

consumption.

Within the context of middle Eastern peasantry 'fallaheen' however, the work of some Egyptian social scientists is of particular interest (Saleh,1979; Barakat, 1977). Similar to Lenin's approach in the Development of Capitalism in Russia, Saleh and Barakat differentiate the fallaheen in terms of the following categories:

Firstly, the fallah's production is characterized by its small-scale nature and by the use of primitive means of production. Secondly, the fallah cultivates his land predominantly with his own and his family's labour. Neither capital nor wage labour are, in principle, involved. Finally, the fallah's farm is characterised by its relatively small size. Keeping in mind the presence of the first and second conditions, the fallah's lot is considered as the minimum land size sufficient for the reproduction of the fallah and his family. Within the Egyptian context, the fallah's lot is officially standardised at 5 faddans (or 5 acres) (Saleh,1979: pp. 58-60; Barakat,1975:285).

It is not coincidental that the Palestine government, unlike other governments (i.e., Egypt, Syria ,Lebanon, etc.) was never able to come up with one official standard for a fallah farm. The absence of such a measure, it will be argued was not due to inefficiency on the part of the British legal or administrative systems but, rather, because of the political and ideological implications which such information involves.

What Constituted a Palestinian Fallah Farm ?

No literature, to date, has arrived at a satisfactory figure for the total agricultural land in 19th century Palestine. Figures