

elderly Palestinians. Also interviewed during my stay in London-England was Lord Caradon, who during the 1930s, occupied the position of a District Commissioner (Palestine: Northern District).

The strength of these data lay, mainly, in the logical validity they provided our study with. These data have helped us to re-evaluate a number of socio-economic and political phenomena and understand them from a different perspective. (See further discussion).

To come to grips with Palestine's pre-capitalist history, Chapter Two examines its socio-economic structure during the late nineteenth century, focusing on the various local (internal) and international (external) forces involved. This Chapter delineates the salient features of the mode of production. Its general theme tends to support some findings of the existing literature. However, the particularities of our analysis are different in that we highlight the transitory character of Palestine's economic structure in late nineteenth century.

In examining the different categories of land tenure systems in Palestine, we consult two rare manuscripts believed to be particularly significant in clarifying the issue of land system in Palestine. The first is the Arabic translation of the Ottoman land laws of 1856-57, published in 1924. The second document is a Judicial treatise on the difference between private individual land and state land in Palestine, written originally in Italian, by a Priest-Advocate in 1936. These manuscripts provide important insights to such issues as state land (or Amiri category) and communal land (Musha'a), which have been traditionally confused with each other and occasionally gave rise