

Israel Has Moved by Diana Pinto.
Harvard University Press 2013.

Diana Pinto describes herself as 'an intellectual historian and policy analyst', but she is also a geo-political sociologist of considerable renown; and she brings all her analytical and experiential skills to bear on her latest book, *Israel Has Moved*, which is an absolute tour de force.

Israel Has Moved is Pinto's careful, honest, balanced and truthful consideration of the existential situation of the Jewish State in the early 21st century. It is at once forensically accurate and rhapsodically lyrical, deeply serious and very funny, (though the humour is of an observational kind), extremely shrewd and occasionally hopeful.

The book is composed of ten chapters, sandwiched between an Introduction and an Epilogue: *The Intergalactic Café, or Ben-Gurion Airport; The Two Roads to Jerusalem; The Lesson from East Talpiot; In the Eye of Storm; Rooted Utopias; The Aquarium; The Bubble; The Tent; Between Memory and Memory Chip; Stargate.*

Pinto gaze roams across Israel (and the Occupied Territories), exploring all of the key facets of its troubled modern existence, their contradictions, threats and opportunities. She points up the recalibration of Israel's focus from the United States and Europe to the Far East, a region where Israel's economic impact and political opportunities will grow as the importance of the former irrevocably decline.

This is a deeply thought-provoking book, and one who's literary quality and perfectly observed contents destine it to be a classic of its kind.

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh