

A History of Israel

by Ahron Bregman (2002)

(Palgrave Essential Histories Series)

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A History of Israel explores Israel's turbulent history from the first Zionist Congress of 1897 to the present day. Drawing on his considerable experience as historian and journalist, Ahron Bregman offers a balanced examination of Israel's past in which the three principal driving themes of Jewish immigration, wars, and attempts to forge peace with Arabs and Palestinians combine into a single compelling narrative.

New insights, revelations appearing in print for the first time, and portraits of Israeli leaders, past and present, are adeptly woven together with an overview of major events. This incisive book will be welcomed by all with an interest in the fascinating history of Israel.

Ahron Bregman was born in Israel and was an officer in the Israeli Army. He is the author of two previous books: *The Fifty Years War: Israel and the Arabs* (1998), the companion book to a six-part BBC/PBS television documentary, and *Israel's Wars: A History since 1947* (2000, new edition 2002). He is currently Lecturer in History at Webster University, London, and also writes for national newspapers in both England and America.

Reviews

'A History of Israel includes new revelations...Bregman reveals new facts never- before-published about the senior Egyptian spy who worked for the Mossad and was nicknamed 'The Son-in-Law' on account of his family ties with President Nasser.' - Rami Tal, Yediot Aharonot

'A History of Israel is a fascinating book. An easy to read understanding of the recent history of Israel. Bregman has a unique insight into the behind the scenes history of Israel and its leaders.' - Jewish Books Online

'Complete with quotes from secret meetings and a draft of a 1992 secret agreement between Israel and Syria, the book is an easy-to-read guide to the politics of the Middle East.' - Jewish Chronicle

'Ahron Bregman's newly released book A History of Israel is a fascinating book. An easy to read understanding of the recent history of Israel. Bregman has a unique insight into the behind the scenes history of Israel and its leaders. Highly recommended both as a gift and required reading.' - Jewish Books Online

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'Writing about an area as steeped in controversy as Israel can be a daunting task. Bregman, who has written extensively on Israeli history, does an excellent job in this text of offering unbiased and authoritative descriptions of the causes and consequences of the various conflicts that have arisen between the Israelis and the Arabs. Bregman takes looks at the history of Israel from a purely secular perspective, yet he does so without denigrating religious Jews, and others, who see the founding of the modern state of Israel as the fulfillment of Biblical Prophecy...Into his compelling and historical narrative, Bregman has seamlessly interwoven newly uncovered information about Israel's past, as well as brief sketches of the major political figures that had a hand in shaping Israeli history...A History of Israel is ideal for the general reader wishing to learn about Israeli history in general, and as a resource by which to understand the current conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians...Overall, Bregman presents a comprehensive and readable introduction to modern Israeli history that is both educational and enthralling.' - Anna Dogole, The Jewish Eye

'A good read.' - Carmel Vassallo, Journal of Mediterranean Studies

The history of ancient Israel is constructed through excavations as well as the Bible and other sources. When scholars refer to "ancient Israel," they often refer to the tribes, kingdoms and dynasties formed by the ancient Jewish people in the Levant (an area that encompasses modern-day Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria). Scholars draw largely on three sources to reconstruct the history of ancient Israel – archaeological excavations, the Hebrew Bible and texts that are not found in the Hebrew Bible. The use of the Hebrew Bible poses difficulty for scholars as some of the accounts are widely thought to be mythical. Early history. The earliest mention of the word "Israel" comes from a stele (an inscription carved on stone) erected by the Egyptian pharaoh Merneptah (reign ca. 1213-1203 BC). The Kingdom of Israel occupied that part of the land on the Mediterranean Sea known as the Levant which corresponds roughly to the State of Israel of modern... A History of Ancient Israel and Judah. Written by J. Maxwell Miller & John H. Hayes, published by Westminster Press (1986). \$27.31. A History of the Ancient Near East ca. 3000 - 323 BC, 2nd Edition. Written by Van De Mieroop, Marc, published by Blackwell Publishing (2006). The history of Israel starts with God's covenant with Abraham - the promise of a great nation, their own land, and a blessing for all nations. History of Israel Timeline Summary. First a few key points about the nation (people) of Israel: Israel (the nation) is over 3,000 years old. Israel was destined to become a great nation. Israel was destined to be a blessing to all nations. Israel is also a chosen (unique) nation – a special people planned to be God's witness. Israel will exist as long as the sun, moon and stars exist. Israel, or rather a saved remnant, will enter Christ's Kingdom age on this earth (the Millennium).