

"The recent immigration (since the 1967 War) differs from previous movements in its participants' age structure and educational and occupational distribution. By and large, the recent immigrants are younger, better educated, and more concentrated in professions than were the immigrants of the first two decades of the State. In 1970, for example, 34 percent of the immigrants were 19 years old or younger, 46 percent were between 20 and 49 and only 8 percent were over 65. Fully 43 percent of the 1970 immigrants were classified as professionals (akademaiim), whereas such people constituted only 15 percent of the Israeli population as a whole.

To encourage immigration of trained manpower from advanced countries is to provide new immigrants with special privileges strongly resented by, and seen as discrimination against, the old-timers. Although the Israeli population has been taught to regard immigration of Jews as one of the most important national goals, a survey commissioned by the Ministry of Absorption found that in 1971 half of the Israeli population had not spoken to any immigrants in the past year. In another survey, 55 percent of the population thought that the help given to immigrants comes at the expense of the poor strata in Israeli society. When respondents were divided according to ethnic origin and age, it was discovered that 60 percent of Oriental Jews thought the poor were suffering because of the Soviet immigration and more than 66 percent of young (18-29) native-born Israelis (Sabras) thought so; unlike the older settler generation. When asked whether all the demands of Georgian Jews should be granted rather than have them return to the Soviet Union, 64 percent of the adult population said they should leave the country and their demands ought not be met." 70

The above is only to point out some of the internal contradictions selective Aliyah provokes in Israel; increasing social inequality means, potentially, intensifying class struggle among "Israeli Jews" and between the latter and Diaspora Jews. This, at one point, may lead to political instability, which is risky for business operations there. This is to say, selective Aliyah as incentive for foreign investment may, in effect, result in disincentives for foreign capital. In the meantime, by intensifying class struggle among Israeli Jews, selective Aliyah may also broaden the base for cross-national proletariat alliance.