

Diagram 1

Firestone's Conception of Sharetenancy as a "Devolutionary" Mechanism

<u>Cropping Arrangement</u>	<u>Landlord's Role</u>	<u>Peasant's Role</u>
1. Direct Cropping	Direct supervision of own (wage) workers on own land	hired tiller (<u>qatrutz?</u>)
2. Joint Farming	Delegation of supervision to an agent (<u>wakil</u>) who provides a share in the stock, and acquires a share in the yield. Landlord still a resident	<u>harrath</u> (ploughman-sharecropper) providing a minor share in the stock and all labour
3. Share-rent Farming	Provision of land only; landlord becomes an absentee	supply of seed stock and capital; hiring of additional croppers
4. Tenancy	Absentee. Periodic leasing of land to croppers, directly or through an agent	tenant farmer; full provision of capital stock

(Derived from Firestone, 1975a:6-7, 175).

Within this schema, the cutting edge in agrarian evolution occurs when the share-rent is transformed into cash tenancy, indicating both the landlord's physical alienation from the land (usually associated by moving his residency to the district centres), and by the termination of his filial connection with the patronized cropper and his family. But in the transitional stages, the role of the cropper also undergoes an important qualitative transformation. Thus, while "a share-rent farmer who sub-farmed out to others some of his land remitted to the landowners the whole of the rent share he had collected for it, making him the landowner's trustee rather than a middleman," by contrast, a peasant tenant under a lease is allowed to sublet for a profit (Firestone, 1975a:183). When this happens, full market relations run their due course.