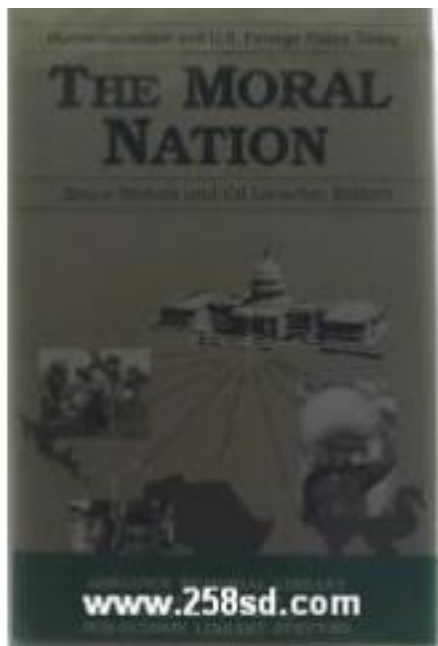


# The Moral Nation: Humanitarianism and U.S. Foreign Policy Today



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MEMORY IS THE ANSWER  
Sydney H. Schanberg  
My father was poor growing up and when his hard work brought him in middle age to a place where he was no longer poor his memory of those difficult years informed his life in a manner that made him very good at helping others who were down on their luck. He took care of his family first but he didn't forget the others. These thoughts have rushed upon me because he died a little over a week ago and when a parent dies we grope for meaning. Moreover in the jumbled private days following his death the outside world--murmuring for attention--was also discussing memory and morality. Elie Wiesel our teacher of the

Holocausti¼E a child of the<br> concentration campsii¼E was telling the President:  
~This is why<br> survivorsii¼E of whom you spokeii¼E Mr. Presidenti¼E have tried  
to teach<br> their contemporaries how to build on ruinsii¼E how to invent hope<br>  
in a world that offers nonei¼E how to proclaim faith to a generation<br> that has  
seen it shamed and mutilated. And I believei¼E we believei¼E<br> that memory is  
the answeri¼E perhaps the only answer.\"<br> Speaking of the concentration  
campsii¼E Mr. Wiesel said: \"Mr<br> Presidenti¼E I was therei¼E I was there when  
American liberators<br> arrived. And they gave us back our lives. And what I felt for<br>  
> them then nourishes me to the end of my days We are<br> grateful to this  
countrii¼E the greatest democracy in the worldi¼E the<br> freest nation in the  
worldi¼E the moral nation.\"<br> Sometimes Presidents and policy makersi¼E  
caught and dis-<br> tracted by their geopolitical balancing actsii¼E seem to lose  
the<br> Copyright ~ 1985i¼E by the New York Times Co. Reprinted by permission.<br>  
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