



The American University in Cairo Press

Reading the Middle East

AUC Press News | October 2023



MESA 2023
Montréal, Québec, Canada
November 2-5, 2023

AUC Press at MESA 2023

The Middle East Studies Association's 57th annual meeting will be held at the Palais des congrès in Montréal, Québec, Canada during November 2-5, 2023.

The conference is the largest of its kind, with an estimated 2000 attendees, 370 sessions, and nearly 50 exhibitors. Visit AUC Press' double booth: numbers 53 & 54.

Attending on behalf of AUC Press will be Sue Ostfield, Nadia Naqib, and Anne Routon.

Browse the *2023 Catalog for Middle East Studies* [here](#).



NOW AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE!

A Surgeon and a Maverick: The Life and Pioneering Work of Magdi Yacoub was released globally on 3 October 2023. This is the first authorized biography of the incredible life of Sir Magdi Yacoub, written by veteran British journalists Simon Pearson and Fiona Gorman. Read an excerpt [here](#).

Read exclusive interviews with Yacoub published in [The Telegraph](#) and [The National](#), and a TV interview in [Channel 4 News](#).

Image credit: Rob Greig



**Recommended Books
on Palestine**



**Remembering
Kamal Ruhayyim**

and Khaled Khalifa

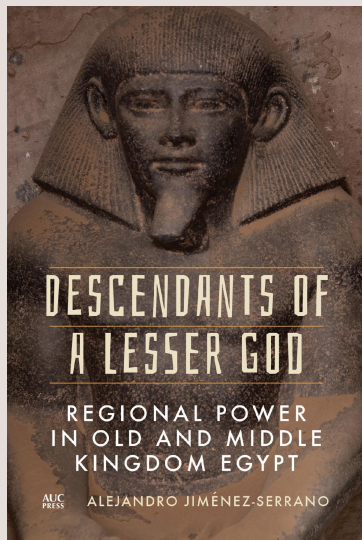
Cairo Scene and *Arab News* recently recommended books that engage with Palestinian history and culture, including these four AUC Press novels: *Gaza Weddings* by Ibrahim Nasrallah, *The Woman from Tantoura* by Radwa Ashour, *I Saw Ramallah* by Mourid Barghouti, and *My First and Only Love* by Sahar Khalifeh.

Explore the complete list [here](#).

AUC Press was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of two of its prolific writers. Kamal Ruhayyim, born in Egypt in 1947, is the author of *Days in the Diaspora* (2012), *Diary of a Jewish Muslim* (2014), and *Menorahs and Minarets* (2017).

Khaled Khalifa born near Aleppo in 1964, wrote novels that won many accolades and were widely translated including *No Knives in the Kitchens of This City*, which was awarded the Naguib Mahfouz Medal for Literature in 2013.

NEW RELEASE IN EGYPTOLOGY



Descendants of a Lesser God

Regional Power in Old and Middle Kingdom Egypt

By Alejandro Jiménez-Serrano

“This book explores and interweaves aspects of social networks, politics, belief, ritual, and cult to present a fascinating and comprehensive portrait of the Elephantine/Qubbet el-Hawa area during the Old and Middle Kingdoms. Jiménez-Serrano sheds welcome light on intriguing aspects of ancient Egyptian culture that have often been neglected. His lively writing style animates ancient families and personalities, suggesting possible motivations for their actions.”—Adela Oppenheim, *The Metropolitan Museum of Art*

click [here](#) for more information.

BOOK REVIEWS



About *A Surgeon and a Maverick*, by Simon Pearson and Fiona Gorman:

“[A] remarkable journey.” —*The Telegraph*

“The reason that he has finally consented to an authorised biography now after all these years

is not, he stresses, out of self-aggrandisement, but in the hope that it will inspire others to follow in his footsteps.”—*The National*

“His legacy is one of innovation and saved lives. . . . an outsider who went on to have a career of firsts.”—*Channel 4 News*

About *Tahrir's Youth* by Rusha Latif:

“Deeply personal and highly readable. . . . *Tahrir's Youth* provides a compelling case study of what author Rusha Latif refers to as 'task-oriented leaders' at the individual level and how they shaped the course of the 18 days in Tahrir Square. The book is a concise overview for those seeking to understand the 2011 Egyptian revolution and where it came from.”—*Middle East Journal*

“In seven beautifully written chapters, the book offers fascinating reading into the career of youth leaders of the Egyptian popular uprisings.”—*Political Science Quarterly*

“Offers rich insight.”—*Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*

Jonathan Downs interviewed on *The New Books Network* to talk about his book, *Discovery at Rosetta*. Listen to the podcast [here](#).

Jadaliyya's *New Texts Out Now* featured an author Q&A and an excerpt from *State, Peasants, and Land in Mid-Nineteenth Century Egypt* by Maha Ghalwash. Read the Q&A [here](#).

Babel: Translating the Middle East Podcast, by the Center for Strategic & International Studies, hosted AUC Press author Khalid Ikram, co-editor of *The Egyptian Economy in the Twenty-first Century*, in their latest episode entitled “Egypt's Economic Crisis”. Listen to the podcast [here](#).

About *Educating Egypt* by Linda Herrera:

“[E]ngages some of the most difficult issues facing Egyptian students, parents, teachers, and state officials as this critical sector struggles under the accumulated weight of failed policies promoted by both Egyptian officials and international development ‘experts.’”—**Laurie A. Brand**, *Political Science Quarterly*

About *House of the Coptic Woman*, by Ashraf El-Ashmawi and translated by Peter Daniel:

“A provocative story of religious strife, justice, and tragedy. . . with a tinge of macabre humor. . . unnerving, and courageous.”—*The New Arab*

“An allegorical tale of religious strife. . . . Much of the story can be read as a thinly veiled critique of the last years of the Mubarak regime, marked by sectarian violence and official corruption.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

About *History of Ash* by Khadija Marouazi, translated by Alexander E. Elinson (Hoopoe, 2023):

“A complex and harrowing account. . . . *History of Ash* is a brave book, not only for exposing the unspeakable past cruelties of the Moroccan regime, but for articulating the self-doubts and vulnerabilities of individuals or groups who set themselves up in opposition to the overwhelming fact of official violence. Marouazi is an eloquent and provocative witness to what humans have to endure and to what they should not have to tolerate.”—*Irish Times*

Sherif Meleka interviewed on *The New Books Network's Arts & Letters / Literature* podcast featuring his novel, *Suleiman's Ring*, interviewed by Tugrul Mende. Listen to the podcast

[here.](#)

The Millions featured Ihsan Abdel Kouddous, and his novel *I Do Not Sleep*, translated by Jonathan Smolin. Read feature [here.](#)

New Books Catalog 2023/2024

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