

the lower quarter. Since the Shu'aibis saw themselves as belonging to a "higher" social status than that of the fallaheen, they restricted their marriages to inter sub-clan marriages. "We did not like to give our women to outsiders" says Abu Rida, a prominent figure in the Shu'aibi clan. "We only gave them to non-Shu'aibis when there were no Shu'aibi men to take them, why give them to outsiders?". There were more marriages between the Shu'aibis and the fallaheen of neighbouring villages, particularly with the villages of Brokin and Kefr 'Ein. As we noted earlier, there were no marriages between the Shu'aibis and the Barghouthis until 1962, when Aziz from the Shu'aibi clan, married a Barghouthi woman from the 'Ashwah sub-clan.

The Shu'aibis formed a cohesive closeknit group and hence were often referred to by other groups in the village as "Druse", a metaphorical reference to the heretical offshoot of Islam known for their social cohesion and secret rituals.

In the next few pages, we examine the way in which this cohesiveness reflected itself in the spatial organisation of the Shua'ibi harah, and how the harah was spatially related to the rest of the village.

Figures 4.31 and 4.32 illustrate how the Shu'aibi quarter was separated from the rest of the village. A narrow alley separated it from the neighbouring Saker and Messhal houses located to its northwest. The Abu Khattab compound, located to the north of the Shu'aibi quarter, was the only adjacent structure sharing common walls with the Shu'aibi's, but it had an entrance outside this harah.

Unlike the Barghouthi quarter, which consisted of a number of distinctively separate compounds (Fig. 4.11), the Shu'aibi quarter consisted only of one large block with clear external boundaries. Again in contrast to the Barghouthi quarter, the Shu'aibi quarter was characterized by rather weak internal boundaries, allowing for easy interaction between the different Shu'aibi sub-clans. As figure 4.32 illustrates, the perimeter wall formed by the backs of the Shu'aibi buildings separated the inner core of their harah from the