'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali 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 Qalqiliya Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Qalqiliya 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 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 at preparing strategic developmental programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current political, social, and economic instability with the focus on the agricultural sector.

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

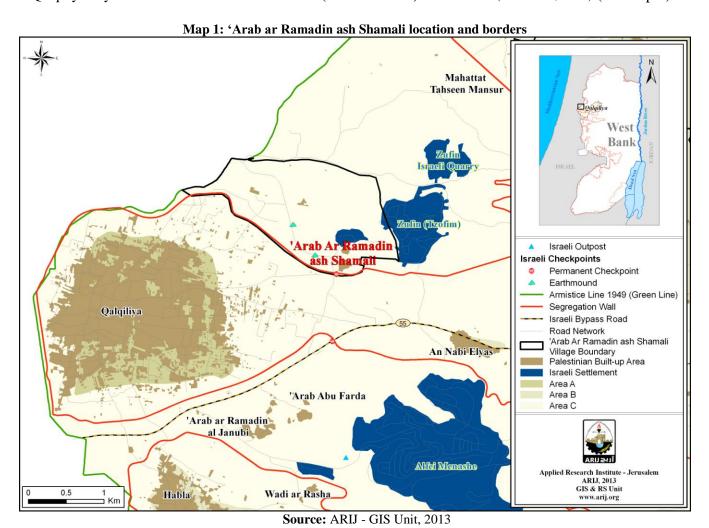
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'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Profile

Location and physical characteristics

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali is a Palestinian village in the Qalqiliya Governorate located 3.25km north of Qalqiliya City. It is bordered by Jayyus village to the east and north, 'Arab Abu Farda and Qalqiliya city to the south and the Green Line (lands of 1948) to the west (ARIJ-GIS, 2013) (see map 1).



'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali is located at an altitude of 80m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 578.8mm. The average annual temperature is 19°C and the average annual humidity is approximately 63% (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 2012, 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali has been governed by a Village Council which is currently administrated by 9 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority. The Council owns a permanent headquarters and 2 tractors, but it does not possess a vehicle for the collection of solid waste ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

History

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village's name came from the Ar Ramadin family who live in the area northeast of Qalqiliya city. Ash Shamali, which literally means 'the northern' was added to the name due to the village's location north of Qalqiliya city and also to differentiate it from the 'Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi locality to the south of Qalqiliya city.

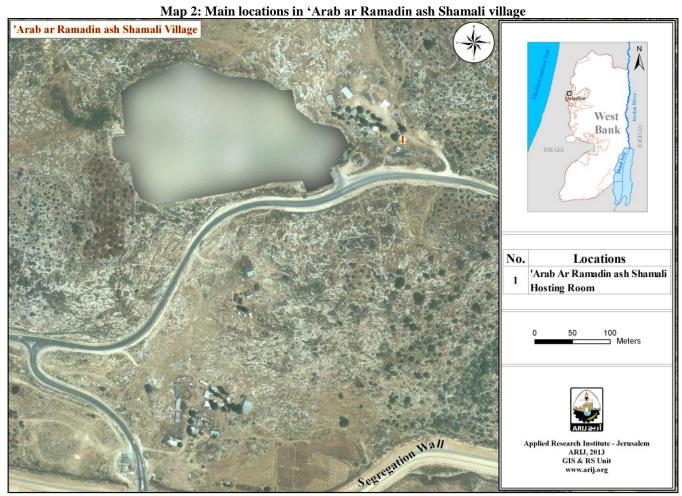
The village was established in 1946 A.D., but its residents are descendent from the Bir as Sabi' area ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).



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Religious and archaeological sites

To date, no religious, archaeological or historical sites have been discovered in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012) (see map 2).



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali in 2007 was 79, of whom 43 were male and 36 female. There were 16 households registered as living in 18 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 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali was as follows: 26.6% were less than 15 years of age, 67.1% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 2.5% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed

that the gender ratio of males to females in the village was 119.4:100, meaning that males and females constituted 54.4% and 45.6% of the population, respectively.

Families

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali residents are from one family; Ar Ramadin ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

Immigration

The field survey conducted by ARIJ staff showed that approximately 5 families have left the village since Al Aqsa Intifada in 2000 ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, the illiteracy rate among 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali population is approximately 28.6%, of whom 66.7% are females. Of the total population, 23.8% could only read and write with no formal education, 25.4% had elementary education, 12.7% had preparatory education, 6.3% had secondary education, and 1.6% had completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment

S E x	Illiter ate	Can read & write	Element ary	Preparat ory	Secondar y	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Masters	PhD	Unkno wn	Total
M	6	10	8	6	4	0	0	0	1	0	1	36
F	12	5	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
T	18	15	16	8	4	0	0	0	1	0	1	63

Source: PCBS, 2009

There are no schools or kindergartens in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012). This is considered the main obstacle faced by the village residents.

Due to the lack of schools in the village, students attend An Nabi Elyas Co-educational Secondary School in An Nabi Elyas (3km away) or 'Azzun village's schools (5km away) ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

The educational sector in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village faces a number of obstacles, mainly:

- The existence of gates on the Wall which hinder the students' freedom of movement.
- The lack of transportation vehicles to transport the students to their schools outside of the locality.

The lack of permits given to students to go to schools in An Nabi Elyas village located behind the Wall.

('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012)

Health status

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali has no health facilities of any kind. Thus, due to the lack of health services or in emergencies, patients are transferred to Darweesh Nazzal Hospital, Qalqiliya Health Center or the UNRWA Hospital in Oalgiliya city. Each of these health facilities is located 3km away from the village ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

- The health sector in the village faces a number of obstacles and problems, principally: The lack of any health centers.
- The existence of checkpoints on the roads leading to the health centers and hospitals in Qalqiliya city.

The lack of an ambulance. ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012)

Economic activities

The economy in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali is dependent mainly on the agricultural sector which absorbs 99% of the village's workforce ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 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 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali are as follows:

- Agriculture sector (99%)
- Israeli labor market (1%)

Figure 1: The distribution of labor force among main economic activities in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Israeli labor. market 1% Agriculture 99%

Source: 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali has no economic or commercial facilities or institutions ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

In 2012, the unemployment rate in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali reached 20%. The groups most affected economically by the Israeli restrictions have been:

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

('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012)

Labor force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, 50.8% of 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali's labor force was economically active, of whom 93.7% were employed, 49.2% were not economically active, 25.8% were students, and 67.7% were housekeepers (see table 2).

Table 2: 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali population (10 years of age and above) by sex and employment status

	Economically active					1						
S e x	Employe d	Currently unemploy ed	Unemplo yed (never worked)	Total	Stude nt	House- keeping	Unable to work	Not working & not looking for work	Others	Total	Not stated	Total
M	30	2	0	32	2	0	1	0	1	4	0	36
F	0	0	0	0	6	21	0	0	0	27	0	27
T	30	2	0	32	8	21	1	0	1	31	0	63

M: Male; F: Female; T: Total. **Source**: PCBS, 2009

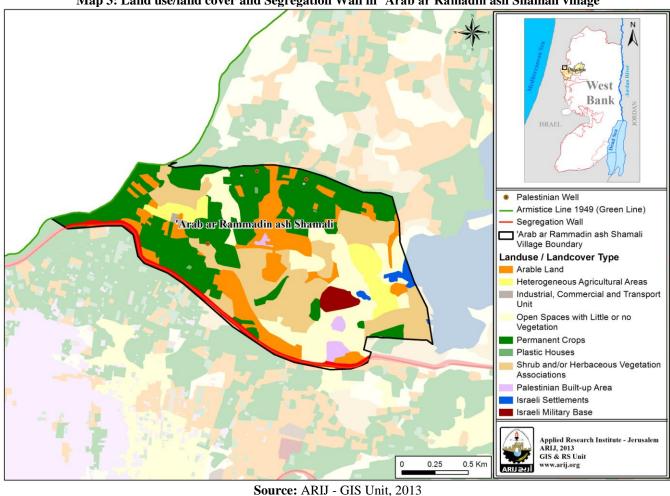
Agricultural sector

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali has a total area of approximately 2,537 dunums of which 1,933 are arable land and 35 dunums are registered as residential (see table 3 and map 3).

Table 3: Land use and land cover in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village (area in dunums)

Tota	Built up		Agricultura (1,933			Inland	Forests	Open	Area of industrial,	Area of settlements, military
area	area	Permanent crops	Green- houses	Range- lands	Arable lands	water		spaces	commercial & transport unit	bases & Wall zone
2,539	35	971	2	560	400	0	0	406	7	156

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2013



Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village

The field survey conducted by the ARIJ team shows that all of the residents in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali rear and keep domestic animals, mainly sheep and goats (see table 4).

Table 4: Livestock in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee hives
0	250	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

There are approximately 16.5km of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows:

Table 5: Agricultural roads in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village and their lengths

Suitability of agricultural roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	3
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	6
For animals only	4.5
Unsuitable	3

Source: 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012

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

- The lack of labor forces.
- The lack of access to some agricultural land due to its location in areas classified as "C".
- The lack of water resources.
- The difficulty in accessing the agricultural production inputs due to the Segregation Wall.
- The difficulty in coordinating for work in the isolated agricultural lands.
- The lack of capital for agricultural investment.

('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012)

Institutions and services

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village has no governmental institutions and only one local association that provides services to the society, which is:

• 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council: Founded in 2012 by the Ministry of Local Government, with the aim of addressing different issues concerning the village and providing various services and infrastructure for its residents.

('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012)

Infrastructure and natural resources

Electricity and telecommunication services:

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali is not connected to either a public electricity network or a telecommunication network ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

Transportation services:

There are no public transportation facilities in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali, thus residents use private cars on the main road. They also suffer from the existence of the Segregation Wall which forces them to travel longer distances ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

Water resources:

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali is not connected to a public water network, thus the residents are forced to purchase expensive water tanks ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

Sanitation:

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali lacks a public sewerage network and most of the population use cesspits as the main means of wastewater disposal ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

Due to the fact that the village is not connected to a water network and receives no water services, there is no data available on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, or the approximate quantity of wastewater generated per day. However, the wastewater collected by cesspits is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with little regard for the environment. 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 both the environment and public health (ARIJ - WERU, 2013).

Solid waste management:

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali lacks a solid waste management service; each citizen collects the solid waste from his household and burns it nearby ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali residents is nearly 20 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

Environmental conditions

Like other towns and villages in the Governorate, 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali experiences several environmental problems which must be addressed and solved. These problems can be identified as follows:

Water crisis

The absence of a water service in the village due to the lack of a public water network forces the residents to buy expensive water tanks.

Wastewater management

The absence of a public sewage network in the village means that 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali 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 allow 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 residents' health.

Solid waste management:

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village experiences many problems concerning the management of solid waste, as the village lacks the service of solid waste management. As a result, citizens collect solid waste and burn it next to their houses, causing damage to their health, and leading to the proliferation of harmful flies, insects, and mice, as well as the bad odors, toxic gases and black smoke which are emitted when the waste is burned. All of this effects are harmful to human health and the environment.

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In addition to the lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village, like the rest of the villages and towns in Qalqiliya Governorate, which dispose their waste of in Zahrat al Finjan landfill located in Jenin Governorate. This landfill is considered the central sanitary landfill serving most of the localities in Qalqiliya Governorate.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical status in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel on 28th September 1995, all the village lands of 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali consisting of 2,539 dunums were classified as area C, where Israel retains full control over security and administration related to the territory and land management is prohibited without the prior consent or authorization of the Israeli Civil Administration. Most of the village lands of 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali are classified as area C, consisting of agricultural lands and open spaces. There has also been land confiscation for the purposes of building Israeli military bases (See Table 6).

Table 6: The geopolitical divisions of "Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village according to Oslo Agreement 1995

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	0	0
Area C	2,539	100
Natural reserves	0	0
Total	2,539	100

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

Israeli occupation practices in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali has been subjected to numerous Israeli confiscations. Israel confiscated 24 dunums of village lands in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali to establish Tzofim settlement. In addition, to establishing an Israeli camp to the west of the settlement in 1998 called Nachshon.

The Israeli Segregation Wall plan in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village

Implementation of the Israeli Segregation Wall plan has been ongoing since 2002. This began after the decision of 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, confiscating the most fertile agricultural lands, isolating and separating Palestinian communities from one another. By connecting most of the Israeli settlements 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, retaining control the natural resources. The construction of the wall has 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 the Palestinians affected by the Wall in this area should be offered compensation. However, on 30th April, 2007, rather than changing the wall route to reduce the negative impact on these villages, Israel disregarded the human rights of these Palestinians by implementing more changes to the route, connecting Israeli settlements to one another. These changes worsened the situation for the affected villages, as they became more isolated from one another. According to the latest amendments of the Wall route, 2.7km from the Wall were built on the village lands of 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village, which has made it so approximately 98% of the village's total area inside the western isolation zone. Israel is attempting to illegally include areas into their new borders through the route of the wall. The isolated lands include agricultural lands and open spaces. (See table 7).

Table 7: Land classification of the isolated area behind the Segregation Wall in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village

No.	Land classification	Area (dunums)
1	Open spaces	962
2	Agricultural lands	1,364
3	Israeli settlements	24
4	Mine, dump, and construction sites	7
5	Segregation Wall	54
6	Palestinian built up area	36
7	Isreali Millitary Camp	40
	Total	2,487

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

<u>Previous Israeli Violations Against 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Land and property</u>

The residents of 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village which is classified as area C are still suffering from the prohibitions of the Israeli occupation, there is intent to stop Palestinian urban development in these areas and to also stop Palestinian economic development and to displace them from their place of residence so that they can implement their settlement plans and strengthen settler presence in the occupied Palestinian territories. This policy has negatively affected the growth of Palestinian

communities in certain areas, since construction and building is prohibited without a permit issued from the Israeli civil administration. Israel have also drained natural resources such as agricultural lands and natural water resources (like wells and springs) using them for the benefit of Israeli settlements through building artesian wells in order to force the Palestinians to leave their land. Moreover, the Israeli Policy of demolition started to take place in the classified area "C" to confirm the intention of the Israeli government to implement their settlement plans and to show their aim in going ahead with these plans which were not made because of and based on the needs of security and military necessity and unauthorized construction but instead due to Israeli interests of building Israeli settlements. 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali is one of the Palestinian communities that has been targeted by this policy, here are some of the Israeli violations which affected the people of 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali:

- At the beginning of March 2008, the Israeli civil administration gave military orders to five Palestinian families in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali to demolish their housing under the pretext of unauthorized residential construction. The premises that were given these orders belong to Suleiman Mohammed Salman Ramadin and Abdullah Mohammed Suleiman Ramadeen and Khalid Mohammed Ramadeen and Mohammed Khalid Mohammed Salman Ramadin.
- On May,13th, 2008, the Regulation and Building Committee of the Israeli Civil Administration handed over two military orders to the citizen Ammar Jaber Al Jakharma which includes an order to stop the construction of his building. This was done during a tour organized by the staff of the Israeli Civil Administration in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali where Al Jakharma family were warned under the pretext of illegal construction since the targeted constructions lies in areas classified as area C. Below is a description of the targeted premises: (1) a sheep stable, owned by the heirs of Jabor Mohammed Al Jakharma, a building with an area of 108 m² which was built in May 2006 and it's a house for 200 sheep and as well as a store (2) a guest house for the people of 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali and visitors from outside the village, owned by the heirs of Jabor Mohammed Al Jakharma. The building was established in November of 2007 with an area of 502 m². The Israeli civil administration gave the owners notice until 19th of June, 2008 to rectify out the legal status of the buildings that were notified of the demolition.
- On 9th July, 2008, the Regulation and Building Committee of the Israeli Civil Administration gave a military order to stop the construction of a building under the pretext of illegal construction since the targeted building is located in the classified area C. The homes and Brix's which had the warning belongs to the citizen Jabr Mohammed Jakharma.
- On 2nd February, 2010, the Israeli civil administration gave military orders to six Palestinian families in the village of 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali to demolish and evacuate their housing and their animal stables under the pretext of unauthorized residential construction, since the targeted constructions lies in areas classified as area C. The military orders notifications gave a opportunity for the four families to rectify the legal status of the buildings notified for demolition giving until the beginning of March, 2010. Another two families in the village were given military order notifications to stop building. These buildings belongs to citizens named Khaled Suleiman Al Jakharma, Abdullah Suleiman Al jakharma, Suleiman Mohammed Suleiman Al jakharma, Mohammed Khaled Al Jakharma , No'man Khalid Jakharma and and Ammar Jaber Al jakharma.

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- Moreover, 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali witnessed in October, 2011 a new series of Israeli attacks that affect this area from time to time, the Israeli army demolished two tents and agricultural barracks in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali, under the pretext of unauthorized residential construction, since the targeted constructions lies in areas classified as area according to the Oslo II Interim signed in 1995 and which is under full administrative Israeli control security. The property attacked belongs to Kader Jabr Mohammed Jkakharma and Jabr Kader Jaber Jakharma.
- On Septemper, 6th, 2012 Israeli bulldozers demolished the house of Haj Khaled Salman Al Jakharma made from burlap, in addition to his agricultural barracks. They also demolished another house belonging to Abdullah Sulaiman Al Jkharma under the pretext of illegal construction.

Development plans and projects

Implemented projects

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council has not implemented any development projects in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali during the past five years ('Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012).

Proposed projects

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali 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 Participatory Rapid Appraisal workshop conducted by ARIJ staff in the village. The projects are as follows, in order of priority from the viewpoints of the participants in the workshop:

- 1. Establishing a public water network to deliver water to around 36 households through transmission lines (2.5km in length) to be linked to the existing artesian wells in the village.
- 2. Providing health services in the village, such as a health clinic or an ambulance.
- 3. Installing solar system cells to provide 36 housing units with electricity.
- 4. Rehabilitating secondary roads (approximately 2km long).
- 5. Renovating existing greenhouses and barracks in the village due the difficulty of constructing new ones.
- 6. Providing job opportunities to employ laborers.
- 7. Providing 5 water tanks with a capacity of 4 cubic meters.

Locality development priorities and needs

'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 8 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Village Council's point of view.

Table 8: Development priorities and needs in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali

No.	Sector 1 able 8: Development priorities and r	Strongly	Needed	Not a	Notes							
110.		needed	1 (CCUCU	Priority	110165							
	Infrastructural needs											
1	Construction and paving of roads			*								
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks			*								
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas			*								
4	Construction of new water networks			*								
5	Rehabilitation/construction of new wells or springs			*								
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			200 cubic meters							
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network			*								
8	Construction of a new electricity network			*								
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection			*								
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste			*								
11	Providing a sanitary landfill			*								
	Healt	h needs										
1	Building new clinics or health care centres			*								
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres			*								
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools			*								
	Education	onal needs										
1	Building new schools			*								
2	Rehabilitation of old schools			*								
3	Purchasing new school equipment			*								
	Agricult	ure needs										
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			20 dunums							
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns	*			36 cisterns							
3	Construction of livestock barracks	*			36 barracks							
4	Provision of veterinary services	*										
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals	*			200 tons per year							
6	Construction of new greenhouses			*								
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses			*								
8	Provision of field crops seeds	*										
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies	*										
			•	•	•							

Source: 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali Village Council, 2012

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