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Rashid Khalidi has been the Edward Said Professor of Arab Studies in the Department of History at Columbia University since 2003. He received his B.A. from Yale University in 1970, and his D.Phil. from Oxford University in 1974. He taught at the Lebanese University, the American University of Beirut, Georgetown University, and then at the University of Chicago for 16 years. He is past President of the Middle East Studies Association, and was an advisor to the Palestinian delegation to the Madrid and Washington Arab-Israeli peace negotiations from October 1991 until June 1993. He is editor of the Journal of Palestine Studies.

Khalidi is the author of Sowing Crisis: American Dominance and the Cold War in the Middle East (2009); The Iron Cage: The Story of the Palestinian Struggle for Statehood (2006), which has been translated into French, Arabic and Hebrew; Resurrecting Empire: Western Footprints and America’s Perilous Path in the Middle East (2004), which has been translated into French, Italian and Spanish; Palestinian Identity: The Construction of Modern National Consciousness (1997), winner of the Middle East Studies Association’s Albert Hourani Prize as best book of 1997, and which has been translated into Arabic, French and Italian and was reissued with a new introduction in 2010; Under Siege: PLO Decision-making during the 1982 War (1986), which has been translated into Arabic and Hebrew; and British Policy towards Syria and Palestine, 1906-1914 (1980); and is co-editor of Palestine and the Gulf (1982) and The Origins of Arab Nationalism (1991). He has written over a hundred articles on aspects of Middle Eastern history.