The first full-length study of the birth of the Palestinian refugee problem. Based on recently declassified Israeli, British and American state and party political papers and on hitherto untapped private papers, this book traces the stages of the 1947 â€“ 9 exodus against the backdrop of the first Arab-Israeli war and analyses the varied causes of the flight. The Jewish and Arab decision-making involved, on national and local levels, military and political, is described and explained, as is the crystallization of Israelâ€™s decision to bar refugee repatriation. The subsequent fate of the abandoned Palestinian refugees leaving the Galilee in October â€“ November 1948. Clickable map of the depopulated locations â€“ i.e. the source of the refugees. The 1948 Palestinian exodus, also known as the Nakba (Arabic: ٠٩٠٨٠٧٠٨٠، al-Nakbah, literally "disaster", "catastrophe", or "cataclysm"),[1] occurred when more than 700,000 Palestinian Arabs â€“ about half of prewar Palestine's Arab population â€“ fled or were expelled from their homes, during the 1948 Palestine war.[2] Between 400 and 600 Palestinian villages were sacked during the war, while urban. The history of the Palestinian exodus is closely tied to the events of the war in Palestine, which lasted from 1947 to 1949, and to the political events preceding it. Gelber, Yoav Palestine 1948, War Escape, and the Emergence of the Palestinian Refugee Problem, Brighton, Sussex Academic Press, 2001. Gelber, Yoav (Heb.) Independence and Nakba (forthcoming) (Chapter 15). Lorch, Netanel, The Edge of the Sword, Israel's War of Independence, 1947â€“1949, revised ed., Jerusalem, Masada Press, 1968. Masalha, Nur, Expulsion of the Palestinians, The Concept of Transfer in Zionist Political Thought, 1882â€“1948, Washington DC, Institute for Palestine Studies, 1992. Masalha, Nur â€“ A Critique of Benny Morrisâ€™, Journal of Palestine Studies 81, Vol. X, 1991. Masalha, Nur â€“ The Historical Roots of the Palestinian Refugee Question,â€™ in Naseer Aruri, ed., Palestinian Refugees, the Right of Return, London, Pluto Press, 2001.