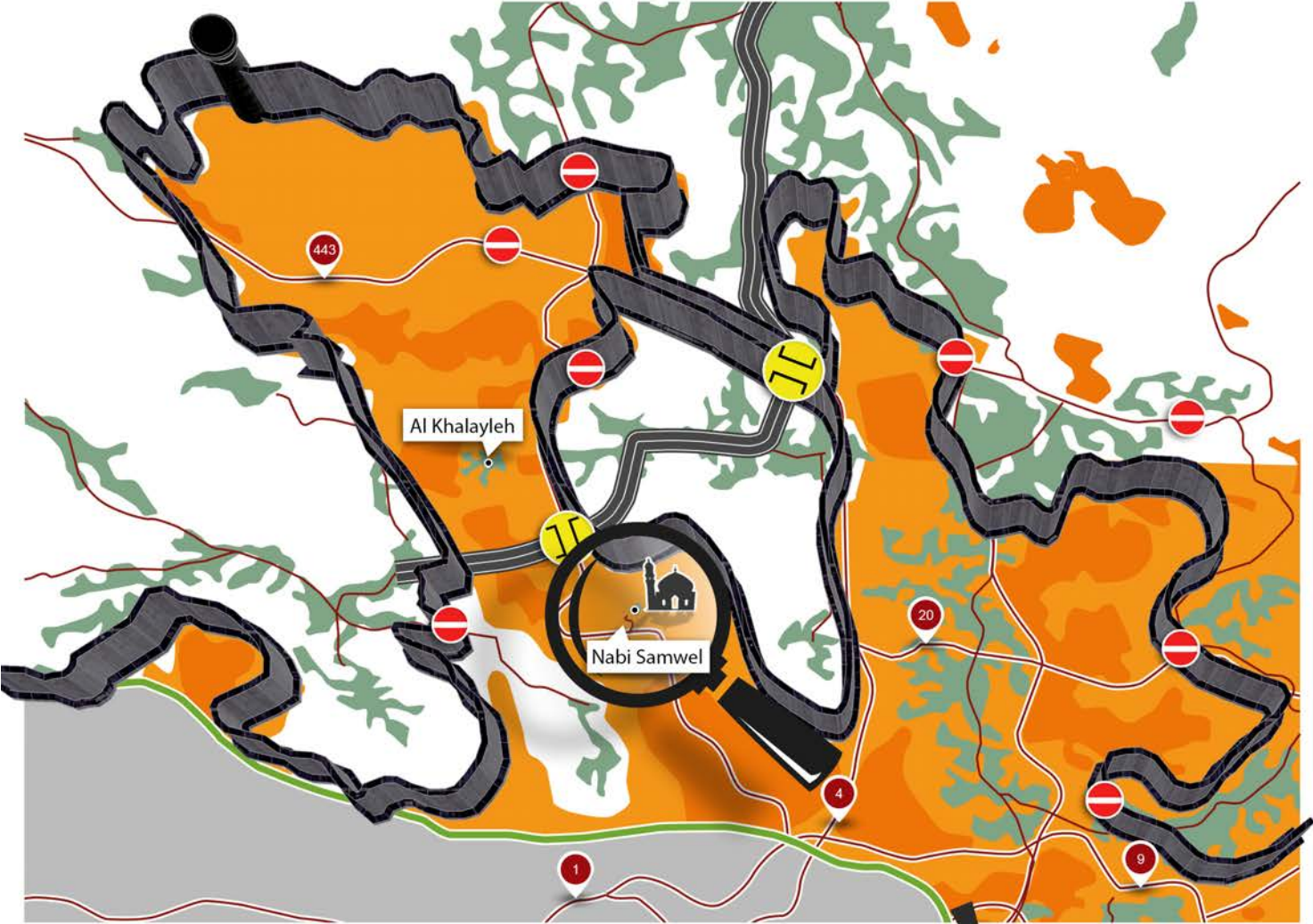




NABI SAMWEL

The Extinct / Dying Village

Ramallah



-  Palestinian Built-up Area
-  Israeli Settlement Built-up Area / Planned Settlement Expansion
-  Palestinian Territory West / East of the Wall

Jerusalem



≈ 200 People.



1 Elementary School.

ISRAELI APARTHEID EXPOSED



Movement and Access Restrictions.



Planning and Building Restrictions.



Restrictions on Access to their lands.



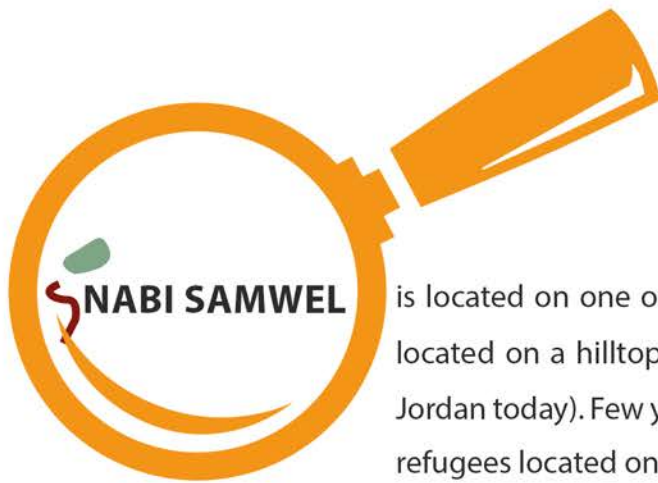
Restrictions on Access to basic services.



Residents are subject to settler violence on weekly basis. Including: harassment and intimidation - destruction of agricultural property and land - and trespass and takeover of land. (UNOCHA)



Demolitions and Displacement: 24 Households comprising 125 people, including newly-wed couples, have moved out of the village in the past seven years. (UNOCHA)



is located on one of the highest mountains in Jerusalem. The village dates back to 800 BC. The original village used to be located on a hilltop around the mosque. In the 1967 war, 90% of the village population was displaced (majority reside in Jordan today). Few years later, Israel demolished all 46 houses around mosque and forced people to move to the houses of the refugees located on the other side of the mosque area.

Village was later declared a national park area where construction is not allowed. All the houses today, except a few, were constructed before 1967. The Oslo interim agreement entirely located the village within area C, where construction is absolutely not allowed in any way shape or form. As a result, construction, including for natural expansion, is not a possibility and many of its residents have been forced to relocate to other areas especially young married couples. It is estimated that more than 20 families have been forced to leave the village in the last five years, comprising more than 100 people, leaving around 200 people still living in Nabi Samwel today.

When Israel constructed the annexation wall, it placed Nabi Samwel on the Jerusalem side of the wall and completely isolated it from its surroundings. It is almost completely isolated from the rest of the West Bank; residents have their names on a list at the nearby Al Jib checkpoint to enable them to commute between their homes and the remainder of the West Bank. Entering Jerusalem is also not a possibility for the majority of residents who hold West Bank identification cards; whoever is caught outside the area between the village and the Jib checkpoint is at risk of facing legal consequences and fines. The few families who hold Jerusalem IDs are also at risk of losing their social security benefits for living in Area C outside the municipal boundaries of Jerusalem as defined by Israel. Nabi Samwel families are thus deprived from friends and family visits and it has been impossible to hold neither a wedding nor a wake in the village. They essentially live in prisons in their houses.

Restoration of the village is prohibited. There is no sewage network. No permanent medical center. Work possibilities are extremely limited. And the village's only school is one 12 meters square room for students between 1st through 4th grades. The original school existed on the 2nd floor of the mosque but was closed following the destruction of the original village in the early 1970s. A Palestinian family, as a temporary replacement, offered the current place of the school. It has not been more than 40 years.