

El Far'a Camp Profile



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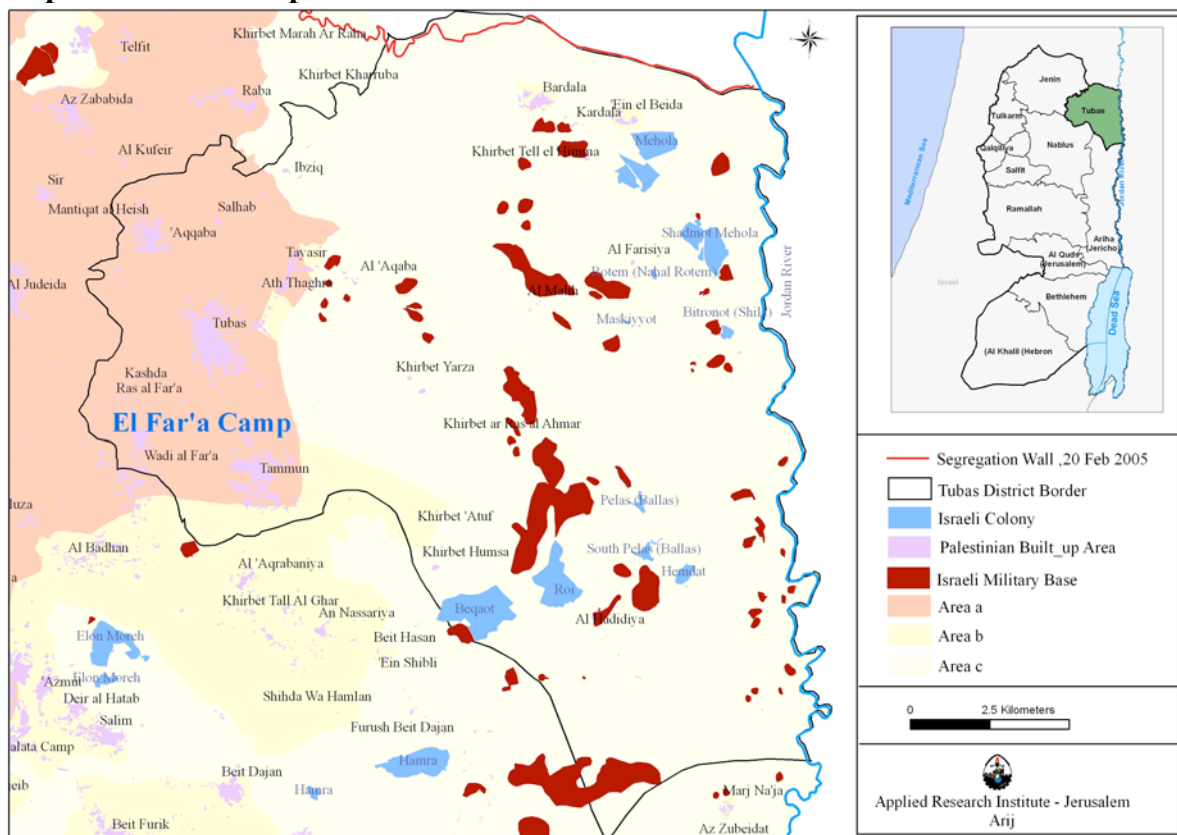
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El Far'a Camp profile

Location and Physical characteristics

AL FAR'A Camp is a Palestinian refugee camp, which is located four km to the south west of Tubas city, in the northeastern part of West Bank. Al Far'a camp is bordered by Tammun village to the east, Tubas city to the north, Siris village to the west and Wadi Al Far'a to the south.

Map 1: Al Far'a camp location and borders



The total area of Al Far'a camp is 225 dunums, it has the smallest area in Tubas Governorate, and all the area is classified as 'built up' areas.

Al Far'a camp is located in a mountainous area at the moderate elevation of 213 m above sea level. The mean annual rainfall in Al Far'a camp is 372 mm, the average annual temperature is 19-20 °C and the average annual humidity is 59 % (ARIJ GIS).

Since 1991 the camp has been governed by a camp committee, currently the camp committee comprises of 7 members. The camp committee has 11 paid employees and its operations and responsibilities include:

1. Administration, planning and development;
2. Social development services;

3. Infrastructural maintenance, water, electricity.

History

Al Far'a name is derived from Al Far'a spring which located in the area. Al Far'a springs name is attributed to the mother of Al Hajaj Ebn Yousf Althaqafi (Iraqi leader from the middle ages) who drank from the spring.

Al Far'a comp was founded in 1949 by Jordanian Government on a piece of land rented by UNRWA. The camp was founded as a dwelling for the Palestinian refugees who were driven out of their villages during 1948 war when Israeli forces occupied their lands. In the first UNRWA established tenets for residence and other establishments (education, health ...). After 1951 the residents started to build permanent concrete houses, and in 1957-1958 a new part of the camp was established to the west.

Photography of Al Far'a camp



Demography and Population

In 1997, the total population of Al Far'a camp was 4207 people, of which 2108 were males and 2099 were females. There were 735 households resident in 777 housing units. (1997 census)

The population of Al Far'a camp constitutes about 11.9 % of the total population of the Tubas Governorate.

Age groups and gender

The data of the 1997 census reveals that the classification of population of Al Far'a camp by age groups and sex. The data showed that 43.7 % are less than 15 years, 52.0 % are in the age group 15-64 years and 4.3 % are 65 year and above (See table 1)

Sex	Age				Percent
	0 -14	15 -64	65 +	Total	
Male	935	1080	91	2106	50.2
Female	896	1101	91	2088	49.8
Total	1831	2181	182	4194	100

Source: PCBS, May 1999. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-1997, Final Results

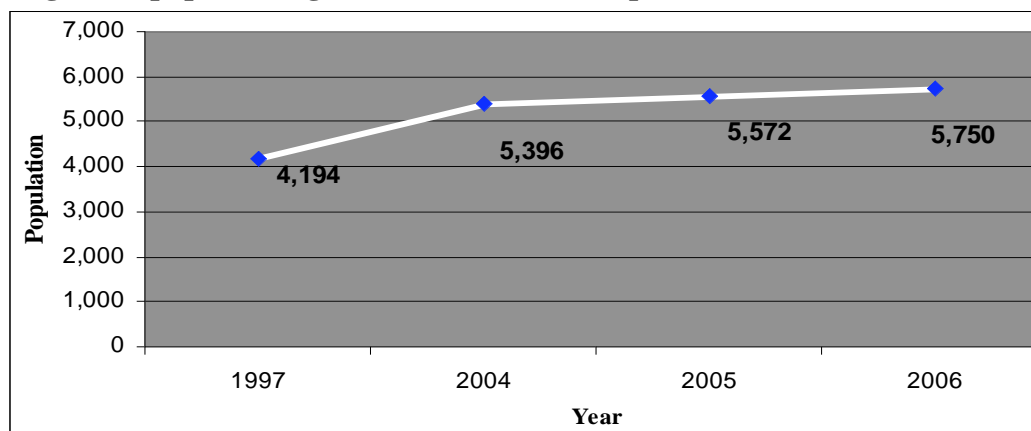
The sex ratio in the camp was 100.9 males for every 100 females. Males constitute 50.2 % of the population and females constitute 49.8 %.

The estimated population of Al Far'a camp by mid 2005 was 5,396 and in mid 2006 it will have increased to 5,750. The data in table 2 indicates that the population of Al Far'a grew by 28.7 % between 1997 and mid 2005 and in 2006 it will increase by 3.2 % (an increase of 72 people).

	1997 census	Mid-year population in		
		2004	2005	2006
Al Far'a camp	4,194	5,396	5,572	5,750

Source: <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/populati/pop10.aspx>

Figure 1: population growth in Al Far'a camp



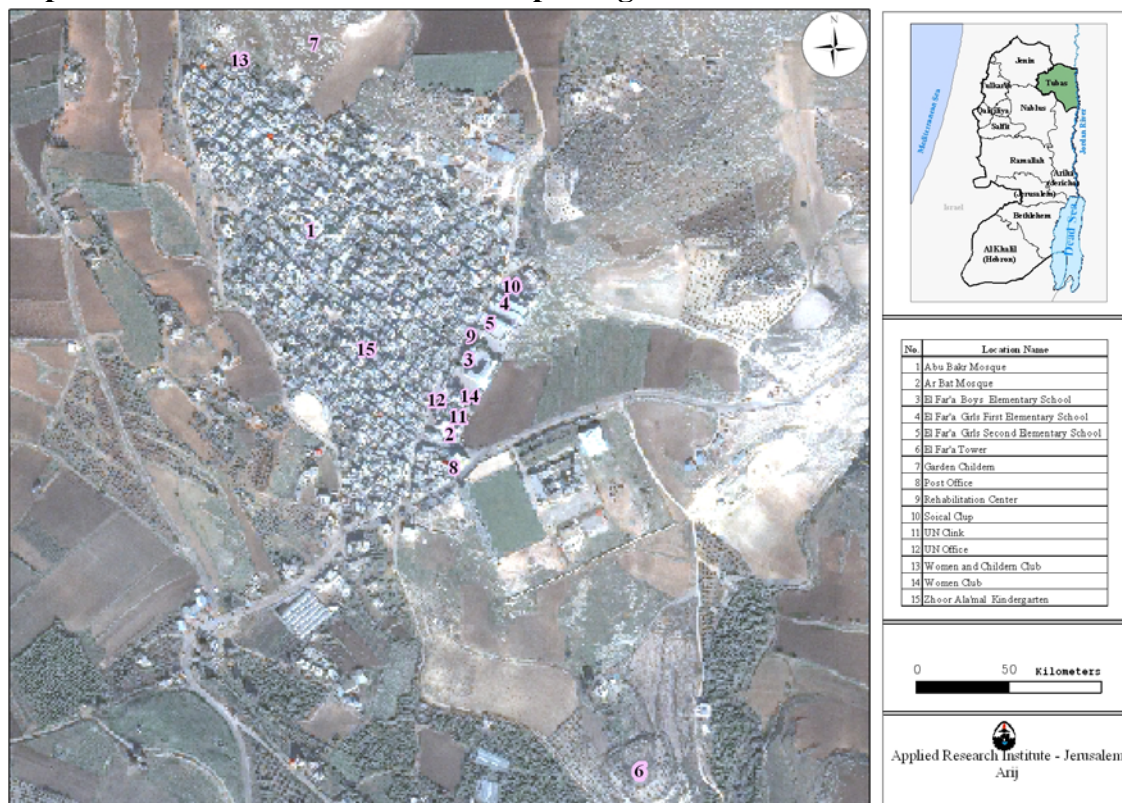
Families:

The residents of Al Far'a camp are comprised of residents from many villages which they were driven out of. Every sub clan is named by its original village name.

Religious and Archeological Sites

Al Far'a camp has two mosques and two archeological places. Mosques Al Rebat, Abu Baker mosques as well as Al Far'a Tower. Al Hafreat is the only location classified as a historical and archeological site in the camp.

Map 2: Main locations in Al Far'a camp village



The Economy

The largest portion of the labor force in the Al Far'a camp is classified as manual workers. Of which, part of them work in the Israeli labor market and others in agricultural activities in nearby fields. The next largest groups are the employees in the governmental and private sectors and last the farmers who are a small minority in number.

The evaluation of the economic situation in Al Far'a camp is worst in the governorate, since the camp has no economic infrastructure, such as agricultural areas, industrial institutions or trade centers. Al Far'a camp is a very remote locality from other economic centers, like the Israeli labor market and the main cities in West Bank.

In Al Far'a camp, there are 40 shops and groceries, 4 blacksmiths, 2 Aluminum works, one carpentry shop, one automobile mechanic and one bakery.

Labor Force Construction

In 1997, the percentage of participants in labor force in Al Far'a camp was 66.1 % of the total population of the camp; women participation was assessed to be 33.2 % (1392 women in total). The labor force in Al Far'a camp is 2771 people in total, of which 38.1 % are 'economically active' people and 61.9 % are 'non-economically' active people. Of the economically active people 84 % are employed people, 16 % are unemployed people. The largest groups of non-economically active people are the students and housewives, who constitute 37 % and 44.6 % respectively. Table 3 shows the labor force in Al Far'a camp

Table 3: Al Far'a camp Population (10 years and Over) by Sex and Employment Status

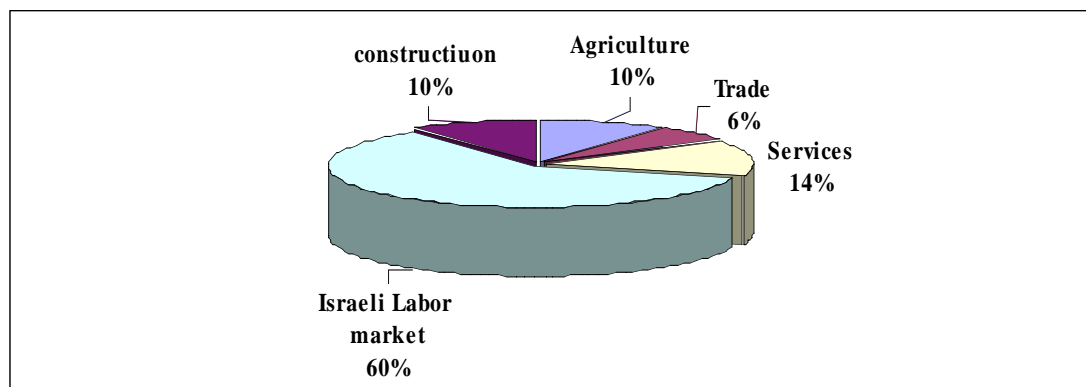
Sex	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Total
	Employed	Currently Un-Employed	Un-Employed Never Worked	Total	Students	House-Wife	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking For Work	Other	Total	
M	783	95	53	931	317	-	114	10	7	448	1379
F	104	9	13	126	316	764	53	5	128	1266	1392
T	887	104	66	1057	633	764	167	15	135	1714	2771

Source: PCBS, May 1999. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-1997, Final Results

Based on the survey conducted by ARIJ and ACH in November 2005, the share of the population working in the various sectors of the economy is listed below by percentage:

- The agricultural sector 10 %,
- The trade sector 6 %,
- The service sector 14 %,
- Israeli labor market 60 %.
- Construction sector 10 %.

Figure 2: Percentage of economic activity in Al Far'a camp



The survey also indicates that the social groups most affected by Israeli measures in Al Far'a camp during the second Intifada are: 1) former migrant workers in the Israeli labor market, 2) families maintaining 6 individuals and more, 3) housewives and children, 4) small traders and 5) small farmers.

The average household income in Al Far'a camp has been heavily affected by the Israeli procedures since 2000. Before 2000, the average household income was 1500 NIS. Today however it has declined sharply to 600 NIS. The result is that the average household income has decreased by 65 % in only four years.

Education

In the 1997 census, the educational status of Al Far'a camp indicated that about 12.2 % of the residents were illiterate, with women (80.7 %) comprising a greater percentage of illiterates than men (19.3 %). Of the literate population, 16.9 % of residents could read and write, 25.3 % completed elementary education, 28 % completed preparatory education and 17.7 % completed their secondary and higher education. Table 4 shows the education status in Al Far'a camp by sex and education attainment in 1997.

Table 4: Al Far'a Population (10 years and over) by sex and Educational Attainment

Sex	Illite- rate	Can read & Write	Eleme- ntary	Prepar- atory	Secon- -dary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	M A	P H D	Total
M	105	210	313	405	128	172	53	-	1	1	1388
F	276	182	344	368	111	105	21	1	-	-	1408
T	381	392	657	773	239	277	74	1	1	1	2796

Source: PCBS, May 1999. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-1997, Final Results

At the end of the 2004/2005 scholastic year there were three schools in Al Far'a camp, which were supervised by the UNRWA, one school for males and two schools for females. The schools have 48 classes of which 25 classes are for males and 23 classes for females. These are provided education to 1736 students of which 913 males and 823 females.

Currently there are two kindergartens in Al Far'a camp providing pre-education schools for 220 children.

Al Far'a camp has no schools for secondary level for both males and females; the students to Tubas city and other localities. The schools in the camp suffer from shortages of classes and other facilities, additionally to the lack of land in the camp for set up new schools.

Health Status

There is one main clinic in Al Far'a camp supervised by UNRWA; the clinic provides health services for all residents of the camp, Also there is one pharmacy in the camp. In spite of available of clinic and pharmacy, the camp is suffering from a shortage of health services. The clinic does not work 24 hours, there is no emergency unit, there is no maternity unit, there is no ambulance, the one pharmacy does not provide all the necessary medicines and Israeli procedures restrict the residents access to clinics in nearby villages.

Infrastructure, Natural resources and Services

In addition to the schools and clinic in Al Far'a camp, there are also a lot of institutions such as NGOs and charitable organizations:

- Public committees, which follow up and organize water, electricity and social services issues.
- Womens Center, which provides training and extension programs to the women.
- Handicaps Center, which provides services and rehabilitation for handicapped people.
- Social Youth Center, which is concerned with the young generation and provides extension activities to them.
- Alqadisia Scout Group, which is concerned with scouts group activities.
- Medical Relief, which provides medical services.
- Optimal Infancy Society, which is concerned with maternity and infancy development.

Table 5: No of institutions in Tubas city by type

	Type of institution						
	Gov.	Charit-able	women	NGO	Agriculture	sports	Worship
Al Far'a camp	-	4	1	1	-	1	7

- **Telecommunication services:** Al Far'a camp is connected to the telecommunication network. Approximately 30 % of the households have a telephone connection.

- **Water services:** Al Far'a camp has been connected to the water network since 1980. Almost 90 % of the households are connected. The UNRWA administers water resources in the camp; it is provided three times per week. In addition to the water network, there is one spring near the AL Far'a camp area, which provides water for households and agriculture use.
The camp also has a water reservoir with a capacity of 350 m³. This is the primary source used to provide water to the camp in the summer time.
The water network in the camp is old and suffering from damage and a large rate of water loss due to the destruction of the network pipes. The shortage of funds is the main obstacle for the rehabilitation of water networks.
- **Electricity services:** In 1993, the camp was connected with the Tubas Area Electricity Network, which was provided by Israeli Electric Cooperation. 90 % of households in the city are connected with the electricity network.
- **Solid Waste Collection:** Solid waste management in Al Far'a camp is operated by UNRWA. According to the survey conducted by ARIJ and ACH, solid waste is collected twice a week from the residential area, which is sent to a shared dumping site (Joint Services Council) which is 10 km faraway from camp. Burning is the main method used to disposal of solid waste.
- **Sewage Disposal Facilities:** Al Far'a camp is not connected to the sewage network. All households must therefore dispose of their wastewater in cesspits. This is considered one of the main sources of pollution to the groundwater in the area.
- **Transportation services:** The total length of the roads in Al Far'a camp amounts to 15.5 km, of which 9 are paved and of a good quality, 3.5 Km is paved and in a bad situation, whereas 3 Km are not paved at all. In Al Far'a Camp, there are many types of transportation used to transport residents from AL Far'a camp to other governorate localities. The primary means of transportation in Al Far'a camp comprises of 11 taxies and 10 illegal vehicles.

Agriculture Sector

There is no agricultural area in Al Far'a camp. All of the camp's area is classified as a built up area. A few households take care of home gardens and simple plants and others are engaged in rearing livestock. Based on the survey conducted by ARIJ and ACH, 5 % of the residents of Al Far'a camp keep livestock. Data from the survey indicates that there are 7 heads of cattle, 200 goats, 70 sheep, and 10,000 poultry.

Impact of Occupation Practices

Since the Al Far'a camp is not adjacent to any Israeli settlements or military bases, it is not directly affected by settlements. There are indirect Israeli procedures which affect the

camp, such as closures imposed on the area, flying check points and restrictions on movement causing delays for employees, workers and farmers to access their place of work.

Plans and Development Projects

Al Far'a camp has been neglected from basic infrastructure and development projects; recently the camp committee has implemented projects to construct a maternity center and create jobs funded by UNDP and UNRWA.

The camp committee in Al Far'a has set up a plan for the development of the camp, which includes various new projects. The developmental projects, which have been planned, are listed in table 6.

Table 6: Development plans and projects in Al Fara'a camp

Project	Type	Budget
Build a center for small crafts.	Economic	222,222 USD
Build a center for emergency and medical services.	Health	222,222 USD
Network sewage	Infrastructure	1,555,556 USD
Built new secondary school	Education	288889 USD

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