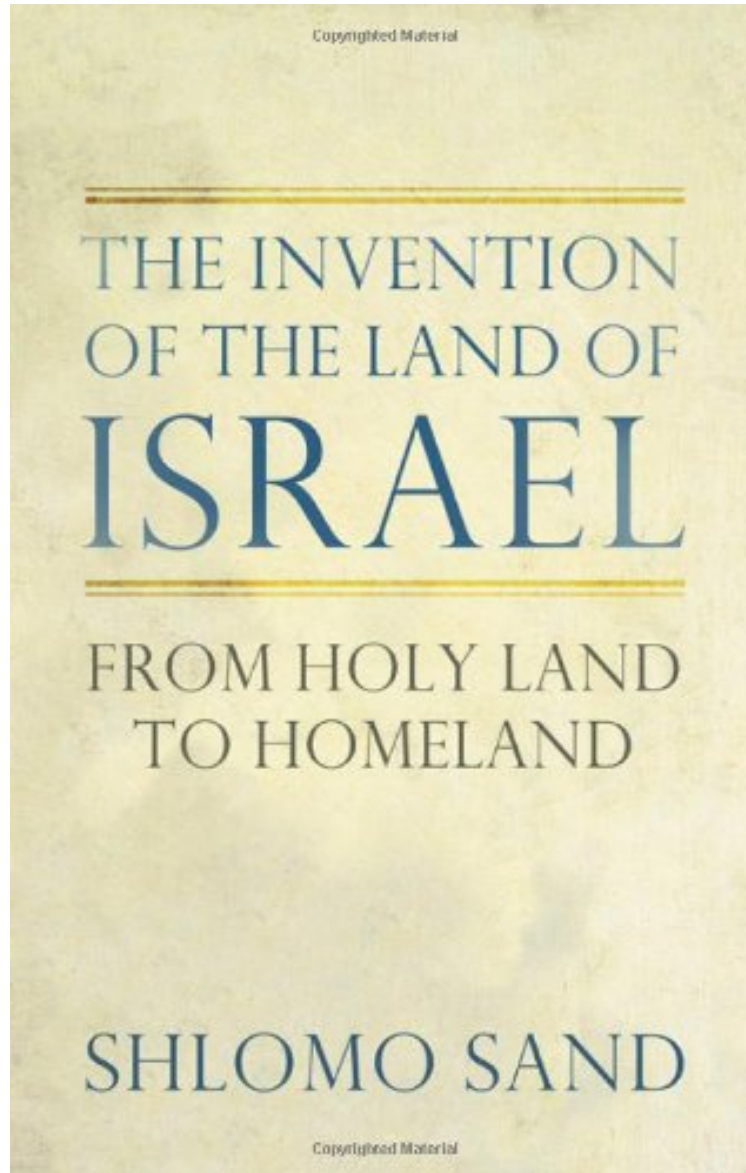


The Invention of the Land of Israel: From Holy Land to Homeland

Shlomo Sand

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Shlomo Sand : The Invention of the Land of Israel: From Holy Land to Homeland before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Invention of the Land of Israel: From Holy Land to Homeland:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Historical insightsBy catprincessJust an incredible book. Mr. Sand is an excellent writer and it is a joy to read his prose. He does not make blanket statements without backing them up with

scholarly facts. This is like a follow-up to his first book, "The invention of the Jewish people". It really opens up the mind and helps in seeing this part of the world in a different light. All his books should be required reading in academia with respects to world history. 7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Truth about Israel By David Marley Solomon Sand begins this book with a description of his service during the six day war in 1967. He was traumatised by the ruthless way in which his comrades treated Arab prisoners and civilians during that conflict, which lasted more than six days of course. One may say that it has never really ended. As a historian at the University of Tel Aviv Sand has made an intensive study of the mythology of Zionism and how the state of Israel has used this mythology to justify the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from the land. This book is a worthy sequel to his 'The Invention of the Jewish People' and thoroughly recommended. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By zee Informative!

What is a homeland and when does it become a national territory? Why have so many people been willing to die for such places throughout the twentieth century? What is the essence of the Promised Land? Following the acclaimed and controversial *The Invention of the Jewish People*, Shlomo Sand examines the mysterious sacred land that has become the site of the longest-running national struggle of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. *The Invention of the Land of Israel* deconstructs the age-old legends surrounding the Holy Land and the prejudices that continue to suffocate it. Sand's account dissects the concept of historical right and tracks the creation of the modern concept of the Land of Israel by nineteenth-century Evangelical Protestants and Jewish Zionists. This invention, he argues, not only facilitated the colonization of the Middle East and the establishment of the State of Israel; it is also threatening the existence of the Jewish state today.

From Booklist Sand is an Israeli academic with a talent for outraging holders of mainstream Jewish opinions both within and outside of Israel while providing fodder for anti-Zionists. In his previous work, *The Invention of the Jewish People* (2010), he described the Jewish people as an artificial construct grafted upon disparate groups adhering to a religious confession. Here he builds on that premise, asserting that centuries-long Jewish attachment to Eretz Israel is a myth perpetrated by Zionists and Christian fundamentalists beginning in the late nineteenth century. Although Sand has some useful things to say about the fostering of a national identity, this is basically a one-sided polemic utilizing intellectually sloppy arguments. If one follows his criteria for peoplehood, one could exclude Arabs, Kurds, and many other groups. In demolishing opposing arguments, he takes statements by extremists and presents them as standard views. Sand's real agenda seems to be to change current Israeli policy towards Palestinians. That may be a worthy goal, but it deserves a better advocate than Sand. --Jay Freeman Anyone interested in understanding the contemporary Middle East should read this book. Tony Judt, In praise of *The Invention of the Jewish People* Perhaps books combining passion and erudition don't change political situations, but if they did, this one would count as a landmark. Eric Hobsbawm, In praise of *The Invention of the Jewish People* A thought-provoking, readable, and important work. *Publisher's Weekly*... there is much to enjoy and learn in the evidence in the potentially incendiary material [Shlomo Sand] assembles here. *Electronic Intifada* [Sand] critically consider the ways in which the Zionist colonization of Palestine and the establishment of the State of Israel have been justified by claims of ancestral lands, historical rights, and millennia-old national yearnings, all of which he proceeds to critically undermine as either justifiable reasons for mastery over the land of Palestine/Israel or even representative of longstanding mass Jewish aspirations. *Book News* This groundbreaking new historical work from a highly controversial author undoes the myth of the Jewish people's historical right to the Land of Israel. *SirReadALot.org* About the Author Shlomo Sand studied history at the University of Tel Aviv and at the *cole des hautes études en sciences sociales*, in Paris. He currently teaches contemporary history at the University of Tel Aviv. His books include *The Invention of the Jewish People*, *On the Nation and the Jewish People*, *L'illusion du politique: Georges Sorel et le débat intellectuel 1900, Georges Sorel en son temps*, *Le XXe siècle* *Israël* and *Les Mots et la terre: les intellectuels en Israël*. Geremy Forman teaches in the Department for Land of Israel Studies at the University of Haifa. He has most recently contributed to the collection *Reapproaching Borders: New Perspectives on the Study of Israel/Palestine*.