

Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Town 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 Ramallah Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Ramallah 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 Ramallah 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 Ramallah 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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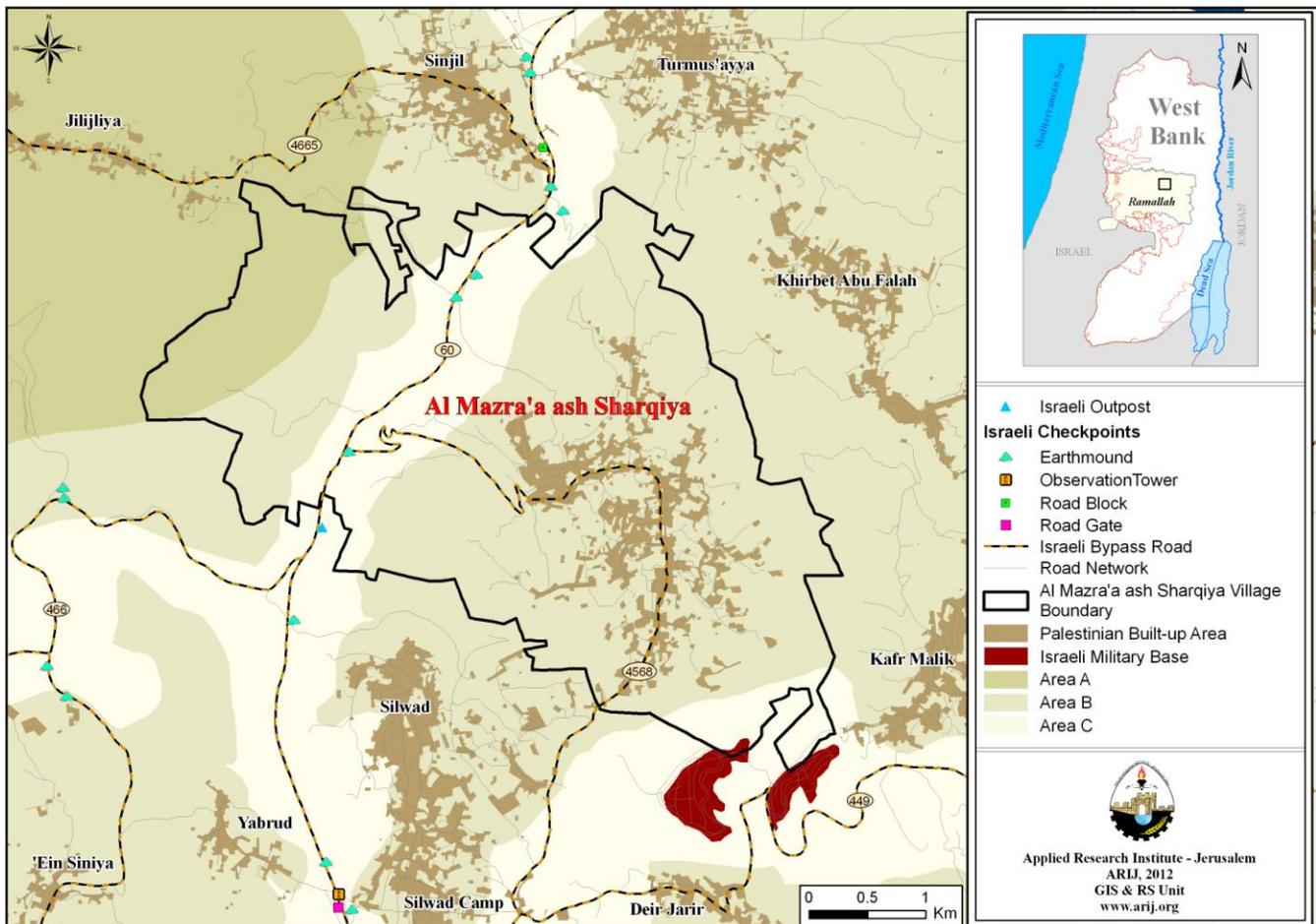
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Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Town Profile

Location and physical characteristics

Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya is a Palestinian town in the Ramallah Governorate located 13.1 km northeast of Ramallah City. Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya is bordered by Kafr Malik and Khirbet Abu Falah villages' lands to the east, Sinjil and Turmus'ayya to the north, Jilijliya and Silwad villages' lands to the west, and Deir Jarir and Silwad to the south (ARIJ GIS, 2012) (See Map 1).

Map 1: Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya location and borders



Source: ARIJ GIS, 2012

Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya is located at an altitude of 937 m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 466 mm. The average annual temperature is 16 °C, and the average annual humidity is about 59% (ARIJ GIS, 2012).

Since 1997, Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya has been governed by a municipal council, which is currently administrated by 11 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority. There are also 12 employees working in the council. The Municipal Council owns a permanent headquarters and a vehicle for the collection of solid waste in addition to a pickup car that serves the residents (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011).

It is the responsibility of the Municipal Council to provide a number of services to the residents of the town, including (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011):

- Infrastructure services including the establishment and management of a drinking water network and electricity network or generators.
- Solid waste collection, road construction and restoration, street cleaning and social services.
- Provision of headquarters for governmental services.
- Organization of the construction and licensing processes.
- Implementation of projects and studies for the town.
- Protection of archaeological and historical sites.
- Establishment and supervision of kindergartens.
- Provision of an ambulance.

History

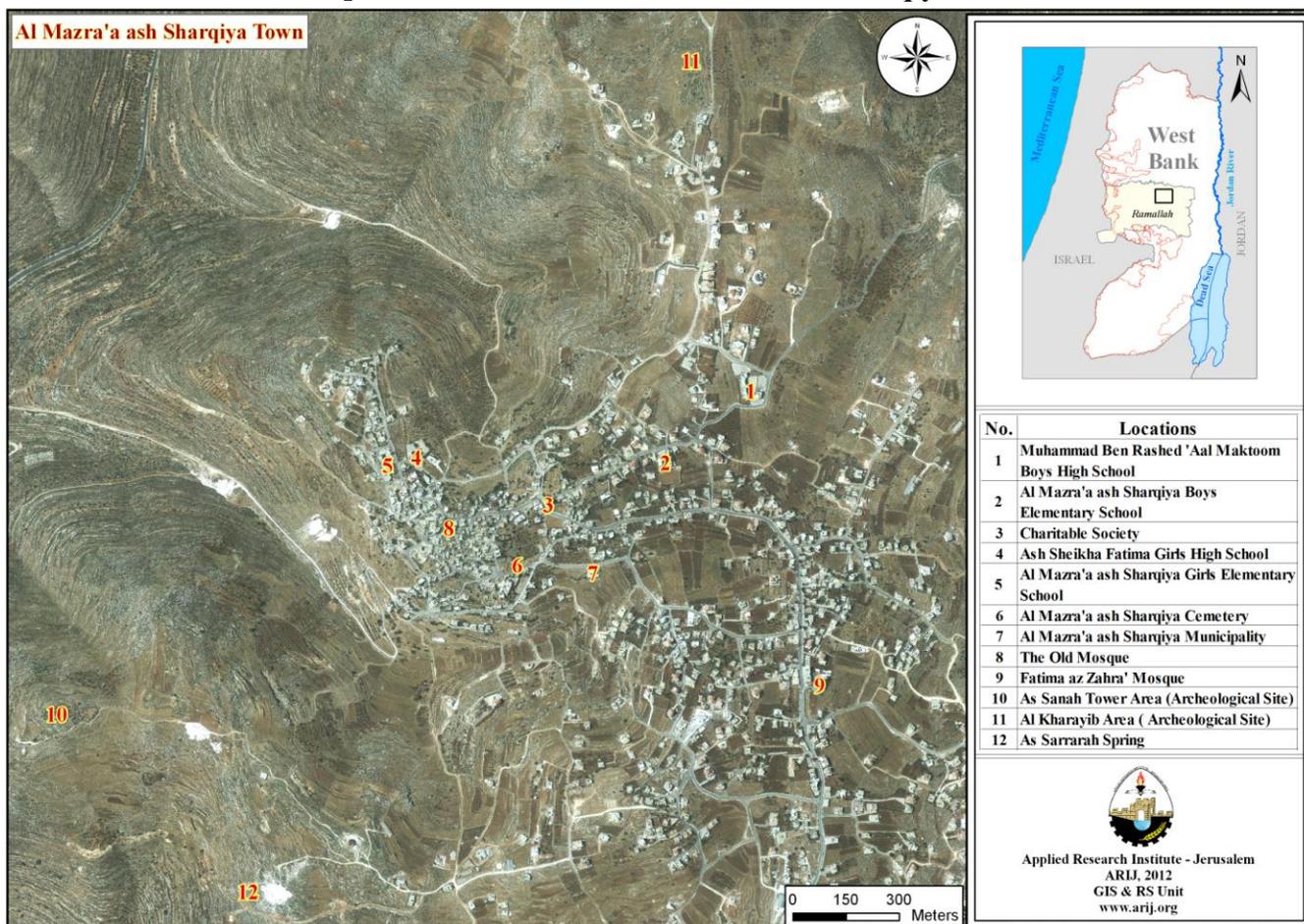
Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya (literally meaning 'the eastern farm') was named because it looks like a farm and lies to the east of Ramallah City. The town's history dates back to thousands of years ago and the current residents of Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya town are descended from the indigenous residents (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011). See photo below for Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya town.

Photo 1: Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya town

Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are three mosques in the town: the Old Town Mosque, Fatima al Zahra' Mosque and At Taqwa Mosque. The town has one site of archaeological interest, the 'Elasan Tower (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011) (See Map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya town



Source: ARIJ GIS, 2012

Demography and Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya in 2007 was 4,225, of whom 2,094 were males and 2,131 were female. There are 792 households living in 1,066 housing units.

Age Group and Gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by PCBS in 2007 showed the distribution of age groups in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya is as follows: 38.3% are less than 15 years of age, 51.4% are between 15 - 64 years of age, and 6% are 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the town is 98.3:100, meaning that males and females constitute 49.6% and 50.4% of the population respectively.

Families

Residents of Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya are from several families, primarily the Aal Sa'ed, Aal Hijaz, Aal Shalabi, Faraj, Aal Hamida, and 'Ajat families (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate among Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya population was about 7.6%, of whom 83.8% were females. Of the literate population, 13.8% could only read and write, with no formal education, 30.4% had elementary education, 28.6% had preparatory education, 15.7% had secondary education, and 3.9% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya population (10 years of age and above) by sex and educational statement, 2007

Sex	Illite-rate	Can read and write	Elem-entary	Prep-aratory	Secon-dary	Assoc-iate Diploma	Bache-lor	Higher Diploma	Master	Docto-rate	Not stated	Total
M	37	203	446	444	247	16	42	3	7	-	1	1,446
F	191	211	468	415	225	17	31	-	1	-	2	1,561
T	228	414	914	859	472	33	73	3	8	-	3	3,007

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

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are four schools (Table 2) run by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in the tpwm (MoEHE) (Ministry of Education, 2011).

Table 2: The Schools in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority (2010/2011)

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Girls Elementary School	Governmental	Females
Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Boys Elementary School	Governmental	Males
Ash Sheikha Fatima Bent Mubarak Girls Secondary School	Governmental	Females
Mohammed bin Rashid Aal Maktoum Boys Secondary School	Governmental	Males

Source: Ramallah directorate of education, 2011

The MoEHE revealed that for the scholastic year 2010/2011 there were 46 classes, 1,215 male and female students, and 75 teaching staff. Classroom density was 26 students per class, and the average number of students per teacher was 16 students (Ministry of Education, 2011).

There are two kindergartens supervised by private bodies (Table 3).

Table 3: Names and supervising authority of kindergartens in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Town for the scholastic year of 2010/2011

Name of kindergarten	Number of children	Supervising authority
Al Anwar Model Kindergarten	115	Private
Bara'im Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Kindergarten	81	Private

Source: MoEHE, 2011

Health Sector

Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya has several healthcare facilities: a governmental general clinic, a clinic supervised by an NGO, a dental clinic, an X-ray clinic, a medical laboratory, a governmental health center (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Health Center), a center supervised by an NGO, 3 specialized clinics, (chiropractor, urologist and a women's health clinic,) and a private pharmacy. The town owns an ambulance (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011).

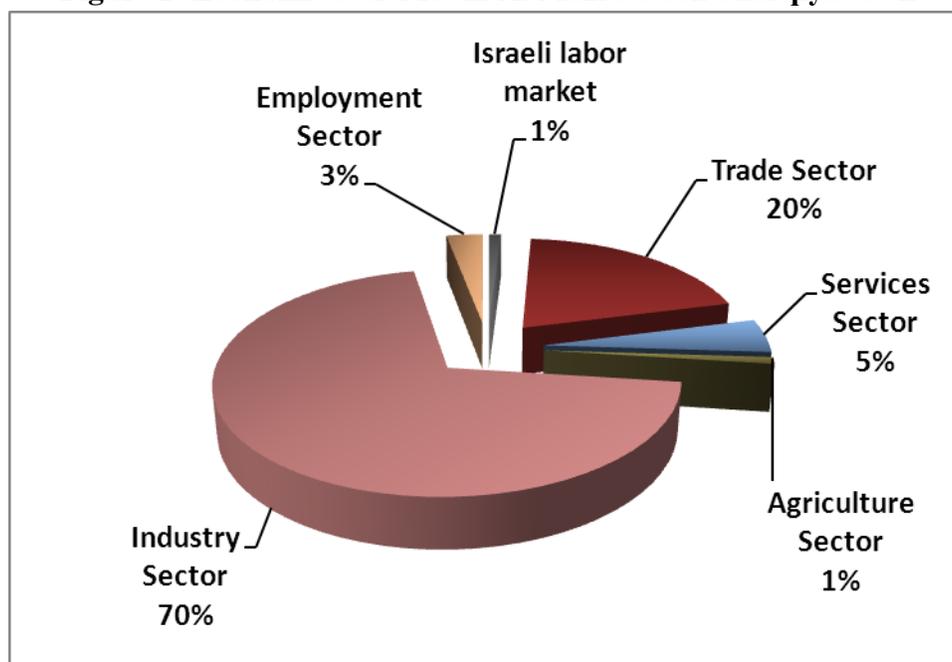
The town's primary problems regarding the health sector include (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011):

1. Lack of medicine prescribed through health insurance.
2. Lack of different medical specializations.

Economic Activities

The economy of the town depends on many sectors; the industry sector is the most important, hosting 70% of the labor force (Figure 1). The results of a field survey conducted by ARIJ in 2011 show the distribution of economic activities is as follows (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011):

- Industry sector: 70% of labor force.
- Commerce sector: 20% of labor force.
- Services: 5% of labor force.
- Employment sector: 3% of labor force.
- Agricultural sector: 1% of labor force.
- Israeli Labor Market: 1% of labor force.

Figure 1: Economic activities in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya town

Source: Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011

There are some commercial establishments in the town including 16 grocery shops, 2 fruit and vegetable shops, 8 butchers, a bakery, 14 shops for occupational industries such as blacksmith and carpentry, 17 shops that provide public services, an agricultural nursery, a store for agricultural tools, 14 stone cutter workshops and one stone quarry, and 5 stores for marble and tile (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council).

Unemployment in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya reached 10% in 2011, mainly due to Israeli Occupation measures. The worst-affected groups are those working in (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011):

- 1- Industry
- 2- Commerce
- 3- Agriculture

Labor Force

According to the PCBS, Population, Housing and Establishment Census in 2007, 31.6% of the population was considered economically active of which 88.5% were employed, and 68.2% of the population was non-economically active of which 50.6% were students and 30.1% were housekeepers (Table 4).

Table 4: Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya 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	722	66	18	806	483	2	107	32	15	639	1	1,446
F	120	18	7	145	556	616	168	16	57	1,413	3	1,561
T	842	84	25	951	1,039	618	275	48	72	2,052	4	3,007

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

Source: PCBS, 2009.

Agricultural Sector

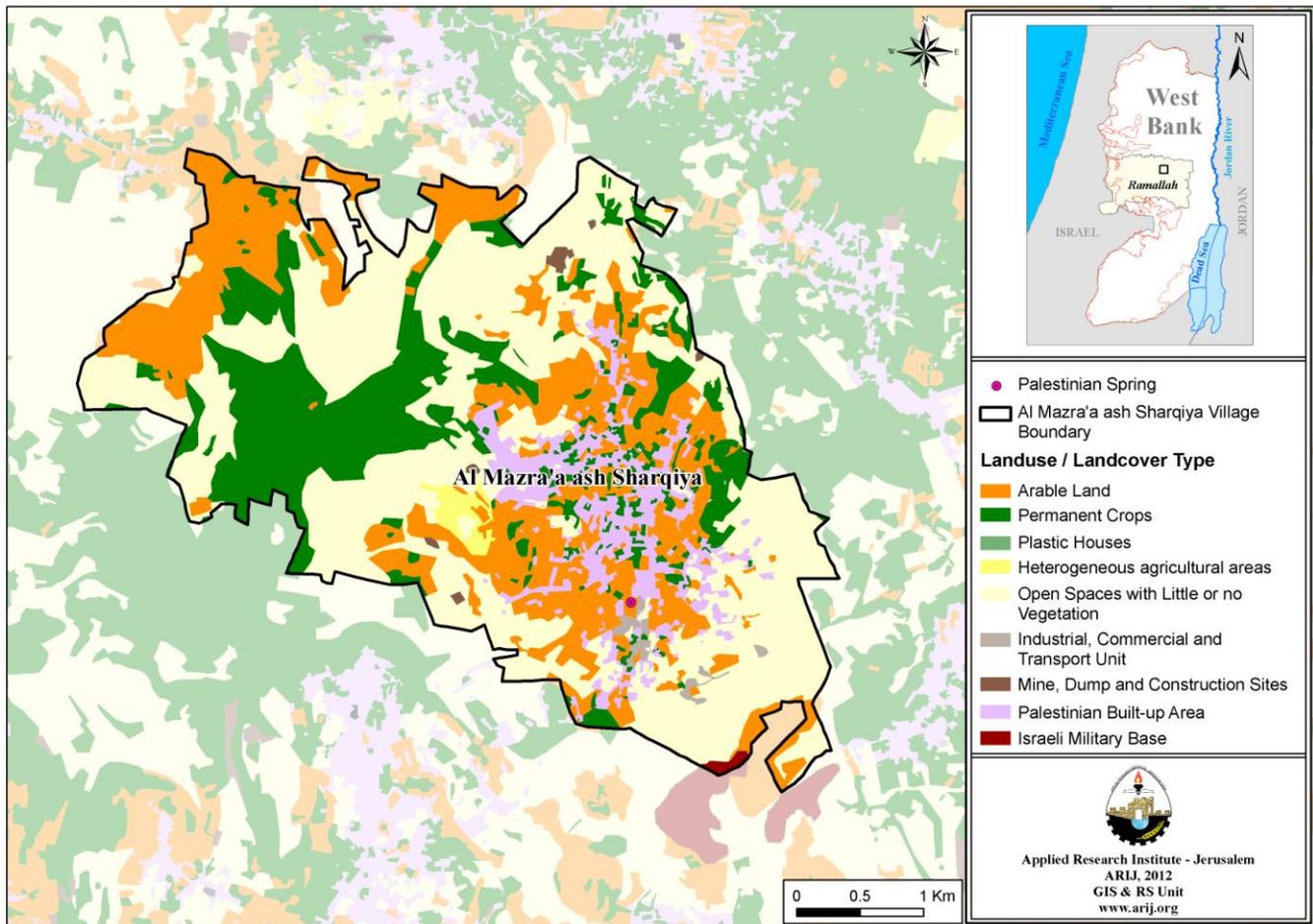
Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Town lies on an area of 16,437 dunums, of which 7,693 dunums are agricultural land and 1,276 dunums are dedicated to residential services. See Table 5 and Map 3 for land use and land cover areas for 2010.

Table 3: Land use and land cover in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya town in 2010 (area in dunum)

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (7,693)				Inland water	Forests	Open Spaces	Area of Industrial, Commercial & Transport Unit	Area of Settlement, Military Bases & Wall Zone
		Permanent Crops	Green-houses	Range-lands	Arable lands					
16,437	1,276	3,400	0	0	4,293	0	0	7,289	146	32

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2012.

Map 3: Land use and land cover of Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Town, 2010



Source: ARIJ GIS, 2012

Table 6 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in the town; squash is the most-cultivated vegetable.

Table 6: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya (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.
51	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	3	0	76	0

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Ramallah, 2009

Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya is famous for the cultivation of olive trees and around 1,722 dunums are planted with olive crops (Table 7).

Table7: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya (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.
1,722	0	0	0	35	0	5	0	160	0	135	0	2,057	0

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Ramallah, 2009

Table 8 shows the total area of field crops cultivated in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya. The area planted with cereals is the largest, covering 680 dunums, and wheat is the most cultivated cereal. In addition, dry legumes such as chickpeas are also grown in the town.

Table 8: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya (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.
680	0	15	0	120	0	6	0	40	0	0	0	5	0	866	0

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Ramallah, 2009

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and by ARIJ's GIS Unit in sizes of agricultural areas is explained by the fact that the Ministry of Agriculture and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2010) 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 instead of seasonal ones. The survey did 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, thus accounting for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey conducted by ARIJ staff shows that 10% of the residents in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya rear and keep domestic animals, such as cows, sheep, and goats (See Table 9).

Table 9: Livestock in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
2	167	59	0	0	0	0	101,600	0	32

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Ramallah, 2009

There are around 47 km of agricultural roads in the town. See Table 10 for further details (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011).

Table 10: Agricultural Roads in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya and their Lengths

Suitability of Agricultural Roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	12
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	10
For animals only	15
Unsuitable	10

Source: Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011

The agricultural sector in the town faces several problems including (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011):

- Lack of financial capital.
- Lack of water resources
- The inability to access agricultural lands because of Israeli bypass road 60.
- Lack of pasturelands and high prices of fodder.
- Lack of financially-supported productive agricultural projects.

Institutions and Services

There are many local organizations and associations that provide services to different social groups in many fields (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011). These include:

- **The Post Office of Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya**
- **Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipality:** Founded in 1997 to take care of issues in the town and provide services to the community.
- **Charity Association:** Founded in 1965
- **The Sports Club:** Founded in 1997 by the town's youth and is currently registered by the Ministry of Youth & Sports, it provides sports and cultural services for the youth of Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Electricity and Telephone Networks

Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya is supplied with electricity through the public network established in 1970 and served by the Jerusalem Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the town. Approximately 99% of housing units in the town are connected to the network. However, Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya struggles with some problems concerning the electricity sector; mainly:

1. High prices of electricity.
2. High prices for building and extending new electricity networks.
3. Lack of professional service provided by the Jerusalem Electricity Company to the community.

Around 90% of housing units in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya are connected to a telephone network (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011).

Transportation Services:

Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya has approximately 20 taxis that transport people to and from the town. Travelers from Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya are frequently delayed or diverted due to earth mounds and military checkpoints on the road network near the town (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011). There are 21 km of main roads and 75 km of secondary roads (see Table 11).

Table 11: Length, type and condition of road system in al Mazra'a ash sharqiya

No.	Condition of roads	Road length (km)	
		Main	Secondary
1	Good paved roads	6	25
2	Paved roads but in bad condition	5	20
3	Unpaved roads	10	30

Source: Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011

Water Resources:

The water company in Jerusalem provides the town with water through a water network constructed in 1981. This network supplies water to almost 99% of housing units in the town (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011). The quantity of water supplied to the town reached approximately 181,058 m³ in 2010 (Jerusalem Water Authority, 2011), and thus the amount of water consumed per person is estimated to be 117.4 liter/capita/day. However, no resident of Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya consumes this amount of water due to the water loss from the transfer of water and its distribution through the network from the main company provider to housing units. Water losses are estimated at 26.5%, and therefore the average water consumption per capita is 86.3 liter/capita/day (Jerusalem Water Authority, 2011). This average is less than the recommended amount of 100 liter/capita/day proposed by the World Health Organization (WHO).

There are 350 household harvesting cisterns in the town as an alternative resource of water to the public network. However, these do not have sufficient capacity to meet the residents' water needs (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011).

To determine water costs, the water authority has adopted an upward rate where the price of water increases with increasing consumption. Table 12 shows the price of water by category of consumption.

Table 12: Water tariffs of Jerusalem Water Authority adopted since 01.01.2012

Consumption Category (m ³)	Domestic (NIS/m ³)	Industrial (NIS/m ³)	Tourist (NIS/m ³)	Commercial (NIS/m ³)	Public Institutions (NIS/m ³)
0 – 5	4.5	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.4
5.1 – 10	4.5	5.6	5.6	5.6	4.5
10.1 – 20	5.6	6.8	6.8	6.8	5.6
20.1 – 30	6.8	8.1	8.1	8.1	6.8
30.1+	9	9.9	10.8	9	9

Source: Jerusalem Water Authority, 2012

Sanitation:

Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya lacks a public sewage network; most of the population uses cesspits and endocrines for wastewater disposal (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 292 cubic meters, or 106,000 cubic meters annually. At the individual level in the town, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 60.4 liters per day. The wastewater collected by cesspits and endocrines is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys without regard for the environment. There is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to both environmental and public health (ARIJ - WERU, 2012).

Solid Waste Management:

Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipality is responsible for managing the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by citizens and establishments in the town. The municipality carries out solid waste collection and disposal three times a week using a vehicle owned by the municipality. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a fee of about 220 NIS/year is charged to the residents served by domestic solid waste collection services. However, the amount of money collected is not sufficient for good management of solid waste, as only 50% of the town residents pay these fees (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011).

Almost all the town's residents benefit from waste collection services. Waste is collected from houses, institutes, shops, and public squares in plastic bags and compiled in 100 containers. The waste is then collected by the Municipality using a waste vehicle and transported to a dumping site owned by the Municipal Council, approximately 10 km from the town, where it usually buried and sometimes burnt (Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day by Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya residents is nearly 3 tons, or 1,079.5 tons per year (ARIJ - WERU, 2012).

Environmental Conditions

Like other towns and villages in the governorate, Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya experiences several environmental problems which must be addressed and solved. These problems can be identified as follows:

Water Crisis

- Water is cut off by the Jerusalem Water Authority for long periods of time during summer in several neighborhoods of the town for several reasons:
 - (1) Israeli control over Palestinian water resources. Consequently, the Jerusalem Water Authority purchases water from the Israeli company of Mekorot in order to satisfy residents' needs.
 - (2) High rate of water losses, because the water network is old and in need of rehabilitation and renovation.
- Some areas in the town's outskirts are not connected to the public network.
- The high costs of installing new water lines.

Wastewater Management

- The absence of a public sewage network means that in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits and endocrines for the disposal of wastewater, and/or discharge wastewater in the streets. This is particularly common in winter, as citizens cannot afford the high cost of sewage tankers during this period. These methods facilitate environmental damage, health problems, and the spread of epidemics and diseases in the town. This wastewater also contaminates the groundwater and water collected in household cisterns (rainwater harvesting cisterns), as most cesspits are built without lining, allowing wastewater to enter into the ground and avoiding the need to use sewage tankers. 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:

- The lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya and the other neighboring communities in the governorate is due mainly to the obstacles created by the Israeli authorities for local and national institutions in granting licenses to establish such a landfill, because the appropriate land is within Area C and under Israeli control. Additionally, the implementation of such projects depends on funding from donor countries. The lack of a sanitary

landfill is a source of pollution to the groundwater and soil through the leachate produced from the solid waste, and produces bad odors and distortion of the landscape.

- There is an absence of a system in the town and the governorate in general that separates hazardous waste from non-hazardous waste, consequently hazardous solid waste is collected with non-hazardous waste and transported to the town's landfill for disposal by burning and burying.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical status in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed in 28th September 1995 between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya was divided into areas A, B and C. Approximately 1,646 dunums (10.1% of the town's total area) were assigned as Area A, where the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) has full control and authority, while 11,689 dunums (71% of the town's total area) were classified as Area B, where the 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 camps. It is worth mentioning that most of the town's population resides in area "B" which constitutes a very small area in comparison to the total area of the town. The rest of the town's area, constituting 3,102 dunums (18.9% 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 with the consent or authorization of the Israeli Civil Administration (Table 13).

Table 13: The Geopolitical Divisions of Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya – Ramallah Governorate

Area	Area in dunums	Percent of Total town area
Area A	1,646	10.1
Area B	11,689	71
Area C	3,102	18.9
Nature Reserve	0	0
Total	16,437	100

Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2011

Israeli government confiscated lands in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya to open Israeli bypass roads, specially the bypass road no. 60 and the bypass road no. 4568. These roads are constructed and open to connect the established Israeli settlements enclosing the town from the four directions. The real threat of bypass roads lies in the buffer zone formed by the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) along these roads, extending to approximately 75 m on the roads' sides.

Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya has had also part of its lands confiscated to establish an Israeli military base for the protection of the Israeli settlements around the town.

Development Plans and Projects

Implemented projects

The Municipal Council of Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya has implemented several development projects during the past 5 years. For more details please see Table 14.

Table 14: Implemented development projects and plans in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya , 2011

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Constructing new secondary schools	Education	2006, 2007	Town residents & the United Arab Emirates
Paving and rehabilitating the main road and sub roads	Infrastructure	2000, 2005, 2010	Town residents, Municipalities Fund & PEC DAR

Source: Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011

Proposed Projects

Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, in cooperation with the civil society organizations in the town and the town residents, hopes to implement several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the PRA workshop conducted by the ARIJ staff in the town. The projects are as follows in order of priority from the viewpoint of the participants in the workshop:

1. Constructing agricultural roads to gain access to the lands separated from the town by the occupation forces.
2. Reclaiming and rehabilitating about 5,000 dunums of land in the town.
3. Constructing agricultural cisterns and fencing distant lands to be cultivated and preserved from confiscation.
4. Rehabilitating existing springs that are unexploited.
5. Supplying modern farming tools and activating the Agricultural Society.
6. Supplying electricity and water services for residential areas on the outskirts of the town.
7. Paving some internal roads connected to the outskirts of the town.
8. Exploiting available barracks for the establishment of animal farms and establishing new barracks.
9. Constructing a building for a kindergarten in the eastern part of the town.
10. Expanding the area of the girls' school through constructing another floor to accommodate the increasing number of students.
11. Providing women's development projects to increase the role of women in the town.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

The town suffers from a significant shortage in infrastructure and services. Table 15 shows the development priorities and needs in the town, according to Municipal Council's point of view and feedback gained by the ARIJ survey.

Table 15: Development Priorities and Needs in Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya

No.	Sector	Strongly needed	Needed	Not a priority	Notes
Infrastructural Needs					
1	Opening and pavement of roads	*			40 km*
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks	*			50 km
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas	*			2 km
4	Construction of new water networks			*	
5	Rehabilitation/ Construction of new wells or springs			*	
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			2,000 m ³
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			50 km
8	Construction of a new electricity network			*	
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection		*		100 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste			*	
11	Providing a sanitary landfill	*			rehabilitating the existing landfill
Health Needs					
1	Building of new clinics or health care centres			*	
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres			*	
3	Purchasing of medical equipment and tools	*			
Educational Needs					
1	Building of new schools	*			secondary level / scientific stream
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			elementary level
3	Purchasing of new equipment for schools			*	
Agriculture Needs					
1	Reclamation of agricultural lands	*			10,000 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns	*			600 cisterns
3	Construction of barracks for livestock		*		10 barracks
4	Veterinary services		*		
5	Forage and hay for animals		*		1,000 tons per year
6	Construction of new greenhouses		*		20 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses		*		3 greenhouses
8	Field crops seeds		*		
9	Plants and agricultural supplies	*			

* 30 km main roads and 10 km agricultural roads.

Source: Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya Municipal Council, 2011

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