

assessed values of both *odas* and *hanes* vary substantially within villages; we find this diversity repeated from settlement to settlement, almost without exception. The lowest-valued residences in the district were the occasional humble (perhaps one-room?) *odas* valued at 125 kuruş. Otherwise, *oda* values varied on average from 250 kuruş to 1,500 kuruş and most often consisted of one, sometimes two, and sometimes three *musakkafāt*. In Halhül, for example, we find an *oda* of 3 *musakkafāt*, unusually valued at 3,500 kuruş. It was the highest-valued residence in town. In Dhahriyya we also find an *oda* assessed at 3,500 kuruş, similarly valued higher than any of the *hanes* in the village.¹⁸⁹ Actually, these two *odas* were valued higher than the majority of *hanes* in the district, as well.¹⁹⁰

The largest and highest-valued residence in the Hebron region was a complex registered to Muhammad b ‘Abdallah al-‘Azze of Bayt Jibrīn, a throne village in the western foothills of the Hebron district.¹⁹¹ It was a 7-*musakkafāt hane* valued at 20,000 kuruş.¹⁹²

¹⁸⁸ To this must be added 41 residences in Samū’ that were not categorized. They were all on the same register page, the second of three pages of residences in the village. This omission appears to have been scribal error.

¹⁸⁹ In Dhahriyya *musakkafāt* were not recorded.

¹⁹⁰ The *oda* in Halhül was owned by Ahmad b. Muhammad Hamd. The one in Dhahriyya belonged to Ibrāhīm b. ‘Isa Şabār.

¹⁹¹ Bayt Jibrīn stood at an important crossroads between the plains and the hills and was on the Gaza-Hebron road. It and Dura were the “throne villages” of the Hebron district. Bayt Jibrīn was second in size only to Dura. In 1876, the village registered 194 residences, two (olive) presses, one mosque and two sufi lodges, among its village structures. It also registered 21,768 dunams of communally held crop-land, and individual villagers registered gardens, fruit trees and orchards in their names. In 1948, the town was ethnically cleansed. An Israeli settlement called Beit Guvrin was established on the site in 1949. On crown villages, see Amiry (2003).

¹⁹² ISA, *Esas-ı Emlak*, entry # 1829.