



DESTRUCTIVE FINANCES

JUDY PRICE

Interview with Ramzi Safid about the loans that were offered to Palestinians after the 1967 War by the Israeli authorities to expand the quarries.

A night-time security guard at Rafat quarry on the periphery of Ramallah, Ramzi's reference to the competitive loans offered to Palestinians makes visible another aspect of the quarries and the effect that economic competition has had on Palestinian communities. Not only did the Israeli civil administration loans play a central part in the building of houses and settling of Israelis in the occupied areas, they also contributed to the fracturing of Palestinian society, not just by the cutting up of the physical landscape but by psychologically playing one community off against another. (1)

(1) Jews immigrating to Palestine from Northern Europe in the 1920s also used money as bargaining power to purchase land from Palestinians within the 1948 borders.

Cluster: *White Oil*

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