

The Moshav:

The literature on the co-operatives, as pointed out earlier, lumps together the Moshav with the Kibbutz by highlighting the latter only. This is despite the fact that the Moshav at least until the early 1940s, proved to be economically and demographically more successful than the Kibbutz.

Land in the Moshav, like that in the Kibbutz, was owned and controlled by the Keren Kayemet which in turn advanced all means of production to Moshav members. Members of the Moshav usually came from the better off sections of the working class or from the middle class families. Work on the family farm was mainly done by family labour. At the end of the production process, the Moshavs Councils marketed the produce and paid each family according to its produce. From the cash obtained, each family was expected to cover its consumer needs and pay its share of rent fees and other dues to the land owner.

After a certain period of residency if families found themselves capable of buying the land without depending on the Keren Kayemet they could do so. In the process, families with better financial resources than others were able to own their own property while at the same time live in the Moshav. This was the case in the Moshav Shittofi (literally, collective settlements), referred to in the literature as 'the middle class' Moshav. In the Moshav Shittofi settlers privately owned the land and exploited outside wage labour (Saed, 1985:120).

The Moshavs, both economically and demographically were more popular than the Kibbutzim. During British colonialism, the agricultural population of the Moshavs grew rapidly. From a total of 400 people or just less than 3 per cent of the total Jewish agricultural population living in the Moshavs prior to 1920, the relative population of the