

of the land and involved most of the peasants during this period (Ameri, 1977:35). What needs to be known however, is the extent and proportion of intensive farming (vegetables, fruits, etc.,) which the fallaheen in the more prosperous category, had been involved in.

It is probable that the 1,604 fallaheen families with 120-240d. who were able to support themselves totally from their farms were also involved in capital intensive cultivation. A similar argument can be made regarding the 3,873 families (category 1.a), who held over 240d. each. In this case too, the producers, one might argue, were, in addition to cereal cultivation, engaged in intensive cultivation as well.

Data presented above clearly demonstrate the large-scale peasant differentiation already underway by the 1930s. Further differentiation and class polarization will be addressed in the following analysis.

#### Capitalist Agriculture and Further Class Polarization:

This analysis of the class structure within rural Palestine has concentrated on the extra-economic forces and their role in the differentiation of the fallaheen. The expropriation of a considerable part of the rural population from their land has mainly been viewed in terms of the political and judicial forces operating during the period. While the colonial state appeared to be the major role player, the Zionist Organization or its affiliates assumed an important role as well.

In the following discussion, it will be argued that direct economic pressure brought on largely by the European Jewish developing economy greatly affected the indigenous rural economy. The major force which will be discussed here is market competition and its role in forcing