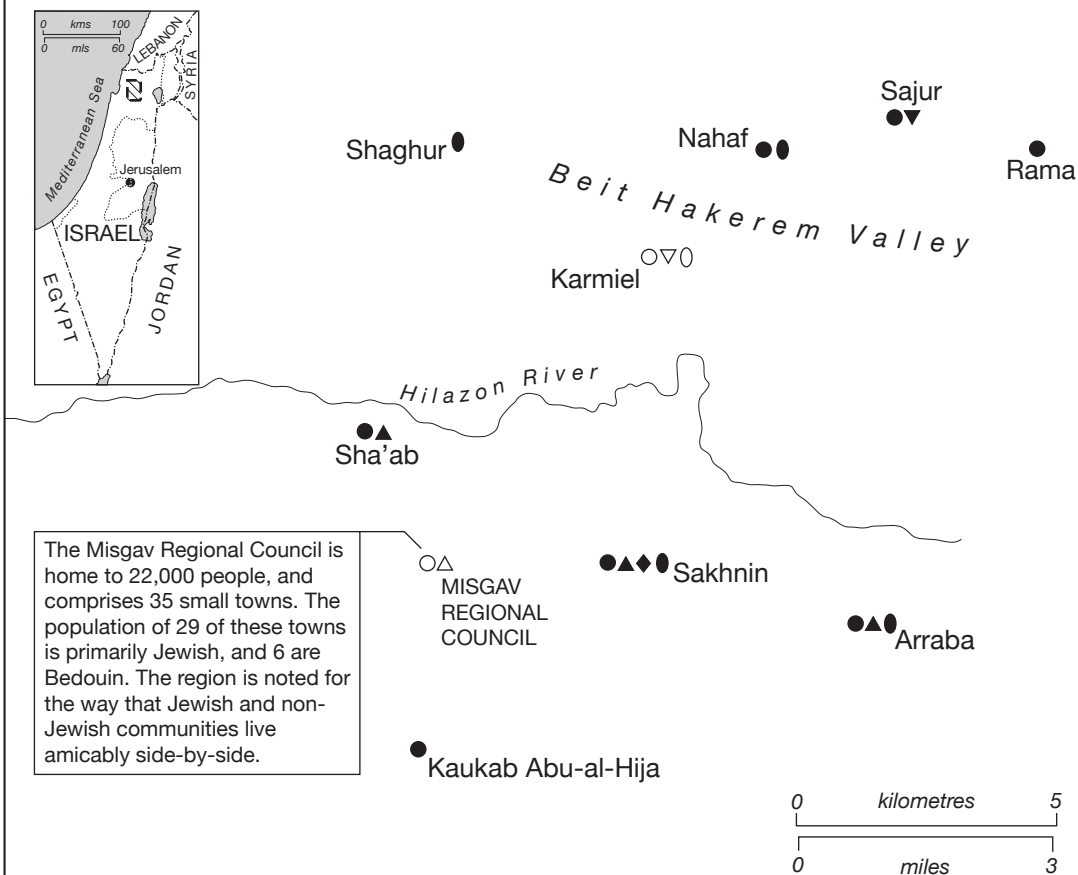


ISRAEL'S ARAB AND JEWISH CITIZENS: PROJECTS FOR RECONCILIATION 2000 - 2011

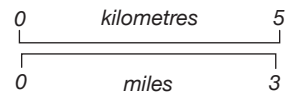
Arab towns, black symbols;
Jewish towns, white symbols

- ○ The Mirkam ('Tapestry') in the Galilee Initiative, begun in 2001
- ▲ △ The Tourism Forum
- ▼ ▽ The Social Welfare Forum
- ◆ ◇ The Health Forum
- ○ The Arab Women's Initiative

The Abraham Fund was established in 1989 – by Alan B. Slifka, an American-Jewish businessman and philanthropist who was concerned about Arab-Jewish separatism and inequalities in Israel – to find means of creating Arab-Jewish understanding and harmony. The region chosen for the Abraham Fund Initiatives was the Galilee, where the Jewish and Arab populations are almost equal in number (in 2005: 597,135 Arabs and 566,867 Jews).



The Misgav Regional Council is home to 22,000 people, and comprises 35 small towns. The population of 29 of these towns is primarily Jewish, and 6 are Bedouin. The region is noted for the way that Jewish and non-Jewish communities live amicably side-by-side.



The Abraham Fund's Mirkam ('Tapestry') in the Galilee Initiative was founded in the Beit Hakerem Valley: 12 Jewish and Arab local and regional municipalities, with 110,000 Arab and 70,000 Jewish inhabitants in all, in cooperation with the Jewish and Arab local authorities, as a model of cooperation and coexistence. The Tourism Forum was established to encourage joint municipal tourism ventures in the Hilazon River Valley. The Social Welfare Forum is a shelter in Sakhnin for those with special needs, in cooperation with Karmiel. The Health Forum promotes equality in accessibility and quality of health services. The Arab Women's Initiative 'Partnership for Life' ('Sharikat Haya') encourages greater employment among Arab women in Israel.

Other Abraham Fund Initiatives promote Mayoral Cooperation, Environmental Justice, Regional Planning and Development, Education for Coexistence, and Women's Leadership.