

thoughts are imparted. In the Arab World, as in other developing nations, this class is characterized by its strong national feelings, and its distrust of the growing capitalist sector of the society. It should be added that this class is also characterized by its hostility toward working class ideologies and Communism in general. The "petty bourgeoisie" distrust of the "national capitalists" is motivated by psychological jealousy and patriotic fear that capitalism tends, in general, to link the national economy with the capitalist monopolies in the advanced countries.⁴ They do not feel at ease with radical socialist and communist ideas because it sounds foreign to them and tends to cut their relations with the nation's history and tradition.

To the above, one may add that the "petty bourgeoisie" tend to be individualistic, and hence, they lack the solidarity characteristic of the working class or the capitalist class. Their concept of politics is half real and half imaginary. An example of this is their concept of the West. Their imagination is always excited by the "powerful West". Indeed it is not unusual to hear a representative of this class praising the United States and the Soviet Union at one and the same time. To him, both ascribe to power. He may be influenced by such men as Hitler, Roosevelt, and Stalin at

⁴"The National Charter of the United Arab Republic", in Hisham Sharabi, Nationalism and Revolution in the Arab World (Princeton: Van Nostrand, 1966), p. 130.