

"Israel: The Next Fifty Years"

INTROD: I uniquely qualified: ניטלה, נישטלע. Since not infant...
נבואה מן הנביאים וניתנה לשוטים ולתינוקות

- More: difficult prophecy re: Land where rivals=נביאים
- My theme: Rel & cult'l divisions in Isr.

BIAS: Y deserv know My Bias: I=M.O.; Rel Zt bt no symphy
Mafdal; א"י השלימה (not until משיח).

- For me, Isr=J state, nt just state Js. If only latter--
NYState=>geog/econ/techn, tho not histry.
Int bly millnn'l J histy & attch't א"י meant climx in stt Js
devoid J culture/rootdness/trad/relig--nothing but pale
reflectn pop US culture
- I also bly max amt frdm/democy, need f soc-polit peace
- I mention this bec I bly: while econ/soc/polit/miltry
evnts hv profnd innflnc cultr/rel, latter=most crtical f ftr &
will be defininhg issue next 50 yrs
- Fundmntl Q=nature St Isr. Peres on Bibi victry: "Js
won, Isrlis lost"... (alrdy notd by soc sciencs...) ...
- This=my bias, but I'll try be objectv

SIT'N TODAY: POLARIZ'N: Right=Rabin assass'n

...militnt natlsts; rel extrm=2 types: ק"ט etc. no recogz stt; +
nationlist extrmsts as Kahana & crazies

Tod: Kahanists=Crazies... Left=Post-Z'ts: deracinatd sec'm;

NO התקוה, חוק השבות, רבנות, חקיקה דתית Isr>Js;

- Is old Canaant dish warmd over; irreversbl split betw
Isr/Diaspora
- ST: Uri Avneri-"Heb Nat'l"--koshr baloney
- These=extremes struggl'g ovr soul St-Isr
- Nicolas Murry Butler: extrms always logical/absurd
- Reconcilable? Extremists-NO; their concepts-YES, if
remove confrontational edge
- W modicum good will, abjur'g Baloney, marginlzg
extrmsts, prob not insolubl. Stt can b cultur'y J, w-o
imposg rel law. Thus: kashrut Army/2-stream ed/Shabbt--
(Bar Ilan St-nt prdigm)--mutual "give+take" even if diffclt
- Hardst probl=Pers'l Status... Bt wy cn b found: Neeman

FUTURE: Nachman Krochmal (1785-1840) (ldr Wissnschft,
Hegelian, מור"נ הזמן): 3 stages excpt Isr; 2-center philo-histry

- <WWI--Eurp/USA; tod=USA/Isr. Ftr Isr~A-Jy --lk
trwin stars circling each other
- A-J-down, Isr-up.
- A-J: 52%; snc '60--world Jy-ZPG, A-J-NPG
- Soclgsts: 1 gen Diaspora Jy 13M→5-6M!
(Isr=6M, Js=4.76 Js)
- *So future St-Isr=future J ppl, J entrprise in world histy*
- Where w headed?

- Pendulum..extrem'm→moderntn, bt only >furthr extrem'm, plenty nsty confronttns
- Histr'l illustr'n: ר'יונה גרונד'י (Spn, d 1263 last wk)
Maimnst contrvy-he=zealous anti-Maim, burn מו"נ
Franscns, Dominc-church... 1242 same spot: burn Talmd,
shockd, deeply penitnt, שערי תשובה
- So too: rel extremm will spend itself...:Signs: Amital (מימד), Bakshi, M-O (Lavi)...spurn rel legisln...tension on persnl status, bt will find sm resol'n...as Orthx→largr part popln, as tk on addl respy & global econy, will→TuM
- Sec extrmm--some: emigrt; othrs--will moderate:
Signs--return t stdy classcl J texts...split betw Isr-Js lessen...as Isr adopts mr explictly *rel cultr* of Jsm w-o necssrly observnecs J law
- So both sides-- >few yrs mr animosty, maybe violnc-- will cm tgthr pract'y & evn philos'y, & if not comproms, at least co-exst; altho tensions alwys remain bec of *real ideolog diffrncs*

CONCLUSION:

Would lk t b opt'c, & really am; but Walt Whitmn:optmst=frt uncertain...

Worried ...ST: Optimist? So why look so worried? "You think it's easy be opt today?"

Prof Ephraim E. Urbach: I=optmst whn I contemplt sweep of J histy. I=optmc bec of my apprecn ordny ppl who do their wrk faithflly, ppl who truly/ honestly blv, both ordnry & extr-ordnry ppl--ppl of scienc & sp'y & cultr in whom lies the true power of this nation, & who always exstd among th J ppl, in all its camps. I=optmc bec despt all problms & failings, I oftn meet young ppl who hv left evryhtg behind t come to live here in this land, bec thy blvin it. They are nt many; they nvr were. Bt thy will attract othrs who will emulate thm. And I=optmc bec I blv in the struggls of humns w their own impulss & urges, & bec I blv in th tremndous potncies which lie hidden deep w-i the J ppl