

QASAIBEH VILLAGE PROFILE

1. LOCATION AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Qasaibeh is a village located in the district of Nabatiyeh which a city in the Southern Governorate of Lebanon (one of the eight governorates). Its sits on a hill interspersed with meadows.

Qasaibeh is around 84 kilometres away from Beirut. It is characterized by a moderate climate; its elevation is around 310 meters above sea level with an average annual rainfall of 600-700 mm.

The village covers an area of around 4.76 square kilometres.

2. POPULATION

The total population of Qasaibeh is around 7500. A very few number totalling around 200 migrated to other countries.

There are around 7000 inhabitants all over the year in the village. The number of registered voters is around 2700 voters, of whom 1756 voted in the 2010 municipal elections.

2.1 Labour Force

Unemployment in Qasaibeh affects around 300 young men and women who are mainly over the age of 18.

Women and children in Qasaibeh, participate in the plantation of tobacco, one of the major products in the village.

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

- Agriculture (60%)
- Security forces and military (20%).
- Trade in cars and related activities (20%).

3. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

3.1 AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

The area of arable land is limited in Qasaibeh due to its rocky character.

During the 1970s and 1980s some green houses were built in the village; this type of farming was brought to an end in view of the lack of water for irrigation. Tobacco and olives are the main products of the village. The village has one olive oil press.

3.2 LIVESTOCK

Residents in Qasaibeh are breeding cows, bees, sheep and goats (See Table 1).

Table 1: Livestock in Qasaibeh

Cows	Goats and sheep	Bees
100 heads (3 farms each with 10 heads, the rest is owned by 25 families having 1-2 cows each)	4 families own the goats and sheep in town	3 farms each with around 50 bee hives. The rest is dispersed between the houses for personal production.

It is important to note that the village had around 4 families who own and raise goats and sheep. Additionally, there are 3 bee farms in the village with around 50 hives each. The rest of the hives are dispersed among the houses for personal production of honey. As for the cows, the village accounts for 100 heads divided among 3 farms with around 10 heads each, while the rest is owned by the families in Qasaibeh with each having 1-2 cows.

The village produces milk and beef which is more than enough to cover local consumption needs. In cases of surplus the products are bought by the dairy factory in Shkayf in Nabatieh.

3.3 CRAFTS AND TRADE SECTORS

Most of the crafts and trades in this village are listed in table 2.

Table 2: Crafts and Trades in Qasaibeh

Kind of Trade/Craft	Number of businesses
Blacksmith	5 people
Wood industry	20 people
Carpentries	3 carpentries
Aluminium	2 institutions
Prints	2 prints
Furniture	2 institutions
Tiling factories	2 factories
Cemetery and stone factories	5 factories
Mills	2 mills

4. EDUCATION

100 % of the school children had primary education.

The village has a primary and secondary public school, as well as 3 private schools. As for vocational and university education students pursue their education in Nabatieh, Saida and Beirut.

5. HEALTH STATUS

Qasaibeh health services consist of 7 private clinics. The village doesn't have a public clinic and the closest hospital is in Nabatieh. It is further important to note that there are around 100 widows and elderly persons that rely on aid.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Qasaibeh experiences, like other villages in the Kaza, several environmental problems, these problems can be identified by a water crisis, absence of a public sewage network and poor solid waste management.

The village relies on 3 artesian wells and springs for the provision of drinking water to the homes. As for the solid waste it lacks proper management. Solid wastes are usually collected by the Municipality Federation of Shkeif.

7. RELATIONSHIPS WITH NEARBY VILLAGES AND IMMIGRANTS

Qasaibeh has built trade relationships with the neighbouring villages and businesses, and they rely on the village to provide them with auto trade and related services such as car painting and blacksmithing. It was apparent that when villagers from Qasaibeh embarked on an auto trade business this significantly improved their income and thus lead to some recent urbanization projects in the village.

8. INSTITUTIONS AND SERVICES

Qasaibeh is governed by a municipal council, 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 2 permanent employees working in the municipality. The municipal council rents its headquarters. The European Council is currently building a Municipal Hall in Qasaibeh.

Additionally, Qsaibe has some associations and groups as follows:

- Cooperative Society for processing agricultural products in Qasaibeh
- UNDP Youth Gathering in Qasaibeh