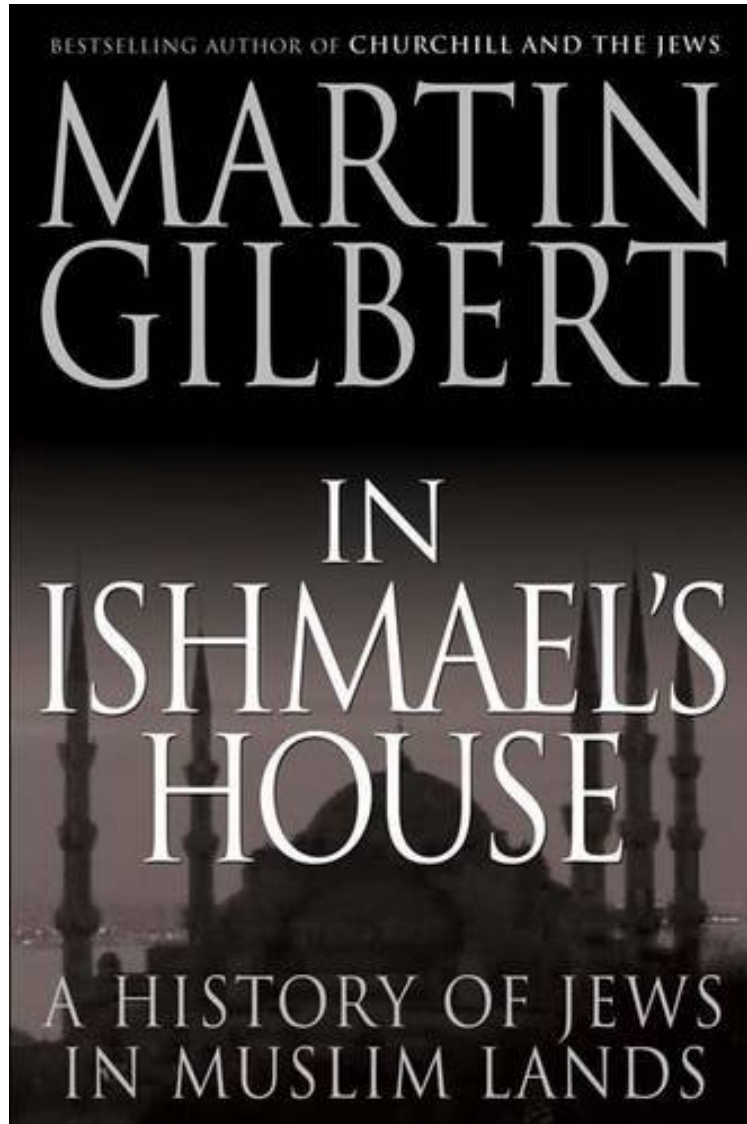


(Download ebook) In Ishmael's House: A History of Jews in Muslim Lands

In Ishmael's House: A History of Jews in Muslim Lands

Martin Gilbert

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Martin Gilbert : In Ishmael's House: A History of Jews in Muslim Lands before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In Ishmael's House: A History of Jews in Muslim Lands:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Destroys the numerous myth surrounding this issue, especially the one about the "golden age" of Muslim tolerance By Henry Kadoch For those willing to actually take the time and make the effort to understand the truth about Muslim-Jewish relations throughout history, here's the place to find it. The bottom line...there has never been a 'golden age' of tolerance and brotherhood; rather there have been times when Jews

were less oppressed and persecuted in Muslim nations; but the real big-picture this book shows is that Muslims got used to having very valuable and productive Jews among them for a very long time, despite the oppression, theft, and abuse, in order to exploit them and take their lives and property basically whenever they wished, to use them as scapegoats for whatever 'tragedy' befell them (for example, the French invasion of Morocco), and more importantly, they got used to Jews being subservient to them for hundreds of years. Thus the great hate and envy they still harbor, now that the Jews are free and they no longer have the benefits of having them in their countries.⁵ of 5 people found the following review helpful. Unusual topic, extraordinary book By Earl B The subject is not often touched upon, but it has never been set out so well. From the beginnings of Islam to the Mediaeval period, to the rise of Zionism and the emigration of Jews from Arab lands during the Arab-Israeli conflict, the book covers a lot, and is done so fairly well. Though it is depressing in some points to see the brutality with which Jews were treated, there is a significant deal of coverage in the many countries and periods involved. I am of the opinion that more depth could have been given to the mediaeval period, and perhaps a little more in descriptions of industrial and economic proportions throughout the 1400 years and all the countries the book covers. Martin Gilbert is a prolific writer, and this book is no exception in his eighty-plus bestselling books. Overall I recommend this book if you are widely interested in the subject. Perhaps borrow it from a library/friend first to see if you like it.⁶ of 7 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating story of the Jews in Arab lands By Strider4 This is much ignored topic: the fate of the large Jewish population, going back to antiquity, in the Arab/Muslim lands plus Iran and Turkey, in the Middle East. Sir Martin Gilbert is a prolific writer on Jewish history, especially on the Holocaust. I find his writing balanced, credible, full of factual backup, yet not pedantic or obscure. While he discusses many positive aspects of the Jewish presence throughout history in this area, he especially focuses on the persecution, religious bigotry, and mass expulsions and threats that resulted in the virtually total disappearance of Jews from Arab countries. This provides contrast to the Palestinian claims for redress to their similar number of refugees from Israel since 1948. Gilbert's scope is vast, but his account of the plight of Arab Jews within Muslim lands during and since W.W.II is especially poignant. Their rescue and re-gathering in Israel is also moving. No compensation has ever been offered. Thoroughly recommended; I have given it as gifts to friends.

The relationship between Jews and Muslims has been a flashpoint that affects stability in the Middle East and has consequences around the globe. In this absorbing and eloquent book Martin Gilbert challenges the standard media portrayal and presents a fascinating account of hope, opportunity, fear, and terror that have characterized these two peoples through the 1,400 years of their intertwined history. Harking back to the Biblical story of Ishmael and Isaac, Gilbert takes the reader from the origins of the fraught relationship—the refusal of Medina's Jews to accept Mohammed as a prophet—through the ages of the Crusader reconquest of the Holy Land and the great Muslim sultanates to the present day. He explores the impact of Zionism in the first half of the twentieth century, the clash of nationalisms during the Second World War, the mass expulsions and exodus of 800,000 Jews from Muslim lands following the birth of Israel, the Six-Day War and its aftermath, and the political sensitivities of the current Middle East. In *Ishmael's House* sheds light on a time of prosperity and opportunity for Jews in Muslim lands stretching from Morocco to Afghanistan, with many instances of Muslim openness, support, and courage. Drawing on Jewish, Christian, and Muslim sources, Gilbert uses archived material, poems, letters, memoirs, and personal testimony to uncover the human voice of this centuries-old conflict. Ultimately Gilbert's moving account of mutual tolerance between Muslims and Jews provides a perspective on current events and a template for the future.

From Publishers Weekly In this epic examination, celebrated historian Gilbert (the six-volume biography of Winston Churchill) explores the evolution of Judaism and Islam through a lens of Middle Eastern stability. Islam upholds some of Judaism's practices, like strict dietary laws, circumcision, and multiple prayers daily, and followers of both religions have historically banded together during holy wars in opposition to Christianity. Yet early relations between Jews and Muslims were often precarious, and the treatment Jews received was often dependent on the manner in which the Islamic leader at the time interpreted "the two extremes of protection and intolerance," a conflict that Gilbert believes "has defined the Muslim-Jewish relationship to this day." Indeed, under the rule of the second Caliph, Jews volunteered as soldiers and guides and offered provisions for their Muslim allies, whereas under the eighth Caliph, Jews and Christians were equally segregated and oppressed. With a comprehensive yet accessible approach, Gilbert scrutinizes the roles that Muslims and Jews have played and continue to play in the Middle East, and the impact of this on the world, unearthing the ongoing struggles these religions have faced over their 1400 years of shared history. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "... a nonstop barrage of compelling facts from a breathtakingly wide collection of archives, to build up an overwhelming portrait of a people's suffering." (Dominic Lawson, Sunday Times) 'A valuable, balanced contribution.' (Iain Finlayson, The Times) 'Gilbert's scholarship is meticulous, his tone balanced, and he takes care to include painstaking details.' (Marina Benjamin, London Evening Standard) 'Gilbert fluently recounts the ups and downs of Jewish-Arab relations over the centuries.' (Adam LeBor, Literary) 'Gilbert's book is an illuminating and a moving account of the history of the Jews in Arab lands.' (Avi Shlaim, Financial Times) 'Hard-hitting and frequently harrowing' (Simon Griffith, Mail on

Sunday)" About the Author Sir Martin Gilbert is the author of more than eighty books, including the six-volume authorized biography of Winston Churchill.