

and Lebanese were part of their countries' legal and administrative governments.

However, what was most significant about British mandate over Palestine were the special clauses regarding the 'Jewish national home'. In 1917 a deal between the British and leaders of the Zionist movement, known as the Balfour Declaration, was struck. In this deal Britain committed itself to developing the economic resources of Palestine in such a manner as to provide a basis for the establishment of a Jewish national home (Owen, 1982:5).

The 'Balfour Declaration' was incorporated directly into the Mandate, thus "providing an extra guarantee that they would be adhered to both in London and by the local administration in Jerusalem" (Owen, 1982:4). The mandate in this particular form had important implications for the attitude of the British government in Palestine towards both the indigenous population and the European Jewish settlers. Thus, while it referred to the indigenous rights of the Palestinians as religious and civil rights, the Mandate emphasized the national and political rights of the Jewish people. Furthermore, the Mandate excluded the indigenous people from taking any part in the governing of their country, while at the same time providing the Zionist Organization of Palestine an advisory status by considering it as the authoritative spokesman for the Jewish settler community as a whole (Stein, 1984:39; Owen, 1982:5). Speaking on this point Gozansky wrote that the Mandate was no more than "a pure colonial document", the spirit of which was "one of co-operation between imperialism and Zionism" (Gozansky, 1986:35).

In light of the fact that Palestine had no viable economic resources to offer and that Britain's interest was geo-political and