

Deportation, Exile and Internment: The Irgun and Stern Gang's Members in Detention Camps in Africa, 1944-48

Yoav Alon (DPhil Oxon) is a professor in the Department of Middle Eastern and African History at Tel Aviv University. He wrote his doctoral thesis at Oxford University on the creation of the modern Jordanian state under the British mandate, and the integration of the tribal population into the modern structures of the new state (2001). Professor Alon is the author of *The Making of Jordan: Tribes, Colonialism and the Modern State* (London: I.B. Tauris, 2007). His second book, *The Shaykh of Shaykhs: Mithqal al-Fayiz and Tribal Leadership in Modern Jordan* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2016), is the 2017 IPPY Award Gold Medallist in the World History category.

Abstract: During 1944-1947, the British government of Palestine exiled 439 members of the Irgun Zvai Leumi and Lehi, whom it viewed as dangerous terrorists, and detained them in East Africa. After the establishment of the state of Israel, they returned and many became central figures in the Herut and later Likud parties, boasting one prime minister, several ministers, and members of parliament. The deportation of Jewish militiamen and their exile is a fascinating historical episode that has been hardly explored by scholars. The lecture will explore how the detainees coped with this daunting experience of internment and exile and briefly touch upon the legacies of this affair.

**Thursday, 8 June 2023
6–7 pm (UK time)**

**This lecture will be a hybrid session which will be accessible both online
(see below) and in person in the Catherine Lewis Lecture Room
(refreshments to follow)**

No need to register if attending in person.

In order to participate in this lecture online, please register at this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0udOyoqjMiE9Yt03iel2j7iWvEmU8GYN4P>