

## AVI MELAMED | Geopolitical Briefings / Lectures / Seminars / Courses / Workshops / Programs |

INDOOR in Israel or anywhere in the world in-person OR on Zoom 1 to 1 ½ hours (including Briefing and Q & A)

Appropriate for Individuals and Groups of all ages and backgrounds

## **AUGUST 2024 UPDATED**

#### INSIDE THE MIDDLE EAST | NAVIGATING THROUGH THE STORM TO THE HORIZON'S EDGE [1 SESSION or a SERIES]

As the Middle East navigates a storm of unprecedented challenges, we stand at a pivotal juncture that will define the future of Israel, the Palestinians, and the entire region. As the world grapples with escalating conflict, understanding the core issues becomes vital. In this critical briefing, we will delve deep into the forces driving these turbulent times, unravel the intricate complexities beneath the surface, look at "the day after," and assess the far-reaching implications for both the region, and the world. By connecting the dots between past and present and all figures and forces, we'll guide you from the eye of the storm to the horizon's edge, offering clarity and context to help you navigate the rapidly unfolding events.

#### ISRAEL AT WAR | A PIVOTAL MOMENT FOR THE MIDDLE EAST [1 SESSION or a SERIES]

The current war between Israel and Hamas is a defining moment in the Middle East. As the world grapples with the escalating conflict, understanding the core issues becomes vital. Are we fully aware of what fuels this war? What led us to this critical juncture? What does "the day after" look like? What implications does it hold for Israel? What implications does it hold for the Palestinians? What implications does it hold for the region? What are the lessons for the West? In order to understand Israel, you must understand the Middle East. In this unique briefing, we will unravel the complexities of this critical chapter to help you connect the dots and build a three-dimensional picture of the rapidly unfolding events in the region and how they impact Israel.

#### ISRAEL'S NORTHERN FRONT | The Iranian Corridor & The Shi'ite Crescent [1 SESSION]

In 2004, King Abdullah II of Jordan warned about the dangers of the Iranian Shi'ite Crescent and Iran's imperialistic ambitions. The backbone is a network of armed agents and proxies. In the 21st Century, Iran has made significant progress toward fulfilling its goal of being the dominant regional superpower. For the last decade, Iran has been building an Iranian-controlled Land Corridor from Iran through Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon to the Mediterranean Sea. This land bridge is the most significant military threat Israel is facing. Therefore, Israel has vowed it will do whatever it takes to prevent Iran from securing the corridor. What is the crescent? What is the corridor? What threat does it hold for Israel and the region? What must be done to ensure it does not materialize? What are the risks if it does? This briefing explores all of this and more.

### THE GAZA STRIP & ISRAEL | WHAT FUELS THE CONFLICT? [1 SESSION]

The Middle East is a link of chains. What happens in one area impacts what happens in another. And what happens in the Middle East Does Not Stay in the Middle East. This briefing takes you beyond the headlines and behind the scenes for a holistic understanding of the layers of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We will zoom in and zoom out as we explore the Gaza Strip and the Middle East. How do domestic and regional events throughout history – until today – impact the Palestinians' lives in Gaza and Israelis near and far from Gaza? What can be done to create a better reality for Israelis and Palestinians? This session is critical for anyone who wants to advance a constructive, productive, and sustainable framework that can improve the lives of Israelis and Palestinians.

## INSIDE THE MIDDLE EAST | ENTERING A NEW ERA | BRIEFING BASED ON MY LATEST BOOK [1 – 10 SESSIONS]

The Middle East is in a new era, both defined by and as a result of a combination of ancient & modern domestic, regional, and international processes. This briefing, mini-seminar, or course pulls back the curtain, challenges widely accepted Western narratives, and unveils perspectives often overshadowed in global discourse. We will unravel the ambitions of Iran and Turkey - ancient foes and aspiring global powers. We will understand their roles in shaping the trajectory of events from the Gulf to the Mediterranean and beyond. We'll delve into the reverberations of the Arab Spring, the path to the Abraham Accords, and the impact of the realignment of the geostrategic interests of global and regional powerhouses. How do all these multiple threads weave together to impact Israel's geopolitical environment, its geostrategic posture - and shape a region that continually molds global destiny? This briefing builds a multidimensional picture of the Middle East today and provides an unparalleled foundation for navigating the events of tomorrow.



# NORMALIZATION, PEACE & ISRAEL'S GEOSTRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT | THE ROAD TO THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS & THE PATH AHEAD [1 SESSION]

The Abraham Accords – the peace treaty between Israel and the UAE; the Declaration of Intent signed by Bahrain and Israel; and the Normalization agreements between Israel and Sudan and Morocco change the Middle East's geopolitical map. What led to the Accords? How does the war impact Israel's old and new peace treaties and normalization agreements? How does it impact Israel's relations with the Arab world? What is the Arab world saying about the war? Where are we going?

### THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT | BUILD YOUR DATABASE [1 – 2 SESSIONS]

Building and/or strengthening your Israeli-Palestinian conflict lexicon is critical to understanding Israel, Palestine, and the Middle East. A true understanding of this complex, dynamic, evolving, and multilayered conflict is not only crucial for understanding Israel and Palestine today. More critically, this mini-seminar offers a framework for constructive, productive, and unifying conversations that can bridge differing and opposing views.

## THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT | A VIEW FROM THE REGION - HOW THE MIDDLE EAST SHAPES THE CONFLICT [8 – 10 SESSIONS]

A conventional narrative in the West is the "Israeli-Palestinian Conflict shapes the geopolitics of the Middle East" & "solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will bring peace to the Middle East. "Both theories are inaccurate - and, to a large extent, counterproductive. The reality is the other way around. The Middle East impacts the trajectory of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This course explores how events & developments in the Middle East shape the course of the conflict and offers a platform for productive, out-of-the-box thinking that could provide Israelis and Palestinians with a constructive breakthrough from the depressing and vicious cycle in which they are caught.

**INSIDE THE MIDDLE EAST** | **THE PRIMER** [FILM & DISCUSSION BASED ON MY UPCOMING DOCUMENTARY] [1 SESSION or a SERIES] a film designed to provide an understanding of the underlying factors that have shaped, shape, and will shape the region. It equips diverse audiences, regardless of their current level of knowledge, with vital education through a combination of on-the-ground filming and authentic voices from the Arab and Muslim world that are often absent in Western discourse. This engaging, enlightening, and entertaining journey delves into the story behind the headlines, offering a comprehensive perspective on the complexities of the Middle East.

## שלש (KAV HA TEFER | קו התפר | THE SEAM LINE AVI MELAMED'S JERUSALEM | LIVING ON THE EDGE OF ETERNITY [FILM & DISCUSSION BASED ON MY JERUSALEM DOCUMENTARY] | [1 – 10 SESSIONS]

Avi Melamed was the Advisor on Arab Affairs to two Jerusalem Mayors during one of the most violent and chaotic chapters in the history of Jerusalem – the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Intifada. In this <u>five-part documentary</u>, Avi returns to many of the locations that were in the eye of the storm – the Old City of Jerusalem and Palestinian and Jewish neighborhoods in the New City. The people Avi meets – the Arabs and Jews he has conversations with and the experiences, stories, and lessons Avi shares from his unique first-hand perspectives, can provide the basis for a new discussion regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and can be relevant to conflicts around the world.

## INSIDE THE MIDDLE EAST | INTELLIGENCE PERSPECTIVES [ITME] COURSE | THE ORIGINAL [MULTIPLE SESSIONS]

Avi Melamed is the Founder of Inside the Middle East: Intelligence Perspectives [ITME]. An experiential educational curriculum and program he designed during his tenure as Fellow of Intelligence and Middle East Affairs at the Eisenhower Institute in Washington, DC. ITME is an empowering practical educational curriculum teaching critical analysis in an innovative and engaging fashion. The distinct ITME praxis (which provides the base for all ITME programming) provides an apolitical, non-partisan education about the contemporary Middle East and uses Intelligence Methodology to teach Critical Thinking and Media Literacy. The ITME curriculum transforms students and practitioners into knowledgeable, media-literate, critical thinkers. The program in its entirety is a full year (with or without a trip to the Middle East), but it can be adapted to a semester, week, few days, day, or half-day.

<sup>\*\*</sup>All our educational activities are not "static" academic lectures. Each includes the most up-to-date information and analysis\*\*