

the Palestinian Arabs self-destruct than to watch them strike permanent roots in our land.

As for our military, well, I always cringe when they apologize. But, then, I realize that the Israeli army is humble, contrite and accountable — in addition to being an excellent fighting force. Those are the qualities that will ensure our ultimate victory and keep us in possession of our Land.

Self-inflicted genocide. I suppose we will need to coin a new phrase (or perhaps one exists) for a people who are bent on using every method available to systematically destroy themselves.

Rather than assist in our quest for truth, digital, video and computer technology often overloads our minds and obscures our vision. Contemporary photo manipulation tools, in combination with journalistic deception, will make a lot of evidence and claims impossible to authenticate and judge. Is the Iraqi wedding video authentic or forged? Who knows?

In today's world, justice is blind, as are our Justice Ministers (take note, Tommy); which is why those who are interested in seeing and seeking the truth will eventually have to look inward and/or to the heavens. Because the final verdict belongs to the True Judge.

No to Civil War Among Jews

July 7, 2004 / 18 Tammuz 5764

Hold your fire. Things need not spiral out of control. There is broad consensus that Oslo and everything it wrought was a disaster. There is also a broad consensus that the Jewish People do not want to entertain thoughts of, conceive, or engage in a civil war.

And there are many of us who think that Prime Minister Ariel Sharon needs to step down immediately.

Here is something else we should be able to agree upon. The prospect of civil strife is not something that any Jew should

savor. Yet there are those among us who are chomping at the bit. The purported Messianism and zealotry of the settlers pales in comparison with the zealotry of the *Shin Bet*, the “peace” camp, and the media.

Rather than attempt to diffuse tensions, Sharon has embarked on a campaign to delegitimize citizens residing in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza. This is irresponsible.

Sharon's strategy is a deliberate attempt to upset the equilibrium and push sensitive people to the brink. The



government is playing with fire, because it's toying with the lives, homes, values, and essence of those citizens who have been the most dedicated and devoted to the state.

I believe this constitutes incitement on the part of the government. And yet, no sane person among us wants to see a replay of Tiananmen Square, Rabin Square or the Altalena.

We've turned on ourselves, and fingers are pointing at the only segment of the population that consistently steered clear of Oslo and refused to engage in the philandering.

That a highly respected spiritual leader like Rabbi Avigdor Nebenzahl of the Old City in Jerusalem brought an explosive *halachic* concept such as "*din rodef*" (self-defense in the face of a pursuer) to the fore is distressing. But he may have done us all a favor.

Betrayal and treason are highly disturbing concepts, but they must be addressed.

Less than a month ago, we witnessed Justice Minister Yocef Lapid call Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom "an anti-Semite." Shalom responded, "An anti-Semite? You are a racist and a clown...."

Consider that a few weeks ago, the IDF chief accused the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee of leaking secrets.

Ariel Sharon is the second prime minister in a decade who has brought the Jewish nation to the brink by employing questionable, undemocratic and callous means to push forth a contentious agenda. The opportunity for civil debate has been frustrated due to corruption, lies and betrayal within the system.

The prime minister has chosen to use the security apparatus and media to orchestrate a direct confrontation with those adhering to Zionist values.

So how do we ride this out?

The residents of Judea, Samaria and Gaza need to temper their zealousness with wisdom. That revolutionary change is necessary is a given. But revolutions can be fought in the courtrooms, in the heavens and through legitimate protest.

We can use general strikes, boycotts and even non-violent civil disobedience. Every Israeli who cares about truth and justice should stop what they're doing and dedicate whatever talents and skills they have to stopping the Gaza disengagement plan.

Consider these three weeks before Tisha B'av as a countdown to diffuse the situation and avert disaster.

The spiritual viewpoint is not to give one inch of our precious Land. Not everyone is at a place where they can absorb that concept.

So let's put a more earthy and "logical" spin on this. We should confront these chaotic and leaderless times by doing everything we can to hold our ground, both mentally and physically. That means we should act wisely and responsibly without compromising our principles.

We should hang on to our kids, our spouses, our beliefs and our land. A very big storm is brewing; and as much as we hope that it blows over, if it does hit, those of us who are connected to our roots will remain in place, while the wind will drive the chaff away.

Courting Injustice

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Israel chose not to defend her position at the Hague. I suppose it would have been an exercise in futility — kind of like banging one's head against a concrete barrier. It seems the world will always hold the Jewish nation up to different standards and look at it in a different light.

But, had I been asked to represent the defense, my approach would have also been different. I would have put the world on trial. I wouldn't have wasted my efforts or the court's time presenting any evidence remotely Jewish or Israeli in nature. My testimony would have been limited to documentation gleaned exclusively from "unadulterated" media sources emanating from Europe, Africa and the Arab world (no pro-Israel bias here).

I would have taken the focus off of Israel and pointed those judges due South, towards the Sahara...

While the international community descended upon Israel in a frenzied bid to stop construction of an anti-terror security fence — lest it lead to murder, rape, pillaging, ethnic cleansing, and genocide — Arab terrorists known as *Janjaweed*, or "devils on horseback," were doing just those very things to black African farming families in Western Sudan.

At about the same time that ISM activist Rachel Corrie decided to set herself in front of a bulldozer, and Tom Hurndall managed to place himself in the line of fire (all in the name of humanity), Arab tribes, at the behest of the Sudanese government, began a 16-month campaign that, according to African sources, "has killed up to 100,000 people, driven more than 1 million from

their homes and left more than 2 million in desperate need of aid."

That's human tragedy on an immense scale. I wonder how the United Nations and other international bodies missed that one? After all, things of this magnitude don't happen overnight. Perhaps they were too busy barking up the wrong fence and didn't have time to listen to the eyewitness accounts or to view the satellite images of 155 burnt villages, or hear the authentic cries and screams of African humanity over the din of the pseudo-humanitarian anti-fence protesters.

But now that the Hague decision is in, the UN and EU can turn to more pressing matters. Just this week, Kofi Annan flew into Sudan's Darfur region for a firsthand look at what officials are calling "the world's worst humanitarian crisis..."

It seems that these Arab/Islamic raiders found another incredible loophole in the Koran. They need not achieve martyrdom in order to receive their reward in paradise. They simply ride into the nearest Sudanese neighborhood, butcher the men and boys, and snatch their prize. While the terrorists enjoy "paradise", the abducted women-folk get a 10-day excursion through Hell — including gang rape, torture and various other humiliations. For their trouble, the young girls get to pick up their "white-skinned" trophy nine months later. Check it out for yourself on the BBC online. You may have trouble finding the story. First you have to scale the homepage coverage on the Israeli security fence decision before you can read about the mass rape and murder taking place in Sudan.

In the beginning...
Genesis 1:1

*Why does [the Torah] begin with "In the beginning"?
...Should the nations of the world say to Israel, "You are thieves,
because you conquered the lands of seven nations," [Israel] will answer
them, "All the earth belongs to the Holy One, Blessed be He. He created it
and gave it to whomever He saw fit. By His will He gave it to them
and by His will He took it from them and gave it to us."
Rashi (commentary on Genesis 1:1)*

**בראשית...
בראשית א.א.**

ש'ס י'אמרו אומות העולם לישראל
ליסטים אתם שכבשתם ארצות שבטת גויים
הם אומרים להם כל הארץ של הקצ"ה היא
הוא צדקה ונתנה לאשר ישר צעניו
צדונו נתנה להם וצדונו נטלה מהם ונתנה לנו.
רש"י (בראשית א.א.)



Why a fully aware EU, UN, Hague and international media deliberately chose to bury disastrous developments in Africa in favor of perpetuating a Palestinian/Arab propaganda campaign is worth investigation. Sounds like a combination of negligence and complicity to me. I could raise the possibility of an anti-Semitic lynch, but I agreed to stay away from Jewish/Israeli issues.

Now that the word is out and the fence thing is over, one would expect the EU to place this urgent African crisis at the top of their agenda. And yet, the July 11th report found at EUbusiness.com places the plight of the Sudanese at rock bottom.

Topping the agenda is Iraq and the “EU’s response to the ruling by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) that Israel’s West Bank barrier is illegal.”

Somewhere in the middle of the summary you can find mention of the ongoing WTO (World Trade Organization) negotiations and farming subsidy issues. Last and obviously least, by EU standards, is the following item:

And they [the EU] will discuss the escalating humanitarian catastrophe in war-torn Darfur, western Sudan, where government forces and so-called Janjawid militias are accused of conducting a brutal campaign of ethnic cleansing and forced starvation....

The international political, economic and judicial arenas knew. The media knew, and the international aid agencies knew. And yet a choice was made to disregard the urgency of the situation in Africa and to focus instead on thwarting Israel’s efforts to boost her security.

As an Israeli and Jew, I’m a bit guilt-ridden for not knowing about the humanitarian crisis in Africa. I guess we were all too wrapped up in our own state of emergency. And yet, now that we do know, I’m sure our doctors and relief supplies like food, medicine, blankets and tents are, as always, available and ready to go at a moment’s notice.

We’ve always been there, and continue to be there, for a world in need. And yet, the international community continues to hold us in contempt. That’s both a shame and a tragedy for a very needy and sick world.

The defense rests.