

Arab nationalism has received a great impetus during the past twenty years (ie: from 1928 to 1948 Ed.), as a result of its struggle with Zionism.

There are two kinds of Zionism---Practical Zionism and Political Zionism. The former wished to create a community by the direct means of establishing agricultural settlements, reviving the Hebrew language, and re-creating the spirit of Judaism. This type had considerable success at first but has been entirely overshadowed by political Zionism, which believes that not much can be done in the way of establishing a Jewish community in Palestine.

Now it is easy to see where these two isms would clash, and more especially since both pinned their faith upon Great Britain, and both received promises from Great Britain for the fulfillment of their aims. The United States has also played a part but to a lesser degree.

In an exchange of letters between Sharif Husain and Sir Henry McMahon, the British High Commissioner in Egypt, in October 1915, it was stated by the High Commissioner that...

*"subject to the above modifications, Great Britain is prepared to recognize and uphold the independence of the Arabs in all the regions within the limits demanded by the Sharif of Mecca."*

So much for a promise to the Arabs.

What is now known as the Balfour Declaration was written by the then Foreign Secretary, Mr. Balfour, to the Zionist organization on November 2, 1917. Because of a general misconception of the promises therein, I am going to quote the statement in full...

*"His Majesty's Government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine or the right and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."*

May I point out especially that section which states that...

*"...Nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine."*

This is apparently overlooked by Zionists in their attempt to wrest from the declaration a promise from Great Britain to help set up a Jewish state in Palestine.

In January 1918 it was necessary for the British to make some explanation to the Arabs regarding the Balfour Declaration. A verbal explanation was sent to the King of the Hejaz saying that...