

THE NEW-CYPRUS ASSOCIATION

DECLARATION

Now that the tears are dry, now that the anger and despair have gone, we must think: We have been happy, we have been honest, tolerant and liberal. We had been leading a serene and carefree existence and we were silent. Now we are paying for our silence. We the silent majority must search our mind and our conscience so that we can realise the sudden awakening of the seven days. Our children and the coming generations expect us to act so that they will not find themselves in the same position as ours. Out of the fires of Pentadaktylos there are certain lessons which we must draw:

- a) That this country is inhabited by Greeks, Turks, Armenians, Maronites and others, who, in spite of their differences, real or superficial, have common interests and aspirations which define their identity as Cypriots and which only they as residents of this country can understand and protect.
- b) That the most significant cause of our present predicament is that the two major communities were living in air-tight separateness without contact and with the wrong conceptions about each other, and that a significant cause for this have been the separate orientations and organisation of Cyprus society, and the wrong slogans.
- c) That, although we cannot forget our national descent and our cultural bonds, we must take our life, as a people, from the beginning. We must start thinking first as Cypriots and then as Greeks or Turks, so that this country will after all take a step forward for the good of all of us.
- d) That the presence of any armies in Cyprus was not, is not, and cannot be in the interests of Cyprus.
- e) That the adoption of democratic principles in all aspects of our political life and the strict adherence to them is an indispensable prerequisite for the correct evolution of our society.
- f) That the danger of the partition of Cyprus or of the dissolution of our state is imminent and the responsibility for preventing this belongs mainly to us the Cypriots and no country outside Cyprus can help effectively either because it has not the power or because its interests are not always identified with ours.

OUR OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. The rapprochement and continuous cultivation of understanding **among** communities so that our common features will be fully realised and **emphasised** and our differences confined and alleviated.
2. The development of beliefs which help towards the consolidation of the democratic way of life so that, the recourse to armed force for the achievement of political aims will be precluded and the peaceful existence and welfare of the whole of the Cyprus people will be safeguarded.