

in this thesis (Chapters 5, 6, 7). In particular, those villages were ones in which the hypothetical and projected patterns of agrarian transition could be subjected to verification, analysis, and interpretation. The patterns sought were: degrees of marginalisation in agriculture; patterns of dependence on sources of income external to the village, wage labour in particular, and the manner of this dependence; patterns of migration and the relations between migrants and their households in the village; patterns of increased integration with the national economy, including integration with the Israeli economy; (in the case of intensive agriculture) patterns of adaptation to the introduction of capital intensive technology; and forms of division of labour within the peasant household in response to those changes.

It should be obvious that the search for averages in the manifestations of those patterns is not only futile, but counterproductive. Since we are looking for prototypes of agrarian development, our purposes are better served by the selection of villages in which those patterns appear in accentuated form, provided - of course - that the accentuation reflects a general trend rather than an exceptional circumstance.

Once I confined the selection of the case studies within those stated considerations, I was further restricted by practical matters. Here I refer to areas to which there was a reasonable access to the data sought. This included cooperation with village elders for the administration of the household survey, availability (whenever possible) of cadastral land surveys, and availability of pre-1967 records for the village. It was particularly difficult (in fact impossible) to acquire military permits to conduct fieldwork, so that had to be given up in favour of 'illicit' surveys. That decision was not always convenient. Fieldwork had to be given up in the Nablus district when the whole team