THIRTY-SOMETHING SUGGESTED BOOKS TO READ ABOUT ISRAEL SO YOU’LL KNOW YOUR STUFF*

Daniel Gordis

GENERAL HISTORY HISTORIES

1. Shapira – Israel: A History
2. Laqueur – History of Zionism
3. Shindler – A History of Modern Israel
5. Sachar – From the Rise of Zionism to Our Time
6. Gorenberg -- The Accidental Empire

FOUNDATIONAL CLASSICS

1. Herzl – Altneuland
2. Herzl – The Jewish State
3. Hess – Rome and Jerusalem

HOLOCAUST AND ISRAEL

4. Segev – The Seventh Million
5. Arendt – Eichmann in Jerusalem

WARS

6. Morris – 1948
7. Oren – Six Days of War
8. Klein Halevi – Like Dreamers
9. Morris – Righteous Victims
10. Morris – The Origins of the Palestinian Refugee Problem

* This is, by definition a highly subjective and incomplete list. Almost every volume has another that could have replaced it, so this is largely personal preference on my part. However, anyone who reads these will really know what they’re talking about – which is the point of this list. There are dozens of other great books on Israel ... this is just for starters. [DG]
BIOGRAPHIES

11. Gordis – Menachem Begin
12. Avner – The Prime Ministers
13. Landau – Arik: The Life of Ariel Sharon
15. Netanyahu – The Founding Fathers of Zionism
16. Halkin – Jabotinsky
17. Avineri – Herzl
18. Shapira – Ben Gurion
19. Klabgsbrun – Golda Meir (forthcoming)

NOVELS, POETRY AND MEMOIRES

20. Oz – A Tale of Love and Darkness
21. Grossman – To the End of the Land
22. Shalev – A Pigeon and a Boy
23. A B Yehoshua – Mr. Mani
24. Shavit – My Promised Land
25. Yehuda Amichai – Poems of Jerusalem and Love Poems

VERY MODERN ISRAEL

26. Friedman – From Beirut to Jerusalem
27. Senor & Singer – Start-Up Nation
29. Troy – Moynihan’s Moment
30. Dershowitz – The Case for Israel
31. Gordis – Saving Israel

PALESTINIAN WRITINGS

32. Nusseibeh – Once Upon a Country
33. Kashua – Dancing Arabs