

analysis of the various Palestinian rebellions which occurred between 1920 and 1940.(54) In that study, it was shown that in less than two decades, from 1920-1936, Palestine experienced four major political movements which included several months of general strikes and two armed struggles.

The major emphasis in that study was placed on the qualitative change in the struggle. It was argued that in contrast to the overwhelmingly nationalistic character of the peasant resistance during the 1920s, resistance during the 1930s was driven by political and economic concerns.

The 1933 revolt and 1936-39 revolution demonstrated the increased role of working class leadership over the traditional national bourgeoisie. This change, it was argued, was also reflected in the nature of the demands presented by the resistance forces. The peasant revolts of the 1920s were driven by anti-settler and anti-land confiscation sentiments and their demands centred on a return to the status quo with a national governing body. The revolutionary demands raised during the 1930s focused primarily on the dismantling of the colonial state, the imperialist policies of which were seen as the basis for their subjugation. (55) Additional data gathered in the course of the current research further supports the claim that throughout the British colonial period the Palestinians had a history of strong resistance. Both the Fallaheen and the working class were actively involved in this opposition.

Earlier in this chapter it was argued that, despite its advantages over other frameworks of analysis, the neo-marxist approach fails to adequately explain the political status of the class of migrant labourers or semi-peasants. Inherent in this approach is the notion