

eleven years for the Tubas holdings), where patronage relations are strongest.

Mixed tenancies, similarly, constituted 73 percent of holdings in the Nablus subdistrict, as opposed to only 11 percent of holdings in the Jericho subdistrict, indicating a more solid peasant proprietorship. The two areas of Jericho and Tubas stand in the sharpest contrast to the Jericho and Tubas stand in the sharpest contrast to the others. Jericho, an agricultural city of banana and citrus plantations, had 74 percent of its holdings totally owned, while only 31 percent of the Tubas were owner-cultivated holdings. Significantly, share tenancy was low in both areas (8 percent in Jericho and in Tubas 14 percent -- compared to 70% of holdings in the Jordan Valley). This reflected the predominance of wage labour in Jericho and partnership compacts in Tubas, listed under "other" form of tenancy in Table 10:4 (60 percent of the total).

By the 1960's the expansion of cultivable land and the regulation of water works, especially in the East Ghor project, significantly expanded the land under control by absentee landlords and, hence, those leased under share-cropping arrangements to refugees. This expansion occurred at the expense of mixed tenancies and the reduction of holdings in the owner cultivation category. Diagram 10:2 illustrates these tendencies.

The 1973 survey of the Jordan Valley, carried out by The Jordanian Department of Statistics, showed a further increase in owner-operated farm tenure (from 32.5% to 35.9%) and in sharecropped plots (from 39.0% to 47.2%) but a reduction in areas operated under mixed tenancies (Government of Jordan, 1973:144). It was in this period that serious governmental attention was directed towards land reform.