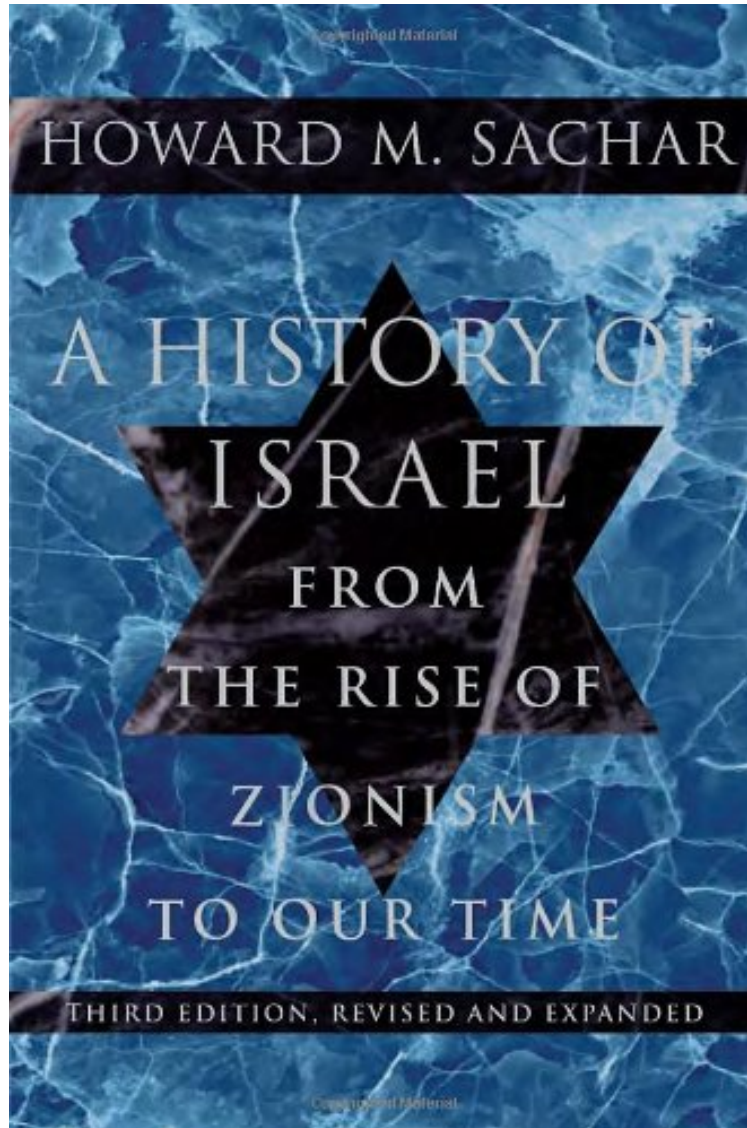


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A History of Israel: From the Rise of Zionism to Our Time

Howard M. Sachar

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Howard M. Sachar : A History of Israel: From the Rise of Zionism to Our Time before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A History of Israel: From the Rise of Zionism to Our Time:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A rich history of IsraelBy Daniel PaulI read this book in preparation for my anticipated visit to Israel. I was richly rewarded by a very detailed history of Israel that told me the story

behind many of the headlines I had some familiarity with and about much that I had no familiarity with. The book enhanced my understanding of a very complex nation. Professor Sachar quotes Theodore Herzl the father of Zionism in the beginning of the book. He cites a portion of Herzl's book: *The Jewish State*. Jew-hatred was an ineluctable fact of life; it would not be wished away. Indeed, the Jewish question was neither social nor religious. It is a national question, and in order to solve it we must, before everything else, transform it into a political world question, to be answered in the council of civilized peoples. We are a people-one people. We have sincerely tried everywhere to merge with national communities in which we live, seeking only to preserve the faith of our fathers. It is not permitted us. Only one solution remained. It was an exodus, a gathering together of the Jews from their worldwide dispersion into a land of their own. Political principle will provide the basis, technology the means, and the driving force will be the Jewish tragedy. Herzl published his book in 1896 and proved to be prescient in his vision. Europe became a death trap for Jews 40 years later. Palestine and later Israel became a life saving refuge for millions of Jews throughout the world. Professor Sachar's book is a story of this miracle. Professor Sachar goes into great detail about the difficulties involved in this achievement and the forces that opposed the creation and existence of Israel. Antipathy from the Arabs and countries that were hostile to the existence of the state because it might jeopardize the free flow of Arab oil. There were also conflicts within Israel: between Sephardic and Ashkenazi Jews; between religious and secular; between doves and hawks in dealing with the Arabs both within Israel and in the occupied territories. It's a long book; 1300 pages. However, because it is so well written it is a real page turner. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Detailed, Slow By Mark on This is an extremely detailed history of Israel. To someone who is not really trying to learn about a specific period or incident, the detail is a bit much. Also, the author tends to belabor his points. I spend a lot of time thinking, "Okay, I get it, next point, please." So, expect slow going, but much more detail than is provided in most other sources on the history of modern Israel. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Thorough history By B. Smith Very thorough history of Zionism and the history of Israel. I found the first half of the book more interesting, perhaps because I was already familiar with the later history of the State of Israel. Well written, very lengthy and detailed.

Second Edition, Revised and Expanded

From Booklist When first published in 1976, this truly monumental history was hailed as a definitive work. The revised and expanded edition covers all issues from that point to the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in 1995. Sachar's topics include the rise of Jewish nationalism, Theodor Herzl and the rise of political Zionism, Zionism after Herzl, the Balfour Declaration, the seeds of Arab-Jewish confrontation, Palestine in World War II, postwar Palestine, the war of independence, the growth of the Israeli republic, Israel's search for peace and security, economic and social growth, the Six-Day War, the Yom Kippur War, the Likud era, peace with Egypt, and Israel's involvement in Lebanon. Sachar concludes with chapters focusing on what he calls a tormented road to peace and an appraisal at half century. As extraordinarily stimulating as the first edition. George Cohen From the Inside Flap Second Edition, Revised and Expanded About the Author Born in St. Louis, Missouri, and reared in Champaign, Illinois, HOWARD MORLEY SACHAR received his undergraduate education at Swarthmore and took his graduate degrees at Harvard. He has taught extensively in the field of modern European history, and lived in the Middle East for six years, two of them on fellowship, the rest as founder-director of Brandeis University's Hiatt Institute in Jerusalem. Dr. Sachar has contributed to many scholarly journals and is the author of thirteen other books.