

Notes on Contributors

Roger Allen is a noted scholar and teacher of Arab literature and experienced translator of many Arab literary works including the Nobel-prize winning novel by Naguib Mahfouz. Most recently he translated Jurji Zaidan's novel, *The Conquest of Andalusia*. Until July 2012, he was the Sascha Jane Patterson Harvie Professor of Social Thought and Comparative Ethics, School of Arts & Sciences, Professor of Arabic & Comparative Literature, and Chair, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Pennsylvania. He served as the President, Middle East Studies Association of North America in 2008-2009.

Zaïneb Ben Lagha is Maître de conférences (Associate Professor) at the University of the Sorbonne Nouvelle in Paris. She is a specialist of modern and contemporary Arab literature. She defended her doctoral thesis in 2006 on *Le personnage historique dans l'Œuvre romanesque de Ğurġī Zaydān (1861-1914): Entre figure exemplaire et personnage de roman*. Author of several articles on the Arab historical novel and on the novels of Jurji Zaidan, she is co-author of a volume on *Les Expressions et les Usages de la marginalité en littérature. Orient-Occident*, forthcoming publication of Les Classiques Garnier.

Michael Cooperson is Professor of Arabic in the department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is a graduate of Harvard University and the American University in Cairo. His publications include *Classical Arabic Biography* (2000) and *Al-Ma'mun* (2005). He has translated Abdelfattah Kilito's *The Author and His Doubles* (2001), Khairy Shalaby's *Time Travels of the Man Who Sold Pickles and Sweets* (2010), and Jurji Zaidan's *The Caliph's Heirs* (2012). He is co-author, with the RRAALL group, of *Interpreting the Self: Autobiography in the Arabic literary tradition* (2001); and co-editor, with Shawkat Toorawa, of *The Dictionary of Literary Biography: Arabic Literary Culture, 500-915* (2005). His interests include the cultural history of the 'Abbasid period, time travel as a literary device, and Maltese language and literature.

Georges Corm is Professor at Saint-Joseph University, Beirut, Institute of Political Sciences and international economic consultant. He is the author of numerous books about Middle Eastern contemporary history, among which are *Fragmentation of the Middle East* (London, Unwyn Hyman, 1985) and *History of the Middle East From Antiquity to the Present Day* (London, Garnett Publishing, 2010). He is also a noted commentator on political and economic affairs in the Arab world who served as Minister of Finance in Lebanon from December 1998 to October 2000 and as Advisor to the Governor of the Lebanese Central Bank from 1980 to 1985, in addition to consulting widely with national, regional and international institutions such as the World Bank, the European Union, ESCWA, ILO, FAO and UNCTAD.

Anne-Laure Dupont is Maître de conférences (Associate Professor) of Modern and Contemporary History at Paris-Sorbonne University. Her interests lie in the cultural history of the Arab world and Middle East in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. She published an intellectual biography of Jurji Zaidan, *Ġurġī Zaydān 1861–1914: Écrivain réformiste et témoin de la Renaissance arabe* (Damas, Institut français du Proche-Orient, 2006) and published a number of articles on him. She edited two review issues: “Débats intellectuels au Moyen-Orient dans l’entre-deux-guerres.” (with Catherine Mayeur-Jaouen), *Revue des mondes musulmans et de la Méditerranée* (2002) pp. 95-98; and “Islam et l’éducation au temps des réformes. Systèmes scolaires et enjeux de l’enseignement au Proche-Orient et en Afrique du Nord aux XIX^e et XX^e siècles,” *Cahiers de la Méditerranée* 75 (Dec. 2007). She is now working on the reformist movement in nineteenth-century Tunisia.

Marwa Elshakry, Associate Professor of History at Columbia University, is the author of the forthcoming *Reading Darwin in Arabic* (Univ. of Chicago Press), a reader on *Science, Race and Imperialism*, vol. 6 of Pickering and Chatto’s *Victorian Science and Literature* series (Alexandria VA, Alexandria Street Press, 2012) and several articles, including: “When Science became Western: Historiographical Reflections,” *Isis* 101 (2010) pp. 98-110; “Knowledge in Motion: The Cultural Politics of Modern Science Translations in Arabic,” *Isis* 99 (2008) pp. 701-731; “The Exegesis of Science in Twentieth Century Arabic Interpretations of the Quran” in *Nature and Scripture in the Abrahamic Religions:1700-Present* edited by Jitse M. van der Meer and Scott Mandelbrote (Leiden, E.J.Brill, 2008); and “The Gospel of Science and American Evangelism in Beirut,” *Past and Present* 104 (2007) pp. 173-214.

William Granara is Professor of Arabic at the Gordon Gray Endowment at Harvard. He teaches Arabic language and literature and presently directs the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations’ program in modern languages. He studied Arabic at Georgetown University and received his PhD in Arabic and Islamic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. He writes on cross-cultural encounters between Islam and Christendom throughout the Middle Ages, specializing in the Muslim periods of Sicily and Spain. In addition, he lectures and writes on contemporary Arabic literature and has published numerous translations and critical articles on Egyptian and North African fiction. His work on literary criticism focuses on post-colonialism and cross cultural poetics. Most recently, Professor Granara translated Jurji Zaidan’s *The Battle of Poitiers*.

Jens Hanssen is Associate Professor of Middle Eastern and Mediterranean History at the University of Toronto. He received his D.Phil. from Oxford University in 2001. He is the author of several books including *Fin de Siècle Beirut* (Oxford, Clarendon Press; New York, Oxford Univ. Press, 2005) and the co-editor of two volumes: *Arab Provincial Capitals in the Late Ottoman Empire*, (Würzburg: Ergon in Kommission, 2002); and *History, Space and Social Conflict in Beirut* (Beirut, Orient Institut, 2005). He is also the co-editor of the forthcoming *Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Middle Eastern and North African History*. During his visit to Baghdad in June 2003, he filmed a short documentary (posted on Youtube.com) on academic life in Iraq after the U.S. invasion.

He has recently published in *The New Cambridge History of Islam* (2010), in the *International Journal of Middle East Studies* (2011) and *Critical Inquiry*. He is currently conducting research on the intersection between German-Jewish and Arab intellectual histories. He also investigates questions of intellectual history of the Middle East in general and, in particular, the legacy of the nineteenth century Arabic revival and reform movement on contemporary political developments.

Thomas Philipp, Professor (retired) für Politik und Zeitgeschichte des Nahen Ostens am Institut für Politische Wissenschaft at Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, received his Ph.D. in 1971 from UCLA and graduated from Hebrew University in 1966. He taught at the University of Shiraz/Iran and at Harvard University. He is a leading expert on the life and thought of Jurji Zaidan as well as the development of Arab thought in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. His study, *Ġurġī Zaidān: His Life and Thought*, was published in 1979, supplemented by various articles on different aspects of Zaidan's work. He edited the English version of *Al-Jabarti's History of Egypt* and authored books on *The Syrians in Egypt, 1725-1975* and on *Acre, The Rise and Fall of a Palestinian City, 1731-1831*. He published the proceedings of several conferences on the "Syrian Land—Bilad al-Sham". His most recent book is *Jurji Zaidan and the Foundations of Arab Nationalism* (New York, Syracuse Univ. Press, 2014).

Ismail Serageldin is the Founding Director of the Library of Alexandria and also chairs the Boards of Directors for the Library of Alexandria's affiliated research institutes and museums. The Memory of Modern Egypt Series was one of the major projects spearheaded by Dr Serageldin at the Library. It documents the history of Egypt in the last two hundred years. As part of this project, the five year Dar al-Hilal Documentation project was completed in January 2012, on the occasion of the one hundredth and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Jurji Zaidan. The first phase digitized the whole collection of *al-Hilal* Magazine. In the second phase, the Catalogue on *Dār al-Hilāl Madrasat al-Tanwīr (Dar al-Hilal: A School of Enlightenment)* was published.

Ismail Serageldin is Professor of the International Chair Savoirs Contre Pauvreté (Knowledge Against Poverty) at the Collège de France, Paris (2010-2011). He has been decorated as Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur (France) and as Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters (France) and the Order of the Rising Sun (Japan). He serves as Chair and Member of a number of advisory committees for academic research, scientific and international institutions and civil society efforts which includes the American Philosophical Society, The US National Academy of Sciences (PW Medal winner 2011), the American Academy for Arts and Sciences, the Institut d'Egypte (Egyptian Academy of Science), TWAS (Academy of Sciences for the Developing World), the Indian National Academy of Agricultural Sciences and the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. He is former Chairman, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR, 1994-2000), Founder and former Chairman, the Global Water Partnership (GWP, 1996-2000) and the Consultative Group to Assist the Poorest (CGAP), a microfinance program (1995-2000). He was also Distinguished Professor at Wageningen University in the Netherlands and the American University in Cairo (2000-2001). Dr

Serageldin has also served in a number of capacities at the World Bank, including as Vice President for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development (1992-1998) and for Special Programs (1998-2000). He has published over sixty books and monographs and over two hundred papers on a variety of topics including biotechnology, rural development, sustainability, and the value of science to society. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering from Cairo University and a Master's degree and PhD from Harvard University and has received twenty nine honorary doctorates.

George C Zaidan obtained his PhD from Harvard University in 1967 in Development Economics after doing his undergraduate degree in Law at Cairo University and in International Economics at the London School of Economics. Between 1967 and 1998 he worked at the World Bank in various managerial and professional positions traveling to more than fifty countries where he was involved with programs of development assistance in various intercultural settings. Since retiring from the World Bank he has been actively involved as a consultant to various international and regional organizations such as UNDP, the African Development Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development. He grew up in Egypt and his family came originally from Lebanon. His family was centrally involved in the intellectual development of the Arab progressive movement that began in the late nineteenth and twentieth century in the Arab world.