

The northwestern block contained the village sheikh's compound (the Saleh compound) indicated in red, the adjacent Cana'an compound (purple), and the main 'Ashwah compound (yellow). The southern block, the biggest, contained nine adjacent and overlapping compounds. The northern edge of this block defined the northern boundary of the plaza while the southern edge defined the boundary of the quarter. The entry gates of the different compounds penetrated the edge of the block. This block included the 'Ashwah compound, next to it the Seyyad compound, the Dawood compound, the Shaka'a, the Rashid, the Cana'an, the Abdul Aziz, the Daher and the Atrash compound. The eastern block, which was separated from the southern block by the Misshel houses and a narrow alley, consisted of the Cana'an main compound. The northeastern block included the Qasim el-Atrash and Saleh el-'Ali compounds. Finally the northern compound included the Rashid compound. It is noteworthy to mention that the same sub-clan compounds were not located in the same block; this was the case with the 'Ashwah and the Cana'an compounds. The compounds were interlocking both horizontally and vertically. In other words, the ground floor room may have belonged to one family while the upper room belonged to another family. However, the entrances to these rooms were always separate.

The relationship between the location of the different Barghouthi compounds and the village plaza reflected the social significance of the different Barghouthi sub-clans. This was similar to the relationship between the village centre and the different living quarters described earlier (Fig. 4.7). While the compounds of the influential Daher sub-clan surrounded the village plaza, the Abu Khattab and the Husein compounds were located farthest from the plaza. The Abu Khattab compounds neighboured on the fallaheen quarters hence reflecting their position within the Barghouthis' hierarchical order.

The edges of these blocks also defined the entrance to the heart of the quarter, which was also the heart of the village, the communal plaza. The high perimeter walls of the blocks also defined the enclosed space of this plaza. The single most important feature of this harah was the restricted access leading into it. By having