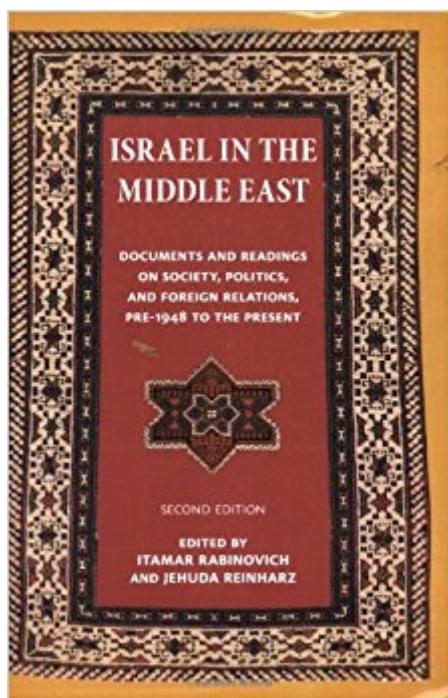


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Israel In The Middle East: Documents And Readings On Society, Politics, And Foreign Relations, Pre-1948 To The Present (The Tauber Institute For The Study Of European Jewry Series)



Synopsis

This timely anthology, completely revised and updated from the original edition in 1984, provides convenient access to the most significant documents of the Zionist movement since 1882 and of Israel's domestic and foreign policy issues between 1948 and 2006. Comprised largely of primary sources from Israeli, Arab, and American records, documents encompass not only political and diplomatic history but economic, cultural, legal and social aspects of the region as well. The second edition also addresses areas not covered by the 1984 volume: a new chapter on the pre-state period, additional documents that reflect the Palestinian perspective, and the voices of women. Divided into seven chronological sections, documents are introduced by an overview of the entire era. They are annotated and preceded by explanatory headnotes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Two renowned professors of Middle East and Jewish history and diplomacy selected and edited the sources, which cover events from early Zionism in the 1880s through the 2006 Israeli-Hezbollah War . . . Seven maps, 12 appendixes of population and political data, and an extensive biographical and subject glossary add to the richness of this volume . . .

Recommended." •Choice "This book offers a captivating plenty for a target audience who displays interest in the chronicles of the state of Israel in the context of the Middle East." •Digest of Middle East Studies

ITAMAR RABINOVICH, Ettinger Professor of Contemporary History of the Middle East at Tel Aviv University, is the former President of Tel Aviv University and former Israeli Ambassador to the United States. JEHUDA REINHARZ is Richard Koret Professor of Modern Jewish History and President of Brandeis University.

was what I expected.

Thanks

Textbook cost more at the school bookstroe, but shipping pushes it over the logic for savings.

I took off one star for the editors allowing their Left leaning bias to show through at times, although it was, to their credit, very subtle. It is a collection of documents -- Israeli, American, and Arab -- that vividly show the miraculous nature of Israel's survival and thriving. The documents take the reader through the herculean struggles, against all odds, of Israel's wars for survival, of massive immigrant settlement with extremely tight resources, and of finding fickle friends in international politics. Israel's leaders come through as desperate for peace and friendship at almost any price; the Americans as well-meaning, but often indecisive; and the Arabs as able to work together to articulate a goal and stick to it over time. It was amazing to see, for example, how the strategy of creating a homeless Palestinian people and using them, along with oil embargoes, to isolate and de-legitimize Israel, was actually promulgated in Arab conferences more than forty years ago. All in all, one of the best books for getting a sense of Israel's history that I have seen so far.

A useful book for its many source documents. However the editors' commentary is sometimes insufferable propaganda with no place in a serious reference work. For example, miraculously, the editors leave Israel completely out of the equation in explaining the Palestinians' loss of control over their lives (p87), and state that a Palestinian neighborhood in Haifa was empty and available for immigrants because the Palestinians "deserted" it in 1948-49 (p164). One's political views are irrelevant here --- this is simply nonsense.

I ordered the book at the beginning of my winter quarter for an Israel class. It got to me within a week and a half and I used the regular shipping option. Until then I was able to borrow material from classmates. I was pleased with the book's condition and prompt shipping. Content wise it is great as

a tool for reading the important documents of Israeli history.

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