

TASK B3 Getting Connected

1: By studying Fig.B10 and Fig.B12 describe how the border has affected links between the Badia and neighbouring countries?

Fig.B12: Jordan Factbox 3

There are now two border post connecting the Badia with Syria at Jaber (80 km from Amman) and Ramtha (90 km from Amman).This is mainly used for cargo).

There is a border post at Al Karamah with Iraq (331km from Amman).

The Badia has a border link with Saudi Arabia at Umari (155km from Amman).

The border has meant some routes between countries are long and less direct.

2: The map in Fig.B10 shows how roads and borders affect life in the Badia. The border crossings are shown.

- ≠ Do you think the road system in the Badia would have been a different shape if the borders were not there?
- ≠ What effect has the border had on the traditional Bedoiun tribes who once moved through the Badia irrespective of a border?

3: The map in Fig. B11 is a topological map of the road system in the Badia and surrounding areas. A topological map (The London Underground map is one of the most famous of its kind) preserves routes but distorts direction and distance. Vertices are the points and edges are the direct routes.

Connectivity investigates how efficient a network is. We can use the beta index to see how connected a network is. It is calculated by dividing the number of edges in the network by the number of vertices (e/v).

The higher the value of the beta index the greater the degree of connectivity and the more efficient the sytem. If there is one circuit then the Beta Index has a score of 1.

- ≠ Calculate the Beta index index for the Badia. What does it tell you about how efficient the network is?
- ≠ Add some more edges to the topological map

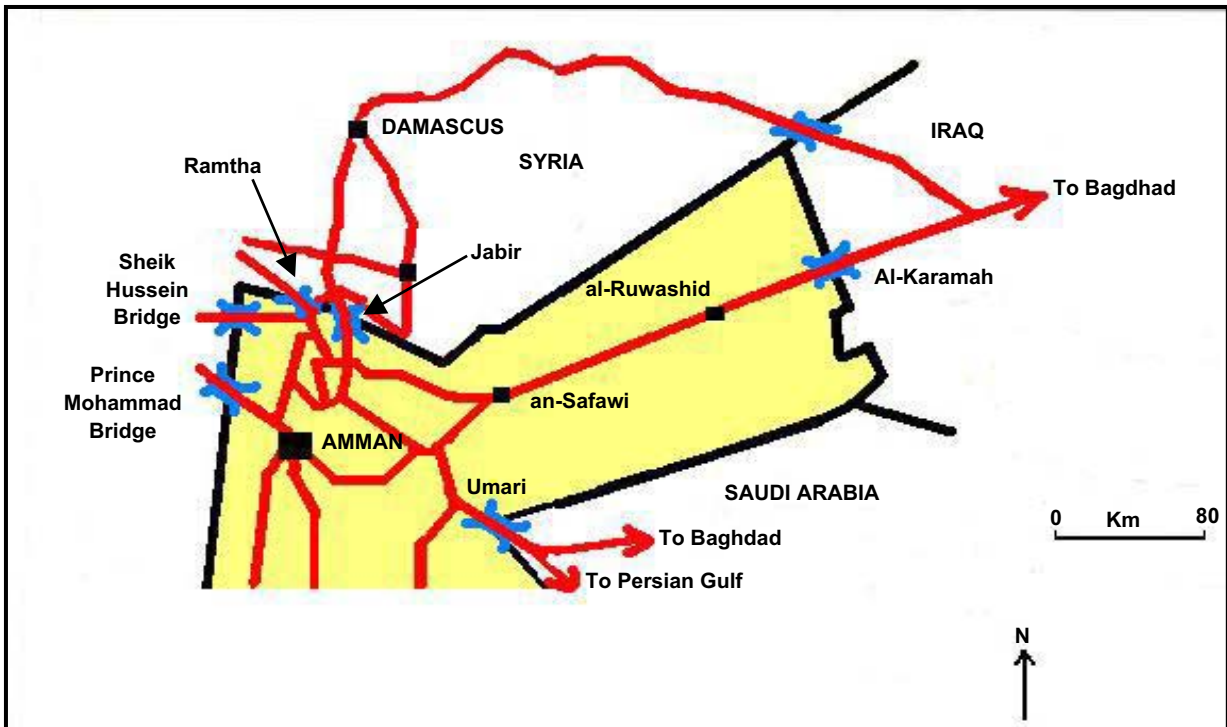


Figure B10: Border crossings affecting the Badia region

Figure B11: Topological map of the principal routes affecting the Badia

