Contents

List of Maps
Preface
1 The Road to Statehood, 1897-1947  1
   Theodor Herzl  1
   Eretz Yisrael  7
   Palestine in the First World War  13
   The post-war period  18
   The British Mandate  21
   The Arab Rebellion, 1936-39  27
   Palestine in the Second World War  33
   Turning on the British  37
   Partition and civil war  39
2 The Birth of Israel, 1948-1949  44
   Friday, 14 May 1948  44
   War 47
   End of war and the emergence of a democracy  59
3 Years of Consolidation, 1950-1966 70
   Mass immigration 70
   Communal problems 71
   The economy in crisis 75
   Tensions along the borders 79
   New leadership 81
   The politicization of the Holocaust 86
   The 1956 Kadesh campaign and after 88
   Domestic issues 93
   The Lavon Affair 95
   Germany again 98
   Enter Levy Eshkol 100
4 The Six-Day War and Afterwards, 1967-1973 104
   Descent to war 104
   The waiting period 110
   War of attrition
   Golda and Anwar el-Sadat
   Terrorism, immigration and riots
5 Yom Kippur War and the Death of Labour, 1973-1977
   Sadat prepares war
   Israel stumbles into the trap
   Invas ion
   Fighting back
   Post-war: society and diplomacy
   The Agranat report
   Enter Yitzhak Rabin
   Enter Shimon Peres
6 Begin's Years, 1977-1983
   Building a coalition
   First steps to peace
   The home front
   Camp David and after
   'Tamuz 1'
   A second Likud government
   War in Lebanon
7 The Road to Peace, 1983-1991
   Enter Yitzhak Shamir
   Working Together
   Intifada
   Immigration and death of the coalition
   War and immigration
   The road to peace
   The Madrid Peace Conference
8 Peace and War, 1992 to Present
   Enter Yitzhak Rabin
   Enter Benjamin Netanyahu
   Enter Ehud Barak
   Enter Ariel Sharon

Appendix 1: The Dayan el-Tohami Protocol, 1977
Appendix 2: Draft Declaration of Principles, Israel-Syria, 1992
Notes
Further Reading
Index
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

'A balanced examination of Israel's past...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 history of Israel.' - Middle East

'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
Welcome to History-of-Israel.org | This homepage is for anyone, who wishes to have a deeper understanding of the Arab-Israeli conflict than can be achieved through the mainstream media or educational institutions. Read more History of Israel | A Chronological Presentation A basic knowledge of the history of Israel is necessary in order to understand the Arab-Israeli conflict as it unfolds today. This relatively short, yet fairly thorough run-through offers a chronological overview of the conflict. The intention is to clarify the most important developments that are often discussed, but whic
The history of Israel, from Abraham to present time, is most important to the world today. To the secular world this may be a confusing statement, however, to those who understand biblical truths, this statement is fully understandable. History of Israel - The Israel Controversy

To look at the state of Israel today one cannot avoid the issues that constantly arise around the nation and its people. Israel does not look to make itself a controversy to the world. In fact, Israel desires peace. However, its history will never allow peace. Israel is an historically rich nation. It is the home to th

History of Israel: The Descendants of Abraham

The history of Israel commences with God's covenant with Abraham in approximately 2000 B.C., "I will make you into a great nation" (Genesis 12:2). The name "Israel" (meaning either "one who fights victoriously with God" or "a prevailing prince with God") comes from the new name God gave Abraham's grandson, Jacob, after Jacob withstood a spiritual struggle at Jabbok (Genesis 32:28). It is at this point that the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are often referred to as the "Children of Isr..."

In fact, the selection of Israel as a special nation was part of God's plan from the beginning of time. God's choice of Israel as His "chosen people" did not lie in any special size, nature or attraction. Modern Israeli History: A Timeline.

Key moments in the Jewish state's history. By MJL and MJL Admin. You might also like.

Israel launches Operation Pillar of Defense, an eight-day military campaign sparked by an intense round of rocket fire from Gaza aimed at Israeli civilians. June 12, 2014: 3 Teens Kidnapped. Three Israeli teenagers are kidnapped in the West Bank, sparking a massive military operation to locate them.