

a marginal form of collective use of land practiced only to supplement the peasants' major source of income, and was limited to a specific area of Palestine. This chapter argues as well, that the popularization of the concept that Musha'a was a widespread phenomenon in Palestine carries more political and ideological weight than historical veracity.

Unlike the term Asiatic Mode of production, described in greater detail in the first chapter, notions like "feudalism" or "semi-feudalism" used by some authors were not the result of any serious study of pre-capitalist Palestine. Authors using these notions were instead focusing on Palestine under colonial capitalism and the changes it underwent as a result. Nonetheless, despite the lack of a precise account on the component of "feudal" Palestine in their approach, authors here provide a significant contribution to the issue of change in Palestine. Change in this approach is not entirely imposed from the outside, rather, there is room for internally generated changes. (Owen,1981; Scholch,1982;1986)

This chapter will demonstrate that Palestine's pre-capitalist economy was not feudal and was by no means Asiatic. Instead, it was composed of a variety of forms of production, the analysis of which will be presented in due course. These forms of production, it will also be shown were quite different from the 'multiple modes of production' suggested by Bryan Turner (1978) and later adopted by Zureik (1981). Palestine, this chapter will show demonstrated a historically specific mode of production composed of various forms.

Moreover, the country's pre-capitalist economy was neither stagnant nor backward. Changes in production relations in pre-capitalist