



Invitation

Thursday, 15 April 2010, 6 pm

The Return of Zionism: Myths, Politics and Scholarship in Israel

Lecture by Gabriel Piterberg

In this original and wide-ranging study, Gabriel Piterberg examines the ideology and literature behind the colonization of Palestine, from the late nineteenth century to the present. Exploring Zionism's origins in Central-Eastern European nationalism and settler movements, he shows how its texts can be placed within a wider discourse of western colonization. Piterberg revisits the work of Theodor Herzl, Gershom Scholem, Anita Shapira and David Ben-Gurion, among other thinkers influential in the formation of the Zionist myth, to break open prevailing views of Zionism. He demonstrates that it was in fact unexceptional, expressing a consciousness and imagination typical of colonial settler movement. Shaped by European ideological currents and the realities of colonial life, Zionism constructed its own story as a unique and impregnable one, in the process excluding the voices of an indigenous people— the Palestinian Arabs.

"This thoroughly researched and engaging book provides an intellectual, cultural and literary fulcrum from which Zionist ideology and practice can be read afresh. ...This book is essential reading for everyone who is interested in the history of Zionism as well as the history of nationalist movements." — Yehouda Shenhav, Professor of Sociology, Tel-Aviv University

Gabriel Piterberg teaches history at UCLA, and has taught at St Antony's and Balliol Colleges, Oxford. His previous books include *An Ottoman Tragedy: History and Historiography at Play*. He writes for the *New Left Review* and the *London Review of Books*.

The discussion will be moderated by Prof. Marc Baer (ZMO).

Venue:

Zentrum für Literatur-
und Kulturforschung

Schützenstraße 18
10117 Berlin

Raum 308

GEFÖRDERT VOM



Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

The Returns of Zionism: Myths, Politics and Scholarship in Israel by Gabriel Piterberg: Book Reviews. April 2010 Â· Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism. Anaheed Al-Hardan. Read more. Article.Â The essay analyses the few testimonies regarding Callisthenes, an Athenian politician of Demosthenes' age generally neglected by the modern scholarship. Callisthenes, politically active since 357 (when he had a financial role), can be considered an early anti-Macedonian and seems to have had an important role on the political scene for a long time: he was, in fact, probably part of the group that [Show full abstract] managed the polis until 324, as it is suggested also by his alleged involvement in the Harpalus affair. Read more. Article. Home > Press release: The Return of Zionism: Myth, Politics News. Events.Â Exploring Zionism's origins in Central-Eastern European nationalism and settler movements, he shows how its texts can be placed within a wider discourse of western colonization. Piterberg revisits the work of Theodor Herzl, Gershom Scholem, Anita Shapira and David Ben-Gurion, among other thinkers influential in the formation of the Zionist myth, to break open prevailing views of Zionism. He demonstrates that it was in fact unexceptional, expressing a consciousness and imagination typical of colonial settler movement. The Returns of Zionism: Myths, Politics and Scholarship in Israel, Gabriel Piterberg 38. Palestine and the Palestinians in the 21st Century, Edited by Rochelle Davis and Mimi Kirk 39. The Colonial Present: Afghanistan, Palestine and Iraq, Derek Gregory 40. Palestine and Israel: A Challenge to Justice by John Quigley 41. Palestine and the ArabIsraeli Conflict by Charles Dr. Smith 42.Â Peace for Palestine: First Lost Opportunity by Rabbi Elmer Berger 45. Zionism: The Dream and the Reality: A Jewish Critique by Gary V. Smith 46. Jews Against Zionism: The American Council for Judaism, 1942-1948 by Thomas A. Kolsky 47. Deliberate Deceptions: Facing the Facts about the USIsraeli Relationship by Paul Findley 48. They Dare to Speak Out by Paul Findley 49.