

£P 70,877,000 in 1947.<sup>25</sup>

### 1.3 Literature Review

William Faulkner asserted, “The past is not dead. It’s not even past.”<sup>26</sup>

The economic history of Palestine during the Mandate period (1918-1948) is currently a contentious history because of the light it casts on our understanding of the emergence of the state of Israel and the current views of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and ways to resolve it. The dominant approach to Mandate economic history is that of dualism. Dualism asserts that during the Mandate there existed an Arab economic sector and a Jewish economic sector. In some forms of dualism, these sectors interact, and in others, these sectors lay side-by-side with little consequential interactions. What is common among all dualist approaches is an emphasis on the historically unique and specific aspects of the development of the Jewish sector. This contrasts sharply with the two current alternatives to dualism: (a) the capitalist-expansion into a precapitalist-economy approach and (b) the similar European-colonial-expansion approach. While the dualist approach emphasizes the historically “unique” aspects of the Mandate period, the capitalist and European expansionist approaches emphasize the commonalities between the Mandate period and similar events at other times and places around the world. From an ideological perspective, dualism sees the Mandate period as a unique

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<sup>25</sup>Metzer, *Divided Economy*, Tables A.19, A.20, and A.22, 239-40, 242.

<sup>26</sup>William Faulkner, *Requiem for a Nun* (New York: Random House, 1951).