

Notes

1. There are exceptions of course. Many of the share-tenants in the Jordan Valley, for example, are almost exclusively landless refugees, (ex-) peasants who crop the lands of absentee landlords from the hilly areas. Their status is only an inch above those rural proletarians whom they hire in harvest periods as day labourers (Government of Jordan, 1961:164ff).
2. In regions where cash rentals of land are almost absent, as in the Ramallah District today, the term daman is often used in share-cropping, especially in the leasing of the olive harvest to croppers on a share basis.
3. Granott sought also to minimize the number of tenants displaced. Thus, "according to a list made in 193, the Jews had acquired from large landowners 261, 388 dunums in fifteen place; and of this area 140,650 dunums were worked by 688 tenants" (Granott, The Land System in Palestine, p. 303 -- the 'source' cited for this data is Granovsky's (i.e. Granott himself before he Hebraized his name) Land and Jewish Reconstruction in Palestine, p. 87). According to these figures each tenant sub-leased 204 dunums from the landlords (!), a "plot" the size of which was never attained by tenants anywhere in the Middle East, including holdings cited in official figures for Palestine itself.
4. Is it by chance that peasant displacement resulting from land transfers to Zionists during the Mandate occurred as it did, where landlords had weak or virtually no links with their peasants (i.e. in the Maritime Plains), and where absentee rentier landlords abounded?