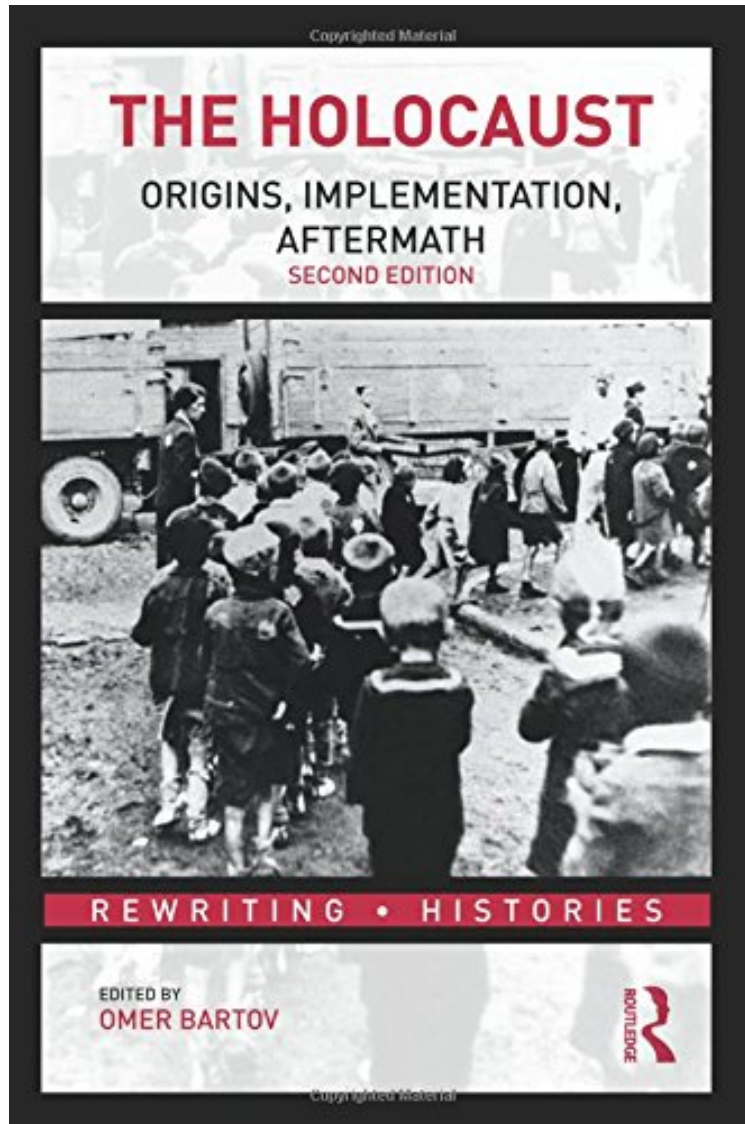


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From Routledge : The Holocaust: Origins, Implementation, Aftermath (Rewriting Histories) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Holocaust: Origins, Implementation, Aftermath (Rewriting Histories):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent work covering many aspects of the Holocaust. Well researched work. By C Armstrong Excellent work covering many aspects of the Holocaust. Well researched work. 11 of

11 people found the following review helpful. Superb collection for classroom use
By Adam J. Jones
It would be hard to imagine a better, and certainly a more up-to-date, introduction to the Jewish holocaust and the scholarly controversies it has engendered. Omer Bartov, whose research on the role of the Wehrmacht (German army) in Nazi crimes has helped to shatter many comfortable myths about that key institution, here presents a selection of the best and most searching writings on the holocaust. The selections range from Raul Hilberg's analysis of European anti-Semitism (a reminder that many scholars had isolated this as key to the Nazis' policies long before Daniel Goldhagen made his "discoveries" in "Hitler's Willing Executioners"), to a meditation by Alan Finkielkraut on the Klaus Barbie trial and the notion of "crimes against humanity." Sandwiched in between is a fine overview of the functionalist/intentionalist controversy in holocaust scholarship (the debate over whether the holocaust was primarily the willed result of Hitler and other Nazi ideologues' hatred of the Jews, or an unplanned consequence of war, demographic policy, internecine rivalries, and bureaucratic momentum). Bartov has selected the essays with great sensitivity, and provided brief introductions to place them in scholarly, historical, and human context. A bonus is the inclusion of Primo Levi's unforgettable essay "The Gray Zone," which explores the politically-charged issue of Jews' coerced collaboration with the forces of mass murder. This book is ideal for introductory classes on the holocaust or genocide in general, and as a primer for those who want to find their feet in the scholarly debate, which shows no signs of waning.

Containing an almost entirely new selection of texts, this second edition of *The Holocaust: Origins, Implementation, Aftermath* presents a critical and important study of the Holocaust. Many of the pieces challenge conventional analyses and preconceived notions about the Holocaust, whether regarding genocidal precedents and the centrality of antisemitism, the relationship between ideological motivation and economic calculations, or the timing of the decision on the Final Solution. Starting with the background of the Holocaust and focusing on colonial violence, antisemitism and scientific racism as being at the root of the Final Solution, the book then examines the context of the decision to unleash the genocide of the Jews. Several powerful texts then provide readers with a close look at the psychology of a perpetrator, the fate of the victims with a particular emphasis on the role of gender and the murder of children and the impossible choices made by Jewish leaders, educators, and men recruited into the Nazi extermination apparatus. Finally, there is an analysis of survivors' testimonies and the creation of an early historical record, and an inquiry into post-war tribunals and the development of international justice and legislation with a view to the larger phenomenon of modern genocide before and after the Holocaust. Complete with an introduction that summarises the state of the field, this book contains major reinterpretations by leading Holocaust authors along with key texts on testimony, memory, and justice after the catastrophe. With brief discussions placing each essay in historical and scholarly context, this carefully selected compilation is an ideal introduction to the topic and essential reading for all students of the Holocaust.

"In this sophisticated anthology, Omer Bartov has assembled an outstanding sampling of research literature illustrating some of the most fruitful new directions in studying the Holocaust that have emerged during the last decade. These academic writings are supplemented with important primary sources illustrating many of the problems of interpretation with which contemporary scholars are grappling. The Holocaust offers students a fine introduction to a complex subject." David Engel, New York University, USA
"outstanding. Professor Bartov has selected instructive, clearly written articles of the highest quality by leading scholars in Third Reich and Holocaust Studies that deftly combine historiography, narrative and argument. This volume will engage university students and generate important discussions." Paul E. Kerry, Brigham Young University, USA
About the Author
Omer Bartov is the John P. Birkelund Distinguished Professor of European History and Professor of History and German Studies at Brown University and has written on the Holocaust, Nazi Germany and modern genocide. His books include *Erased: Vanishing Traces of Jewish Galicia in Present-Day Ukraine* (2007), *Germany's War and the Holocaust: Disputed Histories* (2003) and *Mirrors of Destruction: War, Genocide and Modern Identity* (2000).