A History of Israel
by Ahron Bregman (2002)
(Palgrave Essential Histories Series)

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*A History of Israel* explores Israel's turbulent history from the first Zionist Congress of 1897 to the present day. Drawing on his considerable experience as historian and journalist, Ahron Bregman offers a balanced examination of Israel's past in which the three principal driving themes of Jewish immigration, wars, and attempts to forge peace with Arabs and Palestinians combine into a single compelling narrative.

New insights, revelations appearing in print for the first time, and portraits of Israeli leaders, past and present, are adeptly woven together with an overview of major events. This incisive book will be welcomed by all with an interest in the fascinating history of Israel.

Ahron Bregman was born in Israel and was an officer in the Israeli Army. He is the author of two previous books: *The Fifty Years War: Israel and the Arabs* (1998), the companion book to a six-part BBC/PBS television documentary, and *Israel's Wars: A History since 1947* (2000, new edition 2002). He is currently Lecturer in History at Webster University, London, and also writes for national newspapers in both England and America.

**Reviews**

'A History of Israel includes new revelations...Bregman reveals new facts never- before-published about the senior Egyptian spy who worked for the Mossad and was nicknamed 'The Son-in-Law' on account of his family ties with President Nasser.' - Rami Tal, Yediot Aharonot

'A History of Israel is a fascinating book. An easy to read understanding of the recent history of Israel. Bregman has a unique insight into the behind the scenes history of Israel and its leaders.' - Jewish Books Online

'Complete with quotes from secret meetings and a draft of a 1992 secret agreement between Israel and Syria, the book is an easy-to-read guide to the politics of the Middle East.' - Jewish Chronicle

'A balanced examination of Israel's past...New insights, revelations appearing in print for the first time, and portraits of Israeli leaders, past and present, are adeptly woven together with an overview of major events. This incisive book will be welcomed by all with an interest in the history of Israel.' - Middle East

'Writing about an area as steeped in controversy as Israel can be a daunting task. Bregman, who has written extensively on Israeli history, does an excellent job in this text of offering unbiased and authoritative descriptions of the causes and consequences of the various conflicts that have arisen between the Israelis and the Arabs. Bregman takes looks at the history of Israel from a purely secular perspective, yet he does so without denigrating religious Jews, and others, who see the founding of the modern state of Israel as the fulfillment of Biblical Prophecy...Into his compelling and historical narrative, Bregman has seamlessly interwoven newly uncovered information about Israel's past, as well as brief sketches of the major political figures that had a hand in shaping Israeli history...A History of Israel is ideal for the general reader wishing to learn about Israeli history in general, and as a resource by which to understand the current conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians...Overall, Bregman presents a comprehensive and readable introduction to modern Israeli history that is both educational and enthralling.' - Anna Dogole, The Jewish Eye

'A good read.' - Carmel Vassallo, Journal of Mediterranean Studies
Welcome to History-of-Israel.org | This homepage is for anyone, who wishes to have a deeper understanding of the Arab-Israeli conflict than can be achieved through the mainstream media or educational institutions. Read more History of Israel | A Chronological Presentation A basic knowledge of the history of Israel is necessary in order to understand the Arab-Israeli conflict as it unfolds today. This relatively short, yet fairly thorough run-through offers a chronological overview of the conflict. The intention is to clarify the most important developments that are often discussed, but whic
In what became known as Israel's War of Independence, the newly formed, poorly equipped Israel Defense Forces (IDF) repulsed the invaders in fierce intermittent fighting, which lasted some 15 months and claimed over 6,000 Israeli lives (nearly one percent of the country's Jewish population at the time). During the first months of 1949, direct negotiations were conducted under UN auspices between Israel and each of the invading countries (except Iraq, which refused to negotiate with Israel), resulting in armistice agreements which reflected the situation at the end of the fighting.