

and rendered useless.<sup>13</sup> The Arab Nationalists rejected their ideology as a dogma that was partly responsible for the defeat.

They abandoned all the assumptions and structure of the old ideology and set themselves to start anew. It is important to note here that this soul-searching did not come all of a sudden following the June war. We had occasion to refer to the ideological struggle which erupted within the Movement as early as 1962. Nevertheless, the defeat of the Arabs in June 1967 accentuated the ideological crisis and gave it the chance to surface, and very violently for the matter.

For the first time in the life of the ANM, the old concept of the nation as one "whole" was abandoned, and a completely new analysis of the Arab society was upheld. It was emphasized that the old notion that the people are free because the nation is free from foreign dominance is wrong. The freedom of the people cannot be won unless the masses organize themselves in political groups and force a democratic dialogue. The main point in this analysis is that the progressive regimes of Egypt, Syria, Iraq, and Algeria along with the Ba'th, the ANM and the Communist parties do not represent the interest of the masses. They represent the interests of the petty bourgeois class whose political program

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<sup>13</sup> ANM, Mawdu'at Khamsah. Huzayran [Subjects of June 5], 1968.