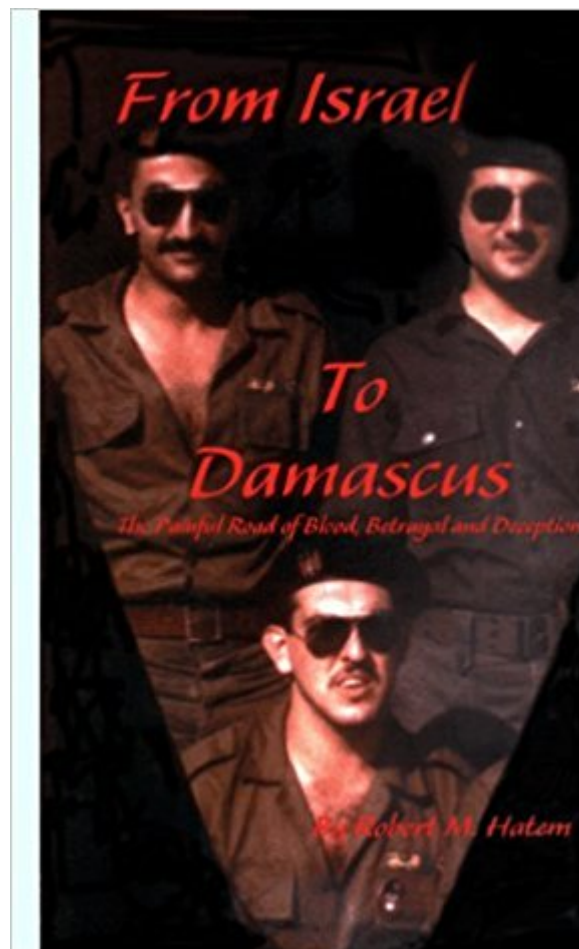




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# From Israel To Damascus : The Painful Road Of Blood, Betrayal And Deception



## Synopsis

From Israel to Damascus. The painful Road of Blood, Betrayal and Deception. This book has been written by Robert Maroun Hatem, known as Cobra. Cobra currently resides in France as a political refugee. In pursuit of honor, justice, and a free morale, Robert Maroun Hatem, broke the code of silence about the unacceptable, the world of tragedy, corruption, crime and darkness under which Lebanon exists (today).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In this book which has been banned in Lebanon and is the cause of much controversy in Lebanon and abroad, Cobra writes his story about the part he played with Elie Hobeika. known as "H.K." and his rise to power in the Lebanese government. Cobra's story depicts how Hobeika planned to destroy Lebanon, so he could rise to power and how he became Minister of Lebanon today and what part Cobra played in assisting Hobeika in his rise to power. This book describes how money, crime and self interest have taken control of modern Lebanese politics. Cobra reveals the deadly truth, to let the people know what happened behind the scenes, in order that the Lebanese people might one day save what is left of Lebanon and judge Cobra for his acts accordingly. Cobra writes: "When we took up arms in the beginning of this political war it was for the survival of Lebanon. We did not take up arms to bring gangsters to power, but it happened". "The United States is a superpower that protects the weak nations of the world defending Freedom and Democracy. Do not forget Lebanon. Today, Syria is ruling Lebanon through terrorism. The Syrians have killed most of its leaders through assassination and car bombs, exiled some of the leaders and jailed what remained of the leaders which posed a threat to them. They imposed their candidates into

Lebanon's politics so they can govern it for ever and make it part of Greater Syria. I decided to expose my story so everyone will know that Freedom and Democracy does not currently exist in Lebanon". Cobra dedicates the book to his friends who lost their lives during the war. -- From the Publisher

Great

The problem with this book is its author. Robert Hatem, who goes by his nom de guerre Cobra, was once member of one of the many warring Lebanese tribal mafias who - along with his former boss and warlord Elie Hobeika - committed the worst of acts during the Lebanese civil war. When Cobra fell out with his boss, he wrote this book which looks more like a book of confession and repentance. Now since Cobra is no writer, and since whoever took down his memoirs wrote them in bad unpunctuated English with wrong dates and spelling, the book should not be treated as a reference in its domain. True that the author has been a witness to most of the events that he cites, yet an undermining tone in this book makes it sound like cheap propaganda in which Cobra tries often to provoke his Christian compatriots by claiming that the reason for his breakup with his master was because Hobeika had abandoned the "Christian cause" in Lebanon. Now why did Cobra breakup with Hobeika more than a decade after Hobeika's betrayal in 1985 is a case in point and undermines the credibility of the author. Perhaps, the breakup was nothing more than one of the many mafia style breakups that took place among the Lebanese warlords and their gangs. Hobeika himself was killed in 2002. Cobra's book was banned in Lebanon. It contains a host of names and details of corruption and fraud from behind the Lebanese political mafia scenes. Whether Cobra's claims can be verified or not is hard to determine. However, his account should be taken as one point of view on these issues.

The book is written in poor English. When you access it to grasp the head of its principles, you will soon be disappointed to discover you have only the feet. Living the episodes described in this book was more electrifying. The author has waved before our dazzled eyes 'events couched in blood' and you can never appreciate their importance or understand the meanings of their contents unless you have actually lived the profound effect of such eventualities to the limit, up to the extremes of human endurance. Internecine fighting in the Lebanon has indeed been sad, futile, and mutually destructive. Much of it (not all) was based on the dogmatic judgement of what the strategy of 'fight' - between bothers - was all about ..... determined to march against the 'enemy' without hesitation.....

but!!! Which enemy???The interests of Lebanon was occasionally forgotten, abandoned, discarded and the irony of the matter is that everyone thought , by fierceness and ferocity, they were virtually preserving Lebanon's interests

This book reveals the extent of the appalling behavior of a leader who, instead of serving his country and his people, never hesitated to endanger them in order to serve his own selfish interest. Although many of us Lebanese had suspected this all along, it is good to have it reported so clearly and unambiguously by R. Hatem in his book. It takes a lot of courage to say the truth. I commend the author for the courage he demonstrates. Reading this book is a must to all those concerned with Lebanon's fate. Most readers who followed the events that led to Lebanon's pathetic current state of affairs will feel horrified and disgusted. They will know, deep in their hearts, that most of what is told in this book is true. Let the truth be known! And let's hope to see all those who abused their country and people held accountable, and brought to justice someday. It is undoubtedly true that many of our miseries are attributable to the Israeli-Arab conflict, and to Syria's ambition on Lebanon. It is also sadly true that it is our "leaders" carelessness, recklessness, and selfishness that played in their hands and made all this possible. Although the book focuses on H.K.'s significant case, he is only one example among many who deserve to be prosecuted for their crimes and deeds. Let's pray for Lebanon to be served better in the future, by leaders more scrupulous and genuinely trying to better serve their country and their people. Let's hope for free elections someday. This book would have served its purpose when the country's situation improves, along with the quality and accountability of its officials.

Finally a book by "insider" that shows how we, the Lebanese Christians, always prided ourselves to be "so good" end-up being "so stupid". Being "puppets" either to the Israelis or to the Syrians. If we don't do what they tell us, we LET them kill us. They use the classical "divide and conquer" and we don't even realize it. Cobra deserve the credit for coming forward to make us realize what happened, but truly he deserve NO RESPECT for naming the Ladies who go raped, or for naming people based on "hear say". yet he is SO INNOCENT, killed, raped, stole and got paid for it!!!! Top it off, he never seeks remorse for his actions and yet blames everybody for his misery. truly typical lebanese. All Lebanese MUST read the book not only the christians, to realize that we, as Lebanese, were so stupid to let others manipulate us that way. come-on we laugh at the syrians for being so d----- yet we are the one. we had everything and threw it away. We distroyed the idea, independence, that we worked so hard to achieve, prefer to be under french rule than israeli or

syrian. and the best part is that we are not doing any thing about it just complaining and blaming others. we let them divide us, kill us, control our daily lives. when the chickens invite the wolf to their hen, they can't complain of foul play that he is eating them.

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