

What is unique, indeed, is the transformation of land tenure and use in the Jewish co-operative rural sector; the moshav shitufee and the kibbutz. In these cases, land is essentially the inalienable property of the Jewish State. A Jew, by Israeli law, has an inalienable right to use this so-called "national land". Put differently, the Israeli-Jew is implicitly, by definition, and explicitly, by law, entitled at least to possession of land. "Possession" is the capacity to put the means of production into operation. This is slightly different from "economic ownership", which is the real control of the means of production, i.e., the power to assign the means of production to given uses and so to dispose of the products obtained.²⁰

Economic ownership and possession are the two aspects of the double relationship of which the relations of production in a class society consist. The double relationship refers to: (a) the relationship between the non-worker (the owner) and the object and means of labor; (b) the relationship between the immediate producer (the direct worker) and the object and means of labor.

In every class society it is the owners who have real control over the means of production and exploit the direct producers by extorting surplus labor from them in various forms (like surplus-value, Fund-of-Rent, etc.), depending on the particular mode of production.

This ownership, the real economic, is to be distinguished from "legal ownership", which is sanctioned by law and belongs to the superstructure. The law generally ratifies economic ownership, but it is possible for the forms of legal ownership not to coincide with real economic ownership. In