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» Ashraf Khalil speaks to Al Jazeera reporter about “Liberation Square”

» Celebrating the work of translator Denys Johnson-Davies at Café Riche

» Visiting Monasterli Palace gardens with author of Cairo Practical Guide

» Coptic researcher reflects on the late Pope Shenouda

» Egyptologist and author Salima Ikram explores the existence of cancer in ancient Egypt

The AUC Press welcomes its new Director, Dr. Nigel Fletcher-Jones.

In this brief introductory interview, Dr. Fletcher-Jones talks about his previous assignments, his love for books, and his vision for the AUC Press.

Book of the Month – Available at the AUC Press Bookstores

Egyptian Magic: The Quest for Thoth’s Book of Secrets
Maarten Raven

"For the ancient Egyptians, the existence of magic offered the most plausible explanation for the layout of the cosmos. How else to explain that sun and moon do not drop out of the sky, that day and night alternate, that people fall ill and recover, and that (as the Egyptians firmly believed) a new life follows after death?,” writes Maarten Raven.

To read more about the book and order it, click here.
New AUC Press Books – Available at the [AUC Press Bookstores](#)

**The Large Landowning Class and the Peasantry in Egypt, 1837–1952**

Raouf Abbas and Assem El-Dessouky  
Edited by Peter Gran

In Egypt, the landowning class first arose in the early part of the nineteenth century from land grants given to extended family members and friends of the ruler Muhammad ‘Ali. From the subsequent development of capitalism, a class of large landowners emerged and began to defend their interests, both economic and political.

In two seminal Arabic works published in the 1970s, Raouf Abbas and Assem El-Dessouky traced the formation of this class, exploring the multiple factors that influenced the rise and power of landowners. Combined into one volume and translated into English for the first time, this book offers a comprehensive analysis of landownership and its effects on Egyptian society.

[Read a review of the book >>](#)  
[Read more about the book and order it >>](#)

**Uktub al-‘arabiya: Advanced Writing Skills in Modern Standard Arabic**

Azza Hassanein, Dalal Abo El Seoud, and Hala Yehia

This Advanced level volume introduces students to authentic Arabic written texts; strengthens and enhances their grammar; includes more sophisticated key words, collocations, expressions, and idioms; reinforces linguistic accuracy; and trains them to use handwriting script. Practical skills such as how to write letters are included.

Developed and piloted in the classrooms of the Arabic Language Institute at the American University in Cairo, this series has benefited from the expertise and knowledge of leading teachers of Arabic.

[Read more and order this book >>](#)  
[Read more about the book and order it >>](#)

AUC Press Events

**Sunday, May 27**

**AUC Press Book Festival**

In celebration of AUC Press Authors & New Publications  
With musical performances and an exhibition of book cover art  
At the residence of Saad and Safiya Zaghloul  
Beit al-Umma  
2 Saad Zaghloul Street (off Falaki Street)  
Near Saad Zaghloul Metro Station, Downtown Cairo  
6.30 pm  
[Click here](#) for the invitation

Check the [website](#) regularly for other upcoming events.
AUC Press Books & Authors in the News

**Dedicated Arabic literature ‘dictator’**
"Double celebration: Denys Johnson-Davies, peerless translator of modern Arabic literature, celebrates his 90th birthday and the AUC Press launch of his latest anthology at the historic Café Riche."
*The Egyptian Gazette*, Caryll Faraldi, May 8

**The city that just growed**
Jill Kamil writes about David Sims’ *Understanding Cairo: Revolutionary Cairo and the Future of the City* (AUC Press, 2012)
*Al Ahram Weekly*, 3-9 May

**What had Denys Johnson-Davies done for Arabic literature?**
*Ahram Online*, Mahmoud El-Wardani, May 1

**‘Judgment Day’: A Conversation About Poetry, the Quran, and the Future of Arabic**
Arablit blog, Amira Abd El-Khalek, May 1

**Arabic-to-English Literary Translation: Raising the Profile**
Looking at the contribution of Denys Johnson-Davies to Arabic literature and at the special *Banipal* 43 dedicated to the prominent translator
*Qantara*, Susannah Tarbush, April 30

**Egypt’s Lover Signs his Book “Homecoming”**
AUC Press celebrated the work of Denys Johnson-Davies including *Homecoming: Sixty Years of Egyptian Short Stories* (AUC Press, 2012)
*Sada El Balad*, April 30

**The Translator of Naguib Mahfouz’s works signs “Homecoming” at Café Riche**
*Ahram Online*, April 30

**Naguib Mahfouz translator: Arabic literature is there for whoever has the talent**
*Ahram Online*, Mohammed Saad, April 30
Between drama and melodrama in ‘The Palm House’
"Tarek Eltayeb’s “The Palm House” [AUC Press, 2011] has the beginnings of a strong and important novel" writes M. Lynx Qualey
*Egypt Independent*, April 29

**A lifetime of voices**
Review of *I Was Born There, I Was Born Here* by Mourid Barghouti translated by Humphrey Davies (AUC Press, 2011)
*The Jordan Times*, Sally Bland, April 22

**The Brothers Grim**
"Can Egypt’s Muslim Brotherhood overcome the disqualification of its popular and charismatic candidate for president?;" asks Ashraf Khalil, author of *Liberation Square: Inside the Egyptian Revolution and the Rebirth of a Nation* (AUC Press, 2012)
*Foreign Policy*, April 18

St Joe’s parish
The author of *Grand Hotels of Egypt in the Golden Age of Travel* (AUC Press, 2012) writes about Joe Scialom, the man who from 1937 to 1952 presided over the Long Bar at Shepheard’s Hotel in Cairo.
*Spectator Book Blog*, Andrew Humphreys, April 17

**History of Egyptian Papacy by the American University in Cairo Press**
*Akhbar al-Adab*, April 7

**Celebration of the spirit**
AUC Press photographer Sherif Sonbol connects the dots between the most famous pilgrimage destination in Poland and a monastery in Egypt
*Al Ahram Weekly*, April 5-11

**New director at American University in Cairo Press**
bikyamasr, Pete Willows, April 2

"A brilliant anthropological fieldwork study, a triumph in recording the life of a vibrant community as it faces destruction."
*Ancient Egypt Magazine*, Volume Twelve Issue Five, Book Reviews, by Peter A. Clayton, April 2012

**Celebrating Denys Johnson-Davies**
*Banipal* 43, Magazine of Modern Arab Literature, Spring 2012

**A translator called Denys Johnson-Davies**
In this issue, editors, publishers, authors, and translators, including *Banipal* contributing editor Roger Allen, former AUC
Press director Mark Linz, author and translator Khaled Mattawa, and translator Humphrey Davies, salute the doyen of Arabic-English translation, Denys Johnson-Davies.

_Banipal_ 43, Magazine of Modern Arab Literature, Spring 2012

**Looking at the foundation of Egyptian identity**


*Al Ahram Hebdo*, April 18-24

**Body and soul in politics**

A profile on Rabab El-Mahdi, co-editor of _Arab Spring in Egypt: Revolution and Beyond_ (AUC Press, forthcoming) and _Egypt: The Moment of Change_ (AUC Press, 2009)

*Al Ahram Hebdo*, April 4-10