

Table 3: The Foreign Trade in Palestine, 1883-1913 (annual averages in thousands of British Pounds)

Year	Jaffa		Haifa/Acre	Gaza
	Exports Oranges	Total	Exports Total	Exports Total
1883-87	----	135	237	---
1888-92	84	277	276	---
1893-97	86	317	108	---
1898-1902	94	274	200	100
1903-1907	127	394	273	107
1908-1912	217	648	220	82
1913	298	745	---	---

Source: Compiled from Owen, *The Middle East in World Economy, 1800-1914* (Methuen, London and New York: 1981), Table 68 p. 265.

While Table 3 provides data on exported oranges for Jaffa only, it was well known that this crop was Haifa's, Acre's and Gaza's major export item during this period.

Western Imperialism Enhances Changes in Palestine

The presence of Western imperialist interests in the Ottoman Empire in general and in Palestine in particular also expressed itself through the various missionaries and consular offices operating there. In the name of religion (namely Christianity and Judaism), Russia, Germany, Britain and France began to advance their colonial interests in Palestine. In 1860, the "Alliance Israelite Universelle" was established, and in 1868, Germany sponsored the Templars who established their first colony in Palestine. In 1898, the "Anglo-Jewish Association" was established and in 1901, the "Hilfsverein der Deutschen Juden" represented German Jewish capitalist interests in Palestine (Gozansky, 1986: 62).

Most of these companies were directly involved in the production