Tayasir village profile



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Location and Physical characteristics

TAYASIR is a Palestinian village in the Tubas Governorate, located 3 km north of Tubas city, in the north eastern part of the West Bank. It is bordered by Al Aqaba village to the east, Aqqaba village to the west, Ibziq and Salhab villages to the north and Tubas city and Ath thaghra village to the south.



Map 1: Tayasir village location and borders

The total area of Tayasir village is 26,000 dunums, this covers approximately 5 % of the Tubas Governorate's land area. 500 dunums are classified as 'built up' area, whilst 5000 dunums are agricultural and 7900 dunums has been confiscated.

Tayasir village is located on hill surrounded by mountains from the north, west and south. The village is at the moderate elevation of 300 m above sea level.

Tayasir village is characterized by a moderate climate; the summer is hot and dry, whilst the winter sees a lot of rainfall. The mean annual rainfall in Tayasir village is 331 mm; the average annual temperature is 20 °C, and the average annual humidity is 57 % (ARIJ GIS).

Tayasir village has been governed by a village council since 1997, which today comprises of 11 elected members as well as paid 5 employees. The village council operations and responsibilities include:

- 1. Administration, planning and development;
- 2. Infrastructure maintenance water, electricity, solid waste collection and the distribution of social services.

History

Tayasir is an old and historic village, various narratives and other evidences indicate that it has been settled since Canaanite period. The word "Tayasir" is derived from Kananet word "Asheer", meaning pleasure and happiness. In 1500 AD the two families of Jabir and Talep settled in the village due to its location and abundant agricultural potential. The plentiful supply of grazing area and water accessibility in the area were the main reasons for the people to live there.

From the total area of Tayasir village (26,000 dunums) 20,750 dunums are owned by (Albatriyarkia Allatinyah) who bought the land from a feudal named Hasan hamad in 1930 (Hasan hamad bought the land in 1900 from native residents in Tayasir to pay their debt to him)

In 1967, some residents tried to buy land from Albatriyarkia to build their houses and work in the land, but he Israeli occupation heard about that and they tried to buy the whole land from Albatriyarkia, who refused to do so, in return they couldn't sell any to residents. out of the 21,750 dunums, there are 15,875 dunums that is confiscated, not allowed to build or plant it, and isolated because of military and security purposes. WHO ever wants to build a house, has to get an approval from the Albatriyarkia, but those days there not given any permits or sell any land, so most of the residents either they built illegally (no permit), or build over their existing.

Photography from Tayasir village



Demography and Population

In 1997 the total population of Tayasir village was 1,754 people, of which 888 were males and 866 were females. There were 281 households resident in 308 housing units (1997 census).

The population of Tayasir village constitutes about 5 % of the total population of the Tubas Governorate which is considered as an urban population.

Age groups and gender

The population of Tayasir village is classified by age groups. The data of the 1997 census reveals that 49.3 % are less than 15 years, 47.4 % are in the age group 15-64 years and 3.3 % are 65 year and above (See table 1)

Table 1: Tayasir village population by sex and age group								
Sex		percentage						
	0 -14	15 -64	65 +	Total				
Male	435	423	30	888	50.6			
Female	430	408	28	866	49.4			
Total	865	831	58	1754	100			

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

The sex ratio in the village was 102.5 males for every 100 females. Males constitute 50.6 % of the population and females constitute 49.4 %.

The estimated population of Tayasir village 2,323 and in mid 2006 will increase to 2,397. The data in table 2 indicates that the population of Tayasir village grew by 32.4 % between 1997 and mid 2005 and in 2006, it will increase by 3.2 % (an increase of 74 people).

Table 2: Projected population for Tayasir village 2004 - 2006							
	1997 census	Mid-year	ı				
		2004	2005	2006			
Tyasir village	1,754	2,250	2,323	2,397			

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

Figure 1: population growth in Tayasir



Families:

The population of Tayasir village comprises of seven main families: Debik 17 %, Abu Muhsen 15 %, Wahdan 15 %, Sbah 15 %, Jabir 11 %, Taleb 8 %, Abed Alraseq 7 % and other small families consisting of 14 %.

Religious and Archeological Sites

There is a mosque and a convent in the village and there are many places that are considered to be archeological and tourist sites, of which are the Old mosque, the Roman Palace, the Towel, Almaleh Springs, the Old olive press, and many grottos.

Map 2: Main locations in Tayasir village



The Economy

Tayasir is an agriculture village, 5000 dunums of its area are arable land. 82 % of the residents mainly economically depend on agriculture, mainly farming and keeping livestock. As a result of the Israeli closure, farmers find that the restrictions on accessing their lands and marketing their agricultural products have become much more difficult. The second main source income is labor inside Israel, which has also decreased because of the closure and fewer workers are given permits to work inside Israel.

Labor Force Construction

In 1997, the percentage of participants in labor force in Tayasir village was 64.2 % of the total population of the village. The participation of women was assessed to be 31.7 % (556 women in total). The labor force in Tayasir village is 1126 people in total; of which 39.2 % are 'economically active people and 60.8 % are 'non-economically' active people. Of the economically active people 81.9 % are employed people, and 18.1 % are unemployed people. The largest groups of non-economically active people are the students and housewives, who constitute 49.6 % and 33.7 % respectively. Table 3 shows the labor force in Tayasir village.

Та	ble 3:	Tayasir P	opulation	(10 yea	ars and	Over)	by Sex a	nd Employ	ment S	Status	
S e x	Economically Active			nomically Active Not Economically Active						Tot- al	
	Empl -oyed	Currently Un- Employed	Un- Employed Never Worked	Total	Stud- ents	House -Wife	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking For Work	Other	Total	-
М	333	39	6	378	172	-	16	2	2	192	570
F	28	28	7	63	168	231	22	4	68	493	556
Т	361	67	13	441	340	231	38	6	70	685	112 6

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

Since outbreak of second Intifada in September 2000, most of the Palestinian migrant labor force cannot reach their places of work in Israel and the Israeli settlements. As a result the workers have lost their primary source of income and many have returned to working in their lands.

Based on the survey conducted by ARIJ and ACH in November 2005, the active economical sectors and percentages of residents who work in that sector is listed below

- The agriculture sector 82 %,
- The industrial sector 1 %,
- The trade sector 1 %,
- The service sector 5 %,
- Israeli labor market 10 %.
- The construction sector 1 %.

Figure 2: Percentage of economic activity in Tayasir village



The survey also indicated that the social groups most affected by Israeli measures in Tayasir village during the second Intifada are: 1) former migrant workers in the Israeli labor market, 2) families maintaining 6 individuals and more, 3) small farmers, 4) Small traders and 5). Housewives and children.

The average household income in Tayasir village has been severely affected by the second Intifada. Prior to this the average income stood at 1500 NIS. Today however it has declined sharply to 600 NIS. The result is that the average household income has decreased by 60 % in over a period of four years.

In Tayasir village there are 20 shops and groceries, two restaurants, one health services facility and many household hand craft workshops which are capable of obtaining convenient living conditions and basic needs.

Education

In the 1997 census the education status in Tayasir village indicated that about 14.8 % of the residents were illiterate, with women (75.3 %) comprising a greater percentage of illiterates than men (24.7 %). Of the literate population, 18.6 % of residents could read and write, 33.2 % completed elementary education, 23.7 % completed preparatory education and 9.7 % completed their secondary and higher education. Table 4 shows the education status in Tayasir by sex and education attainment in 1997.

Table 4: Tayasir Population (10 years and over) by sex and Educational Attainment											
S e x	Illite- rate	Can read & Write	Eleme- ntary	Preparat ory	Second ary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	M A	P H D	Total
M	41	104	193	151	47	17	17	-	-	-	570
F	125	105	181	116	18	7	3	-	-	-	555
Т	166	209	374	267	65	24	20	-	-	-	1125

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

There are three levels of education available in Tayasir village: elementary education; preparatory education and secondary education which provide the *Tawjihi* exam for local students to allow them to enter university.

At the end of the 2004/2005 scholastic year there were two schools in Tayasir village, one school for males and one school for females. The education status in Tayasir village is shown in table 5.

Table 5: No. of Schools, Classes and Students by Sex in Tayasir village (2004-2005)						
		Government	Private	Total		
Male	No. of Schools	1	0	1		
	No. of class	11	0	11		
	No. of Teachers	0	0	0		
	No. of Students	333	0	333		
Female	No. of Schools	1	0	1		
	No. of class	29	0	11		
	No. of Teachers	0	0	0		
	No. of Students	327	0	327		

Source: ARIJ Data Base – 2005

There is no pre school education (kindergartens) in Tayasir village to provide education for infants. As with other rural localities in Tubas governorate Tayasir village is suffering from many problems in the education status such as:

- 1. Shortages in classes.
- 2. There is no laboratory or educational equipment.
- 3. There is no playfield in the schools.

Health Status

There is one health clinic in Tayasir village, supervised by the government. It provides health services to all of Tayasir residents. The village is in need of another health clinic and institutions, where there are shortages in health services like:

- 1. There is no medical laboratory in the village.
- 2. There is no specialized clinic.
- 3. There is no ambulance.
- 4. There is no maternity clinic.
- 5. Shortage of qualified specialist physicians in the local clinic.
- 6. Difficulties of residents to access health services outside the village due to Israeli closures and barriers and shortage of services in neighbor villages.

Infrastructure, Natural resources and Services

Tayasir is a small rural village; the residents get their most services from Tubas city as it is the main city in the Governorate. Except for the two schools and one clinic in Tayasir there are no other establishments that would provide services.

- **Telecommunication services:** Tayasir village is connected to the telecommunication network. Approximately 25 % of the households have a Telephone connection.
- Water services: in spite of availability of water network in Tayasir village since 1997, there are no water resources to supply this network. Tayasir residents depend upon cisterns and water tanks to satisfy their needs for water. The water brought by tanks is not healthy and not suitable for domestic consumption, Due to bad conditions for those tanks, where there is no regular maintenance because of poor economical situation. Tayasir is poor in springs and wells and there is no water reservoir to supply water to the village in summer time.
- **Electricity services:** Tayasir has been connected to electricity network since 2003. Approximately 99 % of households in the village are connected to the electricity network. Tayasir village council manages the distribution of electricity which is supplied by Israeli Electric Corporation.
- Solid Waste Collection: Solid waste collection in Tayasir village is managed by the village council and Joint Services Council. Solid waste is collected three times a week from the residential area and sent it to a shared dumping site 6 km from Tayasir village. Burning is the main methods used to disposal of solid waste.
- Sewage Disposal Facilities: There is no sewage network in Tayasir village. All households must therefore dispose of their wastewater in cesspits. This is considered one of the main sources of pollution to the groundwater.
- **Transportation services:** Only 2500 m of the internal roads are paved and in a good condition in Tayasir village, 3.5 km are paved yet not in good condition and four km are not paved at all. The only means of transportation in Tayasir compromises of five taxis and ten private cars.

There are many obstacles in front of transportation of passengers in the village such as:

- 1. Israeli check points and barriers.
- 2. Deterioration of the roads.
- 3. Shortage of vehicles and transportation services.

Agriculture Sector

Tayasir village has been subject to several forms of Israeli aggression, Tayasir residents mainly depend on agriculture, but they were unable to access their lands and cultivate their crops. Israeli forces prevent farmers to access their lands and some times place checkpoints and barriers in the road, whilst at other times the Israeli forces announce that the area is a military area for training.

The total area of Tayasir is 26,000 dunums, of which 5000 dunums is agricultural area, 3545 dunums is cultivated, 7250 further dunums are forests and 3000 dunums are grazing areas. Out of 3545 dunums which are cultivated, 724 dunums are primarily planted with fruit trees, 410 dunums are for the cultivation of vegetables and 2410 dunumes are for the cultivation of field crops. (Ministry of Agriculture 2004)

Figure 2: Percentage of cultivated area of fruit trees, vegetables and field crops in



Based on the survey conducted by ARIJ and ACH, Tayasir village produces 5 tons of olives, 150 kg of nut stone, 300 tons of vegetables and 80 tons of field crops per annum.



Approximately 82 % of Tayasir population is dependent on the agricultural sector in their economic activities and 25 % of the residents are breeding local livestock. Data from the Ministry of Agriculture indicates the number of livestock in the village. There are 53 heads of cattle, 35 goats, 2850 sheep, 90 bee hives and 20,000 poultry.

Impact of Occupation Practices

Israeli occupation has been confiscated 7900 dunums from Tayasir village since 1967, 5000 dunums have been confiscated since the beginning of second Intifada (2000). In the east of Tayasir Israel has constructed military base (Copra) and a check point, for which they confiscated 10 dunums from the village. From the southeast side, the Israeli occupation has closed the road leading to Yarza with road blocks and mud. From west and north (road leading to Tubas city and Ibzig village) they periodically place flying checkpoints. These procedures place restrictions on resident movement.

In 2002 the Israeli occupation destroyed two houses. During the second Intifada 20 % of the total farming area of the village has been completely destroyed and 40 % of the farms have been partially destroyed.

The Israeli procedures against agricultural crops has also continued, 500 olive and fruit nut trees have been uprooted, 4400 dunums of field crops have been bulldozed and an additional to 4000 dunums are threatened with confiscation from the village.

During the second Intifada there were restrictions on access to health services, hospitals and social connections with other relatives. Farmers have been facing several problems in reaching their fields and cultivating their crops, about 150 households have been affected by Israeli procedures in atotal.

Plans and Development Projects

Tayasir village is suffering from a shortage of decent infrastructural services and vital projects such water, schools and roads. The strategic plan for Tayasir village council is includes implementing a lot of projects to develop and promote the village infrastructure and services, the shortage of funds and regular budgetary resources are the main obstacles to implementing the plan.

The development projects set up in the plan are listed in table 6.

Table 6: Development plans and projects in Tayasir village						
Project	Туре	Budget				
Built a water servitor	water	100,000 USD				
Connect the village with main water resources.	water	155,555 USD				
Built new school for boys and girls	education	666,667 USD				
Built health clinic	health	100,000 USD				
Built cultural center	education	100,000 USD				
Project of rehabilitation and paved of main and mineral roads	infrastructure	333,334 USD				

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