

offices were established there. In 1949 he was elected to Israel's first parliament and served as chair of the finance committee.²⁰⁴ At mid-century, he was also world chairman of the Jewish National Fund.²⁰⁵ Granott was a prolific researcher and writer, and his publications on land-tenure, taxation, and agriculture in Palestine/Israel span from the 1920s to his death in 1962. Perhaps his best-known work is *The Land System in Palestine* (1952). This foundational work is, as Charles Smith recently noted, "still a very important source used by students of the land issue."²⁰⁶

Ottoman 1909 agricultural statistics state that there were then in the Jerusalem *qada* (district) belonging to the Jerusalem *sancak* (province), a population of 50,000 males and 70,000 females. It states that 3,000 *hanes* in the district were employed in agriculture, and that 160,000 dunams in the district were planted with grains (*hubūbāt*). Of the 3,000 *hanes*, it was recorded that 2,000 farmed between 10-50 dunams of field-crop land (*tarla*) and 1,000 farmed more than 50 dunams. On the basis of this data alone it was calculated in the statistical register that in the Jerusalem province, which covered the entire southern half of Palestine at the time, 67 percent of farmlands was plots of more than fifty dunams in size, and 33 percent of the agricultural land was plots of 10-50 dunams in size. No holdings

²⁰⁴ Theodore Hatalgui, "Granott (Granovsky), Abraham", in Michael Berenbaum and Fred Skolnik, eds. *Encyclopaedia Judaica*, 2nd ed., vol. 8 (Detroit: Macmillan Reference, 2007), 33. *Gale Virtual Reference Library*, accessed 29 July 2015.

²⁰⁵ Jewish Telegraph Agency online archives: jta.org/1949/02/27/archive/dr-abraham-granovsky-world-head-of-jewish-national-fund-arrives-in-new-york . Accessed 10 July 2015.

²⁰⁶ Charles Smith, *Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict* (7th ed, 2010): p.152, note 31.