

[Salo Wittmayer Baron](#)

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Date of birth: 05/26/1895 | **Date of death:** 11/25/1989

Occupation or position: Historian

Community: [Tarnow](#)

Salo Wittmayer Baron was an American historian of Polish-Austrian Jewish ancestry and the most noted historian of the Jews of his generation. Baron taught at Columbia University from 1930 until his retirement in 1963. Baron was born in Tarnów, Galicia which was then part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire but is now in Ukraine. Baron's family was educated and affluent, part of the Jewish aristocracy of Galicia. In addition to his scholarly work, Baron was active in organizational efforts to maintain and strengthen the Jewish community both before and after World War II. From 1950 to 1968, he directed the Center of Israel and Jewish Studies at Columbia University. He received more than a dozen honorary degrees from universities in the United States, Europe and Israel and was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1964.

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