



PALESTINIAN COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY THE BARRIER

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KEY FACTS

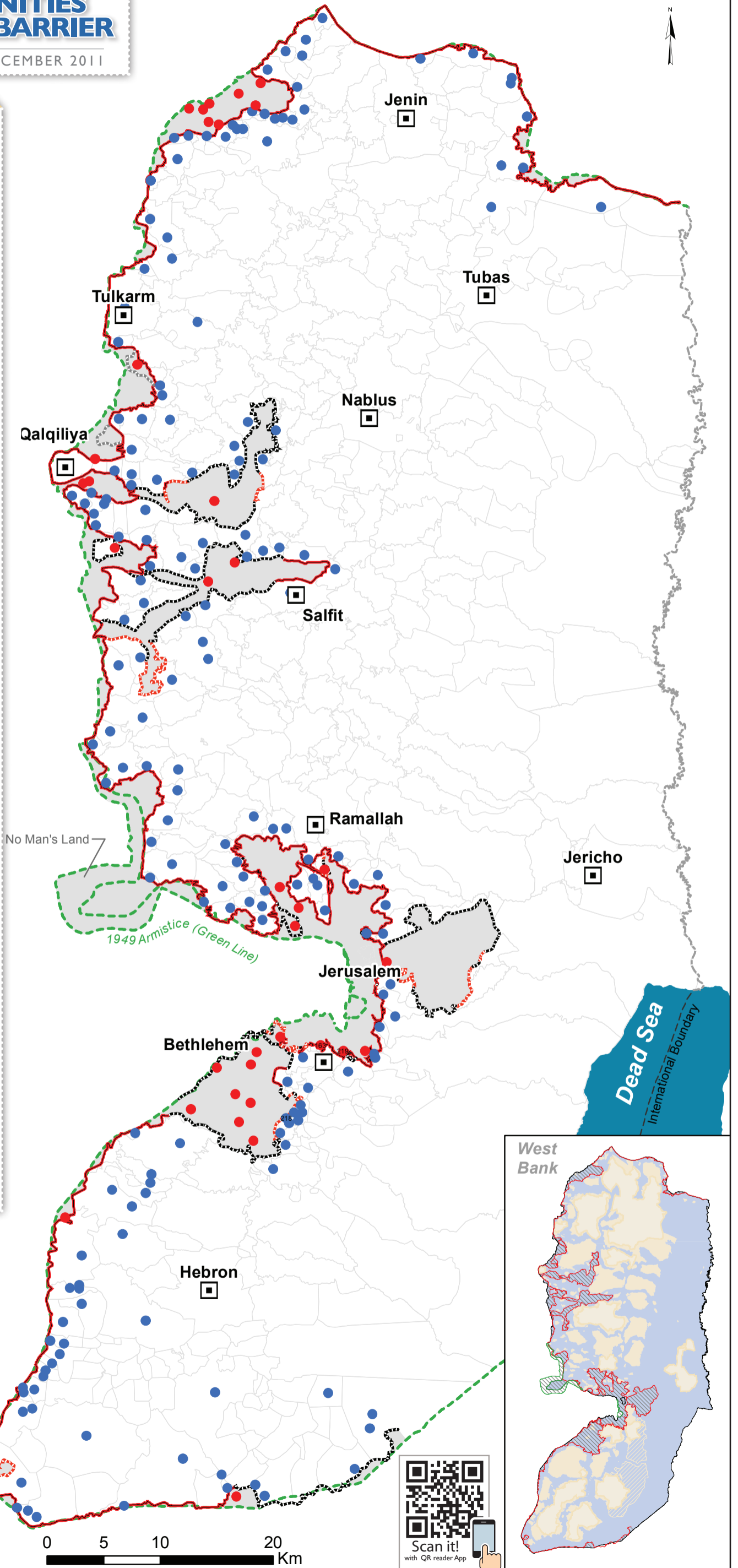


The Barrier's total length is approximately 708 km. 61.8% of the Barrier is complete; a further 8.2% is under construction and 30% is planned but not yet constructed. When completed, approximately 85% of its route will run inside the West Bank, isolating 9.4% of West Bank territory, including East Jerusalem and No-Man's Land. On 9 July 2004, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an advisory opinion which stated that the sections of the Barrier route which ran inside the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, violates Israel's obligations under international law.

Palestinian communities are affected by the Barrier in a number of ways:

- In much of the West Bank, Palestinian rural communities have land and water resources cut off between the Barrier and the Green Line (the 'Seam Zone'). To access this land, much of which has been declared a 'closed military area,' farmers are obliged to use a 'prior coordination' mechanism or to obtain 'visitor' permits from the Israeli authorities. Access is channelled through a gate designated on the permit. Currently there are 66 Barrier gates, the majority of which only open during the olive harvest season. The limited allocation of these permits, together with the restricted number and opening times of the Barrier gates, have severely curtailed agricultural practice and undermined rural livelihoods throughout the West Bank.
- The intrusive route of the Barrier also isolates approximately 6,500 Palestinians in the closed area between the Green Line and the Barrier, with those aged 16 and above required to apply for 'permanent resident' permits to continue to live in their own homes. Residents have to pass through Barrier checkpoints to reach workplaces and essential services, and to maintain family and social relations on the 'Palestinian' side of the Barrier. If the Barrier is completed as planned, approximately 25,000 West Bank Palestinians will reside between the Barrier and the Green Line. The majority of Palestinians who hold East Jerusalem ID cards will also reside between the Barrier and the Green Line.
- The Barrier has also adversely affected the West Bank's urban centres, in particular East Jerusalem. It is transforming the geography, economy and social life not only of Palestinians who reside within the Israeli-defined municipal area of East Jerusalem, but also residents of the wider metropolitan area, with Palestinian neighbourhoods and suburbs divided from each other and walled out from the urban centre.

➔ For more information, please refer to index on page 32.



	Governorate Capital
	Palestinian Community Isolated by Barrier (Current and Planned)
	Affected Palestinian Community
BARRIER	
	Constructed
	Under Construction
	Planned Route
	1949 Armistice (Green Line)
	Boundary of Affected Village
	Palestinian Local Authority Boundary
	Area Behind the Barrier

