



Fig. 3.9: Close association between activity/time / space

about mostly during the grain harvest and threshing season, March-May. The first two months were spent on arbor terraces ploughing and pruning trees. "In May take your sickle and cut with vigor" goes the fallaheen saying. During harvest time the fallah spent consecutive days in the valleys so as to harvest and thresh the grains. During this season, the fallah also covered the vineyards, picked the fruit trees on the terraces and went to the vegetable gardens (hawakir). During the wheat and barley season, June-July, the same pattern was followed, i.e., spending most the time in the valley while visiting the arbor terraces. During the grapes and fig season, August-September, the fallah abandoned both the valley and the village and almost entirely lived on the terraces so as to keep up with the hard work of picking figs and grapes. The ta'zib i.e., moving out to live in the terrace houses called 'amarah or kaser, was done on a limited scale in Deir Ghassaneh. Unlike other villages where the whole family left the village temporarily to live in the fields, in Deir Ghassaneh only men lived there and only for few days.

During the festive season of olive picking (mawsim talkit ezatoon), the end of the agricultural cycle, the fallah accompanied by all his male relatives, unmarried daughters and elderly women, and sometimes hired labour from other villages, spent the time moving back and forth between olive terraces and the village.

Thus, the cyclical agricultural activities gave all members of the