

Synopsis And Introduction

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Synopsis

This collection of essays responds to three pressing and related phenomena of the day:

1- the facts of (a) multiple religions in the same space and time and (b) conflict in the name of religion;

2- the assumptions that (a) religion (and, *par excellence*, Christianity) is not or should not be an estimable factor in the affairs of man ¹ and (b) examination of the phenomena of religion and anti-religion is dangerous and illegal and well as irrelevant;

3- the call to harmonize religion and prevent religion war by regulating the religions' presence in civil affairs.

The approach is unusual in being genuinely catholic (universal), tolerant, appreciative and hard-minded.

The diagnosis aims to look at facts unrestrained by the expectations of prevailing consensus.

¹ From Edward W. Said, *Orientalism*, 1978.




The prognosis aims to anticipate difficulties and ease a way for their sublimation by highlighting opportunities unremarked by the preferences of prevailing consensus.

This is work of a monastic, not an academician, not a bureaucrat and not a journalist.

Introduction

This collection of essays comprises seeing from a hermitage, which is I. That is the nature and purpose of this work.

Humanity is undergoing attack from three directions:

-  puritanical hegemonists from the Middle East, Africa, China and Southeast Asia, aiming to destroy science;
-  anarchistic hegemonists from courts, churches, synagogues, mosques and businesses, aiming to extirpate religion, and
-  academic hegemonists from schools, NGOs and foundations, aiming to expropriate wealth and overthrow security by seizing government.

These essays are meant to assist humanity seeing, grasping and defeating this cross-fire by hegemonists aiming to confound and subvert the nature and destiny of man. They are that and no more.

A.M.D.G.