



SAQI

RIGHTS 2019

Contents

FRONTLIST

Literature	3
History	7
Sociology	8
Art & Culture	9
The Westbourne Press	13

HIGHLIGHTS

Literature	14
History	21
Politics / Current Affaris	29
Art & Culture	35

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Tales from a Divided City

An Anthology of the Greatest Writing about Nicosia

Edited by Bahriye Kemal, et al.

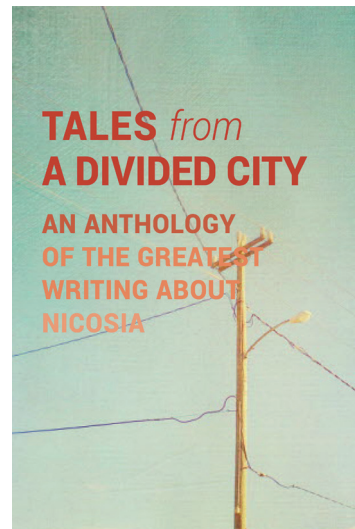
A collection of prose, poetry and memoir by 35 Cypriot authors, from the world's last divided capital city.

Since 1963 Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus, has been split by a militarized border. In *Tales from a Divided City*, writers from all sides of the Cyprus divide come together to write the past, present and future of their city. Cypriot-Greeks coexist alongside Cypriot-Turks, the north with the south, city with countryside, dominant voices and the marginalised. These writers move beyond Cyprus to other places that share the country's colonial history, taking in out-of-sync clocks, stray cats and bus rides to unfamiliar suburban conclusions.

Together, these writers carefully bring together the fragments that make a whole picture of Nicosia, the world's last divided capital city.

'She had her breakfast at the harbour frequented by barbaric sailors, her lunch in a faithful settlement of idolators, and her dinner was served in a civilised environment, in another Walled City.'

extract from *The Endless Day*, by Dize Kukrer



World Rights available

May 2019

Literature

£12.99 PbO Demy 256pp

In partnership with
Commonwealth Foundation

Bahriye Kemal is a research associate and lecturer at the Centre for Colonial and Postcolonial Studies at the University of Kent.

Memoirs of a Woman Doctor

Nawal El Saadawi

Bestselling novel from Egypt's foremost feminist and award-winning author

'The leading spokeswoman on the status of women in the Arab world'
The Guardian
'El Saadawi writes with directness and passion'
New York Times

Memoirs of a Woman Doctor

NAWAL EL SAADAWI



World Rights available

SOLD

City Lights (North America)

March 2019

Literature

£8.99 PB 128pp

A young Egyptian woman clashes with her traditional family when she chooses a career in medicine. Rather than submit to an arranged marriage and motherhood, she cuts her hair short and works fiercely to realise her dreams. At medical school, she begins to understand the mysteries of the human body. After years denying her own desires, the doctor begins a series of love affairs that allow her to explore her sexuality – on her own terms.

Written in her twenties when Nawal El Saadawi was studying in Cairo, *Memoirs of a Woman Doctor* is the searing coming-of-age story of a woman striving for freedom in a male-dominated world. This classic feminist novel remains as thought-provoking today as when it was first published.

'The leading spokeswoman on the status of women in the Arab world.' *The Guardian*

'Nawal El Saadawi writes with directness and passion.' *New York Times*

Nawal El Saadawi is one of the world's most influential feminist writers and activists. She is founder and president of the Arab Women's Solidarity Association and cofounder of the Arab Association for Human Rights. Her novels, short stories and plays have been translated into over thirty languages, and are taught at universities worldwide. They include *Two Women in One*, *Zeina*, *The Fall of the Imam* and *Love in the Kingdom of Oil*

Love in the Kingdom of Oil

Nawal El Saadawi

A novel following one woman's brave quest for freedom in a patriarchal society

A woman disappears without a trace. Nobody, including the police commissioner investigating the case, can understand how a woman could simply walk away, leaving husband and home behind. After all, in the Kingdom of Oil where His Majesty reigns supreme, no woman has ever dared disobey the command of men.

When the woman finally reappears, there is a blurring between the men in her life. She leaves one to marry another, then returns to her first husband who has since taken a new wife in a series of dream-like scenarios. She is trapped in a man-made web, unable to escape from a male figure who is always half-asleep and who continually fills urns that she must carry.

Surreal and satirical, *Love in the Kingdom of Oil* is a startling reflection on the limits of female freedom in a society unable and unwilling to shrug off the multiple faces of patriarchy.

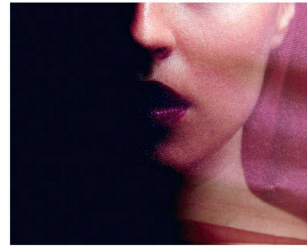
'The most influential feminist thinker in the Arab world over the past half-century.' *Financial Times*

'I think her life has been one long death threat. At a time when nobody else was talking, she spoke the unspeakable.' *Margaret Atwood, BBC Imagine*

'The leading spokeswoman on the status of women in the Arab world'
The Guardian
'El Saadawi writes with directness and passion'
New York Times

Love in the Kingdom of Oil

NAWAL EL SAADAWI



World Rights available

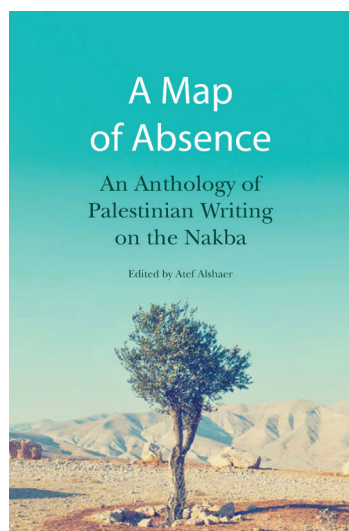
April 2019
Literature
£8.99 PB 144pp

A Map of Absence

An Anthology of Palestinian Writing on the Nakba

Edited by Atef Alshaer

A seminal collection of writings on the Nakba by major and emerging Palestinian writers



World Rights available

May 2019
Literature / Anthologies
£16.99 PB 320pp

The Nakba, or catastrophe, of 1948 saw hundreds of thousands of Palestinians dispossessed from their land to create the state of Israel, producing a refugee crisis that is still ongoing today. This trauma is a central theme in much of the writing from Palestine, whose writers have been the vanguard of identity and representation of their people, rendering their depths, fears, longings and hopes in a variety of discourses and styles.

This unique collection brings together the finest poetry and prose on the Nakba by Palestinian writers over the last seventy years, for the first time. Covering three critical periods (pre-Nakba, post-Nakba and post-Oslo Accords), it includes translated excerpts of poems, novels, short stories and memoirs by major authors such as Mahmoud Darwish, Samira Azzam, Fadwa Tuqan and Edward Said, as well as by emerging Palestinian writers.

This is an ideal book both for lovers of world literature and for those seeking a more intimate understanding of the conflict.

Atef Alshaer is a lecturer in Arabic Studies at the University of Westminster. His other publications include *Poetry and Politics in the Modern Arab World* and *Love and Poetry in the Middle East* (forthcoming).

Sea of Troubles

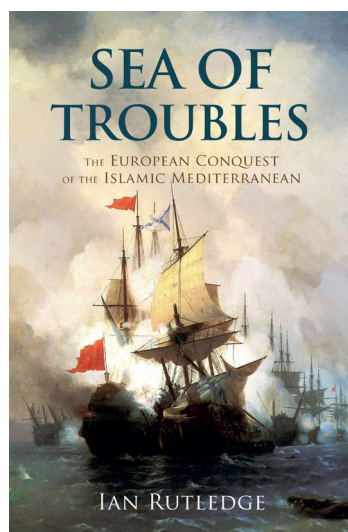
The European Conquest of the Islamic Mediterranean, c.1750–1918

Ian Rutledge

A lively, sweeping account of how a once great Islamic civilisation was defeated by European powers

In the second half of the eighteenth century, approximately three quarters of the Mediterranean coastline and its hinterlands were controlled by a vast Islamic power, the centuries-old Ottoman Empire. However, by the end of the First World War in November 1918, this great civilisation – once regarded by Christian Europe with awe and fear – had been completely subjugated, its territories occupied by European powers.

The history of imperialism in the Mediterranean involves not one but six European powers – Britain, France, Italy, Spain, Austria-Hungary and Russia – jostling for control of the trade, lands and wealth of those they saw as the existential ‘other’. The competition between these states made their conquest of the Islamic Mediterranean a far more difficult and extended task than they encountered elsewhere in the world. Yet, as new contenders entered the contest, and as the rivalries in the Mediterranean intensified in the early twentieth century, events would spiral out of control as the continent headed towards the First World War.



World Rights available

March 2019

History

£25 HB 384pp

35 b&w images, 6 maps

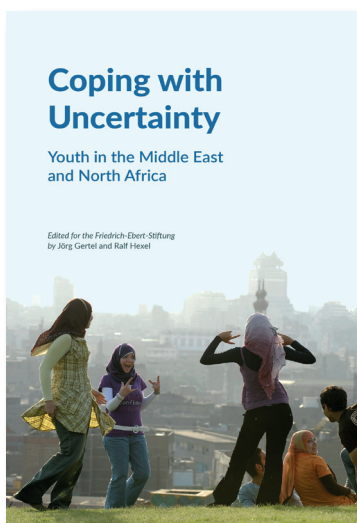
Ian Rutledge is an economist and historian, who previously taught at the Universities of London and Sheffield. Rutledge has devoted the past two decades to researching the economic and political history of the Middle East. His other works include the critically acclaimed *Enemy on the Euphrates: The Battle for Iraq, 1914–1921*.

Coping with Uncertainty

Youth in the Middle East and North Africa

Edited by Jörg Gertel and Ralf Hexel

This landmark volume offers the most in-depth and comprehensive study on young people in the Arab world to date



World Rights available
(ex. German and Arabic)

2018
Sociology
£25 PB 400pp
150 colour graphs/tables
Published in partnership
with Friedrich Ebert Foundation

Seven years after the Arab uprisings, the social situation has deteriorated across the Middle East and North Africa. Political, economic and personal insecurities have expanded and, against a backdrop of escalating armed conflicts and disintegrating state structures, many have been forced from their homes, creating millions of internally displaced persons and refugees. Young people are often the ones hit hardest by the turmoil. How do they cope with these ongoing uncertainties, and what drives them to pursue their own dreams, in spite of these hardships?

In 2016 and 2017, an international interdisciplinary team of researchers sought answers to these questions. They conducted interviews with 9,000 young people aged 16–30 from Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen. Given how rapidly events have moved in the Middle East and North Africa, their findings, which are drawn together in this volume, are in many regards unexpected.

‘The surveys and analyses in this book provide some of the best sources to understand the status of Arab youth in the years after the Arab Spring’
Asef Bayat

Jörg Gertel is Professor of Arabic and Geography and Global Studies at the University of Leipzig, Germany. **Ralf Hexel** is Director of the Department for Middle East and North Africa at the Friederich-Ebert-Stiftung, Germany.

Nabil Anani

Palestine, Land and People

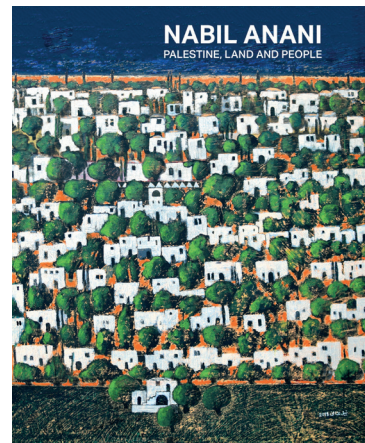
Foreword by Mourid Barghouti

Beautifully produced monograph by a key founder of the contemporary Palestinian art movement; bringing together over 150 of his major works

Nabil Anani is one of the most prominent Palestinian artists working today. A painter, ceramicist and sculptor, he has built an impressive catalogue of outstanding, innovative and unique art over the past four decades, pioneering the use of local media such as leather, henna, natural dyes, papier-mâché, wood, beads and copper.

Anani's development as an artist has run in parallel with major events in recent Palestinian history. His artistic vision restores and celebrates a denied and often-forgotten reality, his work re-igniting memory.

Bringing together over 150 of the pioneering artist's works from 1976–2016, as well as essays from leading experts in contemporary Middle Eastern art, this monograph is essential for the expert and enlightening for the general reader.



World Rights available

'The works of Nabil Anani simultaneously perform the roles of novelist, poet, historian, architect, filmmaker, musician and restorer of memory.' **Mourid Barghouti**

2018

Art/Palestine

£25 PB w/ flaps 172pp

Over 150 colour illustrations

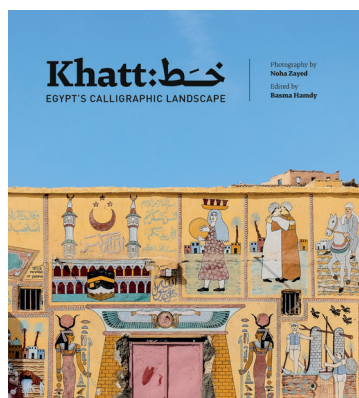
Nabil Anani held his first exhibition in Jerusalem in 1972 and has since exhibited widely in solo and group shows around the world. He was awarded the first Palestinian National Prize for Visual Art in 1997 and became the head of the League of Palestinian Artists in 1998.

Khatt

Egypt's Calligraphic Landscape

Basma Hamdy and Noha Zayed

Including over 200 colour photographs, this is a beautifully produced source-book, vital for designers, artists and calligraphy enthusiasts



Egyptian cities and villages abound with an enormous wealth of *khatt*, or calligraphic script, ranging from casual scrawls and scribbles to elaborately-painted colourful murals. These historical and contemporary versions of urban lettering, varying in surface, medium and technique, adorn mosques, shop-fronts, houses, trucks, boats, schools, tuk-tuks and walls. They are records of human existence, documenting expressions of hope, fears, dreams and anxieties.

Featuring beautiful, unique examples of these written expressions, *Khatt* is an extensive visual documentation of the found typography and calligraphy in Egypt, a calligraphy hub that possesses a rich tradition of education and production in the field. This timely volume records the traditional craftsmanship of hand-painted calligraphy, which is fast disappearing because of the digitisation of the Arabic script.

World Rights available

2018

Calligraphy/Egypt

£25 HB 160pp

200 colour photographs

‘A sumptuous guide to a phenomenon that is simultaneously popular and increasingly under threat’ *The National UAE*

Basma Hamdy is Assistant Professor of Graphic Design at Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar. Her publications include *Walls of Freedom: Street Art of the Egyptian Revolution*. **Noha Zayed** is a photographer whose works have been exhibited throughout the Middle East.

Arabicity

Four Decades of Contemporary Arab Creativity

Edited by Rose Issa

Beautifully produced collection of over 200 artworks by internationally renowned Middle Eastern artists, whose ground-breaking works reflect the pulse of region

Arabicity reflects on four decades of the aesthetic, conceptual and socio-political concerns of contemporary Arab artists. Beautifully produced, it features over 200 artworks by fifty Arab artists including Bahia Shehab, Ayman Baalbaki, Hassan Hajjaj and Raeda Saadeh, who explore their cultural heritage, and themes such as memory, destruction, and conflict, with, humour, visual poetry and great warmth.

Whether through video art, painting, photography or installation, these artists challenge the confines of their identity, resisting stereotyping and reshaping the parameters of their cultural traditions. In their diverse media and subject matter, their works reflect the pulse of the region. In chaos they discover what endures.



World Rights available

June 2019

Art

£25 Paperback sewn 160pp

200 colour photographs

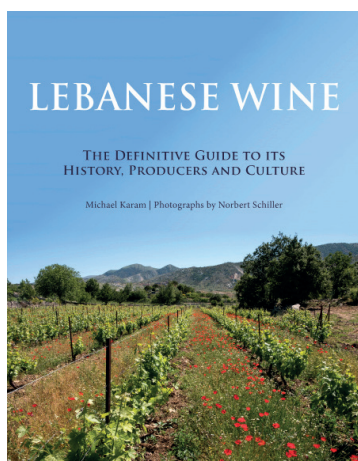
Rose Issa is a curator and writer who has championed visual art and film from the Middle East for more than thirty years. Issa has produced exhibitions worldwide, including at the Victoria & Albert Museum, London; Leighton House Museum, London; Tate Britain, London; and European Parliament, Brussels. She also lends work and advises on collections for institutions around the world.

Lebanese Wine

The Definitive Guide to its History, Producers and Culture

Michael Karam & photographs by Norbert Schiller

A lavishly illustrated guide to the fifty wineries operating in Lebanon today



World Rights available

July 2019

Food and Drink

£25 HB 256pp

130 colour photographs

Lebanon's wine heritage dates back thousands of years. In the second millennium BC, wine made and traded by the Phoenicians was regarded as the finest in the world. The Romans loved it so much they built a temple to Bacchus in the Beqaa Valley. From the dawn of time until the present day, despite regional turmoil, civil conflicts and religious intolerance, Lebanon has consistently produced world-class wines.

Michael Karam and Norbert Schiller take us on a journey through the vineyards of Lebanon, telling the story of its wine, as well as that of its people and their traditions. Lavishly illustrated, *Lebanese Wine* includes profiles of the fifty wineries operating in the country today – their produce, grapes, and techniques – as well as interviews with the most exciting winemakers. At once a guide and cultural history, this tribute to one of the world's oldest winemaking regions is an invaluable reference for wine lovers, travellers and casual readers alike.

Michael Karam is a journalist, wine writer and documentary maker. His books include *Wines of Lebanon*, which won the Gourmand Award for Best New World Wine Book *Arak and Mezze*. **Norbert Schiller** has lived and worked as a news photographer in the Middle East and Africa for nearly three decades, working for the *Associated Press*, *Agence France Presse*, *New York Times*, and *Der Spiegel*, among others.

Wally Funk's Race for Space

The Extraordinary Story of a Female Aviation Pioneer

Sue Nelson

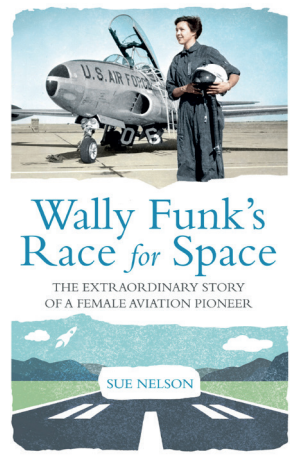
The inspirational story of a female pilot who led the way for women in space, written by an award-winning journalist

In 1961, Wally Funk was among the Mercury 13, the first group of American pilots to pass the Women in Space programme. Wally sailed through a series of rigorous physical and mental tests, her scores beating many of the male candidates', including those of John Glenn, the first American in orbit. But just one week before she was due to enter the final phase of training, the programme was abruptly cancelled. A combination of politics and prejudice meant that none of the women ever flew into space. Undeterred, Wally went on to become one of America's first female aviation inspectors and civilian flight instructors, though her dream of making it into space never dimmed.

In this offbeat odyssey, journalist and fellow space buff Sue Nelson travels with Wally, now approaching her eightieth birthday, as she races to make her giant leap – before it's too late. Set against the backdrop of international space travel and covering their travels across the United States and Europe, this is a uniquely intimate and entertaining portrait of an aviation trailblazer.

'An extraordinary, quirky book ... A global Thelma and Louise-style adventure ... It's a great story, and it throws fascinating light on the story of female space travel.' *Daily Mail Book of the Week*

Sue Nelson is a journalist and broadcaster. She produces documentaries for BBC Radio and makes short films on science and space. Her award-winning 2016 documentary 'Women with the Right Stuff', on the history of women in space, was one of BBC World Service's most-listened-to podcasts.



World Rights available

SOLD

Chicago Review Press (North America)

Audible (Audio, Eng Lang)

June 2019

Biography/Space

£9.99 PB 264pp

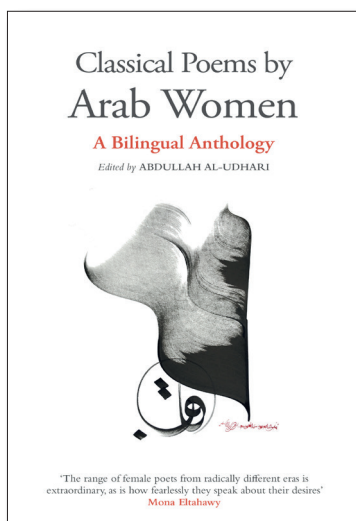
16 bw photographs

Classical Poems by Arab Women

A Bilingual Anthology

Edited by Abdullah al-Udhari

A unique anthology bringing together rarely seen poems by over 50 Arab women poets, from 4000 bce to 1492 CE



World Rights available

2017

Literary/Bilingual Anthology

£12.99 PB 256pp

Arab women poets have been around since the earliest times, yet their *diwans* (collected poems) were not given the same consideration as their male counterparts, even though they were often princesses, noblewomen or saints.

This unique collection brings together the great female poets of the Jahiliyya (pre-Islamic era) to the Andalusian periods, showcasing their significant contribution to the literary tradition. Celebrating feminine wit and desire, the poems are excursions into these women's vibrant worlds whose humanity has been suppressed for centuries by religious and political bigotry.

'The range of female poets is extraordinary as is how fearlessly they speak about their desires.'
Mona Eltahawy

'An outspoken and controversial book that provides many moments for enjoyment and reflection.' Denys Johnston-Davies

Abdullah al-Udhari was a literary historian, poet and storyteller, and an authority on early Jahili literature. His other publications include *Victims of a Map: A Bilingual Anthology of Arabic Poetry*; *Mahmud Darwish*, *Samih al-Qasim* and *Adonis* (also by Saqi).

Syria Speaks

Art and Culture from the Frontline

Edited by Malu Halasa, Zaher Omareen and Nawara Mahfoud

A celebration of a people determined to reclaim their dignity, freedom and self-expression, now in its fourth english reprint

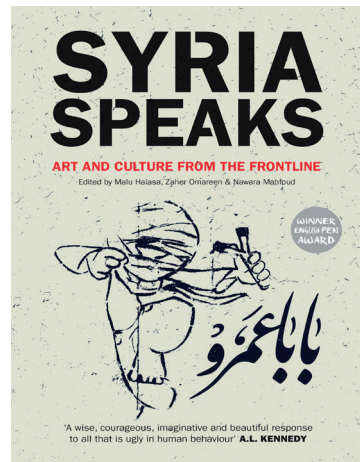
Syria Speaks is a celebration of a people determined to reclaim their dignity, freedom and self-expression. It showcases the work of over fifty artists and writers who are challenging the culture of violence in Syria. Their literature, poems and songs, cartoons, political posters and photographs document and interpret the momentous changes that have shifted the frame of reality so drastically in Syria.

Moving and inspiring, *Syria Speaks* is testament to the courage, creativity and imagination of the Syrian people.

‘Syria Speaks tells us with inspirational force how the Syrians have found the ability to speak out.’

Times Literary Supplement

‘An invaluable and deeply moving testimony to resistance.’ *Independent*



World Rights available

SOLD

AST Licence Ltd (Russian)
Bali Müşavirlik Mümessillik
Yayıncılık Tic. Ltd. (Turkish)

2014

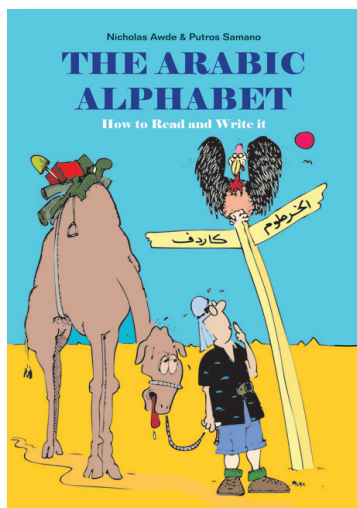
Literature/Current Affairs
£14.99 PB 328pp

Malu Halasa co-curated three exhibitions of Syria’s art of resistance in London, Amsterdam and Copenhagen. Her works include *The Secret Life of Syrian Lingerie*. **Zaher Omareen** is a Syrian writer, who has worked on independent cultural initiatives in Syria and Britain. **Nawara Mahfoud** is a Syrian journalist and documentary producer who has worked for the *New York Times* and *New Yorker*.

The Arabic Alphabet

Nicholas Awde and Putros Samano

The bestselling language-learning companion for all students of Arabic



World Rights available

SOLD

Kensington Books (North America)

AUCP (Egypt)

Pelanduk Publications (Malaysia)

Uitgeverij Van Gennep (Netherlands)

2006

Language and Literature

£7.99 PB 96pp

Ever larger numbers of people are starting to learn Arabic, while even more have some contact with the Arab world. Anyone who wishes to learn the language faces the hitherto formidable initial problem: the alphabet.

This book proceeds step by step through all the letters of the Arabic alphabet, showing the sounds they stand for and how they are combined into words. Nothing essential is left out, but no unnecessary complications are added. Readers will find that progress is rapid and will be surprised at the relative ease with which they master the first steps in learning this increasingly important world language.

The Arabic Alphabet belongs on the desk of every student of the language, in the luggage of every visitor to the Middle East, in the briefcases of all business people with Arab clients and in the back pocket of all employees of British or American companies working in Arab countries.

‘Demonstrates the letters in easy-to-follow, stroke-by-stroke diagrams. Excellent value.’ *Library Journal*

Nicholas Awde was born in London in 1961 and spent much of his childhood in Africa. He studied Arabic at London University. **Putros Samano** was born in Iraq in 1953. Since 1974 he has lived in Britain, where he studied Arabic and Arabic-English translation and now works as a translator and interpreter.

Desert Songs of the Night

1500 Years of Arabic Literature

Edited by Suheil Bushrui & James M. Malarkey

The finest poetry and prose by Arab writers, from the Arab East to Andalusia, from the last 1500 years

From the mystical imagery of the Qur'an and the colourful stories of *The Thousand and One Nights*, to the powerful verses of longing of Mahmoud Darwish and Nazik al-Mala'ika, this captivating collection includes translated excerpts of works by the major authors of the period, as well as by lesser known writers of equal significance.

Desert Songs of the Night showcases the vibrant and distinctive literary heritage of the Arabs. Beautifully produced, this is the ideal book for lovers of world literature and for those who seek an acquaintance with gems of Arab thought and expression.

'A wonderful introduction to fifteen centuries of a literature still largely unknown in the West.'

[Alberto Manguel](#)

'A stark reminder of the real story we keep missing about the region.'

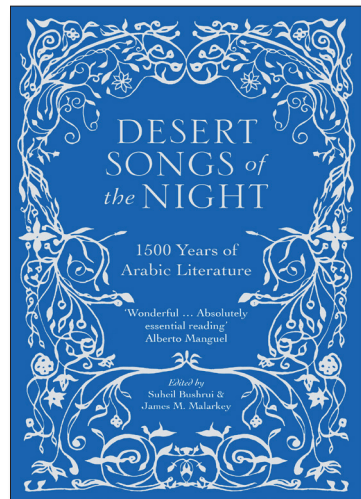
[Hanan al-Shaykh](#)

'A valuable volume.'

[Sunday Herald](#) 4*

'An arresting collection.'

[Daily Telegraph](#)



World Rights available

2015

Language and Literature

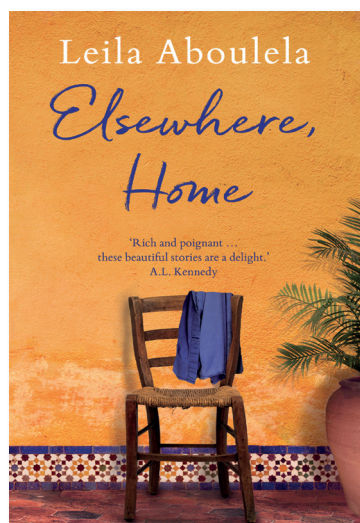
£12.99 PB 480pp

Suheil Bushrui was a distinguished author, poet, critic and translator, particularly revered as an authority on the works of W. B. Yeats and Kahlil Gibran. **James M. Malarkey** is a specialist on Middle Eastern and North African affairs. He is Professor Emeritus at Antioch University Midwest where he was the Chair of Humanities and General Education.

Elsewhere, Home

Leila Aboulela

Short stories at their most moving and immediate; the new collection from prize-winning author Leila Aboulela, spanning twenty years of her work



World Rights available

SOLD

Grove Atlantic (North America)

Mehta Publishing House (Marathi)

July 2018

Short Stories

£8.99 PBO 224pp

Memories of 'the Ostrich', an acquaintance from their shared student days in Khartoum, linger with a Sudanese woman after a chance encounter on a plane; a Scottish man working in a kebab shop and his girlfriend try desperately to reconcile Islam's place in their fragile relationship; a bus route passing the Christmas lights along Oxford Street is a stark reminder for a female passenger of her brother's tragic death on the eve of his wedding; and a lonely housewife fascinated with a famous writer learns to find her own voice in Abu Dhabi.

From the heat of Khartoum at the height of summer to the wintry streets of London, from concrete high rises in the Gulf to the blustery coast in Aberdeen, this elegant and moving collection vividly evokes the overlapping worlds of Africa, Britain and the Middle East. Beautifully observed and written with empathy, Leila Aboulela's stories deftly capture the search for home in our fast-changing world.

'Rich and poignant ... These beautiful stories are a delight' [A. L. Kennedy](#)

'A beautiful and desolate collection ... quiet brilliance.' [The Observer](#)

Leila Aboulela is an award-winning Sudanese-born novelist and playwright. Her novels, translated into more than fourteen languages, include *The Translator*, *Minaret* and *Lyrics Alley*, which were all longlisted for the Orange Prize. *Lyrics Alley* was also Fiction Winner of the Scottish Book Awards. She lives in Aberdeen.

So Many Islands

Stories from the Caribbean, Mediterranean, Indian and Pacific Oceans

Edited by Nicholas Laughlin

A unique collection by strong international voices, with an introduction by Man Booker winner Marlon James

So Many Islands breaks out bold new writing from the distant shores of countries in the Caribbean, Mediterranean, Indian and Pacific Oceans. Here you will find poems about revolution and protest; you will be transported to Marakei, 'the women's island', and join the battle to save a beached whale.

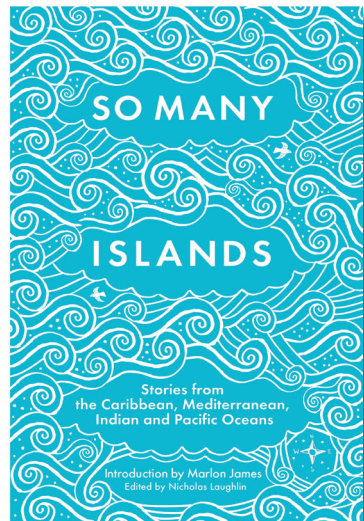
Alongside family politics, *So Many Islands* also tackles nuclear testing and climate change – global issues that are close to the heart of these precariously poised communities.

Giving voice to their challenges and triumphs, these writers create a vibrant portrait of what it is like to live and love on the small islands they call home. Readers everywhere will find universal connections with their words and worlds.

'This is the real globalism, a glorious cacophony that seeks no common ground other than attitude.'

Marlon James

'Wide-ranging and anything but parochial.' *Times Literary Supplement*



World Rights available

SOLD

Peekash (North America)
Small Islands Press (Caribbean & Pacific)

April 2018

£8.99 PB 224pp

In partnership with The
Commonwealth Foundation

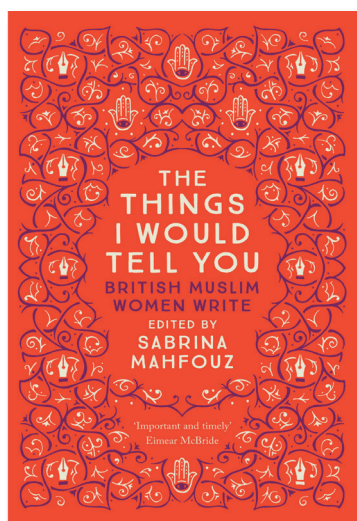
Nicholas Laughlin is the editor of the *Caribbean Review of Books* and *Caribbean Beat*, and programme director of the Bocas Lit Fest held in Trinidad and Tobago. His other publications include a poetry collection, *The Strange Years of My Life*.

The Things I Would Tell You

British Muslim Women Write

Edited by Sabrina Mahfouz

A *Guardian* Book of the Year, with pieces by over twenty writers, including Kamila Shamsie, Ahdaf Soueif and Hanan al-Shaykh



World Rights available

2017
Literature
£12.99 PB 256pp

The writers in this groundbreaking collection blow away the narrow image of the ‘Muslim Woman’. Hear from users of Islamic Tinder, a disenchanted Maulana working as a TV chat show host and a plastic surgeon blackmailed by MI6. Follow the career of an actress with Middle-Eastern heritage whose dreams of playing a ghostbuster spiral into repeat castings as a jihadi bride. Among stories of honour killings and ill-fated love in besieged locations, we also find heart-warming connections and powerful challenges to the status quo.

From Algiers to Brighton, these stories transcend time and place revealing just how varied the search for belonging can be.

‘A lively, varied anthology ... Strong, impassioned voices speak out from the pages.’ *Guardian*

‘Showcases the variety of British Muslim women writings’ on identity, belonging, love and more.’ *Stylist Best New Books of April*

‘Full of honesty, beauty, fury, heartbreak and laughs. Defiantly multicultural.’ Nimesh Shukla, editor of *The Good Immigrant*

Sabrina Mahfouz is an award-winning British Egyptian playwright, poet and screenwriter. Her poetry has been performed and produced for TV, radio and film. Mahfouz has an essay in the award-winning *The Good Immigrant* and has published eight works of drama with Bloomsbury. She lives in London and was appointed a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2018.

A Concise History of Sunnis and Shi'is

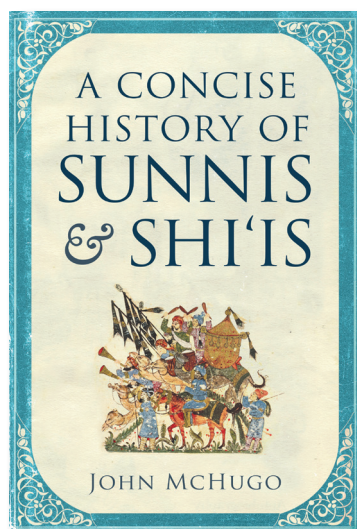
John McHugo

An essential guide to understanding the most important schism in the Muslim world

The 1400-year-old schism between Sunnis and Shi'is has rarely been as toxic as it is today, feeding wars and communal strife in Syria and Yemen, with tensions between Saudi Arabia and Iran escalating. In this richly layered and engrossing account, John McHugo reveals how this great divide occurred. Charting the story of Islam from the lifetime of the Prophet Muhammad to the present day, he describes the conflicts that raged over the succession to the Prophet, how Sunnism and Shi'ism evolved as different sects during the Abbasid caliphate, and how the rivalry between the empires of the Sunni Ottomans and Shi'i Safavids contrived to ensure that the split would continue into modern times. Now its full, destructive force has been brought out by the struggle between Saudi Arabia and Iran for the soul of the Muslim world.

'An important corrective ... provides the reader with a clear-headed appraisal of the modern Middle East.' *Times Literary Supplement*

'In lucid and accessible prose, McHugo shows that there is nothing inevitable about the Sunni-Shi'i divide.' *Madawi Al-Rasheed*



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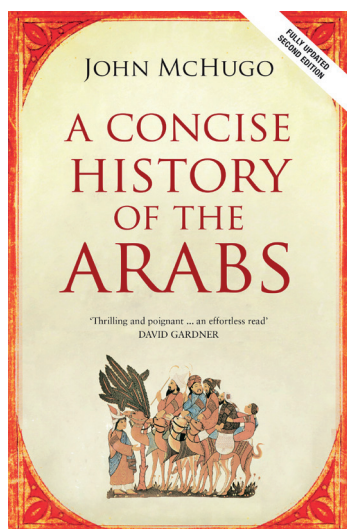
January 2019
History/Religion
£10.99 PB 352pp

John McHugo is a Senior Fellow at the Centre for Syrian Studies at St Andrews, and a board member of the Council for Arab-British Understanding and the British Egyptian Society. His other publications include the critically acclaimed *A Concise History of the Arabs* and *Syria: A Recent History*.

A Concise History of The Arabs

John McHugo

Steers the reader through the political, social and intellectual history of the Arabs from the Roman Empire up to the present day



The key to understanding the Arab world today is unlocking its past.

Going beyond the headlines, McHugo describes in vivid detail a series of key turning points in Arab history – from the mission of the Prophet Muhammad and the expansion of Islam to the region's interaction with Western ideas and the rise of Islamism.

Now fully updated to cover the tumultuous years since the Arab Spring, this lucidly told history reveals how the Arab world came to have its present form and illuminates the choices that lie ahead.

‘Thrilling and poignant, woven with a layered texture of knowledge and empathy that deftly stitches familiar figures into the narrative in a fresh way.’ *David Gardner, Financial Times*

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The New Press (North America)
Brilliance Publishing (Audio, Eng Lang)
Turner Publicaciones, S.L. (Spanish)

2016

History

£10.99 PB 384pp

Selected, Choice's Outstanding Academic Title list

Syria

A Recent History

John McHugo

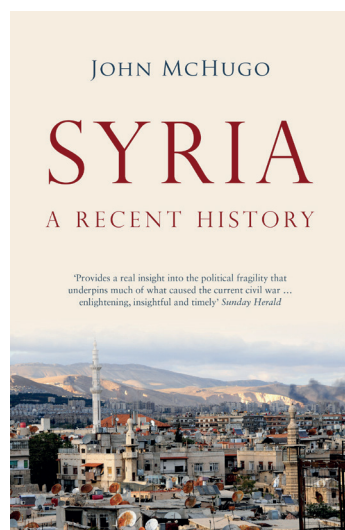
Timely and highly readable, account covering 100 years of Syrian history from the First World War to the present

Syria's descent into chaos since 2011 has claimed hundreds of thousands of lives, while more than nine million people have fled their homes. In this timely account, John McHugo charts the history of Syria from the First World War to the present and considers why Syria's foundations as a nation have proved so fragile. He examines the country's thwarted attempts at independence under French rule before turning to more recent events: two generations of rule by the Assad family, sectarian tensions, the pressures that turned an aborted revolution into a proxy war, and the appearance of ISIS. As the conflict in Syria rages on, McHugo provides a rare and authoritative guide to a complex nation that demands our attention.

'Enlightening' Robert Fisk, *Independent*

'[Provides] a real insight into the political fragility that underpins much of what caused the current civil war ... Remarkably prescient.' *Sunday Herald*

'A work of great ambition ... Should be recommended reading for undergraduates, policy-makers and interested members of the public.' *International Affairs*



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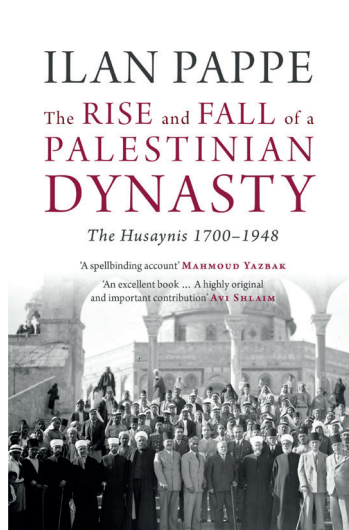
2015
History
£10.99 PB 304pp

The Rise and Fall of a Palestinian Dynasty

The Husaynis, 1700 — 1948

Ilan Pappé

A remarkable account providing an unforgettable picture of the Palestinian tragedy in its entirety



World Rights available
(ex. Hebrew and Arabic)

2017
History
£12.99 PB 402pp

The Husayni family of Jerusalem dominated Palestinian history for 250 years, from the Ottoman times through to the end of the British Mandate. At the height of the family's political influence, positions in Jerusalem could only be obtained through its power base.

In this compelling political biography, Ilan Pappé traces the rise of the Husaynis from a provincial Ottoman elite clan into the leadership of the Palestinian national movement in the twentieth century. In telling their story, Pappé highlights the continuous urban history of Jerusalem and Palestine. Shedding new light on crucial events such as the invasion of Palestine by Napoleon, the decline of the Ottoman Empire, World War I and the advent of Zionism, this remarkable account provides an unforgettable picture of the Palestinian tragedy in its entirety.

'Ilan Pappé is Israel's bravest, most principled, most incisive historian.' **John Pilger**

'A spellbinding account of the Husayni family and the crucial role they played throughout the modern history of Palestine.' **Mahmoud Yazbak, University of Haifa**

Ilan Pappé is Professor of History at the College of Social Sciences and International Studies at the University of Exeter. His works include *The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine*, *A History of Modern Palestine*, *The Modern Middle East*, and with Noam Chomsky, *Gaza in Crisis: Reflections on Israel's War Against the Palestinians*.

Wild Europe

The Balkans in the Gaze of Western Travellers

Božidar Jezernik

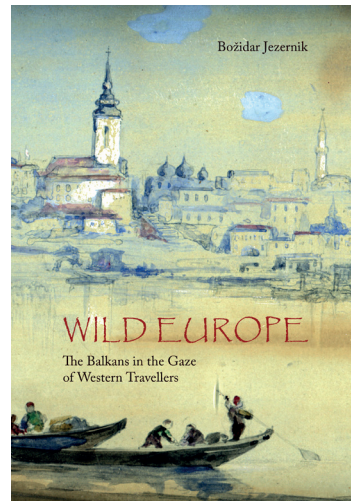
A fascinating account of how West European travellers have exoticised the Balkans for 400 years

Combining witty commentary with meticulous research, and abounding in historical and cultural detail, Jezernik reveals how the Balkans have been perceived by Western European travellers and experts from the mid-sixteenth to the late twentieth century.

The book's rich store of source material includes citations from naturalists, geographers, historians and social scientists. Exploring over a thousand first-hand reports and comparing narratives spanning nearly 500 years, the author demonstrates that the act of observing other people in their environment mirrors the observer's own culture and mentality.

'There are journalists who still write about the barbaric nature of those misunderstood [Balkan] countries. Jezernik's measured comments on the views of their blinkered predecessors ought to begin the process of their enlightenment.'

Sunday Times



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Divata Evropa (Bulgarian)

Bohlau Verlag Ges.m.b.H. & Co KG (German)

Dikaja Evropa (Russian)

Divlja Evropa (Serbian)

2004

History

£14.99 PB 320pp

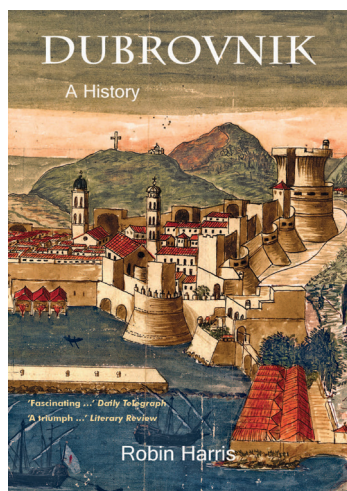
Božidar Jezernik is a Slovene ethnologist. Born in 1951, he currently teaches cultural anthropology at the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia).

Dubrovnik

A History

Robin Harris

A highly readable history of one of Croatia's most significant cities



Since emerging as a settlement in the seventh century, Dubrovnik has faced Venetian aggressors, Ottoman plotters, a terrible earthquake in 1667 and, finally, the will of Napoleon. In 1991–92 the city survived the besieging Yugoslav army, which heavily damaged but did not destroy its cultural heritage.

This book is a comprehensive history of Dubrovnik's progress over twelve centuries of European development, encompassing arts, architecture, social and economic changes, politics and the trauma of war.

'Detailed, scholarly and eminently readable, *Dubrovnik* is a triumph of book production. This is a splendid volume.' *Literary Review*

'Learned, fluently written and lavishly illustrated.' *Sunday Telegraph*

'There are few introductions to the city's past available ... Harris's splendid study meets this need admirably.' *Times Literary Supplement*

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Santi Quaranta (Italian)

2006
History
£17.99 PB 504pp

Robin Harris worked in various political and governmental capacities in the 1970s and 1980s. He is now a journalist who focuses on foreign affairs and politics, and writes extensively on the Balkans.

The Janissaries

Godfrey Goodwin

The only account of one of the most powerful groups in Europe between the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries

From the fifteenth to the sixteenth century, the janissaries were the scourge of Europe. With their martial music, their muskets and their drilled march, it seemed that no one could withstand them. Their loyalty to their corps was infinite as the Ottomans conquered the Balkans as far as the Danube, and Syria, Egypt and Iraq. They set up semi-independent states along the North African coast and even fought at sea. Their political power was such that even sultans trembled.

Who were they? Why were they an elite? Why did they decline and what was their end? These are some of the questions which this book attempts to answer. It is the story of extraordinary personalities in both victory and defeat.

‘Goodwin has done so much in his scholarly career to introduce a wide audience to Ottoman culture.’ *Financial Times*

‘An incredible book ... a tour de force.’ *Middle East International*

‘Well written and lucid.’ *Muslim World Books Review*



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Dogan Egmont (Turkish)

2006
History
£14.99 PB 288pp

Godfrey Goodwin (d. 2005) was a historian and scholar. He taught art and architectural history at the University of the Bosphorus from 1957 to 1968 and is the author of several further authoritative works, including *Sinan: Ottoman Architecture and its Values Today*, and *The Private World of Ottoman Women*, also published by Saqi Books. He was also a former director and librarian of the Royal Asiatic Society.

The Private World of Ottoman Women

Godfrey Goodwin

A fascinating look at the lives of women from all walks of society under Ottoman rule.



Recovering the oft-neglected role of women in Ottoman high society and power politics, this book brings to life the women who made their mark in a male domain. Though historical records tend to favour the glitter of palaces over the trials of daily life, Goodwin also reconstructs ordinary women's domestic toil.

As the Ottoman Empire first expanded and then shrank, women travelled its width and breadth whether out of necessity or merely for pleasure. Some women owned slaves while others suffered the misfortune of being enslaved. Goodwin examines the laws which governed women's lives from the harem to the humblest tasks.

This perceptive study of Ottoman life culminates with the nineteenth century and explores the advent of modernity and its impact on women at a time of imperial decline.

'The best book on the subject and likely to remain so for some time.' *Times Literary Supplement*

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Dom Wydawniczy Bellona (Poland)

Geopoetika Publishing Ltd (Serbia)

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2006

History

£14.99 PB 264pp

Yemen in Crisis

Autocracy, Neo-Liberalism and the Disintegration of a State

Helen Lackner

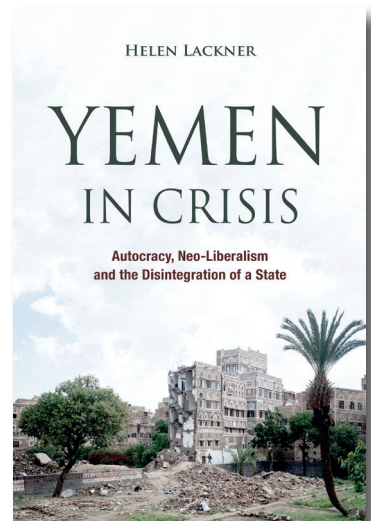
An indispensable guide to understanding the dramatic turn of events in the country since 2011

Yemen is in the grip of its most severe crisis in years. Fuelled by Arab and Western intervention, the civil war has quickly escalated, resulting in thousands killed and millions close to starvation. Suffering from a collapsed economy, the people of Yemen face a desperate choice between the Huthi rebels allied with ex-President Saleh on the one side and the internationally recognised government propped up by the Saudi-led coalition and Western arms on the other.

In this invaluable analysis, Helen Lackner uncovers the roots of the social and political conflicts that threaten the very survival of the state and its people. She reveals the corruption of the country's US-backed autocratic regime, as well as its failure to address national impoverishment and to plan an equitable economy for Yemen's growing population.

'An outstanding book ... Written with compassion and insight, Lackner confirms her standing as the foremost authority on Yemeni politics at work today.' [Eugene Rogan](#)

'The discussion has a developmentalist tenor, patiently setting out the myriad of challenges that any future Yemeni government will have to confront.' [Tariq Ali, the New Left Review](#)



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Politics / IR
£25 HB 330pp

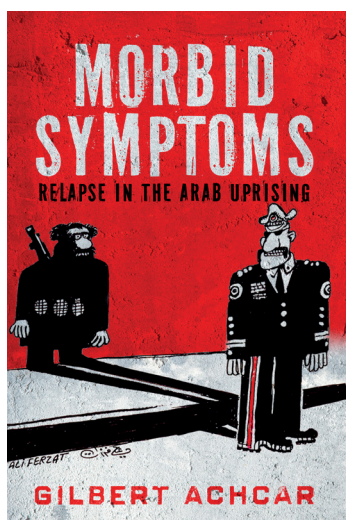
Helen Lackner has spent the past four decades researching Yemen, and has worked in the country for fifteen years. She is currently the editor of the *Journal of the British-Yemeni Society*. Her publications include *Why Yemen Matters: A Society in Transition*.

Morbid Symptoms

Relapse in the Arab Uprising

Gilbert Achcar

An insightful assessment of the failure of the Arab uprisings, by internationally renowned political scientist Gilbert Achcar



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Tsuge Shobo Shinsha (Japanese)

Luciole Publishers, Seoul (Korean)

KOC University Press (Turkish)

2016

Politics/Current Affairs

£12.99 PB 260pp

Gilbert Achcar is Professor of Development Studies and International Relations at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. His publications include *The Clash of Barbarisms*, *The Arabs and the Holocaust* and *Perilous Power* with Noam Chomsky.

Since the first wave of uprisings in 2011, the euphoria of the “Arab Spring” has given way to the gloom of backlash, clashes between rival counter-revolutionary forces, and a descent into mayhem and war.

Focusing on Syria and Egypt, Gilbert Achcar analyzes the factors of the regional relapse: the resilience of the old regimes, the power of religious reactionary forces, the exceptional number of rival international and regional supports of both reactionary camps, and the shortcomings of progressive forces.

Drawing on a unique combination of scholarly and political knowledge of the Arab region, Achcar argues that, short of radical social change, the region will not achieve stability any time soon.

‘One of the best analysts of the contemporary Arab world.’ *Le Monde*

‘A sobering yet generous account of the Arab people’s fight for true liberation and the lessons that have been learned from that struggle.’

Jacobin

Marxism, Orientalism, Cosmopolitanism

Gilbert Achcar

An original Marxist appraisal of cosmopolitanism, religion and politics of Said's *Orientalism* by foremost scholar of politics in the MENA region

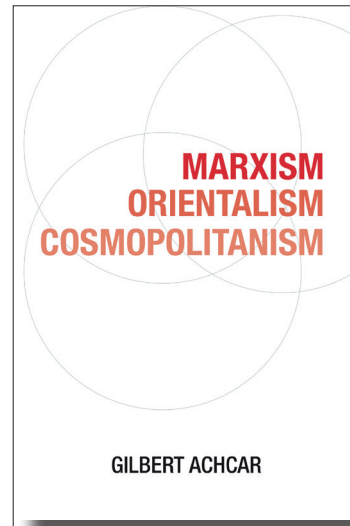
In this collection of essays, Gilbert Achcar examines the controversial relationship of Marxism to religion, to Orientalism and its critique by Edward Said, and to the concept of cosmopolitanism.

A compelling range of issues is discussed within these pages, including a comparative assessment of Christian liberation theology and Islamic fundamentalism; "Orientalism in reverse", which can take the form of an apology for Islamic fundamentalism; the evolution of Marx's appraisal of non-Western societies; and the vagaries of "cosmopolitanism" up to our present era of globalisation.

Erudite and incisive, these essays provide a major contribution to the critical discussion of Marxism, orientalism and cosmopolitanism, and illuminate the relationships between all three.

'A remarkable little book ... powerful.' *Radical Philosophy*

'A rigorous reading of Marx on these issues that today elicit such passion when dealing with Islam.' *Politix*



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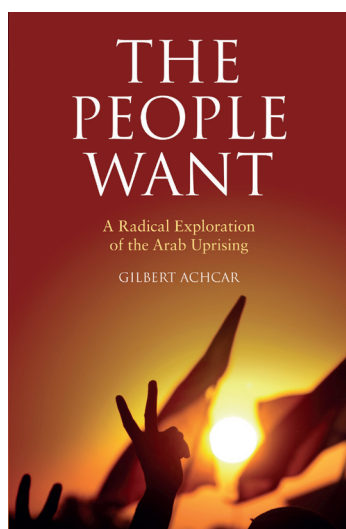
2013
 Politics / Philosophy
 £9.99 PB 176pp

The People Want

A Radical Exploration of the Arab Uprising

Gilbert Achcar

The essential guide to understanding the roots of uprisings and their outcomes



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Actes Sud/Sindbad (French)

Editorial de la Universidad Veracruzana (Spanish)

Ayrıntı Yayınları (Turkish)

2013

Politics / Philosophy

£16.99 PB 288pp

‘The people want ...’: the first part of the slogan chanted by millions of Arab protestors since 2011 revealed a long-repressed craving for democracy. But huge social and economic problems were also laid bare by the protesters’ demands. Although Islamist parties did not initiate the protest movement, they have benefitted the most from the power vacuum that followed the ousting of the rulers in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Yemen.

With incisive and invaluable insight, Achcar investigates why the liberals and the Left failed to capitalise on the initial momentum and assesses whether the Islamist parties will be able to steer their countries out of their present crisis.

‘A detailed and searching account of the “Arab Spring.”’ *Malise Ruthven, New York Review of Books*

‘An in-depth and critical reading of the Arab uprisings that will undoubtedly enrich Middle Eastern Studies libraries.’ *Bustan: The Middle East Book Review*

Return to the Shadows

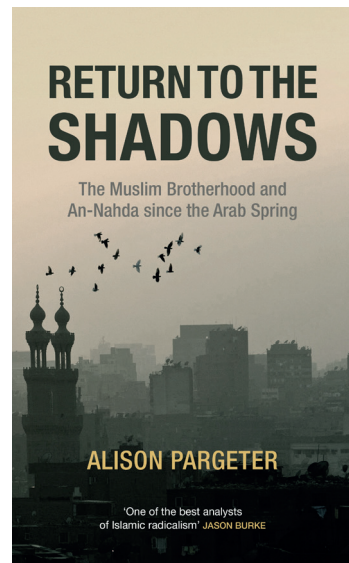
The Muslim Brotherhood and An-Nahda since the Arab Spring

Alison Pargeter

An analysis of the Muslim Brotherhood and the consequences of its decline on both the region and the Islamist political project

The Arab Spring heralded a profound shift in the Middle East, bringing to power Islamist movements which had previously been operating in the shadows. The Muslim Brotherhood stormed to victory in Egypt and emerged as a key player in Libya's nascent political arena. Meanwhile, An-Nahda found itself catapulted into power as the head of Tunisia's coalition government. For a while, it looked as though the region was entering the dawn of a new Islamist age.

But navigating their respective countries through difficult and painful transitions ultimately proved too challenging for these forces. Alison Pargeter expertly charts the Islamists' ascent and subsequent fall from power. Based on extensive research and interviews with high ranking members of the Brotherhood and An-Nahda, Pargeter offers a comparative analysis of the movement since the Arab Spring.



World Rights available

'One of the best analysts of Islamic radicalism.'

Jason Burke

'A brilliant and clear-eyed analyst.' *Guardian*

SOLD

Dar al Saqi (Arabic)

2016

Current Affairs

£17.99 HB 304pp

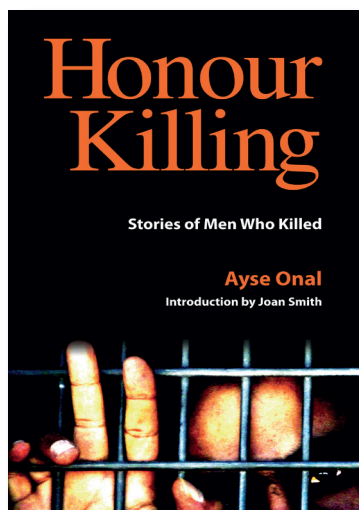
Alison Pargeter is an analyst specialising in the Middle East and North Africa, with a focus on political Islamist movements. She is regularly called on to brief policymakers in the UK and internationally, and has addressed a wide range of audiences on her areas of expertise, including the US State Department, the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Honour Killing

Stories of Men Who Killed

Ayse Onal

An award-winning journalist exposes the stories of men who have committed so-called 'honour' killings and their victims in Turkey



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Alpress s.r.o. (Czech Republic)

Droemer Knaur (Germany)

Narcissus Publishing (Greece)

Det Norske Samlaget (Norway)

Istanbul Kultur University (Turkey)

2008

Politics / Current Affairs

£12.99 PB 256pp

Honour killing persists across the Middle East, where regimes refrain from tackling primitive traditions for fear of sparking unrest.

Ayse Onal interviewed imprisoned men in Turkey convicted of killing their mothers, sisters and daughters. The result is a revealing and ultimately tragic account of ruined lives – both the victims' and the killers' – in a country where state and religion conspire to hush up the killing of hundreds of women every year.

'Ayse Onal has done an immense service by revealing what it is like to live in an honour-based society and the terrible cost, not just to the women who are beaten and eventually killed, but to the perpetrators and other relatives.' Joan Smith

'This is a book that demands to be read ... Onal's bravery is remarkable. She lives in fear for her life. But her writing shows no fear.' *Guardian*

'Honour Killing is a powerful read and I was, by turn, horrified and intensely moved.' *Tribune Magazine*

Ayse Onal has won many awards for her work as a journalist, including the Courage in Journalism Award, and has reported on Turkish politics, organised crime and conflicts in the Middle East. She has been blacklisted by the government, threatened by Islamic fundamentalists, placed on death lists, arrested and shot. She lives in Istanbul.

And then God Created the Middle East and Said 'Let There Be Breaking News'

Karl reMarks

A satirical romp through Middle Eastern news from hugely popular blogger Karl reMarks. The only book you'll ever need on the Middle East

'You may wonder why the Middle East gets so much airtime. Well, regions of the world were competing to host the apocalypse and the Middle East won.'

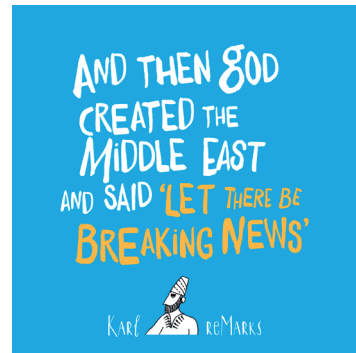
Online sensation Karl reMarks disagreed with the idea that reality had become too strange to satirise. Then he read that bin Laden was radicalised by Shakespeare. Since then, Karl has been bringing the best of the Middle East news and views to his followers around the world.

Now Karl's wildly wry observations and sketches are available in one handy collection. With sections on 'Geography for Dummies' and 'Democracy for Realists', alongside the best of Karl reMarks's infamous 'Bar Jokes', this hilarious book proudly presents views you're guaranteed *not* to hear on the news ...

'Side-splittingly funny' *The Economist*

'[His] humour has a sharp edge: many of his jokes are not just funny, but seriously funny or, if you prefer, thoughtfully silly.' *Medium*

'An acerbically wicked collection of sharp geo- and socio-political commentary.' *Media Diversified*



World Rights available

July 2018

Humour

£6.99 PB 128pp

5 colour/10 b&w illustrations

Karl reMarks is the alias of Karl Sharro, whose satirical Middle East blog receives over 50,000 hits daily. In 2016 his video, 'the simple one-sentence explanation for what caused Isis,' went viral, with 1.6 million views on Facebook alone. Alongside his role as a satirist and commentator on the Middle East, Karl is also an architect currently based in London.

Don't Panic, I'm Islamic

Words and Pictures on How to Stop Worrying and Learn to Love the Alien Next Door

Edited by Lynn Gaspard

A Sunday Times Humour Book of the Year, featuring unique and powerful satirical art and writing from around the world



How can you tell if your neighbour is speaking Muslim? Is a mosque a kind of hedgehog? Can I get fries with that burka? You can't trust the media any longer, but there's no need to fret: *Don't Panic, I'm Islamic* provides you with the answers.

Read this book to learn how you too can spot an elusive Islamist. Discover how Arabs (even twenty-one-year-old, largely innocuous and totally adorable ones) plant bombs, and get tips about how to interact with Homeland Security, which may or may not involve funny discussions about your sexuality.

Provocative and at times laugh-out-loud funny, the graffiti, cartoons, photography, poetry, fiction and more in this collection are an explosion of expression, creativity and colour.

World Rights available

2017

Humour / Current Affairs

£12.99 PB 192pp

'The perfect antidote to a year dominated by a Presidential Twitter account.' *Sunday Times*

'A celebratory treasure trove of writing and art in response to anti-Muslim prejudice.' *Metro*

'The first great anti-Trump book.' *Culture Trip*

34 contributors including: Carol Ann Duffy Chris Riddell Alberto Manguel Sabrina Mahfouz Bidisha Moris Farhi Arwa Mahdawi Hassan Abdulrazzak Joumana Haddad Leila Aboulela Sjón Saleem Haddad Omar Hamdi Alex Wheatle Karl Sharro

Calligraphies of Love

Hassan Massoudy

Beautifully designed and illustrated throughout, this is the perfect gift for lovers, poet and dreamers

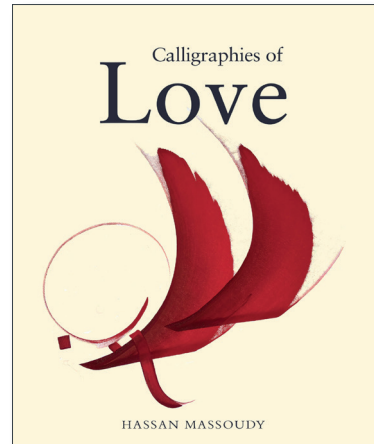
Inspired by timeless love poems from around the world, Hassan Massoudy's calligraphy takes us on a visual journey through love in its many forms.

Through his signature broad strokes and vibrant colours, this master calligrapher brings to life the words and wisdom of some of our greatest poets, from Ibn Zaydoun and Rumi to Kahlil Gibran, John Keats and Paul Éluard.



The beauty you see in me
is a reflection of you.

Rumi



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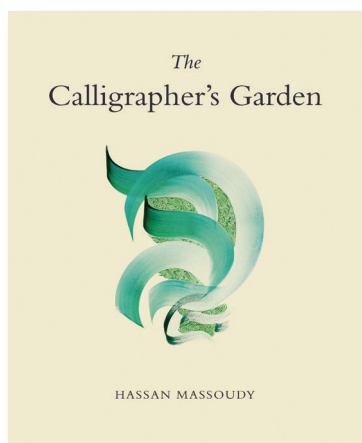
2017
£10 PB w/ flaps 128pp
70 colour illustrations

Hassan Massoudy was born in Najaf, Iraq, and moved to France in 1969, where he studied at L'École des Beaux-Arts. His work has been exhibited throughout Europe and the Middle East, and is in the permanent collections of the British Museum and the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, among others.

The Calligrapher's Garden

Hassan Massoudy

The changing seasons depicted in Massoudy's elegant calligraphy. A stunning book for those who cherish time reflecting in their own gardens, or the gardens of others.



World Rights available

2012
£10 PB w/ flaps 130pp
70 colour illustrations

From the icy palettes of winter and the fading hues of autumn to delicate spring growth and the dazzling sunshine and blooms of summer, Massoudy captures in calligraphy what countless poets have wrought with words.

Massoudy draws his seasonal inspirations from writers and artists, including Kahlil Gibran, Henri Matisse, Lao Tzu, William Blake and Victor Hugo, as well as from Hungarian, Spanish, Turkish and Japanese proverbs.

'Hassan Massoudy's calligraphies are arranged to loosely follow the seasons, beginning and ending with autumn: sombre, wintry hues at one end, brilliant tones full of vibrant reds at the other.'

Venetia Porter, The British Museum

'A feast for the eyes and balm for the soul.'

Télérama

'The triumph of this inspirational book is ultimately Massoudy's, who not only selected the texts, but created the exquisitely beautiful compositions.'

Maria Golia, The Middle East

'In bright, broad strokes mingling with inventive, intricate shapes, Massoudy describes the garden's four seasons with sayings from some of the artists who have inspired him.'

Banīpal

Classic Palestinian Cuisine

Christiane Dabdoub Nasser

Over one hundred mouth-watering dishes from Palestine

Classic Palestinian Cuisine is a collection of over one hundred mouth-watering dishes, such as ful m'dammas (broad bean salad), kidreh (rice with mutton) and djaj mahshi (stuffed chicken), characteristic of the culinary culture of the Mediterranean.

Christiane Dabdoub Nasser's delightful tips and anecdotes, from coring marrows to buying the perfect cabbage for stuffing, vividly bring to life the smells and flavours of Palestinian cookery, as practiced in kitchens across the region for generations.

'Thrilling ... this charming book is about good, real, food with delicious flavours and centuries of tradition behind it.' *Claudia Roden*

'A welcome addition to any kitchen ... a promise of great meals to come.' *Banipal*

'A great introduction to the cooking and culture of Palestine.' *Cairo Times*

'Replete with personal stories and anecdotes. What set these apart was the fascinating insight they gave to Palestinian culinary culture.' *Times of Israel*



World Rights available

2013
Food & Drink
£14.99 PB 220pp

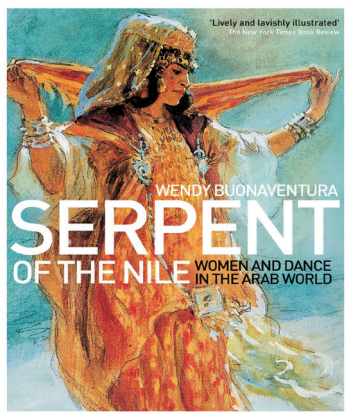
Christiane Dabdoub Nasser worked at the centre for Cultural Heritage Preservation in Bethlehem from 2001 to 2008, as Head of International Relations and then as director. She is currently a consultant for Euromed Heritage IV projects in Brussels.

Serpent of the Nile

Women and Dance in the Arab World

Wendy Buonaventura

Traces the origins of Arabic dance, which survived despite religious disapproval and growing commercialism to evolve into a globally popular dance form



World Rights available

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Interlink Books (North America)

2010

Arts/Cultural Studies

£14.99 PB 224pp

This newly updated and beautifully illustrated classic is a celebration of the female dancers of the Arab world.

Focusing on the nineteenth century onwards, Wendy Buonaventura reveals how this ancient art was influenced by Western ideas about art and entertainment, and in turn exerted a powerful hold on the Western imagination.

In the heyday of Orientalism, it inspired writers and artists such as Flaubert, Jean-Léon Gérôme and Mata Hari. Often based on common fantasies of Middle-Eastern women, this obsession nevertheless produced wonderfully evocative images.

Buonaventura also documents the impact the genre had on fashion, theatre and film at the turn of the century, and explores present and future trends in Arabic dance.

'Lively and lavishly illustrated' *New York Times Book Review*

'A delight to browse and just as interesting to read' *Time Out*

Wendy Buonaventura is an established dancer and choreographer who pioneered the development of Arabic dance as a theatre art in the West. She performs and lectures internationally and has written and presented programmes for the BBC.