

THE MONDCIVITAN REPUBLIC

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Recent events surely stress the vital need for generosity on the part of both Israelis and Palestinians. No people more than Israel, deprived of a national homeland for some nineteen centuries, should be able to have fellowship with the aspirations of the Palestinians, deprived of theirs for nearly a thousand years. And vice versa.

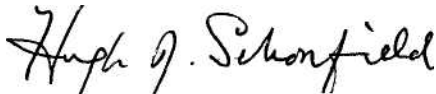
Only the Palestinians were left out in the cold with the carve up of the old Ottoman Empire. Israel has now also to recognise that its function is not to be an outpost of the West in the Middle East, and that its future calls for fellowship with its neighbours for their mutual well-being. This has begun to be apprehended.

The Holy Land is a spiritual home for three great Faiths, and is therefore not to be carved up by a Solomonic judgment. An appropriate solution would seem to lie in a Palestinian-Israeli Confederation (with the West Bank of the Jordan and Gaza Strip as the Palestinian homeland, and Jerusalem as the Federal Capital) The Palestinians are not identical with the Jordanians; but the Confederation could provide facilities for Jordanian commercial access to the Mediterranean by appropriate treaties.

A settlement on these lines could materially assist a solution of the Lebanese tragedy, and give encouragement to all politicians and political elements sufficiently advanced to value and cherish human life.

Has this vaunted modern age with all its skills only pain, power-seeking and enmity, to offer? Is it not high time to begin turning swords into ploughshares instead of reverting increasingly to the jangle?

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Hugh J. Schonfield, Acting-President.