

Habla Town Profile (including Ad Dab'a Locality)



Prepared by



The Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

Funded by



Spanish Cooperation

2013

Acknowledgments

ARIJ hereby expresses its deep gratitude to the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID) for their funding of this project.

ARIJ is grateful to the Palestinian officials in the ministries, municipalities, joint services councils, village committees and councils, and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) for their assistance and cooperation with the project team members during the data collection process.

ARIJ also thanks all the staff who worked throughout the past couple of years towards the accomplishment of this work.

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>.

Table of Contents

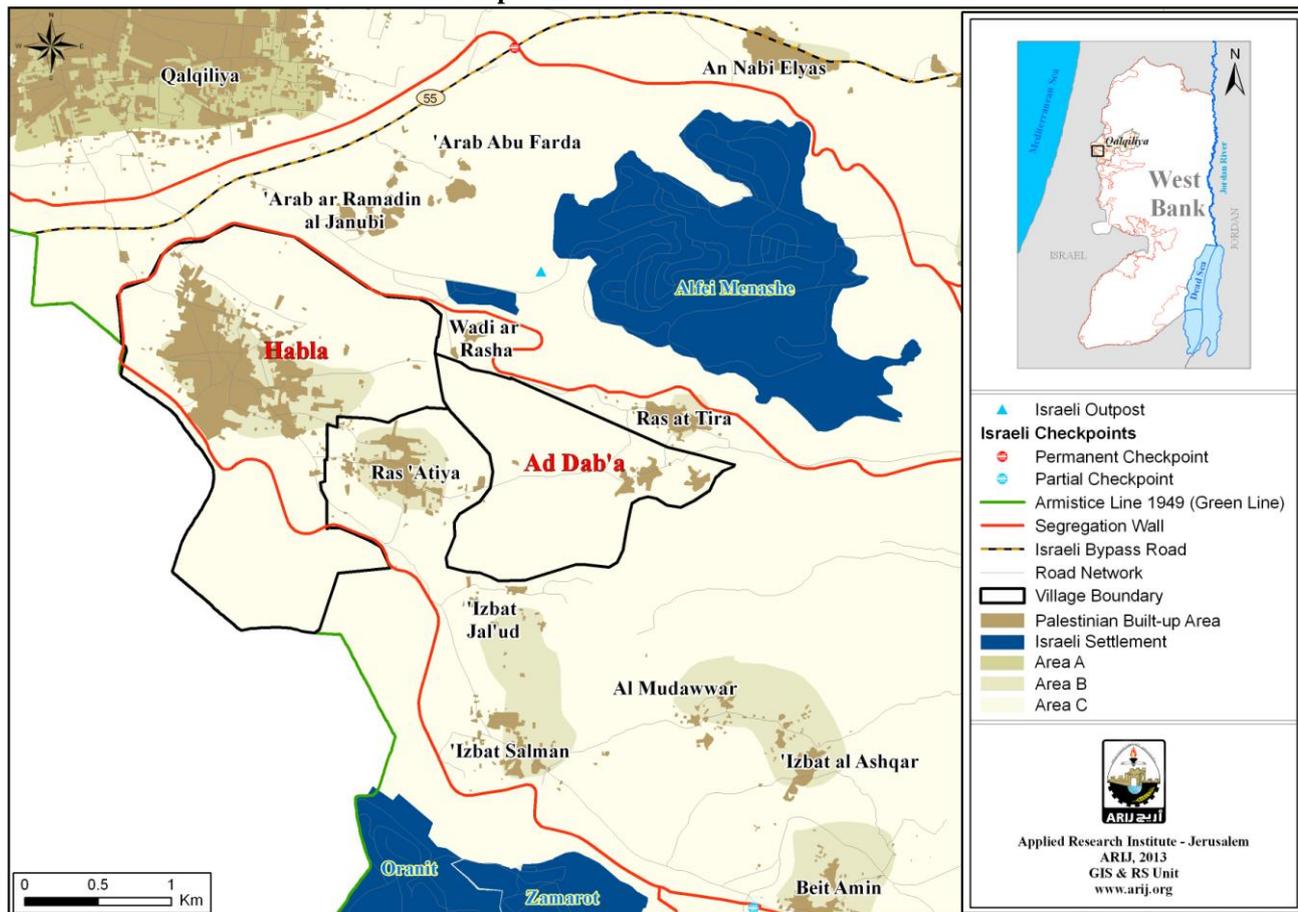
<i>Location and Physical Characteristics</i>	4
<i>History</i>	5
<i>Religious and Archaeological Sites</i>	6
<i>Population</i>	8
<i>Education</i>	8
<i>Health Status</i>	9
<i>Economic Activities</i>	9
<i>Agricultural Sector</i>	11
<i>Institutions and Services</i>	14
<i>Infrastructure and Natural Resources</i>	14
<i>Environmental Conditions</i>	16
<i>Impact of the Israeli Occupation</i>	17
<i>Development Plans and Projects</i>	27
<i>Implemented Projects</i>	27
<i>Proposed Projects</i>	28
<i>Locality Development Priorities and Needs</i>	29
<i>References</i>	30

Habla Town Profile¹

Location and physical characteristics

Habla (including the Ad Dab’a locality) is a Palestinian town in the Qalqiliya Governorate, located 3-5km south of Qalqiliya City. It is bordered by Al Mudawwar to the east, Al Mudawwar, Ras ‘Atiya and ‘Izbat Jalud to the south, the Green Line (lands of 1948) to the west, and Qalqiliya city, Wadi ar Rasha and Ras at Tira to the north (ARIJ-GIS, 2013) (see map 1).

Map 1: Habla location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Habla is located at an altitude of 71-159m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 589-590mm. The average annual temperature is 19°C whilst the average annual humidity is approximately 63% (ARIJ-GIS, 2013).

Until 2012, Ad Dab’a had been governed by a Projects Committee. However, in 2012, after a decision by the Palestinian Ministry of Councils and the Ministry of Local Government, Ad Dab’a was merged with the bigger locality of Habla town under Habla Municipal Council.

¹ The information listed in this profile includes the information of both Habla town and Ad Dab’a locality; based on the Local Government’s decision in 2012 to merge the two localities under one local council.

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 1997, Habla has been governed by a Municipal Council which is currently administrated by 11 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). There are also 18 employees working in the council, which owns a permanent headquarters that is included within the 'Western Joint Services Council.' The Council possesses a vehicle for the collection of solid waste in addition to two pick-up cars, a bulldozer and a small hammer (Habla Municipal council, 2012).

It is the responsibility of the Municipal Council to provide a number of services to the residents of Habla, including:

- The establishment and maintenance of the drinking water and electricity networks.
- Waste collection and street cleaning.
- Provision of road networks in addition to road rehabilitation, construction and paving.
- Implementation of projects and studies for the town.
- Protection of historical and archeological sites.
- Protection of governmental properties.
- Organization of the construction and licensing processes.
- Provision of transportation.
- Provision of educational kindergartens.
- Provision of offices for governmental services.

(Habla Municipal Council, 2012)

History

Habla town was named after the scientist Ibn Sinan Al Habali, while Ad Dab'a locality (from the word 'dabi' which literally means hyena) was named after a large cave in the area that was inhabited by hyenas, over which people built their houses when they came to the area.

The town was established in 1214 A.D., with its residents descending from Al Hijazz countries, Marda town in Salfit Governorate, Ma'an in Jordan and Kafr Thulth and Qalansuwa localities (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

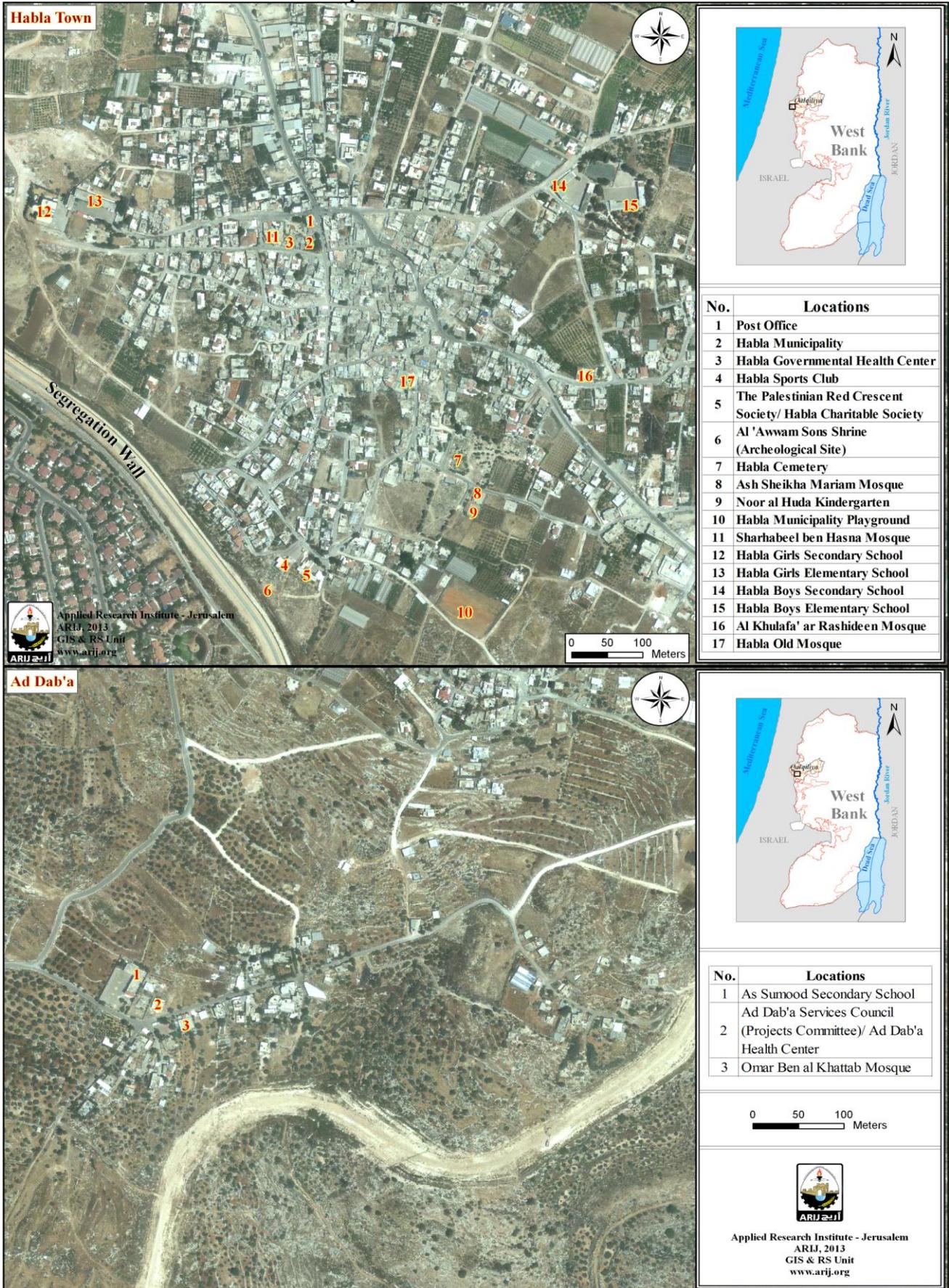
Photo of Habla



Religious and archaeological sites

There are five mosques in the town (Sharhabeel ben Hasna, Al Khulafa' ar Rashideen, Ash Sheikha Mariam, Omar Ben al Khattab and the Old Mosque). The town has several sites of archaeological interest including the Omari Mosque and the Sons of Al 'Awwam Shrine, which contains a small mosque, a yard and the mummified remains of fighters from the Islamic conquest. There are also some Christian tombs in the town carved in to the rocks since the Roman rule as well as the hyena cave (Habla Municipal Council, 2012) (see map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Habla town



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Habla in 2007 was 6,166, of whom 3,169 were male and 2,997 female. There were 1,119 households registered as living in 1,198 housing units.

Age groups and gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by PCBS in 2007 showed the distribution of age groups in Habla was as follows: 42.8% were less than 15 years of age, 53.2% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 2.9% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the gender ratio of males to females in the town was 106:100, meaning that males and females constituted 51% and 49% of the population respectively.

Families

Habla residents descend from four main families, Odah, Mardawi, Kharroob and Shahwan (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, the illiteracy rate among the Habla population is approximately 7.6%, 75% of whom are females. Of the total population, 16.3% could only read and write with no formal education, 30.6% had elementary education, 24.9% had preparatory education, 13.8% had secondary education, and 6.6% had completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the town of Habla by gender and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: Habla population (10 years and above) by gender and educational attainment

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Masters	PhD	Unknown	Total
M	81	328	650	593	355	67	107	2	6	0	3	2,192
F	245	367	656	469	236	30	70	1	0	0	2	2,076
T	326	695	1,306	1,062	591	97	177	3	6	0	5	4,268

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are five public schools in the town, all of which are run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012) (see table 2).

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

School Name	Supervising authority	Gender
Habla Boys' Secondary School	Government	Male
Habla Girls' Secondary School	Government	Female
Habla Boys' Elementary School	Government	Male
Habla Girls' Elementary School	Government	Female
As Sumood Co-educational Secondary School	Government	Mixed

Source: Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012

There are 2,152 students, 125 teachers, and 78 classes in the town. The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 17, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 28 (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012).

There are also 3 kindergartens in Habla town which are run by different private organizations (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012) (see table 3 below).

Table 3: Kindergartens in Habla town by name and supervising authority

Name of kindergarten	No. of classes	No. of teachers	Supervising authority
Al Baylasan Kindergarten	3	4	Private
Habla Charitable Society Kindergarten	6	7	Private
Noor al Huda Kindergarten	3	4	Private

Source: Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012

The educational sector in Habla town faces a number of obstacles:

- The inactive parents council in the boys' schools.
- The heading of students for tutoring
- The lack of a specialized education center for people with special needs.
- The lack of scientific laboratories and teaching aids.
- The lack of classrooms.

(Habla Municipal Council, 2012)

Health status

Habla has a health center (Habla health center), two private physician's clinics, 3 private dental clinics, a private otolaryngologist clinic, a private medical lab, a mother and child care center run by a charitable society and 3 private pharmacies. This is in addition to Ad Dab'a Health Clinic which has a resident nurse, but the medical staff only work two days a week. The town also has an ambulance. In the absence of required health services or in emergencies, patients are transferred to either Darweesh Nazzal Hospital, Qalqiliya Health Center in Qalqiliya city (6 and 3km away respectively) or to the UNRWA Hospital (8km away) (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

The health sector in the town faces a number of obstacles and problems:

- The lack of an emergency center.
- The existence of the Segregation Wall which makes access and supply retrieval difficult.
- The lack of a 24 hour health service.
- The lack of communication between the private and governmental clinics.
- The lack of specialized doctors for birth conditions and for patients suffering from chronic diseases.

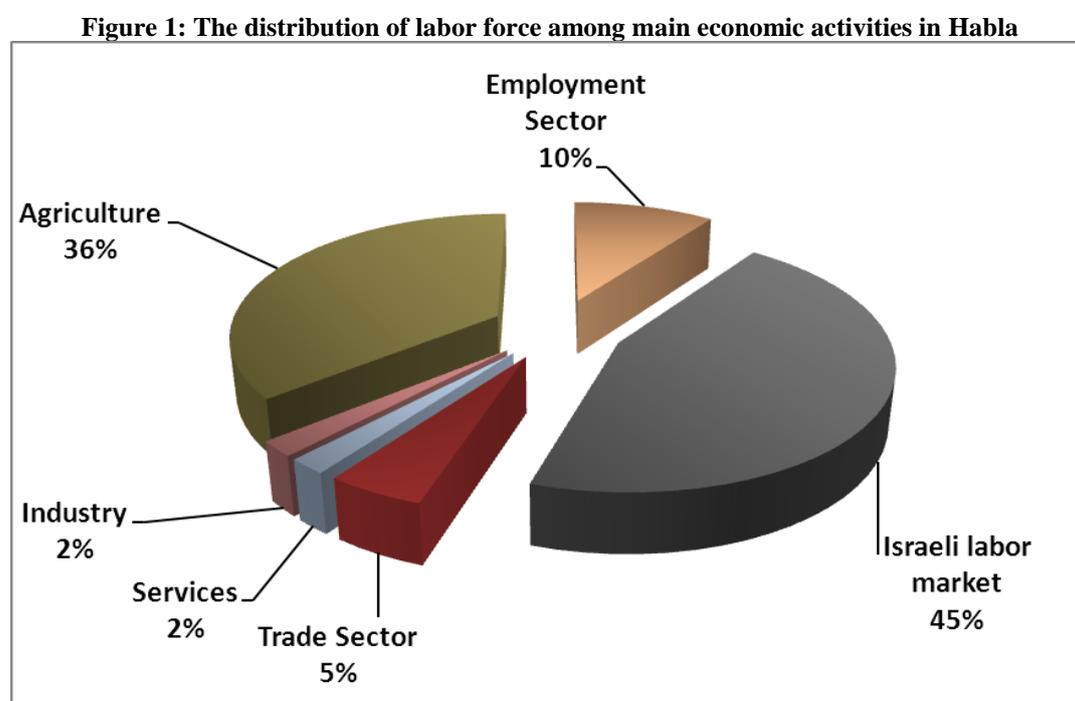
(Habla Municipal Council, 2012)

Economic activities

The economy in Habla is dependent mainly on the Israeli labor market, which absorbs 45% of the town's workforce (Habla Municipal 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 Habla are as follows:

- Israeli labor market (45%)
- Agriculture sector (36%)
- Government or other employees sector (10%)
- Trade sector (5%)
- Industry (2%)
- Services sector (2%)



Source: Habla Municipal Council, 2012

Habla has 24 groceries stores, 3 fruit and vegetable stores, 3 bakeries, 2 butchers, 15 service stores, 10 different professional workshops, 4 stonemasons, 5 agricultural nurseries and 2 stores for agricultural tools (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

In 2012, the unemployment rate in Habla reached 23% and the most economically affected groups are as follows;

- Former workers in Israel.
- Workers in the agriculture sector.
- Workers in the trade sector.
- Industrial workers.
- Workers in the services sector.

(Habla Municipal Council, 2012)

Labor force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, 35.3% of Habla's labor force was economically active, of whom 85.7% were employed, 64.5% were not economically active, 51.1% were students, and 38.1% were housekeepers (see table 4).

Table 4: Habla 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	Housekeeping	Unable to work	Not working & not looking for work	Others	Total		
M	1,114	125	74	1,313	735	1	106	8	22	872	7	2,192
F	178	5	10	193	672	1,048	106	3	53	1,882	1	2,076
T	1,292	130	84	1,506	1,407	1,049	212	11	75	2,754	8	4,268

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

Source: PCBS, 2009

Agricultural sector

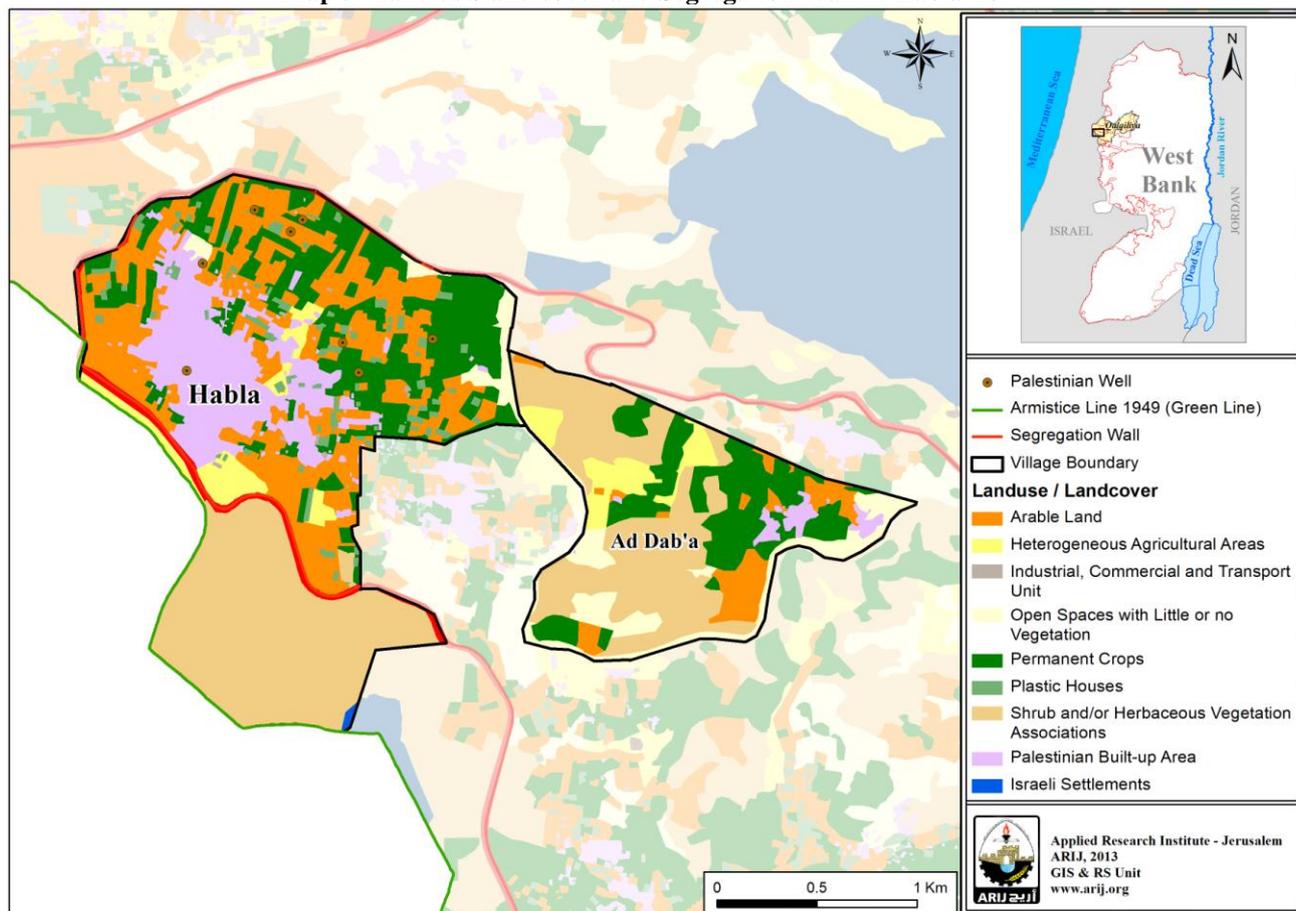
Habla has a total area of approximately 5,249 dunums of which 4,228 are arable land and 616 dunums are registered as residential (see table 5 and map 3).

Table 5: Land use and land cover in Habla town (area in dunums)

Total area	Built up area	Agricultural area (4,228)				Inland water	Forests	Open spaces	Area of industrial, commercial & transport unit	Area of settlements, military bases & Wall zone
		Permanent crops	Green-houses	Range-lands	Arable lands					
5,249	616	1,394	119	1,596	1,119	0	0	293	6	106

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2013

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Habla Town



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Table 6 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Habla. The most commonly cultivated crops within this area are cauliflowers and white cabbages, there are a total area of 191 dunums of greenhouses in the town and the most commonly cultivated crops within this cucumber

Table 6: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Habla (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	95	0	70	45	15	5	12	0	70	50	262

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

Table 7 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Habla is famous for olive cultivation and there are approximately 1,094 dunums of land planted with olive trees in the town.

Table 7: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Habla (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.
1,094	0	0	261.8	0	14	0	1	0	2	4	98.7	1,098	377.5

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Habla, cereals (particularly wheat) are the most cultivated, covering an area of approximately 23 dunums (see table 8).

Table 8: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Habla (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.
23	0	8	90	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	37	100

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 in size of agricultural area 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 include 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 11% of the residents in Habla rear and keep domestic animals such as sheep and goats (see table 9).

Table 9: Livestock in Habla

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee hives
10	1,267	332	0	0	0	0	12,000	8,000	0

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

There are approximately 46km of agricultural roads in the town, divided as follows:

Table 10: Agricultural roads in Habla town and their lengths

Suitability of agricultural roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	6
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	20
For animals only	0
Unsuitable	20

Source: Habla Municipal Council, 2012

The agricultural sector in the town faces some problems including;

- The confiscation of lands by the Israelis.
- The lack of economic feasibility for agricultural investment.
- The lack of capital for agricultural projects.
- The lack of access to agricultural lands.
- The high price of water.
- The high prices of feed, fertilizers and pesticides.
- The lack of good marketing of agricultural products.
- The lack of interest given by the Ministry of Agriculture to farmers.
- The lack of agricultural roads to provide access to agricultural lands.

(Habla Municipal Council, 2012)

Institutions and services

Habla town has a post office as well as numerous local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include;

- **Habla Municipal Council:** Founded in 1997 and currently registered by the Ministry of Local Government, with the aim of addressing different issues concerning the town and providing various services and infrastructure for its residents.
- **Habla Charitable Society:** Founded in 1982 and currently registered by the Ministry of the Interior, is interested in providing children with sport activities, educational and training courses, as well as a kindergarten.
- **Habla Sports Club:** Founded in 1996 and currently registered by the Ministry of Youth & Sports, aims to provide young people with sports and social activities.
- **The Red Crescent Society:** Founded in 2001 by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society and interested in providing educational, health and awareness courses.
- **The Mother & Child Center:** Founded in 2010 by the Red Crescent Society and interested in providing training courses and awareness, educational and physiological seminars to mothers.

(Habla Municipal Council, 2012)

Infrastructure and natural resources

Electricity and telecommunication services:

Habla and Ad Dab'a have each been connected to two public electricity networks since 1976 and 2011 respectively. Both are served by the Israeli Qatariya Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in both localities, and 100% of the housing units in both localities are connected to the networks. However, the town faces some obstacles concerning the electricity sector, primarily the weak electric transformers (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

Habla and Ad Dab'a are also each connected to telecommunication networks and approximately 98% and 30% of the housing units within the localities' boundaries are connected to phone lines, respectively (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

Transportation services:

There are 15 taxis, 7 large taxis (7 passengers) and 5 public buses in Habla. These are considered insufficient to serve the transport needs of the town, thus, the residents use private cars or public vehicles from Ras 'Atiya (Habla Municipal Council, 2012). There are 15km of main roads and 16km of secondary roads in Habla (Habla Municipal Council, 2012) (see table 11).

Table 11: Roads in Habla own

Status of internal roads	Road length (km)	
	Main	Sub
1. Paved and in good condition	8	6.5
2. Paved and in poor condition	3	3
3. Unpaved	4	6.5

Source: Habla Municipal Council, 2012

Water resources:

Habla is provided with water by Habla Municipal Council through wells owned by the municipality. The water is supplied through the public water networks established in 1976 and 2005 in Habla town and Ad Dab'a locality respectively. All of the housing units are connected to the network (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

The quantity of water supplied to Habla town in 2012 was recorded as approximately 560,400m³ per year (Habla Municipal Council, 2012). Therefore, the estimated rate of water supply per capita is approximately 215 liters per day. However, no Habla citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are estimated to be 20% (Habla Municipal Council, 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 Habla is 172 liters per day (Habla Municipal Council, 2012). The average water consumption of Habla residents is considered very good compared with 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 4 NIS (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

The town also has 40 individual household rainwater harvesting cisterns, as well as 2 water reservoirs of 200 m³ and 300m³ capacity. There are 9 additional agricultural wells privately owned by citizens in the town which are used for agricultural purposes, including the irrigation of fruit and citrus trees and greenhouses (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

Sanitation:

Habla lacks a public sewerage network and most of the population use cesspits and septic tanks as the main means of wastewater disposal (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the approximate quantity of wastewater generated per day is 893m³, or 358,000m³ annually. At the individual level, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater amount is approximately 137 liters per day. The wastewater collected by cesspits and septic tanks is discharged by wastewater tankers directly into 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 the environment as well as to public health (ARIJ - WERU, 2013).

Solid waste management:

The Joint Services Council for Solid Waste is responsible for the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by citizens and establishments in the town. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee amounting to 20-30 NIS per household is charged to the houses and businesses served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. All of these fees are collected from the citizens (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

Most of the population in Habla benefits from the solid waste services; waste is collected from households, institutions, shops and public squares in plastic bags, and placed in 188 containers (88 of which are of 1m³ capacity and 100 of which are 180 liters capacity) located at various places in the town. The Joint Council collects the solid waste three times a week and transports it using a waste vehicle to Zahret al Finjan dumping site in Jenin Governorate, 80-100km from the town, where it is subsequently buried (Habla Municipal Council, 2012).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Habla is 1.05kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Habla residents is nearly 7.5 tons, or 2,739 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

Environmental conditions

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

Water crisis

Water is cut off by Habla Municipality for long periods of time mainly during summer because the quantity of water available does not meet the citizens' water needs. There is also a high rate of water losses due to the aged network and the residents often complain about the high price of water.

Wastewater management

The absence of a public sewage network in the town means that Habla residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, and/or to discharge wastewater into the streets, as citizens cannot afford the high cost of sewage tankers. This is particularly common in winter. These methods facilitate environmental damage, health problems, and the spread of epidemics and diseases in the town. This wastewater also contaminates the groundwater because most cesspits are built without lining. 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

Habla town does not suffer any problems concerning the management of solid waste. This is due to the adequate organization and management of waste disposal services by the Joint Council for the Management of Solid Waste. Waste is disposed of in Zahret al Finjan landfill in Jenin Governorate which is the main environmentally sound landfill serving the town, as well as most of the other localities in the Qalqiliya Governorate.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical status in Habla

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28th September 1995 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Habla was divided into areas B and C. Approximately 771 dunums (21.1% of the town's 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 Habla resides in area B. The rest of the town's area, constituting 2,878 dunums (78.9 % 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, open spaces and confiscated lands which were taken to build Israeli settlements (see Table 12).

Table 12: The geopolitical divisions of Habla according to the Oslo II Interim Agreement in 1995

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of total town area
Area A	0	0
Area B	771	21.1
Area C	2,878	78.9
Nature reserve	0	0
Total	3,649	100

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

Israeli occupation practices on Habla town

Habla has been subjected to numerous Israeli confiscations for the benefit of various Israeli objectives, demonstrated by the construction of Israeli settlements and bypass roads on the town territories. This is in addition to the Segregation Plan realized through the Segregation Wall, and the isolation of agricultural lands and open areas. The following sections are details of the Israeli confiscations on Habla town.

The Israeli Segregation Wall and Nirit Israeli Settlement

Part of Nirit settlement is located to the south of Habla town, and very close to it 6 dunums from the town lands were confiscated for this purpose. Moreover, it is worth to mention that Nirit settlement is located to the west of the Green line (Armistice Line of 1949). According to the PCPS,2010, the number of settlers living in this settlement is 1,100. This settlement Bloc was established in 1981, and continued to expand through the years, 1986, 2000,2004,2006,2009, to enter through the Palestinian lands. As a result, the number of buildings and the population total has significantly risen (see Table 13).

Table 13: Number of buildings that have been added to the new neighborhood 'Nov Hisharon' inside the Palestinian territories and of Nirit settlement bloc within the Green Line

Buildings	Year
27	2006
30	2008
42	2009

Source: ARIJ- 2009

The Israeli occupation claims that 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 real ground ,the Palestinian territories area, which will be isolated between the Separation Wall and the Armistice Line of 1949 (Green Line) is 733 square kilometers. This represents 13% of the total area of the West Bank, in addition to the annexation of 107 Israeli settlements, which constitute more than 85% of the Israeli settler population living in the Israeli settlements 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 uninhabited spaces and linking them to Israel, by following the same pattern that has been done in the building process of the settlements. But this time, 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 Israeli plan to expand Nirit settlement bloc which stretches within the occupied West Bank territories and link it with Alfei Menashe, is nothing more than a move to impose a reality on the ground through the control on the western isolation zone (Palestinian territories isolated between the Separation Wall and between the Green Line) (the armistice line of 1949). This can be seen as an effort to undermine the development of the Green Line and redraw it in order to fit with what they are trying to impose as a fact on the ground. Through the construction of the Separation Wall, Israel seeks to redraw their eastern border. Over the past years, the Israeli plan aimed to expand Nirit settlement bloc Israel which stretches within the occupied West Bank territories, in order to link it with Alfei Menashe, is nothing more than a move to impose a reality on the ground through the control on the western isolation zone (Palestinian territories isolated between the Separation wall and between the Green Line) .

The Israeli Checkpoints on Habla town

Israeli military checkpoints are considered a uniform procedure for the Israeli army in the occupied Palestinian territories. They did not exist until the outbreak of the Second Intifada in September 2000. During this period the Israeli army established an unprecedented number of checkpoints in addition to the restrictions already imposed on Palestinians living in the West Bank people when they attempt to cross these barriers. Moreover these Human rights abuses and violations occur at

checkpoints on a daily basis practiced by the Israeli soldiers against Palestinian civilians from all segments of society, students, teachers, patients, medical staff and employees. Alongside time restrictions on the movement of Palestinians, These violations have included beatings, humiliation and stripping clothes and making them wait for long hours under the burning sun or in cold weather before allowing them to cross the checkpoints. Checkpoints and the soldiers stationed at them also have a negative impact on Palestinian society, as they cause a separation of social relations, economic separation between areas, high unemployment rates, and internal migration. The actions of Israeli soldiers have particularly exceeded the attacks against Palestinian medical crews; Israeli soldiers have prevented doctors and patients in most cases from crossing Israeli checkpoints, including emergencies. As the Israeli soldiers stations at checkpoints to impose time restrictions on the movement of Palestinians to cross the checkpoints in a certain time during specific periods in the morning and in the evening, which will cause a lot of suffering for Palestinians.

The suffering of Habla town is not different from the suffering of other Palestinian villages in the governorate of Qalqiliya, and other governorates in the West Bank. According to Separation Wall plan which was published in 2003, Habla were isolated completely geographically and economically from Qalqiliya city. However, after the establishment of the Separation Wall on Habla lands, the Israeli military built a checkpoint at the northern entrance to the town of Habla, on bypass road no.55 which separates the Israeli settlement Alfei Menashe and the settlement bloc Karne Shomron (Ginnot Shomeron and Ma'ale Shomron) and the town Habla, under the pretext of providing protection to the Israeli settlers who use these bypass roads.

The geographical separation caused by the Wall and checkpoints has had huge consequences on the residents of Habla and the surrounding villages because of their direct connection with each other. In the past, it used to take the villagers a few minutes to reach the city of Qalqiliya, but with the construction of the Wall according to the plan of 2003, reaching the city now takes more than an hour by car because the Palestinians from these villages are forced to take long and circuitous routes. As a result of the negative impact of the Separation Wall and the poor economic situation in these villages, the residents of these Palestinian communities protested against the poor living conditions. The protest succeeded in forcing the Israeli Authorities to make changes to the plan for the Wall. This plan included making a tunnel between Qalqiliya and the town of Habla, in order to create an important geographical and resulting economic connection between Habla and the neighboring Palestinian villages. Such as the town of Habla, that is considered as a link between the neighboring Palestinian villages and the city of Qalqiliya and the dependence of these villages on the centers Life center in the city of Qalqiliya, such as educational institutions, health, economic, and service, etc. However, the passage of Palestinian vehicles through the main tunnel of Habla– Qalqilyia was controlled by the Israeli army through the establishment of an iron gate at the entrance. This gate was only open at certain times during the day to allow the Palestinians to travel to and from Qalqiliya.

Furthermore, the Israeli occupation authorities established an agricultural gate on the route of the wall in the town of Habla, from the south-west of the village in order to control the movement of the villagers who pass to and from the Palestinian agricultural land that has been isolated by the Wall. The Israeli occupation authorities only allow access to these isolated agricultural lands to farmers who are able to prove their ownership of the land to the relevant Israeli official departments (such as

the Israeli Civil Administration ICA), where permits are issued for land owners (usually the elderly whose names are under the acts of real property). It is worth mentioning that the Israeli Civil Administration is issuing these permits from one season to another, making it difficult to land owners to cultivate their agricultural lands by themselves, especially since these permits do not include labor or the equipment that is necessary for the cultivation of the land.

Israeli military orders which targeted Habla town

Throughout the years of Israeli occupation, the town of Habla has been targeted with many military orders which have affected land and properties. Below is a list of Israeli military orders affecting Habla, where information is obtainable:

- Israeli military order no.43/02/T: issued on 8th November 2002 to confiscate an area of 239.5 dunums of lands from the Habla, 'Azzun and Qalqiliya city for the purpose of building the Segregation Wall.
- Israeli military order no.40/02/T: issued on 26th September 2002 to confiscate an area of 239.5 dunums of lands from of Habla, 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth for the purpose of building the Segregation Wall.
- Israeli military order no.32/02/T: issued on 26th September 2002 to confiscate an area of 449 dunums of lands from the Habla, 'Azzun and Ras 'Atiya for the purpose of building the Segregation Wall.
- Israeli military order no.31/02/T: issued on 18th August,2002 to confiscate an area of 125 dunums of lands from the Habla, and Qalqiliya city for the purpose of building the Segregation Wall.
- Israeli military order no.121/05/T: issued on 8th August 2005 to confiscate an area of 9.2 dunums of lands from the Habla, for the purpose of road constructing.
- Israeli military order no.31/02/T: issued on 1st November 2002 to confiscate an area of 76 dunums of lands from the Habla, 'for the purpose of a new amendment on the Segregation Wall.

Geopolitical status in Ad Dab'a

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel on 28th September 1995, all the village land of Ad Dab'a 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. This land includes the built up urban areas as well as agricultural land and open spaces. (See Table 14)

Table 14: The geopolitical divisions of Ad Dab'a 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	1599	100
Natural reserves	0	0
Total	1599	100

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

The settler Structural Plan of the Israeli settlements in the West Bank Including areas classified as 'A' and 'B' , Israel grants the Israeli settlement councils more control over Palestinian lands in the occupied West Bank.

Since the beginning of the Israeli occupation on the Palestinian territories in 1967, the successive Israeli governments have invested huge resources in order to create and expand their illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories, either in terms of the amount of land that has been confiscated from Palestinians, or in terms of population. As a result of this policy, approximately 690 thousand Israeli settler and illegal immigrants living now in 196 Israeli settlements, including settlements which are located in tourism (sites), and 232 outposts scattered throughout the West Bank, including the settlements that have been set up in East Jerusalem, which is contrary to the international law.

In 1991 ,the Israeli Civil Administration issued structural maps and plans of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, including plans in East Jerusalem. These plans included future expansion of the Israeli settlements that already exists, taking into account the adoption of extra space for the establishment of new settlements and the expansion of this list of settlements until the year 1991. The structural plan of the Israeli settlement 'Alfei Menashe, indicates that the planned space for the expansion is not limited only on the settlement lands alone, but also includes the territories of the surrounding Palestinian villages such as the villages of Ad Dab'a and Ras 'Atiya and Habla to also include the villages that have been excluded from the isolation and the annexation Israeli plan (according to the decision of the Israeli court issued in 2010).

It is worth mentioning that the total area of the proposed structural plan, that are issued by the Israeli civil administration in 1991 was 486.137 dunums (486.1 km²), which is seven times the size of the Israeli settlements that existed until the year 1991, amounting to 69,000 dunams (69 km²). Following the signing of the first and second Oslo Accords, the first and second in the years 1993 and 1995 , respectively, and the classification of the Palestinian territories into areas "A" and "B" and "C", the Israeli authorities ignored to issue plans for Palestinian communities lying in areas classified as area "C" in order to meet the urban needs and keep up with the population growth as the Israeli authority are in charge of the administrative and security issues in the areas that are classified as "C" , as it did

for the settlements, and remained Palestinian communities under threat of demolition for lack of ability to issue the necessary permits, which avoided the demolitions and displacement due to the imposition of the Israeli authorities measures long the complex and costly to Palestinians applying for the necessary licenses that enable them to construction and exploitation of the land for any purpose whatsoever, and rejected most of the requests made by the Palestinians under the claim of " failure to provide the necessary conditions for the plans to build in areas classified (c)."

In a report published on May,7th, 2013 by Haaretz Israeli newspaper, it indicated that the area of influence of the Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank has increased 7,372 dunums (7.4 km ²) in 2012 to become 538 303 dunums (538.3 km ²) at the end of 2012, while it used to be 530 931 dunums (531 km ²) in 2011. It should be noted that the area of influence of the settlements exceeds more than the area of the Israeli plans that was issued in 1991 regarding the Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories. According to the Israeli newspaper reports, an Israeli military order has been issued and approved in 2012 states that the Israeli settlements council were given control over new Palestinian territories in the Occupied West Bank, in addition to those occupied by the settlements today and those that come under the framework of Israeli structural plans to become included within the boundaries of the Israeli settlements in the future. In fact, this increase did not only happen in 2012, but also from the year 1991 until the 2011, the Israeli occupation authorities issued several Israeli military orders that have not been announced at all by the Israeli authorities which states the confiscation of more lands in the occupied Palestinian territories for the purposes of security and other excuses. until the jurisdiction of the settlements area reached 530 931 dunums (531 km ²) with the end of 2011. an increase of \$ 44 794 dunams (44.8 km ²) was added to the space in the Israeli plans that were issued 1991 , consisting 486.137 dunums (486.1 km ²).

In an analysis(conducted by the Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ)) about the Palestinian land that has been confiscated by military orders in order to be included in the area of the Israeli settlements, the report shows that 1.19% of the area of the settlements (amounting to 538,303 dunums) is located within areas classified as area "A" according to the Oslo II Agreements made in 1995. It also shows that the rate is 1.86 % of the total area is in the zone under settlement power which is located within areas classified as area "B". While the remaining area, which consists of 96.95 % of the area of the settlements power, is located within areas classified as area "C". Among area "C" land, there is land which is classified by Israel as state land ²as well as "closed military areas" ³in addition to the mine areas and part of these areas which are classified as natural reserves ⁴according to the Oslo II Agreement of 1995. The report also indicates that the area of Alfei Menashe settlement consists of 6101 ,which is three times larger than its current size, 2825 dunums more than the space that is mentioned in the structural plan of the settlement in 1991.

² Retrieved from: http://www.poica.org/editor/case_studies/view.php?recordID=2660Poica

³ Land Research Center, Retrieved. " http://www.poica.org/editor/case_studies/view.php?recordID=713. Applied Research Institute-Jerusalem, 8 5 2013. Web. 9 Apr 2014.

⁴ Retrieved from: http://www.poica.org/editor/case_studies/view.php?recordID=713

Israeli military orders which targeted Ad Dab'a village

Throughout the years of Israeli occupation, the village of Ad Dab'a has been targeted by many military orders which have affected both land and property. The following is an Israeli military order:

Israeli Military Order No. 457: issued on February 5th 2012 orders the evacuation of 160 dunums of Palestinian land in the villages of Ad Dab'a and Ras at Tira in Qalqiliya Governorate under the claim of "state land". The Israeli military order may select the 45-day period given to the Palestinian farmers and landowners who are ordered to vacate the land and re-develop it to its former condition . Of note here is that the land targeted is located in the area known as 'Al Shabablout' which according to the scheme, the wall of racial segregation in 2003, was located within the buffer zone Israel , however, the Israeli Supreme Court's decision in 2010 had been imposed on the IDF to change the route of the wall to become the target area outside the buffer zone Israel. The Israeli authorities returned to the target area of the new order declaring the territory of the state in an attempt to recover what the Palestinians had retained through the Israeli Supreme Court in 2010.

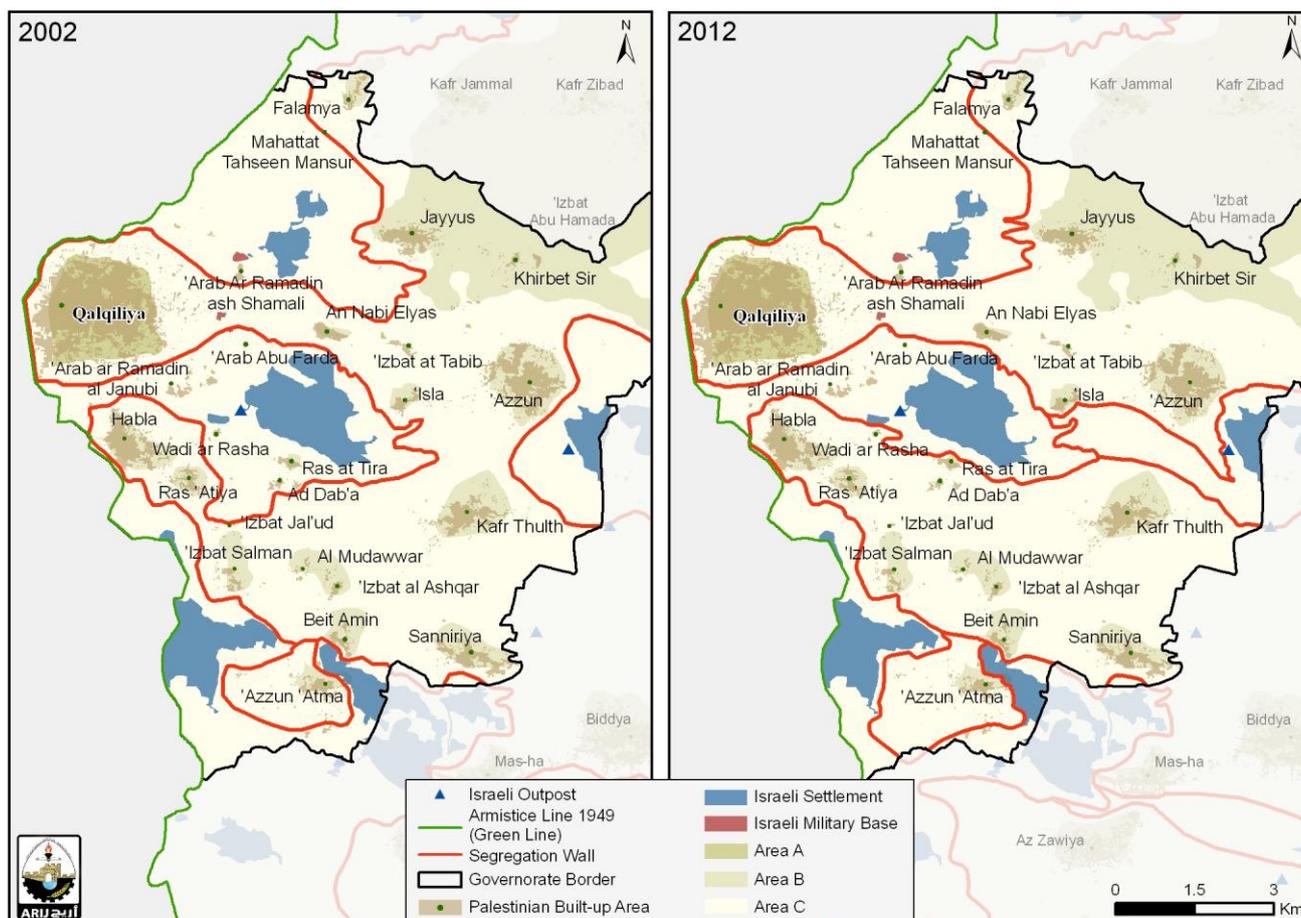
The educational sector in Ad Dab'a Palestinian village

During the construction period of the Separation wall on the territory of Ad Dab'a in 2003 and until the change of the wall route in 2010 (more than seven years), Ad Dab'a village and the neighboring Palestinian villages suffered from the Israeli soldiers practices at the Israeli checkpoint, which was the only way for the people of the village to interact the with neighboring Palestinian villages. The Israeli practices has in particular targeted the educational sector, such as Ad Dab'a school, which is the only source of education for Palestinian students in the village and in the neighboring Palestinian villages (Ras at Tira and Wadi ar Rasha), which have been severely affected by Israeli procedures. Since the closure of the school area with the construction of the wall, it became the only school in the village located within the western isolation zone. The Israeli occupation forces prevented school teachers (from nearby villages) from entering the area to go to their school. Moreover, the soldiers often ask the students and teachers to enter a private room in order to search them using radiation scan machines . Teachers would often refuse to do this because of the negative effects of the radiation emitted from the machines. It had an especially dangerous effect on pregnant teachers, which in turn impeded the educational process. In addition to this, there were students who were often prevented from studying because of Israeli practices. It is worth mentioning that this school is the only school in the village which is considered to be a home to more than 250 students from the three aforementioned villages. Moreover, the teachers entered the school area for a period of seven years (between 2003 and 2010) only through using special permits issued by the Israeli civil administration which allowed them to enter. This was coordinated through the village council in the region.

The Israeli Segregation Wall plan in Habla and Ad Dab'a town

The implementation of the Israeli Segregation Wall plan on the ground has been ongoing since June 2002, following 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, thereby confiscating the most agricultural fertilized lands, isolating Palestinian societies (into ghettos) and separating communities from one another. By controlling natural resources and 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, and controls 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 Palestinians affected by the Wall in this area should be offered compensation. On 30 April 2007, new amendments were made to the route of the Separation Wall, in those areas which were deemed to contain geographical obstacles in the West Bank. These amendments were based on solving the problems which considered a challenge in front of the continuously building process of the Separation Wall Habla town was one of the villages that were affected by these amendments to the original route (published in July 2002). This map showed that the Wall would completely isolate Habla town and the neighboring villages of Ras 'Atiya, 'Arab Abu Farda, 'Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi, An Nabi Elyas and Qalqiliya city, in an isolation zone called Qalqiliya isolation zone. These villages would be surrounded by the Wall, from three sides (north, west and south) leaving the eastern side, partly open in order for the villagers to interact with their neighboring villages from the eastern side only. The map showed that there is another isolation zone, located to the east of Qalqiliya isolation zone, called Ad Dab'a isolation zone, which includes Ad Dab'a, Wadi ar Rasha, Ras 'Atiya (see Map No. 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, showing new amendments on the Wall route. The new amendments included Habla and the surrounding villages. Qalqiliya isolation zone has been divided into two parts, the first being 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 remained partly open was the eastern side of the city, in order for the residents of the villages to remain connected to their neighboring villages, with the exception of An Nabi Elyas village which remained between two walls from the north and the south. The second isolation affected the villages of Habla and Ras 'Atiya, where the map showed that the wall will surrounding villages of Habla and Ras 'Atiya from three sides, north, east and west, while keeping the south-eastern entrance half open so that the inhabitants can communicate with Palestinian communities around them to the south-eastern side. The map showed that the town of Habla was completely geographically separated from its neighboring city from the north side of Qalqiliya, which used to share with common economic interests. The villages of 'Arab Abu Farda and 'Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi, were no longer included in Qalqiliya isolation zone, however it became included in Ad Dab'a isolation.

Further changes to the route of the Separation Wall were announced on 20th February 2005, but these amendments did not affect Habla town. However, on 30, April 2006, the Israeli military

published a further change to the route of the Separation Wall. This time, the amendments included a modification to the route of the wall in the Palestinian village of Habla and neighboring villages. This latest amendment was for the benefit of the Ariel settlements bloc near to the village of Habla from the east side. This settlement bloc is considered to be one of Israel's main concerns, hence they decided to separate this bloc into two parts; the first is Ariel and the second is Kedumim.

It is important to note that after these changes, the Ariel settlement bloc will include another five settlements. These settlements are Revava, Kiryat Netanim, Barqan, Barqan Industrial Zone and Ariel industrial settlement. Upon completion of the amendments to the Wall's route, the Kedumim bloc will include 12 settlements: Kedumim, Kedumim Zefon, Jit (Mitzpe Yishai), Giv'at HaMerkaziz, Emmanuel, Yakir, Nofim., Neve Oramin, Karne Shomron, Shavei Shomron, Ma'ale Shomron and Ginnot Shomron. It is also worth mentioning here that as well as remapping the Wall around the Ariel bloc, the Wall has also been made longer with these amendments, extending from 120km to 133km long to surround both the Ariel and Kedumim settlement blocs. These changes also increase the area of land to be confiscated by the Wall in the Palestinian villages surrounding these two settlement blocs. Furthermore, Israel will connect the Ariel settlement bloc with the rest of Israel by constructing bypass road no. 5, whilst the Kedumim settlement bloc will be connected to the Alfei Menashe settlement through bypass road no. 55, which also connects to Israel. These developments effected more land to be taken, from the neighboring Palestinian villages, such as Habla town, as the Wall was moved further back towards the settlement of Alfei Menashe. The only side which stayed half open was the southern side of the town, to be geographically connected to their neighboring villages from their eastern side. However, the rest of the village remained isolated and surrounded by the Wall from three sides (north, west and east sides). Furthermore, the amendment made to the route of the Wall in 2003 did not change the difficult economic situation (economic gap) that villages were facing as a result of the Wall's route of 2003, which separated Habla town from Qalqilya city, which was considered the economic center for both villages. Moreover, these new amendments had a negative effect on the neighboring Palestinian villages. Because with this change in the town of Habla, more lands were taken in order for this town to be geographically connected to their neighboring villages from the east side. In their case more land were taken, these lands were belonging to the neighboring villages, in order to make a geographical connection between the Israeli settlements, in the area without worrying about what this change may cause to the entire Palestinian community (See Map No. 3)

On April 30th 2007, the Israeli Ministry of Defense published further amendments to the route of the Separation Wall on their webpage but these changes have not affected Habla town and the surrounding villages from the last change in 2006. According to the latest map, it appears that 2.7 km of the Separation Wall has been built on the village's lands from the northern, eastern, and western side. In addition, the Wall has isolated approximately 984 dunums of the town's lands, approximately 27 % of the total town area, which included Israeli settlements close to the town in addition to agricultural lands and open spaces (see Table 15).

Table 15: Land classification of the isolated area inside the Segregation Wall in Habla town

No.	Land classification	Area (dunums)
1	Agricultural lands	22
2	Open spaces	891.5
3	Israeli Settlements	5.5
4	Segregation Wall	65
	Total	984

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

late 2003, Israel started to implement the plan on the ground, where, Israeli bulldozers razed the agricultural land in the village of Ad Dab'a and the Palestinian villages surrounding and started implementing their plans to isolate the Palestinian villages and occupy more Palestinian lands for the benefit of the various settlement plans. The Israeli practices targeted the lands of Ad Dab'a for the purpose of constructing the wall which had a negative impact on the people of the village and the surrounding villages. These lands were the only source of livelihood, which prompted the owners of the Palestinian territories in Ad Dab'a to advocate in the Israeli courts in an attempt to reduce the damage that was caused by the construction of the wall, in order to get the village boundaries out of the isolation plan that is imposed by Israel on the village and the surrounding villages in order to implement the settlement plans. In early 2006, the residents of Ad Dab'a succeeded to change the decision of the Israeli Supreme Court regarding the route of the wall on the territory of the village which excluded the neighboring villages (Ras at Tira and Wadi ar Rasha) outside the isolation zone, the issued amendment after the decision of the Israeli Supreme Court (June 2006) stated that 1.5 km of the wall was built on the lands of the village and the surrounding villages from the north side and in parallel to the village boundaries.

Development plans and projects

Implemented projects

Habla Municipal Council has implemented several development projects in Habla during the past five years (see table 16).

Table 16: Implemented development plans and projects in Habla during the last five years

Name of the project	Type	Year	Donor
Establishing a sewerage network	Infrastructure	2012	UNDP/ Japanese Government
Constructing Habla Municipality headquarters	Public Services	2012	Ministry of Local Government/ Ministry of Finance
Constructing the services complex for local people	Public Services	2012	GIZ
Expanding Habla's water network	Infrastructure	2009	USAID/ANERA
Restoring Habla Girl's Elementary School	Educational	2010	ANERA
Finishing Habla Girls' Secondary School	Educational	2009	Ministry of Local Government/ Ministry of Finance
Expanding Habla Girls' Secondary School	Educational	2008	PECDAR
Rehabilitating secondary roads	Infrastructure	2009	The Municipal Credit & Development Fund
Constructing a health clinic	Public Services	2009	Islamic Bank
Paving roads	Infrastructure	2008	Ministry of Finance
Establishing an electricity network	Infrastructure	2011	Ministry of Finance
Providing a public bus, an agricultural tractor and an ambulance	Public Services	2009	Italy
Constructing a second floor in As Sumood Co-educational Secondary School	Educational	2007	Ministry of Finance

Source: Habla Municipal Council, 2012

Proposed projects

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

1. Establishing a citrus and guava juice factory with a filling and packaging unit.
2. Establishing a services complex to include the women's center, a center for people with special needs, a public library and a youth center.
3. Expanding and rehabilitating the governmental health center to accommodate the growing numbers of patients from the town and the surrounding communities.
4. Supporting farmers through the provision of agricultural resources and marketing their products.
5. Completing the sewerage network in the town to cover Ad Dab'a locality.
6. Creating development projects to serve poor families and working women with experience in sewing, livestock and others.
7. Establishing a resources room in Habla Boys' Elementary School, as well as an integration room for people with special needs.
8. Rehabilitating Habla Municipal Park.
9. Providing a structural plan for Ad Dab'a locality.
10. Reclaiming and rehabilitating more than 300 dunums of the town lands, and constructing and rehabilitating approximately 5km of agricultural roads.

11. Supporting more than 300 farmers in the town through helping them exploit more than 900 dunums of their lands located behind the Wall.

Locality development priorities and needs

Habla suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 17 shows the development priorities and needs in the town, according to the Municipal Council's perspective:

Table 17: Development priorities and needs in Habla

No.	Sector	Strongly needed	Needed	Not a priority	Notes
Infrastructural needs					
1	Construction and paving of roads	*			33.5km [^]
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks			*	
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas	*			4.5km
4	Construction of new water networks			*	
5	Rehabilitation/construction of new wells or springs	*			3 wells
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			500 cubic meters
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network		*		9km
8	Construction of a new electricity network		*		4km
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection		*		130 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste	*			1
11	Providing a sanitary landfill		*		
Health needs					
1	Building new clinics or health care centres	*			1 health center
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres	*			1 health center
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools	*			
Educational needs					
1	Building new schools	*			Secondary school
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			The boys' secondary school and adding classrooms to Ad Dab'a school
3	Purchasing new school equipment	*			
Agriculture needs					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			220 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	*			250 tons per year
6	Construction of new greenhouses	*			20 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses		*		25 greenhouses
8	Provision of field crops seeds	*			
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies		*		

[^] 4km main roads, 6.5km secondary roads and 23km agricultural roads

Source: Habla Municipal Council, 2012

References:

- *Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ), 2013. Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing Unit Database. Bethlehem - Palestine.*
- *Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ), 2013. Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing Unit; Land Use Analysis (2012) – Half Meter High Accuracy. Bethlehem - Palestine.*
- *Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ), 2013. Water & Environment Research Unit Database (WERU). Bethlehem - Palestine.*
- *Habla Municipal Council, 2012.*
- *Ministry of Education & Higher Education (MOHE) - Qalqiliya, 2012. Directorate of Education; A database of schools (2011/2012). Qalqiliya – Palestine.*
- *Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics. 2009. Ramallah, Palestine: General Census of Population and Housing Censuses, 2007.*
- *Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), 2010. Directorate of Agriculture data (2009/2010). Qalqiliya – Palestine.*