

צדק צדק תרדוף

JUSTICE

THE INTERNATIONAL

ASSOCIATION OF

JEWISH LAWYERS

AND JURISTS



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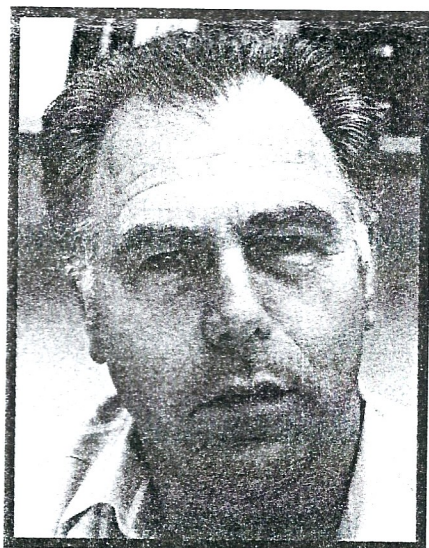
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Ariel Rozen-Zvi 1944 - 1996

Ariel Rozen-Zvi was a one-man battle-front. Orthodox in faith and life-style, a democrat by legal education and his world-view, he was a fighter whose perception of himself was of a man called to the front. A religious Jew, facing a society which did not always understand him, he challenged himself to bring orthodox and secular Jews closer together. In the face of attempts to force a religious lifestyle on the general public, Ariel, sometimes alone, stood like a rock in his belief that coercion is forbidden. Civil marriages and divorce alongside traditional religious marriages and burials, the establishment of civil cemeteries and equal rights for women were causes for which he fought everywhere and always.

Even in the last years when he needed every ounce of mental and physical strength to fight his illness, Ariel fought for every ideal in which he believed. Whether it was positive discrimination, aimed at making it easier for socially deprived students to enter the Law Faculty; or, whether it was the Supreme Court of Israel, which exercised judicial review in circumstances he thought were wrong, or where the Court did not criticize the security discretion of the authorities when he thought it would be right to do so - it was Ariel who stood at the gates. He did so with the brilliant analytical freedom of a scholar, mingling incisiveness and wisdom gained from his knowledge of the Torah and general culture.

Ariel Rozen-Zvi believed not in the ultimate value of the letter of the law but in the spirit of the law as the appropriate measuring rod for a man who must pursue what is right and moral. Ariel's measures were love of man and the love of battle for human values, his model was Hillel the Elder whose belief was in bringing together those far apart.

(From an obituary by Prof. Zeev Segal, Professor of Law, Tel Aviv University)