

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Palestinian Books and Authors (1950-2024)

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ANTHROPOLOGY

John K. Cooley, *Green March Black September: The Story of the Palestinian Arabs* (1973).

In March 1968 Palestinian guerrillas and Jordanian troops combined forces to respond to Israeli raids into Jordan, provoking visions of new unity and future military success. Yet by September 1970 mounting friction between the Palestinian guerrillas in Jordan and King Hussein's regime came to a head with the hijackings at Dawson's Field and the defeat by Jordan's forces of the Palestinians. The savagery of the fighting and the bitter consequences for the Palestinian guerrillas gave this month the name Black September: a name that was to reappear ominously in months to come. Who are the Palestinians? Many people only became aware of their existence because of terrorism, particularly the Black September operation at the Munich Olympics. Yet the Palestinians are at the very heart of the Middle East problem, and this book, first published in 1973, tells their story. The core of the book describes the emergence of the various guerrilla groups, joined by Palestinians hopeful of regaining lost land and lost dignity, and the ideologies and differences of the groups.

Keywords: Anthropology, History

Julie Peteet, *Gender in Crisis: Women and the Palestinian Resistance Movement* (1991).

This study explores the role of politically active Palestinian women in the Lebanese Resistance Movement. The author describes the types of work involved, the organizations these women have founded, and the changing nature of gender roles set against an intense and sustained crisis. Palestinian women's participation in the resistance represents an important aspect of the Palestinian national consciousness. Organizing, mobilizing, campaigning, and eventually fighting are all masculine forms of political activism. By these definitions, women are considered apolitical, passive, and difficult to mobilize. Her painstaking research of participation and mobilization of unorganized, temporary participants, and self-mobilized women in the refugee camps explicate a new dimension of the Palestinian struggle.

Keywords: Lebanese Resistance Movement, Gender

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Nadia Abu el-Haj, *Facts on the Ground: Archaeological Practice and Territorial Self-Fashioning in Israeli Society* (2002).

Archaeology in Israel is truly a national obsession, a practice through which national identity—and national rights—have long been asserted. But how and why did archaeology emerge as such a pervasive force there? How can the practices of archaeology help answer those questions? In this stirring book, Nadia Abu El-Haj addresses these questions and specifies for the first time the relationship between national ideology, colonial settlement, and the production of historical knowledge. She analyzes particular instances of history, artifacts, and landscapes in the making to show how archaeology helped not only to legitimize cultural and political visions but, far more powerfully, to reshape them. Moreover, she places Israeli archaeology in the context of the broader discipline to determine what unites the field across its disparate local traditions and locations. Boldly uncovering an Israel in which science and politics are mutually constituted, this book shows the ongoing role that archaeology plays in defining the past, present, and future of Palestine and Israel.

Keywords: Nationalism, Archeology

Nasser Abufarha, *The Making of a Human Bomb: An Ethnography of Palestinian Resistance (The Cultures and Practice of Violence)* (2009).

In *The Making of a Human Bomb*, Nasser Abufarha, a Palestinian anthropologist, explains the cultural logic underlying Palestinian martyrdom operations (suicide attacks) launched against Israel during the Al-Aqsa Intifada (2000–06). In so doing, he sheds much-needed light on how Palestinians have experienced and perceived the broader conflict. During the Intifada, many of the martyrdom operations against Israeli targets were initiated in the West Bank town of Jenin and surrounding villages. Abufarha was born and raised in Jenin. His personal connections to the area enabled him to conduct ethnographic research there during the Intifada, while he was a student at a U.S. university.

Keywords: Conflict, Culture

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Sabri Jiryis, *The Arabs in Israel* (1976).

When the state of Israel was established in 1948 not all Palestinians became refugees. About 165,000 stayed behind, to become "non-Jewish" citizens in a Jewish state, "foreigners" in their own country. Little was known about them, even in the Arab world, until the publication of Sabri Jiryis's remarkable study *The Arabs in Israel*. Israeli propaganda always claimed (and foreign visitors usually echoed the claim) that the Arabs in Israel were "better off" than the Arabs outside. Naturally enough, few visitors tried to see more than the authorities meant them to see. Sabri Jiryis's cool, factual study (documented from Hebrew sources) exposes the hypocrisy of Israelis claims, and the truth of Israel's treatment of its Arab minority. Zionism has never made an ideology of anti-Arabism or racial discrimination. It simply practises them.

Keywords: Documentation

Steven Salaita, *Inter/Nationalism: Decolonizing Native America and Palestine (Indigenous Americas)* (2016).

"The age of transnational humanities has arrived." According to Steven Salaita, the seemingly disparate fields of Palestinian Studies and American Indian studies have more in common than one may think. In *Inter/Nationalism*, Salaita argues that American Indian and Indigenous studies must be more central to the scholarship and activism focusing on Palestine. Salaita offers a fascinating inside account of the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement—which, among other things, aims to end Israel's occupation of Palestinian land. In doing so, he emphasizes BDS's significant potential as an organizing entity as well as its importance in the creation of intellectual and political communities that put Natives and other colonized peoples such as Palestinians into conversation. His discussion includes readings of a wide range of Native poetry that invokes Palestine as a theme or symbol; the speeches of U.S. President Andrew Jackson and early Zionist thinker Ze'ev Jabotinsky; and the discourses of "shared values" between the United States and Israel. *Inter/Nationalism* seeks to lay conceptual ground between American Indian and Indigenous studies and Palestinian studies through concepts of settler colonialism, indignity, and state violence. By establishing Palestine as an indigenous nation under colonial occupation, this book draws crucial connections between the scholarship and activism of Indigenous America and Palestine.

Keywords: Indigenous, Boycott

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BIOGRAPHY

Ahmed Tamimi, *They Called Me a Lioness: A Palestinian Girl's Fight for Freedom* (2022).

A Palestinian activist jailed at sixteen after a confrontation with Israeli soldiers illuminates the daily struggles of life under occupation in this moving, deeply personal memoir.

But this is not just a story of activism or imprisonment. It is the human-scale story of an occupation that has riveted the world and shaped global politics, from a girl who grew up in the middle of it. Tamimi's father was born in 1967, the year that Israel began its occupation of the West Bank and he grew up immersed in the resistance movement. One of Tamimi's earliest memories is visiting him in prison, poking her toddler fingers through the fence to touch his hand. She herself would spend her seventeenth birthday behind bars. Living through this greatest test and heightened attacks on her village, Tamimi felt her resolve only deepen, in tension with her attempts to live the normal life of a daughter, sibling, friend, and student.

Keywords: Activism

Atef Abu Saif, *The Drone Eats with Me: A Gaza Diary* (2016).

An ordinary Gazan's "devastating contemporary war journal" that chronicles his fear, sadness, and boredom during Israel's 2014 invasion of Gaza (Michael Ondaatje, author of *The English Patient*). *The Drone Eats with Me* is an unforgettable rendering of everyday civilian life shattered by the realities of twenty-first-century warfare. Israel's 2014 invasion of Gaza lasted 51 days, killed 2,145 Palestinians (578 of them children), injured over 11,000 people, and demolished more than 17,000 homes. Atef Abu Saif, a young father and novelist, puts an indelibly human face on these statistics, providing a rare window into the texture of a community and the realities of a conflict that is too often obscured by politics.

Keywords: Gaza, Biography

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Bassem Abu Sharif, *Arafat and the Dream of Palestine: An Insider's Account* (2009).

Abu Sharif was one of the world's most notorious and dangerous terrorists in the 60's and 70's, acting as "minister of propaganda" for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and as a recruiter for terrorists like Carlos the Jackal. In 1972, a bomb was placed in a book and sent to him, leaving him half-blind, deaf in one ear, and almost fingerless. Finally abandoning the use of violence as a means to achieve his Palestinian nationalist aspirations, he aligned himself with Yasser Arafat, eventually becoming one of his closest advisors.

In this book, Abu Sharif, often alongside Arafat, takes us behind the scenes of all the major events in the Middle East during the last 30 years, from the secret caves in the West Bank where Arafat hid on his way to Jerusalem in 1967 to the peace negotiations in Oslo in 1993. *Arafat and the Dream of Palestine* combines a deeply personal account, informed by Abu Sharif's close relationship with Arafat, with a gripping, profoundly human history of Palestine.

Keywords: Biography, PFLP, PLO, Arafat

Edward Said, *Out of Place: A Memoir* (2000).

Edward Said experienced both British and American imperialism as the old Arab order crumbled in the late 1940s and early 1950s. This account of his early life reveals how it influenced his books *Orientalism* and *Culture and Imperialism*. Edward Said was born in Jerusalem and brought up in Cairo, spending every summer in the Lebanese mountain village of Dhour el Shweir, until he was 'banished' to America in 1951. This work is a mixture of emotional archaeology and memory, exploring an essentially irrecoverable past. As ill health sets him thinking about endings, Edward Said returns to his beginnings in this personal memoir of his ferociously demanding 'Victorian' father and his adored, inspiring, yet ambivalent mother.

Keywords: Biography, Writers

Fawaz Turki, *The Disinherited: Journal of a Palestinian Exile (Mr Modern Reader PB-248)* (1972).

This book is a short biography describing his life following his family's flight to Lebanon from their home in Israel in 1947. After living a life of humiliation as a refugee his outlook dramatically changed when he became educated and politically active as Palestinian nationalism was emerging as a force in 1967.

Keywords: Biography, Writers

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Fawaz Turki, *Soul in Exile* (1988).

Poet and essayist Fawaz Turki begins his search for answers in the hallways of the 1983 Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers. He then recalls his family's flight into Lebanon when he was eight, childhood in a refugee camp and the streets of Beirut, and years spent in Australia, France, and the United States in search of his identity, both personal and national. In describing this journey, Fawaz Turki also relates the stories of family, friends, and comrades, those who fought the battles and those who walked away from them.

Keywords: Biography, Politics

Fawaz Turki, *Exile's Return: The Making of a Palestinian-American* (1994).

Palestinian writer Fawaz Turki was expelled from Israel in 1949 along with his family, and spent his boyhood in the refugee camps of Beirut. As a young man living in Paris, where he became active in the Palestinian nationalist movement, he met and married an American and returned with her to the United States, only to be quickly caught up in the currents of social protest and rebellion of the 1960s, experiences which had a powerfully transformative effect on him, though many years would pass before he realized its actual extent. In *Exile's Return*, Turki tells the story of this personal and political odyssey in a highly evocative memoir that interweaves scenes of his life as an exile with incidents of his visit, after a forty-year absence, to the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Keywords: West Bank

Ghada Karmi, *In Search of Fatima: A Palestinian Story* (2007).

Ghada Karmi's acclaimed memoir relates her childhood in Palestine, flight to Britain after the catastrophe, and coming of age in Golders Green, the north London Jewish suburb. A powerful biographical story, *In Search of Fatima* reflects the author's personal experiences of displacement and loss against a backdrop of the major political events which have shaped conflict in the Middle East. Speaking for the millions of displaced people worldwide who have lived suspended between their old and new countries, fitting into neither, this is an intimate, nuanced exploration of the subtler privations of psychological displacement and loss of identity.

Keywords: Biography, Diaspora

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Ghada Karmi, *Return: A Palestinian Memoir* (2015).

Having grown up in Britain following her family’s exile from Palestine, doctor, author and academic Ghada Karmi leaves her adoptive home in a quest to return to her homeland. She starts work with the Palestinian Authority and gets a firsthand understanding of its bizarre bureaucracy under Israel’s occupation. In her quest, she takes the reader on a fascinating journey into the heart of one of the world’s most intractable conflict zones and one of the major issues of our time. Visiting places she has not seen since childhood, her unique insights reveal a militarized and barely recognizable homeland, and her home in Jerusalem, like much of the West Bank, occupied by strangers. Her encounters with politicians, fellow Palestinians, and Israeli soldiers cause her to question what role exiles like her have in the future of their country and whether return is truly possible.

Keywords: Biography, Diaspora

Ghassan Kanafani, *Palestine’s Children: Returning to Haifa and Other Stories* (2000).

Short stories describing the Palestinian experience of the Middle East conflict. Each involves a child, a victim of circumstances, who nevertheless participates in the struggle towards a better future. As in Kanafani's other fiction, these stories explore the need to recover the past by action.

Keywords: Biography, Diaspora

Izzeldin Abuelaish, *I Shall Not Hate: A Gaza Doctor's Journey on the Road to Peace and Human Dignity* (2012).

A Harvard-trained Palestinian doctor who was born and raised in the Jabalia refugee camp in the Gaza Strip and "who has devoted his life to medicine and reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians." Abuelaish has been crossing the lines in the sand that divide Israelis and Palestinians for most of his life—as a physician who treats patients on both sides of the line, as a humanitarian who sees the need for improved health and education for women as the way forward in the Middle East. And, most recently, as the father whose daughters were killed by Israeli soldiers on January 16, 2009, during Israel's incursion into the Gaza Strip. His response to this tragedy made news and won him humanitarian awards around the world.

Keywords: Biography, Literature

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Hanan Ashrawi, *This Side Of Peace: A Personal Account* (1995).

An account from Palestinian politician on the Palestinian side during the Oslo Period. Superficially, Ashrawi seems like a sycophant of Arafat, and her uncritical attitude toward the PLO chairman appears to mar an otherwise uncompromisingly honest and believable book. But if Ashrawi never has an unkind word to say about the man, she is far less gentle toward some of his policies, including the PLO's costly refusal to condemn Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the PLO's tendency, as Israel cedes it some measure of authority in the territories, to fill positions on the basis of politics and favoritism rather than talent and expertise. Ashrawi sheds light on the tension between Palestinians inside and outside the territories that is crucial to understanding current and past events. Ashrawi offers a vivid rendering of the Palestinian side of events that have led to a vastly altered but still deeply troubled relationship between Israel and the Palestinian people.

Keywords: Biography, Peace Process

Hussein Barghout, *Among the Almond Trees: A Palestinian Memoir (The Arab List)* (2022).

Palestinian writer Hussein Barghouthi was in his late forties when he was diagnosed with lymphoma. He had feared it was HIV, so when the cancer diagnosis was confirmed, he left the hospital feeling a bitter joy because his wife and son would be spared. The bittersweetness of this reaction characterizes the alternating moods of narration and reflection that distinguish this meditative memoir, *Among the Almond Trees*.

Keywords: Biography

Mahmoud Darwish, *Palestine as Metaphor* (2019).

Palestine as Metaphor consists of a series of interviews with Mahmoud Darwish, which have never appeared in English before. The interviews are a wealth of information on the poet's personal life, his relationships, his numerous works, and his tragedy. They illuminate Darwish's conception of poetry as a supreme art that transcends time and place. These vivid dialogues unravel the threads of a rich life haunted by the loss of Palestine and illuminate the genius and the distress of a major world poet.

Keywords: Biography, Poetry

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Mourid Barghouti, *I Saw Ramallah* (1997).

A fierce and moving work and an unparalleled rendering of the human aspects of the Palestinian predicament. Barred from his homeland after 1967's Six-Day War, the poet Mourid Barghouti spent thirty years in exile—shuttling among the world's cities, yet secure in none of them; separated from his family for years at a time; never certain whether he was a visitor, a refugee, a citizen, or a guest. As he returns home for the first time since the Israeli occupation, Barghouti crosses a wooden bridge over the Jordan River into Ramallah and is unable to recognize the city of his youth. Sifting through memories of the old Palestine as they come up against what he now encounters in this mere “idea of Palestine,” he discovers what it means to be deprived not only of a homeland but of “the habitual place and status of a person.” A tour de force of memory and reflection, lamentation and resilience, *I Saw Ramallah* is a deeply humane book, essential to any balanced understanding of today's Middle East.

Keywords: Biography, Exile

Ramzy Baroud, *My Father Was a Freedom Fighter: Gaza's Untold Story* (2010).

A fierce and moving work and an unparalleled rendering of the human aspects of the Palestinian predicament. The frontline in the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians, Gaza is constantly reported as a place of violence and terror. Ramzy Baroud's memoir explores the daily lives of the people in that turbulent region: the complex human beings -- revolutionaries, mothers and fathers, lovers, and comedians -- who make Gaza so much more than just a disputed territory. At the heart of Baroud's tale is the story of his father who, driven out of his village to a refugee camp, took up arms to fight the occupation while trying to raise a family.

Keywords: Resistance, Nakba, Biography

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Ramzy Baroud, *The Last Earth: A Palestinian Story* (2018).

This is a history of modern Palestine like no other: built from the testimony of people who have lived through it. Ramzy Baroud here gathers accounts from countless Palestinians from all walks of life, and from throughout the decades, to tell the story of the nation and its struggle for independence and security. Challenging both academic and popular takes on Palestinian history, Baroud unearths here the deep commonalities within the story of Palestine, ones that draw the people together despite political divisions, geographical barriers and walls, factionalism, occupation, and exile. Through these firsthand reports—by turns inspiring and terrifying, triumphant and troubled—we see Palestine in all its complexity and contradictions, ever vibrant in the memories of the people who have fought, physically and otherwise, for its future. A remarkable book, *The Last Earth* will be essential to understanding the struggles in the contemporary Middle East.

Keywords: Accounts, Interview

Raja Shehadeh, *Palestinian Walks: Forays Into a Vanishing Landscape* (2008).

In this original and evocative book, we accompany Raja on six walks taken between 1978 and 2006. The earlier forays are peaceful affairs, allowing our guide to meditate at length on the character of his native land, a terrain of olive trees on terraced hillsides, luxuriant valleys carved by sacred springs, carpets of wild iris and hyacinth and ancient monasteries built more than a thousand years ago. Shehadeh's love for this magical place saturates his renderings of its history and topography. But latterly, as seemingly endless concrete is poured to build settlements and their surrounding walls, he finds the old trails are now impassable and the countryside he once traversed freely has become contested ground. He is harassed by Israeli border patrols, watches in terror as a young hiking companion picks up an unexploded missile and even, on one occasion when accompanied by his wife, comes under prolonged gunfire.

Keywords: Accounts

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Reefat Al Areer, *Gaza Writes Back: Short Stories from Young Writers in Gaza, Palestine* (2014).

Gaza Writes Back is a collection of short stories from fifteen young writers in Gaza, members of a generation that has suffered immensely under Israel's siege and blockade. Their experiences, especially during and following Israel's 2008-2009 offensive known as "Operation Cast Lead", have fundamentally impacted their lives and their writing. Indeed, many of these writers saw the war as a catalyst for their writing as they sought an outlet and a voice in its aftermath. They view the book as a means of preserving Palestinian memories and presenting their narratives to the world without filters. Their words take us into the homes and hearts of moms, dads, students, children, and elders striving to live lives of dignity, compassion, and meaning in one of the world's most embattled communities.

These stories are acts of resistance and defiance, proclaiming the endurance of Palestinians and the continuing resilience and creativity of their culture in the face of ongoing obstacles and attempts to silence them. Whether tackling the tragedy that surrounds missile strikes and home raids, or the everyday indignities encountered by Palestinian refugees, *Gaza Writes Back* brings to life the real issues that the people of Gaza face.

Keywords: Accounts

Said K. Aburish, *Children of Bethany: The Story of a Palestinian Family* (1989).

This is the remarkable story of the Palestinians written with insight from the personal experiences of a Palestinian Arab. In the 1920s and 1930s, life in the peaceful village of Bethany, outside Jerusalem, was dominated by its flamboyant headman, Khalil Aburish, guardian of the tomb of Lazarus. Said Aburish, grandson of the headman, relates the vivid history of his family which, like so many others, has been torn apart by events in Palestine in the course of the century. In 1948, with Palestine in flames, the Aburish family scattered. Some remained in Bethany. Others began a new life across the world, establishing themselves as journalists, advertising executives, professors, bankers-even revolutionaries. The Aburishes who stayed in Bethany watched as their peaceful way of life was destroyed by events in the outside world-culminating in the Israeli occupation of the West Bank which threatens their very existence.

Keywords: Biography

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Salman Abu Sitta, *Mapping My Return: A Palestinian Memoir* (2016).

Salman Abu Sitta was just ten years old when the Nakba—the mass expulsion of Palestinians in 1948—happened, forcing him from his home near Beersheba. Like many Palestinians of his generation, this traumatic loss and his enduring desire to return would be the defining features of his life from that moment on. This rich and moving memoir is imbued throughout with a burning sense of justice and a determination to recover and document what rightfully belongs to his people, given expression in his groundbreaking mapping work on his homeland. Abu Sitta, with warmth and wit, tells his story and that of Palestine.

Keywords: Nakba, Refugee, Exile

Sara Roy, *Unsilencing Gaza Reflections on Resistance* (2021).

Gaza, the centre of Palestinian nationalism and resistance to the occupation, is the linchpin of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the key to its resolution. Since 2005, Israel has deepened the isolation of the territory, severing it almost completely from its most vital connections to the West Bank, Israel and beyond, and has deliberately shattered its economy, transforming Palestinians from a people with political rights into a humanitarian problem. Sara Roy unpacks this process, looking at US foreign policy towards the Palestinians, as well as analyzing the trajectory of Israeli policy toward Gaza, which became a series of punitive approaches meant not only to contain the Hamas regime but weaken Gazan society. Roy also reflects on Gaza's ruination from a Jewish perspective and discusses the connections between Gaza's history and her own as a child of Holocaust survivors. This book, a follow up from the renowned *Failing Peace*, comes from one of the world's most acclaimed writers on the region.

Keywords: Foreign Policy

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Shafiq al Hout, *My Life in the PLO: The Inside Story of the Palestinian Struggle* (2010).

This is the inside story of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), from its beginnings in 1964 to the signing of the Oslo agreement in 1993. For over three decades, the main goal of the PLO was to achieve a just peace in the Arab-Israeli conflict, and to build a democratic state in Palestine for all its citizens. Shafiq Al-Hout, a high ranking PLO official until his resignation in 1993, provides previously unavailable details on the key events in its history such as its recognition by the UN and the Oslo peace negotiations. Taking us right to the heart of the decision making processes, this book explains the personalities and internal politics that shaped the PLO's actions and the Palestinian experience of the twentieth century.

Keywords: Foreign Policy

Suad Amiry, *Sharon and My Mother-in-Law: Ramallah Diaries* (2006).

Based on diaries and email correspondence that she kept from 1981-2004, here Suad Amiry evokes daily life in the West Bank town of Ramallah. Capturing the frustrations, cabin fever, and downright misery of her experiences, Amiry writes with elegance and humor about the enormous difficulty of moving from one place to another, the torture of falling in love with someone from another town, the absurdity of her dog receiving a Jerusalem identity card when thousands of Palestinians could not, and the trials of having her ninety-two-year-old mother-in-law living in her house during a forty-two-day curfew. With a wickedly sharp ear for dialogue and a keen eye for detail, Amiry gives us an original, ironic, and firsthand glimpse into the absurdity—and agony—of life in the Occupied Territories.

Keywords: Daily life

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Zachary Lockman, *Comrades and Enemies: Arab and Jewish Workers in Palestine, 1906-1948* (1996).

In *Comrades and Enemies* Zachary Lockman explores the mutually formative interactions between the Arab and Jewish working classes, labor movements, and worker-oriented political parties in Palestine just before and during the period of British colonial rule. Unlike most of the historical and sociological literature on Palestine in this period, *Comrades and Enemies* avoids treating the Arab and Jewish communities as if they developed independently of each other. Instead of focusing on politics, diplomacy, or military history, Lockman draws on detailed archival research in both Arabic and Hebrew, and on interviews with activists, to delve into the country's social, economic, and cultural history, showing how Arab and Jewish societies in Palestine helped to shape each other in significant ways. *Comrades and Enemies* presents a narrative of Arab-Jewish relations in Palestine that extends and complicates the conventional story of primordial identities, total separation, and unremitting conflict while going beyond both Zionist and Palestinian nationalist mythologies and paradigms of interpretation.

Keywords: Zionist, Research

Zachary Lockman, and Joel Beinin, eds. *Intifada: the Palestinian uprising against Israeli Occupation* (1989).

This collection of critical essays includes eyewitness accounts from the West Bank and Gaza, discussions of Palestinian society and politics, and analyses of the role of the United States in the Middle East and Palestine.

Keywords: Post Nakba

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HEALTH

Nadia Nasser Najab, *COVID-19 in Palestine: The Settler Colonial Context (Unsettling Colonialism in our Times)* (2024).

Israel and Palestine were worlds apart during the pandemic that claimed over five million lives globally. While Palestinians were forced to adopt crude survival measures and endure economic privations, Israel was praised as a vaccination world leader. This book demonstrates how Israel utilized the pandemic to tighten surveillance and control over Palestine and the Palestinians. Drawing on theories of settler colonialism and the concept of 'necropolitics', the book is a vital testament to the reality of the Israeli settler colonial project today. The author uses case studies and interviews with Palestinians from the Gaza Strip, Hebron, Kufr Aqab and the Jalazoon refugee camp to understand the lived experiences of Palestinians. The newest colonial policies are discussed including how Israel activated a counter-terrorism database that could track citizens and ensure they adhered to lockdown regulations. It also shows how Israel destroyed Palestinian infrastructure essential for water, sanitation and hygiene, leaving Palestinians unable to fight the virus. The book shows that, for Palestinians, the pandemic was simply the latest in a long line of national catastrophes in a context where settler colonialism prevails.

Keywords: Covid, Health, Medical Apartheid

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HISTORY

Abdul Latif Tibawi, *Jerusalem : Its Place in Islam and Arab History* (1969).

Jerusalem: Its Place in Islam and Arab History is a 45-page book written by Palestinian historian and educationist Abdul Latif Tibawi (1910-1981) and published in 1969 by the Institute for Palestine Studies. The book is based on original sources and official documents and provides a factual account of Jerusalem's role in Arab and Muslim history. It is the 19th issue in the Institute for Palestine Studies' Monograph series.

This study is based on original sources and official documents. The author presents a factual account of the place of Jerusalem in Arab and Muslim history.

Keyword: Jerusalem

Ahmed Qurie, *Beyond Oslo, The Struggle for Palestine: Inside the Middle East Peace Process from Rabin's Death to Camp David* (2008).

With new talks in the Middle East Peace Process about to begin, the shadows of previous negotiations fall heavily across all involved. In this powerful and absorbing testimony, one of leading figures of the Oslo talks, former Prime Minister Ahmed Qurie ('Abu Ala') takes us behind closed doors and inside the negotiating rooms of Wye River, Stockholm and Camp David, where the terms of peace and a Palestinian state were sketched out, argued over, and eventually lost. Larger than life figures emerge from the minutes of these dramatic meetings--released here for the first time. Qurie recounts both the Israelis' intractability and the dynamic inside the Palestinian camp with candor and insight. This indispensable first-hand account provides a completely new perspective on the history, issues and personalities that will determine the future of the Middle East.

Keyword: Negotiations, Peace Process

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Ahmed Qurie, *Peace Negotiations in Palestine: From the Second Intifada to the Roadmap* (2015).

The start of the twenty-first century in Palestine saw the breakdown of the Oslo Accords (which, signed in 1993 was an attempt to begin the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict) give way to a turbulent period of dashed hope, escalating violence and internal division. Tracking developments from the Second Intifada of 2000 to Hamas' 2006 electoral victory, former Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qurie provides revealing and first-hand detail of the monumental changes that have rocked the peace process and the region as a whole. New proposals, such as the Arab Peace Initiative and the Road Map, and historic events, including the death of iconic leader Yasser Arafat and Ariel Sharon's withdrawal from Gaza, are recognised to be of immense significance. However, it is Qurie's unique position that reveals a new perspective of how they played out on the stages of Palestinian internal governance, regional politics and international diplomacy.

Keyword: Negotiations, Peace Process

Ahmad H. Sa'di, and Lila Abu-Lughod, eds. *Nakba: Palestine, 1948, and the Claims of Memory* (2007).

For outside observers, current events in Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank are seldom related to the collective memory of ordinary Palestinians. But for Palestinians themselves, the iniquities of the present are experienced as a continuous replay of the injustice of the past.

The book's essays consider the ways in which Palestinians have remembered and organized themselves around the Nakba, a central trauma that continues to be refracted through Palestinian personal and collective memory. Analyzing oral histories and written narratives, poetry and cinema, personal testimony and courtroom evidence, the authors show how the continuing experience of violence, displacement, and occupation have transformed the pre-Nakba past and the land of Palestine into symbols of what has been and continues to be lost.

Nakba brings to light the different ways in which Palestinians experienced and retain in memory the events of 1948. It is the first book to examine in detail how memories of Palestine's cataclysmic past are shaped by differences of class, gender, generation, and geographical location. In exploring the power of the past, the authors show the urgency of the question of memory for understanding the contested history of the present.

Keywords: History

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As'ad Ganim, *Palestinian Politics after Arafat: A Failed National Movement* (2010).

The Palestinian national movement reached a dead-end and came close to disintegration at the beginning of the present century. The struggle for power after the death of Yasser Arafat in 2004 signaled the end of a path toward statehood prepared by the Oslo Accords a decade before. The reasons for the failure of the movement are deeply rooted in modern Palestinian history. As'ad Ghanem analyzes the internal and external events that unfolded as the Palestinian national movement became a "failed national movement," marked by internecine struggle and collapse, the failure to secure establishment of a separate state and achieve a stable peace with Israel, and the movement's declining stature within the Arab world and the international community.

Keywords: Post Nakba

Avi Shlaim, *Collusion Across the Jordan: King Abdullah, the Zionist Movement, and the Partition of Palestine* (1988).

This book is an account of the highly secret relationship between Abdullah, the Hashemite ruler of Jordan, and the Zionist movement. Spanning three decades, from the appointment of Abdullah as Emir in 1921 to his assassination in 1951, this work focuses on the clandestine diplomacy and the political and military processes which determined the fate of Palestine between 1947 and 1950, and which left the Palestinian Arabs without a homeland.

Keywords: Pre Nakba

Azzam Tamimi, *Hamas: A History from Within* (2007).

This book charts the origins of Hamas among the Muslim Brotherhood, details the influence of its exiled leadership in Syria and elsewhere, and sets out its internal structure and political objectives.

Keywords: Hamas

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Bernard Regan, *The Balfour Declaration: Empire, the Mandate and Resistance in Palestine* (2017).

On 2 November 1917, the British government, represented by Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour, declared it was in favor of “the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people.” This short note would become one of the most controversial documents of its time.

A hundred years later, Bernard Regan recounts the composition of the Balfour Declaration as one of the major events in the history of the Middle East. Offering new insights into the imperial rivalries between Britain, Germany and the Ottomans, Regan exposes British policy in the region as part of a larger geopolitical game. Yet, even then, the course of events was not straightforward, and Regan charts the debates within the British government, the Zionist movement, and the Palestinian groups struggling for self-determination. The after-effects of these events are still being felt today. Bernard Regan’s urgent, timely history excavates the origins of the current crisis.

Keywords: Pre-Nakba

Beshara Doumani, *Rediscovering Palestine: Merchants and Peasants in Jabal Nablus, 1700–1900* (1995).

Drawing on previously unused primary sources, this book paints an intimate and vivid portrait of Palestinian society on the eve of modernity. Through the voices of merchants, peasants, and Ottoman officials, Beshara Doumani offers a major revision of standard interpretations of Ottoman history by investigating the ways in which urban-rural dynamics in a provincial setting appropriated and gave meaning to the larger forces of Ottoman rule and European economic expansion. He traces the relationship between culture, politics, and economic change by looking at how merchant families constructed trade networks and cultivated political power, and by showing how peasants defined their identity and formulated their notions of justice and political authority. Original and accessible, this study challenges nationalist constructions of history and provides a context for understanding the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. It is also the first comprehensive work on the Nablus region, Palestine’s trade, manufacturing, and agricultural heartland, and a bastion of local autonomy. Doumani rediscovers Palestine by writing the inhabitants of this ancient land into history.

Keywords: Peasantry, Society, Nablus

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

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Annotated Book Bibliography



David Hirst, *The Gun and the Olive Branch* (1977).

More than a decade before Israel's New Historians revolutionized the study of Israeli history, English journalist David Hirst wrote *The Gun and the Olive Branch*, a classic, myth-breaking general history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Hirst, former Middle East correspondent of the *Guardian*, traces the origins of the terrible conflict back to the 1880s to show how Arab violence, although often cruel and fanatical, is a response to the challenge of repeated aggression. *The Gun and the Olive Branch* is an absorbing, potentially controversial, history of the Middle Eastern conflict that is indispensable to anyone with an interest in world politics and by partisans of both sides. This classic and controversial account of the origins of the Middle East conflict returns to print updated with a lengthy introduction that reflects on the course of recent Middle Eastern history -- especially the abortive Israeli-Palestinian peace process and 9/11.

Keywords: General history, Conflict

Edward Said, *The Politics of Dispossession: The Struggle for Palestinian Self-Determination, 1969-1994* (1995).

In *The Politics of Dispossession*, Said traces his people's struggle for statehood through twenty-five years of exile, from the PLO's bloody 1970 exile from Jordan through the debacle of the Gulf War and the ambiguous 1994 peace accord with Israel. As frank as he is about his personal involvement in that struggle, Said is equally unsparing in his demolition of Arab icons and American shibboleths. Stylish, impassioned, and informed by a magisterial knowledge of history and literature, *The Politics of Dispossession* is a masterly synthesis of scholarship and polemic that has the power to redefine the debate over the Middle East.

Keywords: History, PLO

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Fayez Sayegh, *Arab Unity: Hope and Fulfillment* (1958).

Arab scholar and philosopher tells of the Arab struggle for independence and unity.

Keywords: Unity

Ilan Pappé, *The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine* (2006).

Renowned Israeli historian, Ilan Pappé's groundbreaking work on the formation of the State of Israel. 'Along with the late Edward Said, Ilan Pappé is the most eloquent writer of Palestinian history. Between 1947 and 1949, over 400 Palestinian villages were deliberately destroyed, civilians were massacred and around a million men, women, and children were expelled from their homes at gunpoint. Denied for almost six decades, had it happened today it could only have been called 'ethnic cleansing'. Decisively debunking the myth that the Palestinian population left of their own accord in the course of this war, Ilan Pappé offers impressive archival evidence to demonstrate that, from its very inception, a central plank in Israel's founding ideology was the forcible removal of the indigenous population. Indispensable for anyone interested in the current crisis in the Middle East.

Keywords: Nakba

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Ilan Pappé, *The Idea of Israel: A history of power and knowledge* (2014).

Since its foundation in 1948, Israel has drawn on Zionism, the movement behind its creation, to provide a sense of self and political direction. In this groundbreaking new work, Ilan Pappé looks at the continued role of Zionist ideology. *The Idea of Israel* considers the way Zionism operates outside of the government and military in areas such as the country's education system, media, and cinema, and the uses that are made of the Holocaust in supporting the state's ideological structure. In particular, Pappé examines the way successive generations of historians have framed the 1948 conflict as a liberation campaign, creating a foundation myth that went unquestioned in Israeli society until the 1990s. Pappé himself was part of the post-Zionist movement that arose then.

Keywords: Pre-Nakba

Ingrid Hjelm et al., eds. *A New Critical Approach to the History of Palestine: Palestine History and Heritage Project 1* (2019).

A New Critical Approach to the History of Palestine discusses prospects and methods for a comprehensive, evidence-based history of Palestine with a critical use of recent historical, archaeological and anthropological methods. This history is not an exclusive history but one that is ethnically and culturally inclusive, a history of and for all peoples who have lived in Palestine. After an introductory essay offering a strategy for creating coherence and continuity from the earliest beginnings to the present, the volume presents twenty articles from twenty-two contributors, fifteen of whom are of Middle Eastern origin or relation. Split thematically into four parts, the volume discusses ideology, national identity and chronology in various historiographies of Palestine, and the legacy of memory and oral history; the transient character of ethnicity in Palestine and questions regarding the ethical responsibilities of archaeologists and historians to protect the multi-ethnic cultural heritage of Palestine; landscape and memory, and the values of community archaeology and bio-archaeology; and an exploration of the "ideology of the land" and its influence on Palestine's history and heritage. The book offers a fascinating new perspective for students and academics in the fields of anthropological, political, cultural and biblical history.

Keywords: Pre-Nakba

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Izzat Tannous, *The Palestinians: A Detailed Documented Eyewitness History of Palestine Under British Mandate* (1988).

A book detailing the history of Palestine under the British Mandate.
Keywords: Palestine Anthropological, Political, Cultural and Biblical History.

Ghassan Kanafani, *The 1936-39 Revolt in Palestine* (2023).

In “The 1936–1939 Revolution in Palestine”, Ghassan Kanafani takes up a thorough analysis of the economic, political, social, and cultural conditions that contributed to, and limited, the anti-colonial struggle in this period. While the moment Kanafani examines took place almost a century ago, this text teaches us how we must look to history and learn from its triumphs and failures so we can sharpen our strategy for liberation today. Seventy-five years after the Nakba, we know that the fight for a free Palestine rages on. In the following excerpt from the introduction by Layan Sima Fuleihan, she primes the readers to embark on a study of this extraordinary text, placing Kanafani in his historical context, illustrating his skill as a writer and revolutionary leader, and urging us to see the connection between the moment he studied and the current moment we live in today.

Keywords: History

Jeff Halper, *Decolonizing Israel, Liberating Palestine Zionism, Settler Colonialism, and the Case for One Democratic State* (2021).

This book explores how the concept of settler colonialism provides a clearer understanding of the Zionist movement's project to establish a Jewish state in Palestine, displacing the Palestinian Arab population and marginalizing its cultural presence. Jeff Halper argues that the only way out of a colonial situation is decolonization: the dismantling of Zionist structures of domination and control and their replacement by a single democratic state, in which Palestinians and Israeli Jews forge a new civil society and a shared political community. To show how this can be done, Halper uses the 10-point program of the One Democratic State Campaign as a guide for thinking through the process of decolonization to its post-colonial conclusion. Halper's unflinching reframing will empower activists fighting for the rights of the Palestinians and democracy for all.

Keywords: Biography

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Joost R. Hiltermann, *Behind the intifada: Labor and Women's Movements in the Occupied Territories* (1991).

Before the intifada began, Joost Hiltermann had already looked at local organizations in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and seen there the main elements that would eventually be used to mobilize the Palestinian masses. In the first comprehensive study of these organizations, Hiltermann shows how local organizers provided basic services unavailable under military rule, while recruiting for the cause of Palestinian nationalism.

Keywords: West Bank, Gaza

Lenni Brenner, *Zionism in the Age of the Dictators* (2014).

In 1933 the German Zionist Federation sought Hitler's patronage: "Zionism hopes to be able to win the collaboration even of a government fundamentally hostile to Jews. . . . Boycott propaganda . . . currently being carried on against Germany . . . is in essence un-Zionist." Zionism became the only other legal political movement in the Nazi Reich. That same year, the World Zionist Organization (WZO) made the Ha'avara (Transfer) Agreement, undermining the boycott against Nazi Germany. German Jewish emigrants to Palestine had to buy Nazi goods that the WZO sold in the Middle East. In 1937 the Haganah (later the Israeli army) sent an agent to Berlin. They would provide spy intelligence if the Nazis further eased the monetary regulations for emigrants to Palestine. The Zionist-Revisionist movement (today the ruling Likud Party) set up a detachment at Mussolini's naval academy. He personally reviewed them in 1936. They wanted him to replace Britain as Zionism's patron. In 1941, the Fighters for the Freedom of Israel (later Likudniks) told the Nazis that they wanted a "Jewish state on a national and totalitarian basis, bound by a treaty with the German Reich," and offered "to actively take part in the war on Germany's side." This is the sordid history documented in Lenni Brenner's *Zionism in the Age of the Dictators*. This updated edition features a new afterword by the author.

Keywords: History

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Lorenzo Kamel, *Imperial Perceptions of Palestine: British Influence and Power in Late Ottoman Times* (2015).

The Palestine Exploration Fund, established in 1865, is the oldest organization created specifically for the study of the Levant. It helped to spur evangelical tourism to the region in the late 19th and early 20th centuries which in turn generated a huge array of literature that presented Palestine as a 'Holy Land', in which local populations were often portrayed as a simple appendix to well-known Biblical scenarios. In the first book focused on modern and contemporary Palestine to provide a top-down and a bottom-up perspective on the process of simplification of the region and its inhabitants under British influence, Lorenzo Kamel offers a comprehensive outlook based on primary sources from 17 archives that spans a variety of cultural and social boundaries, including local identities, land tenure, toponymy, religious and political charges, institutions and borders. By observing the historical dynamics through which a fluid region composed by different cultures and societies has been simplified, the author explores how perceptions of Palestine have been affected today.

Keywords: History

Mazin Qumsiyeh, *Popular Resistance in Palestine: A History of Hope and Empowerment* (2011).

The Western media paint Palestinian resistance against Israeli occupation as exclusively violent: armed resistance, suicide bombings, and rocket attacks. In reality these methods are the exception to what is a peaceful and creative resistance movement. In this fascinating book, Dr Mazin Qumsiyeh synthesizes data from hundreds of original sources to provide the most comprehensive study of civil resistance in Palestine. The book contains hundreds of stories of the heroic and highly innovative methods of resistance employed by the Palestinians over more than 100 years. The author also analyses the successes, failures, missed opportunities and challenges facing ordinary Palestinians as they struggle for freedom against incredible odds. This is the only book to critically and comparatively study the uprisings of 1920-21, 1929, 1936-9, 1970s, 1987-1991 and 2000-2006. The compelling human stories told in this book will inspire people of all faiths and political backgrounds to chart a better and more informed direction for a future of peace with justice.

Keywords: Stories

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Mohammed Omer, *Shell Shocked: On the Ground Under Israel's Gaza Assault* (2015).

Operation Protective Edge, launched in early July 2014, was the third major Israeli assault on the Gaza Strip in six years. It was also the most deadly. By the conclusion of hostilities some seven weeks later, 2,200 of Gaza's population had been killed, and more than 10,000 injured. In these pages, journalist Mohammed Omer, a resident of Gaza who lived through the terror of those days with his wife and then three-month-old son, provides a first-hand account of life on-the-ground during Israel's assault. The images he records in this extraordinary chronicle are a literary equivalent of Goya's "Disasters of War": children's corpses stuffed into vegetable refrigerators, pointlessly because the electricity is off; a family rushing out of their home after a phone call from the Israeli military informs them that the building will be obliterated by an F-16 missile in three minutes; donkeys machine-gunned by Israeli soldiers under instructions to shoot anything that moves; graveyards targeted with shells so that mourners can no longer tell where their relatives are buried; fishing boats ablaze in the harbor.

Keywords: Post-Nakba

Musa Budeiri, *The Palestine Communist Party 1919-1948: Arab and Jew in the Struggle for Internationalism* (2010).

This history of the Palestinian Communist Party upends the caricature of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as an ancient religious blood feud. Musa Budeiri shows how the complex history of the Palestinian Left before the Zionist destruction of historic Palestine was defined by secularism and solidarity between Arab and Jewish workers.

Keywords: Communism, Mandatory Palestine

Nahla Abdo, Nur Masalha, *An Oral History of the Palestinian Nakba* (2019).

Unearthing an unparalleled body of rich oral testimony, *An Oral History of the Palestinian Nakba* tells the story of this epochal event through the voices of the Palestinians who lived it, uncovering remarkable new insights both into Palestinian experiences of the Nakba and into the wider dynamics of the ongoing conflict. Drawing together Palestinian accounts from 1948 with those of the present day, the book confronts the idea of the Nakba as an event consigned to the past, instead revealing it to be an ongoing process aimed at the erasure of Palestinian memory and history.

Keywords: Nakba, History

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Nahla Abdo, Nur Masalha, *An Oral History of the Palestinian Nakba* (2019).

In 2018, Palestinians mark the 70th anniversary of the Nakba, when over 750,000 people were uprooted and forced to flee their homes in the early days of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Even today, the bitterness and trauma of the Nakba remains raw, and it has become the pivotal event both in the shaping of Palestinian identity and in galvanizing the resistance to occupation. Unearthing an unparalleled body of rich oral testimony, *An Oral History of the Palestinian Nakba* tells the story of this epochal event through the voices of the Palestinians who lived it, uncovering remarkable new insights both into Palestinian experiences of the Nakba and into the wider dynamics of the ongoing conflict. Drawing together Palestinian accounts from 1948 with those of the present day, the book confronts the idea of the Nakba as an event consigned to the past, instead revealing it to be an ongoing process aimed at the erasure of Palestinian memory and history. In the process, each unique and wide-ranging contribution leads the way for new directions in Palestinian scholarship.

Keywords: Nakba, History

Noam Chomsky, *Fateful Triangle The United States, Israel, and the Palestinians* (2016).

Since its original publication in 1983, *Fateful Triangle* has become a classic in the fields of political science and Middle East affairs. This new edition features new chapters and a new introduction by Noam Chomsky and a foreword by Edward Said. Examining America's search for a 'reliable ally' in the Middle East, Chomsky untangles the intricacies of the US-Israeli-Palestinian relationship and lays bare the contortions, lies and misinformation that have been used over the years to obscure the real agenda. In the process he reveals the extent to which modern nation-states make claims for peace while actively pursuing very different objectives. In three new chapters Chomsky examines the Palestinian Uprising, the 'Limited War' in Lebanon and the Israeli-PLO Accords after the Oslo signings. This is a timely and much-needed corrective to the mythmaking that has obscured the real history of peace negotiations in the Middle East.

Keywords: Decolonization

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Noam Chomsky and Ilan Pappé, *Gaza in Crisis: Reflections on Israel's War Against the Palestinians* (2013)

In *Gaza in Crisis*, Noam Chomsky and Ilan Pappé, two of the issue's most insightful and prominent critical voices, survey the fallout from Israel's conduct in Gaza and place it into the context of Israel's longstanding occupation of Palestine. Israel's Operation Cast Lead thrust the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip into the center of the debate about the Israel/Palestine conflict. In this updated and expanded edition, Noam Chomsky and Ilan Pappé survey the fallout from Israel's conduct in Gaza, including their latest incursions, and place it in historical context.

Keywords: Post- Nakba

Noam Chomsky and Ilan Pappé, *On Palestine* (2015).

Operation Protective Edge, Israel's most recent assault on Gaza, left thousands of Palestinians dead and cleared the way for another Israeli land grab. The need to stand in solidarity with Palestinians has never been greater. Ilan Pappé and Noam Chomsky, two leading voices in the struggle to liberate Palestine, discuss the road ahead for Palestinians and how the international community can pressure Israel to end its human rights abuses against the people of Palestine. *On Palestine* is the sequel to their acclaimed book *Gaza in Crisis*.

Keywords: Gaza, History

Nur Masalha, *A Land Without a People: Israel, Transfer and the Palestinians 1949-96* (1997).

Transfer - a euphemism denoting the organized removal of the Arab population of Palestine to neighboring or distant countries - is deeply rooted in Zionism. Palestine, in Zionist thought, is a land without a people for a people without a land - a vacant territory waiting for settlers, with Palestinian residents who are not attached to the land by historical or cultural ties.

Keywords: Post Nakba

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

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Annotated Book Bibliography



Nur Masalha, *Imperial Israel and the Palestinians: The Politics of Expansion* (2000).

In *Imperial Israel and the Palestinians*, Nur Masalha provides a history of Israel's expansionist policies, focusing on the period from the June War of 1967 to the present day. He demonstrates that imperialist tendencies in Israel run the political gamut, from Left to Right. Masalha argues that the heart of the conflict between Zionist immigrants/settlers and the native Palestinians has always been about land, territory, demography and water. He documents how Israeli policy has made it a priority to expel the Palestinians, either by war or peaceful measures. But these imperialist tendencies are not restricted to extremist zealots. The author uncovers the expansionist policies found in Labour Zionism and Kookist ideology. Chapters cover the Whole Land of Israel Movement, Zionist Revisionism and the Likud Party, Gush Emunim and the religious fundamentalists, parties and movements of the far right and the evolution of Israeli Jewish public attitudes since 1967.

Keywords: Settlements, History, Colonization

Nur Masalha, *Palestine: A Four Thousand Year History* (2018).

This rich and magisterial work traces Palestine's millennia-old heritage, uncovering cultures and societies of astounding depth and complexity that stretch back to the very beginnings of recorded history. Starting with the earliest references in Egyptian and Assyrian texts, Nur Masalha explores how Palestine and its Palestinian identity have evolved over thousands of years, from the Bronze Age to the present day. Drawing on a rich body of sources and the latest archaeological evidence, Masalha shows how Palestine's multicultural past has been distorted and mythologized by Biblical lore and the Israel–Palestinian conflict.

In the process, Masalha reveals that the concept of Palestine, contrary to accepted belief, is not a modern invention or one constructed in opposition to Israel, but rooted firmly in ancient past. Palestine represents the authoritative account of the country's history.

Keywords: History

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Nur Masalha, *Palestine Across Millennia: A History of Literacy, Learning and Educational Revolutions* (2022).

In this magisterial cultural history of the Palestinians, Nur Masalha illuminates the entire history of Palestinian learning with specific reference to writing, education, literary production and the intellectual revolutions in the country. The book introduces this long cultural heritage to demonstrate that Palestine was not just a 'holy land' for the four monotheistic religions – Islam, Christianity, Judaism and Samaritanism – rather, the country evolved to become a major international site of classical education and knowledge production in multiple languages including Sumerian, Proto-Canaanite, Greek, Syriac, Arabic, Hebrew and Latin. The cultural saturation of the country is found then, not solely in landmark mosques, churches and synagogues, but in scholarship, historic schools, colleges, famous international libraries and archival centers. This unique book unites these renowned institutions, movements and multiple historical periods for the first time, presenting them as part of a cumulative and incremental intellectual advancement rather than disconnected periods of educational excellence. In doing so, this multifaceted intellectual history transforms the orientations of scholarly research on Palestine and propels current historical knowledge on education and literacy in Palestine to new heights.

Keywords: Education, History, Religion

Ramzy Baroud, *The Second Palestinian Intifada: A Chronicle of a People's Struggle* (2006).

Ramzy Baroud is a veteran journalist and former producer for Al-Jazeera TV. This is his comprehensive account of the momentous events of the last five years which shaped the political landscape not only of Palestine and Israel but of the entire Middle East region. Addressing the most controversial issues, including the alarming escalation in suicide bombings, and the construction of the Separation Wall, he reports on the huge rate of unemployment and hunger in the Occupied Territories – statistics so critical that NGOs compare their magnitude to African nations such as the Congo. From the brutality of the Israeli army to the ever-compromising nature of the Palestinian Authority, few are spared Baroud's thoughtful critique. The book is clear and concise, with one chapter dedicated to the major events of each year, and includes a comprehensive timeline.

Keywords: Intifada

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Rashid Khalid, *The Origins of Arab Nationalism* (1993).

The *Origins of Arab Nationalism* contains the most recent revisionist scholarship on the rise of Arab nationalism that began with the fall of the Ottoman Empire. The various contributors, including C. Ernest Down, Mahmoud Haddad, Reeva Simon, and Beth Baron, provide an unusually broad survey of the Arab world at the turn on the century, permitting a comparison of developments in a variety of settings from Syria and Egypt to the Hijaz, Libya, and Iraq.

Keywords: Arab Nationalism

Rashidi Khalidi, *Resurrecting Empire: Western Footprints and America's Perilous Path in the Middle East* (2005).

Begun as the United States moved its armed forces into Iraq, Rashid Khalidi's powerful and thoughtful new book examines the record of Western involvement in the region and analyzes the likely outcome of our most recent Middle East incursions. Drawing on his encyclopedic knowledge of the political and cultural history of the entire region as well as interviews and documents, Khalidi paints a chilling scenario of our present situation and yet offers a tangible alternative that can help us find the path to peace rather than Empire. We all know that those who refuse to learn from history are doomed to repeat it. Sadly, as Khalidi reveals with clarity and surety, America's leaders seem blindly committed to an ahistorical path of conflict, occupation, and colonial rule. Our current policies ignore rather than incorporate the lessons of experience. American troops in Iraq have seen first hand the consequences of U.S. led "democratization" in the region. The Israeli/Palestinian conflict seems intractable, and U.S. efforts in recent years have only inflamed the situation. The footprints America follows have led us into the same quagmire that swallowed our European forerunners. Peace and prosperity for the region are nowhere in sight. This cogent and highly accessible book provides the historical and cultural perspective so vital to understanding our present situation and to finding and pursuing a more effective and just foreign policy.

Keywords: Middle East, Imperialism

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

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Annotated Book Bibliography



Rashid Khalidi, *The Iron Cage: The Story of the Palestinian Struggle for Statehood* (2007).

At a time when a lasting peace between the Palestinians and the Israelis seems virtually unattainable, understanding the roots of their conflict is an essential step in restoring hope to the region. In *The Iron Cage*, Rashid Khalidi, one of the most respected historians and political observers of the Middle East, homes in on Palestinian politics and history. By drawing on a wealth of experience and scholarship, Khalidi provides a lucid context for the realities on the ground today, a context that has been, until now, notably lacking in our discourse.

The story of the Palestinian search to establish a state begins in the mandate period immediately following the breakup of the Ottoman Empire, the era of British control, when fledgling Arab states were established by the colonial powers with assurances of eventual independence. Mandatory Palestine was a place of real promise, with unusually high literacy rates and a relatively advanced economy. But the British had already begun to construct an iron cage to hem in the Palestinians, and the Palestinian leadership made a series of errors that would eventually prove crippling to their dream of independence.

Keywords: Statehood, History

Rashid Khalidi, *Sowing Crisis: The Cold War and American Dominance in the Middle East* (2010).

Acclaimed historian and political commentator Rashid Khalidi presents the compelling case that U.S. and Soviet intervention in the Middle East not only exacerbated civil wars and provoked the breakdown of fragile democracies, but continues to this day to shape global conflict in the region. Examining the strategic interplay of cold war superpowers, Khalidi explains how the momentous events that have occurred over the last two decades—including two Gulf wars, the occupation of Iraq, and the rise of terrorism—can only be understood in light of this chilling legacy.

Keywords: Cold War, Middle East

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

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Annotated Book Bibliography



Rashid Khalidi, *Brokers of Deceit: How the U.S. Has Undermined Peace in the Middle East* (2014).

Khalidi closely analyzes three historical moments that illuminate how the United States' involvement has, in fact, thwarted progress toward peace between Israel and Palestine. The first moment he investigates is the "Reagan Plan" of 1982, when Israeli prime minister Menachem Begin refused to accept the Reagan administration's proposal to reframe the Camp David Accords more impartially. The second moment covers the period after the Madrid Peace Conference, from 1991 to 1993, during which negotiations between Israel and Palestine were brokered by the United States until the signing of the secretly negotiated Oslo accords. Finally, Khalidi takes on President Barack Obama's retreat from plans to insist on halting the settlements in the West Bank. Through in-depth research into and keen analysis of these three moments, as well as his own firsthand experience as an advisor to the Palestinian delegation at the 1991 pre-Oslo negotiations in Washington, DC, Khalidi reveals how the United States and Israel have actively colluded to prevent a Palestinian state and resolve the situation in Israel's favor.

Keywords: Negotiations, History, Peace Process

Rashid Khalidi, *Under Siege: PLO Decision-making During the 1982 War* (2014).

A fascinating and often terrifying firsthand account of the 1982 war in Lebanon, *Under Siege* vividly reveals the complex negotiations and military maneuvers which ended with the evacuation of the P.L.O. from Beirut. Rashid Khalidi, a Palestinian, lived with his family in Beirut during the siege and ensuing massacres. Using many usually inaccessible sources, such as P.L.O. telexes and government messages, and interviews with key military officials and diplomats, he tells the story from the compelling viewpoint of those living amid the fighting. Khalidi provides a carefully detailed picture of the P.L.O. from within, the local Lebanese environment, the military pressure on the P.L.O. and Palestinian and Lebanese civilians, and of U.S. diplomacy during the crisis. While focusing primarily on the inner workings of the P.L.O., the author also addresses various aspects of Lebanese and inter-Arab politics and examines the military and diplomatic behavior of involved outside parties such as the United States, France, and the former Soviet Union.

Keywords: War, Lebanese Civil War, PLO

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

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Annotated Book Bibliography



Rashid Khalidi, *The Hundred Years' War on Palestine: A History of Settler Colonialism and Resistance, 1917–2017* (2021).

In 1899, Yusuf Diya al-Khalidi, mayor of Jerusalem, alarmed by the Zionist call to create a Jewish national home in Palestine, wrote a letter aimed at Theodore Herzl: the country had an indigenous people who would not easily accept their own displacement. He warned of the perils ahead, ending his note, “in the name of God, let Palestine be left alone.” Thus Rashid Khalidi, al-Khalidi’s great-great-nephew, begins this sweeping history, the first general account of the conflict told from an explicitly Palestinian perspective.

Drawing on a wealth of untapped archival materials and the reports of generations of family members—mayors, judges, scholars, diplomats, and journalists—*The Hundred Years' War on Palestine* upends accepted interpretations of the conflict, which tend, at best, to describe a tragic clash between two peoples with claims to the same territory. Instead, Khalidi traces a hundred years of colonial war on the Palestinians, waged first by the Zionist movement and then Israel, but backed by Britain and the United States, the great powers of the age. He highlights the key episodes in this colonial campaign, from the 1917 Balfour Declaration to the destruction of Palestine in 1948, from Israel’s 1982 invasion of Lebanon to the endless and futile peace process.

Original, authoritative, and important, *The Hundred Years' War on Palestine* is not a chronicle of victimization, nor does it whitewash the mistakes of Palestinian leaders or deny the emergence of national movements on both sides. In reevaluating the forces arrayed against the Palestinians, it offers an illuminating new view of a conflict that continues to this day.

Keywords: General History, Palestine

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Rosemary Sayigh, *The Palestinians: From Peasants to Revolutionaries* (2007).

As the Israel-Palestine conflict rages on, it is more important now than ever to understand the history of the Palestinian people. Rosemary Sayigh's *The Palestinians* is a classic of radical history. Through extensive interviews with Palestinians in refugee camps, she provides a deeply-moving, grassroots story of how the Palestinians came to be who they are today. In their own voices, Palestinians tell stories of the Nabka and their flight from their homeland. Sayigh's powerful account of Palestinians' economic marginalization the social and psychological effects of being uprooted and the political oppression which they have faced continues to resonate today. Reissued with an extensive new foreword by Noam Chomsky, which brings the story that Sayigh tells up-to-date in the context of the Hamas victory and the war in Lebanon, this book is both a fascinating historical document and an essential insight into the situation in the contemporary Middle East.

Keywords: Revolution, Refugees

Said K. Aburish, *Arafat: From Defender to Dictator* (1998).

In this meticulously researched and iconoclastic work, Said Aburish, the internationally respected Palestinian political analyst and writer, turns the popular western perception of Yasser Arafat upside-down. Far from being the benign heroic freedom fighter who has kept the hopes of his displaced people alive, Arafat is revealed as a narrow-minded operator, out of touch with reality, whose personal ambitions and lack of understanding of democratic principles have made him a deterrent to real peace in the Middle East.

Aburish exposes the unsound foundations of Arafat's leadership, and shows that his PLO has never been a revolutionary movement; rather Arafat and the PLO have always represented an elite group of Palestinian families who have grown ever more rich. Moreover, Aburish has discovered from hitherto silent but impeccable sources that since 1963, when Arafat first established contact with the CIA in Beirut, the PLO has conducted a secret dialogue with the US, amounting to a betrayal of its people- in effect an agreement to avoid military or economic confrontation with Israel.

Keywords: Arafat, Palestinian Leadership

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Salim Tamari, *The Great War and the Remaking of Palestine* (2017).

This rich history of Palestine in the last decade of the Ottoman Empire reveals the nation emerging as a cultural entity engaged in a vibrant intellectual, political, and social exchange of ideas and initiatives. Employing nuanced ethnography, rare autobiographies, and unpublished maps and photos, *The Great War and the Remaking of Palestine* discerns a self-consciously modern and secular Palestinian public sphere. New urban sensibilities, schools, monuments, public parks, railways, and roads catalyzed by the Great War and described in detail by Salim Tamari show a world that challenges the politically driven denial of the existence of Palestine as a geographic, cultural, political, and economic space.

Keywords: Great War, Palestine, History

Sami Hadawi, *Bitter Harvest: A Modern History of Palestine* (1991).

Hadawi analyzes the people of ancient Palestine, through the years of British colonization; he examines the Jewish community and Zionism, the legacy of Jewish terror against both British and Palestinian targets. Later sections look at the role of the state of Israel, its treatment of Palestinians, and the emergence of the Palestine Liberation Organization. In the final chapter Hadawi covers the 1979 Camp David Accords, Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982, and the intifada of mid-1989.

Keywords: Palestine, History

Sami Hadawi, *Palestinian Rights And Losses In 1948* (2001).

There have been countless studies of the 1948 events, which led to the creation of the state of Israel and the expulsion and dispossession of the Muslim and Christian inhabitants of Palestine; but none so far has dealt with the material and other losses of the Palestinians and given an estimation of their monetary value. This book presents, for the first time, an exhaustive evaluation of what Palestinians lost.

Keywords: UN, United Nations

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Sami Hadawi, *The Palestine Problem before the United Nations* (1966).

This book is a compilation of all official documents issued by the United Nations in 1966 as well as the proceedings before the various organs of the United Nations during that year which were on the subject of Palestine.

Keywords: UN

Sami Hadawi, *The Arab-Israeli Conflict: Cause and Effect* (1967).

This study delineates the main causes for the explosive situation in the Middle East, uncovering the key factors for the emergence and development of the question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict. The author argues that the conflict was the inevitable consequence of the Zionist colonial project, which resulted in the expulsion of the inhabitants of Palestine from their ancestral lands. The study also exposes some of the basic misconceptions about the Palestinian cause held by western observers.

Keywords: Mandate

Tareq Baconi, *Hamas Contained: The Rise and Pacification of Palestinian Resistance* (2018).

Hamas has ruled Gaza and the lives of the two million Palestinians who live there since 2006. *Hamas Contained*, first published in 2018, offers a history of the group, drawing on interviews with organization leaders and their publications. Tareq Baconi maps Hamas's thirty-year transition from fringe military resistance towards governance, culminating in Israeli efforts to contain the movement to the Gaza Strip. Baconi argues that under Israel's approach of managing rather than resolving the conflict, Hamas's demand for Palestinian sovereignty has effectively been marginalized in favor of military action against Hamas, and by implication, all Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. This dynamic—a violent equilibrium between Hamas and Israel and the movement's containment in the Gaza Strip—lasted for sixteen years, until it was decidedly shattered by Hamas's offensive on October 7, 2023.

Now with new material that provides an analytical framework and reflection on Hamas's offensive of October 7, 2023, and Israel's ensuing war on Gaza, *Hamas Contained* is an even more essential guide to understanding Hamas and the brutal violence of Israel's war on Palestinians.

Keywords: Gaza, Hamas, History

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Ted Swedenburg, *Memories of Revolt: The 1936-1939 Rebellion and the Palestinian National Past* (1995).

Swedenburg's book, based largely on research in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza in the mid-1980s, is an exploration of the ways in which veterans of the 1936-39 Palestinian revolt against British colonial rule and the Zionist project it protected remember that historical event. However, *Memories of Revolt* is not, and does not purport to be, an oral history, a work whose goal is to draw on the recollections of those who lived through this period in order to produce a fuller and more accurate historical narrative. Swedenburg is not primarily interested in determining the truth or accuracy of what his interviewees remembered and recounted about the revolt or in whether those memories do or do not agree with other accounts. Instead, his central concern is to see how these elderly villagers (mostly men) understood what they had experienced during the revolt years and what their recollections may tell us about currents and conflicts in Palestinian popular consciousness, past and present.

Keywords: History, British colonial rule

Yezid Sayigh, *Armed Struggle and the Search for State: The Palestinian National Movement, 1949-1993* (1998).

Built upon an unprecedented amount of access to PLO archives, official publications, and the internal documents of various guerrilla groups, as well as over four hundred interviews conducted by the author with the rank-and-file of the PLO, this groundbreaking book affords a definitive account of the Palestinian National Movement. Covering thoroughly the forty-five years between the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948 to the PLO-Israel accord of 1993, this study sheds much new light on the history of the Middle East in the latter half of the twentieth century.

Keywords: History, PLO, Armed Resistance

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



LAW

George Bisharat, *Palestinian Lawyers and Israeli Rule: Law and Disorder in the West Bank* (1989).

As frequent intermediaries between Israeli military authorities and Palestinian citizens, Palestinian lawyers stand close to the fault line dividing Israeli and Palestinian societies. The conflicts and tensions they experience in their profession mirror the larger conflicts between the two societies. Thus, as George Bisharat reveals in *Palestinian Lawyers and Israeli Rule*, a careful study of the work and lives of Palestinian lawyers ultimately helps to illuminate the causes of the intifada, or uprising, that began in December 1987. The study revolves around the central question of why the Palestinian legal profession declined during twenty years of Israeli occupation when, in other Third World countries, the legal profession has often reached its peak during a period of Western colonization. Bisharat answers this question with a wide-ranging inquiry into the historical origins of the legal profession and court system in Palestine, the tenuous grounding of these institutions in Palestinian society and culture, and the structure, style, and policies of the late-twentieth-century Israeli military government in the West Bank.

Keywords: Law, Palestinian Lawyers, Occupation

Mutaz M. Qafisheh, *The International Law Foundations of Palestinian Nationality: A Legal Examination of Nationality in Palestine Under Britain's Rule* (2008).

By the end of British rule in Palestine on 14 May 1948, Palestinian nationality had become well established in accordance with both domestic law and international law. Accordingly, the legal origin of Palestinian nationality lies in this nearly thirty-year period as the status of Palestinians has never been settled since. Hence, any legal consideration on the future status of individuals who once held Palestinian nationality should start from the point at which the British rule over Palestine was terminated. This work provides a legal basis for future settlement of the status of Palestinians of all categories that emerged in some sixty years following the end of the Palestine Mandate: Israeli citizens, inhabitants of the occupied territory, and Palestinian refugees.

Keywords: Law, Nationality

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Noura Erakat, *Justice for Some: Law and the Question of Palestine* (2019).

Justice in the Question of Palestine is often framed as a question of law. Yet none of the Israel-Palestinian conflict's most vexing challenges have been resolved by judicial intervention. Occupation law has failed to stem Israel's settlement enterprise. Laws of war have permitted killing and destruction during Israel's military offensives in the Gaza Strip. The Oslo Accord's two-state solution is now dead letter. *Justice for Some* offers a new approach to understanding the Palestinian struggle for freedom, told through the power and control of international law. Focusing on key junctures—from the Balfour Declaration in 1917 to present-day wars in Gaza—Noura Erakat shows how the strategic deployment of law has shaped current conditions. Over the past century, the law has done more to advance Israel's interests than the Palestinians'. But, Erakat argues, this outcome was never inevitable.

Law is politics, and its meaning and application depend on the political intervention of states and people alike. Within the law, change is possible. International law can serve the cause of freedom when it is mobilized in support of a political movement. Presenting the promise and risk of international law, *Justice for Some* calls for renewed action and attention to the Question of Palestine.

Keywords: International law, Occupation

Salman Abu Sitta, *Palestinian Right to Return - Sacred, Legal and Possible* (1999).

The book combines major aspects of the conflict for a better understanding of the plight of Palestinians. It pieces together fragments of the Nakba in order to comprehend the historical, political, religious and philosophical currents that have kept Palestinians in their perpetual exile. The book, divided into three parts, begins with a review of history, moving onto part two, which lists the common features of the Nakba, and a final chapter that brings together all the different threads in understanding the Nakba.

Keywords: International law, Occupation

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Susan M. Akram et. al., *International Law and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: A Rights-Based Approach to Middle East Peace* (2010).

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has long been intertwined with, and has had a profound influence on, the principles of modern international law. Placing a rights-based approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict at the centre of discussions over its peaceful resolution, this book provides detailed consideration of international law and its application to political issues.

Through the lens of international law and justice, the book debunks the myth that law is not useful to its resolution, illustrating through both theory and practice how international law points the way to a just and durable solution to the conflict in the Middle East. Contributions from leading scholars in their respective fields give an in-depth analysis of key issues that have been marginalized in most mainstream discussions of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

Keywords: International law, Refugees

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Angela Davis, *Freedom Is a Constant Struggle: Ferguson, Palestine, and the Foundations of a Movement* (2015).

In these newly collected essays, interviews, and speeches, world-renowned activist and scholar Angela Y. Davis illuminates the connections between struggles against state violence and oppression throughout history and around the world. Reflecting on the importance of black feminism, intersectionality, and prison abolitionism for today's struggles, Davis discusses the legacies of previous liberation struggles, from the Black Freedom Movement to the South African anti-Apartheid movement. She highlights connections and analyzes today's struggles against state terror, from Ferguson to Palestine. Facing a world of outrageous injustice, Davis challenges us to imagine and build the movement for human liberation. And in doing so, she reminds us that "Freedom is a constant struggle."

Keywords: Political Science, Black Liberation

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Ahmad Qabaha, *Post-Millennial Palestine: Literature, Memory, Resistance* (2021).

Post-Millennial Palestine: Literature, Memory, Resistance confronts how Palestinians have recently felt obliged to re-think memory and resistance in response to dynamic political and regional changes in the twenty-first century; prolonged spatial and temporal dispossession; and the continued deterioration of the peace process. Insofar as the articulation of memory in (post)colonial contexts can be viewed as an integral component of a continuing anti-colonial struggle for self-determination, in tracing the dynamics of conveying the memory of ongoing, chronic trauma, this collection negotiates the urgency for Palestinians to reclaim and retain their heritage in a continually unstable and fretful present. The collection offers a distinctive contribution to the field of existing scholars...

Keywords: Literature

Ali Abunimah, *The Battle for Justice in Palestine* (2014).

"Efforts to achieve a "two-state solution" have finally collapsed; the struggle for justice in Palestine is at a crossroads. As Israel and its advocates lurch toward greater extremism, many ask where the struggle is headed. This book offers a clear analysis of this crossroads moment and looks forward with urgency down the path to a more hopeful future. Ali Abunimah is the author of *One Country: A Bold Proposal to End the Israeli Palestinian Impasse*, and co-founder and director of the widely acclaimed publication the Electronic Intifada.

Keywords: Middle East, Neoliberalism

Avi Shlaim, *Israel and Palestine: Reappraisals, Revisions, Refutations* (2010).

With characteristic rigor and readability, Avi Shlaim reflects on a range of key issues, transformations and personalities in the Israel–Palestine conflict. From the 1917 Balfour Declaration to the 2008 invasion of Gaza, Israel and Palestine places current events in their proper historical perspective, and assesses the impact of key political and intellectual figures, including Yasir Arafat and Ariel Sharon, Edward Said and Benny Morris. It also re-examines the United States' influential role in the conflict, and explores the many missed opportunities for peace and progress. Clear-eyed and meticulous, *Israel and Palestine* is an essential tool for understanding the fractured history and future prospects of the region.

Keywords: Politics

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi, *The Israeli Connection: Who Israel Arms and Why* (1987).

The author explains how Israel has become the arms dealer and military trainer of last resort, for everyone from Guatemala's murderous military to Mobutu in Africa and the Shah of Iran. It is, above all, in his eye-opening look at Israel's secret alliance with South Africa that Beit-Hallahmi illustrates the tragic situation his increasingly isolated nation faces today. He suggests surprising parallels between the way South Africans view blacks and the way Israelis view Palestinians, and in detailing the extensive ties--from nuclear-weapon sharing to military aid, trade, and tourism--he explores what this policy means for Israel.

Keywords: Arms Dealer

Dana El Kurd, *Polarized and Demobilized: Legacies of Authoritarianism in Palestine* (2020).

After the 1994 Oslo Accords, Palestinians were hopeful that an end to the Israeli occupation was within reach, and that a state would be theirs by 1999. With this promise, international powers became increasingly involved in Palestinian politics, and many shadows of statehood arose in the territories. Today, however, no state has emerged, and the occupation has become more entrenched. Concurrently, the Palestinian Authority has become increasingly authoritarian, and Palestinians ever more polarized and demobilized.

Palestine is not unique in this: international involvement, and its disruptive effects, have been a constant across the contemporary Arab world. This book argues that internationally backed authoritarianism has an effect on society itself, not just on regime-level dynamic...

Keywords: Palestinian Authority, Dictatorship

Dawud Assad, *Palestine Rising: How I survived the 1948 Deir Yasin Massacre* (2010).

The book liberates the truth from the propaganda and lies of the past. The purpose is not to spew hate or espouse a victim mentality. Rather, it is to indicate that so much suffering should make the case for ending that suffering, not only on behalf of the Palestinians, but for all people who find themselves under occupation of colonial oppression

Keywords: Nakba

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Edward Said, *Orientalism* (1979).

A groundbreaking critique of the West's historical, cultural, and political perceptions of the East that is—three decades after its first publication—one of the most important books written about our divided world.

In this wide-ranging, intellectually vigorous study, Said traces the origins of "orientalism" to the centuries-long period during which Europe dominated the Middle and Near East and, from its position of power, defined "the orient" simply as "other than" the occident. This entrenched view continues to dominate western ideas and, because it does not allow the East to represent itself, prevents true understanding.

Keywords: Orientalism, Colonialism

Edward Said, *The Question of Palestine* (1992).

With the rigorous scholarship he brought to his influential *Orientalism* and an exile's passion (he is Palestinian by birth), Edward W. Said traces the fatal collision between two peoples in the Middle East and its repercussions in the lives of both the occupier and the occupied—as well as in the conscience of the West. He has updated this landmark work to portray the changed status of Palestine and its people in light of such developments as the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the intifada, the Gulf War, and the ongoing Middle East peace initiative. For anyone interested in this region and its future, *The Question of Palestine* remains the most useful and authoritative account available.

Keywords: Peace Process

Edward Said, *Peace And Its Discontents: Essays on Palestine in the Middle East Peace Process* (1996).

Two years after the PLO signed an agreement with Israel, Edward W. Said reveals the tragedy of what has been celebrated in the West as the American Middle East 'Peace Process'. Eloquent and impassioned, these essays, written originally both for an Arab and Western audience, bear witness to what Said sees as the true indignity of the Palestinian situation today under an incompetent and desperate leadership, and the continuing Israeli occupation.

Keywords: Peace Process

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Edward Said, *The End of the Peace Process: Oslo and After* (2001).

In this unflinching cry for civic justice and self-determination, Said promotes not a political agenda but a transcendent alternative: the peaceful coexistence of Arabs and Jews enjoying equal rights and shared citizenship.

Soon after the Oslo accords were signed in September 1993 by Israel and Palestinian Liberation Organization, Edward Said predicted that they could not lead to real peace. In these essays, most written for Arab and European newspapers, Said uncovers the political mechanism that advertises reconciliation in the Middle East while keeping peace out of the picture.

Said argues that the imbalance in power that forces Palestinians and Arab states to accept the concessions of the United States and Israel prohibits real negotiations and promotes the second-class treatment of Palestinians. He documents what has really gone on in the occupied territories since the signing. He reports worsening conditions for the Palestinians, critiques Yasir Arafat's self-interested and oppressive leadership, denounces Israel's refusal to recognize Palestine's past, and—in essays new to this edition—addresses the resulting unrest.
Keywords: Peace Process

Edward Said, *Freud And The Non-European* (2014).

Using an impressive array of material from literature, archaeology and social theory, Edward Said explores the profound implications of Freud's *Moses and Monotheism* for Middle-East politics today. The resulting book reveals Said's abiding interest in Freud's work and its important influence on his own.

He proposes that Freud's assumption that Moses was an Egyptian undermines any simple ascription of a pure identity, and further that identity itself cannot be thought or worked through without the recognition of the limits inherent in it. Said suggests that such an unresolved, nuanced sense of identity might, if embodied in political reality, have formed, or might still form, the basis for a new understanding between Jews and Palestinians. Instead, Israel's relentless march towards an exclusively Jewish state denies any sense of a more complex, inclusive past.
Keywords: Identity

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Eugene Rogan, *The War for Palestine: Rewriting the History of 1948* (2008).

The 1948 war led to the creation of the state of Israel, the fragmentation of Palestine, and to a conflict which has raged across the intervening sixty years. The historical debate likewise continues and these debates are encapsulated in the second edition of *The War for Palestine*, updated to include chapters on Saudi Arabia and Lebanon. In a preface to this edition, the editors survey the state of scholarship in this contested field. The impact of these debates goes well beyond academia. There is an important link between the state of Arab-Israeli relations and popular attitudes towards the past. A more complex and fair-minded understanding of that past is essential for preserving at least the prospect of reconciliation between Arabs and Israel in the future. The rewriting of the history of 1948 thus remains a practical as well as an academic imperative.

Keywords: Nakba

Eyal Weizman, *Hollow Land: Israel's Architecture of Occupation* (2012).

In this journey from the deep subterranean spaces of the West Bank and Gaza to their militarized airspace, Eyal Weizman unravels Israel's mechanisms of control and its transformation of the Occupied Territories into a theoretically constructed artifice, in which all natural and built features function as the weapons and ammunition with which the conflict is waged. Weizman traces the development of these ideas, from the influence of archaeology on urban planning, Ariel Sharon's reconceptualization of military defense during the 1973 war, through the planning and architecture of the settlements, to contemporary Israeli discourse and practice of urban warfare and airborne targeted assassinations.

In exploring Israel's methods to transform the landscape and the built environment themselves into tools of domination and control, *Hollow Land* lays bare the political system at the heart of this complex and terrifying project of late-modern colonial occupation.

Keywords: Occupation

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Ghada Karmi, *Married to Another Man: Israel's Dilemma in Palestine* (2007).

Two rabbis, visiting Palestine in 1897, observed that the land was like a bride, 'beautiful, but married to another man'. By which they meant that, if a place was to be found for Israel in Palestine, where would the people of Palestine go? This is a dilemma that Israel has never been able to resolve. No conflict today is more dangerous than that between Israel and the Palestinians. The implications it has for regional and global security cannot be overstated. The peace process as we know it is dead and no solution is in sight. Nor, as this book argues, will that change until everyone involved in finding a solution accepts the real causes of conflict, and its consequences on the ground. Leading writer Ghada Karmi explains in fascinating detail the difficulties Israel's existence created for the Arab world and why the search for a solution has been so elusive. Ultimately, she argues that the conflict will end only once the needs of both Arabs and Israelis are accommodated equally. Her startling conclusions overturn conventional thinking -- but they are hard to refute.

Keywords: Zionism

Ghada Karmi, *One State: The Only Democratic Future for Palestine-Israel* (2023).

In 1948, Ghada Karmi and her family in Jerusalem were among the hundreds of thousands of Palestinians who were exiled during the creation of the state of Israel. She has since become one of the most vocal proponents of the single democratic state in Palestine-Israel. In this book, Karmi powerfully argues that a democratic one-state settlement is the best possible route to a just future for all concerned, including Palestinian refugees. Uniting the land – from the Mediterranean Sea to the River Jordan – and allowing the Palestinian right of return is the only way to end the exclusive and antidemocratic character of the Israeli state.

Keywords: One State Solution

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Ghassan Kanafani, *On Zionist Literature* (1967).

Ghassan Kanafani's *On Zionist Literature* makes an incisive analysis of the literary fiction written in support of the Zionist colonization of Palestine. Interweaving his literary criticism of works by George Eliot, Arthur Koestler, and many others with a historical materialist narrative, Kanafani identifies the political intent and ideology of Zionist literature, demonstrating how the myths used to justify the Zionist-imperialist domination of Palestine first emerged and were repeatedly propagated in popular literary works in order to generate support for Zionism and shape the Western public's understanding of it.

Keywords: Anti-Zionism

Ghassan Khattib, *Palestinian Politics and the Middle East Peace Process: Consensus and Competition in the Palestinian Negotiating Team* (2009).

Eight years after the second Palestinian uprising, the Oslo accords signed in 1993 seem to have failed. The reasons for the failure continue to fascinate students, politicians, researchers and policymakers alike. This book explores one of the major aspects of the bilateral peace process – the composition and behavior of the Palestinian negotiating team, which deeply impacted the outcome of the negotiations between 1991 and 1997. It focuses on the dynamics between the PLO leadership outside the occupied Palestinian territories and the grassroots leadership within the areas under Israeli control that led to conflicts of interest at the time of the final agreement. As the author was a part of the Palestinian leadership in the occupied territories, and was present during the negotiations process in Madrid and Washington DC, the book contains original, unpublished accounts, including those of the Washington bilateral negotiations and crucial internal Palestinian meetings. It is an excellent resource to gain an understanding of Palestinian behavior during peace talks, deterioration in peace-making efforts, the resulting radicalization, and the growing tendency towards violence.

Keywords: Peace Process

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Helena Cobban, *The Palestinian Liberation Organisation: People, Power and Politics* (1984).

This is a comprehensive political analysis of the PLO. A correspondent in Beirut from 1976 to 1981, Helena Cobban has been able to study developments at close quarters and use documentary sources and first-hand recollections which have never been included in previous Western analyses of the movement. The book maintains that one key to understanding the development of the PLO is an examination of the development of its predominant member-group, Al-Fateh. The first part focuses on the history of Fateh, showing how its interests and the PLO's became intertwined. The latter part discusses the interrelations between the Fateh leadership and various factors which affect and are affected by its performance, such as the internal Palestinian opposition, the Arab milieu, and the resistance movement inside the Israeli-occupied areas. The final chapter draws together all the strands to arrive at the precise sources of the Fateh leadership's relative stability, as well as to assess its effectiveness in key areas of its operations.

Keywords: Political Science, Economic Policy

Jasbir Puar, *The Right to Maim: Debilitation and Inhumanist Biopolitics in Palestine* (2017).

In "The Right to Maim," Jasbir K. Puar applies her pioneering analysis of the liberal state, sexuality, and biopolitics to disability. Using "debility" to redefine disability through economic and political contexts, she reveals how states control populations by managing bodily injury and exclusion. Puar critiques Israel's policies towards Palestinians, highlighting their biopolitical strategies of injury and debilitation within frameworks of disability and imperialism.

Keywords: Disability

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt, *The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy* (2008).

Originally published in 2007, *The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy*, by John Mearsheimer of the University of Chicago and Stephen M. Walt of Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, provoked both howls of outrage and cheers of gratitude for challenging what had been a taboo issue in America: the impact of the Israel lobby on U.S. foreign policy. A work of major importance, it remains as relevant today as it was in the immediate aftermath of the Israel-Lebanon war of 2006.

Mearsheimer and Walt describe in clear and bold terms the remarkable level of material and diplomatic support that the United States provides to Israel and argues that this support cannot be fully explained on either strategic or moral grounds. This exceptional relationship is due largely to the political influence of a loose coalition of individuals and organizations that actively work to shape U.S. foreign policy in a pro-Israel direction. They provocatively contend that the lobby has a far-reaching impact on America's posture throughout the Middle East—in Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, and toward the Israeli-Palestinian conflict—and the policies it has encouraged are in neither America's national interest nor Israel's long-term interest. The lobby's influence also affects America's relationship with important allies and increases dangers that all states face from global jihadist terror.

Keywords: Foreign Policy

Joseph Massad, *The Persistence of the Palestinian Question* (2006).

In this erudite and groundbreaking series of essays, renowned author Joseph Massad asks and answers key questions, such as: What has been the main achievement of the Zionist movement? What accounts for the failure of the Palestinian National Movement to win its struggle against Israel? What do anti-Semitism, colonialism and racism have to do with the Palestinian/Israeli 'conflict'? Joseph Massad offers a radical departure from mainstream analysis in order to expose the causes for the persistence of the 'Palestinian Question'. He proposes that it is not in de-linking the Palestinian Question from the Jewish Question that a resolution can be found, but by linking them as one and the same question. All other proposed solutions, the author argues, are bound to fail.

Keywords: Peace Process

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Kareem Rabie, *Palestine Is Throwing a Party and the Whole World Is Invited: Capital and State Building in the West Bank* (2021).

In 2008, Palestinian Prime Minister Salam Fayyad invited international investors to the first-ever Palestine Investment Conference, which was designed to jump-start the process of integrating Palestine into the global economy. As Fayyad described the conference, Palestine is “throwing a party, and the whole world is invited.” In this book Kareem Rabie examines how the conference and Fayyad's rhetoric represented a wider shift in economic and political practice in ways that oriented state-scale Palestinian politics toward neoliberal globalization rather than a diplomatic two-state solution. Rabie demonstrates that private firms, international aid organizations, and the Palestinian government in the West Bank focused on large-scale private housing development in an effort toward state-scale economic stability and market building. This approach reflected the belief that a thriving private economy would lead to a free and functioning Palestinian state. Yet, as Rabie contends, these investment-based policies have maintained the status quo of occupation and Palestine's subordinate and suspended political and economic relationship with Israel.

Keywords: Economics, Settlers, Colonialism

Leila Farsakh, *Rethinking Statehood in Palestine: Self-Determination and Decolonization Beyond Partition* (2021).

The quest for an inclusive and independent state has been at the center of the Palestinian national struggle for a very long time. This book critically explores the meaning of Palestinian statehood and the challenges that face alternative models to it. Giving prominence to a young set of diverse Palestinian scholars, this groundbreaking book shows how notions of citizenship, sovereignty, and nationhood are being rethought within the broader context of decolonization. Bringing forth critical and multifaceted engagements with what modern Palestinian self-determination entails, *Rethinking Statehood* sets the terms of debate for the future of Palestine beyond partition.

Keywords: Partition, Self Determination

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

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Annotated Book Bibliography



Mohammad Sabaaneh, *Power Born of Dreams: My Story is Palestine* (2021).

A bird perches on the cell window and offers a deal: “You bring the pencil, and I will bring the stories,” stories of family, of community, of Gaza, of the West Bank, of Jerusalem, of Palestine. The two collect threads of memory and intergenerational trauma from ongoing settler-colonialism. Helping us to see that the prison is much larger than a building, far wider than a cell; it stretches through towns and villages, past military checkpoints and borders. But hope and solidarity can stretch farther, deeper, once strength is drawn of stories and power is born of dreams. Translating headlines into authentic lived experiences, these stories come to life in the striking linocut artwork of Mohammad Sabaaneh, helping us to see Palestinians not as political symbols, but as people.

Keywords: Biography, Interviews

Nahla Abdo, *Captive Revolution: Palestinian Women's Anti-Colonial Struggle Within the Israeli Prison System* (2014).

Nahla Abdo's *Captive Revolution* seeks to break the silence on Palestinian women political detainees, providing a vital contribution to research on women, revolutions, national liberation and anti-colonial resistance. Based on stories of the women themselves, as well as her own experiences as a former political prisoner, Abdo draws on a wealth of oral history and primary research in order to analyse their anti-colonial struggle, their agency and the appalling treatment. Making crucial comparisons with the experiences of female political detainees in other conflicts, and emphasising the vital role Palestinian political culture and memorialisation of the 'Nakba' have had on their resilience and resistance, *Captive Revolution* is a rich and revealing addition to our knowledge of this little-studied phenomenon.

Keywords: Feminism, Prison, Anticolonialism

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Nur Masalha, *The Politics of Denial: Israel and the Palestinian Refugee Problem* (2003).

This book looks at the way Israel handled and ultimately denies the refugee problem that it caused due to the Nakba in 1948. Masalha tries to find what rights Palestinians have under international law as refugees and argues against the prevailing Israeli narrative.

Keywords: Refugees, International Law, Nakba

Nur Masalha, *The Palestine Nakba: Decolonizing History, Narrating the Subaltern, Reclaiming Memory* (2012).

2012 marks the 63rd anniversary of the Nakba - the most traumatic catastrophe that ever befell Palestinians. This book explores new ways of remembering and commemorating the Nakba. In the context of Palestinian oral history, it explores 'social history from below', subaltern narratives of memory and the formation of collective identity. Masalha argues that to write more truthfully about the Nakba is not just to practise a professional historiography but an ethical imperative. The struggles of ordinary refugees to recover and publicly assert the truth about the Nakba is a vital way of protecting their rights and keeping the hope for peace with justice alive.

This book is essential for understanding the place of the Palestine Nakba at the heart of the Israel-Palestine conflict and the vital role of memory in narratives of truth and reconciliation.

Keywords: History, political theory, Nakba

Omar Barghouti, *Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions: The Global Struggle for Palestinian Rights* (2011).

"I have been to Palestine where I've witnessed the racially segregated housing and the humiliation of Palestinians at military roadblocks. I can't help but remember the conditions we experienced in South Africa under apartheid. We could not have achieved our freedom without the help of people around the world using the nonviolent means of boycotts and divestment to compel governments and institutions to withdraw their support for the apartheid regime. Omar Barghouti's lucid and morally compelling book is perfectly timed to make a major contribution to this urgently needed global campaign for justice, freedom and peace."

Keywords: BDS

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Perla Issa, *The Endurance of Palestinian Political Factions: An Everyday Perspective from Nahr el-Bared Camp* (2021).

An ethnographic study of Palestinian political factions in Lebanon through an immersion in daily home life. The author asks how political factions remain the center of political life in the Palestinian camps in the face of mounting criticism.

Keywords: Refugees

Peter Beinart, *The Crisis of Zionism* (2013).

In Israel, the deepening occupation of the West Bank is putting Israeli democracy at risk. And in the United States, the refusal of major Jewish organizations to defend democracy in the Jewish state is alienating many young liberal Jews from Zionism itself. In *The Crisis of Zionism*, Peter Beinart lays out in chilling detail the looming danger to Israeli democracy and the American Jewish establishment's refusal to confront it. And he renders a fascinating, groundbreaking portrait of the two leaders at the center of the crisis: Barack Obama and Benjamin Netanyahu. Beinart offers provocative proposals for how the relationship between American Jews and Israel must change, and an eloquent and moving appeal for American Jews to defend the dream of a democratic Jewish state before it is too late.

Keywords: Zionism

Raja Shehadeh, *Shifting Sands: The Unraveling of the Old Order in the Middle East* (2016).

At a time when the Middle East dominates media headlines more than ever - and for reasons that become ever more heartbreaking - *Shifting Sands* brings together fifteen impassioned and informed voices to talk about a region with unlimited potential, and yet which can feel, as one writer puts it, 'as though the world around me is on fire'?

Collecting together the thoughts and insights of writers who live or have deep roots in there, *Shifting Sands* takes a look at aspects of the Middle East from the catastrophic long-term effects of the carving up of the region by the colonial powers after World War One to the hopes and struggles of the Arab spring in relation to Egypt, Iran and Syria. And it asks questions such as: what is it like to be a writer in the Middle East? What does the future hold? And where do we go from here?

Keywords: Middle East

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Rashid Khalidi, *Palestinian Identity: The Construction of Modern National Consciousness* (2009).

This foundational text now features a new introduction by Rashid Khalidi reflecting on the significance of his work over the past decade and its relationship to the struggle for Palestinian nationhood. Khalidi also casts an eye to the future, noting the strength of Palestinian identity and social solidarity yet wondering whether current trends will lead to Palestinian statehood and independence.

Keywords: Identity, Nationalism

Richard Ben Cramer, *How Israel Lost: The Four Questions* (2005).

Cramer illustrates how Israel is losing her soul by maintaining her occupation of the lands conquered in the Six Day War. Israel has become a victim of that occupation no less than the Palestinians, who must have a nation of their own.

Both his observations and argument are drawn with startling clarity, informed by the fierce and fearless reporting that won him the Pulitzer Prize for Middle East coverage.

Keywords: Occupation

Sahar Sadeghi, *Conditional Belonging: The Racialization of Iranians in the Wake of Anti-Muslim Politics* (2023).

A compelling account of how race and politics have affected Iranian immigrants in the United States and Germany

Iranians have a complex and contradictory relationship with race. Though categorized as “white” by the US census, many Iranian Americans remain marginalized, and experience racial and political stigma daily. On the other hand, Iranian Germans who have been in Germany for decades, and are typically regarded as ‘good foreigners,’ continue to experience marginality and discrimination illustrating the limitations of integration and citizenship. *Conditional Belonging* explores these apparent contradictions through a comparative analysis of the Iranian diasporic experience in the United States and Germany, focusing particularly on the different processes of racialization of the immigrant

Keywords: Political science, immigrants, race

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

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Saree Makdisi, *Palestine Inside Out: An Everyday Occupation* (2010).

Tending one's fields, visiting a relative, going to the hospital: for ordinary Palestinians, such activities require negotiating permits and passes, curfews and closures, "sterile roads" and "seam zones"—bureaucratic hurdles ultimately as deadly as outright military incursion. In *Palestine Inside Out*, Saree Makdisi draws on eye-opening statistics, academic histories, UN reports, and contemporary journalism to reveal how the "peace process" institutionalized Palestinians' loss of control over their inner and outer lives—and argues powerfully and convincingly for a one-state solution. 33 photographs and 12 maps

Keywords: Occupation

Saree Makdisi, *Tolerance Is a Wasteland: Palestine and the Culture of Denial* (2022).

This book tries to square the circle of how Israel is described as a multicultural democracy but clearly is not. The author argues this is done via a politics of denial, denying Palestinians personhood.

Keywords: Theory, Denial

Sumaya Awad, *Palestine: A Socialist Introduction* (2020).

Palestine: A Socialist Introduction systematically tackles a number of important aspects of the Palestinian struggle for liberation, contextualizing it in an increasingly polarized world and offering a socialist perspective on how full liberation can be won.

Through an internationalist, anti-imperialist lens, this book explores the links between the struggle for freedom in the United States and that in Palestine, and beyond. It examines both the historical and contemporary trajectory of the Palestine solidarity movement in order to glean lessons for today's organizers, and compellingly lays out the argument that, in order to achieve justice in Palestine, the movement has to take up the question of socialism regionally and internationally.

Keywords: Socialism, Liberation

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

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Toufic Haddad, *Between the Lines: Israel, the Palestinians, and the U.S. War on Terror* (2007).

This compilation of essays, edited by a Palestinian writer and an Israeli journalist, constitutes a challenge to critically rethink the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. *Between the Lines* presents a groundbreaking study that brings together insights from across the lines of conflict to put the latest chapter of Israeli apartheid and Palestinian resistance into context.

Keywords: Journalism, Essays

REFERENCE

Mariam Shahid, *Palestine: A Guide* (2007).

A fascinating look at where, and how, Palestinians live today. Explore the monuments of the past, as well as the vibrant towns, cities, hamlets and refugee camps of an emerging nation.

Keywords: Cities

Salman Abu Sitta, *Atlas of Palestine, 1917-1966* (2010)

An analysis of the Mandate, Partition Plan, Palestine borders, land ownership, population composition, the 1948 war, al Nakba, Armistice Lines, war crimes, destruction of landscape, disposition and confiscation of Palestinian property, water and agriculture and retransformation of Palestine landscape. Includes pictures and maps.

Keywords: Maps, Population sizes, property

Walid Khalidi, *From Haven to Conquest: Zionism and the Palestine Problem Until 1948* (1971).

Anthology of reprinted articles and book chapters with an introduction and appendices. Now a classic in its field, *From Haven to Conquest* is a unique compendium of difficult-to-obtain or out-of-print material on Zionism and the history of Palestine from ancient times until 1948. Eighty documents and first-hand accounts are supplemented by 30 pages of appendices providing detailed demographic and military statistics. The late historian Albert Hourani called Professor Khalidi's 80-page introduction "the best description and explanation known to me of the way in which the indigenous inhabitants of the country were gradually and inexorably displaced."

Keywords: Documents, Prints

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Walid Khalidi, *Before Their Diaspora: A Photographic History of The Palestinians 1876-1948* (1984).

Before Their Diaspora is a visual journey into life in Palestine before its partition in 1948. Every important aspect of modern Palestinian history comes to life in the nearly 500 photographs carefully selected from thousands uncovered in private and public collections throughout the world. Descriptive, analytic texts introduce each of the five historical periods into which the book is divided, and detailed chronologies complete the overviews.

Keywords: Photographs

Walid Khalidi, *Palestine Reborn* (1992).

Khalidi is an influential Palestinian scholar and was the leader of the joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to the Middle East Peace Conference. This volume brings together Khalidi's essays, including unpublished work, on the history and politics of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Keywords: Speeches, Documents

Walid Khalidi, *All That Remains: The Palestinian Villages Occupied and Depopulated by Israel in 1948* (2006).

This authoritative reference work describes in detail the more than 400 Palestinian villages that were destroyed or depopulated by Israel in 1948. Little of these once-thriving communities remains: not only have they been erased from the Palestinian landscape, their very names have been removed from contemporary Israeli maps. But to hundreds of thousands of Palestinians living in their diaspora, these villages were home, and continue to be poignantly powerful symbols of their personal and national identity.

Keywords: Nakba, Villages, Pictures

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Mohamed Abdou, *Islam and Anarchism Relationships and Resonances* (2022).

Discourse around Muslims and Islam all too often lapses into a false dichotomy of Orientalist and fundamentalist tropes. A popular reimagining of Islam is urgently needed. Yet it is a perhaps unexpected political philosophical tradition that has the most to offer in this pursuit: anarchism.

Islam and Anarchism is a highly original and interdisciplinary work, which simultaneously disrupts two commonly held beliefs - that Islam is necessarily authoritarian and capitalist; and that anarchism is necessarily anti-religious and anti-spiritual. Deeply rooted in key Islamic concepts and textual sources, and drawing on radical Indigenous, Islamic anarchistic and social movement discourses, Abdou proposes 'Anarcha-Islam'.

Keywords: Anarchism

Nur Masalha, *The Bible and Zionism: Invented Traditions, Archaeology and Post-Colonialism in Palestine-Israel* (2007).

This book looks at the change of mainstream Zionism being dominated by secular Zionists to religious Zionists. Examines the use of the Bible as a "title" to the land and advocates that peace is only possible under a secular state.

Keywords: Religious Zionism, Secularism, Bible

Nur Masalha, *The Zionist Bible: Biblical Precedent, Colonialism and the Erasure of Memory* (2014).

Throughout the history of European imperialism the grand narratives of the Bible have been used to justify settler-colonialism. "The Zionist Bible" explores the ways in which modern political Zionism and Israeli militarism have used the Bible - notably the Book of Joshua and its description of the entry of the Israelites into the Promised Land - as an agent of oppression and to support settler-colonialism in Palestine.

Keywords: Religious Zionism, Secularism, Bible , Judaism

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



SOCIOLOGY

Ahmad H. Sa'di, Nur Masalha, *Decolonizing the Study of Palestine: Indigenous Perspectives and Settler Colonialism after Elia Zureik* (2023).

Building on Zureik's work, this book studies the colonial project in Palestine and how it has transformed Palestinians' lives. Zureik had argued that Israel was the product of a colonization process and so should be studied through the same concepts and theorization as South Africa, Rhodesia, Australia, and other colonial societies. He also rejected the moral and civilizational superiority of the European settlers. Developing this work, the contributors here argue that colonialism is not only a political-economic system but also a "mode of life" and consciousness, which has far-reaching consequences for both the settlers and the indigenous population. Across 13 chapters (in addition to the introduction and the afterward), the book covers topics such as settler colonialism, dispossession, the separation wall, surveillance technologies, decolonisation methodologies and popular resistance. Composed mostly of Palestinian scholars and scholars of Palestinian heritage, it is the first book in which the indigenous Palestinians not merely "write back", but principally aim to lay the foundations for decolonial social science research on Palestine.

Keywords: Political Science, Social Science, Decolonization

Edward Said, *After the Last Sky: Palestinian Lives* (1998).

A searing portrait of Palestinian life and identity that is at once an exploration of Edward Said's unclaimable past and a testimony to the lives of those living in exile.

Keywords: Society

Linda Tuhiwai Smith, *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples* (1999).

This essential volume explores intersections of imperialism and research - specifically, the ways in which imperialism is embedded in disciplines of knowledge and tradition as 'regimes of truth.' Concepts such as 'discovery' and 'claiming' are discussed and an argument presented that the decolonization of research methods will help to reclaim control over indigenous ways of knowing and being.

Keywords: Methodologies

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

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Lisa Taraki, *Living Palestine: Family Survival, Resistance, and Mobility under Occupation (Gender, Culture, and Politics in the Middle East)* (2006).

This groundbreaking volume takes an in-depth look at how individuals, families, and entire households "cope," negotiate their lives, and achieve personal and collective goals in Occupied Palestine. Contributors raise critical questions about tradition vs. modernity and the sociocultural consequences of emigration. *Living Palestine* establishes that household dynamics (i.e., kin-based marriage, fertility decisions, children's education, and living arrangements) cannot be fully grasped unless linked to the traumas of the past and worries of the present. Likewise, family strategies for survival and social mobility under occupation are swept up in the tide of history that engulfs the world in which Palestinians live and struggle. *Living Palestine* is drawn from an expansive research project of the Institute for Women's Studies at Birzeit University which sought to examine the Palestinian household from multiple perspectives through a survey of two thousand households in nineteen communities.

Keywords: Family, Occupation

Rhoda Ann Kanaaneh, *Displaced at Home: Ethnicity and Gender Among Palestinians in Israel* (2010).

Most media coverage and research on the experience of Palestinians focuses on those living in the West Bank or the Gaza Strip, while the sizable number of Palestinians living within Israel rarely garners significant academic or media attention. Offering a rich and multidimensional portrait of the lived realities of Palestinians within the state of Israel, *Displaced at Home* gathers a group of Palestinian women scholars who present unflinching critiques of the complexities and challenges inherent in the lives of this understudied but important minority within Israel. The essays here engage topics ranging from internal refugees and historical memory to women's sexuality and the resistant possibilities of hip-hop culture among young Palestinians. Unique in the collection is sustained attention to gender concerns, which have tended to be subordinated to questions of nationalism, statehood, and citizenship. The first collection of its kind in English, *Displaced at Home* presents on-the-ground examples of the changing political, social, and economic conditions of Palestinians in Israel, and examines how global, national, and local concerns intersect and shape their daily lives.

Keywords: Gender, Women, Palestinians in Israel

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Salim Tamari, *Mountain against the Sea: Essays on Palestinian Society and Culture* (2008).

This groundbreaking book on modern Palestinian culture goes beyond the usual focal point of the 1948 war to address the earlier, formative years. Drawing on previously unavailable biographies of Palestinians (including Palestinian Jews), Salim Tamari offers eleven vignettes of Palestine's cultural life in the momentous first half of the twentieth century. He brings to light the memoirs, diaries, letters, and other writings of six Jerusalem intellectuals whose lives spanned (and defined) the period of 1918-1948: a musician, a teacher, a former aristocrat, a doctor, a Bolshevik revolutionary, and a Jewish novelist. These essays present an integrated cultural history that illuminates a watershed in the modern social history of the Arab East, the formulation of the Arab Enlightenment.

Keywords: Culture

Samih K. Farsoun, *Culture and Customs of the Palestinians (Culture and Customs of the Middle East)* (2004).

The Palestinians have been at the center of Middle Eastern and world history for nearly a century. The core issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict are still the ones that emerged in 1948, after what Palestinians term al-Nakba, the destruction of historical Palestine and the dispossession and expulsion of its people. At the center of this vortex of politics, diplomacy, oppression, resistance, and struggle are the Palestinians. The Palestinians are an ancient Arab people, with both Islamic and Christian adherents, and their traditional culture and present way of life under difficult conditions are greatly illuminated for students and general readers.

A clear historical overview of Palestine, the diaspora, and the conflict is provided, and the history colors the rest of the narrative, addressing crucial aspects of Palestinian society. Palestinians struggle to retain their traditions. Their modern social structure, values, social customs, and life, including education, in villages, refugee camps, and cities are covered. The importance of extended family and women's roles in a continuing patriarchy are also addressed. The famed Palestinian embroidery and typical food dishes are celebrated. Chapters on modern literature and the arts and cinema stress the artistic focus on the conflict with Israel. A helpful timeline, copious bibliography, and glossary round out the coverage.

Keywords: Culture

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Shourideh C. Molavi, *Environmental Warfare in Gaza Colonial Violence and New Landscapes of Resistance* (2024).

This book is a vivid document of this latest stage of Israeli warfare, including original maps, images and visualisations which deepen our understanding of its environmental and human impact. It collects new documents, original archival materials, stills of drone footage, first-hand testimonies of farmers, organisers and protesters, and documents affected vegetation in Gaza as 'silent witnesses' to Israeli settler-colonial violence.

Keyword: Israeli warfare

LITERATURE AND POETRY

A. D. Lauren-Abunassar, *Coriolis* (2023).

The Coriolis effect--from which A. D. Lauren-Abunassar's hyperkinetic debut collection borrows its title--describes a force that deflects a mass off course. This concept is at play both formally and psychically in *Coriolis*, recognized in Leila Chatti's Foreword as "a book of wanting, of lack, absence, disintegration, opacity, and yearning. . . . 'If only I could cut out the part of me shaped like wanting,' writes Lauren-Abunassar.

Keywords: Poetry

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Adania Shibli, *Minor Detail* (2020).

Minor Detail begins during the summer of 1949, one year after the war that the Palestinians mourn as the Nakba—the catastrophe that led to the displacement and exile of some 700,000 people—and the Israelis celebrate as the War of Independence. Israeli soldiers murder an encampment of Bedouin in the Negev desert, and among their victims they capture a Palestinian teenager and they rape her, kill her, and bury her in the sand.

Many years later, in the near-present day, a young woman in Ramallah tries to uncover some of the details surrounding this particular rape and murder, and becomes fascinated to the point of obsession, not only because of the nature of the crime, but because it was committed exactly twenty-five years to the day before she was born. Adania Shibli masterfully overlays these two translucent narratives of exactly the same length to evoke a present forever haunted by the past.

Keywords: Nakba

Anton Shammas, *Arabesques* (2023).

Chosen by *The New York Times* as one of the best books of 1988, *Arabesques* is a luminous novel that engages with history and politics not as propaganda but as literature. That engagement begins with the language in which the book is written: Anton Shammas, from a Palestinian Christian family and raised in Israel, wrote in Hebrew, as no Arab novelist had before. The choice was provocative to both Arab and Jewish readers.

Keywords: Literature

Aime Cesaire, *Discourse on Colonialism* (1950).

Aimé Césaire critiques the impact of capitalism and colonialism on both the colonizer and colonized, exposing Western hypocrisy toward "progress" and "civilization" when encountering non-Western cultures. He advocates decolonizing both society and the mind, reaffirming African identity and values amidst complex realities. An interview with René Depestre is also featured.

Keywords: Colonialism, Capitalism

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Basma Ghalayini, *Palestine +100: Stories from a Century After the Nakba* (2022).

Palestine + 100 poses a question to twelve Palestinian writers: what might your country look like in the year 2048 – a century after the tragedies and trauma of what has come to be called the Nakba? How might this event – which, in 1948, saw the expulsion of over 700,000 Palestinian Arabs from their homes – reach across a century of occupation, oppression, and political isolation, to shape the country and its people? Will a lasting peace finally have been reached, or will future technology only amplify the suffering and mistreatment of Palestinians? Covering a range of approaches – from SF noir, to nightmarish dystopia, to high-tech farce – these stories use the blank canvas of the future to reimagine the Palestinian experience today. Along the way, we encounter drone swarms, digital uprisings, time-bending VR, and peace treaties that span parallel universes. Published originally in the United Kingdom by Comma Press in 2019, *Palestine +100* reframes science fiction as a place for political justice and the safekeeping of identity.

Keywords: Imaginative Fiction

Emile Habibi, *The Secret Life of Saeed the Pessoptimist* (2001).

This contemporary classic, the story of a Palestinian who becomes a citizen of Israel, combines fact and fantasy, tragedy and comedy. Saeed is the comic hero, the luckless fool, whose tale tells of aggression and resistance, terror and heroism, reason and loyalty that typify the hardships and struggles of Arabs in Israel. An informer for the Zionist state, his stupidity, candor, and cowardice make him more of a victim than a villain; but in a series of tragicomic episodes, he is gradually transformed from a disaster-haunted, gullible collaborator into a Palestinian—no hero still, but a simple man intent on survival and, perhaps, happiness. The author’s own anger and sorrow at Palestine’s tragedy and his acquaintance with the absurdities of Israeli politics (he was once a member of Israel’s parliament himself) are here transmuted into satire both biting and funny. Translated by Anton Shammas into Hebrew, *The Secret Life of Saeed* won Israel’s foremost Prize for Literature; a stage version played to great acclaim for a decade.

Keywords: Palestinian-Israelis

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Ghassan Kanafani, *Men in the Sun and Other Palestinian Stories* (1998).

A collection of short stories about the plight of displaced Palestinians. The titular story, and the longest in the collection, follows three men as they make their way to Kuwait.

Keywords: Exile

Ghassan Kanafani, *All That's Left to You* (2005).

Presents the vivid story of twenty-four hours in the real and remembered lives of a brother and sister living in Gaza and separated from their family. The desert and time emerge as characters as Kanafani speaks through the desert, the brother, and the sister to build the powerful rhythm of the narrative.

Keywords: Gaza

Hala Alyan, *Salt Houses* (2018).

On the eve of her daughter Alia's wedding, Salma reads the girl's future in a cup of coffee dregs. She sees an unsettled life for Alia and her children; she also sees travel and luck. While she chooses to keep her predictions to herself that day, they will all soon come to pass when the family is uprooted in the wake of the Six-Day War of 1967.

Salma is forced to leave her home in Nablus; Alia's brother gets pulled into a politically militarized world he can't escape; and Alia and her gentle-spirited husband move to Kuwait City, where they reluctantly build a life with their three children. When Saddam Hussein invades Kuwait in 1990, Alia and her family once again lose their home and their land, scattering to Beirut, Paris, Boston, and beyond. Soon Alia's children begin families of their own, once again navigating the burdens (and blessings) of assimilation in foreign cities.

Keywords: 1967 War

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Annotated Book Bibliography



Huzama Habayeb, *Velvet* (2019).

A novel of enormous power and great beauty, in which a Palestinian woman raised in a refugee camp learns to sew which helps her to construct a life

Hawwa is a child of the grinding hardship of a Palestinian refugee camp. She has had to survive the camp itself, as well as the humiliation and destruction of an abusive family. But now, in her middle years something most unexpected has happened: she has fallen in love.

Velvet unfolds over a day in Hawwa's life, as she makes plans for a new beginning. She sifts through her memories: stories of her family, her childhood, and her beloved mentor, Sitt Qamar, who among other gifts, taught her to sew, and most importantly, taught her to value herself. *Velvet* is the story of one woman's resilience, her unyielding sensuality, and the enduring bonds that make living bearable.

Keywords: Refugee Camp

brahim Muhawi et. al., *Speak Bird, Speak Again: Palestinian Arab Folktales* (2021).

As native Palestinians, the authors are well suited to their task. Over the course of several years, they collected tales from the regions of the Galilee, Gaza, and the West Bank, determining which were the most widely known and appreciated and selecting the ones that best represent the Palestinian Arab folk narrative tradition.

Keywords: Folktales

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

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Ibtasim Azem, *The Book of Disappearance* (2019).

What if all the Palestinians in Israel simply disappeared one day? What would happen next? How would Israelis react? These unsettling questions are posed in Azem’s powerfully imaginative novel. Set in contemporary Tel Aviv forty eight hours after Israelis discover all their Palestinian neighbors have vanished, the story unfolds through alternating narrators, Alaa, a young Palestinian man who converses with his dead grandmother in the journal he left behind when he disappeared, and his Jewish neighbor, Ariel, a journalist struggling to understand the traumatic event. Through these perspectives, the novel stages a confrontation between two memories. Ariel is a liberal Zionist who is critical of the military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, but nevertheless believes in Israel’s project and its national myth. Alaa is haunted by his grandmother’s memories of being displaced from Jaffa and becoming a refugee in her homeland. Ariel’s search for clues to the secret of the collective disappearance and his reaction to it intimately reveal the fissures at the heart of the Palestinian question. *The Book of Disappearance* grapples with both the memory of loss and the loss of memory for the Palestinians. Presenting a narrative that is often marginalized, Antoon’s translation of the critically acclaimed Arabic novel invites English readers into the complex lives of Palestinians living in Israel.

Keywords: Fiction

Isabella Hammad, *Enter Ghost* (2023).

An unforgettable Palestinian story of artistry under occupation. After years away from her family's homeland, and reeling from a disastrous love affair, actress Sonia Nasir returns to Haifa to visit her older sister Haneen. While Haneen made a life here commuting to Tel Aviv to teach at the university, Sonia remained in London to focus on her acting career and now dissolute marriage. On her return, she finds her relationship with Palestine is fragile, both bone-deep and new. When Sonia meets the charismatic and candid Mariam, a local director, she joins a production of Hamlet in the West Bank. -Vintage Publishing

Keywords: Novel, Literature

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Isabella Hammad, *The Parisian* (2020).

Midhat Kamal leaves Palestine in 1914 to study medicine in France, under the tutelage of Dr Molineu. He falls deeply in love with Jeannette, the doctor's daughter. But Midhat soon discovers that everything is fragile: love turns to loss, friends become enemies, and everyone is looking for a place to belong. Through Midhat's eyes, we see the tangled politics and personal tragedies of a turbulent era - the Palestinian struggle for independence, the strife of the early twentieth century, and the looming shadow of the Second World War.

Keywords: Novel, Literature

Lena Khalaf Tuffaha, *Kaan and Her Sisters* (2023).

Lena Khalaf Tuffaha's *Kaan and Her Sisters* illuminates the work of grief and survival, the sordid legacies of official historical record and the liberatory practice of intimate narration. Tuffaha writes in the liminal space between languages, personifying Arabic verbs who guide the reader through a "history hurtling into the future." *Kaan and Her Sisters* centers character of the Arabic teacher, Miss Sahar, whose progressive displacements from Palestine and across Arab cities unfold in epistles, refashioned songs, and glimpses into the interiors of her lost home. In these disclosures, a study of time and a record of resistance to erasure emerges, and at its heart, the women who keep intergenerational memory.

Keywords: Novel, Literature, Displacement

Mahmoud Darwish, *Memory for Forgetfulness: August, Beirut* (1982).

One of the Arab world's greatest living poets uses the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the shelling of Beirut as the setting for this sequence of prose poems. Mahmoud Darwish vividly recreates the sights and sounds of a city under terrible siege. As fighter jets scream overhead, he explores the war-ravaged streets of Beirut on August 6th (Hiroshima Day).

Memory for Forgetfulness is an extended reflection on the invasion and its political and historical dimensions. It is also a journey into personal and collective memory. What is the meaning of exile? What is the role of the writer in time of war? What is the relationship of writing (memory) to history (forgetfulness)?

Keywords: Novel, Literature, Lebanese Civil War

BOOKS ON PALESTINE

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Annotated Book Bibliography



Mahmoud Darwish, *In the Presence of Absence* (2011).

One of the most transcendent poets of his generation, Darwish composed this remarkable elegy at the apex of his creativity, but with the full knowledge that his death was imminent. Thinking it might be his final work, he summoned all his poetic genius to create a luminous work that defies categorization. In stunning language, Darwish's self-elegy inhabits a rare space where opposites bleed and blend into each other. Prose and poetry, life and death, home and exile are all sung by the poet and his other. On the threshold of im/mortality, the poet looks back at his own existence, intertwined with that of his people. Through these lyrical meditations on love, longing, Palestine, history, friendship, family, and the ongoing conversation between life and death, the poet bids himself and his readers a poignant farewell.

Keywords: Poetry

Mosab Abu Toha, *Things You May Find Hidden in My Ear: Poems from Gaza* (2022).

In this poetry debut Mosab Abu Toha writes about his life under siege in Gaza, first as a child, and then as a young father. A survivor of four brutal military attacks, he bears witness to a grinding cycle of destruction and assault, and yet, his poetry is inspired by a profound humanity. These poems emerge directly from the experience of growing up and living in constant lockdown, and often under direct attack. Like Gaza itself, they are filled with rubble and the ever-present menace of surveillance drones policing a people unwelcome in their own land, and they are also suffused with the smell of tea, roses in bloom, and the view of the sea at sunset. Children are born, families continue traditions, students attend university, and libraries rise from the ruins as Palestinians go on about their lives, creating beauty and finding new ways to survive. Accompanied by an in-depth interview (conducted by Ammiel Alcalay) in which Abu Toha discusses life in Gaza, his family origins, and how he came to poetry.

Keywords: Poetry, Gaza

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Naomi Shihab Nye, *The Tiny Journalist* (2019).

Internationally beloved poet Naomi Shihab Nye places her Palestinian American identity center stage in her latest full-length poetry collection for adults. The collection is inspired by the story of Janna Jihad Ayyad, the "Youngest Journalist in Palestine," who at age 7 began capturing videos of anti-occupation protests using her mother's smartphone. Nye draws upon her own family's roots in a West Bank village near Janna's hometown to offer empathy and insight to the young girl's reporting. Long an advocate for peaceful communication across all boundaries, Nye's poems in *The Tiny Journalist* put a human face on war and the violence that divides us from each other.

Keywords: Poetry

Nathalie Handal, *Life in a Country Album* (2019).

From migrations to pop culture, loss to la dérive, *Life in a Country Album* is a soundtrack of the global cultural landscape—borders and citizenship, hybrid identities and home, freedom and pleasure. It's a vast and moving look at the world, at what home means, and the ways we coexist in an increasingly divided world. These poems are about the dialects of the heart—those we are incapable of parting from, and those that are largely forgotten. *Life in a Country Album* is a vital book for our times. With this beautiful, epic collection, Nathalie Handal affirms herself as one of our most diverse and important contemporary poets.

Keywords: Poetry

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Nayrouz Qarmout, *The Sea Cloak and Other Stories* (2020).

Drawn from her experiences of growing up as a young woman in the ‘world’s largest prison’—Gaza—Nayrouz Qarmout’s stories stitch together a stirring patchwork of perspectives exploring what it means to be a Palestinian today. Whether following the daily struggles of orphaned children fighting to survive in the rubble of recent bombardments, or mapping the complex tensions between political forces vying to control Palestinian lives, these stories offer a rare insight into one of the most talked about but least understood cities in the Middle East. Taken together, they afford us a local perspective on a global story, always rooted firmly in that most cherished of things, the home.

Keywords: Gaza

Priscilla Wathington, *Paper and Stick* (2021).

The poems in Priscilla Wathington’s debut chapbook *Paper & Stick* sharply probe the way language both limns and shadows atrocities. Wathington deftly blurs the lines between voices of the innocent/oppressed and the official language of a state bent on breaking the soul of Palestinian life, namely the family.

Keywords: Poetry

Randa Jarrar, *A Map of Home* (2009).

In this fresh, funny, and fearless debut novel, Randa Jarrar chronicles the coming-of-age of Nidali, one of the most unique and irrepressible narrators in contemporary fiction. Born in 1970s Boston to an Egyptian-Greek mother and a Palestinian father, the rebellious Nidali—whose name is a feminization of the word “struggle”—soon moves to a very different life in Kuwait. There the family leads a mildly eccentric middle-class existence until the Iraqi invasion drives them first to Egypt and then to Texas. This critically acclaimed debut novel is set to capture the hearts of everyone who has ever wondered what their own map of home might look like.

Keywords: LGBTQ, Exile

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Sahar Khalifeh, *Passage to the Plaza* (2020).

In Bab Al-Saha, a quarter of Nablus, Palestine, sits a house of ill repute. In it lives Nuzha, a young woman ostracized from and shamed by her community. When the Intifada breaks out, Nuzha's abode unexpectedly becomes a sanctuary for those in the quarter: Hussam, an injured resistance fighter; Samar, a university researcher exploring the impact of the Intifada on women's lives; and Sitt Zakia, the pious midwife.

Keywords: Intifada

Sahar Mustafah, *The Beauty of Your Face* (2021).

A uniquely American story told in powerful, evocative prose, *The Beauty of Your Face* navigates a country growing ever more divided. Afaf Rahman, the daughter of Palestinian immigrants, is the principal of Nurrideen School for Girls, a Muslim school in the Chicago suburbs. One morning, a shooter—radicalized by the online alt-right—attacks the school.

As Afaf listens to his terrifying progress, we are swept back through her memories: the bigotry she faced as a child, her mother's dreams of returning to Palestine, and the devastating disappearance of her older sister that tore her family apart. Still, there is the sweetness of the music from her father's oud, and the hope and community Afaf finally finds in Islam.

Keywords: Palestinian Americans

Selma Dabbagh, *Out of It: A Novel* (2012).

Gaza is being bombed. Rashid - a young, clever Palestinian - has been smoking grass on the roof watching it happen when he gets the e-mail he has been desperate for: he's won a scholarship to London. Rashid's sister, Iman, frustrated by the atrocities and inaction around her, is beginning to take an interest in an Islamic resistance group. Sabri, their intellectual older brother, is working on a history of Palestine from his wheelchair while their mother pickles vegetables and feuds with the neighbors. *Out of It* follows the lives of Rashid and Iman as they try to forge places for themselves in the midst of occupation, the growing divide between Palestinian factions, and the rise of fundamentalism. Written with extraordinary humanity and humour, and moving between Gaza, London and the Gulf, this book helps to re-define Palestine and its people.

Keywords: Gaza

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Suheir Hammad, *Born Palestinian, Born Black* (2010).

The first collection from the brilliant, boundary-breaking poet Suheir Hammad. Since she burst onto the scene in the late 1990s and early 2000s, she has been a trailblazer for younger Palestinian and Arab American poets and spoken word artists.

Keywords: American Palestinian

Susan Abulhawa, *Against the Loveless World* (2021).

As Nahr sits, locked away in solitary confinement, she spends her days reflecting on the dramatic events that landed her in prison in a country she barely knows. Born in Kuwait in the 70s to Palestinian refugees, she dreamed of falling in love with the perfect man, raising children, and possibly opening her own beauty salon. Instead, the man she thinks she loves jilts her after a brief marriage, her family teeters on the brink of poverty, she's forced to prostitute herself, and the US invasion of Iraq makes her a refugee, as her parents had been. After trekking through another temporary home in Jordan, she lands in Palestine, where she finally makes a home, falls in love, and her destiny unfolds under Israeli occupation.

Keywords: Exile, Novel, Occupation

Virginia Tilley, *Beyond Occupation: Apartheid, Colonialism and International Law in the Occupied Palestinian Territories* (2012).

Beyond Occupation looks at three contentious terms that regularly arise in contemporary arguments about Israel's practices towards Palestinians in the occupied territories – occupation, colonialism and apartheid – and considers whether their meanings in international law truly apply to Israel's policies. This analysis is timely and urgent – colonialism and apartheid are serious breaches of human rights law and apartheid is a crime against humanity under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

The contributors present conclusive evidence that Israel's administration of the Palestinian territories is consistent with colonialism and apartheid, as these regimes are defined in human rights law. Their analysis further shows that these practices are deliberate Israel...

Keyword: Post-Nakba

(1950-2024)

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DOCUMENTARIES

Abby Martin, *Gaza Fights for Freedom* (2019).

Filmed during the height of the Great March Of Return protests, it features exclusive footage of demonstrations where 200 unarmed civilians have been killed by Israeli snipers since March 30, 2018.

Keywords: Gaza

Ahmad Damen, *Forbidden Pilgrimage* (2013).

Trips to the “Holy Land” are popular among Christians around the world, with these tours typically run by Israeli tour operators. This film features Palestinian priests, tour operators and writers, as they speak out against the obstacles facing pilgrims visiting sacred sites in Palestine/Israel and the discrimination suffered by the Palestinian Christians who live there.

Keywords: Religion, Christians

<https://remix.aljazeera.com/aje/PalestineRemix/forbidden-pilgrimage.html#/4>

Ahmad Adnan Al-Rahmy, *Beyond the Wall* (2012).

Since the Six Day War in 1967, Israel has imprisoned more than 700,000 Arabs, mostly for political crimes. The vast majority of these prisoners have been Palestinian. Some died in detention, while others remain in jail. But over the years, thousands have been freed. These are some of their stories.

Keywords: Palestinian Prisoners

<https://remix.aljazeera.com/aje/PalestineRemix/beyond-the-walls.html#/3>

Alon Schwarz, *Tantura* (2022).

In the war of 1948 hundreds of Palestinian villages were depopulated. Israelis call it 'The War of Independence. Palestinians call it 'Nakba". The film examines one village- Tantura and why "Nakba" is taboo in Israeli society.

Keywords: Nakba

(1950-2024)

Annotated Book Bibliography



Ashraf al Mashhawy, *Gaza Lives On* (2011).

A film about hope in times of hardship and despair, as the people of Gaza demonstrate their remarkable resilience under both occupation and a years-long, unrelenting Israeli siege.

Keywords: Gaza

<https://remix.aljazeera.com/aje/PalestineRemix/gaza-lives-on.html#/6>

Ashraf al Mashhawy, *Gaza Left in the Dark* (2012).

In Gaza, an acute film shortage forces the population to deal with constant power outages. This film covers life in Gaza as it lives in darkness and suffers the dangers of lacking electricity due to Israeli siege.

Keywords: Gaza

Ayed Nabaa, *Against the Wall* (2013).

For more than a decade, Israel's separation wall has been the most powerful symbol of Israeli occupation of Palestinian land. In this film, we meet activists who used nonviolent resistance to oppose the construction of the wall.

Keywords: Occupation

Ayed Nabaa, *Area C* (2014).

Around 60 percent of the West Bank is designated as 'Area C'. It remains in the hands of the Israeli government, even though under the Oslo Accords, this was supposed to be a temporary division. Is the failure to return the land to the Palestinians because of land, settlements or water? The answer: all of the above.

Keywords: Occupation

Ayed Nabaa, *Born in 48* (2015).

Five women, two Israelis and three Palestinians, were born in the same year, but became irreconcilably divided by historical events. This is a unique perspective into the story of 1948 for Palestine/Israel.

Keywords: Nakba

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Bahea Namoor, *Deportees* (2014).

Israel has displaced Palestinians in many ways, including through deportation. Exiling them from Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT), this is a policy prohibited under international law.

Keywords, Exile, Nakba

<https://remix.aljazeera.com/aje/PalestineRemix/deportees.html#/21>

Bilal Yousef, *Going Against the Grain* (2013).

This film documents the life of the “most hated man in Israel.” Israeli writer and journalist Gideon Levy lets Al Jazeera accompany him as he reports from the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Keywords: Dissidents

David Osit, *Mayor* (2020).

Mayor follows Musa Hadid, the Christian mayor of Ramallah, during his second term in office. His immediate goals: repave the sidewalks, attract more tourism, and plan the city’s Christmas celebrations. His ultimate mission: to end the occupation of Palestine.

Keywords: Occupation, West Bank

<https://www.mayorfilm.com/>

Issam Ballan, *Inside Shin Bet* (2020).

Arab prisoners, lawyers and activists reveal the shocking methods used by Shin Bet, the Israeli security service.

Keywords: Palestinian Prisoners, Occupation

<https://remix.aljazeera.com/aje/PalestineRemix/inside-shin-bet.html#/8>

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Jean Khalil Chamoun, *Children of Shatila* (1998).

Fifty years after their grandparents' exile from Palestine, two streetwise kids living in Beirut's Shatila refugee camp document stories of loss and war.

Keywords: Lebanon, Exile, Refugees

<https://www.netflix.com/title/70061920>

Mariam Shahin, *Stories from the Intifada* (2014).

A two-hour documentary telling the story of the people that rose up after 20 years of unending military occupation. Starting in 1987, this documentary follows the Palestinians as they fight for their freedom.

Keywords: Intifada

<https://remix.aljazeera.com/aje/PalestineRemix/stories-from-the-intifada.html#/23>

Mustapha Al-Nabih, *Stronger than Words* (2014).

There are 15,000 deaf people living in the Gaza Strip. This film is about their extraordinary stories of strength and courage. A special documentary, in sign language.

Keywords: Gaza

<https://remix.aljazeera.com/aje/PalestineRemix/stronger-than-words.html#/13>

Ramez Qazmous, *Lost Cities of Palestine* (2011).

Palestinian history is closely intertwined with the fate of its cities. Haifa, Akko and Jaffa once served as the cultural centres of Palestinian life. During the 1948 ethnic cleansing known as 'Al Nakba', Israel drove most Palestinians out of these cities, and Palestinian culture suffered a devastating blow.

Keywords: Palestine, History

<https://remix.aljazeera.com/aje/PalestineRemix/lost-cities-of-palestine.html#/10>

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Rawan Damen, *Al Nakba* (2008).

In this four-part documentary series, Rawan Damen traces the sweeping history of Palestine since 1799, providing a comprehensive account of the events that led to the Palestinians' expulsion and establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

Keywords: Nakba

<https://remix.aljazeera.com/aje/PalestineRemix/al-nakba.html#/17>

Rawan Damen, *The Price of Oslo* (2013).

In 1993, Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation signed the Declaration of Principles, which aimed to peacefully resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Though it was supposed to be a significant step towards peace, for the Palestinians, it came with a hidden cost.

Keywords: Oslo

<https://remix.aljazeera.com/aje/PalestineRemix/the-price-of-oslo.html#/14>

Yorgos Avgeropoulos & Yiannis Karipidis, *Gaza We Are Coming* (2010).

After Israel occupied the Gaza Strip and West Bank in 1967, ships from the Mediterranean ceased sailing to Gaza's ports. The situation significantly worsened in 2006, when Israel imposed a brutal land, aerial and naval blockade on Gaza. But two years later, a small group of activists set out to break it - using two wooden boats.

Keywords: Gaza

<https://remix.aljazeera.com/aje/PalestineRemix/gaza-we-are-coming.html#/7>