

## **JMEIJMI VILLAGE PROFILE**

### **1. LOCATION AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

Jmeijmi is a village located near the city of Tibnin Southern Lebanon. It is around 112 kilometres away from Beirut. Jmeijmi is characterized by a moderate climate; its elevation is around 690 meters above sea level with an average annual rainfall of 600- 700 mm.

Jmeijmi is bordered by Khirbit Silm and Al Sawaniyeh to the north, Majdal Silm to the east, Sultaniyi to the west, and Safad Al Bateekh to the South.

### **2. POPULATION**

The total population of Jmeijmi is around 2300. In contrast with most other villages, very few people migrated. .

There are 2000 inhabitants in Jmeijmi during the winter and summer. The number of registered voters is around 1073, but only 800 voted in the 2010 elections.

#### *2.1 Age Groups*

It is estimated that 53 per cent of the population in Jmeijmi are less than 21 years old.

#### *2.2 Labour Force*

Though unemployment in Jmeijmi does not affect very much the people since most of them work in farming, income from the agricultural work is far from meeting the basic needs of the population. Women in Jmeijmi participate in agricultural work of the village, particularly in the cultivation of tobacco.

The distribution of the labour force by economic activity in Jmeijmi is as follows:

- Agriculture (80%) particularly in the cultivation of tobacco and wheat. It has been noted that around 17 families in Jmeijmi own and manage livestock.
- Government Employees Sector, mainly in the security forces or the military (10%)
- Construction industry (10%).

### **3 ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES**

#### *3.1 AGRICULTURAL SECTOR*

Around 300 dunums (30 hectares) of Jmeijmi are considered arable land. It was noted that farmers in past used to tile the ground to be used for building restaurants in the area

(around 700 dunums are terraces and slopes). Due to the lack of arable land, farmers are compelled to lease farmland in the neighbouring villages.

The most common cultivated products within this area are tobacco and grains.

### *3.2 LIVESTOCK*

Livestock is made up of around 175 cows in total.

The village produces an average of around 700 kilos of milk per day. Since the production exceeds the needs of the village, the remaining quantity is sold to the neighboring villages. Little is sold to the dairy factory in Baraachit, since its capacity is limited.

### *3.3 CRAFTS AND TRADE SECTORS*

There are in Jmeijmi: one metal factory, 3 aluminum factories and 3 concrete stone plants.

## **4. EDUCATION**

100 % of school children had primary education. The village's middle school suffers from insufficient numbers of teachers mainly math, science and French teachers. As a result, the parents send their children to private schools in the neighbouring villages of Tibnin or Majdal Slim (a distance of 10 Km and puts an additional transportation costs on the parents of around L.L 45,000 per month). As for students interested in any kind of vocational training they have to go to Bint Jbeil. The transport to Bint Jbeil costs an additional L.L 75,000 per month.

It is important to note that the municipality subsidises most students to assist in covering the transportation costs to their schools.

## **5. HEALTH STATUS**

Jmeijmi has a health clinic which functions as part of the Ministry of Social Affairs, with a full time nurse and a paediatrician who attends 3 times per week. In addition, a doctor from the French Battalion visits the centre once per week.

## **6. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS**

Jmeijmi environmental problems are several and are experienced in different forms. Jmeijmi suffers from a water crisis. Water is provided 3 times per week on a 3 hours basis. As such, the residents of the village are forced to buy water to cover their needs. Jmeijmi relies on one artesian well for both the provision of drinking water and irrigation services. There is improper wastewater management, absence of a public sewage network, improper solid waste management and lack of a sanitary landfill. Solid wastes are usually collected in one place and then burned without treatments to the hazards emitted and with no considerations to the environments.

## **7. RELATIONSHIPS WITH NEARBY VILLAGES**

Jmejmi has built trade relationships with the neighbouring villages and businesses, and relies on them to market most of its dairy production.

## **8. INSTITUTIONS AND SERVICES**

Jmejmi is governed by a municipal council, and is currently administrated by 12 members elected by the locals of the area. The council is assisted by several committees composed of locals from the village. There are also 3 contracted employees working in the municipality. The municipal council rents a permanent headquarters.