

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910777860203321
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Titolo	Israelis and the Jewish tradition [[electronic resource]] : an ancient people debating its future // David Hartman
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, : Yale University Press, c2000
ISBN	1-281-73065-3 9786611730659 0-300-13051-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (192 p.)
Collana	The Terry lectures
Disciplina	305.89/2405694
Soggetti	Jews - Israel - Identity Judaism - Israel Secularism - Israel Zionism - Philosophy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [167]-169) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- The Dwight Harrington Terry Foundation Lectures on Religion in the Light of Science and Philosophy -- Contents -- Preface -- CHAPTER ONE. Crisis and Tradition -- CHAPTER TWO. The God of History in Yehuda Halevi -- CHAPTER THREE. The Cosmic God in Maimonides -- CHAPTER FOUR. Rabbinic Foundations of Maimonides' Thought -- CHAPTER FIVE. Halakhic Sobriety and Inclusiveness -- References -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	In this powerful book one of the most important Jewish thinkers in the world today grapples with issues that increasingly divide Israel's secular Jewish community from its religious Zionists. Addressing the concerns of both communities from the point of view of one who is deeply committed to religious pluralism, David Hartman suggests a more inclusive and inviting framework for the modern Israeli engagement of the Jewish tradition. He offers a new understanding of what it means to be Jewish-one which is neither assimilationist nor backward-looking, and one that enables different Jewish groups to celebrate their own traditions without demonizing or patronizing others. In a world polarized between religious and secular and caught within a sectarian

denominationalism, Hartman shows the way to build bridges of understanding. The book explores the philosophies of two major Jewish thinkers of the Middle Ages, Yehuda Halevi and Moses Maimonides. A careful analysis of Maimonides' approach to Judaism shows that messianism is not the predominant organizing principle that makes Judaism intelligible and significant, Hartman contends. He argues against Halevi's triumphalism and in favor of using the Sinai covenant for evaluating the religious significance of Israel, for this approach gives meaning to Zionists' religious commitments while also empowering secular Israelis to reengage with the Jewish tradition.

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