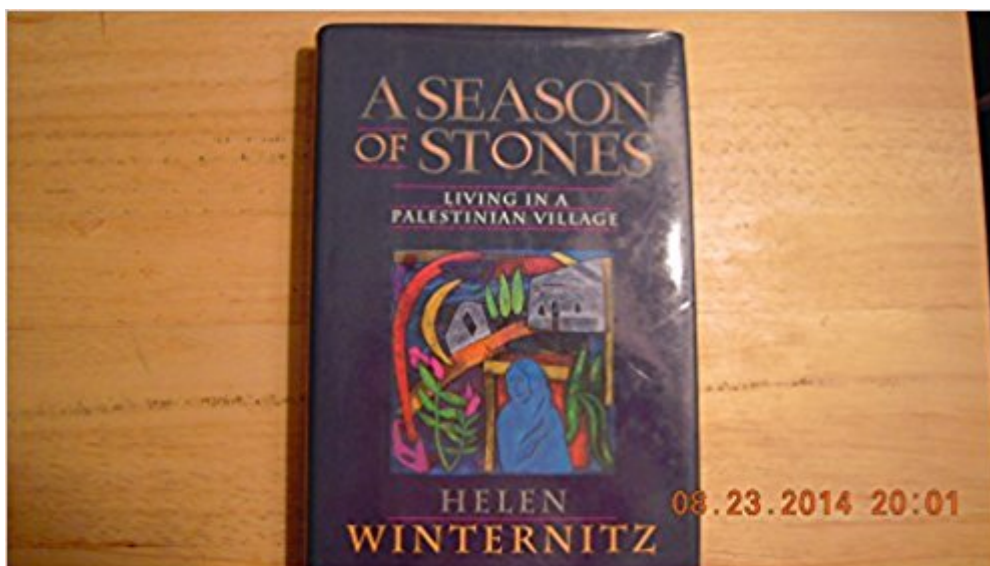


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A Season Of Stones: Living In A Palestinian Village



Synopsis

Book by Winternitz, Helen

Book Information

Hardcover: 303 pages

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Customer Reviews

Intrepid American journalist Winternitz (*East Along the Equator*) writes compellingly of her experiences during a year (1988) spent with families in the ancient West Bank village of Nahalin. Although some accused her of being a spy, she was accepted by the women whose dangers and daily hardships she shared as, with growing dread, she watched and recorded, the mounting tension between the Israeli military and intifada resisters. Confiscation of the villagers' land for subsidized Israeli settlements was accompanied by arrests and torture of members of a family she had come to know intimately, and whom she visited in prison camp as their "relative." With curfews imposed, schools closed and travel restricted, frustrated teenagers joined the intifada and were among the casualties in an unprovoked, village-wide raid by border police during Ramadan. Overnight, once-remote Nahalin became front-page news around the world as a symbol of the Palestinian struggle for freedom. As Winternitz was leaving, her friends begged her to write "that we want peace." Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Moving to a Palestinian village on the West Bank in 1988 gave Winternitz an opportunity to watch the intifada unfold and to observe Israeli soldiers and international journalists intrude on what had been a quiet backwater. A local extended family welcomed her with their traditional dignity and warmth until the tempo of village life changed drastically under the pressure of Israeli army occupation and harassment, the increasing resistance of the village youth, and the relentless

construction of an Israeli housing project. Growing political tension erupted in an armed military assault that left several villagers dead, others wounded, and the whole community devastated by anger and despair. Although the author's style is sometimes intrusive, she skillfully conveys the human character of the village and the realities driving the Palestinians to fury and rebellion. This book complements Michael Gorkin's *Days of Honey, Days of Onion* (LJ 9/15/91), whose focus on an Israeli Arab village emphasizes social and cultural qualities in contrast to the more political approach here. Both are recommended.- Elizabeth R. Hayford, *Associated Colls. of the Midwest*, Chicago
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An American woman who chose to live in a Palestinian village during the intifada. Remarkable.

This book, although written a decade ago, is an insider's prescient account of how Hamas was born on the West Bank and why. It also is a terrific read, with true literary quality. Almost like a novel. And enlightening for policymakers and anyone else trying to understand the fundamentals of the Middle East.

This book is astounding, a great read that also teaches you more than you can believe about life and history and politics in the heart of the West Bank. Read it and you will be a wiser person and have a good time too.

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This book is astounding, a great read that also teaches you more than you can believe about life and history and politics in the heart of Africa. Read it and you will be a wiser person and have a good time too.

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