

Burin Village Profile



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Background

This report is part of a series of booklets, which contain compiled information about each city, town, and village in the Nablus Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Nablus 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 Nablus 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 Nablus Governorate. In addition, the project aims at preparing strategic developmental programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current political, social, and economic instability with the focus on the agricultural sector.

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

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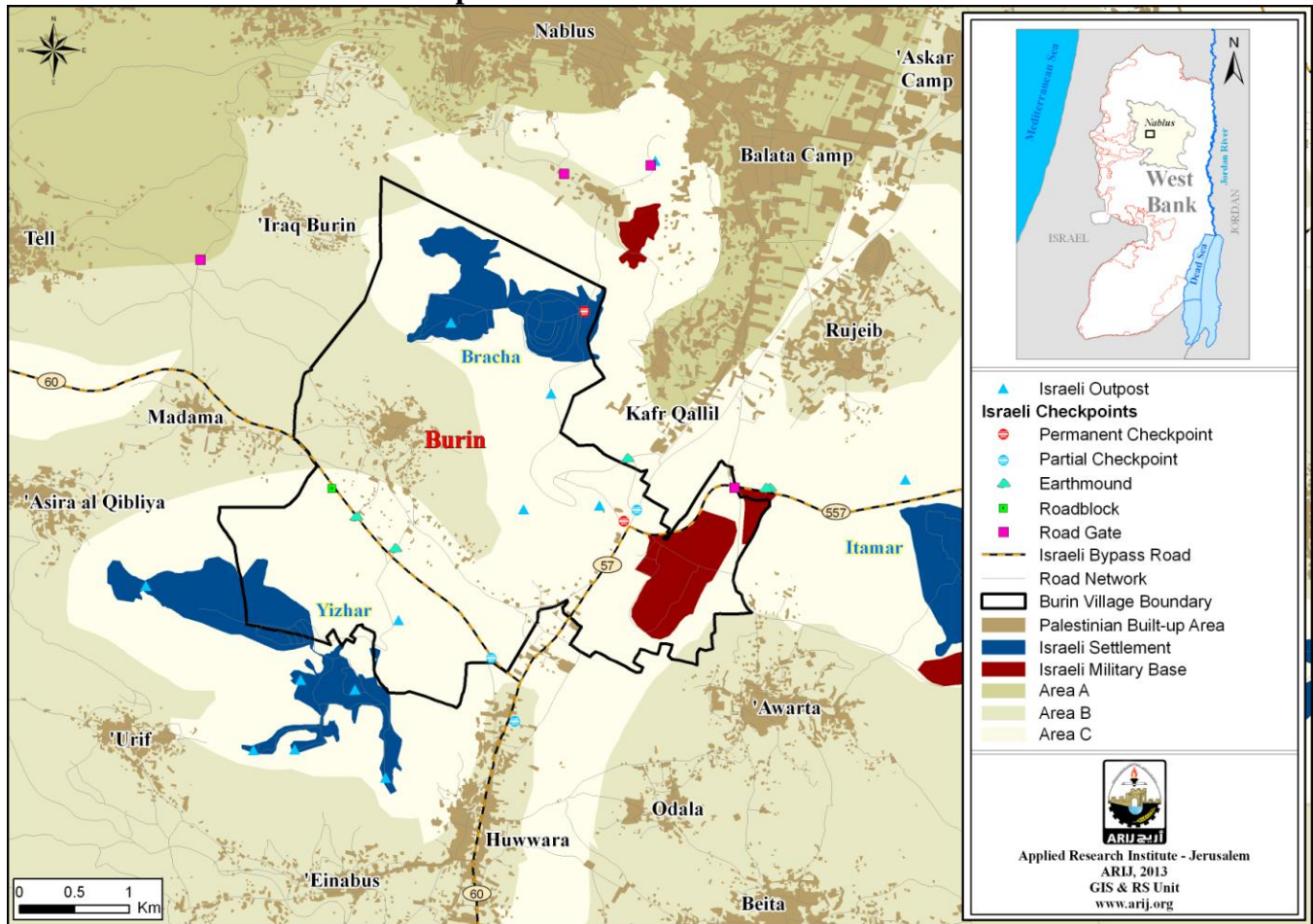
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Burin Village Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Burin is a Palestinian village in Nablus Governorate located 4.16km south of Nablus city. It is bordered by Kafr Qallil and Awarta to the east, Madama and 'Iraq Burin to the west, Huwwara to the south and Nablus City to the north (ARIJ-GIS, 2014) (See Map 1).

Map 1: Burin location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014

Burin is located at an altitude of 591m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 637.8mm. The average annual temperature is 16°C and the average annual humidity is approximately 60.4% (ARIJ-GIS, 2014).

The total area of Burin village consists of approximately 12,350 dunums. This is according to the new borders of the local bodies which were stipulated by the Palestinian Ministry of Local Government, prepared by the Palestinian National Authority and represented by the Ministry of Local Government, the Central Elections Commission, the Ministry of Planning and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics 2011. These governmental institutions redeveloped and altered the borders of the local bodies

for the purpose of the elections. ARIJ adopted these new borders in this project for the purposes of research and study. The adopted borders, to a certain extent, suited the demographic variables and the environmental and agricultural facts on the ground. These borders do not represent the space and the borders of private property in the district and are not included in the files of private land properties.

Since 1965, Burin has been governed by a Village Council which is currently administrated by 9 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). There are additionally 7 employees working in the council, which has a permanent headquarters. The council also has a vehicle to collect solid waste (Burin Village Council, 2013).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of Burin, including (Burin Village Council, 2013):

- The establishment and maintenance of the drinking water network.
- The establishment and maintenance of the electricity network.
- Collect waste, clean streets, the rehabilitation and paving of roads, and the provision of public services.
- Protect historical and archaeological sites.
- Protect government property.
- Work projects and studies.
- Provide firefighter vehicles.
- Provide transportation.
- Provide kindergartens.

History

Named after the village of Burin this name relative to the "Port land uncultivated," and later cultivated. The village dates back 2,000 years. Inhabitants from the village originate from eastern areas of Jordan (Burin Village Council, 2013).

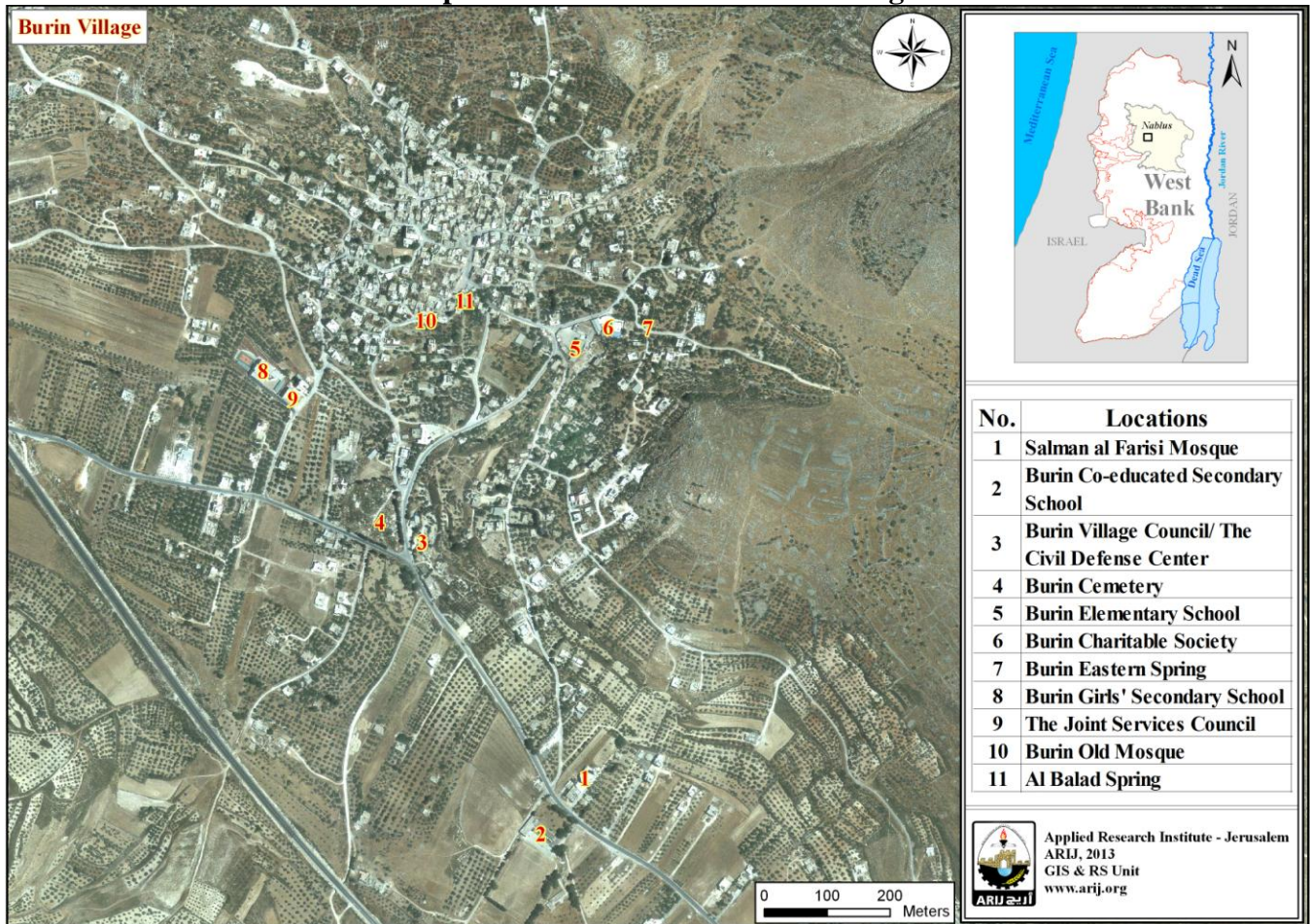
Photo of Burin



Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are two mosques in the village; Burin Great Mosque and Salman the Persian mosque. There are also many places and archeological sites in the village, including Salman the Persian shrine, As Shaykh Ghanem shrine, and Abu Ismail shrine (Burin Village Council, 2013) (See Map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Burin Village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Burin in 2007 was 2,274; of whom 1,138 were male and 1,136 female. There were additionally 429 households registered as living in 539 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 Burin is as follows: 39.4% were less than 15 years of age, 56.2% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 4.3% were 65 years of age or older. Data additionally showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the village is 100:100; meaning that males and females constitute 50% and 50% of the population, respectively.

Families

Burin residents are from several families, including Al Najjar, Ead, Al Zean, Omran, Qadoos, 'Asa'woos and Al Shami families (Burin Village Council, 2013).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007, the illiteracy rate among Burin population is approximately 5.3%, of whom 80.6% are females. Of the literate population, 11.1% could only read and write, with no formal education, 22.1% had elementary education, 29% had preparatory education, 18% had secondary education, and 14.4% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Burin by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: Burin population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment

Sex	Illite- rate	Can read & write	Element- ary	Preparat- ory	Second- ary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Un- known	Total
M	17	82	206	232	157	70	72	-	7	2	-	845
F	71	102	161	249	142	33	51	-	2	1	-	812
T	88	184	367	481	299	103	123	-	9	3	-	1,657

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are three public schools in the village, all of which are run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012) (See Table 2).

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

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Burin Girls Secondary School	Government	Female
Burin Co-educated Secondary School	Government	Mixed
Burin Co-educated Elementary School	Government	Mixed

Source: Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012

In the village there are 713 students, 45 teachers, and 26 classes. The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 16, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 27 (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012).

There are two kindergartens in Burin village, both of which are run by private organizations (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012) (See Table 3).

Table 3: Kindergartens in Burin village by name and supervising authority

Name of Kindergarten	No. of Classes	No. of Teachers	Supervising Authority
Touor al Janah Kindergarten	3	3	Private
Burin Charitable Society Kindergarten	3	4	Private

Source: Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012

Schools in the village are exposed to harassment by Israeli forces, and students face restrictions when trying to access Burin Co-educated Secondary School (Burin Village Council, 2013).

Due to the lack of education options in the village such as industrial and commercial secondary levels, students head to Nablus city schools (5km away) (Burin Village Council, 2013).

The educational sector in Burin village faces a number of obstacles, including (Burin Village Council, 2013):

- Settler attacks on students.
- Lack of classroom in the village schools.
- The need to establish new schools in the village.

Health Status

Burin has one governmental health center, a private general physician clinic, a private dentist clinic, a private mother and child care center and a private pharmacy. In the absence of required health services or in emergencies, patients are transferred to Rafidiya, the national hospitals, or Ar Rahmah clinic in Nablus city (5km away), or head to private clinics in Huwwara town (2km away) (Burin Village Council, 2013).

Burin Health Clinic is exposed to harassment by Israeli forces and subject to settler attacks. Residents also face restrictions when trying to access the clinic (Burin Village Council, 2013).

The health sector in the village faces a number of obstacles and problems (Burin Village Council, 2013):

- The lack of an ambulance.
- The lack of a full-time permanent doctor.
- The lack of medicine in the governmental clinic.
- The lack of a diabetes clinic; as a result, citizens must attend private clinics in Huwwara town.

Economic Activities

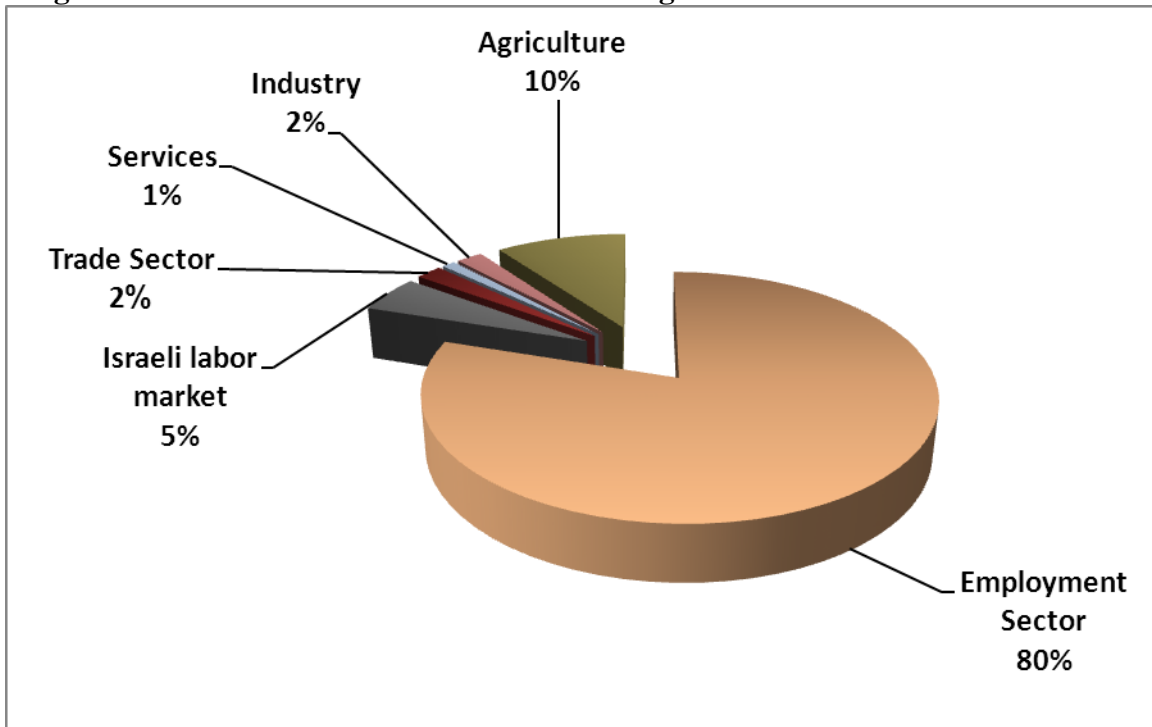
The economy in Burin is dependent mainly on the Government or other employees sector which absorbs 80% of the village's workforce (Burin Village Council, 2013) (See Figure 1).

The results of a field survey conducted by the ARIJ field team in 2013 for the distribution of labor by economic activity in Burin are as follows:

- Government or other employees sector (80%)
- Agriculture sector (10%)
- Industry (5%)
- Trade sector (2%)
- Israeli labor market (2%)

- Services Sector (1%)

Figure 1: The distribution of labor force among main economic activities in Burin



Source: Burin Village Council, 2013

Burin has 10 groceries, 1 bakery, 5 butchery, 1 fruit and vegetable store, 2 industry professional store, 5 different professional workshops, 1 stone cutter, 1 olive oil press and 1 store for agricultural tools (Burin Village Council, 2013).

In 2013, the unemployment rate in Burin reached 60% and the group most affected economically by Israeli restrictions are as follows (Burin Village Council, 2013):

- Agriculture sector.
- Trade sector.
- Services sector

Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007, 33% of Burin’s labor force was economically active, of whom 84.6% were employed, 66.9% were not economically active, 51.5% were students, and 33.9% were housekeepers (See Table 4).

Table 4: Burin 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	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & not looking for work	Others	Total		
M	393	20	36	449	303	-	52	10	29	394	2	845
F	69	5	23	97	268	376	61	3	7	715	-	812
T	462	25	59	546	571	376	113	13	36	1,109	2	1,657

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

Source: PCBS, 2009.

Agricultural Sector

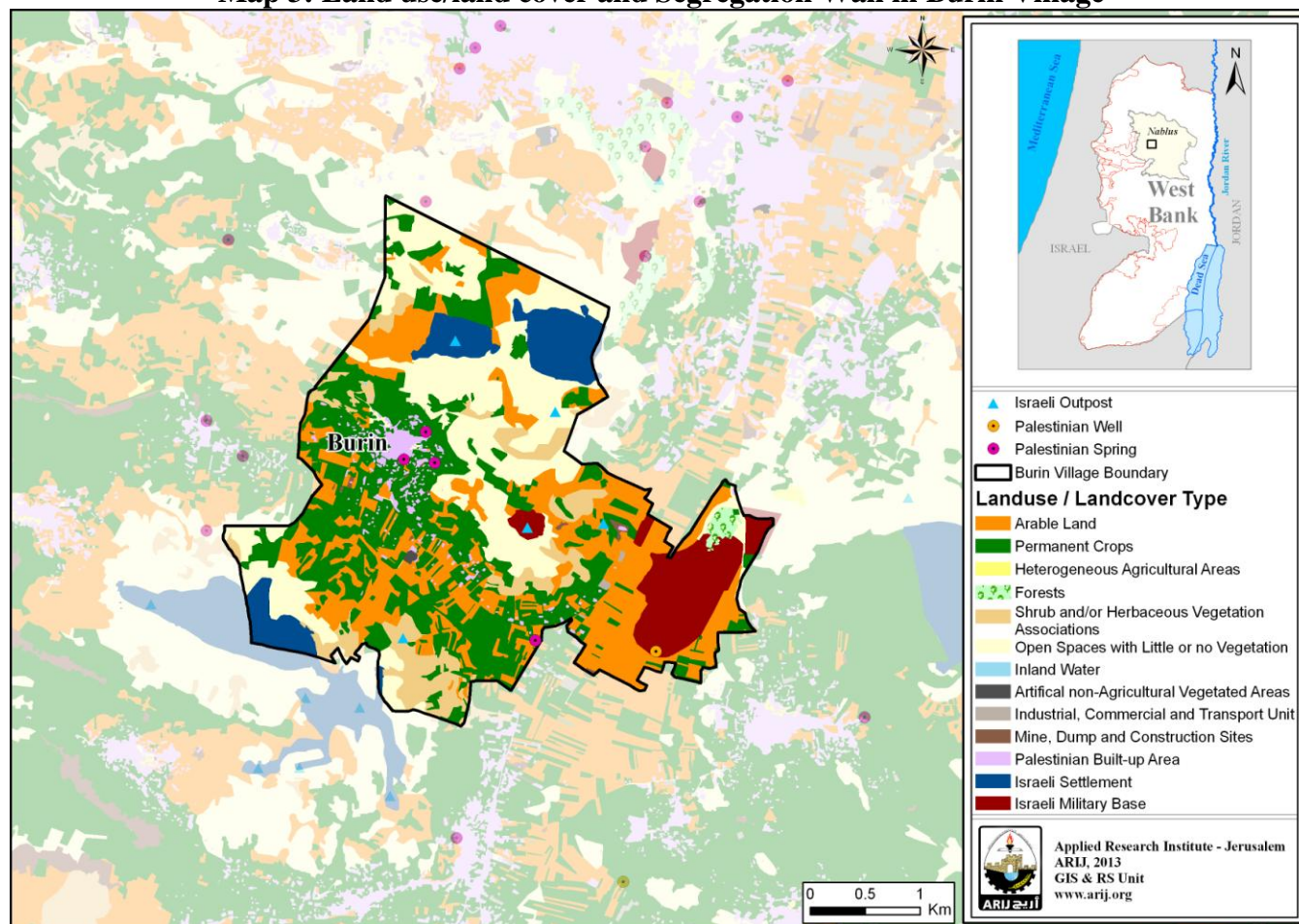
Burin has a total area of approximately 12,350 dunums of which 7,566 are 'arable' land and 254 dunums are registered as 'residential' (See Table 5 and Map 3).

Table 5: Land use and land cover in Burin village (area in dunum)

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (7,566)				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					
12,350	254	3,475	0	953	3,138	1	69	2,708	52	1,700

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2014.

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Burin Village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

Table 6 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Burin. The most commonly cultivated crops within this area are green beans and cauliflower (Ministry of Agriculture Nablus, 2010).

Table 6: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Burin (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	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	6	0

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture Nablus, 2010

Table 7 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Burin is famous for olive cultivation and there are approximately 2,802 dunums of land planted with olive trees in the village.

Table 7: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Burin (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.
2,802	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	90	0	61	0	2,957	0

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture Nablus, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Burin, cereals (wheat) are the most cultivated, covering an area of approximately 350 dunums (See Table 8).

Table 8: Total area of forage and field crops in Burin (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.
350	0	1	0	30	0	4	0	150	0	0	0	44	0	579	0

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture Nablus, 2010

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and ARIJ's GIS Unit in sizes of agricultural areas 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 not consider 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 4% of the residents in Burin rear and keeps domestic animals such as cows and sheep (See Table 9).

Table 9: Livestock in Burin

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
19	352	285	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	20

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture Nablus, 2010

There are approximately 22km of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows (Burin Village Council, 2013):

Table 10: Agricultural Roads in Burin Village and their Lengths

Suitability of Agricultural Roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	3
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	7
For animals only	2
Unsuitable	10

Source: Burin Village Council, 2013

The agricultural sector in the village faces a number of problems including (Burin Village Council, 2013):

- The lack of capital.
- Obstacles regarding the marketing of olive oil.
- Confiscation of Burin lands by Israeli authorities.
- Inability to access to Burin agricultural lands because of Israeli-imposed restrictions.

Institutions and Services

Burin village has a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include (Burin Village Council, 2013):

- **Burin Village Council:** Founded in 1965 and registered later by the Ministry of Local Government, with the aim of taking care of different issues concerning the village and providing various services to its population, in addition to infrastructure services.
- **Burin Sport Club:** Founded in in 1965, and registered later by the Ministry of Youth and Sports.
- **Burin Charitable Society:** Founded in 1965, and registered later by the Ministry of the Interior, providing supervision of kindergartens.
- **Burin Women’s Society:** Founded in 1952, and registered later by the Ministry of the Interior, the Society provides courses for women and delivers cultural lectures.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Electricity and Telecommunication Services:

Burin has been connected to a public electricity network since 1994. It is served by the Israeli Qatariya Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village. 100% of the housing units in the village are connected to the network. The village faces a number of problems in the electricity. The network is old and in need of rehabilitation, there is a lack of maintenance of the electricity network, and there is a major problem relating to the financial debt that has been accumulated by the Village Council due to non-payment of electricity bills by residents (Burin Village Council, 2013).

Burin is connected to a telecommunication network. Approximately 60% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Burin Village Council, 2013).

Transportation Services:

There are 3 public buses and 3 taxi cars in Burin used by the residents for transportation. In the absence transportation, the citizens use a private taxi office. Residents face movement restrictions due to the presence of permanent military checkpoints such as Huwwara checkpoint, in addition to flying checkpoints (Burin Village Council, 2013). There are 3km of main roads and 17km of secondary roads in Burin (Burin Village Council, 2013) (See Table 11).

Table 11: Roads in Burin Village

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Sub
1. Paved & in good condition	3	-
2. Paved & in poor condition	-	10
3. Unpaved	-	7

Source: Burin Village Council, 2013

Water Resources:

100% of housing units in Burin are connected to the public water network provided by Nablus Municipality. The network was established in 2010 (Burin Village Council, 2013).

The quantity of water supplied to Burin village in 2012 was recorded at approximately 84,000 cubic meters/year (Burin Village Council, 2013). Therefore, the estimated rate of water supply per capita is approximately 90 liters/day. However, no Burin citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are estimated at 5% (Burin Village Council, 2013). These losses happen at the main source, major transport lines, in the distribution network, and at the household level. Therefore, the rate of water consumption per capita in Burin is 85 liters per day (Burin Village Council, 2013). The average water consumption of Burin residents is low compared with the minimum quantity of 100 liters per capita per day proposed by the World Health Organization.

In addition, Burin village has three springs used for cattle, 300 domestic wells to collect rainwater and two water tanks with a capacity 300 and 500 cubic meters respectively (Burin Village Council, 2013). Each cubic meter of water from the public network costs 5 NIS (Burin Village Council, 2013).

Sanitation:

Burin village lacks a public sewerage network and most of the population use cesspits and septic tanks as a main means for wastewater disposal (Burin Village Council, 2013).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the approximated quantity of wastewater generated per day, is 175 cubic meters, or 64,000 cubic meters annually. At the individual level, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 68 liters per day. The wastewater collected by cesspits and septic tanks is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with little regard for the environment. Here 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 in addition to public health (ARIJ - WERU, 2013).

Solid Waste Management:

The Joint Services Council for Solid Waste in Nablus is responsible for the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by citizens and establishments in the village. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee amounting to 15 NIS/month per household is charged to the population and facilities served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. 100% of these fees are collected (Burin Village Council, 2013).

Most of the population in Burin benefits from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags, located at various points in the village. The Joint Council collects the solid waste twice weekly and transports it using a waste vehicle to Zahret al Finjan dumping site in Jenin Governorate, 33km away from the village. Here the waste is subsequently buried in an environmentally sound way (Burin Village Council, 2013).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Burin is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Burin residents is nearly 2.7 tons, or 982 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

Environmental Conditions

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

Water Crisis

Interruption of water for long periods, especially in the summer.

Wastewater Management

The absence of a public sewage network in the village means that Burin 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 village. This wastewater also contaminates the groundwater because most cesspits are built without lining, to avoid the need to use sewage tankers and allow wastewater to enter into the ground. Moreover, the untreated wastewater collected from cesspits by sewage tankers is disposed of in open areas without concern for the damage it causes to the environment and to residents' health.

Solid Waste Management:

Burin village suffers from some problems. There are not enough containers available to collect solid waste in the village, so the citizens leave the solid waste in bags in the front of their homes, until the waste collection truck comes to collect the solid waste. This causes a buildup of solid waste in the streets and in the front of homes and attracts insects and stray animals.

The lack of a sanitary landfill and a central service in the village, like other villages and towns of the Nablus Governorate means that the village disposing its solid waste in Zahret al Finjan landfill in the Jenin Governorate. This landfill is the main environment-considering landfill serving the village in addition to most of the other localities in the Nablus Governorate.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical status in Burin village

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28th September 1995 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Burin was divided into Area B and Area C. Approximately 2,490 dunums (20% of the village's total area) were classified as Area B, where the PNA has complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to retain overriding responsibility for security. The rest of the village's area, constituting 9,860 dunums (80% of the total area), was 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 unless through consent or authorization by the Israeli Civil Administration. The majority of Burin's population resides in Area B while most of the land lying within Area C is agricultural land, open space or has been taken for Israeli settlements. (See Table 12).

Table 12: The Geopolitical Divisions of Burin village according to the Oslo Agreement 1995

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of Total village area %
Area A	0	0
Area B	2,490	20
Area C	9,860	80
Nature Reserve	0	0
Total	12,350	100

Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2014

Israeli occupation practices in Burin village

Thousands of dunums of land belonging to Burin town have been confiscated by Israel, primarily for the purpose of establishing settlements, military bases, and the construction of Israeli settlement roads and military outposts. The following is a breakdown of the Israeli confiscations of land of the town of Burin:

Israel has confiscated 854 dunums from Burin village (7% from the total village area of Burin) for the establishment of two settlements. The first is "Bracha" settlement, located to the north-east of the village, and the second is "Yitzhar" settlement, located to the south-west of the village. A total of 2,875 Israeli settlers live in these settlements. (See Table 13).

Table 13: Israeli settlement established on the territory of Burin village

Settlement Name	establishing year	Area confiscated from the territory of Burin village	Number of settlers living in the settlement
Bracha	1982	621	1,769
Yizhar	1983	233	1,106
Total		854	2875
Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2014			

As a result of Israeli military order No 75/5/T, Israel has confiscated 630 dunums from Burin village for the establishment of Huwwara military base near Huwwara checkpoint. The occupation authorities aim to establish military bases deep inside the Palestinian territories in order to establish further control over the Palestinian population. They are often a source of human rights violations against Palestinians.

Israeli checkpoints around Burin village

During the Second Intifada, the Israeli occupation authorities established checkpoints upon the road that links between Burin town and Nablus city. These checkpoints consist of cement blocks, earth mound fences, and iron gates. Over the last decade, military checkpoints in the area have continued to have a negative impact on the daily lives of residents. Checkpoints continue to hinder freedom of movement and sever the links between Nablus city and the surrounding villages, as well as the connection between the towns and their agricultural lands. These checkpoints were partly removed after 2009, when Israeli forces reduced their presence in this area. Palestinians now have more freedom of movement than when the checkpoint was in place.

Israeli authorities have now evacuated “Yitzhar” checkpoint, located at the crossroad (Burin-Qalqiliya) on bypass road No.60, which links between Nablus and Qalqiliya Governorates. However, the checkpoint and iron gate near Huwwara camp remain closed.

Over the last decade, military checkpoints in the area have continued to have a negative impact on the daily lives of residents. Checkpoints continue to hinder freedom of movement and sever the links between Nablus city and the surrounding villages, as well as the connection between the villages and their agricultural lands. This has resulted in heavy economic losses for residents of the village as they are forced to travel further distances which takes more time, in order to reach their agricultural land, especially when checkpoints are closed.

Israeli bypass roads in Burin village

Israeli authorities have established multiple bypass roads across the West Bank, confiscating thousands of dunums of agricultural and non-agricultural lands in order to link Israeli settlements to each other and to separate the Palestinian community. These roads also serve to enhance Israeli security control on these roads. Israel has confiscated further of Burin village territory in order to construct two Israeli bypass roads. One of them is bypass road No. 60, located to the south; the second is the bypass road No. 555, located to the east, which links between Huwwara checkpoint and “Elon Moreh” settlement.

It should be noted that the real danger of the bypass roads lies in the amount of the confiscated lands which will be taken for the purpose of what is known as the (buffer zone). The buffer zone is imposed by the Israeli army and usually occupies 75 meters on both sides of the road.

Israeli outposts in the village of Burin

Burin village lands have been taken by force by Israeli settlers to establish three settlement outposts on the hills surrounding "Bracha" settlement (Bracha A, Sinyeh Ya'acov). These outposts overlook the village of Burin, with the aim of extending the territory controlled along the western and southern side of the settlement. As a result, the settlers control more Palestinian land. These outposts are 1.5km to 7km away from "Bracha" settlement. They occupy a large amount of Palestinian land as well as isolating the surrounding land in the area. These outposts form a barrier which surrounds nearby Palestinian areas and their population, and they are often a source of human rights violations against Palestinian civilians and their land.

During the past two decades, Israel has built 232 outposts in the West Bank, which later became known as settlement outposts. The outposts are foundations for new settlements, and tend to be extended branches of a mother settlement a few miles away. The process usually begins with the establishment of mobile caravans on the land that has been taken by the settlers. Establishing settlement outposts was encouraged by Ariel Sharon; the aim was for Jewish settlers to occupy Palestinians hill tops and create facts on the ground, so that Palestinians could not claim the land if there was ever to be a future solution between the two sides. Consecutive Israeli governments have provided security and logistical support for these outposts. Since 2001 when Ariel Sharon became Prime Minister, there has been a significant increase in the number of outposts across the West Bank. The Israeli army has also supported illegal Israeli settlers in their relocation to the settlements, in addition to providing security and infrastructure support. This is to ensure the permanence of the settlements.

Settler attacks on Burin village

Attacks and violence perpetrated by settlers living in the settlements on Burin land has had a profoundly negative impact on village residents and their property. Palestinian land owners are unable to access their lands, as they have been fenced off with barbed wire. Settlers have planted trees in these areas to reinforce their control over the area. The settlers have damaged and burned a number of Palestinian owned trees and plants. Settlers have also attacked the land owners in an attempt to intimidate and deter them from returning to their land.

Israel has confiscated land from Burin and the neighboring villages in order to establish illegal settlements in the area for the purpose of the establishment of Israeli settlements, but also these settlements pose a real threat for the Palestinians on their own land . Since the establishment of these settlements, Palestinian residents have been subjected to several violent attacks, for example farmers have been attacked in order to prevent them from reaching their agricultural land. Settlers have also stolen crops, damaged trees and attacked homes, places of worship, cars and other private property. Attacks have increased during the recent years, often occurring daily especially from the abovementioned settlements, and it became daily attacks on the Palestinian lands and property.

Development Plans and Projects

Implemented Projects

Burin Village Council has implemented a number of development projects in Burin over the past five years (See Table 14).

Table 14: Implemented Development Plans and Projects in Burin during the Last Five Years

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Establish retaining wall	Services	2008	Coopi
Paving the main street (Burin - Madama - Asira)	Infrastructure	2009	USAID
Establish water network	Infrastructure	2010	USAID
Provide solid waste vehicle	Services	2010	European Union
Construction of services building	Services	2010	PNA
Establish five classrooms in the village school	Educational	2010	PNA
Establish retaining wall on the main street	Services	2010	UNRWA
Establish retaining wall in the front of the village	Services	2010	UNRWA
Establish retaining wall	Services	2011	Coopi
Establish a mosque and health clinic	Services	2011	Burin Village Council
Establish a part of retaining wall	Services	2012-2011	French institution
Establish a wall in Burin Girls Secondary School	Educational	2012	French institution
Establish Burin Girls Secondary School	Educational	2012	Germany Grant

Source: Burin Village Council, 2013

Proposed Projects

Burin Village Council, in cooperation with the village's civil society organizations and village 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 village. The projects are as follows, in order of priority from the viewpoints of the workshop participants:

1. Rehabilitation of agricultural roads (7km).
2. Establish a public park serving all age groups in the village.
3. Establish the headquarters for Burin Sports Club and rehabilitation the stadium.
4. Construction of a water tank to collect spring water and provision of tanker lines for agricultural use.
5. Establish a civil defense headquarters.
6. Rehabilitation and afforestation of agricultural land (approximately 3,000 dunums).
7. Rehabilitate internal roads (length of 5km).
8. Establishment of small productive projects for women such as sewing, embroidery, food processing.
9. Establish harvesting cisterns for agriculture.
10. Pave the road between Burin and Nablus (4.5km), with estimated cost of 100,000 Euros.
11. Provide containers for solid waste collection.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

Burin suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 15 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Village Council's perspective

Table 15: Development Priorities and Needs in Burin

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
Infrastructural Needs					
1	Opening and pavement of roads	*			25km [^]
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks	*			12km
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas			*	
4	Construction of new water networks			*	
5	Rehabilitation/ construction of new wells or springs	*			Four water springs
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			1000 cubic meters
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			12km
8	Construction of a new electricity network			*	
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection	*			300 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste	*			One vehicle
11	Providing a sanitary landfill			*	
Health Needs					
1	Building new clinics or health care centres			*	
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres	*			One health center
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools	*			
Educational Needs					
1	Building new schools	*			Secondary school for boys and one co-educational elementary
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			All schools
3	Purchasing new school equipment	*			
Agriculture Needs					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			30,000 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns			*	
3	Construction of livestock barracks	*			10 barracks
4	Provision of Veterinary Services	*			
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals	*			100 tons per year
6	Construction of new greenhouses	*			10 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses			*	
8	Provision of field crops seeds	*			
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies	*			
Other Needs					
1	Establish retaining walls	*			5km
2	Establish a headquarters for sport club	*			
3	Establish a society for reform	*			
4	Establish a Wedding Hall	*			
5	Providing agricultural equipment such as a tractor	*			
6	Maintenance of internal roads	*			

[^] 10km main roads, 5km secondary roads and 10km agricultural roads.

Source: Burin Village Council, 2013

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