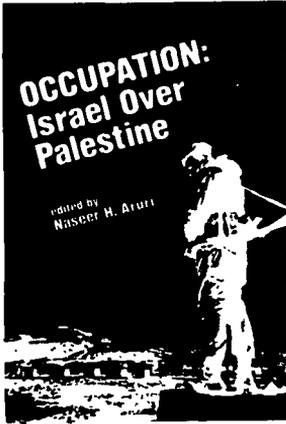


FROM THE EDITOR

As I mentioned in the last issue, we are considering occasional special issues, in about a year from now, in order to enhance the direction and focus of *IJMES*. Since *IJMES* is open to ten disciplines, covers all areas between Morocco and Afghanistan, and all time periods between 600 A.D. and the present, an occasional issue that looks for unifying concepts and methods might be refreshing and stimulating. The matter of special issues is still under discussion with the members of the board of editors, who have been most generous with their advice, some encouraging and others less so. While the dust has not settled yet, I want to reiterate my invitation to you, the readers, to let us know your thoughts. The foremost goal of *IJMES* is to set the highest standards possible for scholarship in the field and whatever is conducive to maintaining and furthering this goal is worthwhile to consider and implement.

PETER VON SIVERS



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