

Israel's unholly alliance with U.S. right



ROSE DIAMANO

"Please do not pass through our neighbourhood in innodest clothes. Closed blouse, with long sleeves, long skirt, no trousers, no tight-fitting clothes."

"Please do not disturb our children's education and our way of life as Jews committed to G-D and his Torah."

"Groups passing through our neighbourhoods sincerely offend the residents. Please stop this."

The warning signs, the STAY OUT pleas and the advisories are plentiful on the periphery of Jerusalem's Me'a She-arim neighbourhood, posted in huge lettering across the tops of buildings, affixed to walls, mounted on utility poles.

Of course, it's all to no avail. Tourists, and the merely curious, arrive daily to wander through the ultra-ultra-conservative enclave, meaning no disrespect but nevertheless unnerving and annoying local residents, with their uncompromising, painstaking observance of the Jewish faith and its precepts.

It is a strict and totalitarian ethos, largely undiluted by modernity. Married women either crop off their hair or wear scarves. Men wear heavy, multi-

layered black suits and trimmed hats, or striped gray robes knotted at the waist, depending on religious faction. The everyday vernacular is Yiddish, with Hebrew reserved for study and writing.

Boys and men vigorously pursue religious study at the yeshiva. They do not serve in the army, this in a country where a period of service is mandatory for everyone else, males and females.

Many eschew television, though cellular phones have encroached here as everywhere else.

They decry any desecration of the Sabbath, including sports, travel, movie-going, even cars — which has led to the outbreak of violence and stoning in the past, when *haredim* sought to close off all traffic in adjacent neighbourhoods that decanted into their district.

The Supreme Court rendered a compromising verdict by allowing the streets closed down during Shabbat prayer times.

The more radical refuse to pay taxes to the Israeli state. Indeed, they don't recognize the state at all, viewing imposition of Jewish sovereignty in the Holy Land as a grievous sin until such time as the arrival of the Messiah and the End of Days.

There was a time, actually quite recent, when the *haredim* exercised a disproportionate influence on national Israeli politics, through a polyplot of extremist political parties in the Knesset (representing those who chose to have anything to

do with the Israeli state at all). Those days appear to be on the wane, even in municipal politics, with secularists no longer finding it necessary to make *haredim* intolerant an issue in their campaigns.

Essentially, the *haredim* want to be left alone to lead their lives according to the dictates of a highly detailed code of behaviour, fastidiously segregated from everybody else, including the vast majority of Israelis who are only moderately observant Jews or die-hard secularists.

They have traditionally avoided the Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, wanting no part of Zionism or the extension of a Greater Israel.

I mention all this by way of addressing the folly at the heart of ideological politics, and the mistaken application of "right wing" and "left wing" terminology in the Middle East.

The *haredim* are so far right in their conservatism that they're actually left. If they chose to involve themselves in the Palestinian dilemma at all (which, overwhelmingly, they don't), I suspect it would be to support Palestinian sovereignty, because a modern Israeli state does not dovetail at all with their interpretation of biblical scriptures.

Allowing religion to overtly dictate politics, especially in the Middle East, is perilous. That way lies madness. Yet the secular right will shamelessly play that card, if only to secure support for political policies, most especially a refusal to dismantle

settlements, a key provision of the Washington-promoted "roadmap" for peace, with its vision of side-by-side states, a secure Israel and a sovereign Palestine.

Extremists on either side will not accept this eventuality, so consumed are they with total destruction of the other. Hence last week's tit-for-tat bloodshed, the suicide bombings and the targeted assassinations.

But Mideast meddling is not confined to the primary antagonists, or to the historical enmity between Israelis and Palestinians, between Jews and Arabs (Muslims).

Dueling agendas have made for some weird alliances.

What's gone largely unexamined is the politically significant support for Israel by the American Christian right, a constituency that makes up a large segment of the electorate that voted for President George W. Bush, himself a born-again Christian.

By committing himself to the peace process in the Middle East, by firmly declaring his support for a sovereign Palestinian state, the president is courting political alienation from and electoral rejection by his core constituency.

The Christian right — formerly known as the Moral Majority — has been a godsend for Israel, especially since the start of the second *intifada*.

They are the ones who have propped up at least a part of the Israeli economy by continuing to visit the Holy Land, in huge

numbers, as the tourism industry has otherwise all but vanished. They are the ones who bring huge pressure to bear on elected representatives, especially those perceived as being soft on support for Israel — too sympathetic to Palestinian aspirations and inordinately destructive of a political resolution to the endless dispute.

It's their crusade. Which is why they came out en masse during a recent visit to the United States by Israeli Tourism Minister Benny Elon, one of the most hard-right members of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's government.

Elon met with the Christian Coalition of America, Pat Robertson (chair of The Christian Broadcasting Network) and several other leading evangelicals, always delivering the same message, and to sympathetic ears.

As Elon said during a news conference in New York: "In the face of terror, the US administration must understand from our Christian evangelical friends the need to fight terror and not reward killers. ... We will not remove settlements or make concessions, as our stay in Judea and Samaria is not temporary, and we will not permit the creation of a terrorist state in our biblical homeland."

Applause, applause. But whence this love for Israel by the Christian right? Well, not because they have any love for Jews as human beings. Jews, and Israel, are merely a means to an end. And this all gets so arcane, so ridiculous, as to be almost comical.

It comes down to a literal interpretation of the Bible, specifically Revelations. The evangelical Bible-thumpers are Gospel literalists who believe fervently in the "inerrancy" of the Scriptures. The Bible is "the Word," thus they promote the literal resurrection of Jesus Christ, the End of Days, the Apocalypse. And they can't get from here to there without the Jews.

Under this interpretation of Scripture — specifically the section in Revelations 20 that predicts the doom of the present world and the second coming of Christ — the Messiah's return will occur only with the return of Jews to Zion and the restoration of Jewish sovereignty over the Temple Mount. These are the preconditions for the "rapture."

Thus will commence the final days — a battle between the non-believers and the followers of Christ Armageddon. At that point, Jews who accept Christ will be saved. The rest will go to hell. With victory begins the new millennium — a thousand years of peace and bliss — and Jesus will rule from Jerusalem. Pity about the intractable Jews. But by then they will have served their purpose. Pity, too, that Israel would turn for political support to American fundamentalists.

What an unholy alliance.

Rosie DiManno usually appears Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. E-mail: dimanno@hotmail.com.

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16 FEB 08

Hail Brandon! Many thanks for your letter of 13 FEB 08 & the great enclosures. I appreciate your thoughtful analysis & insights in regard to our current role in Zionist Global Capitalist society. The old term was "International Capitalist" &/or "International Finance (Bankster) Capitalism," which founded, funded, fostered & fed "International Socialism" &/or "Global Communism." So it's no wonder you dislike both the left & right-hand of ZOG. Karl Marx promoted the idea that man was merely material, so all he needed were material items such as food, clothing, sex & shelter. Yet, to believe in Marxist Communism required faith & self-sacrifice worthy of proverbial saints. Materialists were required to sacrifice for a future "workers' paradise" in which "the new Socialist Man" would thrive. Then, according to Marx, would come "the withering away of the state," & mankind would return to the mythical "State of Nature" of "Noble Savages" living in "Perfect Anarchy," as the madman Rousseau desired. We may laugh at the silliness of Marx, but people took his twaddle so seriously that they fought & died for it. Apparently, the only remaining "true-believers" of Marxist Madness reside in our universities.

British journalist Douglas Reed pointed out that a nation which wants to exist must be exclusive, whereas a nation which is to be destroyed must be inclusive, in regard to diversity. That's why our rulers want more diversity in their territories.

Our people are being taught to hate themselves & to feel guilty. We 'must' hate ourselves & love others, so you are correct in stating that our people would be put off by words in their favor, although there are some who are fed up with the rulers' indoctrination of self-hatred, & who react by displaying the 'forbidden' symbols & the words associated with them. So far, reactionism is not very productive for the survival of our folk. In the mid-1970s I wrote of "The Devil Theory" in regard to politics: If your god leads you deeper into The Dismal Swamp, it is normal for one with an iota of self-preservation to turn around, before he drowns in quicksand, & follow his 'devil' out of the swamp. Adolf is our 'devil' which our rulers incessantly bring to our attention. How amazing that his enemies make him so popular, for if the people see how wrong their god of diversity is, they may see how right their 'devil' is. Any ideology which the powers that be dislike will be deemed "Nazi." "Hate" is whatever our rulers hate. That's the law in practice.

Skinheads whom I've known are reactionary at best & self-destructive at worst. They have chosen a 'no-win' lifestyle which cripples them with booze, drugs & prison.

The Strategy of Target Selection was meant to warn our people against being duped by our rulers. Any knowledgeable, determined individual can attack strategic targets, so no organization is necessary under present circumstances. As you can appreciate, I shall say no more. To paraphrase "the great humanitarian, Lenin," strategic targets can produce his "objective conditions for revolution." I merely quote him. I do not advocate his program.

We can utopianize until the proverbial cows come home, but I think we must first have major crises to break up the logjam of our thoughts & actions. These crises will not be pleasant, but they will require us to think & to act in terms of self-preservation. That will be the first step toward our collective survival as a people. We must be aware that our folk are capable of all sorts of cowardice, treachery & folly, as I experienced in former Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe. The drastic change in circumstances did not produce any change of mind in the White sheeple, but they sure had to change their place, pronto, or experience the decisive sensation of a machete blade slicing their throats & other appendages, as happened to two friends of mine in Bulawayo, shortly after handover to Black Marxist Misrule. My correspondent, who'd left the country, said they found sufficient remains of the father & son to bury them in separate coffins.

Remember: a nation is a people, not a place. As you say, we must develop our will to survive, by ceasing to hate ourselves. Our task is that simple, & that difficult.

I wish you Strength through Joy. ORION!

P.S.: I actually knew skinheads who were not *SWP* yet in the ZOG-gulags! Their 'leader,' George Burdi alias Eric Hawthorne, soon got heat from ZOG & quickly joined a Black rock band. One of his associates had "BRAIN-DEAD" tattooed on the back of his head. I asked him how he got all the round bruises on his forehead. He replied that he'd been banging his head on the lips of empty beer bottles, on behalf of his nation, no doubt. It's time to get real, folks. Such behavior showed no will to survive, I think you'd agree.