

D. The Transformation of Agriculture

This is mainly capitalist transformation of predominantly petty commodity agriculture production. Reference is to the co-operative/collective sector of agriculture; not to traditionally commercial agriculture (citrus plantations) in the coastal region of Israel.

As the case in the transformation of the petty commodity forms of industrial production, this process was also stimulated by the advanced capitalist transformation of the entire economy, especially its militarization, on the one hand, and the abundance of cheap Palestinian labor, on the other.

Transformations in the relations of production and the productive forces after the Six-Day War affected transformation in land tenure and use. This applies both to Palestinian land in the occupied territories and to Israel "National Land".

Nothing is unique about the pattern of transformation in the traditional Palestinian land tenure upon the integration of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to the Israeli branch of central capitalism. It is very much the same process prevalent in dependent capitalist peripheries the world over: landlords becoming absentee capitalists, mainly money capitalists; concentration of land for commercialized agricultural production -- plantations. Tenants and share-croppers transformed into cash-croppers, agricultural proletariat.

In a plan published in Al-Hamishmar, October 7, 1976, Raanan Wietz proposed the introduction of a Green Revolution technology, specifically high-yield grain-seed varieties to the West Bank. If implemented, this plan will further the transformation of both land tenure and use.