

Salem A. Thawaba

Birzeit University
Department of Architectural Engineering
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EDUCATION:

2001-2005: Ph.D. Environmental Dynamics (ENDY)-with emphasis on urban and regional planning , University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.USA – Integrating Perception Analysis and Geographic Information System (GIS) Technology in Urban Planning, Growth and Modeling.

1996-1998: Masters degree (MA) in Regional Planning & Urban Development, School of Architecture in Oslo, Norway - *Landscape Capacity for Absorbing Urban Development in Tulkarem.*

1985-1994: Architectural Engineering (BS), Beir Zeit University, West Bank, Palestine

EMPLOYMENT:

2005- recent: Assistant prof. Department of Architectural Engineering – Birzeit University , and A member in the committee of the Urban Planning and Design Master program.

2001-2005: Lecturer in the Departments of Geosciences and Foreign Languages, King Fahd Middle East Center, University of Arkansas (*Islamic Architecture & Art: 20 students assisted and lectured, Human Geography: 100 students taught, Middle East Geography: 45 students assisted and lectured, Arabic Language: 40 students taught, Hazards & Disasters: 40 students assisted and lectured*)

2000-2001: Environmental Consultant, Habash Engineering, LTD

1996-2000: Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation Urban Planner, Department of Urban & Rural Development, West Bank, Palestine

1995-1996: Planning & Engineering Office, Abu Shalbak Consulting Engineering Office, Ramallah, West Bank, Palestine

1994-1995: Geographic Information System Coordinator, Computer and Communication System Company, Amman, Jordan (HQ), West Bank, Palestine

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Undergraduate

Coursework: Basic Sciences, Architectural History, Theories in Regional Planning, Theory of Urban Planning, Concrete Design, Lighting and Acoustics, Theory of Modern Architecture, Building Construction, Architecture in

Palestine, Design of Public and Commercial Buildings, Landscape Architecture, Design of Industrial Buildings, Health Engineering, Housing and Building Technology.

Graduate

Coursework: Basic Planning Procedures, Regional Analysis, Evaluation in Planning, History of Urbanism, Theory of Urban Design, Urban Planning, GIS, Structure Urban Analysis, Urban Land-use Planning, Transportation Planning, The social Aspects of Planning, Planning in Low and Middle income Countries, Urban Reconstruction, Environmental Planning, Landscape Analysis, Urban Green Structure, Principals in Planning Sustainability, Cultural Heritage and Preservation, Planning Law and Regulation, Planning Theory.

Ph.D.

Coursework: Environmental Dynamics, Quaternary Environment, Urban Geography, Water issues, Theory in Urban planning, Contemporary regional planning modeling, Soil and Water, Cultural resource management, Landscape Planning, Parks and recreation planning, GIS, Hydrogeology, Global Change, Urban planning Morphology & History, Environmental Planning & Monitoring, statistics and survey design, urban perception analysis.

Software Capabilities: Geographic Information System (GIS), ArcView, ArcInfo, Digital Image Processing (IDRISI), Corel Draw, AutoCad.

Duties at the Ministry of Planning, Palestine (1996 to 2001):

- Landscape Assessor for the West Bank Region,
- Planner for the Urban and Rural Studies Program collecting and analyzing data,
- GIS team member worked on map production for the regional plan, West Bank,
- Prepared and produced the Green Structure maps, West Bank,
- Prepared the Emergency Protection Plan, West Bank,
- Coordinator for the Palestinian Development Plan (PDD),
- Coordinator for the Productive Sector in the Projects Directorate at the Ministry, dealing with all related projects submitted from the beneficiaries overseeing all monitoring, evaluation and project frame settings (terms of reference).

PUBLICATIONS: *(peer reviewed publications and reports):*

Thawaba, S.,2006. Anthropogenic impact on water resources in the West Bank/Palestine:A Case from Wadi Fara'a Stream – Nablus Area, International Forensic Journal. Under Review

Hays, P.D., Brahana, J. V., Varnell, C.J., and Thawaba, S. A., 2004, Mercury contamination associated with gold mining in Suriname and Guianas – A legacy to

handicap a generation: National Science Foundation Workshop on Geology and Human Health: Chico Hot Springs, Montana, May 2004.

Thawaba, S.A. and Varnell, C.J. (2004). *Land use/cover change and its impact on nature*. Journal of Environment & Ecology (under review).

Thawaba, S.A. (2004). *Human Impact on Water Resources in Palestine and the West Bank: a case from Wadi Fara'a*, (under review).

Blankespoor, B. Naslund, S., Sharkas, O., Thawaba, S.A. and Vandenberg, B. (2003). *Fara'a Report: An Environmental Assessment of Wadi el-Far'a Watershed*, Report for the Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation & Development, Kamal Abdulfatah and Bert de Vries (editors). Grand Rapids and Ramallah: Calvin College and Birzeit University Publications, January:14-49.

Varnell, C.J., and Thawaba, S.A. (2003). "Bioremediation of Wetlands through the use of *Typha Domingenius*," The Encyclopedia of Water Science, Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York.

Brahana, J.V., Varnell, C. J., Rogers, J. and Thawaba, S.A. (2003). "Hydrogeologic Research along a Transect from the Ozarks to the Ouachita, Northwest to West- Central Arkansas, Arkansas (Hydrodays) Field Guide, 82 pp.

Thawaba, S.A. (1998) "Landscape Assessment of the West Bank Governorates". Report for the Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation, Palestine.

Thawaba, S.A. (1998). "Emergency Natural Resource Protection Plan for Palestine – Endangered Cultural Heritage Sites in the West Bank Governorates". Report for the Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation, Palestine.

Thawaba, S.A, (1996). "Emergency Natural Resources Protection Plan for Palestine – West Bank Governorates". Report for the Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation, Palestine.

PAPER & POSTER PRESENTATIONS:

Varnell, C.J., Thawaba, S.A. and, Brahana, J.V. (2004). *Viability of Obtaining Water from the Flooded Coal Mines in the Area of Greenwood, Arkansas*. Center for Spatial Technology Conference, University of Arkansas (Spring).

McGuire, T., Varnell, C.J. and Thawaba, S.A. (2004). *Constructed Wetlands for the Pre-treatment of Drinking Water Obtained from Abandoned, Flooded, Underground Coal Mines*, Arkansas Water Resource Conference, Fayetteville, April 20-21.

Varnell, C.J., Thawaba, S.A. (2004). *Viability of Obtaining Water from the Flooded Coal Mines in the Area of Greenwood, Arkansas*. West Coast Conference on Soils, Sediments & Water, Association for Environmental Health & Sciences, San Diego, California, March 15-19

Thawaba, S.A. (2003). *Land-use/cover change and its impact on nature in central Palestine: human impact on water resources*. Birzeit University, October 4-7.

Thawaba, S.A., Varnell, C.J., and Brahana, J.V. (2003). *Anthropogenic Impact on Water Quality- A Case Study from the West Bank, Palestine*. Poster presentation for the Center for Advanced Spatial Technology (CAST), University of Arkansas, November 19.

Thawaba, S.A. (2003). *Human Impact on Water Resources in Palestine and the West Bank: a case from Wadi Fara'a*. Fifth International Middle East Natural Resources Conference, Santa Barbara, California (March).

McGuire, T, Varnell, C.J., Rogers, J.A., Thawaba, S.A., and Brahana, J.V. (2003). *The effects of rice production on water quality and growth of an invasive plant species in the Wetlands of Palo Verde National Park*. Poster presentation for the Center for Advanced Spatial Technology (CAST), University of Arkansas, November 19.

Varnell, C.J., Thawaba, S.A., Cooper, K, and Brahana, J.V., (2003). *The feasibility of obtaining a municipal water supply from flooded coal mines: a Case Study from Greenwood, Arkansas*. Poster presentation for the Arkansas Environmental Federation, Hot Springs, Arkansas, October 21-23.

Thawaba, S.A., Varnell, C.J., and Brahana, J.V. (2003). *Anthropogenic impact on water quality: a Case Study from the West Bank, Palestine*. Poster presentation for the Arkansas Environmental Federation, Hot Springs, Arkansas, October 21-23

McGuire, T, Varnell, C.J., Rogers, J., Thawaba, S.A., and Brahana, J.V. (2003). *The effects of rice production on water quality and growth of an invasive plant species in the Wetlands of Palo Verde National Park*. Poster presentation for the Arkansas Environmental Federation, Hot Springs, Arkansas, October 21-23.

Thawaba, S.A. (1998). *Landscape Capacity for Absorbing Urban Development and Character of Townscape in Tulkarem*. Paper presentation to the Tulkarem Municipality, Palestine (September).

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES:

Arabic: *fluent in writing, conversation and translation (native language)*

English: *fluent in writing, colloquial conversation and translation (excellent)*

Hebrew: *fairly fluent in writing, conversation and basic translation (good)*

REFERENCES:

Dr. Vincent Cornell, Director, King Fahd Center for Middle East & Islamic Studies,
Chair of Religious Studies and Professor of History and Islamic Law
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Associate Director of the King Fahd Center for Middle East & Islamic Studies,
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