

between villages, emigration generated a dichotomy between villages with high migration rates and those with low migration rates. Finally, I discuss the impact of migration pattern on the internal composition of the rural household as far as the sexual division of labour and the form of families (extended and nucleated) is concerned. The discussion is rounded with a preliminary hypothesis about the relationship between wage labour and migration patterns.

In Chapter 7, the nature of earlier trends in peasant proletarianization is examined in the context of the current Israeli incorporation of the Palestinian labour force. The significance of marginal farming is established in relationship to the peasant household under conditions of unstable work conditions, especially those prevailing in the construction sector - which currently involves a majority of peasant-workers. An explanation is provided, in conjunction with the material analyzed in Chapter 8, as to why the current movement of peasant labour does not constitute actual proletarianization.

Agriculture and Land Use in the West Bank

In the following section, I will outline the evolution of agricultural patterns in the central highlands as a prelude to the discussion of the mechanisms of agrarian transitions. Cropping arrangements and changes in land tenure forms are presented here in a schematic manner so as to confine the analysis to the main variables introduced above.

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Cultivated areas of the West Bank are dominated by the rugged and dry farmlands that dominate the topography of the Nablus, Jerusalem, and Hebron mountains, and define the ascetic character of its peasantry. Together with the Galilean hills, those three regions, and not the fertile