

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.

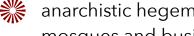
Introduction

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.