

Israel

A Concise History of a Nation Reborn

By Daniel Gordis

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The first comprehensive yet accessible history of the state of Israel from its inception to present day, from "one of the most respected Israel analysts" (The Forward) living and writing in Jerusalem

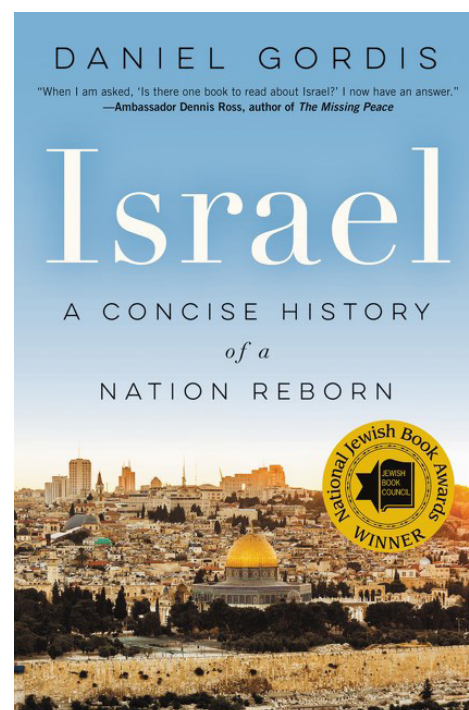
Israel is a tiny state, and yet since its creation, it has captured the world's attention, earned its admiration, and often, been the object of its opprobrium. Why is so much of the international community focused on a small country like Israel? Why are Israelis so deeply divided on so many key issues? Why does Israel make the decisions it does? And what lies in its future?

We cannot answer these questions until we understand Israel's people. Weaving together historical documents, letters, and interviews, as well as Gordis's own intimate knowledge of the country and its people, *Israel* tells the story of the idea of Israel—when idea of a Jewish state originated, how the dream was transformed into reality and how Israel's history has unfolded—and why.

As he guides us through the milestones of Israeli history, Gordis also recounts many of the stories that are central to how Israelis understand themselves and their country. He introduces the formidable personalities that pioneered the country. Gordis illustrates how Israel became a cultural, economic and military powerhouse—but he also explains where Israel made grave mistakes.

With *Israel*, Gordis offers us a brief but thorough history of this complex nation, from its beginnings to the present. Accessible, level-headed, and rigorous, *Israel* sheds light on Israel's past so we can understand its present and future. The result is a vivid portrait of a people, and a nation, reborn.

Daniel Gordis is the Koret Distinguished Fellow at Shalem College—Israel's first liberal arts college—which he helped found in 2007. The author of numerous books on Jewish thought and political currents in Israel, he has twice won the National Jewish Book Award, including the prize for Book of the Year for *Israel: A Concise History of a Nation Reborn*. Raised and educated in the United States, he has been living in Jerusalem since 1998.



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