

## KHIAM VILLAGE PROFILE

### 1. LOCATION AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Khiam is a village located in the district of Marjeoun. It is around 100 kilometres away from Beirut, and around 6 kilometres from the centre of the district. Khiam is characterized by a moderate climate; its elevation is around 750 meters above sea level with an average annual rainfall of 600-700 mm.

Khiam falls on a hill and is bordered by Ebel Al Saki to the north, Marjeoun fields to the west, Ain Arab to the east, and Sarda Farms to the South.

The village is distinguished by its slops, which are surrounded by the fields of Al Dardar and Al Wati.

### 2. POPULATION

The total population of Khiam is around 28580. The village inhabitants witnessed internal displacement, by which around 20000 villagers were displaced to other parts of the country (Southern Suburbs' of Beirut, Ablah, Riyak, Baalback and Tyre). Additionally, a number of the village inhabitants around 580 migrated to countries such as Kuwait, Australia, Canada and Gulf States (See Table 1).

**Table 1: Distribution of Population**

Population	Number	In Percent
Residents	4000	14
Displaced	20000	70
Migrants	4580	16
Total	28580	100

There are 4000 residents in winter in the village, while the number rises to around 15000 people during the summer. The number of registered voters is around 15380 as estimated during the 2010 summer elections.

#### 2.1 Age Groups

The distribution of the population by age groups in Khiam is as follows: 46 percent are less than 21 years, 49 percent are between 21 - 25 years, and 5 percent are 25 years and older (See Table 2).

**Table 2: Distribution of Population by Age Groups**

Age Group	Number	In Percent
Under 21	13000	45.5
Between 21-25	14130	49.5
Above 25	1450	5.0
Total	28580	100.0

## 2.2 Labour Force

Labour force participation in Kham is 27 %.The working women they occupy positions in the educational sector, in clinics or clothes shops in Kham or nearby villages. Additionally, many of the young people in the village have joined the military or work in liberal professions and crafts. Unemployment in Kham is around 25 percent.

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

- Agriculture (2%)
- Government Employees (10%)
- Security and army Forces and Education sector (45%)
- Crafts and liberal professions (23%)
- Other activities: 20%

## 3. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

### 3.1 AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

The cultivated land constitutes around 50% of the total area in Kham with around 35 people working in the sector.

**Table 3: Land use**

Land use	Area (in dunums)
Outlying area of the village	20156
Area of arable land	18156
Cultivated area	9000
Irrigated areas	6500

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

**Table 4: Agricultural Products**

Products	Cultivated area (in dunums)
Olives	2500
Citrus Fruits	100
Mixed fruits (Apples, Grapes, Peaches)	100
Grains	5000

Kham also produces a range of agro-foods that are traded in neighbouring villages, and to Beirut specifically its Southern Suburbs, as well as some of the products are exported to countries with immigrants from Kham. The different types of Agro- food productions are as follows:

- Olives
- Pickles
- Olive Oil
- Dairy products
- Borghol
- Zaataar

The village also has some agricultural enterprises and cooperatives such as:

- Three olive presses
- Milk collection centre (stopped working)
- Agricultural Cooperative of Khiam
- Agricultural Cooperative of Akdardara Field

There are however prominent problems facing the agricultural sector in Khiam such as:

- High presence of insects and rodents (mouse)
- The destruction of irrigation canals
- High costs of medicines
- Poor agricultural equipments

### 3.2 LIVESTOCK

The residents in Khiam breed cows, goats, cheep and bees (See Table 5).

Table 5: Livestock in Khiam

<b>Cows</b>	<b>Beehives</b>	<b>Goats and sheep</b>
<b>200 cows</b>	500	1000 heads

### 3.3 INDUSTRIAL, CRAFTS AND TRADE SECTORS

There are several Industries in Al-Khiam such as three concrete plants, three tiling plants, one stone cutting plant and asphalt plant. As for the craft and trade activities in Khiam they are listed in Table 6.

Table 6: Crafts and Trades

<b>Profession</b>	<b>Number of Workers or institutions</b>
<b>Concrete Carpenter</b>	20 people
<b>Carpenters</b>	8 people
<b>Industrial blacksmith</b>	12 people
<b>Auto blacksmith</b>	8 people
<b>Painters</b>	15 people
<b>Furniture painters</b>	10 people
<b>Construction</b>	8 people
<b>Sanitary</b>	14 people
<b>Tiling</b>	15 people
<b>Electricity</b>	15 people
<b>Bakers</b>	8 people
<b>Butchers</b>	10 people
<b>Hair dressers</b>	14 people
<b>Aluminium</b>	10 people
<b>Auto mechanics</b>	10 people
<b>Car electricity</b>	3 people
<b>Oil change</b>	3 people
<b>Supermarkets</b>	3 supermarkets
<b>Cellular shops</b>	3 shops
<b>Tool shops</b>	5 shops

<b>Restaurants</b>	7 restaurants
<b>Internet shops</b>	5 shops
<b>Grocery shops</b>	25 groceries
<b>Clothes shops</b>	16 shops
<b>Shoe shops</b>	5 shops
<b>Steel and cement shops</b>	4 shops
<b>Men and women Tailors</b>	5 people
<b>Shoe Repair shop</b>	1 shop

The following are some of the problems that the industrial, trade and craft sectors face in this village:

- Lack of skilled labour
- Power outage
- Tight markets

#### **4. EDUCATION**

100 % of the school children had primary education. Students receive their education in Al Khiyam's public schools and Marjeoun's private schools.

#### **5. HEALTH STATUS**

Khiam health facilities consist of the following clinics:

- Amel Associations Clinic
- Health Ministry Clinic
- Ministry of Social Affairs Clinic
- Health Association Clinic

#### **6. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS**

Khiam relies on spring and artesian wells for the irrigation of the cultivated land and on artesian wells and the Marj Al Khoukh project for both the provision of drinking water. It experiences several environmental problems, these problems can be identified as follows: 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.

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

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

A weekly market takes place every Thursday that attracts both buyers and sellers from the village and its surrounding towns.

#### **8. INSTITUTIONS AND SERVICES**

Khiam is governed by a municipal council and is currently administrated by 21 members elected by the locals of the area. The council is assisted by several committees composed of locals from the

village. There are also 7 permanent employees working in the municipality. The municipal council owns a permanent headquarters.

Additionally, Kham has a number of local institutions dealing with social matters in the village, they are:

- Kham's Women Association for Development
- Kham's Cultural and Educational Club
- Kham's Development Association