An Appeal to the Minister of Tourism

Building on a Debunked Myths

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Subject: An Appeal to H.E. Jordan's Minister of Tourism & to the Jordanian Authorities
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I appeal to H.E. the Minister of Tourism in Jordan and to the Jordanian Authorities to remove from the highly visible spots in the touristic and Biblical sites of Mont Nebo the Jordanian Town of Ma'adaba the "Mythical" quotation from Mythical "Deuteronomy" below as allegedly made by "Moses" on Mont Nebo. The phrasing of the quotation as presented would only give credence to the Zionist claims of their rightful ownership of the whole of Palestine as allegedly stated as an incontestable "Divine" promise to the Jews as related, falsely, to Moses as revealed in the exact phrasing as below:

"And Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And The Lord [see Rock Of Ages] showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. And The Lord said to him, 'This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there.'" (Deuteronomy 34:1-4 RSV)

As I stood on Mont Nebo little over a year ago reading the above Mythical quotation as I watched hundreds of tender mind visiting European youngsters fed this Mythical phrase as "Truly Biblical," "Divine, God's Promise" to the Jews, to the Israelis, much reinforcing the Zionist claims to all of Palestine and some of the environs, I was shocked that it would escape the attention of the Ministry of Tourism in Jordan allowing the prominent display of such a mythical claim - granted it was the Old Testament &
Jordan needed the tourist income—especially in view of the prevailing general consensus among modern Biblical Scholars, of whom a non-negligible number are Israelis, that Moses was not the authority of the "Torah," the five books of the Old Testament, and in particular the Fifth Book, Deuteronomy.

The debunking of the Bible (the Old Testament) by well recognized Biblical scholars, mostly Israeli Biblical Authorities, as highlighted below and as attached, is based on both: archeological findings and on scientific and historical textual scrutiny.

As to archeological findings, Ze'ev Hertzog, an authority on Biblical archeology at Tel Aviv University, finally threw the towel on November, 2000, in a dramatic declaration after many decades of archeological excavations, that he found nothing to support Biblical stories, historical events, towns or localities as often vividly described in the Old Testament. Hertzog argued in an essay that the United Monarchy of David and Solomon—described in the Bible as the height of military, political and economic power of the people of Israel—"was at most a small tribal kingdom."

Hertzog further asserted in his essay that "Excavations also indicate that the ancient Israelites were never in Egypt, did not wander the desert, did not conquer land in military campaigns and did not pass it on to the 12 tribes of Israel."

As to scientific and historical Textual scrutiny of the Old Testament and its repeated reconstruct over the centuries, Professor Israel Finkelstein, Professor at Tel Aviv University, considered a world authority on the Bible, and Professor Neil Asher Silberman, from Boston, authored a book in 2001 entitled: "The Bible Unearthed, Archeology's new Vision of Ancient Israel and the Origins of Its Sacred Texts." Both authors reached same conclusion as Ze'ev Herzog of Tel Aviv University before them. As scholars of the Texts of the Old Testament, they narrate the successive compilation of the Torah—the first five books of the Old Testament earlier thought revealed to Moses— and the other 33 books of the Old Testament, including the continuous re-editing and changing of the texts. In particular the Torah, the first Five Books of the Old Testament, originally alleged written or received by Moses, both scholars argue, based on scientific textual scrutiny, that the Torah was compiled, rather written many centuries after Moses' death, three to four centuries later.
In the introduction to their book, Finkelstein & Silberman wrote:

"By the late eighteenth century and even more so in the nineteenth, many critical biblical scholars had begun to doubt that Moses had any hand in the writing of the Bible whatsoever; they had come to believe that the Bible was the work of later writers exclusively. These scholars pointed to what appeared to be different versions of the same stories within the books of the Pentateuch, suggesting that the biblical text was the product of several recognizable hands."

Thus, I strongly appeal to H.E. the Jordanian Minister of Tourism and the Jordanian Authority to remove the above Deuteronomy phrase from display in the quite noticeable prominent spots in Mont Nebo that given the detailed false expressions only feeds into the falsehood of the Zionist and Israeli claims on all of Palestine, especially at this very delicate juncture of the Palestinian/Arab - Israeli redefining of territorial rights and claims. Removal of the Deuteronomy phrase would not in anyway affect the number of visiting tourists that many of them, as with all non-religious tourists, visit for the general notion, the mythical renderings devoid of any textual details. The text of the Quotations as presented only enforces falsehood in the neutral, tender and innocent minds of visiting youngsters.

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