Letter from the Director

This season we are proud to be publishing the second part of Jason Thompson’s acclaimed history of Egyptology, *Wonderful Things* (pages 2–3). The first part, published earlier this year, garnered exceptional praise from historians and Egyptologists alike: Jaromir Malek called it “a remarkable achievement,” while Morris Bierbrier hailed it as “the definitive reference tool for anyone interested in the development of this academic discipline.”

Aidan Dodson has revisited and updated his classic account of the ancient rulers of Egypt, to produce a new revised edition of *Monarchs of the Nile* (page 4), bringing all the most recent research and discoveries to bear on the story. Meanwhile, Donald Reid excavates the politics behind the archaeology in a fascinating look at the intersection between modern nationalism and ancient history in *Contesting Antiquity in Egypt* (page 7).

As the security struggle in Sinai between insurgents and the Egyptian military continues to fill the daily headlines, Egyptian journalist Mohannad Sabry, who has been reporting on the ground in the peninsula for longer and in more depth than most others, looks at the state of this unique triangle of land in the modern age and its crucial significance for the three regional actors to whom it most matters: *Sinai: Egypt’s Linchpin, Gaza’s Lifeline, Israel’s Nightmare* (page 19).

Ibn Battuta was the medieval world’s greatest traveler, and he left an account of his journeys to West Africa, East Africa, Spain, Russia, India, and China among other places in clear and elegant Classical Arabic. Now, students of Arabic can explore his world through the original Arabic text with a new structured guided reader, *The Travels of Ibn Battuta*, by David DiMeo and Inas Hassan (page 27).

In *The Traditional Jewelry of Egypt* (pages 20–21), world-famous jewelry designer and collector Azza Fahmy tells the story of adornment in Egypt’s deserts, oases, villages, and cities, illustrated with beautiful color photographs of many of the finest pieces from her private collection. This is a special treat for fans and aficionados of ethnic jewelry.

Finally, we present two additions to our series of small but exquisitely elegant readers: *A Nile Anthology*, edited by Deborah Manley and Sahar Abdel-Hakim (page 23) and *An Istanbul Anthology*, edited by Kaya Genç (pages 24–25). Both contain gems of early travel writing by such diverse visitors as Gustave Flaubert, Mark Twain, Florence Nightingale, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, accompanied by evocative antique engravings and photographs. Both will make perfect gifts for nostalgia seekers in love with Egypt’s great river and with one of the world’s great cities.

Dr. Nigel Fletcher-Jones
nigel@aucegypt.edu
Wonderful Things  
A History of Egyptology  
2: The Golden Age: 1881–1914

The discovery of ancient Egypt and the development of Egyptology are momentous events in intellectual and cultural history. The history of Egyptology is the story of the people, famous and obscure, who constructed the picture of ancient Egypt that we have today, recovered the Egyptian past while inventing it anew, and made a lost civilization comprehensible to generations of enchanted readers and viewers thousands of years later. This, the second of a three-volume survey of the history of Egyptology, explores the years 1881–1914, a period marked by the institutionalization of Egyptology amid an ever increasing pace of discovery and the opening of vast new vistas into the Egyptian past. Wonderful Things affirms that the history of ancient Egypt has proved continually fascinating, but it also demonstrates that the history of Egyptology is no less so. Only by understanding how Egyptology has developed can we truly understand ancient Egypt.

Jason Thompson is the editor of Edward William Lane’s Description of Egypt (AUC Press, 2000) and An Account of the Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians (AUC Press, 2003), and the author of Sir Gardiner Wilkinson and His Circle, A History of Egypt: From Earliest Times to the Present (AUC Press, 2008), and Edward William Lane, 1801–1876 (AUC Press, 2010).

By the same author:
- The secondary part of the first comprehensive history of the study and understanding of ancient Egypt, from ancient times to the twenty-first century.

Contents

Introduction
1. The Golden Age
2. Akhenaten Lives!
3. The Seven Hathors
4. New Horizons
5. Greco-Roman Egypt
6. Loret’s Interlude
7. The Return of Maspero
8. New Players in the Game
9. The Berlin School and Its Rivals
10. Egyptology Comes to America
11. The United States Enters the Field
12. Attention Turns South
13. The Twilight of the Golden Age

Praise for volume 1 of Wonderful Things:

“Jason Thompson has written what is by far the best history of Egyptology yet. Filled with fascinating facts and characters, Thompson’s book is comprehensive and eminently readable and certain to become the standard history of the field for many years to come.” — Kent Weeks

“At last a definitive history, which does justice not only to the major players but to lesser lights as well. Wonderful Things will be immensely valuable.” — Brian Fagan, author of The Rape of the Nile

“Remarkably thorough and yet refreshingly readable, this action-packed history of Egyptology is driven by some extraordinary characters - mostly men but some notable women - who needed to learn everything they could about the culture, land, and language of ancient Egypt. As much a study of European colonialism in Egypt as well as a historiography of 17th to 19th century scholarship, this volume is an absolute necessity for anybody with an interest in pharaonic Egypt.” — Kara Cooney

“This well-researched and authoritative account of the history of Egyptology will become the definitive reference tool for anyone interested in the development of this academic discipline.” — Moris Bietbier
For over three thousand years, the ancient Egyptian monarchy lasted in a recognizable form, with the king as its central figure, the supreme head of the administrative, religious, political, and military state. Not merely a worldly leader, he was the chief link between the human and the divine, himself the physical offspring of a divine god. Monarchs of the Nile is a vivid and engaging account of the lives and times of some of the more significant occupants of the Egyptian throne, from the unification of the country around 3000 BC to the extinction of native rule just under three millennia later. Some, such as Thutmose III, had a major impact on their time, and were remembered by their own people until the very civilization collapsed. Others, such as Tutankhamun, were soon forgotten by the Egyptians themselves, only to burst into popular culture thousands of years after their deaths, as a result of the labors of modern archaeologists. Still more remain unknown outside the small circle of professional archaeologists, but led lives that call out for wider dissemination. Drawing on two further decades of research since Monarchs of the Nile was first published in 1995, Aidan Dodson provides a mix of all three categories, bringing together in highly readable form a compelling view of Egyptian kings and all their range of achievements.
Discovering Tutankhamun
From Howard Carter to DNA
Zahi Hawass

Penned by a scholar who was personally involved in research into the enigmatic young pharaoh, this comprehensive and fully illustrated new study reviews the current state of our knowledge about the life, death, and burial of Tutankhamun in light of the latest investigations and newest technology. Zahi Hawass places the king in the broader context of Egyptian history, unraveling the intricate and much debated relationship between various members of the royal family, and the circumstances surrounding the turbulent Amarna period. He also succinctly explains the religious background and complex beliefs in the afterlife that defined and informed many features of Tutankhamun’s tomb. The history of the exploration of the Valley of the Kings is discussed, as well as the background and mutual relationships of the main protagonists.

The tomb and the most important finds are described and illustrated, and the modern X-raying and CT-scanning of the king’s mummy are presented in detail. The description of the latest DNA examination of the mummies of Tutankhamun and members of his family is one of the most absorbing parts of the book and demonstrates that scientific methods may produce results that cannot be paralleled by traditional Egyptology.

By the same author:

Zahi Hawass is one of the world’s best known Egyptologists, former Egyptian minister of state for antiquities, and National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence. He is the author of many books on ancient Egypt, including several on Tutankhamun.

Contesting Antiquity in Egypt
Archaeologies, Museums, and the Struggle for Identities from World War I to Nasser
Donald Malcolm Reid

The sensational discovery in 1922 of Tutankhamun’s tomb, close on the heels of Britain’s declaration of Egyptian independence, accelerated the growth in Egypt of both Egyptology as a formal discipline and of ‘pharaonism’—popular interest in ancient Egypt—as an inspiration in the struggle for full independence. Emphasizing the three decades from 1922 until Nasser’s revolution in 1952, this compelling follow-up to Whose Pharaohs? looks at the ways in which Egypt developed its own archaeologies—Islamic, Coptic, and Greco-Roman, as well as the more dominant ancient Egyptian. Each of these four archaeologies had given birth to, and grown up around, a major antiquities museum in Egypt. Later, Cairo, Alexandria, and Ain Shams universities joined in shaping these fields. Contesting Antiquity in Egypt brings all four discipiles, as well as the closely related history of tourism, together in a single engaging framework.

Throughout this semi-colonial era, the British fought a prolonged rearguard action to retain control of the country while the French continued to dominate the Antiquities Service, as they had since 1858. Traditional accounts highlight the role of European and American archaeologists in discovering and interpreting Egypt’s long past. Donald Reid redresses the balance by also paying close attention to the lives and careers of often-neglected Egyptian specialists. He draws attention not only to the contests between westerners and Egyptians over the control of antiquities, but also to passionate debates among Egyptians themselves over pharaonism in relation to Islam and Arabism during a critical period of nascent nationalism.

Reid’s scholarship successfully fills in a major lacuna in the study of modern Egyptian history.”—Jere L. Bacharach, University of Washington

Donald Malcolm Reid is author of Whose Pharaohs? Archaeologies, Museums, and Egyptian National Identity from Napoleon to World War I and Cairo University and the Making of Modern Egypt, among other works. He is professor emeritus, Georgia State University, and affiliate professor, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Washington.

This is a work by a man who passionately loves Egypt’s past and is not afraid of controversy. There is nothing like reading a book that contains first-hand recollections and impressions, bringing to life an exacting academic topic. Dr Hawass does this in masterly fashion.”—Jaromir Malek

Dr Hawass does this in masterly fashion.”—Jaromir Malek

Zahi Hawass is one of the world’s best known Egyptologists, former Egyptian minister of state for antiquities, and National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence. He is the author of many books on ancient Egypt, including several on Tutankhamun.

Don't let this book be your only source of information.

516pp. Hbd. 92 illus, 1 map. September.


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7
The royal mummies in the Cairo Museum are an important source of information about the lives of the ancient Egyptians. The remains of these pharaohs and queens can inform us about their age at death and medical conditions from which they may have suffered, as well as the mummification process and objects placed within the wrappings.

Using the latest technology, including Multi-Detector Computed Tomography and DNA analysis, co-authors Zahi Hawass and Sahar Saleem present the results of the examination of royal mummies of the Eighteenth to Twentieth Dynasties. New imaging techniques not only reveal a wealth of information about each mummy, but render amazingly lifelike and detailed images of the remains. In addition, utilizing 3D images, the anatomy of each face has been discerned for a more accurate interpretation of a mummy’s facial features. This latest research has uncovered some surprising results about the genealogy of, and familial relationships between, these ancient individuals, as well as some unexpected medical finds.

Historical information is provided to place the royal mummies in context, and the book with its many illustrations will appeal to Egyptologists, paleopathologists, and non-specialists alike, as the authors seek to uncover the secrets of these most fascinating members of the New Kingdom royal families.
Mrs. Tsenhor
A Female Entrepreneur in Ancient Egypt

Koenraad Donker van Heel

An independent woman of ancient Egypt brought to life from obscure papyrus records, by the author of Djekhy & Son

Tsenhor was born about 550 BCE in the city of Thebes (Karnak). She died some sixty years later, having lived through the reigns of Amasis II, Psamtik III, Cambyses II, Darius I and perhaps even Psamtik IV. By carefully retracing the events of her life as they are recorded in papyri now kept in museums in London, Paris, Turin, and Vienna, the author creates the image of a proud and independent businesswoman who made her own decisions in life.

If Tsenhor were alive today she would be wearing jeans, drive a pick-up, and enjoy a beer with the boys. She clearly was her own boss, and one assumes that this happened with the full support of her second husband Psenese, who fathered two of her children. She married him when she was in her mid-thirties.

Like her father and husband, Tsenhor could be hired to bring offerings to the dead in the necropolis on the west bank of the Nile. For a fee of course, and that is how her family acquired high-quality farm land on more than one occasion. But Tsenhor also did other business on her own, such as buying a slave and co-financing the reconstruction of a house that she owned together with Psenese. She seems in many ways to have been a liberated woman, some 2,500 years before the concept was invented.

Embedded in the history of the first Persian occupation of Egypt, and using many sources dealing with ordinary women from the Old Kingdom up to and including the Coptic era, this book aims to forever change the general view on women in ancient Egypt, which is far too often based on the lives of Nefertiti, Hatshepsut, and Cleopatra.

Ancient Egypt from the Air

Calendar 2016

Photographs by Marcello Bertinetti

A bird’s-eye view of Egypt’s pharaonic treasures, month by month

This large-format wall calendar boasts twelve stunning aerial photographs of Egypt’s spectacular ancient temples and pyramids, from Siwa to Giza and from Luxor to Abu Simbel. Practically designed with plenty of space to write in special events and daily appointments throughout the year.

Koenraad Donker van Heel is lecturer in Demotic at Leiden University. He is the author of Djekhy & Son: Doing Business in Ancient Egypt (AUC Press, 2012).
Archaeology and Ancient Egypt Bestsellers
Ahmad ibn Tulun (835–84), the son of a Turkic slave in the Abbasid court of Baghdad, became the founder of the first independent state in Egypt since antiquity, and builder of Egypt’s short-lived third capital of the Islamic era, al-Qata’i’ and its great congregational mosque. After recounting the story of Ibn Tulun and his successors, architectural historian Tarek Swelim presents a topographic survey of al-Qata’i’, a city lost since its complete destruction in 905. He then provides a detailed architectural analysis of the Mosque of Ibn Tulun, which was spared the destruction and is now the oldest surviving mosque in Egypt and all of Africa, from the time of its completion until today. Rare archival illustrations and early photographs document the changing appearance and uses of the mosque in modern times, while extraordinary 3D computer renderings take us back in time to recreate its architectural development through its early centuries. Plans, drawings, and maps complement the history, while striking modern color photographs showcase the elegant simplicity of the building’s architecture and decoration.

This definitive and generously illustrated book will appeal to scholars and students of Islamic art history, as well as to anyone interested in or inspired by the beauty of early mosque architecture.

Tarek Swelim obtained his Ph.D. in Islamic art and architecture from Harvard in 1994. He leads and lectures to American tour groups from prestigious institutions, and he is the author or co-author of a number of publications on Egypt’s Islamic and Roman architecture. He is a lecturer in Egyptology and Islamic art and architecture and has taught at the American University in Cairo and other universities in the region.

Contents

Introduction

Part One: Ahmad Ibn Tulun and His City
2. The Sources
3. Ahmad Ibn Tulun and His Successors
4. The Lost City of al-Qata’i’

Part Two: The Mosque of Ibn Tulun
5. The Present-Day Mosque
6. The Tulunid Period
7. The Ayyubid Period
8. The Mamluk Period
9. The Ottoman Period
10. The British Period
11. The Muhammad ‘Ali Period
12. The Presidential Era
13. The Legacy of the Ibn Tulun Mosque

Appendix: The Arabic Inscriptions of the Mosque of Ibn Tulun
During the fifteenth century, the Mamluk sultanate that had ruled Egypt and Syria since 1249–50 faced a series of sustained economic and political challenges to its rule, from the effects of recurrent plagues to changes in international trade routes. Both these challenges and the policies and behaviors of rulers and subjects in response to them left profound impressions on Mamluk state and society, precipitating a degree of social mobility and resulting in new forms of cultural expression. These transformations were also reflected in the frequent reports of protests during this period, and led to a greater diffusion of power and the opening up of spaces for political participation by Mamluk subjects and negotiations of power between ruler and ruled.

Rather than tell the story of this tumultuous century solely from the point of view of the Mamluk dynasty, Crowds and Sultans places the protests within the framework of long-term transformations, arguing for a more nuanced and comprehensive narrative of Mamluk state and society in late medieval Egypt and Syria. Reports of urban protest and the ways in which alliances between different groups in Mamluk society were forged allow us glimpses into how some medieval Arab societies negotiated power, showing that rather than stoically endure autocratic governments, populations often resisted and renegotiated their positions in response to threats to their interests.

This rich and thought-provoking study will appeal to specialists in Mamluk history, Islamic studies, and Arab history, as well as to students and scholars of Middle East politics and government and modern history.

An alternative reading of Mamluk politics and society in fifteenth-century Egypt and Syria

Amina Elbendary

Subjects of Empires/Citizens of States

Yemenis in Djibouti and Ethiopia

Samson A. Bezabeh

A compelling revisionist study of diaspora and migration in the Indian Ocean region

Although the Horn of Africa was historically one of the earliest destinations for Yemeni migrants, it has been overlooked by scholars, who have otherwise meticulously documented the Yemeni presence in the Indian Ocean region. Subjects of Empires/Citizens of States draws on rich ethnographic and historical research to examine the interaction of the Yemeni diaspora with states and empires in Djibouti and Ethiopia from the early twentieth century, when European powers began to colonize the region. In doing so, it aims to counter a dominant perspective in Indian Ocean studies that regards migrants across the region as by-products of personal networks and local oceanic systems, which according to most scholarship led to cosmopolitan spaces and hybrid cultures. Samson Bezabeh argues that far from being free from the restrictions of state and empire, these migrant communities were constrained, and their agency structured, by their interactions with the institutions and relations of states and empires in the region. Elegantly combining theoretical readings with extensive empirical findings, this study documents a largely forgotten period in the history of Yemeni migration as well as contributing to the wider debates on class, citizenship, and ethnicity in relation to diaspora groups. It will appeal to specialists in Middle East studies and to those who study the Indian Ocean and Horn of Africa regions, as well as to migration and diaspora studies scholars, nongovernmental organizations, and policy makers concerned with the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region.

Amina Elbendary is assistant professor of history at the Department of Arab and Islamic Civilizations, at the American University in Cairo. Her research interests include Arabic historiography, Mamluk sociopolitical thought, and Islamic political thought. She is the author of numerous journal articles and book chapters.

Samson A. Bezabeh is a social anthropologist and fellow of the Africa Study Center in Leiden. He was previously a post-doctoral researcher at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris, and has been affiliated with the University of Bergen, the University of Exeter, and Addis Ababa University. His research interests include diaspora studies, state-society interaction, conflict and conflict management, and issues of citizenship, ethnicity, and class in the Horn of Africa.

Subjects of Empires/Citizens of States

Yemenis in Djibouti and Ethiopia


Crowds and Sultans

Urban Protest in Late Medieval Egypt and Syria

Amina Elbendary

An alternative reading of Mamluk politics and society in fifteenth-century Egypt and Syria
Enclosed by the Suez Canal and bordering Gaza and Israel, Egypt’s rugged Sinai Peninsula has been the cornerstone of the Egyptian–Israeli peace accords, yet its internal politics and security have remained largely under media blackout. While the international press descended on the capital Cairo in January 2011, Sinai’s armed rebellion was ignored. The regime lost control of the peninsula in a matter of days and, since then, unprecedented chaos has reigned and the Islamist insurgency has gathered pace.

In this crucial analysis, Mohannad Sabry argues that Egypt’s shortsighted security approach has continually proven to be a failure. Decades of flawed policies have exacerbated immense social and economic problems, and maintained a superficial stability under which arms trafficking, the smuggling tunnels, and militancy could silently thrive—and finally prevail following the overthrow of Mubarak.

Sinai is vital reading for scholars, journalists, policy makers, and all those concerned by the plunge of one of the Middle East’s most critical regions into turmoil.

Mohannad Sabry is one of Egypt’s best young writers—and one of the first to understand the new dangers in Sinai. His book has the “ground truth” that can only come from careful, close-up reporting. This is the kind of smart, independent journalism that Egypt needs to build a truly strong future.”

—David Ignatius, columnist, The Washington Post

For years now, Sabry has been on the ground in the Sinai, seeing and observing a story that so many others have missed… This is an important and timely book filled with field research and reporting that anyone who cares about the future of the Middle East needs to read.”—Charles M. Sennott, founder and executive director of The Ground Truth Project and Middle East correspondent for The Boston Globe.
The story of urban, rural, and desert jewelry in modern Egypt, in a beautifully designed new edition

For many women of Egypt, their jewelry is their bank—they wear their wealth in their gold. But jewelry in Egypt is also more than mere assets, and its design and manufacture reveal a great array of styles and a high degree of skill and artistry. In this lavishly illustrated book, Azza Fahmy, herself a world-renowned designer of jewelry based on traditional motifs, lays before us an Aladdin’s cave of jewelry made in all corners of Egypt over the last one hundred years, collected through her extensive travels throughout the country.

From the farms and villages of the Nile Valley and Delta, from the oases of the Western Desert and the mountains and wadis of Sinai and the Eastern Desert, from Nubia in the south, and from the crowded traditional neighborhoods of Cairo is displayed a cornucopia of gold and silver adornment—each area with its own distinctive favored style. Personal seals have been widely employed, and there is even jewelry for special occasions, such as the appeasement of malignant spirits, and for animals.

In this completely redesigned edition of her bestselling book, in a new and elegant format, the author not only documents all these varieties and illustrates them with the finest examples, she also describes the techniques and skills involved in their production and the materials used, and recounts her own journey of learning as she apprenticed with the leading master jewelers to become the best known jeweler in Egypt, whose work is worn by world leaders, royalty, and connoisseurs of jewelry around the globe.
From the earliest resthouses serving travelers on the Overland Route between Britain and Bombay to the grand Edwardian palaces on the Nile that made Egypt the exotic alternative to wintering on the Riviera, the hotels of Alexandria, Cairo, Luxor, and Aswan were always about far more than just bed and board. As bridgeheads for African exploration, neutral territories for conducting diplomacy, headquarters for armies, providers of home comforts for writers, painters, scholars, and archaeologists in the field, and social hubs for an international elite, more of importance happened in Egypt’s hotels than in any other setting. It was through the hotels that visitors from the west—the earliest adventurers, then the travelers and, finally, the tourists—experienced the Orient. This book tells the stories of Egypt’s historic hotels (including the Cecil, Shepheard’s, the Mena House, Gezira Palace, Semiramis, Winter Palace, and Cataract) and some of the people who stayed in them, from Amelia Edwards, Lucie Duff Gordon and Florence Nightingale to Agatha Christie, Conan Doyle, Winston Churchill, and TE Lawrence.

Andrew Humphreys

The stretch of the longest river in the world that nurtured the world’s first great civilization has drawn and impressed visitors since ancient times. The Greeks were fascinated by the mysterious annual flood of the Nile that brought both water and nourishing silt to the lands along its banks, while nineteenth-century travelers were amazed by the magnificent tombs and temples of Upper Egypt. A Nile Anthology brings together the accounts and reflections of visitors and travelers to the Nile between Luxor and Aswan through the ages, from Herodotus in the fifth century BC, and the Arab geographers of medieval times, to such nineteenth-century luminaries as Amelia Edwards, Florence Nightingale, Jean François Champollion, Edward Lane, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. From the practicalities of river travel to descriptions of the pharaonic monuments, via the sights, sounds, and smells of the teeming souks, our writers guide us through a world and an age long gone.

Deborah Manley and Sahar Abdel-Hakim

“This sailing on the moon-lit Nile has an inexpressible charm; every sight is softened, every sound is musical, every air breathes balm. The pyramids, silvered by the moon, tower over the dark palms, and the broken ridges of the Arabian hills stand clearly out from the star-spangled sky.”

—Eliot Warburton, 1843
For centuries following its reestablishment as Constantinople in AD 330, Istanbul served as the capital of three great empires: Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman. The city’s maze-like streets and high balconies, steep alleys, flower gardens, and forested hillsides remain soaked in the vestiges of that imperial past, and it is to that past and to Istanbul’s unearthly moods and waters that so many writers and diarists journeyed in search of escape, knowledge, happiness, or sheer wonderment.

An Istanbul Anthology takes us on a nostalgic journey through the city with travelers’ accounts of the sights, smells, and sounds of Istanbul’s bazaars and coffeehouses, its grand palaces and gardens, crumbling buildings, and ancient churches and mosques, and the waters that so haunt and define it. With writers such as Gustave Flaubert, Pierre Loti, Ernest Hemingway, Mark Twain, and André Gide, we discover and rediscover the many delights of this great city of antiquity, meeting point of East and West, and gateway to peoples and civilizations.

About the series: The elegant, pocket-sized volumes in the AUC Press Anthology series feature the writings and observations of travel writers and diarists through the centuries. Vivid and evocative travelers’ accounts of some of the world’s great cities and regions are enhanced by the exquisite vintage design in small hardback format that make the books ideal gift books as well as perfect travel companions. Designed on cream paper stock and beautifully illustrated with line drawings and archival photographs.

Also available:

The Grand Bazaar has something like three thousand separate shops, and it covers a space more than a mile in circuit . . . . The shopkeepers sit cross-legged upon a bit of matting and carelessly smoke their pipes or play with their beads. There is no fixed price for anything, and every purchase involves a prolonged linguistic contest. Shopkeepers do not seem at all anxious to sell, and one may spend the whole day at the bazaar sipping coffee, eating sweetmeats, and conversing in a dozen languages. The bazaar, in fact, combines the features of a museum, theatre, and promenade, and its mercantile function seems quite secondary.”

—Will Seymour Monroe, 1907

“Turks sit in front of the little coffee houses in the narrow blind-alley streets at all hours, putting on their bubble-bubble pipes and drinking deusico, the tremendously poisonous, stomach rotting drink that has a greater kick than absinthe and is so strong that it is never consumed except with an hors d’oeuvre of some sort.”

—Ernest Hemingway, 1922

Kaya Genç is a novelist and essayist from Istanbul. His writing has appeared in The Believer, The Guardian, The Financial Times, and New Humanist, and he is a contributing editor at Index on Censorship. He blogs at kayagenc.net.

An Istanbul Anthology
Travel Writing through the Centuries
Edited by Kaya Genç

The entrancing spirit of the fabled city of Istanbul through the eyes of writers and travelers


World
One of the best ways to learn a language is by studying the media that native speakers themselves listen to and read, and popular songs can also reveal much about the culture and traditions of a country where the language is spoken. Egypt, as one of the great cultural production centers of the Arab world, enjoys a particularly rich musical scene, with songs in many styles in both Modern Standard Arabic and Egyptian Colloquial Arabic.

Here, Cairo-based Arabic teacher Bahaa Ed-Din Ossama presents twenty songs in Egyptian Arabic performed by popular singers from Umm Kulthoum to Mohamed Mounir and builds a variety of language lessons around them, with notes on vocabulary, grammar, and usage, and communicative exercises in listening, writing, and speaking. The songs are graded from easiest to most difficult, and each lesson includes a link to a performance of the song on YouTube, the lyrics of the song, and notes on the songwriter, the composer, and the singer. An illustration by cartoonist Okacha accompanies each song, adding not just a touch of humor but an additional departure point for classroom discussions.

Students using this unique book will not only improve their Colloquial Arabic skills but will also gain an insight into the cultural landscape of Egypt. The book can be used in the classroom or for self-study.

*Arabic Learning through Music*

Bahaa Ed-Din Ossama

A new approach to learning Egyptian Arabic through the songs of Umm Kulthoum, Mohamed Mounir, and many others.

*Egyptian Arabic through Popular Songs: Intermediate Level*

The Travels of Ibn Battuta: A Guided Reader

David DiMeo and Inas Hassan

The Travels of Ibn Battuta: A Guided Reader is a unique Arabic literature and history textbook for students at the High Intermediate to Advanced level. Ibn Battuta was the greatest traveler of the medieval period, and his narrative provides an unmatched view of medieval civilization from Spain to China, and from Russia to Mali. Students will read the authentic descriptions of Ibn Battuta’s encounters with cannibals, desert bandits, Mongol chieftains, and his impressions of wonders from Timbuktu to Constantinople to Quanzhou. This book provides a guided and scaffolded survey of Ibn Battuta’s greatest travels through twenty lessons, each with extensive preparatory, explanatory, and application exercises, enabling students to read the actual words of the original text without undue difficulty.

While telling a fascinating narrative as a whole, each of the twenty lessons is designed to stand alone for classroom or individual study. Individual sections focus on classical grammar and stylistics, historical and cultural background and critical evaluation of the texts. The book also provides teachers with a wide range of comprehension, composition, interpretation, and research activities.

*Arabic Reader*

David DiMeo received his Ph.D. from Harvard University, specializing in Arabic Literature and M.A. from Princeton University in Near Eastern Studies. He is an assistant professor and coordinator of the Arabic program at Western Kentucky University.

Inas Hassan has a Ph.D. and M.A. in Arabic Linguistics from Alexandria University in Egypt and is currently visiting assistant professor of Arabic at Loyola University in Maryland.

Arabic Language Learning Bestsellers

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- kullu tamam!
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Entrepreneurship and Innovation have emerged globally as significant drivers for inclusive economic growth, contributing to both job and wealth creation. Especially since Egypt’s 2011 revolution, the need has become pressing for novel models that capitalize on the country’s human resources. Half of the Egyptian population is less than 25 years old and almost one quarter is between 18 and 29 years old. More than any other time, an entrepreneurial spirit and innovative mindset need to be fostered and encouraged to best rebuild the country’s economy on solid and sustainable foundations.

This important book sheds new light on the promise of entrepreneurship and innovation in restructuring Egypt, and their potential for promoting economic development. It probes the relationship between innovation and economic growth, providing linkages between academic research and applied/industry needs. It also looks at how creativity and innovation can be embedded in the educational system, the challenges facing the entrepreneurial ecosystem, and considers ways to enhance social entrepreneurship.

Covering a lot of ground, the authors propose answers and solutions, as well as laying the groundwork for further research and deliberations—in this field in general and in Egypt, at this juncture of the country’s development, in particular.

Critical multidisciplinary research on entrepreneurship in Egypt

Edited by Nagla Rizk and Hassan Azzazy

Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Egypt

Sustainability and Innovation

The Next Global Industrial Revolution

Salah M. El-Haggar

Foreword by Lisa Anderson

Protecting the environment and conserving natural resources by using materials in cyclic loops

One of the most urgent problems facing the world today is environmental sustainability. Current practices of pollution control, waste treatment, and environmental protection are not only hugely expensive and a burden on development but also unsustainable in the long run for their steady depletion of the world’s natural resources. Any solutions must have proven economic benefits, be technologically viable, and meet prevailing environmental and social perspectives.

The main objective of this new set of studies is to describe methods that help to protect the environment and conserve natural resources. This can be achieved by applying the ‘cradle-to-cradle’ concept, which aims to use materials in closed cyclic loops without generating any type of waste or pollution. The authors provide the reader with an introduction to basic concepts of sustainable development, describe the mechanisms and benefits of related technologies, and suggest potential uses on a practical level by examining innovations developed in the mechanical engineering laboratories of the American University in Cairo. Particular focus is placed on innovation as a vital means of attaining sustainability.

A timely contribution to the debate on environmentally sustainable practices, this book will be indispensable to environmentalists, scientists, economists, engineers, development specialists, and policy-makers, as well as being of interest to the lay reader.

Nagla Rizk is a professor of economics and founding director of the Access to Knowledge for Development Center (A2K4D) at the School of Business of the American University in Cairo. She is also a faculty associate at Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University and an affiliated fellow of the Information Society Project at Yale Law School.

Hassan Azzazy is professor of chemistry at the American University in Cairo and is the founder of the Novel Diagnostics and Therapeutics Research Group. He has worked with the European Training Foundation to promote the introduction of entrepreneurial learning in higher education in Egypt, and is the recipient of the Young Innovator Award from Burayda Colleges in Saudi Arabia and the Global Innovator Award from Texas Christian University.
Entrepreneurship in the Arab World

Ten Case Studies

A set of studies giving valuable insights into the challenges of launching and sustaining businesses in the developing economies of the Arab world.

This collection of case-studies showcases the experiences of ten intriguing entrepreneurial ventures from emerging markets in the Arab world (Egypt, the UAE, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia).

Readers will receive an in-depth insight on a variety of localized strategic, managerial, marketing, and innovative approaches and practices, which create unique challenges and opportunities in a region undergoing rapid political, social, and economic transformations. The unique case-studies address different stages within the exciting entrepreneurial cycle, from startup to growth, sustainability, and international expansion.

This casebook is a valuable resource for anyone wanting to know more about launching and sustaining a business within developing Arab economies, as well as being an effective teaching tool for disciplines related to new venture management and entrepreneurship.

Arab Cinema

History and Cultural Identity: Revised and Updated Edition

Since it was first published in 1998, Viola Shafik’s Arab Cinema: History and Cultural Identity has become an indispensable work for scholars of film and the contemporary Middle East. Combining detailed narrative history—economic, ideological, and aesthetic—with thought-provoking analysis, Arab Cinema provides a comprehensive overview of cinema in the Arab world, tracing the industry’s development from colonial times to the present. It analyzes the ambiguous relationship with commercial western cinema, and the effect of Egyptian market dominance in the region. Tracing the influence on the medium of local and regional art forms and modes of thought, both classical and popular, Shafik shows how indigenous and external factors combine in a dynamic process of “cultural repackaging.”

Now updated to reflect cultural shifts in the last two decades, this revised edition contains a new afterword highlighting the latest developments in popular and in art-house filmmaking, with a special focus on Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, and the Gulf States. While exploring problematic issues such as European co-production for Arab art films, including their relation to cultural identity and their reception in the region and abroad, this new edition introduces readers to some of the most compelling cinematic works of the last decades.

Viola Shafik studied cinema in Hamburg, and is a freelance film scholar, creative consultant, and filmmaker. She has directed several documentaries, most notably My Name Is Not Ali (2011) and Arij: Scent of Revolution (2014). She is also the author of Popular Egyptian Cinema: Gender, Class, and Nation (AUC Press, 2007).
Christianity arrived early in Egypt, brought—according to tradition—by Saint Mark the Evangelist, who became the first patriarch of Alexandria. The Coptic Orthodox Church has flourished ever since, with millions of adherents both in Egypt and in Coptic communities around the world. Since its split from the Byzantine Church in 451, the Coptic Church has proudly maintained its early traditions, and influence from outside has been minimal: the liturgy is still sung to unique rhythms in Coptic, a late stage of the same ancient Egyptian language that is inscribed in hieroglyphs on temple walls and papyri.

Dr. Otto Meinardus, a leading authority on the history of the Coptic Church, here revises, updates, and combines his renowned studies *Christian Egypt, Ancient and Modern* (AUC Press, 1965, 1977) and *Christian Egypt, Faith and Life* (AUC Press, 1970) into a new, definitive, one-volume history, surveying the twenty centuries of existence of one of the oldest churches in the world.

The first millennium in Egypt saw a transition from an ancient pantheon of pagan gods to the one God of the three Abrahamic faiths. Jewish, Christian, and Muslim communities were established in succession and peacefully co-existed for long periods of time periodically interrupted by conflict and violence, each faith responding to pre-existing traditions by either rejecting earlier artistic ideas or by adapting and assimilating them. Due to its arid climate, Egypt preserves a unique range and abundance of evidence providing insights into the emergence and establishment of new religions and their relationship to each other and to the pagan past. Over three hundred objects have been specially selected for this publication, drawing on the significant collections of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin and the British Museum and reflecting the rich cultural diversity of the Nile Valley from the first to the twelfth century AD. Through beautiful works of art, including jewelry, painted panels, textiles, sculpture, calligraphy, manuscripts, glass, and ceramics, we gain a better understanding of the lives of ordinary and extraordinary people in this important period in Egyptian history. The book also reveals the different types of sacred buildings—synagogue, church, and mosque—and explains their architectural history and dissemination in Egypt.
Cairo Swan Song

Cairo, Mother of the World, embraces millions—but some of her children make their home in the streets, junked up and living in the shadows of wealth and among the monuments that the tourists flock to see. Mustafa, a former student radical who never believed in the slogans, sets out to tell their story, but he has to rely on the help of his American girlfriend, Marcia, who he is not sure he can trust. Meanwhile, his former leftist friends are now all either capitalists or Islamists.

Alienated from a corrupt and corrupting society, Mustafa watches as the Cairo he cherishes crumbles around him. The men and women of the city struggle to find lovers worthy of their love and causes worthy of their sacrifice in a country that no longer deserves their loyalty. The children of the streets wait for the adults to take notice. And the foreigners can always leave.

Mekkawi Said was born in Cairo in 1955. His first collection of short stories appeared in 1981, and since then he has produced four more. His first novel won the Suad Sabbah Arab Creativity Prize in 1991. Cairo Swan Song, his second novel, was shortlisted for the International Prize for Arabic Fiction (the ‘Arabic Booker’) in 2008.

“incidents described become haunting, visceral, and so compelling . . . ”
—Charles R. Larson, Counterpunch

Original Arabic title: Taghrdat al-bag’a
978-977-416-663-1. LE200. World C

Also available:

Religious History

Christianity and Monasticism in Middle Egypt
Mirya and Asyut

978-977-416-663-1. LE200. World C

Also available:

Christianity and Monasticism in Middle Egypt
Edited by Gawdat Gabra and Hany Takla

Christianity and monasticism have long flourished along the Nile in Middle Egypt, the region stretching from al-Bahnasa (Oxyrhynchus) to Dayr al-Ganadla. The contributors to this volume, international specialists in Coptology from around the world, examine various aspects of Coptic civilization in Middle Egypt over the past two millennia. The studies explore Coptic art and archaeology, architecture, language, and literature. The artistic heritage of monastic sites in the region is highlighted, attesting to their important legacies.

Gawdat Gabra is the former director of the Coptic Museum and the author, coauthor, or editor of numerous books on the history and culture of Egyptian Christianity, including The History and Religious Heritage of Old Cairo (AUC Press, 2013). He is currently visiting professor of Coptic studies at Claremont Graduate University, California.

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Gold Dust

Ibrahim al-Koni
Translated by Elliott Colla

Rejected by his tribe and hunted by the kin of the man he killed, Ukhayyad and his thoroughbred camel flee across the desolate Tuareg deserts of the Sahara. Between bloody wars against the Italians in the north and famine ravaging in the south, Ukhayyad rides for the remote rock caves of Jebel Hasawna. There, he says farewell to the mount who has been his companion through thirst, disease, lust, and loneliness. Alone in the desert, haunted by the prophetic cave paintings of ancient hunting scenes and the cries of jinn in the night, Ukhayyad awaits the arrival of his pursuers and their insatiable hunger for blood and gold. Gold Dust is a classic story of the brotherhood between man and beast, the thread of companionship that is all the difference between life and death in the desert. It is a story of the fight to endure in a world of limitless and waterless wastes, and a parable of the struggle to survive in the most dangerous landscape of all: human society.

The Scarecrow

Ibrahim al-Koni
Translated by William M. Hutchins

The Scarecrow is the final volume of Ibrahim al-Koni’s desert trilogy, which chronicles the founding, flourishing, and decline of a Saharan oasis. Fittingly, this continuation of a tale of greed and corruption opens with a meeting of the conspirators who assassinated the community’s leader at the end of the previous novel, The Puppet. They punished him for opposing the use of gold in business transactions—a symptom of a critical break with their nomadic past—and now they must search for a leader who shares their fetishistic love of gold. A desert retreat inspires the group to select a leader at random, but their choice, it appears, is not entirely human. This interloper from the spirit world proves a self-righteous despot, whose intolerance of humanity presages disaster for an oasis besieged by an international alliance. Though al-Koni has repeatedly stressed that he is not a political author, readers may see parallels not only to a former Libyan ruler but to other tyrants—past and present—who appear as hollow as a scarecrow.


William M. Hutchins, a professor in the Philosophy and Religious Studies Department at Appalachian State University, has translated the works of many Arab writers, including Tawfiq al-Hakim, Fadhil al-Azzawi, Ibrahim al-Koni, and Mohammed Khudayyir. He was awarded the 2011 Sai Ghalib Rilwan Prize for Arabic Literary Translation for his translation of A Land without Jasmine by Maykel al-Azzaz.
In a fictional Gulf country, with its gleaming glass towers and imported greenery, the routine of day-to-day life is suddenly interrupted when the national football team qualifies for the World Cup. The Emir issues an edict ordering all native Emiratis to travel to France to support the team, leaving the country to the care of its imported labor. How do they handle such newly found freedom?

As though steered by a perverse blend between Dante and Scheherazade, we descend layer by layer beneath the façade of modernity: from the colorful multilingual throngs rejoicing for the Emirati team to the hierarchies that underpin them, from the luxurious gardens and swimming pools into the darker secrets of the bedroom, from the rigid and inhibiting strictures of the present to a remote age of innocence. Three narratives interweave to form a tight and thought-provoking examination of the psychology of control.

Drumbeat received the Sawiris Foundation Award for Egyptian Literature.

Winner of the Sawiris Foundation Award for Egyptian Literature

The Hashish Waiter

A serious comic novel from the award-winning author of The Lodging House

Tucked away in a rundown quarter, just out of sight of fashionable downtown Cairo, a group of intellectuals gather regularly to smoke hashish in Hakeem’s den. The den is the center of their lives, both a refuge and a stimulus, and at the center of the den is the remarkable man who keeps their hashish bowls topped up—Rowdy Salih.

While his former life is a mystery to his loyal clientele of writers, painters, film directors, and even window dressers, each sees himself reflected in Salih; but without his humor, humility, or insight, or his occasional passions fueled by hootch. And when the nation has to face its own demons during the peace initiative of the 1970s, it is Rowdy Salih who speaks for them all.

This is a comic novel with a broken heart very like Salih himself, whose warm rough voice calls out long after we have recovered from the novel’s painful conclusion.

By the same author:

Mohamed El-Bisatie

Original Arabic title: Daqq al-tabul

Drumbeat

Translated by Peter Daniel

Fiction in Paperback

Winner of the Sawiris Foundation Award for Egyptian Literature

Khairy Shalaby

Original Arabic title: Saleh Hesa

The Hashish Waiter

Translated by Adam Talib

Fiction in Paperback

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By the same author:
Award Winning Novels

Red Wine

Amina Zaydan
Translated by Sally Gomaa

Winner of the Naguib Mahfouz Medal for Literature

In a world with no meaning, meaning is an act . . .

This is a story about building things up and knocking them down. Here are the campfire tales of Egypt's dispossessed and disillusioned, the anti-Arabian Nights.

Our narrator, a rural immigrant from the Bedouin villages of the Fayoum, an aspiring novelist and construction laborer of the lowest order, leads us down a fractured path of reminiscence in his quest for purpose and identity in a world where the old orders and traditions are powerless to help.

Bawdy and wistful, tragicomic and bitter, his stories loop and repeat, cracking with the frictive energy of colliding worlds and linguistic registers. These are the tales of Cairo's new Bedouin, men not settled by the state but permanently uprooted by it. Like their lives, their stories are dislocated and unplotted, mapping out their quest for meaning in the very act of placing brick on brick and word on word.

Winner of the Naguib Mahfouz Medal for Literature

Hamdi Abu Golayyel
Translated by Robin Moger

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Amina Zaydan

Amina Zaydan is a robust, mature writer with a highly developed narrative technique.” — Al-Ahram Weekly

Other Mahfouz Medal winning novels:

The Perfumed Ones

Till We Meet Again

Roses and Waterfalls

Amina Zaydan

Amina Zaydan, born in 1966, is known for her boldly feminist themes and her fearless scrutiny of gender norms. Red Wine was awarded the 2007 Naguib Mahfouz Medal for Literature.

Sally Gomaa
currently teaches contemporary global literature and writing at Salve Regina University.

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Hamdi Abu Golayyel was born in the Fayoum, Egypt, in 1967. He is the author of three short story collections and two novels, the first of which, Thieves at Retirement, was published in English in 2007. A Dog with No Tail was awarded the Naguib Mahfouz Medal for Literature in 2008.

Robin Moger

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Like a Summer Never to Be Repeated

Mohamed Berrada
Translated by Christina Phillips

An unusual novel about a Moroccan abroad in Cairo over four decades

Like a Summer Never to Be Repeated is a fascinating and highly experimental story based loosely around the author’s own experiences in Egypt as a Moroccan student and visiting intellectual. In Cairo the narrator, Hammad, takes us on a deep personal journey of discovery from the heady days of the 1950s and 1960s, with all the optimism and excitement surrounding Moroccan independence, Suez, and Abdel Nasser, up to the 1990s and the time of writing, revealing an individual intensely concerned with Arab life and culture. Meanwhile, his regular visits to Cairo allow us to watch a culture in transition over four decades.

Exploring themes of change, the role of culture in society, memory, and writing, in a text that combines narrative fiction with literary criticism, philosophical musings, and quotation, Like a Summer Never to Be Repeated is among the most innovative works of modern Arabic literature and a testimony to Mohammed Berrada’s position as a leading pioneer.

Mohammed Berrada, born in Rabat in 1938, is one of Morocco’s leading writers. He is the author of short stories, novels, and works of literary criticism.

Christina Phillips has a PhD in modern Arabic literature. She lives in London and is currently pursuing postdoctoral research in modern Arabic narrative and poetry. She is the translator of Naguib Mahfouz’s Mourning and Evening Talk (AUC Press, 2007).

Cities without Palms

Tarek Eltayeb
Translated by Kareem James Palmer-Zeid

The debut novel from a rising Sudanese writer

In a desperate attempt to save his mother and two sisters from famine and disease, a young man leaves his native village in Sudan and sets out alone to seek work in the city. This is the beginning of Hamza’s long journey. Hunger and destitution lead him ever farther from his home: first from Sudan to Egypt, where the lack of work forces him to join a band of smugglers, and finally from Egypt to Europe—Italy, France, Holland—where he experiences first-hand the harsh world of migrant laborers and the bitter realities of life as an illegal immigrant. Tarek Eltayeb’s first novel offers an uncompromising depiction of poverty in both the developed and the developing world. With its simple yet elegant style, Cities without Palms tells of a tragic human life punctuated by moments of true joy.

Tarek Eltayeb was born in Cairo in 1959, the son of Sudanese parents. Since 1984 he has lived in Austria, where he is currently a professor at the International Management Center of the University of Applied Sciences at Krems. He is the author of three novels as well as short stories and poetry.

Kareem James Palmer-Zeid is the translator of Tarek Eltayeb’s The Palm House (AUC Press, 2011). He was named one of the 2018 Safa Ghobash-Banipal Prize for Arabic Literary Translation for his translation of Cities without Palms.
**A Tunisian Tale**

Hassouna Mosbahi

Translated by Max Weiss

An unconventional novel that explores the darker side of modern Tunisian society

After ne’er-do-wells spread rumors about a widowed mother’s weak moral character among the people of a slum on the outskirts of Tunis that festers with migrants who have come to the metropolis from the heartland in search of a better life, her twenty-year-old son takes matters into his own hands and commits an unspeakable crime. An imaginative and disturbing novel told from the alternating viewpoints of this unrepentant sociopath, as he sits and fumes on death row but willingly guides us through his juvenile exploits and twisted memories, and his murdered mother, who calmly gives an account of her interrupted life from beyond the grave,

*A Tunisian Tale* introduces the narrative talents of Hassouna Mosbahi to an English-language audience for the first time, as he confronts both taboos of Tunisian society and the boundaries of conventional storytelling.

**The Scents of Marie-Clare**

Habib Selmi

Translated by Fadwa Al Qasem

This novel from one of Tunisia’s leading writers, the first of his works to be translated into English, narrates a love story in all its stages, in all its glorious and inglorious details. Moment by moment we become acquainted with the morning rituals, the desires of the flesh, the turbulence of the spirit, and even a few unattractive personal habits. It is a journey that takes us inside the nuances of what passes between two lovers, from the first glimpses of attraction to the final words of anger. It is a journey filled with all the hallmarks of the complex relationship between one man and one woman—the mystery and the ambiguity, the intricacy and the confusion—which, in the end, serve to expose its fragility. This is an intimate tale that manages to tell not only the story of two individuals, but also that of the collision of two cultures.
Index

Abdel-Hakim, Sahar 23
Abu Golayyel, Hamdi 43
Abu Sitta, Salman 18
Ancient Egypt from the Air 11
Anderson, Lisa 30
Arab Cinema 33
Azzazy, Hassan 31
Berrada, Mohamed 44
Bertinetti, Marcello 11
Bezabeh, Samson A. 16
El-Bisatie, Mohamed 40
Cairo Swan Song 37
Christianity and Monasticism in Middle Egypt 36
Cities without Palms 45
Colla, Elliott 38
Contesting Antiquity in Egypt 7
Crows and Sultans 17
Daniel, Peter 40
DiMeo, David 27
Discovering Tutankhamun 6
Dodson, Aidan 4
Dog with No Tail 43
Donker van Heel, Koenraad 10
Drumbeat 40
Elbendary, Amina 17
Eltayeb, Tarek 45
Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Egypt 31
Entrepreneurship in the Arab World 32
Fahmy, Azza 20
Fluck, Cäcilia 35
Gabra, Gawdat 36
Genç, Kaya 24
Gold Dust 38
Gomaa, Sally 42
Grand Hotels of Egypt 22
El-Haggar, Salah M. 30
Hashish Waiter 41
Hassan, Inas 27
Hawass, Zahi 6, 8
Helmecke, Gisela 35
Humphreys, Andrew 22
Hutchins, William M. 39
Ibn Tulun 14
Istanbul Anthology 24
El-Khazindar Business Research and Case Center 32
Kilma Hilwa 26
al-Koni, Ibrahim 38, 39
Like a Summer Never to Be Repeated 44
Manley, Deborah 23
Mapping My Return 18
Meinardus, Otto F.A. 34
Moger, Robin 43
Monarchs of the Nile 4
Mosbahi, Hassouna 46
Mrs. Tsenhor 10
Nile Anthology 23
O’Connell, Elisabeth R. 35
Ossama, Bahaa Ed-Din 26
Palmer-Zeid, Kareem James 45
Phillips, Christina 44
Pischikova, Elena 5
Al Qasem, Fadwa 47
Red Wine 42
Reid, Donald Malcolm 7
Rizk, Nagla 31
Sabry, Mohannad 18
Said, Mekkawi 37
Saleem, Sahar 8
Scanning the Pharaohs 8
Scarecrow 39
Scents of Marie-Claire 47
Selmi, Habib 47
Seyfried, Friederike 35
Shafik, Viola 33
Shalaby, Khairy 41
Sinaa 18
Subjects of Empires/Citizens of States 16
Sustainability and Innovation 30
Sweilim, Tarek 14
Takla, Hany 36
Talib, Adam 37, 41
Thompson, Jason 2
Tombs of the South Asasif Necropolis 5
Traditional Jewelry of Egypt 20
Travels of Ibn Battuta 27
Tunisian Tale 46
Two Thousand Years of Coptic Christianity 34
Weiss, Max 46
Wonderful Things 2
Zaydan, Amina 42

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