also an issue, as it is in desperate need of renovation.

Wastewater management

The wastewater collected from the sewage network in the city is disposed of in open areas without any prior treatment due to the lack of treatment units within the city. The absence of a public sewage network in some neighborhoods (2%) also means that Qalqiliya residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater and/or to discharge wastewater in 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 allow wastewater to enter into the ground. The untreated wastewater collected from cesspits by sewage tankers is also often disposed of in open areas without concern for the damage it causes to the environment and to residents' health.

Solid waste management

Qalqiliya city 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 city and disposing it in the Zahret al Finjan landfill in Jenin Governorate. This landfill is the main environmentally-friendly landfill serving the city, as well as most of the other localities in the Qalqiliya Governorate.

The impact of the Israeli Occupation on Qalqiliya city

Geopolitical status in Qalqiliya city

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel on 28th September 1995, Qalqiliya was divided into areas “B” and “C”. Approximately 3,619 dunums (35.3. % of the city total 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 refugee camps. Most of the population of Qalqiliya resides in area B. The rest of the city area, constituting 6,633 dunums (64.7% of the total), is 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 without the prior consent or authorization of the Israeli Civil Administration. Most of the lands lying within area C are agricultural areas and open spaces. (see table 11).

Table 11: The geopolitical divisions of Qalqiliya according to the Oslo II Interim Agreement in 1995

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of total city area
Area A	0	0
Area B	3,619	35.3
Area C	6,633	64.7
Nature reserve	0	0
Total	10,252	100

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

Israeli occupation practices in Qalqiliya city

Despite that Qalqiliya city has not been subjected to Israeli confiscations of its lands. However, the huge impact was demonstrated by the construction of the Separation wall on the city territory, which isolated the city from all sides and it also isolated its agricultural lands and open spaces. It's worth mentioning, that the settlement Alfei Menashe confiscated 2 dunums from the lands of Qalqiliya city, while the other part of the settlement is established on the land village of 'Arab Abu Farda, Ras 'Atiya , Ras at Tira, An Nabi Elyas and 'Izbat al Ashqar, 'Isla, and Wadi ar Rasha. The settlement of 'Alfei Menashe' is considered to be one of the most important settlements for Israel. This is due to its strategic geographical location, as well as the large area which it occupies, it is the largest Israeli settlement in Qalqiliya Governorate in terms of area size and population. The settlement of 'Alfei Menashe' also forms a key component of the large 'Ariel Kedumim' settlement bloc, which Israel is seeking to include within its borders by constructing the Separation Wall on West Bank lands effectively including all settlements inside the Green Line (Armistice line of 1949).

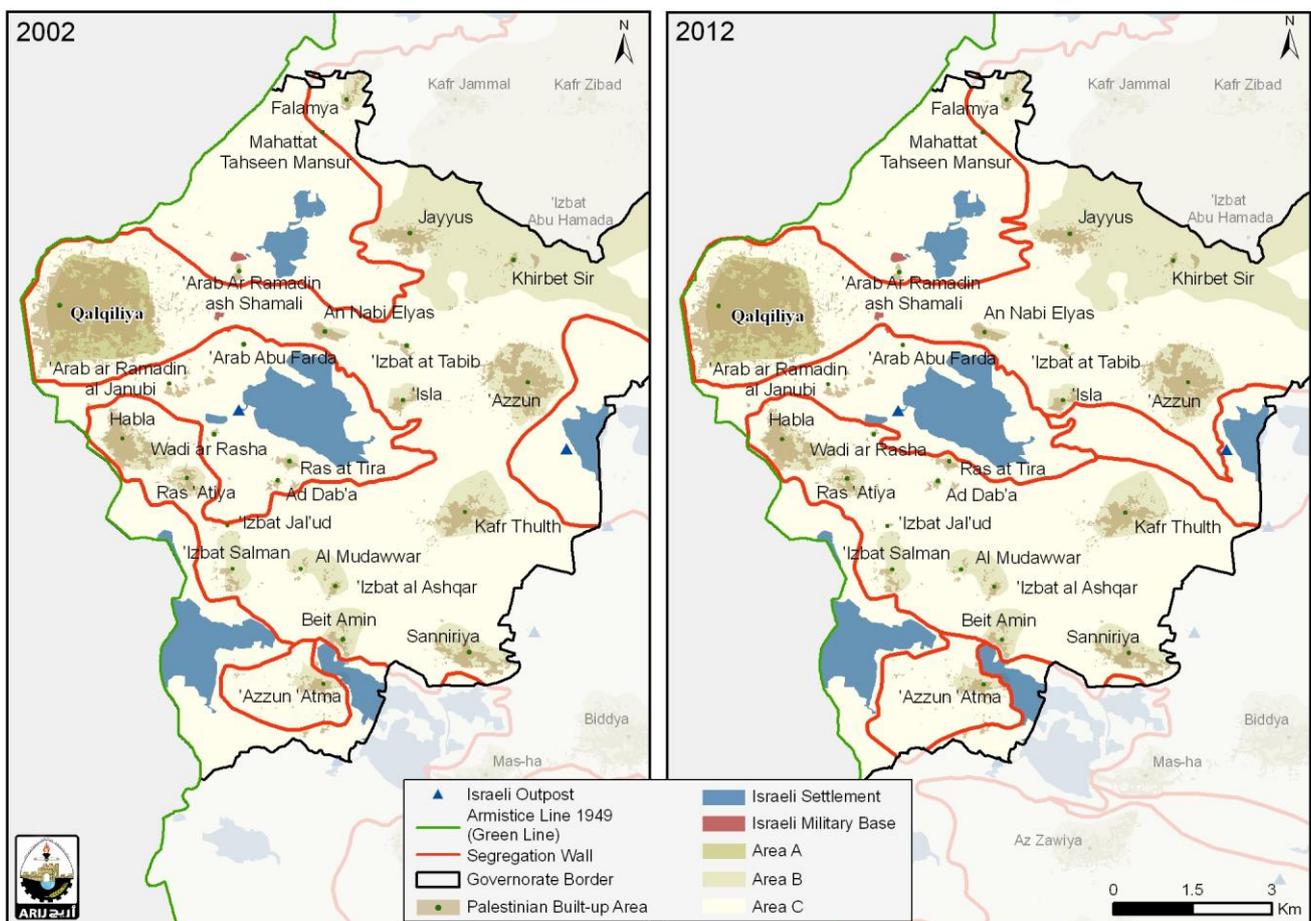
The Israeli occupation Practices in Qalqiliya city

The Israeli Segregation Wall plan in Qalqiliya city

The Implementation of the Israeli Segregation Wall plan on the ground has been ongoing since June, 2002. This began after the decision was taken by the Israeli Authorities to implement the separation policy between Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories by establishing an isolation zone in the western part of the West Bank. This isolation zone stretches from the north to the south of the West Bank, thereby confiscating the most agriculturally fertile land, and isolating Palestinian societies (into Ghettoes) and separating communities from one another. By controlling natural resources and connecting most of the Israeli settlements to one another in an attempt to legitimize the route of the Separation Wall inside the West Bank, the isolation area also undermines the regional interaction between Palestinian towns and villages. and controls the natural resources. The construction of the wall has therefore ignored the ruling of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) made on July 9th 2004, in which they recommended that the route of the Wall should be changed and Palestinians affected by the Wall in this area should be offered compensation. However, on 30th April 2007, new amendments were made, which concentrated on the new route of the Separation Wall, in the areas which faced geographical obstacles in the West Bank.

The first map that was published by the Israeli in July, 2002 ,showed that the Wall would completely put the villages of Ras 'Atiya, Habla, 'Arab Abu Farda village and the neighboring villages of, 'Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi, and An Nabi Elyas and Qalqiliya city, in an isolation zone called Qalqiliya isolation zone. The isolation of these villages is achieved through surrounding these villages by the Wall from three sides; the west, north, and south, leaving the eastern side partly open in order for the villagers to interact with their neighboring villages from the eastern side, which is controlled by the Israeli military ,in order to control the movement of the Palestinian who passes through the isolation zone, and their connection with the surround Palestinian villages. (see map 4)

Map 4: Comparison between the path of Israeli Segregation Wall plan in 2002 and 2012



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

In March 2003, the Israeli military website published a new map for the route of the Separation Wall in the occupied West Bank, illustrating the amendments that included isolation zones that have Qalqiliya city and the surrounding villages . As a result, three isolation zones were created; the first is the isolation of Qalqiliya city through the construction of the Separation Wall around the city from the northern, southern, and western sides. The only side which stayed half open was the eastern side of the city, in order for the residents of the aforementioned villages to remain connected to their neighboring villages, which is controlled by the Israeli military ,in order to control the movement of the Palestinian who passes through the isolation zone, and their connection with the surround Palestinian villages ,with the exception of An Nabi Elyas village which remained between two walls

from the north and the south. (See map 1) The second isolation zone affects the villages of Ras 'Atiya and Habla, while the third isolation zone included the villages of Ad Dab'a, Ras at Tira, Wadi ar Rasha, 'Arab Abu Farda and 'Arab ar-Ramadin al Janubi. Where, the map showed that the Wall will surround the village of Habla and 'Ras 'Atiya from its 3 sides the North, East, and western side, while the south-eastern side remained partly open in order for the villagers of this village to connect with their surrounding villages from the east-northern side. While, 'Arab Abu Farda, were completely separated from Qalqiliya city, which used to be within Qalqiliya isolation zone.

During the following years in 2005, 2006 and 2007, the Israeli army published several amendments to the path of the wall in the occupied West Bank. While, the case for Qalqiliya city did not change, and the Wall still separates the town on the northern, southern and western sides, leaving only the eastern side accessible for the village residents, which is considered to be under the Israeli military power, in order to control the movement of the Palestinians.

It is worth mentioning, that The amendments that were made through the previous years, were for the benefit of Israeli settlements, which had a negative impact on the Palestinian communities.

The construction of the separation wall had a negative impact on Qalqiliya city, since the commercial sector and the shopping movement in the city used to be one of the most powerful components. Qalqiliya city and its trade sector were effected due to the Israeli closure policy where the three entrances of the city (the northern and southern and western) used to be open to the markets located inside the Green Line (the armistice line of 1949) and they constitute 40 % of the total general income of the city.¹

The Wall have also caused the stop of social relations between the city of Qalqiliya, and the neighboring Palestinian cities, because after the construction of the separation wall the access and exit to and from the Qalqiliya city were allowed only for Palestinians who carries an identification card which proves their place of residence in this city. The Israeli authorities did not allow the Palestinians who do not carry this identity card for a residency of " Qalqiliya city " to enter the city, which had a negative impact on the Palestinian citizens and affected the social relations between them. It should be noted that the length of the wall extends to 8.75 km, which caused the confiscation of 1,836 dunums from the lands of Qalqiliya city, including farmlands and open spaces in the city. The following are Land classification of the isolated area behind the Segregation Wall in Qalqiliya city (see table 12).

¹ <http://palestine.assafir.com/article.asp?aid=1462>

Table 12: Land classification of the isolated area behind the Segregation Wall in Qalqiliya city

No.	Land classification	Area (dunums)
1	Israeli settlements	2
2	Minbe, dump and construction sites	18
3	Agricultural lands	926
4	Open spaces	486
5	Shrub and/or herbaceous vegetation associations	232
6	Segregation Wall	162
7	Palestinian built up area	10
	Total	1,836

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

The Israeli occupation claims that the goal behind the construction of the Separation Wall in the occupied Palestinian territories is due to security reasons under the pretext of protecting Israeli citizens, but on the ground, 733 square kilometers of Palestinian territories, 13% of the West Bank will be isolated between the Separation Wall and the Armistice Line of 1949 (Green Line). There will also be an annexation of 107 Israeli settlements constituting more than 85% of the Israeli settlers' living in the occupied territories of the West Bank. It seems that Israel has begun the second phase of what it is seeking to achieve by building the Segregation Wall, after the isolation of the Palestinian territories from the main communities in the West Bank, Israel is taking advantage of the uninhabited spaces to build roads linking settlements with Israel, following the same segregation pattern followed in the settlement construction process. Israel is seeking to link the Israeli settlements in the West Bank with the cities and Israeli communities which are adjacent to the Green Line (the armistice line of 1949) in an effort to undermine the development of the Green Line and redraw their eastern border. This can be seen as part of their preparation to impose their vision and plans on the peace process.

The Israeli bypass roads on the Lands of Qalqiliya city

The concept of "Bypass roads" started to appear during the time of the Oslo Agreement in September 1993 (which was signed by the PLO and Israel) to refer to the roads built by the Israelis in the occupied Palestinian territories. Their aim was to link Israeli settlements in the West Bank to each other and to those inside Israel as well. Since then, Israel has started to raise their efforts in increasing the size of bypass roads in the occupied Palestinian territories as part of its strategy to impose these policies on the ground, which will affect the Peace negotiations with Palestinians, and the establishment of a Palestinian state that is geographically connected and alive.

During the last 46 years of occupation since the year 1967, Israel has been able to make and pitch 810 kilometers of bypass roads to facilitate the connection of the illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank. According to the Oslo Agreement that was signed between the Palestinians and the Israelis, the Palestinians were allowed to use these roads, but after the start of the second Intifada

on 30 September 2000, the Israeli authorities prevented Palestinians from using these roads under the reason of 'security concerns' as their primary reason. It is worth mentioning that the establishment of the Israeli bypass roads in the occupied Palestinian territories has contributed to weakening the development of the Palestinian communities in the West Bank through the creation of obstacles in the areas that are reserved for Palestinian development. In 2004, Israel proposed a network of bypass roads that will alter the pathways of Palestinians and prevent them from using the Israeli roads. Palestinians will be forced to use an alternative road network that is entirely separated from the Israeli bypass roads to ensure the exclusive use of these roads by Israeli absolute use of these roads, citizens. In doing so, Israel will be able to tighten its grip and ensure control of the Israeli bypass roads, while at the same time, depriving Palestinians from their right to "freedom of movement" within the occupied Palestinian territory, as guaranteed by international humanitarian law. The Palestinian city of Qalqiliya is similar to other Palestinian villages in the occupied Palestinian territories which faced many land confiscations because of the establishment of the Israeli bypass road No. 55 which cuts the village through the middle. Following the outbreak of the second Palestinian intifada in late September 2000, the Israeli occupation authorities increased their control over the bypass road number 55 and started to prevent Palestinians from Qalqiliya city and neighboring Palestinian villages from using these bypass road so as to control the levels of violence. Claims were made that Palestinians throw stones at Israeli settlers who use this Street as an entry and exit point, to and from Israel.

Military orders for Qalqiliya city

Israel have repeatedly avoided their responsibilities to the occupied Palestinian territories as the occupying power, under the pretext of " security concerns, the military orders they issue are in direct violation of international humanitarian laws and decision made by the UN Security Council. Throughout the years of Israeli occupation, the Qalqiliya city has been targeted with many military orders which have affected lands and properties to establish bypass roads, military bases, and Israeli outposts, in addition to the construction of the Separation wall . Below are examples of the military orders which have been issued to Qalqiliya in recent years:

- Israeli Military Order No. 31/02 / T : issued on August,8th,2002, and confiscated an area of 125 dunums the lands of Habla and Qalqiliya city, for the purpose of building the Segregation Wall in the area.
- Israeli Military Order No. 37/02 / T : issued on February,5th,2002, to confiscate an area of 560dunums from the lands of ‘Azzun and Jayyus and Qalqiliya city for the purpose of building the Segregation Wall in the area.
- Israeli Military Order No. 43/ 02 / T : issued on November,8th. 2002, and confiscated an area of 239.5 dunums of the lands of ‘Azzun and Habla and Qalqiliya city for the purpose of building the Segregation Wall in the area.

- Israeli Military Order No. 95/ 20 / T : issued on February,1st . 1995, and confiscated an area of 17.4 dunums of the lands of Qalqiliya city for the purpose of establishing a military base on the entrance of Qalqiliya.

- Israeli Military Order No. 22/ 95/ t issued on December,1st , 2011, and confiscated an area of 3489 dunums of the lands of ‘Qalqiliya city for the purpose of establishing an Israeli bypass road which stretch from the armistice line (Green Line of 1949) to reach Zufim Settlement .This military order aims to create a kind of Geographical connection between the Settlement (Zufim) and the Israeli settlement inside the Green Line.

Development plans and projects

Implemented projects

Qalqiliya Municipality has implemented several development projects in Qalqiliya during 2011 and 2012 (see table 13).

Table 13: Implemented development plans and projects in Qalqiliya (2011 – 2012)

Name of the project	Executive body
27 projects concerning the development of infrastructure, urban planning and zoning were implemented	Qalqiliya Municipality
16 projects concerning social development were implemented	Qalqiliya Municipality, The Medical Relief Society, The Women Initiative Society, The Elderly Care Society, Directorate of Youth & Sports, Directorate of Education, The Educated Forum Society
28 projects concerning the development of local economy were implemented	Qalqiliya Municipality, Ministry of Agriculture, Directorate of Industry
11 projects concerning the development of health facilities and protection of the environment were implemented	Qalqiliya Municipality, Health Directorate, Directorate of Local Government

Proposed projects

Qalqiliya Municipality, in cooperation with the city’s civil society organizations and residents, hopes to implement several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during several Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA) workshops conducted by the ‘Strategic Development Framework Committee in Qalqiliya City’; after which the book ‘The Strategic Development Framework in Qalqiliya City (2011-2027)’ was released. The projects are as follows, organized by sector:

Infrastructure, urban planning and zoning sector

- Providing solar cells in remote areas.
- Improving the sewerage system and educating citizens on the importance of connecting their houses to the sewage network.

- Maintaining water sources through educating the citizens on the use of water and organizing and modernizing the water sector.
- Developing the electricity network.
- Maintaining traffic safety by improving the road infrastructure, developing a structural plan for the town, and providing security forces.
- Developing public facilities including public parks and recreational facilities.
- Achieving a suitable structural plan.
- Establishing a comprehensive database to include schools, colleges, hospitals, clinics, laboratories, factories and community institutions.
- Meeting the requirements of urban development within a suitable structural plan, and classifying lands for sustainable development and planning.

Social sector

- Strengthening the development capacity of women through supporting women's associations and encouraging participation.
- Integrating people with special needs in to the community by promoting the institutions interested in people with special needs and investing in public facilities such as rehabilitation centers to make them more suitable for their intended purposes.
- Providing care for the elderly.
- Reducing the unemployment rate through programs that support and finance small projects.
- Enhancing the quality of education through the establishment of an advanced educational center, the introduction of modern methods in education such as e-learning, the development of the environment and quality of education, the restoration and expansion of certain schools and the construction of new schools.
- Providing infrastructure for higher technical education through the awareness of students and parents, and networking with the labor market and other donors.

Economic sector

- Developing the agricultural sector through the rehabilitation of artesian wells, the use of new methods of agriculture, attracting new types of agricultural crops that do not exist in Palestine thanks to the abundance of water and its cheap price in Qalqiliya city. Also including agricultural spawning laboratories for new crops, establishing a public central market, providing agricultural guidance and land reclamation programs, supporting farmers, marketing agricultural products, and providing support programs for livestock.
- Developing the industrial sector through the establishment of a dedicated organized industrial zone, and establishing laws and regulations to encourage investment.
- Developing the business and tourism sectors and sports activities, through supporting small projects, restoring old buildings and establishing facilities such as a cultural sports club for young people and a center for the rehabilitation of drug abusers.

Health and environment sector

- Maintaining the public health and environment, through health and environmental awareness among the citizens, providing a solid waste collection management and transfer system, and maintaining public sanitation.

Locality development priorities and needs

Qalqiliya suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 14 shows the development priorities and needs in the city, according to the Municipality's perspective:

Table 14: Development priorities and needs in Qalqiliya

No.	Sector	Strongly needed	Needed	Not a priority	Notes
Infrastructural needs					
1	Construction and paving of roads	*			20km [^]
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks		*		5km
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas		*		12km
4	Construction of new water networks		*		6km
5	Rehabilitation/construction of new wells or springs	*			6 underground wells
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			500 cubic meters
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			12km
8	Construction of a new electricity network	*			4km
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection	*			600 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste	*			4 vehicles
11	Providing a sanitary landfill			*	
Health needs					
1	Building new clinics or health care centres			*	
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres			*	
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools			*	
Educational needs					
1	Building new schools	*			all levels
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			all levels
3	Purchasing new school equipment	*			all levels
Agriculture needs					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			500 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns			*	
3	Construction of livestock barracks			*	
4	Provision of veterinary services	*			
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals	*			200 tons per year
6	Construction of new greenhouses		*		30 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses	*			150 greenhouses
8	Provision of field crops seeds	*			
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies	*			

[^] 2km main roads, 12km secondary roads and 6km agricultural roads

Source: Qalqiliya Municipality, 2012

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