

land court.(32)

Despite the repeated pleas by the H.C. Chancellior between 1930 and 1931 urging the Government "to do all they can to assist those villagers, who have lost their land owing to a bare face fraud" (33) nothing was done for the cultivators. In 1933 the land was expropriated and joined to the Khadera settlement and the peasants were expelled by force.

Case Three: Wadi al-Hawareth

The most striking example of the use of force in the expropriation of the agricultural producers was at the Wadi al-Hawareth village. This village had an area of about 30,000d. and a population of about 200 families or 1,382 peasants.

In 1923 two Jewish capitalists associated with the Zionist Organization and closely linked to the Jewish National Fund, advanced a claim to the land of Wadi al-Hawareth in the land court in Haifa, a court which was headed by the same Judge, Strumza. Consequently, the court ordered that the claimants proceed to settle the land and that the peasants be evicted. In 1925 the first part of the eviction took place. The forceful appropriation of the land was described as follows:

A group of Zionist settlers accompanied by police troops raided the village, forced about half of the peasants out of the village, destroyed their tents and stole their personal belongings. (34)

During the takeover, one Police report said:

Attacks were made upon the Police by groups of womenfolk armed with sticks and stones, who resented, in particular, the removal, by the agents of the Jewish National Fund [J.N.F], of the.. tents and personal belongings found on the land...The women.....were throwing themselves in front of the