Palestinian Commemoration in Israel
Calendars, Monuments, and Martyrs
TAMIR SOREK

This book considers the development of collective memory and national commemoration among the Palestinian citizens of Israel, commemorations that are uniquely tied to Palestinian encounters with the Israeli state apparatus and with Jewish-Israeli citizens of Israel, and informed by their position as Israeli citizens themselves. Sorek charts the popular politicization of four key events—the Nakba, the 1956 Kafr Qasim Massacre, the 1976 Land Day, and the October 2000 killing of thirteen Palestinian citizens in Israel—to investigate a range of commemorative sites, including memorial rallies, monuments, poetry, the education system, political summer camps, and individual historical remembrance. Ultimately, Sorek shows that Palestinian citizens have developed commemorations that reflect longstanding tensions between Palestinian citizens and the Israeli state, as well as growing pressures across Palestinian societies within and beyond Israel. Their collective memory offers both moments of protest and points of dialogue, both cautious and circuitous.

320 pp., 2015
9780804795180 Paper $29.95 $23.96 sale
9780804793926 Cloth $90.00 $72.00 sale

Digital Militarism
Israel’s Occupation in the Social Media Age
ADI KUNTSMAN AND REBECCA L. STEIN

Israel’s occupation has been transformed in the social media age. Violent politics are interwoven with global networking practices, protocols, and aesthetics. Israeli soldiers share mobile uploads in real-time. Official Israeli military spokesmen announce wars on Twitter. And civilians encounter state violence on their newsfeeds and mobile screens. This book traces the rise of Israeli digital militarism—both the reach of social media into Israeli military theaters and the occupation’s impact on everyday Israeli social media culture—to show how social media functions as a crucial theater in which the Israeli military occupation is supported and sustained.

“Digital Militarism is a pioneering book, showing how information and communication technologies have turned into wartime arsenals, and the Internet and social networks into digital battlefields. Just when one thinks that all has been said about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, a totally original perspective emerges. A must read.”
—Neve Gordon, Ben-Gurion University

240 pp., 2015
9780804794909 Paper $21.95 $17.56 sale
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The One-State Condition

Occupation and Democracy in Israel/Palestine

ARIELLA AZOULAY AND ADI OPHIR

Since the start of the occupation of the Palestinian territories in 1967, Israel’s domination of the Palestinians has deprived an entire population of any political status or protection. But even decades on, most people speak of this rule—both in everyday political discussion and in legal and academic debates—as temporary, as a state of affairs incidental and external to the Israeli regime. In *The One-State Condition*, Ariella Azoulay and Adi Ophir directly challenge this belief. They show that acknowledgement of the one-state condition is not only a prerequisite for considering a one- or two-state solution; it is a prerequisite for advancing new ideas to move beyond the trap of this false dilemma.

“One of the most remarkable books written so far in this field.”

—Hassan Jabareen, General Director of Adalah, The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel

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Citizen Strangers

Palestinians and the Birth of Israel’s Liberal Settler State

SHIRA ROBINSON

Following the 1948 war and the creation of the state of Israel, Palestinian Arabs comprised just fifteen percent of the population but held a much larger portion of its territory. Offered immediate suffrage rights and, in time, citizenship status, they nonetheless found their movement, employment, and civil rights restricted by a draconian military government put in place to facilitate the colonization of their lands. *Citizen Strangers* describes how Jewish leaders struggled to advance their historic settler project while forced by new international human rights norms to share political power with the very people they sought to uproot.

“Shira Robinson brilliantly demonstrates that the treatment of Palestinian citizens in Israel is a mirror of Israel itself. Carefully tracing the historical dynamics of the institutions that constructed Palestinian residents as both liberal citizens and colonial subjects, Robinson shows how these institutions also shaped Israeli citizenship, legal order, and society.”

—Gershon Shafir, University of California, San Diego

352 pp., 2013
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Police Encounters

Security and Surveillance in Gaza under Egyptian Rule

ILANA FELDMAN

Egypt came to govern Gaza as a result of a war, a failed effort to maintain Arab Palestine. Throughout the twenty years of its administration (1948–1967), Egyptian policing of Gaza concerned itself not only with crime and politics, but also with control of social and moral order. Drawing on a rich and detailed archive of daily police records, *Police Encounters* describes an extensive security apparatus guided by intersecting concerns about national interest, social propriety, and everyday illegality.

In pursuit of security, Egyptian policing established a relatively safe society, but also one that blocked independent political activity. The repressive aspects of the security society that developed in Gaza under Egyptian rule are beyond dispute. But repression does not tell the entire story about its impact on Gaza. Policing also provided opportunities for people to make claims of government, influence their neighbors, and protect their families.

256 pp., 2015
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Refugees of the Revolution
Experiences of Palestinian Exile
DIANA ALLAN

Refugees of the Revolution is an evocative and provocative examination of everyday life in Shatila, a refugee camp in Beirut. Diana Allan provides an immersive account of camp experience, of communal and economic life as well as inner lives, tracking how residents relate across generations, cope with poverty and marginalization, and plan—pragmatically and speculatively—for the future. Rethinking the relationship between home and homeland, Allan challenges common assumptions about Palestinian identity and nationalist politics and presents new possibilities for the future of the Palestinian community.

"With analytical subtlety, empathy, and political courage, Diana Allan raises questions around the way that activists and researchers working in Palestinian refugee camps focus on the national past. Her careful attention to the words and lives of Shatila people has produced a study that makes us think again."
—Rosemary Sayigh

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SECOND EDITION

Social Movements, Mobilization, and Contestation in the Middle East and North Africa
EDITED BY JOEL BEININ AND FREDERIC VAIREF

Before the 2011 uprisings, the Middle East and North Africa were frequently seen as a uniquely undemocratic region with little civic activism. The first edition of this volume, published at the start of the Arab Spring, challenged these views by revealing a region rich with social and political mobilizations. This fully revised second edition extends the earlier explorations of Egypt, Morocco, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey, and adds new case studies on the uprisings in Tunisia, Syria, and Yemen. The volume offers a nuanced understanding of contexts, culturally conditioned rationality, the strengths and weaknesses of local networks, and innovation in contentious action to give the reader a substantive understanding of events in the Arab world both before and since 2011.

Praise for the first edition

"An altogether welcome addition to both the social movement literature and the growing body of work on contention in the Middle East and North Africa."
—Doug McAdam, Stanford University

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Official Stories
Politics and National Narratives in Egypt and Algeria
LAURIE A. BRAND

The national narratives surrounding a country’s founding, identity, and bases of unity can be powerful tools in sustaining a ruling elite. Laurie Brand examines more than six decades of political, economic, and military challenges in two of North Africa’s largest countries: Egypt and Algeria. Through a careful analysis of various texts, Official Stories demonstrates how leaderships have attempted to reconfigure narratives to confront challenges to their power. Brand’s account also demonstrates how leaderships may miscalculate, thereby setting in motion opposition forces beyond their control.

“An imaginative re-conceptualizing of competing political narratives in the Arab world’s two most important countries. Originally conceived and brilliantly defended, Laurie Brand carefully deconstructs how embattled regimes seek to sustain their legitimacy in the face of political and economic crises.”
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Shattered Dreams of Revolution
From Liberty to Violence in the Late Ottoman Empire
BEDROSS DER MATOSSIAN

The Ottoman revolution of 1908 is a study in contradictions—a positive manifestation of modernity intended to reinstate constitutional rule, yet ultimately a negative event that shook the fundamental structures of the empire, opening up ethnic, religious, and political conflicts. Der Matossian shows how the undoing of the revolutionary dreams could be found in the very foundations of the revolution itself. Inherent ambiguities and contradictions in the revolution’s goals and the reluctance of both the authors of the revolution and the empire’s ethnic groups to come to a compromise regarding the new political framework of the empire ultimately proved untenable.

“This is a masterly account of the Young Turk Revolution. Few scholars have devised such a stimulating and multi-vocal framework. As such it represents a major contribution to the study of the Young Turk period and its impact on the non-dominant ethno-religious groups.”
—Eyal Ginio, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

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Making History in Iran
Education, Nationalism, and Print Culture
FARZIN VEJDANI

This enlightening book draws on previously unexamined primary sources—including histories, school curricula, pedagogical materials, periodicals, and memoirs—to demonstrate how the social locations of historians writ broadly influenced their interpretations of the past. The relative autonomy of these historians had a direct bearing on whether history upheld the status quo or became an instrument for radical change, and the writing of history became central to debates on social and political reform, the role of women in society, and the criteria for citizenship and nationality. Ultimately, this book traces how contending visions of Iranian history were increasingly unified as a centralized Iranian state emerged in the early twentieth century.

“An illuminating contribution that beautifully captures the process by which the rich cultural world of gunpowder empire was ushered out by the historicist pedagogy of the modern nation state in Iran.”
—Yoav Di-Capua, The University of Texas at Austin

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Goodbye, Antoura
A Memoir of the Armenian Genocide
KARNIG PANIAN

“The history of World War I is steeped in tragedy. But if one looks back at this world conflict, a single word among all others asserts its right to define the underlying tragedy: genocide. Karnig Panian (1910-1989) was a young child when he was caught up in the Armenian Genocide. With heartbreaking and yet affectingly poetic language, Panian describes how, after surviving a death march through a ‘desert inferno’ that claimed the rest of his family, he was sent to an orphanage run by Turkish administrators in the Lebanese town of Antoura. What went on there was a planned effort to destroy the faith, culture, tradition, and the very identity of Armenian children. This is a remarkable and unforgettable book. It is an indispensable tool for awakening our consciences and restoring our collective sense of decency and our solidarity with all those who have suffered the horrors of genocide.”

—Vartan Gregorian

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—Vartan Gregorian

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**Days of Revolution**  
**Political Unrest in an Iranian Village**  
**MARY ELAINE HEGLAND**

Outside of Shiraz in the Fars Province of southwestern Iran lies “Aliabad.” Mary Hegland arrived in this then-small agricultural village of several thousand people in the summer of 1978, unaware of the momentous changes that would sweep this town and this country in the months ahead. *Days of Revolution* offers an insider’s view of how regular people were drawn into, experienced, and influenced the 1979 Revolution and—as Hegland returns to the region thirty years later—its aftermath. Sharing stories of conflict and revolution alongside in-depth interviews, the book sheds new light on this critical historical moment.

“There are a great number of books on the Islamic Revolution, but none have accomplished what Mary Hegland has. This is an exceptional study of modern Iran, offering a detailed account of village life before, during, and after the Islamic Revolution. A brilliant book that deserves to be widely read.” —Janet Afary, University of California, Santa Barbara

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**The Orphan Scandal**  
**Christian Missionaries and the Rise of the Muslim Brotherhood**  
**BETH BARON**

Beth Baron provides a new lens through which to view the rise of Islamic groups in Egypt. Exploring the historical aims of the Christian missions and the early efforts of the Muslim Brotherhood, Baron shows how the Muslim Brotherhood and like-minded Islamist associations developed alongside and in reaction to the influx of missionaries. Patterning their organization and social welfare projects on the early success of the Christian missions, the Brotherhood launched their own efforts to provide for the orphaned, abandoned, and poor. In battling for Egypt’s children, Islamic activists created a network of social welfare institutions and a template for social action across the country—the effects of which, we now know, would only gain power and influence in the decades to come.

“A brilliant book. Beth Baron has identified a powerful incident that galvanized the Muslim Brotherhood and fundamentally altered the place of Western missionaries and officials in Egypt.” —Robert L. Tignor, Princeton University

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**Tell This in My Memory**  
**Stories of Enslavement from Egypt, Sudan, and the Ottoman Empire**  
**EVE M. TROUTT POWELL**

Tell This in My Memory opens a new window into the study of slavery in the modern Middle East, taking up personal narratives of slaves and slave owners to shed light on the anxieties and intimacies of personal experience. The framework of racial identity constructed through these stories proves instrumental in explaining how countries later confronted—or not—the legacy of the slave trade. Today, these vocabularies of slavery live on for contemporary refugees whose forced migrations often replicate the journeys and stigmas faced by slaves in the nineteenth century.

“Troutt Powell weaves a moving and evocative tapestry, employing multiple perspectives of the enslaved as well as slaveholders. Her analysis of the conditions of enslavement as well as the challenging processes through which those conditions become known is nothing short of brilliant.” —Michael Gomez, New York University

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Sephardi Lives
A Documentary History, 1700–1950
JULIA PHILLIPS COHEN AND SARAH ABREVAYA STEIN

Sephardi Lives presents an intimate view of how Sephardim experienced the major regional and world events of the modern era—natural disasters, violence and wars, the transition from empire to nation-states, and the Holocaust. Offering a ground-breaking documentary history with more than 150 primary sources originally written in 15 languages by or about Sephardi Jews, the selections cross a vast range of materials, including private letters from family collections, rabbinical writings, documents of state, memoirs and diaries, court records, selections from the popular press, and scholarship. Sephardi Lives preserves the cultural richness and historical complexity of a Sephardi world that is no more.

“The Great Social Laboratory is a brilliant study of the tension between imperial projects and nationalist imaginings. Examining the ways in which colonial Egypt became a site and object of social scientific knowledge, Omnia El Shakry offers a seminal contribution to debates about the place of colonialism in the development of modern science.”
—Timothy Mitchell, Columbia University

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Emissaries from the Holy Land
The Sephardic Diaspora and the Practice of Pan-Judaism in the Eighteenth Century
MATTHIAS B. LEHMANN

“In this probing and timely study, Lehmann brings to life the effects of early modern globalization on the construction of differences and solidarities across the Jewish diaspora. It is a history rich in paradoxes and consequences for how we think about the ties between the diaspora and modern-day Israel.”
—Francesca Trivellato, Yale University

STANFORD STUDIES IN JEWISH HISTORY AND CULTURE
352 pp., 2014
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The Business of Identity
Jews, Muslims, and Economic Life in Medieval Egypt
PHILLIP I. ACKERMAN-LIEBERMAN
The Cairo Geniza is the largest and richest store of documentary evidence for the medieval Islamic world. This book seeks to revolutionize the way scholars use that treasure trove. Phillip Ackerman-Lieberman draws on legal documents from the Geniza to reconceive of life in the medieval Islamic marketplace. In place of the shared practices broadly understood by scholars to have transcended confessional boundaries, he reveals how Jewish merchants in Egypt employed distinctive trading practices. Highly influenced by Jewish law, these commercial practices served to manifest their Jewish identity in the medieval Islamic context. In light of this distinctiveness, Ackerman-Lieberman proposes an alternative model for using the Geniza documents as a tool for understanding daily life in the medieval Islamic world as a whole.

“This is a landmark book, challenging prevalent misconceptions about Jewish history and offering remarkably original insights into the formation of minority cultures.”
—Susannah Heschel, Dartmouth College

Current Flow
The Electrification of Palestine
RONEN SHAMIR
Current Flow examines the history of electrification of British-ruled Palestine in the 1920s, as it marked, affirmed, and produced social, political, and economic difference between Arabs and Jews. Considering the interplay of British colonial interests, the Jewish-Zionist leanings of a commissioned electric company, and Arab opposition within the case of the Jaffa Power House, Ronen Shamir reveals how electrification was central in assembling a material infrastructure of ethno-national separation in Palestine long before “political partition plans” had ever been envisioned.

“In this strikingly original book, Ronen Shamir traces the electrification of 1920s Palestine by way of an expanding grid of wires and poles, technicians and officials, texts and images. How was it that the enterprise designed to connect Arabs and Jews in a single, all-Palestine system, ended up energizing those very ethno-national divides, anticipating more thoroughgoing separations to follow?”
—Jean Comaroff, Harvard University

New Babylonians
A History of Jews in Modern Iraq
ORIT BASHKIN
Although Iraqi Jews saw themselves as Iraqi patriots, their community—which had existed in Iraq for more than 2,500 years—was displaced following the establishment of the state of Israel. New Babylonians chronicles the lives of these Jews, their urban Arab culture, and their hopes for a democratic nation-state. It studies their ideas about Judaism, Islam, secularism, modernity, and reform, focusing on Iraqi Jews who internalized narratives of Arab and Iraqi nationalism and on those who turned to communism in the 1940s.

“The first attempt at providing a full portrait of the rise and fall of the Baghdadi Jewish community in the course of the eventful twentieth century. Bashkin’s narrative is a shining example of solid scholarship and, at the same time, a coherent account of the vicissitudes of the modern history of a dynamic Arab-Jewish community the like of which is no more in evidence.”
—Sasson Somekh
The barber of Damascus
Nouveau Literacy in the Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Levant
DANA SAJDI

This book is about a barber, Shihab al-Din Ahmad Ibn Budayr, who shaved and coiffed, and probably circumcised and healed, in Damascus in the eighteenth century. The barber may have been a “nobody,” but he wrote a history book, a record of the events that took place in his city during his lifetime. Dana Sajdi investigates the significance of this book, and offers the first full-length microhistory of an individual commoner in Ottoman and Islamic history. In examining the life and work of Ibn Budayr, she also uncovers the emergence of a larger trend of history writing by unusual authors and a new phenomenon: nouveau literacy.

“The Barber of Damascus brings to life a world of unexpected writers of history. Ibn Budayr and his work as barber and historian disrupt our notions of genre and give us a marvelous portrait of Damascus in the eighteenth century.”
—Leslie Peirce, New York University

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Memories of Absence
How Muslims Remember Jews in Morocco
AOMAR BOUM

Memories of Absence investigates how four successive generations in Morocco remember the lost Jewish community. Moroccan attitudes toward the Jewish population have changed over the decades, and a new debate has emerged at the center of the Moroccan nation: Where does the Jew fit in the context of an Arab and Islamic monarchy? Can Jews simultaneously be Moroccans and Zionists? Drawing on oral testimony and stories, on rumor and humor, Aomar Boum examines the strong shift in opinion and attitude over the generations and increasingly anti-Semitic beliefs in younger people, whose only exposure to Jews has been through international media and national memory.

“Nothing short of extraordinary, Memories of Absence is theoretically sophisticated, empirically rich, and infinitely sensitive to its subjects. A necessary and wonderful work for all invested in Muslim-Jewish relations, the cultures of North Africa, and the shaping of transgenerational memory in the contemporary world.”
—Sarah Abrevaya Stein, University of California, Los Angeles

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ETTY TEREM

In 1910, al-Mahdi al-Wazzani, a prominent Moroccan Islamic scholar completed his massive compilation of Maliki fatwas. An eleven-volume set, it is the most extensive collection of fatwas written and published in the Arab Middle East during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In considering al-Wazzani’s work, Etty Terem challenges conventional scholarship that represents Islamic tradition as inimical to modernity and provides a new framework for conceptualizing modern Islamic reform. Her innovative and insightful reorientation constructs the origins of modern Islam as firmly rooted in the messy complexity of everyday life.

“Are Islamic law and modern social needs compatible? In this thoughtful and engaging book, Etty Terem provides rare insight into how one man’s struggle with this issue produced a body of work that has great currency for the issues now confronting all those who will be impacted by the Arab Spring.”
—Lawrence Rosen, Princeton University

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DANA SAJDI

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**Gaining Freedoms**  
*Claiming Space in Istanbul and Berlin*  
BERNA TURAM

Gaining Freedoms reveals a new locus for global political change: everyday urban contestation. Countering common assumptions that Turkey is strongly polarized between Islamists and secularists, Turam illustrates how contested urban space encourages creative politics, the kind of politics that advance rights, expression, and representation shared between pious and secular groups. Exceptional moments of protest, like the recent Gezi protests that bookend this study, offer clear external signs of upheaval and disruption, but it is the everyday contestation and interaction that forge alliances and inspire change. Ultimately, Turam argues that the process of democratization is not the reduction of conflict, but rather the capacity to form new alliances out of conflict.

“Drawing on the life-worlds of Turkish citizens in Istanbul and Turkish residents in Berlin, Gaining Freedoms represents one of the best treatments of the spatiality of politics in the context of the Middle East.”

—Asef Bayat, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

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LORI ALLEN

This book provides a groundbreaking ethnographic investigation of the Palestinian human rights world. Though human rights activity began as a means of struggle against the Israeli occupation, it has since been professionalized and politicized, transformed into a public relations tool for political legitimation and state-making. In failing to end the Israeli occupation, protect basic human rights, or establish an accountable Palestinian government, the human rights industry has become the object of cynicism. But far from indicating apathy, such cynicism generates a productive critique of domestic politics and Western inter-ventionism. The book’s broad appeal lies in illuminating the successes and failures of Palestinians’ varied engagements with human rights in their quest for independence.

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Opportunities of Place, Power, and Reform in Saudi Arabia
AMÉLIE LE RENARD
The cities of Saudi Arabia are among the most gender segregated in the world. In recent years the Saudi government has felt increasing international pressure to offer greater roles for women in society. Implicit in these calls for reform, however, is an assumption that the only “real” society is male society. Little consideration has been given to the rapidly evolving activities within women’s spaces. This book joins young urban women in their daily lives—in the workplace, on the female university campus, at the mall—to show how these women are transforming Saudi cities from within and creating their own urban, professional, consumerist lifestyles.

“This splendid ethnography shatters many of the myths surrounding Saudi women. Amélie Le Renard brilliantly shows that women in Saudi Arabia don’t need to be saved from their culture or religion and have invented creative ways to talk back to power.”
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Back Stories
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AMAH L. BISHARA
Amahl Bishara demonstrates how Palestinians play integral roles in producing U.S. news and how U.S. journalism in turn shapes Palestinian politics. U.S. objectivity is in Palestinian journalist’s hands, and Palestinian self-determination cannot be fully understood without attention to the journalist standing off to the side, quietly taking notes. Back Stories examines new stories big and small to investigate urgent questions about objectivity, violence, the state, and the production of knowledge. This book reaches beyond the headlines into the lives of Palestinians during the second intifada to give readers a new vantage point on both Palestinians and journalism.

“Amahl Bishara breaks new ground in her exploration of Palestinian-Israeli-American dynamics of control, protest, and resistance. Her keen insights into the second intifada help us better understand two critical issues: what is happening on the ground in Palestine and how these events are being reported by the American media.”
—Rami Khouri

Live and Die Like a Man
Gender Dynamics in Urban Egypt
FARHA GHANNAM
Over a period of nearly twenty years, Farha Ghannam lived and conducted research in al-Zawiya, a low-income neighborhood in northern Cairo. Detailing her daily encounters and ongoing interviews, she develops life stories that reveal the everyday practices and struggles of the neighborhood over the years. Against this backdrop of individual experiences, Ghannam builds the concept of masculine trajectories to account for the various paths men can take to embody social norms. In showing how men work to realize a “male ideal,” she counters the prevalent dehumanizing stereotypes of Middle Eastern men all too frequently reproduced in media reports, and opens new spaces for rethinking patriarchal structures and their constraining effects on both men and women.

“Farha Ghannam is far ahead of the academic curve, setting an imposing standard for future scholarship on the Arab Spring and gender across the Middle East and North Africa.”
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And Then We Work for God
Rural Sunni Islam in Western Turkey
KIMBERLY HART

Suni Islam structures individual lives through rituals—birth, circumcision, marriage, military service, death—and the expression of these traditions varies between villages. Kimberley Hart delves into the question of why some choose to remember and keep alive the past, while others want to face a future unburdened by local cultural practices. Her answer speaks to global transformations in Islam, to the push and pull between those who maintain a link to the past, even when these practices challenge orthodoxy, and those who want a purified global religion.

"And Then We Work for God not only reveals that there is no one traditional Islam, but thoughtfully uncovers how the practice of rural Islam is intimately connected to changing visions of the state and religion in the rest of Turkey and the world."
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“Nakhjavani’s rich, poetic narrative … is a delight to read and her words just dance across the page, dazzling even the casual reader. …A remarkable first novel that expands like the overlapping petals of a flower.”

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Gossip was rife in the capital about the poetess of Qazvin. Some claimed she had been arrested for masterminding the murder of the grand Mullah, her uncle. Others echoed her words, and passed her poems from hand to hand. Everyone spoke of her beauty, and her dazzling intelligence. But most alarming to the Shah and the court was how the poetess could read. As her warnings and predictions became prophecies fulfilled, about the assassination of the Shah, the hanging of the Mayor, and the murder of the Grand Vazir, many wondered whether she was not only reading history but writing it as well. Was she herself guilty of the crimes she was foretelling?

Bahiyih Nakhjavani grew up in Uganda, was educated in the United Kingdom and the United States, and now lives in France. She is the author of The Saddlebag and Paper.

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“Nakhjavani’s rich, poetic narrative … is a delight to read and her words just dance across the page, dazzling even the casual reader. …A remarkable first novel that expands like the overlapping petals of a flower.”

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REDWOOD PRESS

Mixing Musics
Turkish Jewry and the Urban Landscape of a Sacred Song
MAUREEN JACKSON

This book traces the mixing of musical forms and practices in Istanbul to illuminate multiethnic music-making and its transformations across the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. It focuses on the Jewish religious repertoire, the Maftirim, which developed in parallel with “secular” Ottoman court music. Through memoirs, personal interviews, and new archival sources, the book explores areas often left out of those histories of the region that focus primarily on Jewish communities in isolation, political events and actors, or nationalizing narratives.

“By treating the private, discrete narratives of individual figures, this innovative book brings to life the nuances of daily existence and social accommodation in the musical culture of modern Turkish Jews. This refreshing approach provides new insights on topics that have been left unsaid by more conventional narratives about this subject.”

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