

February 2011

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Dear Reader,

All of us at the AUC Press trust our readers and friends, especially those of you living in Egypt, are well and hopeful about Egypt's new future.



*Tahrir Square seen from the AUC Press offices (T. El-Elaimy)*

The political events in Egypt over the past few weeks have been quite extraordinary and exceptional. To quote editor Mona Anis in her recent *Al Ahram Weekly* article, the wind that has blown through Egypt has brought a "[return of the spirit](#)." This new era will no doubt be the source of much inspiration for many stimulating books on Egypt and the Middle East, not to mention in Arabic literature. We look forward to bringing you more of the best publications about current political, economic, social, and cultural development in Egypt and the region.

On this note, we are very pleased to announce, among our latest publications, Alaa Al Aswany's [On The State of Egypt: A Novelist's Provocative Reflections](#), in which the bestselling author of [The Yacoubian Building](#) addresses, in over forty political and social essays, issues relating to Egypt's presidency and succession, social justice, free speech and the state of repression.

Also forthcoming are two further timely publications relating to Egypt and its state of affairs, including Galal Amin's [Egypt in the Era of Hosni Mubarak, 1981-2011](#), and the first issue of [The Cairo Review of Global Affairs](#), which includes contributions by Shadi Hamid, William B. Quandt, Ahmed Zuweil, and others.

The AUC Press offices, which are located on Tahrir Square, at the corner of Sheikh Riham Street, and which were partially vandalized during the protests, remained closed until last week. We are now getting steadily back to work, despite damaged property and stolen computers.

## Upcoming Events - 2011

**March 15 - 20**

[Abu Dhabi International Book Fair](#)

Abu Dhabi, UAE

**March 31 - April 3**

[Tahrir Book Fair](#)

AUC Press Tahrir Bookstore  
10:00 am - 6:00 pm

**April 11 - 13**

[The London Book Fair](#)

London, UK

**Wednesday, April 27**

Book and Author Reception  
AUC Press Tahrir Bookstore  
5:00 pm

**Sunday, May 1**

Book and Author Reception  
AUC Press Tahrir Bookstore  
9:00 am - 6:00 pm

**Sunday, May 29**

Annual Book, Art, & Music  
Festival

**Sunday, June 5**

Book and Author Reception  
AUC Press Tahrir Bookstore  
9:00 am - 6:00 pm

[More](#)

All [AUC Press Bookstores](#) have now reopened. Book orders from Egypt can also be placed again, either online or directly through the AUC Press marketing department via phone or fax.

As many of you know, due to the unrest, last month's much anticipated art exhibition that was to feature many unique pieces from Sherwet Shafei's private collection of twentieth-century Egyptian art in the Margo Veillon Gallery at the AUC Tahrir Campus had to be postponed. Also the Cairo International Book Fair in Nasr City was canceled, to the disappointment of millions of visitors, as well as to the booksellers and publishers who attend the Book Fair from year to year.

However, we are very pleased to announce that the AUC Press will host [The Tahrir Book Fair](#) from March 31 to April 3 on the AUC Tahrir Campus, which will include thousands of publications by booksellers and publishers from Egypt and abroad, and will also feature author signings, panel seminars, special receptions, and entertainment.

Last but not least, we have resumed our calendar of public events. At our recent Book & Author reception, held in celebration of the reopening of the AUC Press Tahrir Bookstore and of Alaa Al Aswany's new book [On The State of Egypt, the author spoke with journalists and visitors](#) about the January 25 Egyptian revolution and the future of the country.

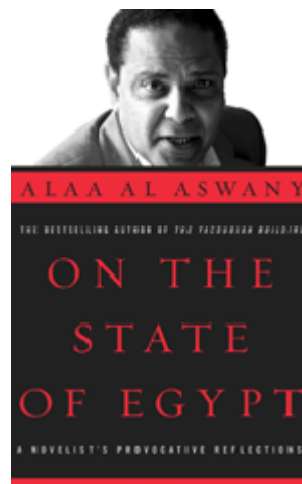
AUC Press news and events announcements are regularly updated and posted on the AUC Press [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page.

**Mark Linz**

**Director**

**The American University in Cairo Press**

**Book of the Month** – Available at the [AUC Press Bookstores](#)



[On The State of Egypt: A Novelist's Provocative Reflections](#)

By Alaa Al Aswany

Translated by Jonathan Wright

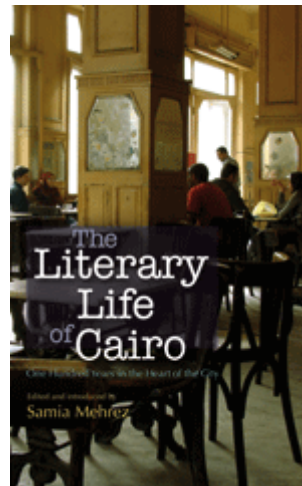
In a new introduction written after the February 25 Egyptian revolution for his latest book [On The State of Egypt](#), Alaa Al Aswany points out the numerous factors of why Egyptians did not rise up before against the injustices inflicted under the Mubarak government—"severe repression, the lack of an organization able to lead the masses, and the fact that

Egyptians were distracted by the need to make a living and were seeking individual solutions to the crisis.”

In this new collection of political and social essays, translated from Arabic by Jonathan Wright, Alaa Al Aswany boldly addresses the state of his nation, the moral ambiguity of appointed politicians, the suitability of democratic reforms in a Muslim society, asking the government to serve the people, and for the people to demand what they deserve. To read more and order the book, [click here](#).



**New AUC Press Books** – Available at the [AUC Press Bookstores](#)



**[The Literary Life of Cairo: One Hundred Years in the Heart of the City](#)**

Edited and with an introduction by Samia Mehrez

As Samia Mehrez notes in her introduction, [The Literary Life of Cairo](#) represents Cairenes' lives and human relations across the city's literary topography, emphasizing the fundamental relationship between

literature and geography. She brings together in this companion volume to *The Literary Atlas of Cairo* (AUC Press, 2010) literary representations of some of Cairo's, if not the entire country's, most important national and international icons, with literary extracts from works by Albert Cossery, Edward Said, Naguib Mahfouz, Yusuf Idris, and many others.

To read more about the book and order it, [click here](#).



**[The New Arab Journalist: Mission and Identity in A Time of Turmoil](#)**

By Lawrence Pintak

"Arab media have been at the vanguard of articulating this new and explosive development [in the Arab world]. Arab satellite television, such as Al Jazeera -- and the increasingly aggressive ethos of Arab print journalism exemplified by newspapers like Egypt's *Al-Masry Al-Youm* and Tunisia's crusading *Kalima Tunisie* -- have fueled a sense of common cause among Arabs across the region every bit as real as the

"imagined communities" that are at the core of the concept of nation,"



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wrote veteran journalist and former director of the AUC Adham Center for Journalism Training and Research in a February 2011 article in Foreign Policy. In his new book, [The New Arab Journalist](#), Pintak elaborates on how the Arab media today control the message, challenging autocratic regimes. To read more about the book and order, [click here](#).

### [More new AUC Press books](#)



### **AUC Press and Authors in the News**

#### [Al-Aswany on the state of Egypt](#)

Review of Alaa Al Aswany's [On The State of Egypt: A Novelist's Provocative Reflections](#) (AUC Press, 2011)  
*The Daily News Egypt*, Sarah P. Blakemore, February 22

#### [Acclaimed novelist praises revolution, blasts regime holdovers at book-signing](#)

Alaa Al Aswany, author of [On The State of Egypt: A Novelist's Provocative Reflections](#) (AUC Press, 2011) talks to journalists and visitors at the AUC Press Tahrir Square Bookstore  
*Al Masry Al Youm*, Mai El-Wakil, February 21

#### [AUC to host Tahrir Book Fair](#)

*Al Ahram Online*, Marwa Mohie El-Din, February 20

#### [An honorable tribute to architect Hassan Fathy](#)

Lisa Kaaki reviews Ahmad Hamid's [Hassan Fathy and Continuity in Islamic Arts and Architecture: The Birth of a New Modern](#), *Arab News*, December 15, 2010

#### [One book fair closes, another one opens](#)

*Al Masry Al Youm, English Edition*, February 19

#### [The Revolution in the head and on the page: Writers are waking up to a new dawn across the Arab world](#)

Boyd Tonkin explores the causes, and effects, of a cultural rebirth, citing nine AUC Press publications

*The Independent*, February 18

**[The American University in Cairo Press on Tahrir Square](#)**

Writer and historian Michael Haag's blog, February 13, 2011

Bahgat Korany, editor of *The Changing the Middle East. A New Look at Regional Dynamics* (AUC Press, 2010) speaks to **[CNN on the revolution in Egypt](#)**

CNN Morning News, aired February 12

In **[This Week's Reading, The Paris Daily Review](#)** picks Ibrahim Aslan's *The Heron* (AUC Press, 2009), February 11

**[Lawrence Pintak: The Jazeera Moment](#)**

YouTube, February 8

**[The View from Cairo](#)**

The Oxford University Press, the North American distributor for AUC Press books, posts the harrowing accounts about Tahrir Square told by editorial director Neil Hewison

*OUPblog*, February 4

**[Interview with AUC Press Translator Humphrey Davies on Egyptian Writing](#)**

*The Browser*, Sophie Roell, February

**[From Pharaohs to Facebook](#)**

Citing four AUC Press publications

*The Economist*, January 31

**[For Many Fleeing Egypt, a Long Wait](#)**

AUC Press editor Randi Danforth talks about her reluctance to evacuate from Cairo

*The New York Times*, by Liam Stack and Joseph Berger, January 30

Lawrence Pintak, author of *The New Arab Journalist* (AUC Press, 2011) writes **["Arab media revolution spreading change"](#)**

CNN Opinion, January 29

**[A Life Surrounded by Art](#)**

Interview with Sherwet Shafei, owner of the Safar Khan gallery and private art collection featured in *Twentieth-Century Egyptian Art: The Private Collection of Sherwet Shafei: The Private Collection of Sherwet Shafei* (AUC Press, 2011) by Mona Abaza

*Al Ahrām Online*, Sara Elkamel, January 27

**[The Changing Middle East](#)**

Review of Bahgat Korany's *The Changing the Middle East. A New Look at Regional Dynamics* (AUC Press, 2010)



The new AUC Press Spring 2011 Catalog is now available. [Click here.](#)



*Arab News*, by Lisa Kaaki, January 26, 2011

**[Writing art history: Collector and collection star in new book](#)**

Review of Mona Abaza's *Twentieth-Century Egyptian Art: The Private Collection of Sherwet Shafei* (AUC Press, 2011)

*The Daily News Egypt*, Heba Elkayal, January 21

**[New Aboudi Official Opening in Co-operation with AUC Press](#)**

*Luxor Times*, January 20

**[Arabic Booker shortlist makes for rich and varied reading](#)**

Featuring Miral Al-Tahawy's *Brooklyn Heights* (AUC Press, forthcoming)

*The Daily News Egypt*, Caroline Curran, Caroline Curran, January 13

**[A journey through an Egyptian's new modern architecture](#)**

Interview with Ahmad Hamid, author of *Hassan Fathy and Continuity in Islamic Arts and Architecture: The Birth of a New Modern* (AUC Press, 2010)

*The Daily News Egypt*, Sarah Daoud, January 10

**[Margo Veillon Gallery: A tribute to an artistic genius](#)**

Featuring the permanent masterpiece collection of [Margo Veillon at the Margo Veillon Gallery of Modern Egyptian Art](#)

*The Daily News Egypt*, January 7

**[New Arabic Books \(in English\): Forthcoming 2011](#)**

Arabic Literature (in English) blog, December 2010

**[AUC Press to Translate All 35 of Mahfouz's Novels in Time for Novelist's Centenary](#)**

Arabic Literature (in English) blog, December 2010