

Table 12:9

Upper and Lower Income Category Households in Zbeidat
On a Per Capita Basis 1980

Upper 5	Farmer/Clan	Cultivated Land	Gross Income	Per Capita/Annum
1	MHA/Shahabat	44 d.	\$18,392	\$2,299
2	MSF/Ebeidat	36 d.	20,110	2,010
3	MAS/Salaymeh	25 d.	14,950	1,245
4	SAD/Shahabat	40 d.	14,583	1,042
5	SMS/Salaymeh	13 d.	7,774	864
Lower 5				
6	HI*/Shahabat	1.4 d.	837	405
7	AMHS/Salaymeh	20 d.	4,040	404
8	TMAS/Ebeidat	8 d.	1,616	365
9	IS/Ebeidat	7.7 d.	5,816	253
10	AKMA/Shahabat	6 d.	3,588	239

(*a salaried employee)

Source: Author's Zbeidat Household Survey (1980)

The "levelling effect" should not be stressed, however. By the beginning of the 1980's we begin to see in Zbeidat cleavages which would have been "alien" to this bedouin community ten years ago. There are, on the one hand, peasant capitalists (owners of tractors, hauling trucks and grocery stores) and, on the other hand, households which can hardly get by at the end of the harvest season -- having to increasingly send their sons and daughters to work in Israeli settlements. Furthermore, the surplus cultivable land which previously was available for lease from absentee landlords has come to an end due to extensive confiscation by the military government. Demographic growth has therefore, to find new outlets.