

ENGLISH ABSTRACTS

OF INTEREST Scientific (refereed) articles: Theory and research

Land Re-adjustment Plans for Private Lands of Arab Society in Israel

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ABSTRACT

Arab-Palestinian citizens in Israel constitute about 21% of the country's overall population. Due to prolonged negligence of planning institutions many Arab villages and towns lack basic infrastructure, development and urbanization and experience a severe shortage of housing. In the last decade, and after serious criticism of this kind of discrimination and injustice toward the Arab-Palestinian minority in Israel, planning institutions began to promote master planning for Palestinian localities. Land readjustment plans (PLIs) were the primary mechanism in this endeavor. PLIs re-planned and re-organized the private lands of Palestinian landowners to provide, at the end of the process, new parcels for housing, commerce, roads, green zones and public needs. According to Israel's planning institutions, readjustment plans aimed to ensure new modern neighborhoods. However, a wide group of Palestinian landowners and stakeholders opposed PLIs. The research discusses that dispute between planning institutions and landowners. It includes an analysis of approximately 1,780 objections that were submitted by landowners to different PLIs in different sites. These objections reveal what really concerns landowners, what they really defend, and how planning institutions dealt with their arguments. The article exposes the conceptual and cultural conflict between landowners and the planning institutions.

Keywords: Planning, Land-Readjustment, Arab society, Tradition, Urbanism

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