

made it very difficult for the landlord to evict tenants on private land (mulk) after 15 years of continued occupation.

- d. Agricultural communities in the Western Ghor were already established by the turn of the century (Government of Jordan, 1961:134-135), lending a more stable pattern of relationship between peasants and landlords, whereas large scale agriculture did not develop in the East until the influx of Palestinian refugees in the early 50's.

Within the Western Valley the main distinction in tenancy relationships existed between north and south. That is, between the areas characterized by citrus plantations and fruit trees (Jericho subdistrict) and those characterized by field crops and vegetables (Nablus subdistrict). Table 10:4 summarizes these characteristics.

It will be seen from Table 10:4 that some of the distinguishing features of the Eastern and Western Valley apply also to the northern and southern sectors of the Western Valley (i.e., to the Nablus and Jericho subdistricts, see map on page ()). In the Nablus subdistrict, wealthy peasants from highland villages (notably Tubas and Beit Dajan) as well as from the city of Nablus itself acquired vast tracts of land in corresponding areas of the Valley which they leased on a share basis to refugee farmers. Lesser peasants augmented their small plots by establishing partnership compacts with co-villagers and refugee farmers. The result was a longer duration of compacts and a higher incidence of mixed tenancy (owner-cultivation and share-tenancy) than in the southern Valley. Thus, while the duration of tenancy in the Valley as a whole was 5 years and one month, and for the Jericho subdistrict, it was 8 years and seven months (almost