

Abstract

The Christians are an integral part of Palestinian society and constitute an important economic and social force although they are only a minority in the Palestinian society. This study aims to provide an insight into the various factors that influenced them throughout history and to identify the current factors which have influence on their cultural, psychological and social identity.

This study thus aims to determine the peculiarity of the Palestinian culture and its implications on the psychological and social situation of the Christians. Therefore, the researcher adopted several forms of the qualitative approach, including participant observation, in-depth individual interviews, and focus groups. The data was collected by visiting the researched community and by documenting all individual interviews and focus groups using respondents' slang accents. Then it was entered and analyzed according to the principles of the grounded theory. The researcher attempted to identify common points and then form several axes, which reflect the results of the study, including:

1. What is happening on the ground?
2. Attitudes, opinions and feelings about what is going on.
3. Stereotypical opinions among Christians.
4. Stereotypical opinions among Muslims.
5. Actual phenomena of action and behavior.
6. Psychological and social dimensions of what is really going on.
7. The relationship between social and psychological dimensions of what is happening and attitudes and prejudices about self and others.

Based on these results, the researcher formulated a set of recommendations aimed at the development of research work in this field.