

KFAR KILA VILLAGE PROFILE

1. LOCATION AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Kfar Kila is a village located in the district of Marjeoun in Lebanon. It is around 95 kilometres away from Beirut, and around 10 kilometres away from the centre of the Caza'. Its elevation is around 600 meters above sea level with an average annual rainfall of 600-700 mm. Kfar Kila is characterized by a moderate climate and the average annual temperature is 19 degrees Celsius.

The village covers an area of around 5 square kilometres.

Kfar Kila falls along a slope that faces Palestine, and is bordered by Deir Mimas to the west, Palestine to the east and Dayr Al Adiysi to the South.

The village is distinguished by its slopes and its red soil.

2. POPULATION

The total population of Kfar Kila is around 10000. The village inhabitants witnessed internal displacement, by which around 2500 villagers were displaced to other parts of the country such as the Southern Suburbs of Beirut and Nabatieh. Additionally, a number of the village inhabitants around 500 migrated to countries such as the Gulf States, Sweden and Africa (See Table 1).

Table 1: Distribution of Population

Population	Number	In Percent
Residents	7000	70
Displaced	2500	25
Migrants	500	5
Total	10000	100

There are around 7000 residents in winter in the village, while the number rises to around 9000 people during the summer. The number of registered voters is around 5400 voters, which were estimated during the 2010 summer elections.

2.1 Age Groups

The distribution of the population by age groups in Kfar Kila is as follows: 46 % are less than 21 years, 49.5% are between 21 - 65 years, and 4.5% percent are 65 years and older (See Table 2).

Table 2: Distribution of Population by Age Groups

Age Group	Number	In Percent
Under 21	4600	46.0
Between 21-65	4950	49.5
Above 65	450	4.5
Total	10000	100.0

2.2 Labour Force

Labour force participation in Kfar Kila is 30 %.

Women participate in agricultural work of the village, in addition to a few who occupy positions in the educational sector in Kfar Kila or nearby villages. Additionally, many of the young people in the village who have abandoned school and joined the workforce are engaged in construction works and in professions located both in Kfar Kila and in close neighbourhoods.

Unemployment in Kfar Kila is around 10 %.

The distribution of the labour labour by economic activity in Kfar Kila is as follows:

- Agriculture (10%)
- Concrete Carpentry (60%)
- Liberal professions and crafts (25%)
- Government Employees Sector, mainly in the security forces or the military (5%)

3. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

3.1 AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Kfar Kila lies on a total area of about 5000 dunums of which 4500 dunums are considered arable land. Around 3000 dunums is cultivated land, with around 200 people working in the sector. (See table 3).

Table 3: Land use

Distributed spaces	Area (in dunums)
Outlying area of the village	5000
Area of arable land	4500
Cultivated areas	3000
Irrigated areas	900
Areas of non-arable land	500

Table 4 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Kfar Kila. The most common cultivated products within this area are olives, grains, citrus fruits and vegetables.

Table 4: Agricultural Products

Products	Cultivated areas (in dunums)
Olives	2000
Citrus and other fruits	500
Grains	1500
Vegetables	400

Kfar Kila also produces a range of Agro-industrial products that are traded in the village and in Beirut specifically its Southern Suburbs. The different types of Agro- productions are as follows:

- Olive Oil
- Soap
- Borghol
- Wheat Flour
- Freek
- Zaatar

The village has one agricultural cooperative, The Agricultural Cooperative.

There are, however, prominent problems facing the agricultural sector in Kfar Kila such as:

- Diseases facing olive trees.
- Lack of irrigation.
- The high cost of pesticides
- Lack and improper use of agricultural equipment.
- The lack of proper guidance.

3.2 LIVESTOCK

Residents in Kfar Kila are breeding livestock such as sheep, goats, and bees (See Table 5).

Table 5: Livestock in Kfar Kila

Cows	Beehives	Goats and Sheep
675 heads of cows	1200	650 heads

The village produces an average of around 10400 kilos of milk per day which are consumed by the villagers and the rest are sold to nearby towns, especially in Nabatieh.

3.3 CRAFTS, TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL SECTORS

There are several craft, trade and industrial activities in Kfar Kila. The products are usually traded in the South and the Southern Suburbs of Beirut. There are one marble plant, four concrete stone plants and three tiling factories. Table 6 shows the different crafts and trades that were identified in the village.

Table 6: Crafts and Trades

Profession	Number of Workers or institutions
Concrete Carpenters	1000 persons
Carpenters	7 persons
Industrial blacksmith	6 persons
Auto blacksmith	6 persons
Painters	75 persons
Furniture painters	8 persons
Construction	70 persons
Sanitary	20 persons
Tiling	30 persons
Electricians	25 persons
Bakers	7 persons
Butchers	6 persons
Barbers	100 persons
Aluminium	7 persons
Car Mechanics	10 persons
Car electricity	6 persons
Car oil change	8 persons
Supermarkets	0
Cellular shops	5 shops
Tool shops	5 shops
Restaurants	4 restaurants
Mini markets	6 mini markets
Groceries	100 groceries
Grocery traders	2 traders
Clothes shops	6 shops
Wood trade	2 industries
Satellite shops	2 shops
Electric appliances shops	6 shops
Home appliances shops	5 shops
Internet shops	2 shops

The economic status of the population has severely declined, as many citizens have lost their jobs. Additionally, the craft and industrial sector in this village faces different problems such as the continuous electricity cuts and the inability to secure modern industrial equipment.

4. EDUCATION

100 % of the school children had primary education. Most of the students attend the schools in Marjeoun, Al Khiyam and Al Tiba.

5. HEALTH STATUS

Kfar Kila health facilities consists of a clinic of the Ministry of Social Affairs which provides general medical services, Al Bahbhani Clinic which is part of the Amar Association and a private clinic.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Kfar Kila relies on one artesian well for the irrigation of the citrus fields and on Al Tiba project for the provision of drinking water. It experiences several environmental problems: lack of wastewater management and the absence of a public sewage network; and the improper solid waste management due to the 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 AND THE ROLE OF IMMIGRANTS

Kfar Kila has built trade relationships with the neighbouring villages and businesses, and relies on them to market most of its agricultural and industrial production. Additionally, products are marketed in the village's market that takes place each Saturday and attracts buyers from the neighbouring villages.

Relationships with nearby villages have also been identified through the large intermarriages that take place between Kfar Kila and the villages of the area.

The remittances of the immigrants were used to build some residential buildings and to support income of relatives.

8. INSTITUTIONS AND SERVICES

Kfar Kila is governed by a municipal council which was founded in 1963, and is currently administrated by 15 members elected by the locals of the area. The council is assisted by several committees composed of locals from the village. There are also 4 permanent and 4 contracted employees working in the municipality. The municipal council owns a permanent headquarters.