

## The spirit of the Order

The aim of the Order of Cyprus is to re-establish the intrinsic values of humanity, These values which gives dignity and responsibility to the individual. The Order is therefore opposed to the doctrines which take away the personality of man and tend to make of **him** a numbered part in a whole system, depriving him of his very soul.

A well known French philosopher, Gabriel Marcel, pointed out the sickness of the "so-called" socialist thinking. In his opinion, our civilization can only be saved by what he calls an "open right" (Une droite ouverte). The term "open right" means a traditional dynamic thinking adapted to the requirements of modern times as opposed to the "left" which also is traditional but which, by corruption, has lost its effectiveness and has fallen into philosophical and political stagnation.

It is to be noted that Mr. Gabriel Marcel is a Christian philosopher who has had the ability to adjust his thinking to meet the fundamental principles of most modern doctrines.

The problem is therefore a question of individual freedom and we feel every Christian should be concerned about the safeguard of such an important right.

For us, the only answer to the problem is the practice of charity and love towards our fellow men.

Our Order is mostly promoting charity and love. The Sovereign Order of Cyprus must be the champion of this spirit and cannot have any ~~at~~ other goal.

In this spirit, a certain number of events will, periodically, take place:

- 1.- Meeting of all the members of the Order to discuss its doctrine and these philosophical trends created by contemporary events.
- 2.- International and intellectual exchanges for the promotion of Christian humanism through "The International Institute of High Social and Moral Studies". (Institut International de Hautes Etudes Morales et Sociales).

In an effective manner and together with its worldwide associates, the Order will establish prizes to be awarded to writers, philosophers, artists and scientists who have distinguished themselves by their contribution to our Western and Christian civilization.

The Order will organize exhibits, lectures and seminars and will also assist those who need help in the promotion of the goals of the Order. Other worthwhile initiatives should also receive serious consideration during the tenure of these meetings of the members of the Order.

The defense of the Christian Faith and the humanism of our Western civilization is now as imperative as it was during the time of the Crusades.

Atheist, agnostic and materialistic doctrines are spreading and tend to annihilate the fundamental and basic human attributes and liberties. The hatred of God is hidden under the disguise of so-called rationalism. The absurd is predominant and wrapped up in the form of artistic and philosophical exercises. Numerous organizations have sprung throughout the world for the promotion of sick morals and the "depersonalization" of man for the destruction of the highest form of civilization that mankind has ever known: CHRISTIANISM.

It is in this spirit that a small group of men, determined to protect the unique values of Christian civilization, have made the decision to re-activate a traditional order of chivalry originated from the most honored site of Western thinking, to affirm the continuity of Christian efforts against injustice and iniquity.

How are we to accomplish these goals ?

- By encouraging and helping authors, artists, scientists and others whose works bear testimony to Christian humanism.
- By organizing dialogues, contests, exhibits and literature promoting the ideals of the Order and the eternal values of Christian philosophies.
- In praising God for His creation and His charity.
- In offering our members' conduct as an example of good and decent life.

The Sovereign Order of Cyprus will, with the help of God, find anew its old splendor not for vanity or ostentation but through its efforts to promote Charity and Love for all mankind to the glory of our Christian beliefs.