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# Rabbis of our Time: Authorities of Judaism in the Religious and Political Ferment of Modern Times (Routledge Jewish Studies Series)

By Marek ?ejka, Roman Ko?an



**Rabbis of our Time: Authorities of Judaism in the Religious and Political Ferment of Modern Times (Routledge Jewish Studies Series)** By Marek ?ejka, Roman Ko?an

The term 'rabbi' predominantly denotes Jewish men qualified to interpret the Torah and apply halacha, or those entrusted with the religious leadership of a Jewish community. However, the role of the rabbi has been understood differently across the Jewish world. While in Israel they control legally powerful rabbinical courts and major religious political parties, in the Jewish communities of the Diaspora this role is often limited by legal regulations of individual countries. However, the significance of past and present rabbis and their religious and political influence endures across the world.

Rabbis of Our Time provides a comprehensive overview of the most influential rabbinical authorities of Judaism in the 20th and 21st Century. Through focussing on the most theologically influential rabbis of the contemporary era and examining their political impact, it opens a broader discussion of the relationship between Judaism and politics. It looks at the various centres of current Judaism and Jewish thinking, especially the State of Israel and the USA, as well as locating rabbis in various time periods. Through interviews and extracts from religious texts and books authored by rabbis, readers will discover more about a range of rabbis, from those before the formation of Israel to the most famous Chief Rabbis of Israel, as well as those who did not reach the highest state religious functions, but influenced the relation between Judaism and Israel by other means. The rabbis selected represent all major contemporary streams of Judaism, from ultra-Orthodox/Haredi to Reform and Liberal currents, and together create a broader picture of the scope of contemporary Jewish thinking in a theological and political context.

An extensive and detailed source of information on the varieties of Jewish thinking influencing contemporary Judaism and the modern State of Israel, this book is of interest to students and scholars of Jewish Studies, as well as Religion and Politics.

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# **Editorial Review**

Review

A useful source for those interested in contemporary Orthodox Judaism. An insight into an unknown world often deemed forbidding and inaccessible.

## Yakov Rabkin, Professor of Contemporary Jewish History, University of Montreal.

Rabbis of Our Time presents informative portraits of over 50 prominent rabbinic personalities, primarily Orthodox (hence male) leaders, who have influenced the religious and political lives of modern Jews. In accessible language, the authors place each figure in his historical context and explain how he shaped the thinking and practice of fellow Jews. In the political climate of the 20th and early 21st centuries, rabbis in Israel and the Diaspora have exercised considerable influence, which makes this overview, with references provided for further reading, a distinctly helpful resource for Jews and non-Jews alike.

## Dr. Yehezkel Landau, Associate Professor of Interfaith Relations Hartford Seminary

#### About the Author

Marek ?ejka is a research scholar at the Institute of International Relations in Prague and Military History Institute in Brno, focusing on the Middle East, the relationship between religion and politics, international law, religious radicalism and terrorism.

Roman Ko?an has extensive experience researching issues in Judaism, in particular Jewish Mysticism where he focuses primarily on the work of Rabbi Isaac Luria, as well as translating Hebrew texts.

## **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

## **Christine Hughes:**

People live in this new morning of lifestyle always try to and must have the free time or they will get great deal of stress from both way of life and work. So, once we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to anyone of course your answer may unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is definitely Rabbis of our Time: Authorities of Judaism in the Religious and Political Ferment of Modern Times (Routledge Jewish Studies Series).

#### Marilyn McDermott:

This Rabbis of our Time: Authorities of Judaism in the Religious and Political Ferment of Modern Times (Routledge Jewish Studies Series) is great book for you because the content which is full of information for you who else always deal with world and still have to make decision every minute. This kind of book reveal it info accurately using great plan word or we can point out no rambling sentences included. So if you are read that hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only will give you straight forward sentences but difficult core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having Rabbis of our Time: Authorities of Judaism in the Religious and Political Ferment of Modern Times (Routledge Jewish Studies Series) in your hand like getting the world in your arm, facts in it is not ridiculous 1. We can say that no guide that offer you world with ten or fifteen second right but this guide already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. active do you still doubt that will?

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