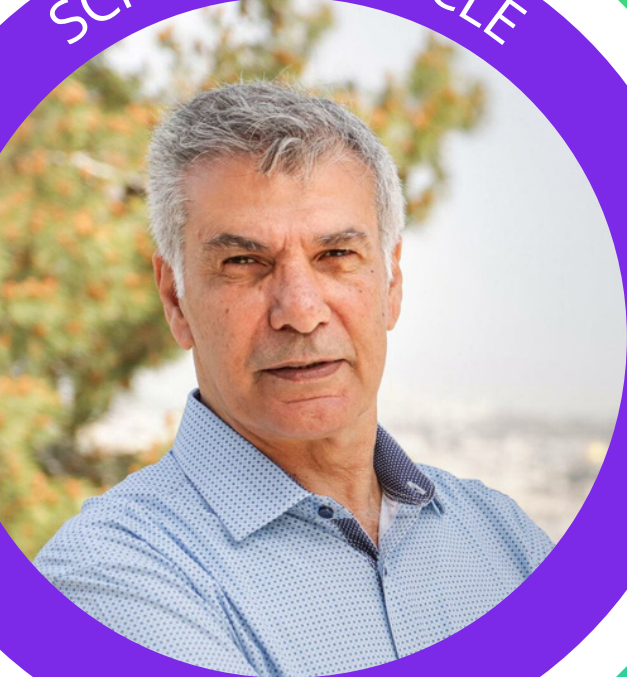


Scholars Circle Resource Guide

Double-sided

Regional Voices Often Missing from Western Conversations

SCHOLARS CIRCLE



Avi Melamed

Avi Melamed is a geopolitical Middle East expert, intelligence analyst, former Israeli intelligence official, and Senior Advisor on Arab Affairs. Uniquely positioned at the intersection of intelligence, diplomacy, policy, and education, he brings decades of firsthand regional experience to his analysis of the Middle East.

Fluent in Hebrew, Arabic, and English, Avi is a frequent commentator across leading Arabic-, English-, and Hebrew-language media platforms, offering nuanced perspectives grounded in deep regional expertise and on-the-ground insight.

Avi is the Founder and Chief Educational Officer of Inside The Middle East (ITME), a U.S.-based nonprofit. ITME provides apolitical Middle East education, uses intelligence methodology to teach critical thinking and media literacy, and incorporates voices from the region absent from Western discourse – contextualizing Israel within its broader regional environment.

He is the author of three books on the Middle East, including Inside the Middle East: Entering a New Era. Avi is also the creator, producer, and host of The Seam Line, a docuseries exploring the conflict in and over Jerusalem, and The Primer (currently in production), a film grounded in regional voices and on-the-ground reporting that examines the deeper forces shaping the Middle East beyond conventional Western narratives.

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Avi Melamed Contact Info

Facebook: [@InsideTheMiddleEast](https://www.facebook.com/InsideTheMiddleEast)

Website: insidethemiddle-east.com

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Resources

The Resistance:

<https://tinyurl.com/44rjaen8> "Disarmament is the disarmament of political existence", Adel Samir (Iraqi)

<https://tinyurl.com/4e9napxd> 'Ashura's, the sadness and the Resistance: "Between Al Hussein's heritage and current Lebanon", Dr. Hussein al Akhras (Lebanese)

Imperialism:

[... حرروا الجيوش العربية أولا قبل تحرير الأوطان؟ \(arabi21.com\)](https://arabi21.com) "Before the liberation of our nations liberate the Arab armies", Dr. Faisal al Qasem (Syrian)

[أسطورة العدو الخارجي ... \(arabi21.com\)](https://arabi21.com) "The Legend of the external enemy", Dr. Mohammed Hnid (Tunisian)

Steadfast (Sumud):

<https://elaph.com/Web/opinion/2025/10/1580844.html> " Hamas is losing the street's support", Ahmed Abdul Wahab (Egyptian)

<https://elaph.com/Web/opinion/2025/03/1563346.html> "Migration from Gaza: Realities, Challenges, and Potential Destinations", Amina Khalifa (Egyptian)

Fellowship, Voices From The Middle East | About The Middle East

For Undergraduate and Graduate Students and Young Leaders up to 30 years old.

<https://insidethemiddle-east.com/itme-fellowship-fall-2026/>

Key Takeaways

- ✓ To understand Israel, the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, and the Palestinians, we must understand the Middle East.
- ✓ The narratives, slogans, and public discourse in the West have a direct impact on what happens in the Middle East.
- ✓ To positively impact the reality in the region you must have a nuanced perspective - not a superficial, narrative, slogan based understanding.
- ✓ To understand the region, it is important to look for experts, perspectives, and voices that are not part of traditional legacy and online media.
- ✓ Authentic education is not telling people what to think; the essence of education is teaching people how to think.

The views expressed by the speaker don't necessarily reflect Chai Mitzvah's official position.

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