



Initial Mapping: Popular Committees and their Areas of Activity in Arab Towns and Mixed Cities

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Background

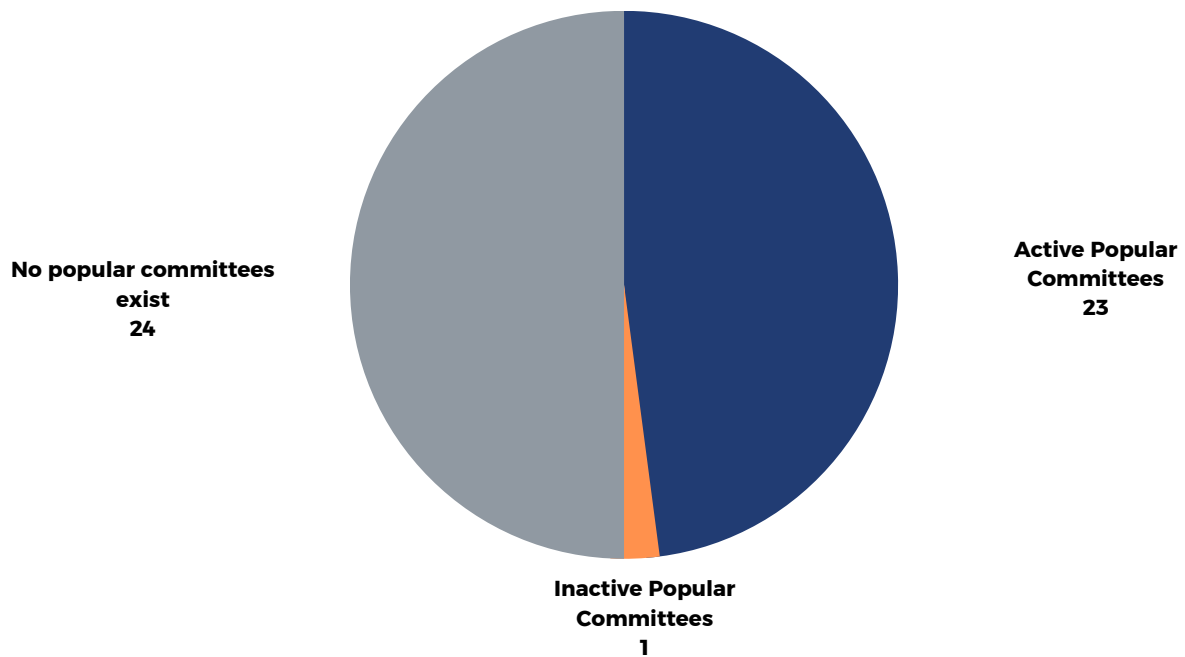
The mapping addresses the topic of active popular committees, in Arab towns and mixed cities. A total of 53 towns participated in the survey. Data was extracted by engaging with local Arab authorities and Arab civilian representatives (usually representing all party affiliations) and social activists, along with representatives of the youth and elected officials, such as members of local authorities.

These committees, typically non-partisan, aim to coordinate with local authorities, elected officials, and political parties, monitor land and housing issues, and initiate various public, educational, and awareness programs and activities in different domains.

The mapping aims to examine the "infrastructure," organizational capabilities, and diverse available resources in Arab towns and mixed cities to assess their potential "utilization" and activation in emergency situations. It is important to note that, based on the survey data and results, there are no active popular committees in emergency situations, despite the existence of 26 active popular committees (23 in Arab towns and 3 in mixed cities).

POPULAR COMMITTEES

Chart 1: Mapping of Popular Committees in Arab Towns/Cities



The mapping included 48 Arab towns (Arab towns in the Northern region, the Triangle, coastal towns, and the Negev). Based on the mapping data, there are 24 popular committees in Arab towns, of which 23 are active, and in 24 Arab towns, there is no popular committee.

Chart 2: Mapping of Popular Committees in Mixed Cities

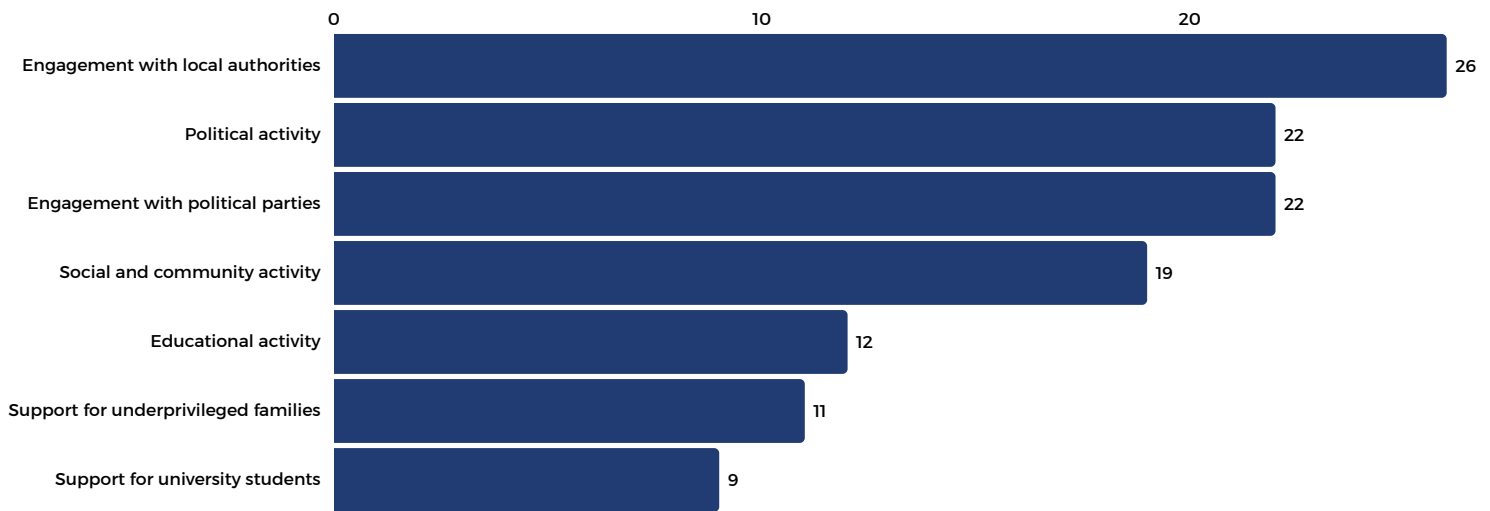


In addition to the Arab towns, the mapping included 5 mixed cities (Lod, Ramla, Tel Aviv-Jaffa, Acre, and Haifa). Based on the mapping data, there are 3 cities with active popular committees, while 2 cities do not have any popular committees.



POPULAR COMMITTEES

Chart 3: Areas of Activity of Popular Committees in Arab Towns/Cities



The findings reveal that the key focus of popular committees in Arab towns lies in their interaction with local authorities, where they monitor and address local issues pertinent to the day-to-day operations of municipal governments. Furthermore, these committees engage in dialogue with political parties and take the lead in organizing local political initiatives. Moreover, many popular committees are involved in educational and socio-community activities. It's worth emphasizing that popular committees do not have a role in handling emergency situations.

Chart 4: Areas of Activity of Popular Committees in Mixed Cities



The activities of popular committees in mixed cities are primarily focused on liaising with local authorities, along with engaging in political, social, and community initiatives. Notably, in the two cities where popular committees are absent, there are various active grassroots movements at the neighborhood and youth levels, although these initiatives are not structured within popular committees.



POPULAR COMMITTEES

Summary

- There are 25 active popular committees within the Arab community, comprising 23 committees in Arab towns and 3 committees in mixed cities (the attached table contains the names and details of these localities).
- The mapping includes the details of the heads of popular committees for the purpose of establishing communication with them and initiating the development of an action plan to strengthen, empower, and enhance emergency response efforts within the Arab community. This entails establishing a lasting and locally organized "infrastructure" for handling emergency situations within the Arab community.
- The core activities of most popular committees revolve around liaising with local authorities, entailing coordination and oversight of public, social, and political programs. Furthermore, they engage in communication and collaboration with political parties, alongside launching social and community initiatives.
- popular committees do not engage in activities during emergency situations and are not integrated into the local (temporary) emergency response setups established during wartime.

**Respectfully,
Injaz's Team.**

