Contents

Pr	eface	*,	V	ii
Ac	knowledgme	ents	X	V
Ta	ble of Case.	s	XX	i
Ta	ble of Legis	lation	XXV	ii
1.	Israel's	Constitutional History		1
	Part I:	History		1
		The Establishment of a 'Jewish State'		1
		The Declaration of Independence		4
	Part II:	From Parliamentary Sovereignty to a Limited		
		Legislature	12	2
		The Declaration of Independence as a		
		Constitutional Norm	12	2
		The Status of Basic Laws before 1992	1	7
	Part III:	The Constitutional Revolution	2.	5
		Basic Laws on Human Rights	2.	5
		The Bank <i>Hamizrahi</i> Decision: A 'Judge Made'		
		Constitution?	3	1
		Unresolved Constitutional Questions	30	6
		Conclusion: Does Israel Have a Written		
		Constitution?	39	
	Further 1	Reading	4	7
2.	Sources	of the Constitution	49	9
		Introduction	49	9
	Sources	of the Constitution	51	1
		Basic Laws and Legislation	51	1
		Interpretation	58	8
		Case Law	63	3
		International and Comparative Law	64	4
		Conclusion	68	3
		Further Reading	69	9
3.	Constitu	ational Principles	7:	1
		Introduction	7:	1

		'Jewish and Democratic'	72
		The Rule of Law	80
		Separation of Powers	83
		Independent Judiciary	87
	Further I	*	90
4.	Parliament: The Knesset		
		Introduction	93
	Part I:	Elections and the Role of Political Parties	94
		The Electoral System	94
		The Party System	98
		Disqualification of Political Parties	100
	Part II:	Composition and Privileges	109
		Composition	109
		The Political Mandate of MKs	110
		Parliamentary Immunity	113
	Part III:	The Legislative Process	120
		Bills	122
		Judicial Review of Parliamentary Proceedings	124
	Part IV:	The Knesset as Watchdog	128
		Questions and Committee Debates	128
		Parliamentary Commissions	129
		The Annual Budget	130
		Conclusion	131
	Further 1	Reading	131
5.	The Go	vernment and the Executive	133
		Introduction	133
	Part I:	The President of the State	134
		Presidential Powers	134
		Katzav: The Trial of an Acting President	136
	Part II:	The Government	138
		Formation and Working	138
		Elections and Government Formation	144
		The Rise and Fall of the Prime-Ministerial Regime	146
		Caretaker Government	148
		Responsibility and Accountability	150
		The Role of the Military	156
		The Civil Service	158
		Local Government	160

			Contents	xix
	Conclusio	on		163
	Further Reading			164
				101
6.	Watchdog Agencie			
	Introducti			167
		rney General		167
		Comptroller and Ombudsman		175
		ions of Inquiry		180
	The Medi	a		185
	NGOs			188
	Conclusio	on		189
	Further Reading			190
7.	The Constitutiona	al Role of Courts		193
	Introduct	ion		193
	The Cour	t System		194
		Court of Justice		196
		eview and Political Response		198
		and Justiciability		205
	Judicial A			211
	Conclusio			217
	Further Reading			219
0	Human Rights			221
8.	Human Rights Introduct	ion		221
				222
	Part I: Human R Foundation			222
				227
		ional Rights and their Limitations		228
		tation Clause		233
	Equality			235
	Gender			
		nation on Grounds of Sexual Orien	ntation	238
		Minority (Israeli Palestinians)		239
		evelopments in Human Rights: Fr	om the	244
		et to the Court	C	244
		ppied Territories and the War on T	error	249
		olved Conflict		249
	-	eme Court and National Security		251
	Conclusio	on		260
	Further Reading			261

Conclusion: The Future o	f the Isra	eli Constitution	263
Index			269