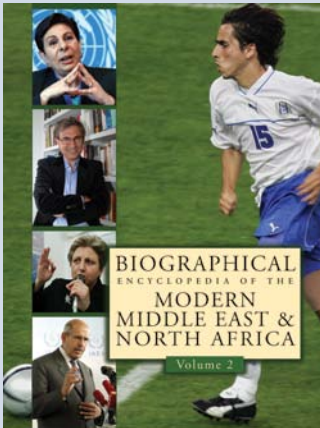


# Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East @ North Africa



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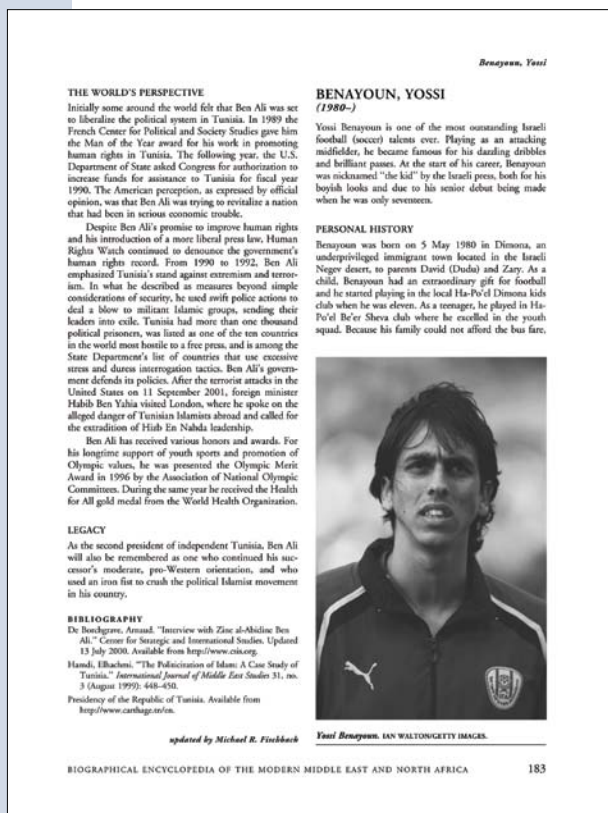
Specifically designed to offer insight into the people and culture of the Middle East, the *Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East @ North Africa* explores the lives of the most influential figures in the region who came to prominence during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Offering signed biographies on more than 300 notable individuals from the region — from Mauritania in the west to Afghanistan in the east and with an emphasis on contemporary figures — the encyclopedia reveals the true human vibrancy of one of the oldest, most fascinating, yet least understood regions of the world.

## FOCUSES ON A BROAD RANGE OF CONTEMPORARY FIGURES

Covering the influential as well as the controversial figures from the region, the *Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East @ North Africa* includes individuals from a range of fields — those in business, law, science, social science, sports, the arts and many other areas of endeavor. Researchers will find entries on hip-hop singers, Olympic athletes, writers and fashion designers as well as politicians, militants and clerics. Also, special attention is paid to the inclusion of women, commonly underrepresented in biographical works on the Middle East.

Profiles in the *Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East @ North Africa* include:

- Tahar Ben Jelloun (Moroccan writer)
- Ehud Olmert (Israeli prime minister)
- Moussa Ould Ebnou (Mauritanian writer)
- Anwar Gargash (United Arab Emirates businessman)
- Ibrahim Humeidi (Syrian journalist)
- Abdullah II bin Hussein (Jordanian king)
- Kamala Ishaq (Sudanese artist)
- Hamid Karzai (Afghan politician)
- Ibrahim al-Kawni (Libyan writer)
- Mahmoud Messadi (Tunisian writer)
- Husni Mubarak (Egyptian politician)
- Mawza bint Nasir al-Misnad (Qatari activist)
- Farhad Nasher (Afghan singer)
- Orphan Pamuk (Turkish writer)
- Shahrnush Parsipur (Iranian writer)
- Ilan Ramon (Israeli astronaut)
- Cheikha Rimitti (Algerian singer)
- Güler Sabancı (Turkish businesswoman)
- Khadija al-Salami (Yemeni filmmaker)
- Ali Salman (Bahraini politician/religious figure)
- Shirin Ebadi (Iranian activist)
- Ovadia Yosef (Israeli religious leader)
- Omar bin Abd al-Munim Zawawi (Omani businessman)
- And many others



▲ An international group of experts contribute essays on newsmakers from the Middle East.

## INCLUDES ILLUMINATING SIDEBARS

Each biographical profile includes a bibliography of further reading sources for additional information, including relevant Web sites. Many entries also contain a "Contemporaries" section highlighting individuals that were contemporaries of the main subject, as well as sections containing quotations and other primary source excerpts. Various "Exploring" sections throughout the encyclopedia invite readers to think and study further about issues and topics relating to the entries. In addition, helpful tools such as a chronology of events in the Middle East during modern times, a pronunciation guide, portraits and subject and nationality/ethnicity indexes are part of the set. This invaluable resource was compiled by an international group of leading experts and academics from around the globe. Contributors come from a range of backgrounds and countries, including North America, Europe, Turkey, Iran, Israel and other Arab countries. The resulting entries reflect the unique expertise of the contributors, all the while retaining an objective, non-polemical and non-partisan approach to often controversial and emotionally charged topics. This scholarly approach enables researchers to explore the range of issues related to the lives of those profiled and supports a multidisciplinary, dispassionate portrait of the region through the lives of its most notable people.

The *Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East & North Africa* broadens Gale's collection of encyclopedias on the Middle East, making it an excellent companion to Macmillan's *Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East & North Africa*, *Dictionary of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict* and the *Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World*.

## eBOOK FEATURES

The eBook version of *The Gale Encyclopedia of Senior Health: A Guide for Seniors and Their Care Givers* is fully searchable (keyword, article title, full-text, image captions) with other eBooks in the *Gale Virtual Reference Library* collection. Hyperlinks to individual entries will be provided from the table of contents, book index, list of illustrations and cross-references.

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<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Benayon, Yossi</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BIOGRAPHICAL HIGHLIGHTS</b></p> <p><b>Name:</b> Yossi Benayon</p> <p><b>Born:</b> 1976, Dimona, Israel</p> <p><b>Family:</b> Wife, Miri; Ben Yusef; one daughter, May.</p> <p><b>Nationality:</b> Israeli</p> <p><b>PERSONAL CHRONOLOGY:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1996: Voted MVP of the UEFA championship for youth under 16; joins the Ajax Amsterdam football academy</li> <li>• 1997-1998: Top scorer for Ha-Po'el Be'er Sheva, Israel</li> <li>• 1999: Transfers to Hails, becomes first Israeli footballer to play simultaneously in three national teams (senior, Olympic, and youth)</li> <li>• 2000-2001: Voted MVP of the Israeli league while playing for Maccabi Haifa</li> <li>• 2002: Transfers to Samseder</li> <li>• 2005: Transfers to West Ham; participates in the FA Cup final; nominated captain of the Israeli national team</li> </ul> </div> <p>Benayon and his father used to hitchhike from Dimona to Be'er Sheva almost on a daily basis.</p> <p>In September 1995, when Benayon was fifteen, he met Miri Ben Yusef, who later became his wife. The two studied together in the same class in high school. "After knowing her for only two days, and during her soccer, I told her that we would get married, be happy, and have kids together," Benayon recalled (Martin-Rosenberg, 2006).</p> <p>When Benayon was eighteen he joined the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF), as military service is mandatory in Israel. He served as a sports instructor in the army for three years. Because army service is flexible for professional athletes, Benayon's career as a footballer was not compromised and he continued to play in the Israeli league.</p> <p>Benayon and Ben Yusef married on 14 May 2002 in a lavish wedding that was covered extensively in the Israeli media. In November 2003 the couple's first child, May, was born in Spain, where they were living at the time. In the summer of 2005 the family moved to London, England.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>INFLUENCES AND CONTRIBUTIONS</b></p> <p>In May 1996 Benayon made his first impact in the world of professional football in the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) championship for youth under sixteen. Benayon led the Israeli team to the third place in the tournament, and was also voted most valued player (MVP) of the event. Consequently, he was invited to join the football academy of the renowned Dutch club Ajax Amsterdam.</p> <p>Benayon moved to the Netherlands with his family and girlfriend Miri, and was offered a four-year contract as a first team player. Meanwhile, his family returned to Israel, and Benayon, who felt homesick and lonely, declined the offer. He returned to Dimona after only eight months in Ajax, and the Israeli sports media criticized him for giving up on what was referred to as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.</p> <p>During the football season of 1997-1998, Benayon returned to Ha-Po'el Be'er Sheva's senior team and was their top scorer with fifteen goals. The club's survival in the top division came down to two matches on the final day of the league. In the last minute, a penalty for Be'er Sheva gave the club an opportunity to beat the rival team, Maccabi Haifa football club, but only seventeen-year-old Benayon was brave enough to take it. With eyes streaming down his face, he stepped up to the challenge. The goalkeeper blocked the kick, but Benayon followed up and kicked the rebounding ball straight into the net. Benayon collapsed in tears when news arrived that a hat goal in another game meant they would be relegated anyway.</p> <p>After that season, Benayon was transferred to Maccabi Haifa, where he played four consecutive seasons between 1998 and 2002. During these seasons the club won the national championship twice, and in his third season Benayon was voted MVP of the league.</p> <p><b>THE WORLD'S PERSPECTIVE</b></p> <p>Benayon left for Racing de Santander football club, a first division club in Spain after his success in Haifa. Benayon's high-quality performance helped to arrest the club's slide toward relegation, and he became one of the club's biggest stars and scorers.</p> <p>After three seasons in Santander Benayon decided it was time to move on, and in July 2005 he transferred to British West Ham United Football Club. The move was accompanied by criticism of the British Wanderers Football Club, who also held negotiations with Benayon for his transfer. With Benayon's contribution, West Ham finished fourth in the reportedly sixth place in 2005-2006 premier league season, and secured a place in the UEFA Cup as the runner-up group of the Football Association Challenge Cup (commonly known as the FA Cup).</p> <p>In conjunction with his international career, Benayon also became a key figure in the Israeli national</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ben Jelloun, Tahar</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BIOGRAPHICAL HIGHLIGHTS</b></p> <p><b>Name:</b> Tahar Ben Jelloun (also Tahar, Tahar Benjelloun)</p> <p><b>Born:</b> 1944, Fez, Morocco</p> <p><b>Family:</b> Wife and daughter</p> <p><b>Nationality:</b> Moroccan</p> <p><b>Education:</b> 1966-1968, Fez (Lice); 1963-1966, Mohammed VI University in Rabat (philosophy); 1971-1973, Ph.D., psychology, University of Paris</p> <p><b>PERSONAL CHRONOLOGY:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1974: Publishes first collection of poems, <i>Homages aux fleurs de silence</i> (Men under a cloud of silence)</li> <li>• 1972-1976: Correspondent for the French daily <i>Le Monde</i></li> <li>• 1978: Elected to Académie Mallarmé in Paris</li> <li>• 1987: Wins Prix Goncourt for <i>Le nuit noire</i> (The night black)</li> <li>• 1991: Wins Prix des Hémisphères for <i>Le jeu éternel</i> (With dominant eye)</li> <li>• 1994: Wins Prix Méditerranée for <i>L'homme simple</i> (Contempt) and Grand prix Émirate du Maghreb for reality of his work</li> <li>• 2004: Wins International IMPAC Dallah Literary Award for <i>Cinq ans après le silence de la nuit</i> (This blinding absence of light)</li> </ul> </div> <p>team. In 1999 he became the first Israeli footballer to play simultaneously in three national teams: senior, Olympic, and youth. During the World Cup 2006 qualifiers, Benayon became the leading player of the team after equalling against Cyprus at home and scoring twice against Switzerland. In the summer of 2006 Benayon became captain of the national team. "This is the biggest event, a tremendous achievement in my career," he later said of the nomination in the article "Benayon: Becoming Captain in the Biggest Achievement of My Career" on YNET.</p> <p><b>LEGACY</b></p> <p>Once doubted because of his slender physical appearance, Benayon has managed to surprise many football fans and critics with his agility and clever dribble. While his career is continuing to develop, Benayon has established himself as an international football player of exceptional flair, creativity, originality, and character.</p> <p><b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b></p> <p>"Benayon: Becoming Captain in the Biggest Achievement of My Career." YNET. Updated 13 August 2006. Available from <a href="http://www.ynet.co.il">http://www.ynet.co.il</a></p> <p>Bun, Jean. "Yossi Benayon: The Kid from the Neger Desert." <i>Infotrieve</i>, 24 September 2005.</p> <p>Deegan, Brian. "Benayon on Right Road." <i>Sunday Times</i>, 12 February 2006.</p> <p>Martin-Rosenberg, Orit. "Prime Yossi." <i>Le-Jour</i> (Paris), 27 November 2006.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Or Rosenbaum</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BIOGRAPHICAL HIGHLIGHTS</b></p> <p><b>Name:</b> Tahar Ben Jelloun (also Tahar, Tahar Benjelloun)</p> <p><b>Born:</b> 1944, Fez, Morocco</p> <p><b>Family:</b> Wife and daughter</p> <p><b>Nationality:</b> Moroccan</p> <p><b>Education:</b> 1966-1968, Fez (Lice); 1963-1966, Mohammed VI University in Rabat (philosophy); 1971-1973, Ph.D., psychology, University of Paris</p> <p><b>PERSONAL CHRONOLOGY:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1974: Publishes first collection of poems, <i>Homages aux fleurs de silence</i> (Men under a cloud of silence)</li> <li>• 1972-1976: Correspondent for the French daily <i>Le Monde</i></li> <li>• 1978: Elected to Académie Mallarmé in Paris</li> <li>• 1987: Wins Prix Goncourt for <i>Le nuit noire</i> (The night black)</li> <li>• 1991: Wins Prix des Hémisphères for <i>Le jeu éternel</i> (With dominant eye)</li> <li>• 1994: Wins Prix Méditerranée for <i>L'homme simple</i> (Contempt) and Grand prix Émirate du Maghreb for reality of his work</li> <li>• 2004: Wins International IMPAC Dallah Literary Award for <i>Cinq ans après le silence de la nuit</i> (This blinding absence of light)</li> </ul> </div> <p>atmosphere of his home, where devout Muslim parents raised him in a spirit of religious tolerance and freedom.</p> <p>In 1955 Ben Jelloun's parents moved to Tangier, and several of his works abundantly address, through fictionalized accounts and historical meditations, his authorial vision of the two cities. Ben Jelloun lived in Tangier until the age of eighteen. He has portrayed himself as a timid and staid adolescent whose passion for cinema—the films of John Ford, Howard Hawks, and Orson Welles, for instance—matured at that time. It is thus while still at his father's (high school) in Tangier, at the age of fourteen, that Ben Jelloun saw Alain Renais's <i>Night and Day</i> for the first time, an event instrumental in developing his own historical and philosophical comprehension of genocide. His <i>Love affair with cinema</i> also led</p>
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