

shareholders. The 'Amāira musha was slightly smaller than that of the 'Arjān, totaling 37,464 dunams.

In addition, “the people of Dura” held 841 dunams of *tarla* designated as musha within the *mezra* of Rihyya, which bordered Dura’s lands to the south. As in Yatta, there were also non-musha plots of field-crop land of varying sizes, vegetable gardens (*hakyures* and *bağçes*), olive trees, and vineyards.

Conclusion

While investigating land issues brought before the Jerusalem district administrative council (*meclis-i idare*) at the end of the first decade of the twentieth century, Haim Gerber found reference to a 1911/12 (1327 *maliyye*) order from Istanbul to Jerusalem. The order prompted the Council that year to direct local land-registration authorities to undertake “a basic land survey in the province of Jerusalem”. The Administrative Council quoted the central-government order in its directive to local authorities. In his 1985 study on Ottoman rule in Jerusalem at the end of Ottoman rule, Gerber likewise quoted the order, in translation:

The relevant passage reads as follows: ‘No basic [land (hg)] survey was conducted at the time [of initial registration (sm)] in the province of Jerusalem, and the lands of the villages were registered in the land registry in common and divided up among the villagers, on an individual basis. Therefore, when