



policy rested on the shaky pairing of a trigger-happy approach to the use of force with a hesitant and reactive peace diplomacy, *Defending the Holy Land* recounts in minute-by-minute detail how the ascendancy of Israel's security establishment over its foreign policy apparatus led to unnecessary wars and missed opportunities for peace. A scathing and brilliant revisionist history, *Defending the Holy Land* calls for sweeping reform of Israel's foreign policy and national security establishments. This book will fundamentally transform the way readers think about Israel's troubled history. Zeev Maoz is Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Davis. He is the former head of the Graduate School of Government and Policy and of the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University, as well as the former academic director of the M.A. Program at the Israeli Defense Forces' National Defense College. Cover photograph: Israel, Jerusalem, Western Wall and The Dome of The Rock. Courtesy of Corbis.

Second Edition, Revised and Expanded

A pilgrimage to the Holy Land (Israel) is the ultimate goal of every Christian and Jewish pilgrim. The Holy Land is the setting of most of the stories in the Scriptures. To enter the Promised Land and see the sites of familiar Bible stories is like traveling back in time. Pilgrim Tours provides the pilgrim with the opportunity to journey back to the time of Abraham, Elijah, Jesus and many other sacred luminaries of Biblical history. The most notable places on the tour are: (1) Caesarea, the famous port city; (2) Mount Carmel, where the prophet Elijah demonstrated the preeminence of his God; (3) Megiddo, where archaeologists have unearthed twenty levels of civilizations; (4) Tel Dan, a nature reserve and the ancient site of a cultic high place; (5) Baniyas (Caesarea Philippi), the site of a Hellenic Temple of Pan; (6) Capernaum, known as the town of Jesus; (7) the Sea of Galilee, where a song-filled cruise on the waters that Jesus walked on brings joy and peace to the pilgrim's soul. The best guide in the world, Marian Gavish, brings the history, culture, and religions of Israel into a comprehensive and understandable format with her instructive talks and discussions as we journey through: (8) Beit Shean, a Decapolis city at the juncture of the Jezreel and Jordan valleys; (9) Masada, where the Jewish Zealots made their last stand against the Romans; (10) Qumran, site of the famous Dead Sea Scrolls; (11) Bethany Beyond Jordan, the place of the original baptism; (12) Jerusalem, from the Mount of Olives to the Via Dolorosa; (13) the Temple Mount; (14) museums - the Israel Museum and Yad HaShem. Many more places and experiences highlight a once in a lifetime pilgrimage that is thoroughly covered in this book.

This 1894 book on the historical geography of Palestine was immediately recognised as a major work of scholarship. *Lords of the Land* tells the tragic story of Jewish settlement in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In the aftermath of the 1967 war and Israel's devastating victory over its Arab neighbors, catastrophe struck both the soul and psyche of the state of Israel. Based on years of research, and written by one of Israel's leading historians and journalists, this involving narrative focuses on the settlers themselves -- often fueled by messianic zeal but also inspired by the original Zionist

settlers -- and shows the role the state of Israel has played in nurturing them through massive economic aid and legal sanctions. The occupation, the authors argue, has transformed the very foundations of Israel's society, economy, army, history, language, moral profile, and international standing. "The vast majority of the 6.5 million Israelis who live in their country do not know any other reality," the authors write. "The vast majority of the 3.5 million Palestinians who live in the regions of their occupied land do not know any other reality. The prolonged military occupation and the Jewish settlements that are perpetuating it have toppled Israeli governments and have brought Israel's democracy and its political culture to the brink of an abyss."

"Discover the Land of Israel - Volume Two" with Yossi Maimon. As you read the pages of this book, think of yourself on tour with Maimon, who is an Israeli tour guide in the Land of Israel, in Eretz HaKodesh, the Holy Land. ... Together, you will travel from the Golan Heights in the north of Israel to the Negev in the south. You will stand on the tops of mountains and in the bottoms of valleys looking at the Holy Land that was promised by God to be a Land for the Jewish people. You will journey on the Road Of The Patriarchs from the battlefields of yesterday to modern cities of today so that you can discover the history that happened in each place, maybe hundreds of years apart, that has shaped God's people and their land into who they are today. You will get a feel of what it was like to live with the Patriarchs, the Judges, the Prophets, and the Kings. Accompanying you, to help better understand this history will be the holy writings from Tanach, Talmud, and Midrash. ... Maimon, the author, has successfully woven these writings into his modern-day tour of the biblical sites in Israel to understand the stories behind the stories.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW AND THE ECONOMIST Winner of the Natan Book Award, the National Jewish Book Award, and the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award An authoritative and deeply personal narrative history of the State of Israel, by one of the most influential journalists writing about the Middle East today Not since Thomas L. Friedman's groundbreaking From Beirut to Jerusalem has a book captured the essence and the beating heart of the Middle East as keenly and dynamically as My Promised Land. Facing unprecedented internal and external pressures, Israel today is at a moment of existential crisis. Ari Shavit draws on interviews, historical documents, private diaries, and letters, as well as his own family's story, illuminating the pivotal moments of the Zionist century to tell a riveting narrative that is larger than the sum of its parts: both personal and national, both deeply human and of profound historical dimension. We meet Shavit's great-grandfather, a British Zionist who in 1897 visited the Holy Land on a Thomas Cook tour and understood that it was the way of the future for his people; the idealist young farmer who bought land from his Arab neighbor in the 1920s to grow the Jaffa oranges that would create Palestine's booming economy; the visionary youth group leader who, in the 1940s,

transformed Masada from the neglected ruins of an extremist sect into a powerful symbol for Zionism; the Palestinian who as a young man in 1948 was driven with his family from his home during the expulsion from Lydda; the immigrant orphans of Europe's Holocaust, who took on menial work and focused on raising their children to become the leaders of the new state; the pragmatic engineer who was instrumental in developing Israel's nuclear program in the 1960s, in the only interview he ever gave; the zealous religious Zionists who started the settler movement in the 1970s; the dot-com entrepreneurs and young men and women behind Tel-Aviv's booming club scene; and today's architects of Israel's foreign policy with Iran, whose nuclear threat looms ominously over the tiny country. As it examines the complexities and contradictions of the Israeli condition, *My Promised Land* asks difficult but important questions: Why did Israel come to be? How did it come to be? Can Israel survive? Culminating with an analysis of the issues and threats that Israel is currently facing, *My Promised Land* uses the defining events of the past to shed new light on the present. The result is a landmark portrait of a small, vibrant country living on the edge, whose identity and presence play a crucial role in today's global political landscape. Praise for *My Promised Land* "This book will sweep you up in its narrative force and not let go of you until it is done. [Shavit's] accomplishment is so unlikely, so total . . . that it makes you believe anything is possible, even, God help us, peace in the Middle East."—Simon Schama, *Financial Times* "[A] must-read book."—Thomas L. Friedman, *The New York Times* "Important and powerful . . . the least tendentious book about Israel I have ever read."—Leon Wieseltier, *The New York Times Book Review* "Spellbinding . . . Shavit's prophetic voice carries lessons that all sides need to hear."—*The Economist* "One of the most nuanced and challenging books written on Israel in years."—*The Wall Street Journal*

The *Oxford Illustrated History of the Holy Land* covers the 3,000 years which saw the rise of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam - and relates the familiar stories of the sacred texts with the fruits of modern scholarship. Beginning with the origins of the people who became the Israel of the Bible, it follows the course of the ensuing millennia down to the time when the Ottoman Empire succumbed to British and French rule at the end of the First World War. Parts of the story, especially as known from the Bible, will be widely familiar. Less familiar are the ways in which modern research, both from archaeology and from other ancient sources, sometimes modify this story historically. Better understanding, however, enables us to appreciate crucial chapters in the story of the Holy Land, such as how and why Judaism developed in the way that it did from the earlier sovereign states of Israel and Judah and the historical circumstances in which Christianity emerged from its Jewish cradle. Later parts of the story are vital not only for the history of Islam and its relationships with the two older religions, but also for the development of pilgrimage and religious tourism, as well as the notions of sacred space and of holy books with which we are still familiar today. From the time of Napoleon on, European powers came increasingly to

develop both cultural and political interest in the region, culminating in the British and French conquests which carved out the modern states of the Middle East. Sensitive to the concerns of those for whom the sacred books of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are of paramount religious authority, the authors all try sympathetically to show how historical information from other sources, as well as scholarly study of the texts themselves, enriches our understanding of the history of the region and its prominent position in the world's cultural and intellectual history.

This study shows how the true history of ancient Palestine has been obscured by the search for Israel. It explores the theological and political assumptions which have shaped research into ancient Israel by Biblical scholars, and the prospects for the study of Palestinian history.

"Anyone interested in understanding the contemporary Middle East should read this book." Tony Judt --

This book deals with many aspects of the land of Israel; not only with texts speaking directly about the land of Israel in the Hebrew and Greek Bible but also with the reception of those texts, with theological-hermeneutical implications of taking the land traditions of the Bible seriously, and with the archaeology of Palestine.

Groundbreaking new work from the controversial author of *Invention of the Jewish People*. What is a homeland and when does it become a national territory? Why have so many people been willing to die for such places throughout the twentieth century? What is the essence of the Promised Land? Following the acclaimed and controversial *The Invention of the Jewish People*, Shlomo Sand examines the mysterious sacred land that has become the site of the longest-running national struggle of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. *The Invention of the Land of Israel* deconstructs the age-old legends surrounding the Holy Land and the prejudices that continue to suffocate it. Sand's account dissects the concept of "historical right" and tracks the creation of the modern concept of the "Land of Israel" by nineteenth-century Evangelical Protestants and Jewish Zionists. This invention, he argues, not only facilitated the colonization of the Middle East and the establishment of the State of Israel; it is also threatening the existence of the Jewish state today.

Arranged in chronological order, this collection of scholarly essays covers the history of the area from pre-historic times to the current peace negotiations.

An update of the history of Palestine since the 1800s, which includes recent dramatic events.

*Israel History Maps* is a geographical chronology of Jewish sovereignty in Israel and is the result of a unique project intended on providing the reader with a knowledge base and visual introduction to the history of the Jewish people in Israel. At the same time the Maps chart the history of other nations in the same geographic area. It vividly portrays the history of Jewish rule in the land of Israel from a historical and geographic point of view. Through its Maps and Dynamic Timeline you can appreciate the complexity of 3,000 years of history as it slowly unfolds in a consistent series of over 50



religious ties to it ever since. This book takes the reader through a journey spanning over three millennia: the historical connection of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel; the revival of their national aspirations in the modern Zionist movement; the recognition of their collective, national rights in international law; and the insidious violation of these rights during the British Mandate period, up to the proclamation of the State of Israel. In conclusion, we offer some thoughts on the myth- fact dichotomy that continues to plague the political reality of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and on the path to a just and lasting peace in the region.

While Israel has seemingly been a minor presence in Hollywood cinema, *Reimagining the Promised Land* argues that there is a long history of Hollywood deploying images of Israel as a means of articulating an idealized notion of American national identity. This argument is developed through readings of *The Ten Commandments* (Cecil B. DeMille, 1956), *Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ* (William Wyler, 1959), *Exodus* (Otto Preminger, 1960), *Cast a Giant Shadow* (Melville Shavelson, 1966), *Black Sunday* (John Frankenheimer, 1977), *The Delta Force* (Menahem Golan, 1986), and *Munich* (Steven Spielberg, 2005). The mobilization of Israel that pervades this eclectic group of films effectively demonstrates one of the more surreptitious ways in which Hollywood has historically constructed and circulated dominant notions of American national identity. Moreover, in examining the most notable Hollywood representations of the Jewish state, the book offers an informed historical overview of the cultural forces that have contributed to popular understandings within the United States of the state of Israel, Israel's Arab neighbours, and also the Arab-Israeli conflict.

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Meet them all, and more, on the pages of this book. You, the reader, will tour from event to event in the history of that small piece of land, wedged between Egypt and the Fertile Crescent. Beryl Ratzer, an Israeli guide, was inspired by the questions asked by people she has guided to write this book. Perhaps for you, as for the author, history will come alive.

Illegal Jewish immigration to Palestine prior to the founding of the State of Israel forms one of the most fascinating chapters in the history of Zionism and modern Jewish history. Bringing Jews from Europe to Palestine by land and by sea in defiance of restrictive British immigration policies was partly an undertaking of national rescue and partly a calculated strategy of political brinksmanship. In this compelling analysis, Ofer examines various illegal immigration and rescue efforts organized by the Palestinian Jewish community in both the beginning and latter phases of the war. Making exhaustive use of archival sources, Ofer provides invaluable

