

There is no Peace

--by Adam Levenstein

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agreement of one or more rightist organizations. It becomes necessary for us to analyze the so-called "peace process" and realize what motivated the assassin, as well as what motivates Palestinian terrorists.

The land occupied by Israel is holy to the world's three major religions; Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. It is the belief of hard-core right-wing Israeli nationalist organizations that God left the land of Canaan (the biblical name for the area occupied by Israel and Jordan) to the Jews, thus making their claim valid. Unfortunately, this is the same claim being made by Arab nationalists as well.

Israel has treated its Palestinian occupants extremely unfairly (to put it mildly - Israel has deported Palestinians by the thousands), and many Arab countries (Syria comes to mind) have been less than friendly to their Jewish residents. This observation is not by any means limited to the Israeli-Arab conflict - looking at history, you can see that any dominant group will try in some way to suppress the not-so-powerful. Based on this, the obvious conclusion is that if you give it to one group of people the other will be treated unfairly.

The "peace process" Israel is going through right now is opposed by both Israeli and Islamic nationalists. By instigating this process, Israel is giving Palestinians the illusion of self-rule. Yes, the Palestinian people are allowed to have a police force - but whose land is it? Israel. Who can, at any point in time and for any reason, militarily invade these so-called "areas of self-rule?" Israel. Even if Israel were to allow these areas to have complete independence, to what purpose is this? Israel would be creating another Arab state, of which there are already many. Palestinians living in other parts of Israel - Jerusalem, for example - would still be in Israel.

Israeli nationalists, of course, are opposed to the process for the reason that "Arabs are stealing our land away." Interestingly, they think in the same fashion as American fascists groups; namely, they think that Arabs are taking over Israel and in fact oppressing the Israelis.

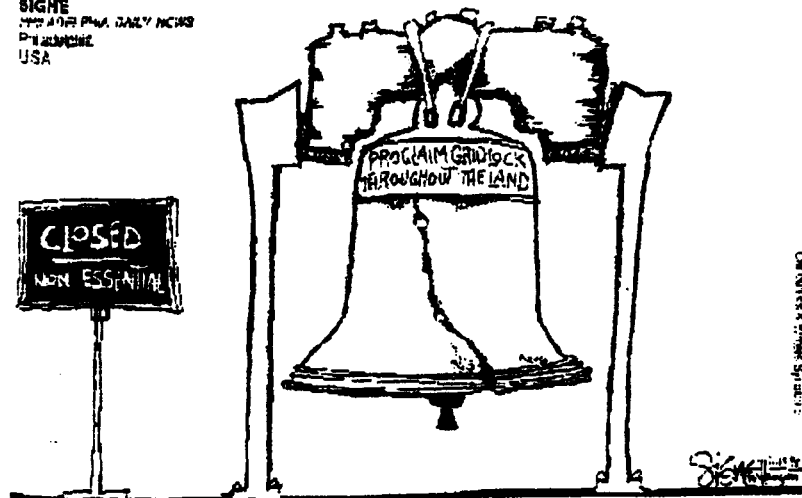
So the obvious question is: Who does Israel belong to? After reviewing the facts, we have established that if you give dominance to one group, that group will try to suppress the other. The obvious conclusion is *not to give dominance*. It's a simple idea, isn't it? A democratic, secular state that represents the interests of the people as a whole - not as a religion - is the only way to end the conflict.

To correct this situation, Jews and Muslims alike need to get out, talk to each other, and unify themselves to correct the ills of a system gone sour. The basic problem is communication - Israel is an extremely segregated area. With the exception of a very few areas, Arabs and Israelis live nowhere near each other.

Imagine a situation in which an Israeli got out of his or her house, walked up to a Palestinian neighbor, and started talking to them. In my opinion, this would set off a chain reaction - these two people would talk to other neighbors, until eventually you have a society in which there is mutual understanding between the peoples.

Once I mentioned this scenario to an Israeli woman over the Internet. The only logical argument she offered consisted of "you don't live here - every Arab hates Jews." That is the problem. Arabs do not hate Jews - it is that type of misunderstanding which is preventing peaceful interaction between Israelis and their Palestinian comrades.

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Internship Informants: Networking And Noodles For D.C. Interns

Social gathering for D.C.'s multitude of interns

by Samer Hamadesh and Mark Oldman
Tribune Media Services

WASHINGTON--Washington, D.C., is not only the nation's capital, it is the nation's intern capital, drawing thousands of bright-eyed students from across the land, eager to make their mark in the city's endless assortment of government offices and non-profit groups.

With the city swelling with interns of all kinds, one would think it would be a breeze for interns to meet each other. For most interns, regrettably, it's not. Sure, some offices organize intern happy hours, but these are typically few and far between. And interns in Congressional offices sometimes arrange intern get-togethers, but what if you don't work on Capitol Hill?

Before resigning your nights to crawling around the local pubs or to memorizing "Cheers" reruns, be advised that there are new alternatives to the intern social scene in Washington. For those looking for a new venue to meet their peers, the Washington Intern Network (WIN) is an option. Established in 1995, WIN organizes huge parties at such DC nightspots as V Column and The Cellar.

Says founder David Chang, "Our events average about 750 interns per event...They are a great way to meet interns from organizations all over D.C., from government to non-profits to scientific groups."

WIN also offers a saving card offering D.C. interns discounts on airfare, housing, and restaurants.

If beer bashes aren't your scene, you may want to investigate the recently established Noodle Club. Deriving its name from the fact its meetings are held at pasta restaurants, the Noodle Club bills itself an "an alternative to D.C. elite cocktail

networking," bringing together interns and young staffers to swap stories and slurp spaghetti.

According to co-founder Aaron Knight, the group averages about 60 Noodlers per meeting and is composed primarily of "progressive twentysomethings working at local non-profit organizations."

Some interns join for the opportunity to debate global issues with other young activists, while other use it as a forum to recruit people for their organization's event. And, Knight says, all this interlocution and lo mein can lead to love.

"We're not a singles club per se, but most of our members are single and enjoy making new friends." Both the Washington Internship Network and the Noodle Club charge no membership fee. For more information, contact:

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Nationally known experts on internships, Samer Hamadesh and Mark Oldman are the authors of *America's Top Internships* and *The Internship Bible* (Random House/Princeton Review Books)

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THE ALL-AMERICAN HOOTERS GIRL



THE ALL-AMERICAN HOOTERS PATRON

