



reading

S P A I N

BOOKS ABOUT SPAIN

Academic Sources: Books

Beinart, Haim. (2002). *The Expulsion of the Jews from Spain*. Oxford

Superb. Covers the issues in a masterly manner.

Beinart, Haim (Ed.). (Vol. I 1992, Vol. II 1993). *The Sephardi Legacy*. Jerusalem.

The two volumes are probably the best collection of works on the topic. Serious academic reading.

Cole, Peter. (2007). *The Dream of the Poem: Hebrew Poetry from Muslim and Christian Spain. 950-1492*. Princeton.

A dream for anyone who loves poetry. Cole enables the reader to reach the inner essence of the poet.

Gampel, Benjamin (Ed.). (1997). *Crisis and Creativity in the Sephardic World 1391-1648*. New York.

Deals with the trauma of 1391, the Expulsion and the implications.

Gampel, Benjamin. (2009). *Sephardic History, Podcast. J.T.S.. 6 parts (120 minutes)*. [YouTube]

Professor Gampel tells the story in an engaging manner facing the camera.

Gerber, Jane S. (1994). *The Jews of Spain: A History of the Sephardic Experience*. New York.

An easy read with an excellent section on the post-Expulsion period.

Kraemer, Joel L. (2008). *Maimonides: The Life and World of One of Civilization's Greatest Minds*. New York.

The author enables the reader to fully experience Rambam's brilliance and challenges.

Yovel, Yirmiyahu. (2009). *The Other Within: The Marranos. Split Identity and Emerging Modernity*. Princeton.

A challenging source for the study of identity searching.

Literature

Geraldine Brooks. (2008). *People of the Book: A Novel*. New York. The journey of a rare illuminated manuscript, the Sarajevo Haggadah, through centuries of exile and war.

Doreen Carvajal. (2012). *The Forgetting River: A Modern Tale of Survival, Identity and the Inquisition*.

A memoir of an American journalist who suspects that she has Jewish roots and attempts to prove that her family was forced to convert to Christianity during the Inquisition.

Benito Perez Galdos. (1882). *Gloria: A Novel*.

A story of an impossible love relationship between a Catholic girl and Jewish boy in an environment of religious fanaticism and intolerance in 19th century Spain.

David M. Gitlitz. (2010). *The Lost Minyan*.

A story of ten Crypto-Jewish families in Spain living between two worlds and struggling to hide their secrets from the surrounding society.

Noah Gordon. (2002). *The Last Jew*.

A story of a resourceful and courageous young Jewish man from Toledo who stays true to his Jewish faith during the time of the expulsion of the Jews from Spain.

Angelina Muniz-Huberman. (2011). *A Mystical Journey*.

A Jewish teenager in late 16th century Spain manages to avoid the Inquisition by joining a perilous Christian pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Naomi Ragen. (2001). *The Ghost of Hannah Mendes*.

A story of a matriarch of an old Sephardic family who understands that she is dying and decides to learn more about her Jewish heritage, her family's exile from Spain and their false conversion to Christianity.

A. B. Yehoshua. (1999). *A Journey to the End of the Millennium: A Novel of the Middle Ages*. New York.

A story of a Jewish merchant arriving from Morocco to Medieval Spain with his two wives, exploring questions about morality, character, codes of human conduct etc.