

(Download) Saving Israel: How the Jewish People Can Win a War That May Never End

Saving Israel: How the Jewish People Can Win a War That May Never End

Daniel Gordis

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#372766 in Books Daniel Gordis 2010-09-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.96 x .73 x 5.761, .69 #File Name: 0470643900272 pagesSaving Israel How the Jewish People Can Win a War That May Never End | File size: 51.Mb

Daniel Gordis : Saving Israel: How the Jewish People Can Win a War That May Never End before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Saving Israel: How the Jewish People Can Win a War That May Never End:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Gripping Call to Action By Theo Rose In Gordis's rallying cry, "Saving Israel," he exposes with a crisp tone the issues facing Israel today. It's better said that these are the issues facing the Jewish people. Time and again, humanity has emerged antagonistic against this biblically prime population. From the ashes of the Shoah (the holocaust) came Israel. Thus, after 2000 years of exile (which historically demonstrated itself as such), the Jews have autonomy on the stage of history once again. Fighting a seemingly endless war against its theocratic neighbors and increasingly against the international community as a whole, the problem is not with Iran, the UN, or with its 'indigenous' arabs as much as it rests within its own Jewish population: can Israel and the Jewish world unite in a way that acknowledges the necessity of a Jewish state? Can they overcome the amnesia of today about why Israel is what it is and why its Jewish character needs to remain central to its (still unwritten) constitution? Mired in the pressures of living up to a western liberal standard, they increasingly see no point in fighting a war with Arabs whose demands are totally unsound. While the religious sects of Israeli society opt out of military duty purely for religious reasons. Two warring ends of the population making the defense of the Jewish nation increasingly untenable. Can the void of Zionist thinkers and actors once occupied by Theodore Herzl, David Ben-Gurion, Golda Meir, and still others be filled in our generation? Can a new argument [for Zionism] be made so that it steels Israeli fortitude against its enemies? This is the real core of Israel's current existential crisis. If you care about these issues, it's well worth your time to read this book. Thank you Danny!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Daniel Gordis and Saving Israel By Sheila H. McLaren I have just finished reading this extraordinary, thoughtful and courageous book, and can add very little to the review by A. Arnovitz as I agree with all that he or she says. This must have been a painful book for Daniel Gordis to work on, to research and to write, because it could be much easier to behave like the proverbial ostrich. The first two chapters of this amazing work are spent discussing the purpose of Israel, its reasons for being. The next five chapters deal with the problems of Israel, few of which are to do with the Arabs' and most of the world's desire to destroy that tiny little democracy. The final five chapters are a reasoned discussion of possible solutions to those problems - and again, most of the solutions would seem to lie within Israeli society itself. This is a discussion, food for thought, and Gordis does not pretend to have any of the answers at his finger-tips. Indeed, his thought processes seem very much those of a Talmudic scholar. All Israelis, as a Jewish community, need to get to work, find the answers and work on them. Or, quite simply, this beautiful Jewish democracy will cease to exist, either suddenly and bloodily or gradually. And this is why, as A. Arnovitz writes, this book should be compulsory reading for every Jewish person who cares about Israel, and also for every Israeli citizen including the Rabbinate and politicians. I cannot recommend "Saving Israel" highly enough, even though for any Jewish person who loves Israel it is chilling, very frightening and even depressing to read. Sheila McLaren

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Thorough and Balanced By groupworker I so appreciate this book as I prepare for a trip to Israel. In fact, of everything I've read over the past year, Saving Israel feels the most comprehensive in the fewest pages. It is not like reading a textbook. I felt like Gordis was giving me a private lecture in my living room - straight talk, accessible language, and easy to grasp. I also felt that the issues - many complex - were presented in an extremely balanced way. I more fully appreciate passion for the differing views. I agree with another reviewer that this book should be required reading for those trying to understand the full picture of Israel's significance and challenges - high school or college students, those visiting Israel, politicians, Jewish leaders and just those who want to feel more informed.

Is Israel worth saving, and if so, how do we secure its future? The Jewish State must end, say its enemies, from intellectuals like Tony Judt to hate-filled demagogues like Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Even average Israelis are wondering if they wouldn't be better off somewhere else and whether they ought to persevere. Daniel Gordis is confident his fellow Jews can renew their faith in the cause, and in Saving Israel, he outlines how. 2009 National Jewish Book Award winner Addresses the most pressing issues faced by Israel-and American Jews-today, without recycling the same old arguments Lays to rest some of the most pernicious myths about Israel, including: Jews could thrive without Israel; Israeli Arabs just want equality, and Palestinians just want their own state; peace will come, if Israel will just do the right things "Morally powerful . . . from a writer whose reflections are consistently as intellectually impressive as they are moving. . . . Gordis addresses the exigencies of our time with the urgency they overridingly demand, and with the depth of feeling they inspire." -Cynthia Ozick Gordis has written many popular personal essays and memoirs in the past, but Saving Israel is a full-throated call to arms. Never has the case for defending-no, celebrating-the existence of Israel been so clear, so passionate, or so worthy of wholehearted support.

Few books can combine the sweep of Israel's complex and extraordinary history with personal insight and passion. Saving Israel accomplishes this and more, it educates and inspires its readers while furnishing them with well-grounded hope for the future. Daniel Gordis has written an essential text for students, scholars, journalists--anyone concerned with the survival of the Jewish State. --Michael Oren, Bestselling author of Six Days of War and Power, Faith and Fantasy: American in the Middle East, 1776 to the Present Daniel Gordis's morally powerful Saving Israel, from a writer whose reflections are consistently as intellectually impressive as they are moving, engages in an acutely

necessary argument: that sovereignty has significantly changed the Jewish condition by influencing how we think. Gordis addresses the exigencies of our time with the urgency they overridingly demand, and with the depth of feeling they inspire.--Cynthia Ozick

Daniel Gordis' *Saving Israel* is an important book. Bold in his willingness to be forthright and politically incorrect, Gordis sets forth propositions which are difficult for many to accept, such as the fact that Israel's existence is more important than peace and that Israel can never be a copy of the American style liberal democracy. For, as he notes, what is at stake is not merely a state, but the only Jewish State in 2000 years, and the very future of the Jews worldwide, including those who do not live in that State. Hopefully, *Saving Israel* will inspire constructive discussion and analysis of core issues that Israelis, Jews everywhere, (and the entire West) have studiously avoided for far too long.--Natan Sharansky, Former Soviet dissident and Israeli Cabinet Minister; author of *Defending Identity: Its Indispensable Role in Protecting Democracy*

Daniel Gordis has written a book about the future of Israel that is both heart-wrenching and heart-warming. His has consistently been, these past few years, one of the most engaging voices to have emerged from this time of trial for the Jewish state, and it is impossible not to be moved by his plea for hope in the land whose very existence should be a living symbol of hope.--Sir Jonathan Sacks, Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth

One of Israel's most thoughtful observers An American who made Israel his home, despite its imperfections and dangers.--Alan Dershowitz, author of *The Case for Israel*

From the Inside Flap

Praise for *Saving Israel* "Daniel Gordis has restarted the whole conversation about the country's direction. His urgent call to action, articulated with erudition, reflection, and fearlessness, could not be more timely or more essential." -- Jewish Book World "One of Israel's most thoughtful observers." -- Alan Dershowitz "Daniel Gordis's morally powerful *Saving Israel*, from a writer whose reflections are consistently as intellectually impressive as they are moving, engages in an acutely necessary argument: that sovereignty has significantly changed the Jewish condition by influencing how we think. Gordis addresses the exigencies of our time with the urgency they overridingly demand, and with the depth of feeling they inspire." -- Cynthia Ozick "An important book. . . . Hopefully, *Saving Israel* will inspire constructive discussion and analysis of core issues that Israelis, Jews everywhere, and the entire West have studiously avoided for far too long." -- Natan Sharansky

Attacked by terrorists, threatened by Arab states, and criticized by nearly everyone, Israel is the only country about which there is discussion as to whether it has a right to exist. Yet even its most ardent defenders cannot always articulate why Israel deserves to survive. In *Saving Israel*, Daniel Gordis admits that peace has never been farther off, but he also captures the wonder and vitality of this very special country, painting a picture of a nation well worth preserving. He provides a profound and persuasive argument, not just for how the Jewish homeland can survive, but how the enthusiasm so apparent at its founding can be cultivated today and for generations to come.

From the Back Cover

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