



The Right to Adequate Housing

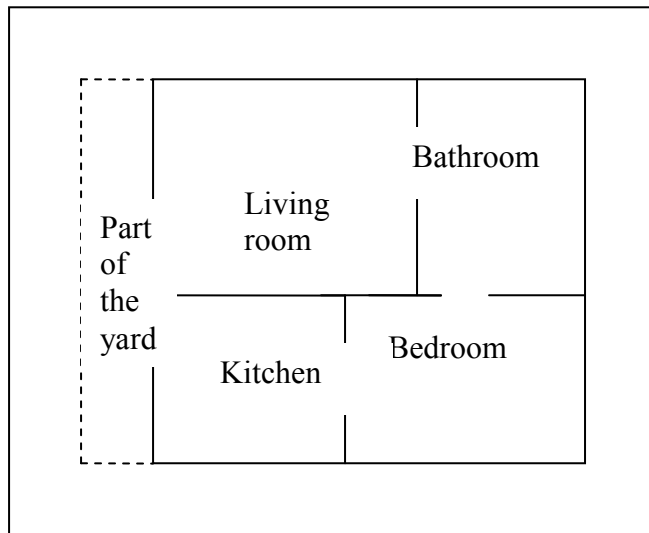
The **Saba family** is an Arabic family from Jaffa of five with limited financial resources. They are live in a **one and a half** room apartment in the Ajame neighborhood. The modest apartment was built in 1972, as an expansion of the old house of the parents' family, who still resides next door.

The parents turned to the municipality several times to get an extension permit, in order to improve their living conditions, and to give their grown-up children a place for themselves.

Their application was rejected, like many other applications of families living in the same neighborhood.

Lacking any alternatives, the parents decided to extend their apartment within the yard area of the yard, without the required building permit.

1. Here is a diagram of the Saba's house, drawn on a **scale of 1:100**.



(i) What are the **actual measurements** of the living room?

Length of the living room: _____

Width of the living room: _____

(ii) What is the **actual area** of the living room?

(ii) In order to extend the apartment area, the family planned to extend their apartment within the area of the yard, as presented in the diagram by a broken line. What will be the **area** of the enlarged living room?

To what degree is the new area **larger than** the previous area of the living room?

In the last few years, the poor Ajame neighborhood, located on the Mediterranean coast, has become very attractive. There is a massive entry of investors and contractors interested in building for wealthy Jews and foreign residents who want to buy apartments in Jaffa with a view to the sea.

The Saba family is suffering from persistent pressure to leave their apartment. Recently, they received evacuation and demolition orders, claiming that they built without permission.

The Saba family is not alone; thousands of Jaffa residents live today under the threat of evacuation and demolition orders.

2. Across the street from the Saba family home, there is a new luxury building already.

A large building company, which is building luxurious new apartments on the sites of the “evacuated” areas, has offered the local residents compensation. For a two-roomed apartment, the owners will receive **\$200,000**, while a two-roomed apartment (80 m²) in the new building will be sold at a price of **\$750,000**.

(i) What is the **difference** between the amount paid to the families residing there, and the price of an apartment in the new building?

(ii) The average wage (per month) in Jaffa is **\$1280**¹. How many months, on average, should a Jaffa’s resident work in order to have **30%** of the price of an apartment in the new building?

¹ The wage in Israel is paid in Shekalim, not in dollars.

Most of the residents in the neighborhood can't afford to buy an apartment, and therefore they rent.

(iii) The rent of an apartment in a building which is about to be demolished is currently **\$700** per month. After demolishing and re-building it, the rent would be raised by **70%**. What will the new rent for the apartment be?

(iv) The property tax and house committee fees will be raised too. The property tax will be raised by **5%**. The house committee fee will be raised by **30%**. If the original cost for property tax is **\$200** per month, and the original house committee fee is **\$25** per month, what will the percentage increase for the overall expense on accommodation be?

A group of people, Jews and Arabs, is organizing to support Jaffa families, whose houses are being threatened with demolition. The Saba family has invited them to their come to their home on the evacuation day to try to prevent it.

4. The activists and family members have decided that **3 activists** should remain at the house at night. There are **7 activists** who volunteer to remain at the house on the first night. **How many possibilities** are there **to choose 3 from 7** activists for the first night?