

Village Database Information Guide



2020

Village Database 0- Palestine in the 20th and 21st Century

We shall start with the 20th century although we are now in the 21st. That is because al Nakba, the catastrophe, occurred primarily in 1948 and never stopped. Al Nakba is the destruction of Palestine and the uprooting of its people, the most catastrophic event in Palestine's 4000-year history.

About 560 towns and villages were depopulated and their people became refugees since 1948. That makes two thirds of the Palestinians refugees (6 million registered with UNRWA +2 million unregistered- 2018 data). The other third is under Israeli occupation since 1967 in Gaza and the West Bank. Most of the depopulated villages are shown in this map.





Data for **480** villages are given here in detail. To start with, six maps/photos are given for each village as follows:

M1.1 the village built up area (BUA) location.

M1.2 the village land area showing place names, natural features and landmarks such as mosques, churches, schools, cemeteries, sheikh/*weli/maqam*, antiquities, wells and so on.

M2.1 aerial photo of the village, Survey of Palestine maps (if either is available) or a drawn map of the village as best as possible based on sketches drawn by the village residents.

M2.2 Digitized plan of the village houses as far as can be ascertained. When available, the names of the house owners are given. The list of house owners is not needed for the Competition but may help to visualize the future design of the village and the *hamula* or *haret* house distribution. Note that, although the information obtained from various sources may not be complete, it gives a reasonable picture of the village as it was.

The maps M1.1 to M2.2 refer to the village as it was pre-1948 (20th century). Comprehensive data about this period is shown in the Atlas of Palestine 1917- 1966, Part I. A soft copy is available following this link: <u>http://www.plands.org/en/maps-</u>atlases/atlases/the-atlas-of-palestine

M3.1 The village land area today (circa year 2000) showing new roads and Israeli settlements on the village land where relevant, while showing the old landmarks on the same map for reference to the original village.

M3.2 A modern satellite image of the village site as it exists today. It is remarkable to see that most village sites are still vacant. Most of Kibbutzim (Israeli settlements) were built away from the original village sites. Therefore, the new village could be built on the same old location.

Maps M3.1 and M3.2 show the village in the 21st Century.

Comprehensive data about this period is shown in the **Return Journey Atlas.** A soft copy is available following this link: <u>http://www.plands.org/en/maps-atlases/atlases/the-return-journey</u>



The **Excel** file, if available, shows the list of house owners as accurately as possible as they were in pre1948. It shows the distribution of each *hamula* and the village public places. A typical village social structure is usually made up of about 4 to 5 large families (*hamulas*) in 4 or 5 neighborhoods (*harat*), usually referred to by direction: A*I*-harah A*I*-gharbiya, sharqiya, shamaliya, qibliya.

The **report** about the village lists in 12 points the following about the pre-1948 village:

the population statistics of the village at different times old and new, its land area, its geography and history, its families, education, agriculture, crafts, water resources, antiquities and holy sites, description of Israeli attacks and occupation, the path of expulsion, present exile and the remains of the village today.

This leaves 87 villages in Beer Sheba. These are shown in large scale maps with aerial photos when available.







Village Land in 1948 - BeerSheba District









Further data are shown for the villages as follows:

- Village pictures/maps of various locations collected from various sources, including the following:

- Survey of Palestine maps (1945) 1:20,000 scale, village land
- Survey of Palestine maps (1945) 1:1250, or 2500 scale, village built-up area
- Extra aerial photo of the village
- Handmade sketches made by one of the village people.
- New Satellite photo of the village location

This collection of data is intended to document the villages from 1920, the beginning of the British Mandate on Palestine, till the present time. Needless to say, this data can be augmented by a variety of archives which are revealed day by day and will portray the full spectrum of the Palestinian landscape which was destroyed, deliberately and systematically, by Israel from 1948 and ever since.

Village Database 1- Palestine in the 19th Century

Palestine in the last quarter of the 19th century was a province in the Ottoman Empire. The province consisted of several *Sanjacs* (districts). The most important one was Al Quds Al Sharif which was headed by *al Mutassaref*, appointed directly from Istanbul. Under him was the southern part of Palestine down to Beer Sheba. The Ottoman rule was undermined by the increasing power and interference of European powers under the guise of offering "protection" to foreign residents of Palestine. Several European consulates were opened in Palestine.

In 1865 the Palestine Exploration Fund (PEF) was established in London. PEF organized the Survey of Western Palestine (SWP). The survey mission was to map Palestine, ostensibly to study the geography of the Bible in the Holy Land. In reality, the survey was a cover for the military objectives of charting Palestine and the region, which resulted in the British occupation of Palestine 1917.

However, SWP became a valuable record of Palestine at the time. Palestine Land Society (PLS) did considerable research of SWP's original documents, corrected errors in geographical accuracy and place names and added newly discovered data not used in the published survey. Details of this work are given here:

http://www.plands.org/en/articles-speeches/speeches/2020/the-survey-of-western-palestinerevisited

The value of this work is that it shows Arab Palestine before the Zionist colonization of Palestine. Among 13,000 names there was not a single Zionist colony. The majority of these colonies were planted in Palestine after the British Mandate officially stated in 1922.

The result of this work was the publication of the **Atlas** of **Palestine 1871- 1877** in 2020. Find link here: <u>http://www.plands.org/en/maps-atlases/atlases/the-</u> <u>atlas-of-palestine-1871-1877</u>



One of the important results of the research is to compile an index of 13,000 place names, with added 4000 names, more than the originally published survey. These include 2,525 human settlements (towns, villages, hamlets, and tribes). This is double the recognized number of villages in the Village Statistics of 1945 by the (Mandate) Government of Palestine. The reason is that the latter defined a village land in which a major village or a cluster of villages are located.

The following table shows the number of villages according to the nomenclature of the names with or without various prefixes preceding the name of the village. The village names today may keep or omit some prefixes. The codes are added in the Atlas to identify different prefixes. There are also some minor changes in the spelling of the names.

Codes	Village Name Prefix	No of Villages
101	Beit	73
102	Burj	15
103	Deir	64
104	Khurbet	1450
105	Khurab	3
106	Kuryet	4
107	Saknet	7
109	Names in the Atlas of Palestine 1917- 1966	654
110	Arab (clan)	75
111	Kefr	42
112	Umm	35
108	Other Village Points	103
	Total Villages	2,525

In this DATABASE file, each village name in the 19th century (or its location if name not found) is shown in a red rectangle as it appears in the relevant page of the **Atlas of Palestine 1871-1877**.

Village Database 2- Palestine in the 16th Century

The Islamic State, since the birth of Islam in the seventh century, extended at its zenith from China to Spain. The Muslim rulers and their capitals changed but the rule of Islam over its subjects, who were predominantly Muslim, remained governed by Islamic Shari'a. The Ottoman Empire (The Sublime Ottoman State) ruled Palestine from 1517 when Sultan Selim removed the Mamluke rulers. This lasted four centuries until the First World War, when the British army invaded Palestine and occupied Beer Sheba in October 1917.



Soon after the Ottoman established their rule in Palestine, they collected taxes from the inhabitants according to population number, their occupations, and their produce. The Ottoman Tax Register of 1596 is a valuable source of information. This register was the subject of a PhD thesis and thorough research in the listed reference below. We have based all our research on this reference:

All such information about Palestine in this reference was classified, digitized, and converted into maps by Palestine Land Society. Moreover, names and location of villages were compared to the **Atlas of Palestine 1917- 1966** based on the Survey of Palestine in 1945.

• Here are the main conclusions in Arabic, followed by English:

قررنا عمل دراسة مفصلة ل "دفتر المفصل" و قمنا بترقيم الجدول بكامله كما أعدنا رسم خارطة النواحي والالوية والأقضية.

الغرض الأول من هذا العمل هو معرفة ديمومة أسماء القرى على مدى 4 قرون مقارنة بالاسماء التي سجلناها في أطلس فلسطين 1917 – 1966 باللغة العربية والتي يبلغ عددها 50,000.

وعلى ذلك صنفنا كل قرية من أصل 997 الموجودة في الجدول الى 11 صنف (كود) وصفها في الجدول المرفق. علماً بأننا أخذنا في الإعتبار فقط النواحي التي تشمل فلسطين ويمتد بعضها الى لبنان الحالي كما لم نأخذ في الإعتتبار الجزء من فلسطين الموجود في ناحية الأغوار وبها 3 أماكن في فلسطين مثل بيسان، نمرين، وفرونه. وبالاطلاع على الجدول المرفق نجد أن عدداً كبير من القرى، لا يزال محتفظاً بأسمه حتى عهد الإنتداب، وهناك تحريف بسيط في بعض الأسماء ربما بسبب الخط العثمانلي حيث أن (النون) تصبح (راء) و(القاف) تصبح (فاء) و(الياء) تصبح (باء) وتفسير هذا بسيط في خط اللغة العربية. وعندما نجد أسم القرية في العصر الحديث نجده غالبا في نفس المكان. ومن حسن الحظ أن الأطلس يحتوي أيضاً على أسماء الأماكن والمعالم أيضاً بجانب أسماء القرى. وفي اختلاف المكان يبدو أن أهل القرية رحلوا عنها وبقي اسم المكان كما هو ولم تعد مأهولة بعدد كبير من الناس.

كما أن بعض الأسماء تغير قليلاً بإضافة أو حذف كلمة خربة أو كرم أو بيت أو كفر ولكن بقي العنصر الأصلي من الأسم واضحاً. وهناك قرى لم نجدها في إحداثياتها المذكورة في الجدول ولكن وجدناها في مكان أخر ولكن في نفس الناحية . وقد إحترمنا تهجئة الاسم واسم الناحية باعتبار انه موجود في الدفتر بكل وضوح ولذلك بحثنا عن القرية المطلوب تحديدها في نفس الناحية ووجدناها أحياناً موجودة في الاطلس لعام 1945 ولكن بتغير صوتي في الاسم مثل استابة وإكتابة وعدرا والغذراء وعندور وأندور. كما أن هناك قرى وجدناها في إحداثيات مختلفة عن الدفتر ولكن في نفس الناحية. أما بخصوص العربان والعشائر فقد وزعناها على الساحل أو صحراء أريحا القدس حسب ولكن في نفس الناحية. أما بخصوص العربان والعشائر فقد وزعناها على الساحل أو صحراء أريحا القدس حسب ولكن في نفس الناحية. أما بخصوص العربان والعشائر فقد وزعناها على الساحل أو صحراء أريحا القدس حسب ويكن في نفس الناحية. أما بخصوص العربان والعشائر فقد وزعناها على الساحل أو صحراء أريحا القدس حسب ويكن في نفس الناحية. أما بخصوص العربان والعشائر فقد وزعناها على الساحل أو صحراء أريحا القدس حسب ويكن في نفس الناحية. أما بخصوص العربان والعشائر فقد وزعناها على الساحل أو محراء أريحا القدس حسب ويكن في نفس الناحية. أما بخصوص العربان والعشائر قد وزعناها على الساحل أو محراء أريحا القدس حسب ورعناهم من بحيرة الدولة الترق رفح وأصبحوا في القرن العشرين شمال يافا. أما الجماسين أو الغوارنة فقد وزعناهم من بحيرة الحولة الى جنوب عكا وعلى جسر الزرقاء ونهر الفائق ونهر العوجا على الساحل حيث توجد مياه لتربية الجواميس.

وهناك قرى (تصنيف 9) قدرنا لها إحداثيات تخمينا وليس هناك دليل مطلق على صحتها. وعندما لم نجد تخميناً لإحداثيات هذه القرى أدرجناها تحت تصنيف (11). ومن هذه المعلومات الهامة أمكن لنا إجراء تعديل بسيط في حدود النواحي الموجودة على خريطة رقم 1 في الكتاب، وذلك بسبب وجود بعض قرى الناحية خارج حدود الناحية. والغرض النهائي من هذا العمل اصدار خريطة لفلسطين في القرن 16 علماً بأن القرى التي ستظهر على الخريطة ليست مجمل القرى أو التجمعات السكنية، لأنها تلك التي تدفع الضرائب فقط. واضفنا على الخريطة بعض التضاريس الطبيعية مثل الأنهار والوديان حيث أنها في الأغلب لم تتغير. وربما أضفنا أيضاً بعض الأماكن الدينية مثل الأضرحة والأولياء إذا ثبت أنها كانت معروفة في القرن 16.

هذا مع العلم أننا أدرجنا في الأطلس العربي (اطلس فلسطين) المنشور عام 2012 جميع أسماء القرى والأماكن والمعالم التي سجلتها البعثة البريطانية في سبعينات القرن 19 <u>إذا</u> لم تكن موجودة في خرائط الإنتداب أو بمعنى أخر أن الأطلس العربي خلاف الأطلس الإنجليزي يحتوي على أسماء كانت سائدة في القرن 19 وأصبحت دارسة أو مهملة في القرن 20.

وفيما يلى جدول تصنيف الفرى وعددها فى كل فئة.

In this database file, each village name (or its location) is shown in red rectangle as it appears in the relevant Ottoman Tax Register in 1596.





No of Villages in Palestine	No of Villages in Lebanon	Total	Notes in Arabic	Class Code	A Description	Notes in English
فلسطين	لبذان	المجموع	ملاحظات	الكود	الوصف	Description
348	53	401	هي قرى تم وضعها في سجل الضر ائب العثمانية لعام 1596، وماز الت موجودة بنفس الاسم.	1	قرى موجودة منذ العهد العثماني حتى 1948 بنفس الاسم	Existing Localities from Ottoman Period till 1948 with same name
153	11	164	قرى موجودة منذ الفترة العثمانية مع تحريف بسيط في احد احرف الاسم مثل بئر معين وبير ماعين - جمالا وجمالة - شنبرية والسنبرية.	2	قرى موجودة منذ العهد العثماني حتى 1948مع تغير بسيط في الاسم أو إختصار للاسم	Existing Localities from Ottoman Period till 1948 with slightly different spelling or shortened name
124		124	قرى سجلت على انها قرى لكن بمفهوم القرية غير موجودة ووجد مكانها اسم مكان او معلم مثل: جعتون - شبا - حزور - عوبا.	3	قرى كانت موجودة في العهد العثماني وتحولت الى اسم مكان او معلم	
7		7	قرى بها خطأ في الاحداثيات مثل الدامون - جاحو لا- صلحة- مسكة و غير ها من القرى.	4	قرى موجودة بنفس الاسم لكن خطأ في احداثياتها	Localities(village) with same name but different location (wrong coordinates)
16	1	17	قرى بقيت مع تغير كلي في الاسم مثل : إستابة وإكتابة - سيلا وسيلة الظهر - صفصفا وصفصاف	5	قرى موجودة بتغير كلي في الاسم	1
24		23		6	اسم مكان او معلم مع تغير كلي في الاسم	extinct with totally
2		2		7	اسم مكان او معلم مع تغير كلي في الاسم وخطأ في الاحداثيات	extinct with totally
11	4	15	قرى سجلت في سجل الضرائب العثمانية على انها قرى و هي غير متعارف عليها كقرية الان مثل : قفقا - بلوش - مارون شقاية	8	قرى لم يستدل على مايشير لوجودها في العصىر الحالي	Unidentified Localities from ottoman period



No of Villages in Palestine	No of Villages in Lebanon	Total	Notes in Arabic	Class Code	A Description	Notes in English
فلسطين	لبنان	المجموع	ملاحظات	الكود	الوصف	Description
118	2	120		9	إحداثيات محتملة	potential coordinates
44		44		10	عرب وعشائر	tribes
83		83		11	قرى غير متعارف عليها في الخريطة او كتاب الدكتور عبد الفتاح(لا توجد احداثيات)	villages in both our MXD and Dr.
930	71	1000	الفارق واحد وذلك لان قرية أبل مكررة مرتين لتكرار الاحداثيات المختلفة			
		246	قرى مسجلة لكن لم يستدل لها على احداثيات لعدة اسباب : منها: 1- أن هذه القرية متعارف عليها باسم مثل جمعة (طائفة مثل جمعة (طائفة مثل جمعة (طائفة أعراب كليب) - حسين رتركمان جماسين در أعراب كليب) - حسين ارتركمان جماسين در اتركمان جماسين در اتركمان جماسين در الحرم و هذا فيه عليها. 2- هناك امكانية في عليها. التعرف على بعض هذه التعرف على بعض هذه واودية يحتوية أطلس الماون من بين الالف الاسماء.			

Village Database 3- Palestine in the 4th Century

The Palestinian bishop, Eusebius of Caesarea (260-339 AD), also called Eusebius Pamphili, (flourished in the 4th century Caesarea Palestinae, Palestine), was baptized and ordained at Caesarea in about 313 AD. He is credited with writing an account of the first centuries of Christianity, in his *Ecclesiastical History*, which became a landmark in Christian historiography. His most important work used in this file, the *Onomasticon*, (more properly, On the Place-Names in the Holy Scripture), in Greek, was compiled by him as a directory of place names, or "gazetteer", a primary source that provided pilgrims to Jerusalem ways to travel and provided historical geographers with a contemporary knowledge of early 4th-century Palestine and Transjordan.

PALESTINE IN THE FOURTH CENTURY A.D. THE ONOMASTICON BY EUSEBIUS OF CAESAREA

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Jerome provided a Latin translation of Eusebius' Onomasticon, which Jerome translated in anno 388 CE while living in Bethlehem. Jerome's Latin edition includes various designations, based on the different manuscripts available to him. This Latin version of Eusebius' Onomasticon became the main source for research of Palestine in the west.

Recently an English translation was provided by:

Chapmann III, R.L.; Taylor, J.E., eds. (2003). Palestine in the Fourth Century A.D.: The Onomasticon by Eusebius of Caesarea. Translated by G.S.P. Freeman-Grenville. Jerusalem: Carta. ISBN 965-220-500-1. OCLC 937002750.

We used this reference in this Village Database file. We digitized the maps, identified the villages in their historical names compared with the modern names in 1945 Palestine.



Palestine 313 map



Modern Village (1945)	Historic Name (313)	Modern Village (1945)	Historic Name (313)
Al Khalasah PS	Elusa	Sarafand al 'Amar	Serifin
Beersheba	Bersabee	Al Haditha	Aditha
Ma'in Abu Sitteh	Menoeis	Bayt Nabala	Beth Nabala
Huj	Oga	Safiriyya	Sapharea
Burayr	Buriron	Bayt Dajan	Bethdagon
Bayt Jibrin	Eleutheropolis	Kafr 'Ana	Ono
Hiribya	Sarafia-Diocletianupolis	Rantiya	Rantia
Dayr Nakh-khas	Ir Nahash	Jarisha	Gethremmon
Barbara	Barbarith	Ras al 'Ein	Antipatris
Kh. Umm Burj	Achzeib	Kafr Saba	Caphar Saba
Zik rin	Kefar Dirkhria	Al Haram (Sayyidna 'Ali)	Apollonia-Arsuf
Al Jura	Jagur	Beisan	Scythopolis
Al Majdal (Ashkelon)	Askalon	Qisarya	Caesarea
Hamama	Peleia	Kh. Esh Shuna	Kefar Shuni
Bayt Nattif	Betholetepha	As Sindiyana	Sindenon
Al Sawafir (Al Gharbiya)	Saphier	Jabbul	Gebul
Tall as Safi	Geth	Al Lajjun	Legio
Zakariyya	Caphar Zecharia	Al Bira	Bera
Al Qabu	Qobi	At Tantura	Dor of Nafath
Bayt 'Itab	Henadab	Indur	Aendor
Isdud	Asdod	Jaba'	Gabe
Yasur	Aser	Awlam ('Ulam)	Oullama
Ayn Karim	Beth Ha-Cerem	Ma'lul	Naalol
Jilya	Gallaia	Samakh	Kefar Samah
Sar'a	Saraa	Tab'un	Tibon
Barqa	Bareca	Qusqus	Ardasqus
Ishwa'	Asthaol	Bayt Lahm	Bethleem
Kasia	Chasalon	Kafr Sabt	Kefar Shabthai
Suba	Seboim	Saffuriyya	Diocaesarea/Sepphori s
Al Qastal	Gastellum	Kh. Ras 'Ali	Oolei
Ufta	Naphtho	Kh. Sa'sa	Kefar Sasai
Qatra	Gedour	Nimrin	Kefar Nimra
Shahma	Sachoran	Al Majdal	Magedan
'Imwas	Nikopolis	Arab al Ghawarina (Jidru)	Gedru
Yalu	Ailon	Tell el Hunud	Ainda
Bayt Nuba	Nebo	Khan el Minya	Heptapegon
Abu Shusha	Gazer	Mi'ar	Mearaia
Aqir	Akkaron	Arab al Samakiyya\Talhum	Kapharnoum
Yibna	lamneia	Yaquq	Eikok
Salbit	Salabein	Khirbat Karraza	Chorazein
Al Na'ani	Naam?	Kafr 'Inan	Kefar Hanania
Al Qubayba	Elthece	Al Farradiyya	Parod



Modern Village (1945)	Historic Name (313)	Modern Village (1945)	Historic Name (313)
'Innaba	Betoannaba	Safad	Sepph
Mirun	Meroth	Amqa	Bethaemek
Safsaf	Saphsopha	Biriyya	Biri
Al Kabri	Kabritha	Kh. Kafr Hatta	Capparetaea
Az Zib	Achzeiph	Mina el Burj	Bdellopotamus?
Tulayl	Thel la	Khirbat Kafr Sib	Jeshub?
Al Bassa	Bezeth	Tell Abu Qudeis	Kades
Dayshum	Edraei?	Tell el Mutasallim	Maggeddo
Mas'ub	Masoba	Kh. Umm Qubba	Katta?
Qadas	Kudissos	Kh. Tarbana	Tarbenet
Kh. Futeis	Photis	Kh. Yamma	lamnel
Suq Mazin	Sycomazon	Kh. Sarona	Saronas
Kh. Abu Jerrah	Gerara?	As Sammuniya	Someron?
Kh. el Jindi	Bethagidea	Kh. es Seiyada	Sayydata
Kh. el Adar	Edrai	Kh. ed Damiya	Ademmei
Sihan	Tessam?	Kh. Sarjuna	Sergunin
Kh. Zuheiliqa	Sikelag	Tell Ma'un (Sahn et Tell)	Beth Maon
Kh. el Majdala	Magdaia	Kh. Maskana	Mashkana
Kh. 'Ajlan	Agla	Kh. er Ruma	Ruma
Mgt. Mar Isa	Maresa	Kh. Madyan	Madon?
Kh. Fattata	Phathoura	Kh. 'Arbid	Arbela
Kh. Murt es Seil	Saaleim	Kh. Qana	Kana
Kh. el Biss	Capharabis	Kh. en Natif	Beth Netopha
Kh. el 'Atar	Ather	Ard Khirbat Mimla	Mamliah
Kh. Ribba	Arebbe	Kh. esh Shiba	Beer Sheba
Kh. Shuweika	Sokcho	Kh. en Nabratein	Kefar Niburaia
Kh. 'Atraba	Caphar Tob	Kh. Ja'tun	Gaaton
Kh. el Yarmuk	lermouth	Kh. Zuweinita	Zenita
Kh. Zanu	Zanoua	Kh. Qasyun	Qision
Kh. 'Ein Shams	Bethsamus	Kh. 'Abda	Abdon
Kh. el Bira	Berah	Kh. Jalil	Gelil
Kh. el Kafira	Chepheira	Dayr Abu Salama	Kefar Shalem

We identified 139 Palestinian villages in existence since then by comparing their Roman and Arabic names in Palestine within the Armistice Line of 1949. Out of these, one hundred villages were depopulated and mostly destroyed by Israel in 1948. The remainder, 39 are still inhabited by Palestinians in Israel. Almost half of the 139 villages were mentioned by Eusebius and the rest by other Roman sources.

There are further 50 identified ancient Roman sites (Khirbet, i.e. old place, ruin) with names current in the first century AD and recognizable in Arabic till 1948.



These sites have been largely erased and omitted from Israeli maps. The above map shows the selected 100 villages and 50 ancient sites (*Khirbets*) in existence for 2000 years and depopulated and/or erased by Israel in 1948.

In this file, we show the village (or its location) in a red rectangle as it was in the map of 313AD Palestine.

A Final Note

This Village Database file, which shows the Palestinian villages in 1877, 1596 and 313AD, is to be added to the Atlas of Palestine 1917- 1966 (before AI-Nakba) and The Return Journey Atlas (after Nakba). This solid continuous historical record shows the continuity of Palestine villages for 2000 years, until most of them were destroyed by Israel in 1948. The stone may be blown up but the name, history, and location of the villages remain. Their people may be depopulated and removed. But they remain and multiply, determined to rebuild and repopulate them, after all evils befell them will no doubt be removed.