

November 2011

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Dear Reader,

Kull sana wintu tayyibin!

It gives me particularly great pleasure to announce the publication this month of the AUC Press [Naguib Mahfouz Centennial Library](#). This one-

time-only limited edition is our special tribute to the astounding literary achievements of Naguib Mahfouz, marking this year's significant milestone—[the centenary of the birth of the Egyptian Nobel laureate](#): eight thousand pages in 20 hardbound volumes bringing together for the first time all the translated work of the internationally acclaimed writer!

The first volume of the library begins with Mahfouz's pharaonic novels, *Khufu's Wisdom*, *Rhadopis of Nubia*, and *Thebes at War*. The last volume features surreal and pharaonic stories from *The Time and the Place*, *The Seventh Heaven*, and *Voices from the Other World*. The complete selection includes all his novels and three collections of his short stories as well as his *Echoes of an Autobiography*.

This definitive centennial library, which also comprises a new translation of *Midaq Alley* by Humphrey Davies (AUC Press, 2011), is most definitely one of the most challenging and exciting events undertaken by the AUC Press in the 50 years of its publishing excellence.

In addition, also in light of the centennial celebration, the AUC Press held a [special evening](#) last month with two distinguished literary figures, Swedish Academy member Sture Allén and Egyptian writer and critic Gamal al-Ghitani, who spoke about the Nobel Prize in



AUC Press Events

November 20 - 23

Holiday Book Fair
AUC New Cairo Campus
10:00 am - 6:00 pm

December 1 - 5

[Tahrir Holiday Book Fair](#)
AUC Tahrir Campus
10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Sunday, December 11

The Annual Naguib Mahfouz
Medal for Literature Award
and Memorial Lecture
Oriental Hall, AUC Tahrir
Campus
6:00 pm

Until December 31

[Exhibition: Naguib Mahfouz:
His Life & Work](#)

Features foreign editions of
his novels, newspaper
articles, photographs, movie
posters, and personal
belongings

The AUC Future Gallery
AUC Tahrir Campus
10:00 - 6:00 pm from Sunday
- Thursday

[More](#)



Literature, awarded to Naguib Mahfouz in 1988, the Swedish Academy, (the Nobel Prize awarding institution for literature), and Mahfouz's work in translation. The evening came to a close with the inauguration of the exhibition [Naguib Mahfouz: His Life & Work](#), which runs in the AUC Future Gallery, on the Tahrir Campus, until the end of December.

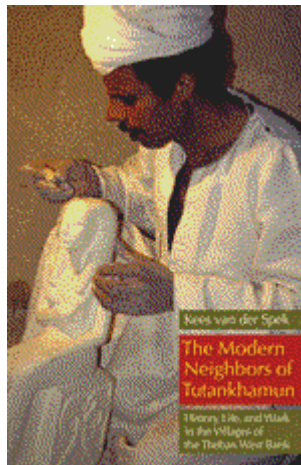
Which brings me to the next big event that the AUC Press is proud to announce—[The Annual Naguib Mahfouz Medal for Literature Award and Memorial Lecture](#), on Sunday, December 11, in Oriental Hall on the AUC Tahrir Campus. We hope you will join us then.

Mark Linz

Director

**The American University in Cairo Press
Cairo - New York**

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



[The Modern Neighbors of
Tutankhamun: History, Life, and
Work in the Villages of the Theban
West Bank](#)

Kees van der Spek, foreword by Kent
R. Weeks

Until their recent demolition, the colorful mud-brick hamlets of al-Qurna village, situated among the Noble Tombs of the Theban Necropolis on the Luxor West Bank, were home to a vibrant community. Inhabiting a place of intensive Egyptological research for over two centuries, it was inevitable that Qurnawis should become part of the history of Egyptology and the development of archaeological practice in the Theban Necropolis. But they have mostly been regarded as laborers for the excavation teams or dealers in the illicit antiquities trade. This study counters the villagers' stereotypical representation as tomb robbers, and restores an understanding of who they are as people living their lives in the shadow of valued cultural heritage. [More »](#)



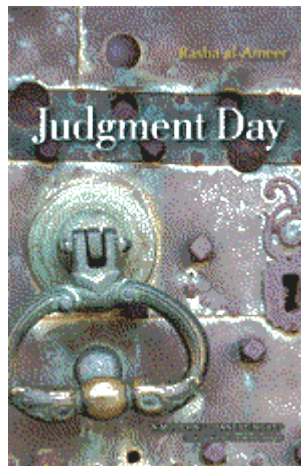
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The AUC Press is hosting the [2nd Tahrir Holiday Book Fair](#), December 1 -5, 2011, on the AUC Tahrir Campus.

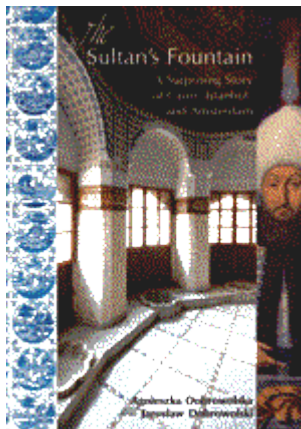
New AUC Press Books – Available at the [AUC Press Bookstores](#)



[Judgment Day](#)

Rasha al Ameer

Brought up in poverty in a remote part of an unstable Arab republic, the narrator studies Islamic law and Arabic and becomes a cleric and civil servant in the capital. At the age of almost 40 he accepts a position as imam of a mosque serving his compatriots in a richer and more cosmopolitan neighboring Arab country. His humdrum life changes when an educated and independent woman recruits him as consultant for a book on the great tenth-century Arab poet al-Mutanabbi. As their work together on his poetry leads to friendship and then love, the imam becomes embroiled in ideological conflict with activist Islamists at his mosque. [More »](#)



[The Sultan's Fountain: An Imperial Story of Cairo, Istanbul, and Amsterdam](#)

Agnieszka Dobrowolska and Jaroslaw Dobrowolski

The small sabil-kuttab (a charitable foundation particular to Cairo that combines a public water dispensary with a Quranic school) built in 1760 opposite the venerated Sayida Zeinab Mosque is almost unique in Cairo: it is one of only two dedicated by a reigning Ottoman sultan, and—astonishingly—it is decorated inside with blue-and-white tiles from Amsterdam depicting happy scenes from the Dutch countryside. Why did the sultan, Mustafa III, cloistered in his Istanbul palace, decide to build a sabil in Cairo? Why did he choose this site for it? How did it come to be adorned with Dutch tiles? [More »](#)

[More new AUC Press books](#)



AUC Press Books & Authors in the News

[In other words: Trust your translator?](#)

Al-Masry Al-Youm (English Edition), M. Lynx Qualey, October 25

[Arab journalism, between the lines](#)

Zawya, Bertil G. Peterson, October 18

[Cairo Scholarship Online](#)

The Caravan, Engy Moussa, October 16

[Swedish Academy professor celebrates Mahfouz centennial](#)

bikyamasr.com, Luiz Sanchez, October 12

[A sincere visual record of the revolution in 'The Road to Tahrir'](#)

Daily News Egypt, Mariam Hamdy (Special to Daily News Egypt), October 4

[Oxford University Press Offers its E-Book Platform to University Presses](#)

Publishers Weekly, Andrew Albanese, October 3

[A new bridge builder on the Nile](#)

Wiam El-Tamami from Cairo, an editor for AUCairo Press wins UK translation award
The Independent, 30 September

[Academic tourists sight-seeing the Arab Spring](#)

Ahram Online, Mona Abaza, author of [The Changing Consumer Cultures of Modern Egypt](#) (AUC Press, 2006) and [Twentieth-Century Egyptian Art: The Private Collection of Sherwet Shafei](#) (AUC Press 2011), September 26

[Histories of a City: the many hands that shaped today's Cairo](#)

The National, Frederick Deknatel, September 16
Quoting AUC Press authors Paula Sanders ([Creating Medieval Cairo: Empire, Religion, and Architectural Preservation in Nineteenth-Century Egypt](#), 2008) and David Sims ([Understanding Cairo: The Logic of a City Out of Control](#), 2011)

