

Khrbet Kishda profile



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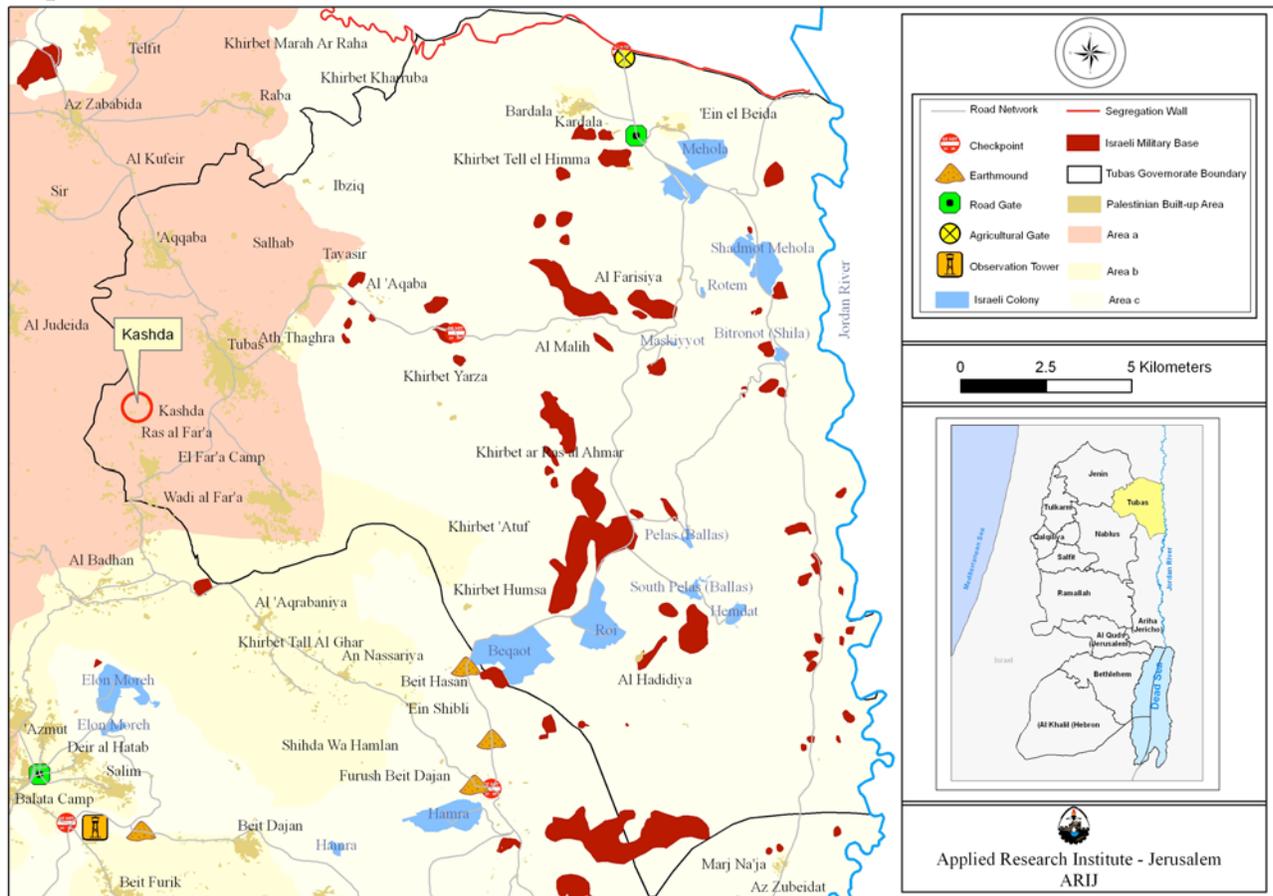
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Kh Kishda profile

Location and Physical characteristics

KH Kishda is a Palestinian small village in the Tubas governorate which is located 3 Km southwest of Tubas city, in the northeastern part of the West Bank. Kh Kishda is bordered by Tammun village to the east, Tubas city to the north, Aljudeda and Siris villages (Jenin Governorate) to the west and Ras el Al Far'a to the south.

Map 1: Kh Kishda location and borders.



The total area of Kh Kishda is 6,000 dunums, 10 dunums are classified as 'built up' area, whilst 4,500 dunums are agricultural land and 1,500 dunums are classified as forests and open space area.

Kh Kishda is located in a level area of land at a moderate elevation of 284 m above sea level. In addition, it has a moderate climate, with a mean annual rainfall in the village of about 389 mm; the average annual temperature is 19-20 °C. The average annual humidity is 59 % (ARIJ GIS).

In 1999, a project committee was appointed by the Ministry of Local Authority in the village, which consists of three members. The main operations and responsibilities of the project committee are: social development services and management of electricity in the village.

History

Kishda is a Canaanite ward; a narrative said that the Canaanite people were the first to dwell in the area. In 1956 the population of Kishda was more than 1500 people; the residents were farmers and depended on agricultural production. Later people in the village converted to other occupations and migrated from the village to the cities and large villages. New residents of Kishda came from Tubas, Tammun and Aqqaba for agricultural activities in the agriculture season and leave again in other seasons. For that reason in some seasons the population increases to more than 1000 people and in other season's decreases to 20 people.

Photograph of Kishda village.



Demography and Population

According to the 1997 census, the total population of Kishda was 29 people, of which 15 were males and 14 were females, dwelling in simple tenets.

It is difficult to estimate population growth in Kh Kishda, as revealed in census data. The original population was about 30 but in some seasons increased to 1000, who came for agriculture

Families:

All original residents of Kishda belong to one family; The Daraghmah family which includes a number of sub-clans: Abu Khazaran , Maslamany and Abd Al Razeq.

Religious and Archeological Sites

Except one archeological mosque called Amazar mosque there are no archeological or religious sites in the village.

The Economy

Kh Kishda is an agricultural village. All residents, both permanent and temporary are engaged in the agricultural sector. Agricultural production forms the main source of income for the residents, most of them engaged in planting production and some of them keep and breed livestock.

Labor Force Construction

The 1997 census indicates that there were 22 people participating in the labor force in Kishda, of which 14 were 'economically active' people and 8 were 'non-economically' active people. Of the economically active people 13 were employed people. Of non-economically active people 4 were students and 2 housewives. It should be noted that all of the labor force work in agricultural activities.

The Israeli procedures in the last four years have affected the residents of Kishda. According to the field survey conducted by ARIJ and ACH, the most affected social group by Israeli measures in Kishda during the second Intifada were: 1) small farmers, 2) housewives and children, 3) families maintaining 6 individuals and more.

Education

There is no school or kindergarten in Kishda, the students go to Tubas city or to Al Far'a camp which are 1.5 to 2 km from the village. Transportation is the main difficulty facing students. The families mostly drive their children to schools in private cars.

Health Status

Kishda has no infrastructure for health: it has no clinic or private doctor, there is no pharmacy to provide medicine and there is no maternity clinic or midwife. The residents go to Tubas city to get their health services. Also transportation is the main obstacle to access to the health services in nearby localities.

Infrastructure, Natural resources and Services

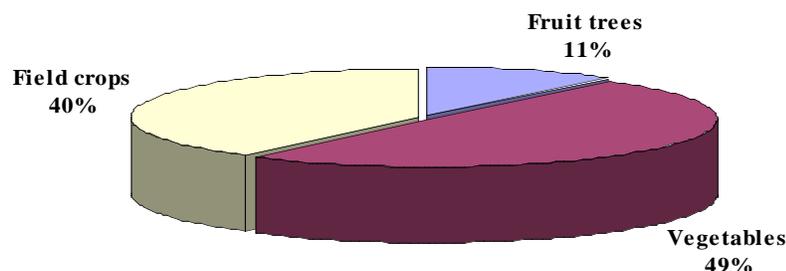
Kh Kishda is lacking in all types of institutions and infrastructure services, there is no water network, there is no telecommunication network and there are no other public services such as transportation or solid waste or sewage management. In 2002 electricity was connected to the village and all the families connected to the electricity.

For water, the residents depend on two wells in the village for both household consumption and animals.

Agriculture Sector

The dominant economic activity in Kishda is agricultural activities. 100 % of the residents are engaged in the agricultural sector and make their main livelihood from it. The total arable land of Kishda is 4,500 dunums. Out of these 540 dunums are cultivated in fruit trees, 2060 dunums cultivated in vegetables and 1660 dunums are cultivated in field crops (Ministry of Agriculture 2004).

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



Also data of the Ministry of Agriculture indicate that there are 82 head of cattle, 1060 of sheep and 70 goats.

Based on the survey conducted by ARIJ and ACH, Kishda produces 60 tons of olives, 30,000 tons of vegetables and 300 tons of field crops per annum.

Impact of Occupation Practices

Like many localities in Tubas Governorate Kishda is subject to many Israeli procedures. The procedures and measures consist of the construction of flying check points on the routes of the villages, destroying the simple water network, destroying 10 dunums of vegetables and imposing restrictions on marketing the farmer's products.

Plans and Development Projects

The project committee in Kishda implemented projects to assist farmers in the village and provide employment. Two projects were implemented: one for medical plants and the other for a pickles factory.

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