



HENRIQUE CYMERMAN

Born 23 March 1959 is an Israeli journalist of Portuguese and Spanish origin. Cymerman was born in Oporto, Portugal to a Portuguese father and a Spanish mother. He decided to move to Israel on his own at age 16. He graduated in Social Science at Tel Aviv University and holds a master's degree in the branches of Political Science and Labor Studies.



Henrique also worked as a correspondent for the Portuguese network SIC and has appeared on numerous occasions on the BBC, as well as in Israeli and Palestinian channels. He was the last person to interview former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, 24 hours before his assassination.

In June 2013, Henrique Cymerman had a meeting with Pope Francis in which he suggested the Pope visit the Holy Land. Pope Francis' journey to the Holy Land took place in May of 2014. Henrique Cymerman coauthored with Jorge Reis-Sá the book Francis: From Rome to Jerusalem (Guerra e Paz, Portugal, 2014), a book that narrates Pope Francis' journey to the Holy Land. Pope Francis called Henrique Cymerman "angel of peace" and presented him with a low relief engraving of the angel of peace defeating the demon of war for his help in making possible the encounter with Mahmoud Abbas and Shimon Peres in the Vatican.

He received the highest decoration of Portugal, that of Commander of the Order of Prince Henry.

Henrique Cymerman was nominated for the Nobel Prize for Peace in 2015 for making possible the prayer for peace in the Vatican. In 2012, King Juan Carlos I granted Henrique Cymerman the Order of Civil Merit. He was awarded the Daniel Pearl Award in 2012 by the ADL. In 2009, he was awarded the Godó Award for Journalism.

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Cymerman, is the winner of the New York Festivals Award in 1997 in the category Television News Programs - Best News Documentary/Special for his documentary report "A suicide bomber in the children's room".

Between 2005 and 2012, he published the book Voices from the Center of the World: The Arab-Israeli Conflict told by its Protagonists in six languages (Spanish, Portuguese, Hebrew, Arabic, Brazilian edition and English). The book includes interviews with key characters in the region, such as Yasser Arafat; Shimon Peres; Hamas leader Ahmed Yassin; Omar bin Laden, son of Osama bin Laden; Mahmoud Abbas; and Yitzhak Rabin's last interview.

Henrique Cymerman directed the TV documentary series Jihad Now, in which he explores the roots of radical Islam, al-Qaeda and Islamic State. The show aired in 2016.

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