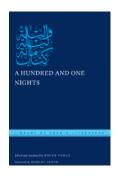
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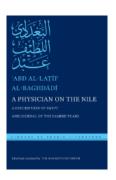
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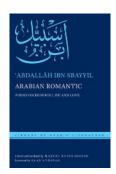
al-Laṭīf al-Baghdādī, it contains great diversity in a small compass.

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Brains Confounded by the Ode of Abū Shādūf Expounded Yūsuf al-Shirbīnī Translated by Humphrey Davies Foreword by Youssef Rakha

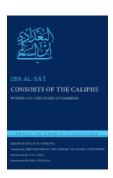
Unique in pre-20th-century Arabic literature for taking the countryside as its central theme, *Brains Confounded* is a work of outstanding importance for the study of premodern colloquial Egyptian Arabic. Volume

One describes the three rural "types". Volume Two is followed by *Risible Rhymes*, mocking the pretensions of uneducated poets from Egypt's countryside.

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Women and the Court of Baghdad

Ibn al-Sā'ī

Translated by Shawkat M. Toorawa & The Editors of the Library of Arabic Literature

Introduction by Julia Bray Foreword by Marina Warner

Consorts of the Caliphs is a seventh/ thirteenth-century compilation of anecdotes

about thirty-eight women who were consorts to those in power, most of them concubines of the early Abbasid caliphs and wives of latter-day caliphs and sultans.

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al-Qāḍī al-Nuʿmān Translated by Devin Stewart Foreword by John Coughlin & John Sexton

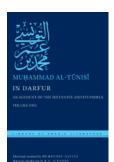
Al-Qadi al-Nu'man was the chief legal theorist and ideologue of the North African Fatimid dynasty in the tenth century. This translation makes available for the first time in English his

major work on Islamic legal theory (*usul al-fiqh*), which presents a legal model in support of the Fatimid claim to legitimate rule.

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Like Aesop's Fables, Kalīlah and Dimnah is a collection designed not only for moral instruction, but also for the entertainment of readers. The stories, which originated in the

Sanskrit Panchatantra and Mahabharata, were adapted, augmented, and translated into Arabic by the scholar and state official Ibn al-Muqaffa' in the second/eighth century. *Kalīlah and Dimnah* is a "mirror for princes," a book meant to inculcate virtues and discernment in rulers and warn against flattery and deception

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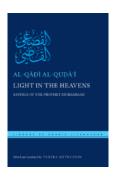
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Light in the Heavens

Sayings of the Prophet Muhammad

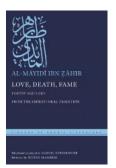
al-Qāḍī al-Quḍāʻī Edited & Translated by Tahera Qutbuddin

Assembling Muhammad's words has been a major preoccupation for scholars throughout the fourteen centuries since his death, resulting in an abundance of compilations. One which stands out in particular is *Light in the Heavens* (*Kitab al-Shihab*) by al-Qadi al-

Quda'i (d. 454/1062), a Shafi'i judge in the Fatimid court in Egypt. The collection's overall conceptualization is distinctively ethical and pragmatic, and offers humanitarian lessons and practical insights with universal appeal.

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al-Māvidī ibn Zāhir **Edited & Translated by Marcel Kurpershoek**

Love, Death, Fame features the poetry of al-Māyidī ibn Zāhir, who has been embraced as the earliest poet in what would later become the United Arab Emirates. Although little is known about his life, he is the subject of a

sizeable body of folk legend and is thought to have lived in the seventeenth century, in the area now called the Emirates. The tales included in Love, Death, Fame portray him as a witty, resourceful, scruffy poet, at times combative and at times kindhearted.

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Risible Rhymes Muḥammad ibn Maḥfūẓ al-Sanhūrī **Edited & Translated by Humphrey Davies**

Written in mid-seventeenth-century Egypt, Risible Rhymes is in part a short, comic disquisition on "rural" verse, mocking the pretensions and absurdities of uneducated poets from Egypt's countryside. It offers intriguing insight into the critical concerns of mid-Ottoman Egypt, showcasing the intense

preoccupation with wordplay, grammar, and stylistics that dominated discussions of poetry in al-Sanhūrī's day and shedding light on the literature of this understudied era.

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Scents and Flavors

A Syrian Cookbook

Edited & Translated by Charles Perry

Collecting 635 meticulous recipes, this popular thirteenth-century Syrian cookbook is an ode to what its anonymous author calls the "greater part of the pleasure of this life," namely the consumption of food and drink, as well as the fragrances that garnish the meals and the diners who enjoy them. Scents and Flavors quickly became a bestseller in its own

time, and remains today a delectable read for epicures and cultural historians alike.

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Stories of Piety and Prayer

Deliverance Follows Adversity

al-Muhassin ibn 'Alī al-Tanūkhī **Edited & Translated by Julia Bray**

One of the most popular and influential Arabic books of the Middle Ages, Deliverance Follows Adversity is an anthology of stories and anecdotes designed to console and encourage the afflicted. The volume incorporates material from manuscripts not used in the standard Arabic edition, and is the

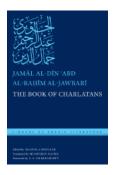
first translation into English.

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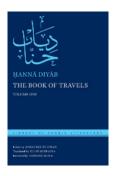
The Book of Charlatans Jamāl al-Dīn 'Abd al-Raḥīm al-Jawbarī **Edited by Manuela Dengler Translated by Humphrey Davies** Foreword by S. A. Chakraborty

The Book of Charlatans is a comprehensive guide to trickery and scams as practiced in the thirteenth century in the cities of the Middle East, especially in Syria and Egypt. The author, al-Jawbarī, was well versed in the practices he

describes and may well have been a reformed charlatan himself. Divided into thirty chapters, his book reveals the secrets of everyone from "Those Who Claim to be Prophets" to "Those Who Claim to Have Leprosy" and "Those Who Dye Horses."

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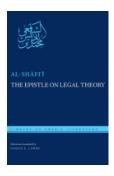
al-Ḥasan al-Yūsī Edited & Translated by Justin Stearns

Al-Hasan al-Yusi was arguably the most influential and well-known Moroccan intellectual figure of his generation. In 1084/1685, at the age of roughly fifty-four, and after a long and distinguished career, this Amazigh scholar from the Middle Atlas began

writing a collection of short essays on a wide variety of subjects. Translated into English for the first time, *The Discourses* offers readers access to the intellectual landscape of the early modern Muslim world through an author who speaks openly and frankly about his personal life and his relationships with his country's rulers, scholars, and commoners.

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The Epistle on Legal Theory

A Translation of Al-Shafi'i's Risalah

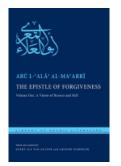
Muhammad ibn Idris al-Shafi'i Foreword by Kecia Ali Translated by Joseph E. Lowry

The Epistle on Legal Theory is the work of Muhammad ibn Idris al-Shafi'i (d. 204/820), who was the eponym of the Shafi'i school of legal thought, one of the four rites in Sunni Islam. This new translation by a leading

scholar of al-Shafi'i and his thought makes available in lucid, modern English one of the earliest complete works on Islamic law—one that is centrally important for the formation of Islamic legal thought and the Islamic legal tradition.

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The Epistle of Forgiveness Abū I-ʿAlāʾ al-Maʿarrī Edited and Translated by Geert Jan van Gelder & Gregor Schoeler

The Epistle of Forgiveness is the reply by the prolific Syrian writer Abu I-'Ala' al-Ma'arri (d. 449/1057), to a letter written by an obscure grammarian, Ibn al-Qarih. Abu I-'Ala' al-Ma'arri mocks Ibn al-Qarih's hypocrisy by imagining he has died and arrived with some difficulty in Heaven, where he meets famous

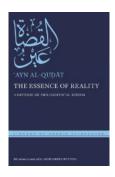
poets and philologists from the past. He also glimpses Hell, and converses with the Devil and various heretics.

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The Essence of Reality

A Defense of Philosophical Sufism

'Ayn al-Quḍāt Edited & Translated by Mohammed Rustom

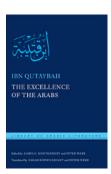
The Essence of Reality was written over the course of just three days in 514/1120, by a scholar who was just twenty-four. The text, like its author 'Ayn al-Quḍāt, is remarkable for many reasons, not least of which that it is in all likelihood the earliest philosophical

exposition of mysticism in the Islamic intellectual tradition. This important work would go on to exert significant influence on both classical Islamic philosophy and philosophical mysticism.

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The Excellence of the Arabs Ibn Qutaybah Translated by Sarah Bowen Savant Edited & Translated by Peter Webb Edited by James E. Montgomery

The Excellence of the Arabs is a spirited defense of Arab identity—its merits, values, and origins—at a time of political unrest and fragmentation, written by one of the most important scholars of the early Abbasid era. In

the cosmopolitan milieu of Baghdad, the social prestige attached to claims of being Arab had begun to decline. Although his own family originally hailed from Merv in the east, Ibn Qutaybah locks horns with those members of his society who belittled Arabness and vaunted the glories of Persian heritage and culture. Instead, he upholds the status of Arabs and their heritage in the face of criticism and uncertainty.

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The Expeditions

An Early Biography of Muḥammad

Ma'mar ibn Rāshid Translated by Sean W. Anthony Foreword by M.A.S. Abdel Haleem

The Expeditions represents an important testimony to the earliest Muslims' memory of the lives of Muḥammad and his companions, and is an indispensable text for gaining insight into the historical biography of both the

Prophet and the rise of the Islamic empire. This new translation, which renders the original text into readable, modern English for the first time, is accompanied by numerous annotations elucidating the cultural, religious, and historical contexts of the events and individuals described within its pages.

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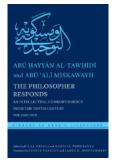
The Life and Times of Abū Tammām Abū Bakr al-Ṣūlī Translated by Beatrice Gruendler Foreword by Terence Cave

In The Life and Times of Abū Tammām, here translated into English for the first time, the courtier and scholar Abū Bakr Muḥammad ibn Yaḥyā al-Ṣūlī (d. 335 or 336/946 or 947) mounts a robust defense of "modern" poetry

and of Abū Tammām's significance as a poet against his detractors, while painting a lively picture of literary life in Baghdad and Samarra.

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The Philosopher Responds

An Intellectual Correspondence from the Tenth Century

Abū Ḥayyān al-Tawḥīdī & Abū ʿAlī Miskawayh Edited by Bilal Orfali & Maurice A.

Pomerantz

Translated by Sophia Vasalou & James E. Montgomery

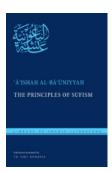
Why is laughter contagious? Why do mountains exist? Spanning a vast array of subjects that range from the philosophical to the theological, from the philological to the scientific, *The Philosopher Responds* is the record of a set of questions put by the litterateur Abu Hayyan al-Tawhidi to the philosopher and historian Abu 'Ali Miskawayh.

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The Principles of Sufism 'Ā'ishah al-Bā'ūniyyah Translated by Th. Emil Homerin Foreword by Ros Ballaster

'A'ishah al-Ba'uniyyah of Damascus was one of the great women scholars in Islamic history. A mystic and a prolific poet and writer, she composed more works in Arabic than any other woman before the twentieth century. For the first time, her key work, *The Principles of Sufism*, is available in English translation.

The Principles of Sufism is a mystical guidebook to help others on their spiritual path. Outlining the four principles of Repentance, Sincerity, Remembrance, and Love, it traces the fundamental stages and states of the spiritual novice's transformative journey, emphasizing the importance of embracing both human limitations and God's limitless love.

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The Requirements of the Sufi Path

A Defense of the Mystical Tradition

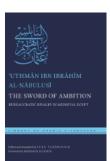
Ibn Khaldūn Edited & Translated by Carolyn Baugh

In *The Requirements of the Sufi Path*, the renowned North African historian and jurist Ibn Khaldūn applies his analytical powers to Sufism, which he deems a bona fide form of Islamic piety. Ibn Khaldūn is widely known for

his groundbreaking work as a sociologist and historian, in particular for the Muqaddimah, the introduction to his massive universal history. In *The Requirements of the Sufi Path*, he writes from the perspective of a Islamic jurist and legal scholar.

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The Sword of Ambition

Bureaucratic Rivalry in Medieval Egypt

'Uthmān ibn Ibrāhīm al-Nābulusī Foreword by Sherman 'Abd al-Hakim Jackson Edited & Translated by Luke Yarbrough

The Sword of Ambition belongs to a genre of religious polemic written for the rulers of Egypt and Syria from the 12th to the 14th

centuries. Unlike most medieval Muslim polemic, the concerns of this genre were more social and political than theological. Now edited in full and translated for the first time, *The Sword of Ambition* opens a new window onto the culture of elite rivalry in the late-medieval Islamic Middle East.

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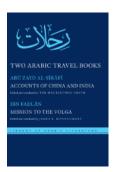


The Yoga Sutras of Patañjali Abū Rayḥān al-Bīrūnī Edited & Translated by Mario Kozah

The Yoga Sutras of Patañjali is the foundational text of yoga philosophy to this day and is still used by millions of yoga practitioners and students worldwide. Written in a question-and-answer format, it deals with the theory and practice of yoga and the psychological question of the liberation of the soul from attachments.

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Two Arabic Travel Books combines two exceptional exemplars of Arabic travel writing,

penned in the same era but chronicling wildly divergent experiences. Together, the stories illuminate a vibrant world of diversity during the heyday of the Abbasid empire, narrated with as much curiosity and zeal as they were perceived by their observant beholders.

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Virtues of the Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal

Ibn al-Jawzī Edited & Translated by Michael Cooperson

Aḥmad ibn Ḥanbal (d. 241/855) was renowned for his profound knowledge of hadith—the reports of the Prophet's sayings and deeds—and is a major figure in the history of Islam. Virtues of the Imam Aḥmad ibn Ḥanbal is a translation of the biography of

Ibn Ḥanbal penned by the Baghdad preacher, scholar, and storyteller, Ibn al-Jawzī (d. 597/1201). It includes insights into Ibn Ḥanbal's childhood, travels, and teachings, as well as descriptions of his way of life.

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War Songs 'Antarah ibn Shaddād Translated by James E. Montgomery With Richard Sieburth Foreword by Peter Cole

From the sixth-century highlands of Najd in the Arabian peninsula, on the eve of the advent of Islam, come the strident cries of a legendary warrior and poet. The black outcast son of an Arab father and an Ethiopian slave

mother, 'Antarah ibn Shaddad struggled to win the recognition of his father and tribe. He defied social norms and, despite his outcast status, loyally defended his people.

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What 'Īsā ibn Hishām Told Us

or, A Period of Time

Muḥammad al-Muwayliḥī Edited & Translated by Roger Allen

A masterpiece of early 20th-century Arabic prose, invaluable both for its insight into colonial Egypt and its pioneering role in Arabic literary history. Widely hailed for its erudition and mordant wit, it was embraced by Egypt's burgeoning reading public and became required reading for generations of

school students.

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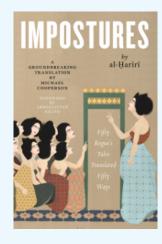
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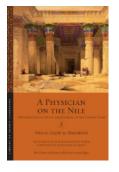


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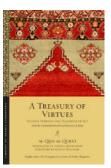
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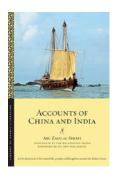
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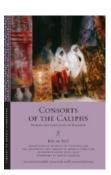
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Women and the Court of Baghdad

Ibn al-Sāʿ

Translated by Shawkat M. Toorawa & The Editors of the Library of Arabic Literature

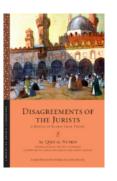
Introduction by Julia Bray Foreword by Marina Warner

Consorts of the Caliphs is a seventh/ thirteenth-century compilation of anecdotes

about thirty-eight women who were consorts to those in power, most of them concubines of the early Abbasid caliphs and wives of latter-day caliphs and sultans. This slim but illuminating volume is one of the few surviving texts by the prolific Baghdadi scholar Ibn al-Sa'i.

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A Manual of Islamic Legal Theory

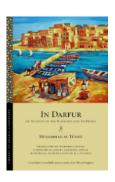
al-Qāḍī al-Nu'mān Translated by Devin Stewart Foreword by John Coughlin & John Sexton

Al-Qadi al-Nu'man was the chief legal theorist and ideologue of the North African Fatimid dynasty in the tenth century. This translation makes available for the first time in English his

major work on Islamic legal theory (usul al-fiqh), which presents a legal model in support of the Fatimid claim to legitimate rule. Composed as part of a grand project to establish the theoretical bases of the official Fatimid legal school, *Disagreements of the Jurists* expounds a distinctly Shi'i system of hermeneutics.

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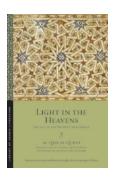
for twenty-four hours in order to marry.

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Light in the Heavens

Sayings of the Prophet Muhammad

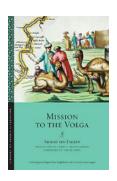
al-Qadi al-Quda'i Edited & Translated by Tahera Qutbuddin

Assembling Muhammad's words has been a major preoccupation for scholars throughout the fourteen centuries since his death, resulting in an abundance of compilations. One which stands out in particular is *Light in the Heavens* (*Kitab al-Shihab*) by al-Qadi al-

Quda'i (d. 454/1062), a Shafi'i judge in the Fatimid court in Egypt. The collection's overall conceptualization is distinctively ethical and pragmatic, and offers humanitarian lessons and practical insights with universal appeal.

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Mission to the Volga Aḥmad ibn Faḍlān Foreword by Tim Severin Translated by James E. Montgomery

The earliest surviving instance of sustained first-person travel narrative in Arabic—a pioneering text of peerless historical and literary value. In its pages, we move north on a diplomatic mission from Baghdad to the upper reaches of the Volga River in what is now central Russia. Ibn Fadlan describes the

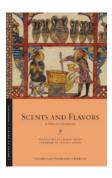
aurora borealis and the Viking Rus, including a striking account of a ship funeral. Together, these anecdotes illuminate a vibrant world of diversity during the heyday of the Abbasid Empire, narrated with as much curiosity and zeal as they were perceived by its observant beholder.

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Scents and Flavors

A Syrian Cookbook

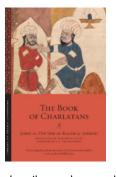
Edited & Translated by Charles Perry

Collecting 635 meticulous recipes, this popular thirteenth-century Syrian cookbook is an ode to what its anonymous author calls the "greater part of the pleasure of this life," namely the consumption of food and drink, as well as the fragrances that garnish the meals and the diners who enjoy them. Scents and Flavors quickly became a bestseller in its own

time, and remains today a delectable read for epicures and cultural historians alike.

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The Book of Charlatans Jamāl al-Dīn ʿAbd al-Raḥīm al-Jawbarī Edited by Manuela Dengler Translated by Humphrey Davies Foreword by S. A. Chakraborty

The Book of Charlatans is a comprehensive guide to trickery and scams as practiced in the thirteenth century in the cities of the Middle East, especially in Syria and Egypt. The author, al-Jawbarī, was well versed in the practices he

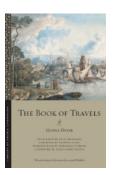
describes and may well have been a reformed charlatan himself. Divided into thirty chapters, his book reveals the secrets of everyone from "Those Who Claim to be Prophets" to "Those Who Claim to Have Leprosy" and "Those Who Dye Horses."

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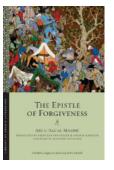
Ḥannā Diyāb Edited by Johannes Stephan Translated by Elias Muhanna Foreword by Yasmine Seale Afterword by Paulo Lemos Horta

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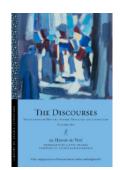
Abū l-ʿAlāʾ al-Maʿarrī Foreword by Matthew Reynolds Translated by Gregor Schoeler & Geert Jan van Gelder

The Epistle of Forgiveness is the reply by the prolific Syrian writer Abū I-'Alā' al-Ma'arrī (d. 449/1057), to a letter written by an obscure grammarian, Ibn al-Qarih. Abū I-'Alā' al-

Ma'arrī mocks Ibn al-Qarih's hypocrisy by imagining he has died and arrived with some difficulty in Heaven, where he meets famous poets and philologists from the past. He also glimpses Hell, and converses with the Devil and various heretics.

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al-Ḥasan al-Yūsī Translated by Justin Stearns Foreword by Ayesha Ramachandran

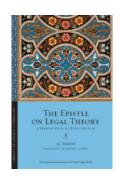
Al-Hasan al-Yusi was arguably the most influential and well-known Moroccan intellectual figure of his generation. In 1084/1685, at the age of roughly fifty-four,

and after a long and distinguished career, this Amazigh scholar from the Middle Atlas began writing a collection of short essays on a wide variety of subjects. Translated into English for the first time, *The Discourses* offers readers access to the intellectual landscape of the early modern Muslim world through an author who speaks openly and frankly about his personal life and his relationships with his country's rulers, scholars, and commoners.

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Muhammad ibn Idris al-Shafi'i Foreword by Kecia Ali Translated by Joseph E. Lowry

The Epistle on Legal Theory is the oldest surviving Arabic work on Islamic legal theory and the foundational document of Islamic jurisprudence. Its author, Muhammad ibn Idris al-Shafi'i (d. 204/820), was the eponym

of the Shafi'i school of legal thought, one of the four rites in Sunni Islam. This fascinating work offers the first systematic treatment in Arabic of key issues in Islamic legal thought.

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The Excellence of the Arabs Ibn Qutaybah Translated by Sarah Bowen Savant

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The Excellence of the Arabs is a spirited defense of Arab identity—its merits, values, and origins—at a time of political unrest and fragmentation, written by one of the most important scholars of the early Abbasid era. In

the cosmopolitan milieu of Baghdad, the social prestige attached to claims of being Arab had begun to decline. Although his own family originally hailed from Merv in the east, Ibn Qutaybah locks horns with those members of his society who belittled Arabness and vaunted the glories of Persian heritage and culture. Instead, he upholds the status of Arabs and their heritage in the face of criticism and uncertainty.

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The Expeditions

An Early Biography of Muḥammad

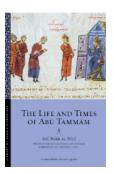
Ma'mar ibn Rāshid Translated by Sean W. Anthony Foreword by M.A.S. Abdel Haleem

The Expeditions represents an important testimony to the earliest Muslims' memory of the lives of Muḥammad and his companions, and is an indispensable text for gaining insight into the historical biography of both the

Prophet and the rise of the Islamic empire. This new translation, which renders the original text into readable, modern English for the first time, is accompanied by numerous annotations elucidating the cultural, religious, and historical contexts of the events and individuals described within its pages.

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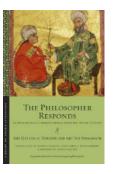
The Life and Times of Abū Tammām Abū Bakr al-Ṣūlī Translated by Beatrice Gruendler Foreword by Terence Cave

In The Life and Times of Abū Tammām, here translated into English for the first time, the courtier and scholar Abū Bakr Muḥammad ibn Yaḥyā al-Ṣūlī (d. 335 or 336/946 or 947) mounts a robust defense of "modern" poetry

and of Abū Tammām's significance as a poet against his detractors, while painting a lively picture of literary life in Baghdad and Samarra.

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The Philosopher Responds

An Intellectual Correspondence from the Tenth Century

Abū Ḥayyān al-Tawḥīdī & Abū ʿAlī Miskawayh Translated by Sophia Vasalou &

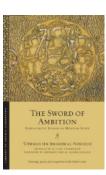
Translated by Sophia Vasalou & James E. Montgomery Foreword by Jonathan Rée

Why is laughter contagious? Why do mountains exist? Spanning a vast array of

subjects that range from the philosophical to the theological, from the philological to the scientific, *The Philosopher Responds* is the record of a set of questions put by the litterateur Abū Ḥayyān al-Tawḥīdī to the philosopher and historian Abū 'Alī Miskawayh.

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The Sword of Ambition

Bureaucratic Rivalry in Medieval Egypt

'Uthmān ibn Ibrāhīm al-Nābulusī Foreword by Sherman 'Abd al-Hakim Jackson Edited & Translated by Luke Yarbrough

The Sword of Ambition belongs to a genre of religious polemic written for the rulers of Egypt and Syria from the 12th to the 14th

centuries. Now edited in full and translated for the first time, *The Sword of Ambition* opens a new window onto the culture of elite rivalry in the late-medieval Islamic Middle East.

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The Life of Ibn Ḥanbal Ibn al-Jawzī Translated by Michael Cooperson Foreword by Garth Fowden

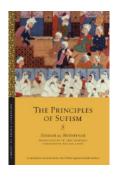
The Life of Ibn Ḥanbal is a translation of the biography of Ibn Hanbal by the Baghdad preacher, scholar, and storyteller Ibn al-Jawzī (d. 597/1200), newly abridged for a paperback readership by translator Michael Cooperson. Aḥmad ibn Ḥanbal (d. 241/855),

renowned for his profound knowledge of hadiths—the reports of the Prophet's sayings and deeds—is a major figure in the history of Islam. He was famous for living according to his own strict interpretation of the Prophetic model and for denying himself the most basic comforts, even though his family was prominent and his city, Baghdad, was then one of the wealthiest in the world.

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The Principles of Sufism 'Ā'ishah al-Bā'ūniyyah Translated by Th. Emil Homerin Foreword by Ros Ballaster

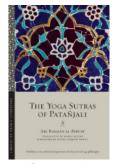
'A'ishah al-Ba'uniyyah of Damascus was one of the great women scholars in Islamic history. A mystic and a prolific poet and writer, she composed more works in Arabic than any other woman before the twentieth century. For the first time, her key work, *The Principles of Sufism*, is available in English translation.

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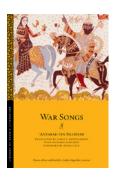
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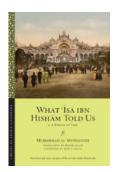
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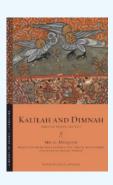
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