

(Sa'ed,1985:115).

This deal made one Jewish writer comment:

The "Transfer Agreement" which was struck between the Zionist Organization and the Nazi government under Hitler was the gravest national treason committed by the Zionist movement...In this deal the Zionist leaders proved that they prefer colonialism over all other moral considerations. (Gozansky, 1986:106).

Without referring to this particular incident, one Lebanese Marxist observed the following:

The Zionist movement is nothing but the exploitation, for the profit of Jewish capitalists linked to the aims of imperialism in the Arab East, of the feelings of a people that has gone through a great deal... the Zionists have traded the unhappiness of their people for a commercial undertaking and a colonialist platform. (5)

Yet, as further discussion will show, the exploitative aspect of Zionist colonialism was not founded on economic basis only. Harsher forms of exploitation expressed in the displacement and uprooting of the indigenous population were also sought. For the time being, it is the significance of the influx of European (Jewish) capital on the Palestinian rural economy which will be dealt with.

The large sums of money brought to Palestine had great significance for the Palestinian economy, both relatively speaking as well as in absolute terms. One must be reminded here that these large sums of money were brought to a peasant economy which by the early 1930s was found to be severely impoverished and largely destroyed. In earlier chapters it was shown that the average monthly net income of an ordinary fallah barely exceeded 2-3 Palestinian Liras. In contrast however, individual settlers brought with them over one thousand Palestinian Lira each.