



40 years of radical publishing / **Press Release**

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Shattered Hopes

Obama's Failure to Broker Israeli-Palestinian Peace

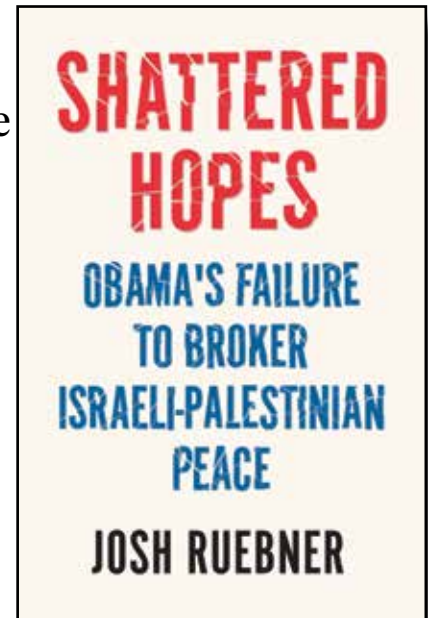
by JOSH RUEBNER

A hard-hitting critique of the Obama administration's failure in the Middle East, by a leading DC-based advocate.

"Josh Ruebner has offered a badly needed contribution to a discussion that is all too often suppressed in the mainstream media." - **Bill Fletcher, Jr., writer/activist, immediate past president of TransAfrica Forum**

"This is an essential contribution to the subject. Josh has been spearheading efforts for an even-handed U.S. policy for a dozen years, and has an intimate knowledge of how the administration and Congress work as well as unparalleled expertise on U.S. aid to Israel." - **Nadia Hijab, author and media commentator, as well as cofounder and director of Al-Shabaka: The Palestinian Policy Network**

- *Shattered Hopes* is available for excerpt
- Josh Ruebner is available for interview



On just the second day of his first term, Barack Obama appointed former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell as his special envoy for Middle East peace and boldly asserted that his administration would "actively and aggressively seek a lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians." Though Obama possessed both good intentions and an understanding of the Israel-Palestine conflict more nuanced than any of his predecessors', his once-coherent strategy quickly veered off-course. Far from being an "honest broker" for a just peace, the Obama administration has only enabled Israel's oppression of the Palestinians.

At the outset of Obama's second term, here is the first hard-hitting analysis of why the administration has entirely failed on this issue—in part because of Obama's wrongheaded obeisance to Israeli policy and its US advocates. Though Obama had expressed sympathy for the Palestinians' plight early in his career, the 2012 US Presidential election saw the two candidates crassly vying to outdo one another in expressing unconditional support for Israel. Yet despite the strength of the Israel lobby, Ruebner argues that the growing numbers of Americans who are dissatisfied with their government's policies towards Israel-Palestine can exert pressure and create real change.

Written in a clear and accessible style by a former Middle East analyst for the Congressional Research Service and current director of a national peace and justice organization, this book offers an informed history of the Obama administration's policies and maps out a progressive path forward.

JOSH RUEBNER is the National Advocacy Director of the US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation. He founded and directed Jews for Peace in Palestine and Israel, which merged with Jewish Voice for Peace. Ruebner also worked for the Congressional Research Service, a governmental agency providing members of Congress with policy analysis. He lives in Washington, DC.

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