Middle Eastern History Titles
Fall 2014
Abdullah al-Tall Arab Legion Officer
Arab Nationalism and Opposition to the Hashemite Regime
Ronen Yitzhak

Summary
... A Certain Sympathy of Scriptures attempts something more central to the essential 'interest' of both Scriptures, more cogent in this 21st century (the 15th Islam). It is a concern with three shared dimensions: The divine will for this cosmos of created order; its entrustment into human hands as creaturely heirs to its order and responsive 'sciences'; and the discipline of their tenancy and privilege by 'messengers' and prophethoods disclosing the intention of divine Lordship in the fact of human vocation. These three dimensions are the supreme theme of both Scriptures.

Author Bio
Ronen Yitzhak is the head of the Middle Eastern studies department at Western Galilee College in Acre, Israel. He is an expert in the 1948 war, Jordan, the Arab Legion, and the Palestinians. He has published a book and a number of articles in Hebrew and English about the 1948 war and about the Arab Legion and King Abdullah.

Afganistán
La vida más allá de la batalla
Antonio Pampliega

Summary
Providing a timely perspective on the warmth and courage of the people of Afghanistan, this moving account features firsthand stories and experiences with a wide array of protagonists. Blending many unique voices, this narrative creates a positive living portrait of a people and celebrates their resilience, resourcefulness, and spirit. The collection tells the stories of two boys encouraged by the example of their parents to start a business; a football coach who risks his life to train 20 women who, for a few hours, can take off their burkas and be themselves; and a Spaniard who challenges the Taliban by teaching children. This objective account offers a day-to-day narration of the forgotten people of this ongoing tragedy.

Proporcionando una perspective oportuna sobre la amistad y el valor del pueblo de Afganistán, este relato comovedor presenta historias y experiencias de primera mano con una gama amplia de protagonistas. Combinando muchas voces únicas, esta narrativa crea un retrato vivo y positivo de un pueblo y celebra su capacidad de recuperación, su ingenio y su espíritu. ...

Author Bio
Antonio Pampliega is a Spanish journalist who has spent time in areas of conflict, including Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, and Pakistan.
Amity in the Middle East
How the World Sports Peace Project and the Passion for Football Brought Together Arab and Jewish Youngsters
Geoffrey Whitfield

Summary
The World Sports Peace Project brought together Israeli nd Arab youngsters and adults from towns in Israel, staff and students from four English universities, Premier League clubs, most notably Arsenal, the British Embassy and the British Council in Israel, the Israel Sports Authority, and runners in the Flora London Marathon. It became a pointer to more creative ways for community relations in divided societies. ... Who is this book intended for? For those wanting to read about Arab and Jewish youngsters playing football together; for those interested in conflict prevention and peace-making; and for those wanting to run such a project in other political climes. Over three years, a successful Football/Conflict Prevention Project took place on an annual basis, close to Nazareth. Those who took part will be able to tell their children and grandchildren of the time when Jews and Arab-Christsians and Arab-Moslems played in mixed teams against mixed teams. Their team could only win when they learned to work together, when trust and confidence in each other overrode political antagonisms. Wit...

Author Bio
Geoffrey Whitfield is a retired Baptist minister and university chaplain. He has worked and written about Israel-Palestinian situation for years and is currently researching into the causes of terrorism with the Human Rights and Social Justice Research Institute of London Metropolitan University.

Arab Political Demography (2nd Edition)
Population Growth, Labor Migration and Natalist Policies
Onn Winckler

Author Bio
Onn Winckler is the senior lecturer in the department of Middle Eastern history and the head of multi-disciplinary studies as the University of Haifa. He is the author of Demographic Developments and Population Policies in Ba'thist Syria and the coauthor of Modern Syria.
Arab Politics, Palestinian Nationalism and the Six Day War
The Crystallization of Arab Strategy and Nasir's Descent to War, 1957-1967
Moshe Shemesh

Summary
The Six Day War was the climax in the deterioration of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The downturn began in 1957 when Nasir began preaching the idea of Arab nationalism, while placing the Palestinian problem at its centre. The decade between the Sinai War and Six Day War was marked by preparations by both sides for an all-out military confrontation which both sides viewed as inevitable. As the Arab states formulated their positions on the conflict's goals and the ways of attaining them, differences of opinion erupted between Egypt and Syria. Nasir wanted to decide the time and place for the war that would "liberate Filastin". He was determined to meet Israel on the battlefield only when he was certain that the outcome would mean a decisive Arab victory. He consciously and strategically led Egypt to war, carefully weighing the implications of each political/military step.

... This study, based almost exclusively on hitherto unavailable Arab primary sources, sets out the crystallization of Arab strategy to reveal conclusions substantively different from previous scholarly and political-milit...

Author Bio
Professor Moshe Shemesh teaches Middle Eastern studies at Ben-Gurion University, Beer Sheva, and is a Senior research associate at the Ben-Gurion Research Institute, Sede Boker, Israel. His publications include books and articles on the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian national movement.

Arab-Jewish Relations
From Conflict to Resolution?
Elie Podeh, Asher Kaufman

Summary
**Arms Transfers to Israel**

**The Strategic Logic Behind American Military Assistance**

David Rodman

**Summary**

This book dispels two common myths about the American-Israeli patron-client relationship - that arms transfers to Israel have been motivated by American domestic politics rather than national interests and that these arms transfers have come without any political strings attached to them. ... The first part of the book describes and analyzes the institutionalization of the American-Israeli arms pipeline during the Johnson administration, demonstrating conclusively in the process that arms transfers to the Jewish state were based primarily on American national interests. The second part of the book consists of four case studies that clearly reveal that American arms transfers to Israel, whether in wartime or in peacetime, have always come with a diplomatic price tag attached to them. ... The book is based largely on American government documents from the Foreign Relations of the United States (FRUS) series, from the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library, and from the United States National Archives.

**Author Bio**


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**Asad in Search of Legitimacy**

**Message and Rhetoric in the Syrian Press Under Hafiz and Bashar**

Mordechai Kedar

**Summary**

The Syrian regime, ruled by the Ba'th socialist party and headed by presidents from the 'Alawi minority, faces problems of legitimacy vis-à-vis its people, which it tackles through powerful security organizations and the state media. The government media machine exists to express the regime's viewpoint in both local and external spheres, and to promote acceptance of the legitimacy of Asad's presidency and government. The media also attempts to mobilize the masses to act in the service of the state by disseminating information which reflects Asad's position on current issues. The organs of the regime - army, party, security services, national and local authorities - are proclaimed as acting by order of the president. While personal commitment to the legitimacy of Hafiz al-Asad is the principal "article of faith", this message is supported by complementary messages - Asad being true to the Moslem faith; Asad as historic leader; Asad as the focus of identity of all Syrian citizens; the "crimes" of the Moslem Brotherhood, etc. - and vociferous political discourse.
**Bedouin Bisha'h Justice**

**Ordeal by Fire**

Joseph Ginat

**Summary**

Bisha'h ceremonies—trials by ordeal in which the guilt or innocence of the accused is determined by subjecting them to a painful task—are the focus of this volume. The book discusses how the ordeals, which originated in Bedouin societies and are still practiced in Egypt today, occur when someone suspects another person of crimes that include theft, property damage, murder, manslaughter, illicit sexual relations, rape, or witchcraft, and there are no witnesses to the crime, and the suspect or suspects visit a mubasha', a Bedouin notable who conducts the ordeal by fire. The work details the history of Bisha'h ceremonies and how they are conducted today—where the suspect licks a heated ladle and if their tongue blisters, they are deemed guilty. The author, who observed 169 of such ordeals, documents and illustrates the occurrences in this volume.

**Author Bio**

Joseph Ginat was a cultural-political anthropologist and the vice president of international relations and research at Netanya Academic College. He is the author of numerous books and the editor of *Sussex Studies in Peace Politics in the Middle East*, as well as numerous contributions to social anthropology in the field of Mormon studies and Arab culture.
Britain and the Middle East
From Imperial Power to Junior Partner
Elie Podeh, Zach Levey

Summary
This book deals with British involvement in the Middle East from the mid-nineteenth to the early twenty-first century. The wide range of topics encompassed here explore both Britain's imperial legacy and its relationship with the contemporary Middle East, including Palestine, Israel and the Jews, Britain's role in Egypt, the Levant, the Fertile Crescent, and the Gulf. The twenty contributors to this work are leading scholars, and the original research that makes up this volume fills a lacuna in the literature on Britain's role in the region. ... Geographically, this book covers the British role in four major areas: the Nile Valley (Egypt and the Sudan), Palestine and Israel, the Fertile Crescent (Iraq, Syria and Lebanon) and the Arab/Persian Gulf. Chronologically, the book commences with the occupation of Egypt in 1882 but focuses principally on the British role in these areas during the period following the First World War. The 1956 Suez débâcle and the 1971 withdrawal from the Gulf stand out as two important turning points in British involvement in the region, signaling the end of the...

Britain and the Yemen Civil War, 1962?1965
Ministers, Mercenaries and Mandarins: Foreign Policy and the Limits of Covert Action
Clive Jones

Summary
Between 1962 and 1965 Britain engaged in covert operations in support of Royalist forces fighting the Egyptian backed Republican regime that had seized power in the Yemeni capital Sana'a in September 1962. Covert action was regarded as a legitimate tool of foreign policy as Britain attempted to secure the future of the newly formed South Arabian Federation against the animus of Nasser. The use of covert action, as well as the quasi approval given to the use of mercenaries to support the Royalist cause, was the inevitable result of policy differences within Whitehall (most notably between the 'mandarins' of the Colonial Office and the Foreign Office) as well as international constraints imposed upon the UK in the aftermath of the Suez crisis. The book examines the extent to which British policy, while successful in imposing a war of attrition upon Nasser in the Yemen, contributed to the political demise of the very objective covert action was designed to secure: the future stability of the Federation of South Arabia.

Author Bio
Clive Jones is Professor of Middle East Studies and International Politics in the School of Politics and International Studies (POLIS), University of Leeds, UK. His other published works include Soviet Jewish Aliyah 1989-92 (1996), (with Emma Murphy); Israel: Challenges to Democracy, Identity and the State (2002), (with Caroline Kennedy-Pipe co-editor); International Security in a Global Age (2000 ), (with Ami Pedahzur co-editor); The al-Aqsa Intifada: Between Terrorism and Civil War (2005), (with Sergio Catignani co-editor); and Israel and the Hizb'allah: An Asymmetric Conflict in Comparative Perspective (2009). He has published widely on Middle East politics, intelligence and national security issues and in March 2010, Britain and the Yemen Civil War was the subject of the BBC Radio Four history programme, Document, which examined Britain's clandestine involvement in the Yemen Civil War.
City of Abraham
Edward Platt

Summary
This is a journey to the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and an account of the shared roots of the three great monotheistic religions of the Middle East. It is a journey through one of the world's most divided cities—Hebron, the only place in the West Bank where Palestinians and Israelis live side by side. It begins with a hill called Tel Rumeida, the site of ancient Hebron, where the patriarch Abraham—father of the Jews and the Arabs—was supposed to have lived when he arrived in the Promised Land. Through a mixture of travel writing, reportage, and interviews, Platt tells the history of the hill and the city in which it stands, and explores the mythic roots of the struggle to control the land. He meets the Palestinian residents of Tel Rumeida, and the messianic settlers who have made their homes in a block of flats that stands on stilts on an excavated corner of the site. He meets the archaeologists who have attempted to reconstruct the history of the hill. He meets the soldiers who serve in Hebron, and the intermediaries who try to keep the peace in the divided city. The...

Author Bio
Edward Platt is the author of Leadville, which won a Somerset Maugham Award and the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize.

David Ben-Gurion, the State of Israel, and the Arab World, 1949? 1956
Zaki Shalom

Author Bio
Zaki Shalom is a senior researcher at the Ben-Gurion Research Institute at Ben-Gurion University. He is also member of the research staff at the Institute for National Security Studies. He has published extensively on various facets of Israel's defense policy, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the role of the superpowers in the Middle East, and Israel's struggle against Islamic terror. He is the author of Israel's Nuclear Option.
Defense and Diplomacy in Israel's National Security Experience

Tactics, Partnerships, and Motives

David Rodman

Summary

This work defines the central concepts of Israel's national security doctrine as deterrence, geography, manpower, quantity versus quality, offensive maneuver warfare, conventional versus unconventional threats, self-reliance, great power patronage, and peripheral partnerships. ... The author describes and explains how these concepts have influenced the war fighting experience of the Israel Defense Forces, including the air force and the navy. Special attention is paid to Israel's relationships with the United States, Turkey, and India as they relate to the Jewish state's national security, and in particular offers a new interpretation of what really drives these relationships; the motives behind Israeli foreign policy and Israeli arms export policy; and whether Israel's national security doctrine ought to include a capability to threaten the existence of hostile Arab (and Islamic) governments. Sections of this book have been used to teach a class on strategic studies at the National Defense University in Washington, DC.

Author Bio

David Rodman has written numerous articles, review essays, and book reviews on various aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict for professional journals, including Middle Eastern Studies, The Journal of Strategic Studies, MERIA Journal, Israel Affairs, Defence Studies, and Air & Space Power Chronicles. He has also contributed chapters to From War to Peace?, Review Essays in Israel Studies: Books on Israel, Vol. 5, and Between War and Peace: Dilemmas of Israeli Security.

Discovery!
The Search for Arabian Oil

Wallace Stegner, Thomas W. Lippman

Summary

Illuminating a little-known but extremely significant period in world history—the discovery of oil in the Middle East and the beginnings of what is now the Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Saudi Aramco)—this captivating history explores the birth of the Middle Eastern oil industry. From the king and his royal court to the desert guides, scientists, and mechanics who built the original oil company, Aramco, the distant and desperately poor world of Depression-era Saudi Arabia is vividly brought to life. Written more than 50 years ago, this detailed account serves as a kind of time capsule and features the author's prescient insights into the cultural and technological consequences of King Ibn Saud's deliberate decision to choose America as his commercial ally.

Author Bio

Wallace Stegner is the author of more than 30 books, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning Angle of Repose. He established the creative writing program at Stanford University in 1945. Thomas W. Lippman is an adjunct scholar at the Middle East Institute. He is the author of Egypt After Nasser, Inside the Mirage: America's Fragile Partnership with Saudi Arabia, Madeline Albright and the New American Diplomacy, and Understanding Islam. He has traveled extensively in Saudi Arabia as a reporter and diplomat on behalf of the Washington Post. He lives in Washington, DC.
Economic Relations Between Egypt and the Gulf Oil States, 1967-2000
Petro Wealth and Patterns of Influence
gil Feiler

Summary
This book provides a unique insight into a virtually unseen current that has shaped Middle East war and politics for over 30 years by explaining the intricate and ever shifting relationship between Egypt and the immensely wealthy Arab Gulf newcomers. The efforts of the Gulf states to exert political and cultural influence over Egypt through use of their oil revenues is described in detail, alongside concurrent Egyptian efforts to redistribute the oil wealth while maintaining complete policy independence and primacy. Drawing on previously unpublished reports, and on first-hand interviews with key persons throughout the region (including two Egyptian premiers), the book provides a first-time look at the full extent of the economic ties, at the inner workings of the relations, and at their long-term impact. New data and analysis shows the underlying logic and impact of this relationship, and the powerful interplay and the shifting balance of power.

Author Bio
Dr. Gil Feiler is a senior research associate at the Begin-Sadat Center for International Studies at Bar-Ilan University and owner of Infoprod Research (Middle East) Ltd., a leading provider of business information. He has published with Kluwer Law and the Economic Intelligence Unit.

Egypt and the Second Palestinian Intifada
Policymaking with Multifaceted Commitments
Rami Ginat, Meir Noema

Summary
With the outbreak of the Palestinian Intifadat al-Aqsa in September 2000 that followed the failure of the Camp David II summit, the chain of belligerent events took Egypt by surprise. Facing a dilemma in its search for an appropriate policy towards the Palestinian-Israeli escalation, this study argues that Egypt's policy towards the second Intifada may best be understood by scrutinizing several circles of reference that directly affected its policymaking process throughout the long years of the bloody Israeli-Palestinian conflict. These circles of reference comprise interests and calculations derived from Egyptian internal issues; regional factors - Egypt's role and position in the Arab world in general, and its relations with the Palestinians in particular; Egypt's relations with Israel; and its strategic ties with the United States. The growing strength and the expansion of the global Islamic terrorist network that challenges the stability of the present Arab regimes constitutes a lynchpin at every layer. ... Egypt's foreign policy is based on Realpolitik, that is, on pragmatic and m...

Author Bio
Rami Ginat is Professor of Middle Eastern Studies and International Relations at the Department of Political Studies, Bar-Ilan University, Israel. He is the author of many books and articles on the modern Middle East. Dr. Meir Noema is a lecturer in the Department of Sociology, Political Science & Communications, Open University, Israel. He received his Ph.D. from Bar-Ilan University and has published articles on Egyptian affairs.
**Escuchar a Iraq**  
Abel Ruiz de Leon

**Faisal**  
King of Saudi Arabia  
Gerald De Gaury

**Summary**
Providing exceptional insight into one of the most extraordinary and charismatic Muslim leaders of modern times, this biographical account details the full life of King Faisal of Saudi Arabia. From commanding expeditions on his father's frontiers at the age of 15 and being a loyal Prime Minister to building and reforming within Saudi Arabia, this account seamlessly and elegantly places King Faisal's life story in the complex historical context of the Middle East and the world over.

**Author Bio**
Gerald De Gaury was a British military officer, an explorer, a historian, a photographer, and a diplomat who first went to Saudi Arabia in 1936, making his last visit in 1965. He accompanied Faisal during his 1943 tour of military establishments in the United Kingdom and acted as interpreter when he met King George VI. He is the author of *Arabia Phoenix* and *Rulers of Mecca*. He died in 1984.
### Fatah and the Politics of Violence

**The Institutionalization of a Popular Struggle**

Anat Kurz

**Summary**

The institutionalization of Fatah mirrors the evolution of the PLO and the Palestinian national cause generally. Understanding the factors that have influenced Fatah's politics of violence, and its political path - and the balance between the two - help to explain the political history of the Middle East in recent decades. This book documents Fatah's rise to prominence within the variegated Palestinian national movement through a detailed analysis of the organization's evolution - from its inception in 1959, through the climactic institutional accomplishment of 1993 with the signing of the Oslo Accords, to the institutional regression that was marked by the eruption of the Intifada in 2000. ... Fatah's institutionalization is marked by alternating bases of the organization's legitimacy: organizational, communal, and external. Transformations from one phase to another are distinguished by the shifts in relative importance assigned to the different sources of legitimacy, which in turn dictated different courses of action for the organization. Analyzed according to these concepts, Fatah's...

### Fever and Thirst

**An American Doctor Among the Tribes of Kurdistan, 1835-1844**

Gordon Taylor

**Summary**

The first Americans to work with the people of the Middle East were neither spies nor soldiers. They were, in fact, teachers, printers, and missionaries; and one was a country doctor from Utica, NY. In June of 1835 Asahel Grant, M.D. and his bride, Judith, sailed from Boston to heal the sick and save the world. *Fever and Thirst* tells the story of Asahel Grant: explorer, physician, author and the first American to become enmeshed in the struggles of northern Iraq.

**Author Bio**

Gordon E. Taylor is an independent scholar and writer who has long been fascinated by the peoples and places of the Middle East, where he has taught English, lived, and travelled. He holds a B.A. degree from Lawrence University, in Appleton, Wisconsin, where he studied History and Theatre. *Fever and Thirst* is the culmination of a lifetime's fascination with the mountains of Hakkari, in southeast Turkey, and the Kurds and Assyrian Christian mountaineers who made those mountains their home.
**For the Love of Israel**

*The Holy Land: From Past to Present. An A-Z Primer for Hachamin, Talmidim, Vatikim, Noodnikim, and Dreamers*

Rabbi Steven Stark Lowenstein, Mark Anderson

**Summary**

From Aliyah to Megidoo and Netanyahu to Zionism, this vibrant A-to-Z guide—or rather Z-to-A, Hebrew-style—examines more than 3,000 years of this postage stamp-sized land's history. With the 26 letters of the alphabet paired with lighthearted text and colorful illustrations, this fun fact book explores the heart, the soul, and the foundation of the Jewish people—the homeland from where their ancient traditions, culture, and values have come. Through Hebrew words, interesting facts, poignant quotes, and profound teachings, each letter comes to life with a significant aspect of the land’s background.

**Author Bio**

**Rabbi Steven Stark Lowenstein** was ordained at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and currently serves Congregation Am Shalom in Glencoe, Illinois. He is the author of *For the Love of Being Jewish*. He lives in Glencoe, Illinois. **Mark Anderson** is the illustrator and designer of *For the Love of the Cubs* and *For the Love of Being Jewish*. His illustrations have appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly*, *BusinessWeek*, *National Geographic*, the *New Yorker*, *Time*, and many other periodicals. He lives in Chicago.

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**Freud y los no europeos**

Edward W. Said, Olivia de Miguel

**Summary**

Censored and ultimately banned by the Freud Institute in Vienna, this lecture was eventually delivered by Edward Said at the Freud Museum in London. In it, he drew on sources from literature, archaeology, and social theory to examine the profound significance that *Moses and Monotheism*, Sigmund Freud's last major work, could have had on contemporary politics in the Middle East. Said argues that Freud's contention that Moses was not Jewish torpedoed the notion of a "pure" identity—and that the case for a common, singular culture in the Levant that could be made as a result could play an important role in clearing a path to peace.

*Censurada y finalmente prohibida por el Instituto Freud de Viena, esta conferencia fue últimamente pronunciada por Edward Said en el Museo Freud de Londres. En su ensayo, el autor recurre a fuentes procedentes de la literatura, la arqueología y la teoría social para examinar el profundo significado que Moisés y la religión monoteísta, la última obra de Sigmund Freud, pudo haber tenido para la política actual en el Oriente Medio. Said mantiene que la tesis d...*

**Author Bio**

**Edward W. Said** was a Palestinian-American literary theorist, cultural critic, and writer. He is the author of *Covering Islam*, *Culture and Imperialism*, and *Orientalism*. **Olivia de Miguel** is a professor in the department of translation and philology and the director of the postgraduate program of literary translation at Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona.
Gaza: Symbol of Resistance
Joyce Chediac

Summary
Giving a voice to those often denied one in the media, this collection of essays and articles covers events in Gaza from the 2005 electoral victory of Hamas, through the siege and Israeli bombing, to the 2010 Israeli commando attack on ships bringing humanitarian aid. The stories told here describe how the Palestinian people of Gaza have withstood siege and war and how their resistance has inspired a worldwide grassroots movement to break the blockade and deliver aid. Contributors include members of the Palestinian community, Israeli soldiers who disagreed with the Gaza war, political activists, and many others. U.S. corporate and government interests in the Middle East and Israel in particular are also analyzed.

Author Bio
Joyce Chediac writes on Middle Eastern affairs and is a contributor to the Workers World newspaper. She lives in New York City.

In the Lion's Den
An Eyewitness Account of Washington's Battle with Syria
Andrew Tabler

Summary
The dramatic chronicle of an American journalist caught between President Bashar and U.S. Middle East policy

A key player and an unrelenting obstacle in the Middle East peace process, Syria has long been a thorn in Washington's side when it comes to forming strategic alliances with powers in the region. But only after the events of 9/11 and Damascus's staunch opposition to the War in Iraq did the U.S. government begin a campaign to pressure President Bashar al-Asad's regime to change its policies and bring Syria into the Western political orbit.

Author Andrew Tabler was both a witness to and participant in the events of this covert conflict. No other Western journalists or academics were based in Damascus during this entire period, and as co-founder of what was then Syria's only English-language publication, Tabler was not only watched and censored, but courted by the Syrian government in an attempt to influence his stories to the international community. He gained unique access to the upper echelons of power like no other journalist before him, even accompanying the Syrian president on a state visit to China.

In the Lion's Den provides a rare glimpse into the machinations of one of the wor...

Author Bio
Andrew Tabler is a fellow with the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and one of the most sought-after voices on contemporary Syria. His articles have appeared in the New York Times, the New York Times Magazine, Newsweek, the International Herald Tribune, Foreign Policy, and Foreign Affairs. His opinion is regularly sought by CNN, NBC, and PBS. After seven years of living and working under Assad's regime, Tabler left Damascus for Beirut.
**Investment in Peace**
The Politics of Economic Cooperation Between Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians
Shaul Mishal, Ranan Kuperman, David Boas

**Summary**
"This thoughtful book attempts to formulate a new relationship and a new negotiating strategy between Israel and its Arab neighbors... The innovative proposal put forward is an exchange of asymmetrical assurances: the Arabs will assure Israel that its security, and its existence, are not in danger, and Israel will assure the Arabs that it has no intention of imposing any economic or cultural hegemony. Thus it is hoped that the imbalance between Arab territorial and numerical advantage over Israel, and Israel's economic and technological advantage over the Arabs, will be compensated to the mutual advantage of both. This is a proposal which at some later stage in the evolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict may be fruitful, but there are hurdles to be cleared before such a sophisticated approach can be practical. The fear that dominates both sides must first be attenuated, if not removed completely... What I suggest is now urgently needed is to address the problem, not just of the fear of conflict, but also of the fear of peace which both sides share... There is the need therefore on both si..."
Islamic Terror Abductions in the Middle East
Shaul Shay

Summary
This book investigates abductions, hostage taking, beheadings, and global jihad influences in four theatres in the Middle East over the last 25 years (1980-2005): Israel (as a part of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict), Lebanon, Yemen and Iraq. It includes discussion of the William Buckley, William Higgins and "Irangate" abductions. The "Nachshon Waxman" affair - the Israeli soldier abducted and murdered by HAMAS in 1994 - is presented as a case study in understanding the four major phases of an abduction - preparation and planning; carrying out the abduction; negotiations; and the rescue attempt. ... Terrorist organizations use abduction as a tool for promotion of their and their patrons' interests. Examination of Middle East abductions, and the relations/correlations between Islamic terrorist organizations and Iran, demonstrates Iran's role as a terror supporting state, and the promotion of Iranian interests by its terrorist surrogates. ...The research examines the challenge posed by terrorist organizations for countries whose citizens have been abducted and the answers to that challenge...

Author Bio
Shaul Shay is a senior research fellow of the International Policy Institute for Counter Terrorism. He is the author of The Shahids, Islam and the Suicide Attacks; The "Axis of Evil": Iran, Hizballah and Palestinian Terror; The Terror Triangle of the Red Sea: Yemen, Sudan and Somalia; and (with Yoram Scheweitzer) of The Globalization of Terror: the challenge of Al Qaida and the response of the international community.

Israel and the Post-Zionists
A Nation at Risk
Shlomo Sharan

Summary
Shlomo Sharan is a senior research fellow of the International Policy Institute for Counter Terrorism. He is the author of The Shahids, Islam and the Suicide Attacks; The "Axis of Evil": Iran, Hizballah and Palestinian Terror; The Terror Triangle of the Red Sea: Yemen, Sudan and Somalia; and (with Yoram Scheweitzer) of The Globalization of Terror: the challenge of Al Qaida and the response of the international community.

Author Bio
Shlomo Sharan is a senior research fellow of the International Policy Institute for Counter Terrorism. He is the author of The Shahids, Islam and the Suicide Attacks; The "Axis of Evil": Iran, Hizballah and Palestinian Terror; The Terror Triangle of the Red Sea: Yemen, Sudan and Somalia; and (with Yoram Scheweitzer) of The Globalization of Terror: the challenge of Al Qaida and the response of the international community.
Israelis in Conflict
Hegemonies, Identities and Challenges
Adriana Kemp, David Newman, Uri Ram, Oren Yiftache...

Summary
Globalization and increased cultural heterogeneity have had a major impact on states whose identity has been defined in terms of a single, often socially constructed, allegiance to the state and a single hegemonic ideology. Nowhere are changing notions of identity more prevalent than in Israel, a country whose dominant (Western-Jewish) society has been subject to understanding their past and present in terms of a single ideology of state formation - Zionism. This book on Citizenship and Identity in Contemporary Israel challenges some of the traditional analytical paradigms prevalent in Israeli social science for the past fifty years. Although the State continues to define itself in terms of a homogeneous political and cultural entity, as the voices and narratives of marginalized (especially Palestinian, Eastern-Jewish and women) groups come to the fore, agencies of state socialization are no longer able to impose an unchallenged state identity or hegemony. The deconstruction of a state-sponsored social identity, whose aim is social cohesion, is here investigated by critical scholars ...

Author Bio
Adriana Kemp is lecture and research fellow in the department of sociology at Tel Aviv University. David Newman is a professor of political geography at Ben-Gurion University and the editor of the journal Geopolitics. He is the author of Political Geography. Uri Ram is a sociologist at Ben-Gurion University. He is the author of The Globalization of Israel: McWorld in Tel Aviv, Jihad in Jerusalem. Oren Yiftachel is a professor of political geography at Ben-Gurion University. He is the author of Ethnocracy: Land and Identity Politics in Israel/Palestine.

Israel-Jordanian Dialogue, 1948?1953
Cooperation, Conspiracy, or Collusion?
Yoav Gelber

Summary
This book is a refutation of Professor Avi Shlaim's theory of an alleged collusion between the Jews and king Abdullah (Collusion across the Jordan, Oxford University Press 1988, and The Politics of Partition: King Abdullah, the Zionists and Palestine, 1921-1951, OUP 1990). Shlaim asserts that to further his own aims of creating a greater Jordanian empire, Abdullah conducted secret diplomacy with David Ben-Gurion, Golda Meir and other Israeli leaders in self-serving maneuvers which hastened the partition of Palestine, and left more than a million Palestinian Arabs without a homeland. ... Israel-Jordanian Dialogue, 1948-1953 describes the development and vicissitudes of the relations between Israel and Jordan from the end of the British mandate and Transjordan's invasion of Palestine, through the war in 1948, the resumption of a direct dialogue that led to an armistice agreement, the abortive peace negotiations in 1949-51 and the simultaneous escalation of border hostilities. Gelber analyzes the triangle of relationships that developed between Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians; and ...

Author Bio
Yoav Gelber is Professor of History at the University of Haifa and Head of the Herzl Institute for Research and Study of Zionism. He is the author of a number of books on Middle East affairs, including: Palestine 1948: War, Escape and the Emergence of the Palestinian Refugee Problem (Sussex Academic, 2001); and Jewish-Transjordanian Relations, 1921-1948 (Frank Cass, 1997).
Israel-Palestinian Peace Process
Oslo and the Lessons of Failure: Perspectives, Predicaments, Prospects
Robert L. Rothstein, Moshe Ma'oz, Khalil Shikaki

Israel's Foreign Policy Towards the PLO
The Impact of Globalization
Amnon Aran

Summary
This detailed examination of Israeli foreign policy towards the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) between the 1967 war and the 2009 conflict between Israel and Hamas, focuses on the impact and process of globalization on the Israeli state's politics, economy, society, and culture. Employing globalization theory and foreign policy analysis, causal relationships underpinning Israeli foreign policy-involving government, the state, the economy, social stratification, and the media-are linked to globalization by specific example. To date there have been only partial historical accounts of Israeli foreign policy towards the PLO in the context of globalization, however, this study shows that the impact of globalization on Israeli foreign policy towards the PLO has been shaped by four phases, each representing a different type and consequently producing a different outcome, of interrelationships between foreign policy and globalization. During the 1967-1973 period, globalization and Israeli foreign policy were disconnected. Between 1973 and 1984, the second phase, significant interre...
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Author Bio
Amnon Aran is a lecturer at City University-London. His areas of expertise lie in the International Relations of the Middle East, with special reference to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Jerusalem Syndrome
The Palestinian-Israeli Battle for the Holy City
Moshe Amirav

Summary
Professor Moshe Amirav, world expert on the conflict in Jerusalem, presents previously unrevealed facts and creative solutions for resolving the conflict. As a participant in political negotiations and national decision making, his book addresses disturbing questions: "How is it that after 40 years of Israeli efforts to unify Jerusalem it is still one of the most divided cities in the world?"; "Why is it that no country, including the US, has recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel?"; "Why has Israel failed in its efforts to curb the rapid growth of Jerusalem's Palestinian population, an increase that will lead to a Palestinian majority in Jerusalem in the next decade?" ... Israel's policies have failed to "unite" Jerusalem. Israeli and Palestinian strategies to gain control over East Jerusalem are analyzed, but neither side has proved victorious, and the battle rages on locally and internationally, with serious implications for stability in the Middle East. The book provides a gripping account of the Camp David negotiations in 2000 which failed in part due to disagreement about ...

Author Bio
Professor Moshe Amirav is head of the School of Government at Beit Berl College and teaches Political Science at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. For many years he worked closely with the legendary Mayor of Jerusalem, Teddy Kollek, in charge of planning and development. In the 1980s, Amirav was the first to initiate negotiations with Faisal Husseini, the leader of the Palestinians in Jerusalem. The so-called Amirav-Husseini plan became the model for subsequent negotiations on Jerusalem in the Oslo, Camp David, and Geneva talks. As advisor to Prime Minister Ehud Barak during the Camp David negotiations Amirav headed a committee of experts who prepared blueprints for Jerusalem. He is a frequent lecturer at international conferences and forums on Jerusalem, and has authored five books and numerous articles on the subject.
Joseph Nevo

Summary
Throughout the decade that predated the 1967 war, Jordan's declared views regarding Israel and the Arab-Israeli conflict were not basically different from those of the Arab consensus. Namely, rejection of Israel's legitimacy. In the wake of the war King Hussein was the first Arab leader to realize that in order to regain the recently lost territories, which he considered a most vital and urgent task, he (and the other heads of state) would have to offer Israel a meaningful quid pro quo. Hence the shift in Jordan's policy was twofold: (1) A change of the traditional statements that had been made by the King and his officials prior to June 1967; and (2) a change in the views expressed by Jordanian spokespersons vis-à-vis the declarations of other Arab leaders. This book follows the evolution of Jordan's new perception through textual analysis of the public statements made by Jordan's leaders between 1967 and 1988. Jordan's demands from Israel and what its leader were willing to give in return are analysed, and the constant and changing components in Jordanian viewpoints identified.

Author Bio
Joseph Nevo is a Professor at the Department of Middle East History and a senior fellow at the Center for Gulf Studies in the University of Haifa. He was a senior associate member at the Middle East Centre, in St Antony's College, Oxford and a visiting scholar at Princeton University and at Meiji Gakuwin University (Tokyo). He has published extensively on the modern history of the Middle East, particularly on Jordan, on Saudi Arabia and on the Palestinians.

Los setenta grandes misterios del antiguo egipto
Bill Manley, Carmen Gomez Aragon, Nuria Castellano...

Summary
Seventeen Egyptologists and archaeologists probe the most compelling mysteries of ancient Egypt in this illustrated collection of 70 brief essays. Answers to age-old questions about Egyptian burial rituals, architecture, and royalty are provided, and recent discoveries are discussed-evidence that Tutankhamen was murdered, boats buried intact deep in the desert beside the tombs of the earliest kings, unexplained shafts inside the Great Pyramids aligned with the stars, and a massive mausoleum built for the many sons of Ramses II. The essays are supplemented with evocative photographs, diagrams, maps and plans. Dieciséis egiptólogos y arqueólogos exploran los misterios más fascinantes a la luz de los más recientes descubrimientos e investigaciones en esta colección ilustrada de 70 ensayos breves. Se proporcionan respuestas para algunas de las preguntas más comunes sobre rituales de muerte, arquitectura, y la monarquía, y descubrimientos recientes son discutidos: pruebas de que Tutankhamón fue asesinado; barcos intactos enterrados en lo más profundo del desierto junto a las tumbas de...

Author Bio
Bill Manley is a tutor in archaeology at the University of Glasgow, in Scotland, a research associate of the national museums of Scotland, and an honorary research fellow at the University of Liverpool. He is a contributor to How to Read Egyptian Hieroglyphs and the editor of The Penguin Historical Atlas of Ancient Egypt.
**Media Politics and Democracy in Palestine**  
*Political Culture, Pluralism, and the Palestinian Authority*  
Amal Jamal  

**Summary**  
This book examines the Palestinian process of state formation and the prospects for democracy in a future Palestinian state through a discussion of the roles played by the diverse civil institutions that exist outside the framework of the dominant Palestinian Authority political and social structure and, specifically, the various publications that each institution or movement produces. In opposition to the PA, liberal as well as Islamic social forces promote policies of protest and resistance, through media tools, against the authoritarian policies of the PA. The media is viewed as a public sphere in which these forces compete. Media institutions play an important role in setting the parameters of communication in processes of state building: promoting public debate and forming public spheres influence the modes of state-civil society relations. Combining concepts of political communication with social movement theory, the author examines the extent to which public opinion plays a role in determining the character of the political regime. The rising tension between the Palestinian Au...
Modern Syria
From Ottoman Rule to Pivotal Role in the Middle East
Moshe Ma'oz, Joseph Ginat

Summary
Discussing how Syria has long considered itself at the center of Arab nationalism and the struggle against Zionism, this work shows how Syria's actual grand ideological and strategic goal to achieve all-Arab unity has met obstacles in the form of political and economic conflicts between the two Ba'athist pan-Arab regimes in Damascus and Baghdad, as well as military defeat in both pan-Arab wars of 1948 and 1967. Issues such as Islamic opposition to the Ba'ath, the loss of Soviet support, Israeli military superiority, the alliance with Iran, the breaking of security protocols with Turkey, redeployment of Syrian troops out of Lebanon, and achieving the return of the Golan Heights, are addressed in relation to Syria's ability to balance domestic advances for its people with its more international aspirations.

Author Bio
Moshe Ma'oz is professor emeritus in the department of Islamic and Middle Eastern studies at Hebrew University. He is the author of several books, including Middle Eastern Minorities and Syria and Israel: From War to Peacemaking.

Muslim Attitudes to Jews and Israel
The Ambivalences of Rejection, Antagonism, Tolerance and Cooperation
Moshe Ma'oz

Summary
This book explains that while anti-Semitism is the credo of fanatic groups and regimes, such an attitude is not representative of traditional and contemporary Islam. Detailing how for centuries Muslim attitudes to Jews were ambivalent—contempt and antagonism alongside tolerance and cooperation—it explains that, in fact, Jews under Islam were better off than their Christian neighbors, and much better off than their Jewish brethren under Christianity. These complex relations are discussed here by Muslim and Jewish scholars—from Azerbaijan, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Israel, Jordan, Pakistan, Palestine, the United States, and Turkey—who analyze the religious, cultural, political, and economic factors that have shaped Muslim attitudes to Jews and Israel. Ideas and suggestions are put forward to improve Muslim-Jewish relations—the theme of which was first conceived at an international conference organized by the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, and the Divinity School, Harvard University.

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Oman and Overseas
Abdulrahman Al Salimi, Michaela Hoffmann-Ruf

**Summary**
Oman differs from other Arab countries of the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf region in having a long history as a unified state. It is also famous as a seafaring nation and for the Ibadi tradition of Islam practiced by most of the population. This volume contains the proceedings of a conference held in Tübingen in May 2011 with the aim of highlighting other, previously little known or studied aspects of Oman's history. The conference focused on the complex interrelationships between Oman and other countries bordering the Indian Ocean, and on views "from outside" of Oman's culture and religion. Researchers from a wide range of disciplines examined these questions and the approaches and conclusions presented here are similarly wide ranging, from the pre-Islamic archaeology of Oman and the multiple languages of East Africa, to the economic and cultural ties between Latin America and Oman. The technology and history of shipbuilding are also examined, using previously little-known source material. But however varied their themes, all the essays clearly emphasise Oman's significance as an ...

**Author Bio**
Michaela Hoffman-Ruf is a professor of Islamic studies at the Universiat Bonn in Germany. Abdulrahman Al Salimi is a professor of Islamic studies at the Institute of Shariah Sciences in Oman and the editor-in-chief of *Tolerance*, a journal dedicated to discussions of present-day religious and political issues.
**Oman and Overseas**

Michaela Hoffmann-Ruf, Abdulrahman Al Salimi

**Summary**

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Our Way to Fight
Israeli and Palestinian Activists for Peace
Michael Riordon

Summary
The news coming out of the Israel-Palestine conflict remains grim. The region remains a symbol of instability fueled by violence and hatred.

In *Our Way to Fight*, journalist and author Michael Riordon offers a different perspective, exploring the conflict through local Israeli and Palestinian peace activists who break all stereotypes. Riordon travels to thousand-year-old olive groves, besieged villages, refugee camps, checkpoints, and barracks, talking with people on both sides of the Wall who fight violence and war through creative resistance. He uncovers the crises that stirred them to act, the risks they face in working for peace, and the small victories that sustain them.

In the face of deepening conflict, *Our Way to Fight* is a portrait of courageous grassroots action that provides hope for a livable future and inspiration to peace activists in all nations.

Author Bio
A writer and an award-winning documentary filmmaker, Michael Riordon is the author of *An Unauthorized Biography of the World: Oral History on the Front Lines* and three other books.

Palestine 1948
War, Escape and the Emergence of the Palestinian Refugee Problem
Yoav Gelber

Summary
Based on new or newly interpreted Israeli, British and Arab documents, this book attempts to integrate present controversies concerning the development of the Jewish-Palestinian war from December 1947 to mid-May 1948 and the consecutive Israeli-Arab war. It follows the organization of both sides at the beginning of the war and the shaping of their respective war policies. Further, it describes the creation of the invading coalition and its disintegration in the wake of the Arab armies' military failure. The book stresses mainly the processes that led Palestinian society to its collapse and mass flight and the Israeli reactions and policies that turned this temporary escape into a long-lasting refugee problem. Emphasizing the different historical and cultural perspectives of the adversaries and the context of the war's development, it criticizes the approach of the Israeli "New Historians" who tend to isolate the refugee problem from the broader issues of the war and treat it separately.

Author Bio
Yoav Gelber is a professor of history at the University of Haifa and the head of the Herzl Institute for Research and Study of Zionism. He is the author of a number of books on Middle East affairs, including *Jewish-Transjordanian Relations, 1921-1948*. 
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Post-Saddam Iraq
New Realities, Old Identities, Changing Patterns
Amnon Cohen, Noga Efrati

Summary
Post-Saddam Iraq is the first comprehensive attempt to describe and analyze the major developments in Iraq from the US-led invasion until 2010. It is the product of specialists in the history of Iraq, the Arab and Muslim world, with a wide range of views of Iraq's past and present. The main focus is the internal political scene - increasingly developing along ethnic-sectarian and religious lines (Shi'is and Sunnis, Kurds and Arabs) - discussed in the context of re-emerging Iraqi national identity. Other major developments, not unrelated to politics, are also addressed: women's rights and economic trends. Post-Saddam Iraq provides an important external, international dimension to Iraq's post-war development through discussion of the central role played by the Iranian regime and its deep and multi-faceted involvement in the Iraqi internal scene; the ambivalent relations with Turkey, which concurrently serves as the main terrestrial channel of trade and economic ties with the world; and Iraq's persisting marginal position in the affairs of the Arab world. The political developments with...
Radical Islam in Egypt and Jordan
Nachman Tal

Summary
The rise of the Islamic fundamentalist movement as a social and political force is the most important development in the modern Arab world. Beginning in the late 1970s, radical Islam directly affected Egypt and Jordan, neighbors and co-signatories of peace treaties with Israel. The radical Islamic movement in both these countries assumed two forms - non-violent, represented mainly by the Muslim Brotherhood, and violent, represented by various terrorist groups. Both groups shared the objective of replacing the existing regimes with Islamic theocracies. ... Egypt and Jordan responded firmly to the growth of radical Islam, quashing terrorist activity. Successive Egyptian regimes attempted unsuccessfully to arrive at a compromise for coexistence with the Muslim Brotherhood, and resorted to firm countermeasures to strip the movement of its social and political power. In Jordan, where the Muslim Brotherhood enjoyed legal status, the regime kept a strict hold on the movement so that its influence would not exceed government-imposed limits. ... By the end of the 1990s, the Muslim Brotherhood and...

Author Bio
Dr. Tal was a senior official of Israel's General Security Service (GSS), head of the GSS Arab section and GSS commander of the Gaza Strip and Sinai district. He was a member of the Israeli delegation to the 1991 Madrid Conference, and a member of the Israeli delegation to the peace talks with the Jordanians, which led to the peace agreement that was signed in October 1994. He is currently a researcher at the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies and teaches in the security studies program Tel Aviv University.

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Rereading Israel
The Spirit of the Matter
Bonna Devora Haberman

Summary
Setting aside vitriolic debates and worn postures, *Rereading Israel* refreshes current conversations about Israel, opening Jewish sources to interpret Israel in critical, innovative, and inspiring ways. The book presents readers with an opportunity to engage ethically, intellectually, and emotionally, challenging them to apply the resources at their disposal to grapple honestly and creatively with land and people, history, text, and spirit. This consideration invites those who read into a deep exploration of their roles and their relationships to the destiny of a profoundly human and unfinished sacred project.

Author Bio
Bonna Devora Haberman is the founder and former director of the Mistabra Institute for Textual Activism at Brandeis University, and a former lecturer at Harvard University and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She has helped initiate a movement for women's public participation and leadership in Judaism and also codirects YTheater, an Israeli-Palestinian theater project.

Saladin
The Triumph of the Sunni Revival
A. R. Azzam

Summary
Narrating the life of Saladin, this groundbreaking biography places the 12th-century sultan of Egypt and Syria in historical context against the backdrop of the 10th- and 11th-century Sunni Revival, a powerful sweeping intellectual renaissance that transformed every field of Islamic thought. Islamic scholar A. R. Azzam contends that Saladin was not just the brilliant military commander of popular imagination but that his true greatness lay in his political and spiritual vision. Famous for driving the crusaders out of Jerusalem and for his bitter war of attrition with Richard the Lionheart, and fabled for his chivalry and generosity, he became the most powerful man in the Islamic empire, but died penniless, without enough money to line his coffin. In telling his fascinating and complex story, this study introduces readers to Saladin's society and the men with whom he surrounded himself, analyzing the vital religious, military, intellectual, and administrative roles they played.

Author Bio
A. R. Azzam is an independent scholar specializing in Islamic history. He received his doctorate in Islamic Studies from Oxford University.
**Spirit of the Phoenix**
*Beirut and the Story of Lebanon*
Tim Llewellyn

**Summary**
Sitting at the center of the war-torn Middle East, Lebanon seems eternally on the brink of crisis. But what is the country all about? Why has this tiny, fertile Mediterranean country--smaller than the state of Connecticut--become a world symbol of violence and chaos, able to impact the superpowers? And how have the Lebanese been able to thrive as a society and culture in the midst of such strife?

In *Spirit of the Phoenix: Understanding Beirut and the People of Lebanon* veteran journalist Tim Llewellyn looks to the people themselves for the answers. Wandering the countryside, the towns, and the streets of Beirut, where he lived during the country's civil war, he seeks out the essence of this diverse, volatile, fascinating land where many trace their ancestry to the ancient Phoenicians. The Druze, the Maronites, the Shia, Sunnis, Armenians, Alawites-Llewellyn encounters them all, talking with footsoldiers, priests, refugees, warlords, and gangsters to evoke the cacophony of narratives, cultures, and memories that resound throughout the country. Combining oral his...

**Author Bio**
Tim Llewellyn is a former BBC Middle East correspondent based in Beirut, where he covered the civil war. An important voice in the debate on the political future of the region, he currently writes for the *Guardian* and the *Observer*. He lives in London, England.

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**State Lands and Rural Development in Mandatory Palestine, 1920? 1948**
Warwick Tyler

**Summary**
The League of Nations' Mandate for Palestine imposed two duties on Britain as the administering power with regard to land: to closely settle Jews on state and waste lands (Article 6), and to promote closer settlement, intensive cultivation and rural development in the interests of all the people of Palestine (Article 11). Britain's failure to live up to Jewish expectations in these two areas provoked and sustained Zionist complaint throughout the entire period of the Mandate. This book examines British pledges and performance; Jewish hopes, disappointments and achievements; and Arab opposition and loss.

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**Strangers in Their Homeland**  
A Critical Study of Israel's Arab Citizens  
Ra'anan Cohen

**Summary**  
Too little is written about the ethnic-nationalist conflict between the State of Israel and its Arab citizens which becomes intensified with every regional event - from the US invasion of Iraq, to the second Lebanon war. The author addresses this lacunae by providing a detailed account of the situation of the Arab population of Israel: their political and electoral ambitions, their extended families/tribes, their lands, their political personalities, their society, and their hopes for the future. ... Beginning with the time when the Arabs were encouraged to belong to "satellite" factions under the auspices of the Labor Party, up to the fiercely nationalist Arab parties of today, former Member of Israel's Knesset and Cabinet Minister, Dr. Ra'an an Cohen examines the political changes that have taken place in the Israeli Arab community over recent decades. His unparalleled viewpoint and access as a researcher, and as former head of the Labor Party's Minorities Commission, provides Israel's decision-makers with meticulously researched data on the political and national challenges that need...

**Author Bio**  
Ra'an an Cohen was born in Iraq and came to Israel as a youth. From an early age he played an active role in Israeli politics and has been a member of consecutive Israeli Knessets (parliaments), in which he held various parliamentary positions, including Minister of Labour and Social Affairs. He also served a term as Secretary General of the Israel Labour Party. Ra'anan Cohen holds a Ph.D. from Tel Aviv University and, having retired from politics, he presently serves as Chairman of the Board of the Industrial Development Bank of Israel.

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**Syria and the Doctrine of Arab Neutralism**  
From Independence to Dependence  
Rami Ginat

**Summary**  
This book examines the modern history of post-mandatory Syria. The evolution of the Syrian ideology and policy of neutralism since the early stages of the Cold War is explained, and the effects that Arab neutralism had on shaping Syria's foreign policy and the shaping of its national identity are identified. ... The phenomenon of Arab neutralism has never before been comprehensively investigated. The prevailing belief is that the formulation and realization of the policy of anti-alignment began only during Nasser's first years in power in Egypt. However, the author demonstrates that the roots of neutralism were already sown in Arab soil in the early 1940s, and that successive Syrian governments carved out this policy during the final stages of World War II. ... A core issue in the analysis is the dynamic between ideology and policy. A conceptual framework is developed to explain the various patterns of neutralism that emerged, and the complex of relationships between features exhibited by Syria, the Arab world, and the Third World. The book makes extensive use of newly declassified mater...
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The "Magic Carpet" Exodus of Yemenite Jewry  
An Israeli Formative Myth  
Esther Meir-Glitsenstein

Summary
Reexamining the heroic myth that has developed around Operation Magic Carpet, during which the majority of Yemeni Jews-through the cooperation among the imam of Yemen, the British colonial rulers of Aden, the Israeli government, and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee-were resettled in Israel in 1949 and 1950, this study uses archival documents to reveal the enormous personal cost of the operation. The author argues that the abandonment of immigrants to death in the desert during their trek to Aden, and the substantive loss of personal property in leaving their homes at such short notice, calls into question the personal benefit of such a brutal upheaval and demands a reassessment of the aims of the immigration operation and its prime movers. Of particular importance is a discussion of the interests of the various states and organizations that were involved in the exodus, which it is posited can be seen in retrospect as the first stage in the evacuation of ancient Jewish communities throughout the Middle East and their transfer to Israel. On a more broadly political leve...

Author Bio
Esther Meir-Glitsenstein is an associate professor at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is the author of From Baghdad to Ramat-Gan: Iraqi Jews in Israel and Zionism in an Arab Country: Iraqi Jews in the 1940s.
The Arab Spring
Rebellion, Revolution and a New World Order
Toby Manhire

Summary
The Guardian live blog from 2011 is paired with essays, analysis, and commentary in this look at a year that shook a region and the world, how it happened, and what it means.

Spontaneous, unforeseen, and contagious, the uprisings of the Arab Spring took everyone—participants included—by surprise. Like revolutions in other times and places, they seemed impossible beforehand and inevitable afterwards. In mid-December 2010 the desperate act of a young Tunisian barely featured on the global news agenda. But it set off a chain reaction of extraordinary events that would unseat dictators, reshape the political landscape of North Africa and the Middle East, and affect the lives of millions of people. The Guardian has been running, often breathlessly, to follow the story and to explain it ever since. This is a tale of many chapters, told by the journalists, bloggers, and citizens who have lived through this incredible time.

Author Bio
Toby Manhire is a journalist and the former editor of the Guardian comment pages.

The Azerbaijani Turks
Power and Identity under Russian Rule
Audrey L. Alstadt

Summary
The first comprehensive account of Azerbaijan's rich and tumultuous history up to the present time.

Author Bio
Audrey L. Alstadt received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and has received postdoctoral fellowships from the Russian Research Center at Harvard University and the George F. Kennan Institute of Advanced Russian Studies. She conducted research in Baku, Azerbaijan, during the 1980-81 and 1984-85 and was the first American to gain access to the Azerbaijan State Historical Archives. She is currently a member of the history department at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.
**The Azerbaijani Turks**

*Power and Identity under Russian Rule*

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**The Camp David Summit ? What Went Wrong?**

*Americans, Israelis, and Palestinians Analyze the Failure of the Boldest Attempt Ever to Resolve the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict*

Shimon Shamir, Bruce Maddy-Weitzman

**Summary**
Essential reading for all those interested in Israeli-Arab relations, this work investigates the Camp David Summit of 2000, the most comprehensive effort ever to resolve a hundred-year conflict. It discusses how the summit not only ended in failure but was immediately followed by the eruption of unprecedented violence before also looking into topics that include the Israeli, Palestinian, and American participants; the Barak version and its critics; and the Clinton Parameters. The volume concludes with a political debate on what the future holds for conflict resolution between Israel and Palestine.

**Author Bio**
Shimon Shamir is the head of the Institute for Diplomacy and Regional Cooperation at Tel Aviv University. He is the former Israeli ambassador to Egypt and Jordan. Bruce Maddy-Weitzman is the principal research fellow at the Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies at Tel Aviv University. He is the author of *The Crystallization of the Arab State System, 1945-1954*. 
The Camp David Summit: What Went Wrong?
Americans, Israelis, and Palestinians Analyze the Failure of the Boldest Attempt Ever to Resolve the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict
Shimon Shamir, Bruce Maddy-Weitzman

Summary
Essential reading for all those interested in Israeli-Arab relations, this work investigates the Camp David Summit of 2000, the most comprehensive effort ever to resolve a hundred-year conflict. It discusses how the summit not only ended in failure but was immediately followed by the eruption of unprecedented violence before also looking into topics that include the Israeli, Palestinian, and American participants; the Barak version and its critics; and the Clinton Parameters. The volume concludes with a political debate on what the future holds for conflict resolution between Israel and Palestine.

Author Bio
Shimon Shamir is the head of the Institute for Diplomacy and Regional Cooperation at Tel Aviv University. He is the former Israeli ambassador to Egypt and Jordan. Bruce Maddy-Weitzman is the principal research fellow at the Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies at Tel Aviv University. He is the author of The Crystallization of the Arab State System, 1945-1954.

The City of Abraham
History, Myth and Memory: A Journey through Hebron
Edward Platt

Summary
A journey to the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and an account of the shared roots of the three great monotheistic religions of the Middle East

One of the world's most divided cities, Hebron is the only place in the West Bank where Palestinians and Israelis live side by side. This book's journey begins with a hill called Tel Rumeida, the site of ancient Hebron, where the patriarch Abraham-father of the Jews and the Arabs-was supposed to have lived when he arrived in the Promised Land. Through a mixture of travel writing, reportage, and interviews, Edward Platt tells the history of the hill and the city in which it stands, and explores the mythic roots of the struggle to control the land. He meets the Palestinian residents of Tel Rumeida, and the messianic settlers who have made their homes in a block of flats that stands on stilts on an excavated corner of the site. He meets the archeologists who have attempted to reconstruct the history of the hill. He meets the soldiers who serve in Hebron, and the intermediaries who try to keep the peace in the divided city. This book...

Author Bio
Edward Platt is the author of Leadville, which won a Somerset Maugham Award and the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize.
The Druze in the Middle East
Their Faith, Leadership, Identity and Status
Nissim Dana

Summary
This book discusses the Druze in the Middle East in general, with a particular focus of the Druze relationship with the State of Israel.

Author Bio
Nissim Dana is Lecturer in Academic Religions and Cultures of Peoples in the Middle East at Bar-Ilan University, and the Academic College of Judea and Samaria. He has many years' experience in governmental and public positions, in the context of which he remains in close contact with the heads of religious communities in Israel and abroad.

The Emergence of States in a Tribal Society
Oman Under Sa'id bin Taymur, 1932-1970
Uzi Rabi

Summary
This book reassesses the reign of Sa'id bin Taymur, who was deposed by his son, Qabus bin Sa'id, in a coup in July 1970. Contemporary historiography of the period of Sa'id's rule (1932-1970) views Oman as medieval and isolationist; Qabus' later government is seen as progressive and enlightened, with his ascendancy to the throne often described as the "rebirth of Oman" from its "medieval slumber" into a thriving and prosperous Sultanate. This study refutes the prevailing view that Sa'id's four-decade reign should be perceived as a place where time stood still. The author offers a critical look at the economic, political, social and cultural aspects of Oman during the reign of Sa'id bin Taymur. ... The Emergence of States in a Tribal Society mainly focuses on tribe-state relations, emphasizing their dynamic interaction, with particular attention paid to the relationships between the tribal groups. Uzi Rabi's book reinterprets a significant timescale in the modern history of the Arabian Peninsula and pre-oil societies, and will be essential reading for both students and scholars of Middle...
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Author Bio
Prof. Uzi Rabi PhD (Tel Aviv University, 2000) is the Chair of the Department of Middle Eastern and African History, and the Director of the Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies, Tel Aviv University. He specializes in the fields of the modern history of states and societies in the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula; oil and politics in the Middle East; Iranian-Arab relations; and Sunni-Shi'i tensions.

The Gaza Strip
Its History and Politics ? From the Pharaohs to the Israeli Invasion of 2009
Nathan Shachar

Summary
This book relates the Gaza Strip's rich and tumultuous history in a highly readable text, which includes time-lines for all major events and personalities from the Egyptian Pharaoh Thutmose III to Hamas' leader Isma'il Haniye. Nathan Shachar, a veteran correspondent who has covered Gazan affairs for more than three decades who has personally witnessed much of the turmoil that has made the Gaza Strip a permanent item of news bulletins for 60 years, it brings perspective to the recent Israeli invasion of the Strip and its political and social aftermath.

Author Bio
Nathan Shachar is the Jerusalem correspondent of the Swedish daily Dagens Nyheter. He is the author of several books, including The Mysterious Passion and a prize-winning collection of essays on the Middle East and Latin America.
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**The Holy Places of Jerusalem in Middle East Peace Agreements**

*The Conflict between Global and State Identities*

Enrico Molinaro

**Summary**

Throughout history, Jerusalem and its Holy Places have been the objects of fierce religious controversy over worship rights, such as the Holy Sepulchre inter-Christian disputes and the Har Ha Bait/Haram Al Sharif (Temple Mount/Noble Sanctuary) Israeli-Jewish/Palestinian-Muslim disputes. This multidisciplinary study offers two competing political ways of interpreting these disputes and the Arab-Israeli conflict in general: the state/national (territorial) perspective focuses on Israelis and Palestinians as the two main groups entitled to possession of and worship in Jerusalem’s Holy Places; the global/transnational perspective, on the other hand, entitles millions of Jews, Christians, Muslims and their respective clergy worldwide to raise claims to the city's Holy Places as universal symbols of devotion and worship. ... This work provides international law practitioners and Middle East scholars with a thorough overview of the legal, historical and diplomatic interpretation of the provisions embodied in the international documents adopted in the Middle East Peace Process. In addition to ...

**Author Bio**

Enrico Molinaro is is founder, organizer, and fundraiser of the non-profit association Mediterranean Perspectives, and Primary Coordinator of international scholarly conferences with the participation of academic, diplomatic, religious and political authorities. He lectures at Luiss University's Doctoral Program of Political Theory, and at La Sapienza University's Master Program of International Protection of Human Rights in Rome, Italy. He has also authored the book *Negotiating Jerusalem* (Passia, 2002).
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The Iraq War
Hidden Agendas and Babylonian Intrigue
Raphael Israeli

Summary
Through the prism of the three major conflicts during Saddam Hussein's reign—the Iran-Iraq War, the Gulf War, and the War on Iraq—Raphael Israeli exposes the tyranny, deception, and terror synonymous with the Ba'ath regime. Focusing on Iraq's demographic populations, including the Shi'ites in the south, the Kurdish north, and the Sunni ruling minority, the author documents the difficulties the United States faces internally as rulers of an occupied land, and internationally as a perceived unilateralist aggressor. This work contains revealing insights into Saddam's nuclear, chemical, and biological programs; his sponsorship of terrorist groups; and his collaboration with other countries, including Syria and France. Testimonies of scientists, along with Israeli's intelligent analysis, expose the true scale of weapons of mass destruction proliferation in Ba'athist Iraq. The book concludes with an evaluation of who won and who gained from this war, and what the future holds for Iraqis, Muslims, and the West.

Author Bio
Raphael Israeli is a professor of Islamic, Middle Eastern, and Chinese history at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is the author of several books, including Muslim Minorities in Modern States and The Islamic Challenge in Europe.
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**The Israeli Dilemma**

A Debate Between Two Left-Wing Jews: Letters Between Marcel Liebman and Ralph Miliband  
Gilbert Achcar

**Summary**

Examining the future of Palestinians and Israelis, this debate explores the volatile relationship between the two groups and their ongoing struggle to coexist. Through the letters of two friends, complex issues are discussed, including how secular Jews outside Israel should define their loyalties, who should be allowed community and national rights in Palestine, appropriate reactions to conflict, and the conditions for lasting peace.

**Author Bio**

Gilbert Achcar teaches politics and international relations at the University of Paris-VIII. He is a frequent contributor to *Le Monde Diplomatique* and is the author of several books on contemporary politics, including *The Clash of Barbarisms: September 11 and the Making of the New World Disorder* and *Eastern Cauldron: Islam, Afghanistan, Palestine, and Iraq in a Marxist Mirror.*
The Jews of Lebanon
Between Coexistence and Conflict
Kirsten Schulze

Summary
This is the first book to tell the story of the Jews of Lebanon in the twentieth century. It challenges the prevailing view that Jews everywhere in the Middle East were second-class citizens, and were persecuted after the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948. The Jews of Lebanon were just one of Lebanon's 23 minorities with the same rights and privileges, and subject to the same political tensions. The author discusses the Jewish presence in Lebanon under Ottoman Rule; Lebanese Jews under the French mandate; Lebanese Jewish identity after the establishment of the State of Israel; the increase of the community through Syrian refugees; the Jews' position in the first civil war; the beginning of their exodus; the virtual extinction of the Jewish community as a result of the prolonged second civil war and the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon; and finally the community's memory of their Lebanese past.

The Jews of Libya
Coexistence, Persecution, Resettlement
Maurice M. Roumani

Summary
This book investigates the transformative period in the history of the Jews of Libya (1938-52), a period crucial to understanding Libyan Jewry's evolution into a community playing significant roles in Israel, Italy and in relation with Qaddafi's Libya. Against a background of a reform conscious Ottoman administration (1835-1911) and subsequent stirrings of modernization under Italian colonial influence (1911-43), the Jews of Libya began to experience rapid change following the application of fascist racial laws of 1938, the onset of war-related calamities and violent expressions of Libyan pan-Arabism, culminating in mass migration to Israel in the period 1949-52. By focusing on key socio-economic and political dimensions of this process, the author reveals the capacity of Libyan Jewry to adapt to and integrate into new environments without losing its unique and historical traditions. The evolution of Libyan Jewry between 1938 and 1952 is characterized by three pivotal developments: The first (1938-43) was one of disruption and dislocation, brought about by the oppressive colon...

Author Bio
Maurice M. Roumani, born in Benghazi, Libya, is a Senior Lecturer in Political Sociology and the Middle East at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel where he is also the founder and Director of the J.R. Elyachar Center for the Study of Sephardi Heritage. A graduate of Brandeis University, the University of Chicago and the University of London, he has held teaching and research positions at Harvard University.
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The Middle East Strategic Balance 2003?2004
Shai Feldman, Yiftah S. Shapir

Summary
The Middle East Strategic Balance is prepared annually by the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, Tel Aviv University, to provide an authoritative and indispensable guide to strategic developments and military capabilities in the Middle East. MESB offers a comprehensive insightful assessment of the complex Middle East strategic environment. Governments and the media pay close attention to the data and analysis, and the work is quoted extensively. ...Based on unique sources and professional assessment the 2003-2004 Strategic Balance presents the most accurate and comprehensive military posture of the countries in the Middle East. Up-to-date figures and information on defense budgets, procurement, equipment holdings, military deployments, WMD listings, and foreign aid; and key components of military force structures such as major changes to the orders of battle, and a survey of personnel, weapons and equipment holdings, non-conventional capabilities and ballistic missiles, are presented in accessible and easy to use formats. Published in association with the Jaffee Center for Strategic ...
The Middle East Strategic Balance 2004-2005
Zvi Shtauber, Yiftah S. Shapir

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The Middle East Strategic Balance 2005?2006
Zvi Shtauber, Yiftah S. Shapir

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The Myth of the Great Satan
A New Look at America's Relations with Iran
Abbas Milani

Summary
This critical review of the history of America's relations with Iran shows how little of the two countries' long and complicated relationship is reflected in the foundational axioms of the "Great Satan" myth. The author explains why meaningful and equitable relations can begin only after the two n...

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Author Bio
Abbas Milani is a research fellow and codirector of the Iran Democracy Project at the Hoover Institution and the Hamid and Christina Moghadam Director of Iranian Studies at Stanford University. He has published more than twenty books; the most recent is Eminent Persians: The Men and Women Who Made Modern Iran, 1941-1979 (2008).
The Nation State and Religion
The Resurgence of Faith
Anita Shapira, Yedidia Z. Stern, Alexander Yakobso...

Summary
The second of a three-volume set, this work addresses the key challenges facing the contemporary nation state from a global perspective with a special emphasis on the Middle East and Israel. Reflecting research conducted under the auspices of the Israel Democracy Institute's Nation State Project, this volume examines the role of religion in the nation state and the tension between nationality and religion as it is expressed today in society, politics, law, and culture. The book offers a broad-based and in-depth comparative look at this issue in relation to different religions-including Christianity, Islam, and Judaism-and relative to varied nation states, such as the United States, France, Canada, Pakistan, Turkey, Syria, and the Palestinian Authority. Additionally, special emphasis is given to the Jewish nation state of Israel, where there is an ongoing struggle about the role of religion in the public sphere.

Author Bio
Anita Shapira is professor emerita of Jewish history at Tel Aviv University and specializes in the history of Zionism, the Jewish community in Palestine, and the State of Israel. She is currently an editor of the biographical series Jewish Lives at Yale University Press and a senior fellow at the Israel Democracy Institute. Yedidia Z. Stern is the vice president of research at the Israel Democracy Institute and a professor of law at Bar-Ilan University. Alexander Yakobson is an Israeli historian and political activist and the author of Israel and the Family of Nations.

The Nixon Administration and the Middle East Peace Process, 1969?
1973
From the Rogers Plan to the Outbreak of the Yom Kippur War
Boaz Vanetik, Zaki Shalom

Summary
In the years following the Yom Kippur War, many studies addressed the internal and international political background prior to the war, attempting to determine causes and steps by political players and parties in Israel, Egypt, and the United States. But to date there has been no comprehensive study based on archival materials and other primary sources. Classified documents from that period have recently become available and it is now possible to examine in depth a crucial period in Middle East history generally and Israeli history in particular. The authors provide a penetrating and insightful viewpoint on the question that lies at the heart of the Israeli polity and military: Was an opportunity missed to prevent the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War? The book provides surprising answers to longstanding issues: How did National Security Adviser, Henry Kissinger, succeed in torpedoing the efforts of the State Department to bring about an interim agreement between Israel and Egypt in 1971? Would that agreement have allowed Israel to hold on to most of the Sinai Peninsula for many years a...

Author Bio
Boaz Vanetik is a history lecturer at the Achva Academic College, Israel. Zaki Shalom is a senior researcher at the Ben-Gurion Research Institute, Ben-Gurion University and a senior research fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies, Tel Aviv University. He has published widely on the Middle East, including Israel's Nuclear Option.
The Palestine Papers
The End of the Road?
Clayton E. Swisher, Dr. Ghada Karmi

Summary
Documents from the classified papers leaked to Al-Jazeera in January give the clearest account yet of what really goes on in Middle East peace talks, including revealing off-the-record remarks made by Condoleezza Rice, Tony Blair, Mahmoud Abbas, and other key players.

In January 2011, Al-Jazeera television published 1,600 pages of confidential papers and memoranda from the last five years of peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. This book presents complete texts of a number of the most important papers, along with an analysis that reveals a complex, tortuous, and so far unproductive Palestine-Israeli peace process, in a rare, unfiltered look at a current topic as it unfolds. Issues discussed include the Israeli illegal settlements, the Hamas rockets, the Israeli Wall, the invasion of Gaza, the rights of Palestinian refugees, and the move to define Israel as an exclusively Jewish state. For the first time it is possible to compare public utterances, such as "the settlements must go" from Palestine and "we want the Palestinians to have a viable state" from Israel and...

Author Bio
Clayton E. Swisher is the head of the Al-Jazeera Transparency Unit and the author of The Truth About Camp David. Dr. Ghada Karmi is a Palestinian academic and the author of In Search of Fatima.

The Palestinian Regime
A "Partial Democracy"
As'ad Ghanem

Summary
In examining the new political order that emerged in the West Bank and Gaza after the establishment of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in 1994, this book demonstrates that two political systems exist in the West Bank and Gaza Strip: one which is active, undemocratic and dominant; and one which is passive, democratic and overshadowed by the first. As'ad Ghanem demonstrates how Yasser Arafat has created an authoritarian regime and how he controls this through the concentration of power, intimidation and bribery, after having shoved aside the forces that had shaped the emerging political order that had come into being before the establishment of the PNA. This order, which incorporated political pluralism, struggle, protest on behalf of change, and voluntary organizations that were the first sign of the appearance of a Palestinian civil society, functions as a weak shadow of Arafat's centralized regime.
The Palestinians Between Terrorism and Statehood
Pinhas Inbari

Summary
The appearance of urban Islamic terrorism in the West cannot be understood without some familiarity with the internal Palestinian argument. Pinhas Inbari's book provides an in-depth account of the current Israel-Palestinian peace process, dealing in particular with the factors on the Palestinian side vital to an understanding of the dynamics of the process, including: developments in the Israeli-occupied territories; and the internal struggles within the PLO and between the PLO and its adversaries.

Two factors make this book essential reading for all those who have an interest in Middle East Politics: previously unpublished revelations concerning the internal developments in the PLO that were to transform it from an anti-American military organization into a pro-American political-diplomatic organization; and a detailed analysis of the dangers to all parties to the peace process of urban terrorism from extremist factions. Chapters include "The Threatening Sword of Hamas" and "Who Blew Up the New York Trade Center?"

Author Bio
Pinhas Inbari is a veteran Arab affairs correspondent who formerly reported for Israel Radio and Al Hamishmar newspaper. He is an analyst for the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs.

The Ring of Myths
The Israelis, Wagner and the Nazis
Na'ama Sheffi, Martha Grenzeback, Talisman Miriam

Summary
In the fall of 1938, following Kristallnacht, the symphonic orchestra in Palestine cancelled the performance of Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg. No one could foresee that this would be the beginning of a never-ending boycott. This analysis of the controversy sheds light on the boycott that began in a society struggling for its existence and collective identity and continues in a well-established culture that maintains close ties with Germany and German culture. At present Wagner is known in Israel mainly as a symbol of the Holocaust; he is the only composer who aroused strong opposition when attempts were made to publicly play his music. The Ring of Myths includes interpretations from new perspectives on the place of the Holocaust in Israeli society and the processes of change until 2012.

Author Bio
Na'ama Sheffi teaches at the School of Communication at Sapir College in Sderot, Israel. She has published extensively on German and Israeli culture, and her publications include German in Hebrew: Translations from German into Hebrew in Jewish Palestine, 1882-1948.
The Rise and Fall of the Mojahedin Khalq, 1987?1997
Their Survival After the Islamic Revolution and Resistance to the Islamic Republic of Iran
Ronen Cohen

Summary
The Mojahedin Khalq Organization is an Iranian political party that helped Khomeini's religious sect in Iran bring about the Islamic revolution of 1979, after being at the forefront of opposition to the rule of the Shah. However, as the revolution got underway the Mojahedin, which used some elements of Mao Tse Tung's political and warfare philosophy, were sidelined by the religious clerics and were expelled from the political arena. They responded by attacking the dominant polity through democratic means (such as political demonstrations, increasing the role of women), and later through armed resistance via Iraq, to become the most significant opposition powerbase to the current regime of Iran. ... The author details the Organization's relations with Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority, European host nations, and most particularly with Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi military, and the end of war (1980-1988) negotiations between Iran and Iraq. Towards the end of its major activities, the Organization acted as little more than a cult, demanding total reverence to its leader Massoud ...

Author Bio
Dr. Ronen A. Cohen is a lecturer at the Ariel University Center of Samaria, Israel. His specialties include modern Iranian history and culture, Islamic terrorism, and clandestine international affairs. He is a book reviewer and commentator for Israeli newspapers, and a member of The Menachem Begin Institute for the Study of Underground and Resistance Movements at Bar-Ilan University.

The Search for Israeli?Arab Peace
Learning from the Past and Building Trust
Edwin G. Corr, Joseph Ginat, Shaul M. Gabbay

Summary
Distinguished academic and practitioner contributors from the Middle East, Europe and the US present a range of social science oriented options to get the peace process back on track. Using the history of the last half century of talks and negotiations, and contributor experience in negotiations, suggestions, proposals and formulas are presented to the contending parties that would develop a greater level of mutual empathy, understanding and trust that is required to jump-start the stalled peace talks into sincere and serious negotiations needed to achieve a comprehensive, lasting Middle East peace accord. ... The focus of this volume is on how to achieve an agreement, not on the components of viable peace agreements, which the editors believe largely exist and are the subject of a number of earlier studies, books and the texts of draft accords reached previously in government-to-government and in private-parties negotiations. The editors and contributors assume a two-state solution based on "land for peace" and emphasize the importance of the role of outside mediators, especially the ...
The Syrian Rebellion
Fouad Ajami

Fouad Ajami offers a detailed historical perspective on the current rebellion in Syria. Focusing on the similarities and differences in skills between former dictator Hafez al-Assad and his successor son, Bashar, Ajami explains how an irresistible force clashed with an immovable object: the regime ...

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Author Bio
Fouad Ajami is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution and the cochair of the Herbert and Jane Dwight Working Group on Islamism and the International Order. From 1980 to 2011 he was director of Middle East Studies at the Johns Hopkins University. He is the author of The Arab Predicament, Beirut: City of Regrets, The Dream Palace of the Arabs, and The Foreigner's Gift. His writings also include some four hundred essays on Arab and Islamic politics, US foreign policy, and contemporary international history. Ajami has received numerous awards, including the Benjamin Franklin Award for public service (2011), the Eric Breindel Award for Excellence in Opinion Journalism (2011), the Bradley Prize (2006), the National Humanities Medal (2006), and the MacArthur Fellows Award (1982). His research has charted the road to 9/11, the Iraq war, and the US presence in the Arab-Islamic world.

The Threat of Ballistic Missiles in the Middle East
Active Defense and Counter-Measures
Arieh Stav

Summary
The potential threat from primitive, inexpensive ballistic missiles, especially when armed with means of mass destruction, represents a major development in the arms race. The accelerated escalation in the number, range, and load-carrying capabilities of the missiles in the last decade has occurred because the technologies required to manufacture a missile of the Scud type and its derivatives are simple, cheap, and readily available. In contrast, interception requires technologies found only at the forefront of twenty-first century military science. This disparity, favoring the aggressor, forms a tremendous temptation for Arab states in the Middle East - such as Egypt, Libya, Syria and Iran - to build up stocks of missiles. ... The Threat of Ballistic Missiles in the Middle East addresses the complex issue of defense against ballistic missiles by intercepting them at various stages of their trajectory: during launching - such as the Boost Phase Interception (BPI) project being developed by RAFAEL; in the middle of their trajectory, outside the atmosphere - such as the THAAD project of ...
Who's Left in Israel?
Radical Political Alternatives for the Future of Israel
Dan Leon

Author Bio
Dan Leon is a writer and editor who lives in Jerusalem. He is a former senior editor of the New Outlook magazine and comanaging editor of the Palestine-Israel Journal.

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