

grocer. Hajj Ibrahim was married with three sons, two daughters, and five grandchildren.⁴⁴⁷

Circumstantial evidence introduces the possibility that their father may have been a moneylender, too. In 1876 he had registered an eight-dunam vineyard in Taffūh.⁴⁴⁸ In 1869 he had purchased, *bay' w'ad*, a house (*dār*) in the Hebron neighborhood of al-Shaykh 'Ali Bak'a in exchange for a loan of twenty gold liras, equivalent to 2,000 kuruş.⁴⁴⁹

The court record of the Bayt Kāḥil case states incidentally that in 1895 Hajj Ibrahim already owned property in Jamrūra, at Sihlat al-Khasb, which bordered the Rūweisāt plot that he was now buying on mortgage with his brothers. (See Table 4.4, above.) Whether this was actual ownership or temporary ownership, that is, acquired through a recent mortgage loan, cannot be determined. The court case further states that Hajj Ibrahim was already entitled to “one-fifth plus one-fourth of one-fifth” of the harvests of the land now being mortgaged. (He may have been the owner of the five shares which were not being sold.) Michael Fischbach has noted in 'Ajlūn, in northern Transjordan, that the *khums* was a common way of reckoning the owners' share in sharecropping. A sharecropper would supply, for example, the animals, tools and labor, and the owners of the land would supply

⁴⁴⁷ His sons were 'Abd al-Maṭlab, Shākir and Shaykh Muhammad Y'aqub. In 1905, it was recorded that the first two were also merchants fluent in Arabic.

⁴⁴⁸ ISA, *Esas-ı Emlak*, entry # 6562.

⁴⁴⁹ HR 3 / 65 / 152 (22 Rajab 1286 / 28 October 1869). For conversion to kuruş, I rely on Büssow's calculations (Appendix Four: Currencies, Prices and Salaries) in Büssow (2011): 563.