

## The Iron Wall Israel And Arab World Avi Shlaim

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In the 1920s, hard-line Zionists developed the doctrine of the 'Iron Wall': negotiations with the Arabs must always be from a position of

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military strength, and only when sufficiently strong Israel would be able to make peace with her Arab neighbours.

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The Iron Wall covers the first 50 years of Israel's existence. From the ideological Zionist underpinnings of Ze'ev Jabotinsky and Theodor Herzl up to the fall of the Likud government in 1999, Shlaim is both thoroughly entertaining and informative in his unique way.

[The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World \(Norton Paperback ...](#)

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People used to think the Iron Wall was the strategy of the Israeli right, but what I showed is that it was a bipartisan strategy; a national strategy, rather than a right-wing one. After the outbreak of the Arab revolt in 1936, David Ben-Gurion, Israel's founding father and the most significant Labor Zionist, adopted the premises, analysis, and prescription of the Iron Wall.

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## Israel's Iron Wall Still Stands After Nearly a Century

The Iron Wall recounts every major event in Arab-Israeli history since Israel's establishment, focusing on the Israeli government's policies, motivations, reactions and internal politics. It's a fascinating account of the internal affairs of one of the youngest and most controversial countries in the world.

## The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World by Avi Shlaim

Meir comes in for heavy criticism as the Israeli leader who personified the siege mentality: 'the notion that Israel had to barricade itself behind an iron wall, the fatalistic belief that Israel was doomed forever to live by the sword.' (p.323) Thus, during the Egyptian-inspired war of attrition along the Suez canal, Israel initiated deep air strikes into Egypt to escalate the crisis in order, so the thinking went, to de-escalate the conflict by proving Israeli determination.

## The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World | Reviews in History

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This strategy of the Iron Wall served Zionism and Israel relatively well from the 1920s to the end of the twentieth century. Converging streams of evidence now suggest, however, that Israel is abandoning that strategy, posing the question of whether Israel and Israelis can remain in the Middle East without becoming part of it.

[Abandoning the Iron Wall: Israel and "The Middle Eastern ...](#)

The Iron Wall (We and the Arabs) is an essay written by Ze'ev Jabotinsky in 1923. It was originally published in Russian, the language in which Jabotinsky wrote for the Russian press. He wrote the essay after the British Colonial Secretary Winston Churchill prohibited Zionist settlement on the east bank of the Jordan River, and formed the Zionist Revisionist party after writing it.

[Iron Wall \(essay\) - Wikipedia](#)

The Iron Wall We cannot offer any adequate compensation to the Palestinian Arabs in return for Palestine. And therefore, there is no likelihood of any voluntary agreement being reached. So that all those who regard such an agreement as a condition sine qua non for Zionism

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may as well say "non" and withdraw from Zionism.

## "The Iron Wall" - Jewish Virtual Library

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## Amazon.com: The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World ...

Avi Shlaim. W. W. Norton & Company, 2001 - History - 670 pages. 3 Reviews. As it celebrated its fiftieth anniversary, the State of Israel could count many important successes, but its conflict with the Palestinians and the Arab world at large casts a long shadow over its history. What was promulgated as an "iron-wall" strategy--dealing with the Arabs from a position of unassailable strength--was meant to yield to a further stage where Israel would be strong enough to negotiate a

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satisfactory ...

## The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World - Avi Shlaim ...

In the 1920s, hard-line Zionists developed the doctrine of the 'Iron Wall': negotiations with the Arabs must always be from a position of military strength, and only when sufficiently strong Israel would be able to make peace with her Arab neighbours.

## The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World - Avi Shlaim ...

through an 'iron wall, that is to say, the establishment in Palestine of a force that will in no way be influenced by Arab pressure. In other words, the only way to achieve a settlement in the future is total avoidance of all attempts to arrive at a settlement in the present.' (p.14) As Shlaim points out later in Iron

## The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World

But the only path to such an agreement is the iron wall, that is to say the strengthening in Palestine of a government without any kind of Arab influence, that is to say one against which the Arabs will fight. In other words, for us the only path to an agreement in the future is an absolute refusal of any attempts at an agreement now.

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Vladimir Jabotinsky: The Iron Wall - We and the Arabs (1923)

The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World (New York: W.W. Norton, 2001)  
Lion of Jordan: The Life of King Hussein in War and Peace (London: Allen Lane, 2007) Israel and Palestine: Reappraisals, Revisions, Refutations (London: Verso Books, 2009) See also

Avi Shlaim - Wikipedia

As the BBC's veteran Middle East editor Jeremy Bowen observes, an 'iron wall' between Israel and the Arab states, first breached by the cold peace with Egypt and Jordan, shows signs of coming down....

If nothing else, Trump has toppled the iron wall | Alex ...

Avi Shlaim THE IRON WALL Israel and the Arab World 1st Edition 1st Printing Hardcover New York W W Norton & Co Inc 1999 Fine in a Fine dust jacket. 116698. Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing. Shipping and handling. This item will ship to United States, ...

Avi Shlaim's The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World is the outstanding book on Israeli foreign policy, now thoroughly updated



## Online Library The Iron Wall Israel And Arab World Avi Shlaim

with a new preface and chapters on Israel's most recent leaders In the 1920s, hard-line Zionists developed the doctrine of the 'Iron Wall': negotiations with the Arabs must always be from a position of military strength, and only when sufficiently strong Israel would be able to make peace with her Arab neighbours. This doctrine, argues Avi Shlaim, became central to Israeli policy; dissenters were marginalized and many opportunities to reconcile with Palestinian Arabs were lost. Drawing on a great deal of new material and interviews with many key participants, Shlaim places Israel's political and military actions under an uncompromising lens. His analysis will bring scant comfort to partisans on both sides, but it will be required reading for anyone interested in this fascinating and troubled region of the world. 'The Iron Wall is strikingly fair-minded, scholarly, cogently reasoned and makes enthralling ... reading' Philip Ziegler, Daily Telegraph 'Anyone wanting to understand the modern Middle East should start by reading this elegantly written and scrupulously researched book' Trevor Royle, Sunday Herald 'A milestone in modern scholarship of the Middle East' Edward Said 'Fascinating ... Shlaim presents compelling evidence for a reevaluation of traditional Israeli history' Ethan Bronner, The New York Times Book Review Avi Shlaim is Professor of International Relations at St. Antony's College, Oxford. His previous books include Collusion Across the Jordan (1988) and War and Peace in the Middle

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East (1995).

Argues that the "Iron Wall" strategy of making Israel the dominant state in the region has not produced large-scale peace or prosperity in the Middle East.

Challenging the consequences of the political, social, and military miracles of the modern State of Israel, the author argues that the "Iron Wall" strategy of making Israel the dominant state in the region has not produced large-scale peace or prosperity in the Middle East.

A complete examination of the men and forces that created and shaped the modern state of Israel over the last hundred years Walls of Jerusalem is a study of the creation and evolution of the modern state of Israel. This unique work begins with the actions of four extraordinary men – Theodor Herzl, Chaim Weizmann, Ze'ev Jabotinsky, and David Ben-Gurion – and follows with their influence on subsequent leaders and on the political and military decisions that have shaped and changed Jerusalem and the nation. The resulting physical reality has made concrete the shift in vision from the broad utopian ideals of the beginning, to the separation barrier and settlement enclaves that increasingly divide both Jewish and Palestinian cultures. The author

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traveled across the West Bank, into the Israeli settlements and along the Israeli security barrier dividing Israel from Palestine. He entered the tombs, mosques and synagogues, experienced the distortion of Jerusalem since the building of the separation barrier - the watchtowers, the welded gates, the shuttered shops, divided highways and back-ways, tunnels, bridges, checkpoints, to better understand evolving reality that defines the stage for the future relationship between Israel and Palestine. Walls of Jerusalem is a timely book, its vivid narrative journeys through a century and a half of dreams and conflicts that lead to a divided Jerusalem: It presents each stage of Israel's evolution, from the 1896 publication of Herzl's Der Judenstaat and the Balfour Declaration, to the opening of the United States embassy in Jerusalem in 2018. Relates the visions of Israel's creators to the destructive and constructive forces utilized to create a new nation. Reviews the century long attempts by international organizations to resolve the conflict between Jews and Palestinians. Makes every effort to present a balanced exploration of challenges facing the state of Israel and its place on the world stage, but in conclusion gives emphasis to the plight of the Palestinians. Integrates illustrations with text to provide a detailed portrait of central figures in modern Israel's history.

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The first major account of the life of an extraordinary soldier and statesman, King Hussein of Jordan. Throughout his long reign (1953–1999), Hussein remained a dominant figure in Middle Eastern politics and a consistent proponent of peace with Israel. For over forty years he walked a tightrope between Palestinians and Arab radicals on the one hand and Israel on the other. Avi Shlaim reveals that Hussein initiated a secret dialogue with Israel in 1963 and spent hundreds of hours in talks with countless Israeli officials. Shlaim expertly reconstructs this dialogue from previously untapped records and first-hand accounts, significantly rewriting the history of the Middle East over the past fifty years and shedding light on the far-reaching impact of Hussein's leadership.

The June 1967 war was a watershed in the history of the modern Middle East. In six days, the Israelis defeated the Egyptian, Syrian and Jordanian armies, seizing large portions of their territories. Two veteran scholars of the Middle East bring together some of the most knowledgeable experts in their fields to reassess the origins and the legacies of the war. Each chapter takes a different perspective from the vantage point of a different participant, those that actually took part in the war and also the world powers that played important roles behind the scenes. Their conclusions make for sober reading. At the

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heart of the story was the incompetence of the Egyptian leadership and the rivalry between various Arab players who were deeply suspicious of each other's motives. Israel, on the other side, gained a resounding victory for which, despite previous assessments to the contrary, there was no master plan.

"Once in the military system, Israelis never fully exit," writes the prizewinning journalist Patrick Tyler in the prologue to *Fortress Israel*. "They carry the military identity for life, not just through service in the reserves until age forty-nine . . . but through lifelong expectations of loyalty and secrecy." The military is the country to a great extent, and peace will only come, Tyler argues, when Israel's military elite adopt it as the national strategy. *Fortress Israel* is an epic portrayal of Israel's martial culture—of Sparta presenting itself as Athens. From Israel's founding in 1948, we see a leadership class engaged in an intense ideological struggle over whether to become the "light unto nations," as envisioned by the early Zionists, or to embrace an ideology of state militarism with the objective of expanding borders and exploiting the weaknesses of the Arabs. In his first decade as prime minister, David Ben-Gurion conceived of a militarized society, dominated by a powerful defense establishment and capable of defeating the Arabs in serial warfare

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over many decades. Bound by self-reliance and a stern resolve never to forget the Holocaust, Israel's military elite has prevailed in war but has also at times overpowered Israel's democracy. Tyler takes us inside the military culture of Moshe Dayan, Yitzhak Rabin, Ariel Sharon, and Benjamin Netanyahu, introducing us to generals who make decisions that trump those of elected leaders and who disdain diplomacy as appeasement or surrender. Fortress Israel shows us how this martial culture envelops every family. Israeli youth go through three years of compulsory military service after high school, and acceptance into elite commando units or air force squadrons brings lasting prestige and a network for life. So ingrained is the martial outlook and identity, Tyler argues, that Israelis are missing opportunities to make peace even when it is possible to do so. "The Zionist movement had survived the onslaught of world wars, the Holocaust, and clashes of ideology," writes Tyler, "but in the modern era of statehood, Israel seemed incapable of fielding a generation of leaders who could adapt to the times, who were dedicated to ending . . . [Israel's] isolation, or to changing the paradigm of military preeminence." Based on a vast array of sources, declassified documents, personal archives, and interviews across the spectrum of Israel's ruling class, Fortress Israel is a remarkable story of character, rivalry, conflict, and the competing impulses for war and

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for peace in the Middle East.

Why have Israelis and Palestinians failed to achieve a two-state solution to the conflict that has cost so much and lasted so long? In *Paradigm Lost*, Ian S. Lustick brings fifty years as an analyst of the Arab-Israeli dispute to bear on this question and offers a provocative explanation of why continued attempts to divide the land will have no more success than would negotiations to establish a one-state solution. Basing his argument on the decisiveness of unanticipated consequences, Lustick shows how the combination of Zionism's partially successful Iron Wall strategy for dealing with Arabs, an Israeli political culture saturated with what the author calls "Holocaustia," and the Israel lobby's dominant influence on American policy toward the Arab-Israeli conflict scuttled efforts to establish a Palestinian state alongside Israel. Yet, he demonstrates, it has also unintentionally set the stage for new struggles and "better problems" for both Israel and the Palestinians. Drawing on the history of scientific ideas that once seemed certain but were ultimately discarded, Lustick encourages shifting attention from two-state blueprints that provide no map for realistic action to the

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democratizing competition that arises when different subgroups, forced to be part of the same polity, redefine their interests and form new alliances to pursue them. Paradigm Lost argues that negotiations for a two-state solution between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River are doomed and counterproductive. Israeli Jews and Palestinian Arabs can enjoy the democracy they deserve but only after decades of struggle amid the unintended but powerful consequences of today's one-state reality.

An Oxford professor reflects on key issues and contributing factors shaping the Israeli-Palestine conflict, providing comprehensive coverage of topics ranging from the 1917 Balfour Declaration and the failure of the Oslo peace process to the 1948 War and the 2008 invasion of Gaza. By the author of *The Iron Wall*.

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