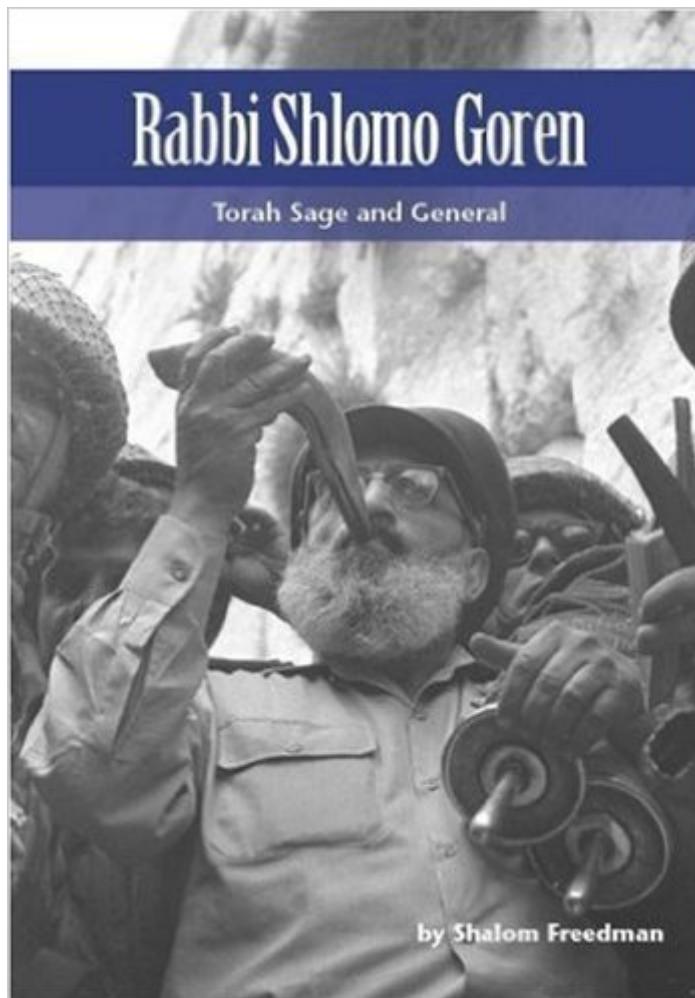


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Rabbi Shlomo Goren: Torah Sage And General (Modern Jewish Lives)



Synopsis

Documenting the unique and unforgettable contribution he made to the Jewish people, this biography of Chief Rabbi Brigadier-General Shlomo Goren details the life and legacy of the first chief rabbi of the Israeli army. From his childhood smuggling of arms for the Haganah to serving as a sniper in the War of Independence, and from the dangerous task of retrieving bodies from the field of battle behind enemy lines to the role he played in the recapturing of the Old City, the Western Wall, and the Temple Mount during the Six-Day War, the book emphasizes Gorenâ™s importance to the physical defense of Israel. Beyond that, however, it also highlights his pioneering work in Jewish law and his monumental scholarship on the Jerusalem Talmud and a number of aspects of Jewish life, revealing another facet of a man who embodied the ancient ideal of being both a great Jewish scholar and a remarkable soldier in the service of God and the Jewish people.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a small introductory work about one of the most important religious figures of modern Israel. Rabbi Shlomo Goren was both a great scholar and central figure in the Army of Israel. He was a person of extraordinary personal courage who time and again risked his life for the well-being of the people of Israel. He did this both on the battlefield of the War of Independence and on the ramparts in the War of Attrition in 1970. His famous charge to the Temple Mount and Western Wall in the Sixty-seven war is part of Israeli legend. He is considered one of the pioneering Poskim (Religious decisors) in areas as diverse as medical ethics and the release of 'agunot'. This book is a small one

divided into two parts the first telling of the life of Rabbi Goren. The second is devoted to his thought. The hope was that this would inspire further researches including more detailed and comprehensive ones which would do justice to this remarkable Jewish leader.

The cover of this book is a photograph worth 5,000 words, for it announces the importance of Rabbi Goren, as he blew the Shofar at the Western Wall upon the liberation of Jerusalem on June 7, 1967. And the cover photograph is a wonderful beginning, for the book is an excellent biography of a very interesting and important Israeli Rabbi. The 215 page book is composed of 74 chapters--as these numbers suggest, short and simple enough that even a middle school student would find them interesting and accessible. Rabbi Goren was a Torah scholar and General who reached out to Jewish people of all denominations, and who emphasized the importance of joining the Jewish people together as one, in the land of Israel. He argued that it was a mistake to create a religious ghetto within Israel, and a mistake to create a religious ghetto within the Defense Forces. Rabbi Goren was both a man of study and a man of action, who fought courageously during Israel's war for Independence and was often on the battlefield in the many wars that followed. Rabbi Goren spent his life searching for a common cause and meaning amongst the Jewish people of Israel. May he rest in peace, and may his spirit give strength to all of us.

Some of the stories are inspiring but the problem is the repetition. The author repeats the same story from chapter to chapter, sometimes just a few pages apart. Remove the repetition and improve the writing style to be above that of junior high school level and you might have a book but its doubtful.

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