

- B. Characterization of Jewish settlement under the hegemony of proletarian Zionism: examination of the Borochovist strategy in practice.
- C. The dispossession of Palestinian peasantry
- D. The boycott of Palestinian labor.

A. Characterization of the Palestine Social Formation

Up until World War I, Palestine constituted an integral part of the Levant, i.e., Syria, Lebanon, and Palestine, a unity prior to colonial partition. The mercantilist class was the unifying force among these three differentiated societies. This is unlike Egypt, for example, where the unifying force lay in the land-holding class. The Levant was in the process of forming a socioeconomic unity, and probably of becoming a social formation.

The indigenous landed class was not strongly connected across the boundaries of these three regions of the Levant as was the case with the commercial bourgeoisie. The indigenous merchant bourgeoisie was the natural opponent of Ottoman feudal imperialism. It was under the yoke of an Ottoman imperialism, on the verge of collapse, that an Arab land-holding class was forming, precisely from commercial capital. From the same source of capital indigenous manufacture was beginning to develop, faced, however, with strong resistance on the part of Ottoman imperialism, on the one hand, and modern colonialism, on the other. This was manufacture based on the petty commodity form in which accumulation remains confined to the sphere of circulation.

On the eve of British occupation in 1920, and the imposition of British Mandatory Rule on Palestine, the bulk of the Palestinian-Arab population