

in varying degrees in all forms of agricultural production. Within the European Jewish economy capitalism was not only characteristic of the private settlements but was also a significant force within the economy of the agricultural co-operatives. In fact, the Kibbutz, as will be shown in this chapter was itself an integral part of the capitalist mode of production.

The literature which presents the Kibbutz as a "socialist" or "communist" form of production, it will be demonstrated, is the result of an ideological stand on the part of its authors rather than any objective scientific approach. The Kibbutz, this chapter will show, was a much more complex phenomenon. Similar to the Histadrut-to be discussed in the next chapter-the Kibbutz symbolized the core of contradictions and antagonisms embedded in the Zionist colonial movement. The dilemma which will be addressed in this regard concerns the important political question (why the Kibbutz) and the economic antithetic of this question, i.e., the economic inefficiency of this form of labour organization.

Here again, it will be emphasized that the government role in advancing capitalist production was crucial. This role which took the form of economic, political and legal assistance to the developing European Jewish capitalist economy hastened the contradictions between the indigenous rural economy and the Zionist one. In the process, the European Jewish economy was developing and expanding while the indigenous Palestinian economy was being destroyed. The social and economic burden which fell on the indigenous Palestinian producers as a result of capitalist development of agriculture will also be stressed in this chapter.