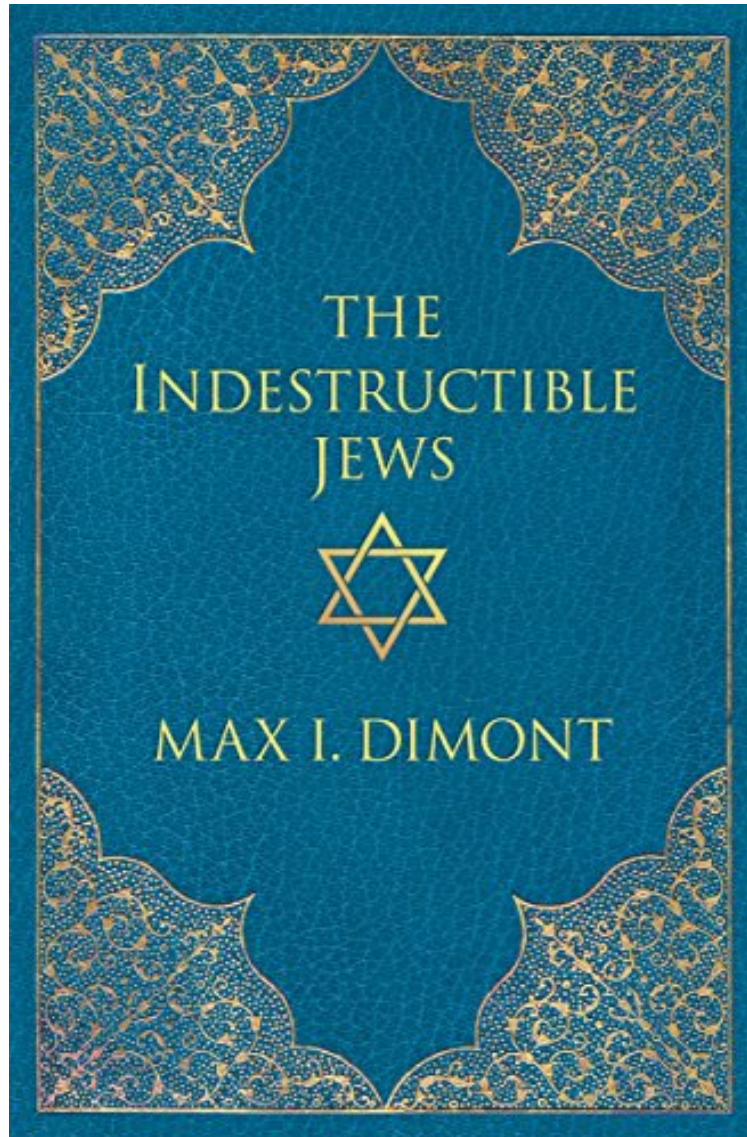


(Download free pdf) The Indestructible Jews (English Edition)

The Indestructible Jews (English Edition)

Von Max I. Dimont

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Von Max I. Dimont : The Indestructible Jews (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Indestructible Jews (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Intellectual metaphysical odyssey through Jewish historyVon Peter UysThis extraordinary book approaches Jewish history from a unique historical and metaphysical angle. It adds another dimension to e.g. Paul Johnson's book History of the Jews. Dimont provides a frame of reference based on the ebb flow of history as it is shaped by ideas;

civilizations come and go but the Jewish people always emerge on the crest of the new as the old recedes. He employs the scheme of the great mystic Isaac Luria on the 3 stages of matter, consciousness human experience: the contraction, the breaking of the vessels (Diaspora) to the restoration, the promise of a greater totality. The author calls each era of 2000 years an Act, of which the third is still to come. The first covers the period from Abraham to Jesus when the Hebrews were psychologically equipped and prepared for survival in dispersion. The second, the exile with a mission, stretches to Ben-Gurion and the rebirth of Israel in its land. The third waits on the threshold. Act I: The Manifest Destiny, considers the patriarchs, prophets the concept of predestination. The cosmic project started with Abraham in whom the idea was conceived, moved through ancient Egypt, the Magna Carta at Sinai the history of ancient Israel Judah. The canonization of Scripture took place in the first millennium BC (Richard Friedman's *The Hidden Book in the Bible* provides food for thought in this regard) and the prophets made their mark. Later, Hellenism entered the stage. Humanistic nationalism ideological universalism emerged, two poles first encountered in the prophets of whom Abraham Heschel's work is without equal. Act II: The Existentialist Dilemma, explores the Diaspora in which ideas of ethics, justice and human dignity were spread throughout the world. In this phase, the Talmud was born. The first challenge was the Roman Empire, the second the Parthian-Sassanid World and the third the Islamic civilization. In an interlude, the author examines the crucifixion account. The challenges of the feudal world of Europe followed, first a flowering then a regression during the ghetto era. The scientific age culminated in the Zionist movement. The return was not to the letter of Talmudic Judaism but according to the spirit of biblical prophecy. Specific sections are devoted to the fate of the Jews in Russia, Germany America. Act II also explores the Oral Law and Torah interpretations down the ages that served as a protective force in the Diaspora. First was the Midrash, starting the science of exposition through allegory homiletics. Around 200 BC the Mishna was born, based on reason logic. Some great names here are Hillel, the master of logic and Gamaliel, father of Rabbinical Judaism. The Mishna was codified by Judah Hanashi. The School of Gemara developed under the Sassanid Persians; together with the Mishna it was compiled into the Talmud, completed by the end of the 5th century AD. The Talmud became Jewish common law in the Islamic Empire. In Islamic Spain, Moses Maimonides was a sage of reason whilst devotional poetry flourished with the likes of Solomon ibn Gabirol. As the Islamic East declined, an influx followed into feudal Europe where the immigrants became a business and professional hierarchy. Rashi adapted the Babylonian Talmud to European conditions. During the ghetto phase Jewish thought stagnated. Moses Mendelssohn began the mental emancipation with non-Talmudic Judaism. The Enlightenment ultimately led to physical emancipation under Napoleon but later also spawned lethal modern strains of antisemitism. This in turn led to the rebirth of the Jewish State under the leadership of Ussishkin, Weissmann, Jabotinsky Ben-Gurion. Jewish mysticism or Kabbalah (from 'kabeil' - to receive) had its roots in the 2nd century; its influence increased markedly from the 10th century onwards. I recommend *On the Kabbalah and its Symbolism* by Gershom Scholem for an introduction. Dimont identifies the following 4 characteristics the Jewish people: (1) Iconoclasm - challenging the status quo (2) Skepticism regarding received ideas (3) Upholding the moral law through individual rights, the rule of law, justice fairness (4) Scholarship philanthropy, including a strong presence in the healing and protective professions like medicine law. History shows that those societies that accepted the aforementioned ideas tended to flourish, whilst those that rejected them became totalitarian. History also reveals that the Jewish spirit represents all that is best in humanity whilst the antisemite represents all that is base and perverse. In Act III: The Paradox of the Diaspora, Dimont speculates about the possible destinies of the world and the Jews, addressing the question of a divine mission and the function of Israel. He measures the history of the Jews against the theories of Spengler, Toynbee and Isaac Luria, and adds his own view of the future, one of the most thought-provoking passages of metaphysical speculation that I have ever encountered. The author's theory has the ring of truth and he conveys his well-organized thoughts in flowing prose. The extensive bibliography is organized by the following subjects: general Jewish history, religion psychology, the times of Jesus the Dead Sea Scrolls, Antisemitism Holocaust literature, Zionism the State of Israel, general world history, perspectives of history, from Isaiah to Hitler - ideas counter-ideas, miscellanea and encyclopedias. Works of interest covering related territory include *WorldPerfect: The Jewish Impact on Civilization* by Ken Spiro and *Cracking the Bible Code* by Jeffrey Satinover.

Kurzbeschreibung From the author of *Jews, God, and History*, this amazing journey through thousands of years explores the survival of Judaism in the face of countless threats and challenges. A compelling and readable account of the four thousand year history of a people that spans the globe and transcends the ages. From the ancient and simple faith of a small tribe to a global religion with adherents in every nation, the path of the Jews is traced through countless expulsions and migrations, the great tragedy of the Holocaust, and the joy of founding a homeland in Israel. Putting the struggle of a persecuted people into perspective, Max Dimont asks whether the tragic sufferings of the Jews have actually been the key to their survival, as other nations and races vanished into obscurity. Here is a book for Jews and non-Jews to enjoy, evoking a proud heritage while offering a hopeful vision of the future.