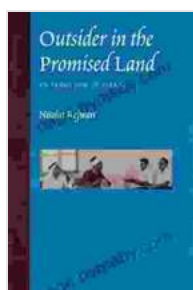


# An Iraqi Jew in Israel: A Journey of Identity and Hope

In the tapestry of human experience, the stories of those who have crossed borders and cultures are particularly poignant. Their journeys are often marked by both upheaval and opportunity, as they navigate the complexities of leaving behind the familiar and embracing the unknown.



## Outsider in the Promised Land: An Iraqi Jew in Israel

by Nissim Rejwan

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2429 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 262 pages  
Lending : Enabled



Such is the story of Sami Cohen, an Iraqi Jew who emigrated to Israel in the 1950s. His memoir, *An Iraqi Jew in Israel*, is a compelling account of his life and the challenges and rewards he faced along the way.

## A Life Uprooted

Sami Cohen was born in Baghdad, Iraq, in 1937. He grew up in a close-knit Jewish community, where he received a traditional education and embraced the customs and traditions of his ancestors.

However, in the mid-20th century, the political climate in Iraq became increasingly hostile towards Jews. In 1951, amidst growing persecution and violence, Sami's family made the difficult decision to leave their homeland and seek refuge in Israel.

## **Adapting to a New Land**

Arriving in Israel as a young teenager, Sami faced the daunting task of integrating into a new culture and society. He had to learn a new language, adjust to a different educational system, and make new friends.

Despite the challenges, Sami was determined to make a life for himself in his new homeland. He studied hard, excelled in his classes, and eventually went on to serve in the Israeli military.

## **Finding a Sense of Belonging**

Sami's journey in Israel was not without its struggles. He faced prejudice and discrimination from some quarters, and he often felt a sense of isolation and longing for his former life in Iraq.

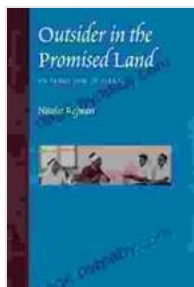
However, over time, Sami found a sense of belonging in Israel. He married an Israeli woman, raised a family, and became an active member of his community. He also became involved in interfaith dialogue and peacebuilding initiatives, seeking to bridge the divides between Jews and Arabs.

## **A Legacy of Hope**

Sami Cohen's memoir is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit. It is a story of loss, adaptation, and hope, and it offers valuable insights into the challenges and rewards of immigration and integration.

Cohen's story is also a reminder of the importance of tolerance and understanding between different cultures. In a world that is often divided by conflict and mistrust, his message of hope and reconciliation is more relevant than ever.

*An Iraqi Jew in Israel* is a powerful and moving memoir that offers a unique perspective on the human experience. Sami Cohen's story is one of resilience, hope, and the enduring power of the human spirit. It is a book that will resonate with anyone who has ever felt the pull of a distant homeland or the challenge of integrating into a new culture.



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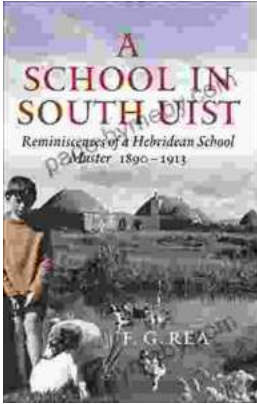
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