

Harem Years The Memoirs Of An Egyptian Feminist 1879 1924

Harem YearsDoria Shafik Egyptian Feminist : A Woman apartFeminists, Islam, and NationHarem YearsThe Liberation of WomenGender and Class in the Egyptian Women's Movement, 1925-1939Casting off the VeilThe Liberation of WomenGender and Class in the Egyptian Women's Movement, 1925-1939Pioneering Feminist Anthropology in EgyptThinking with the SouthWomen in Egyptian Public LifeThe Politics of Biography in AfricaFeminist Debates and Traditional Feminism of the Fellaha in Rural EgyptWomen's Rights in Authoritarian EgyptSignificant Moments in the History of Egyptian WomenMuslim Feminism and Feminist MovementFeminist Insiders-outsidersBiography of a RevolutionThe Essential Feminist Reader Hudá Sha r w Cynthia Nelson Margot Badran Huda Shaarawi

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in this rare first hand account of the private world of a cairo harem during the years before egypt declared independence in 1922 shaarawi recalls her childhood and early adult life in the seclusion of an upper class egyptian household including her marriage at age thirteen her subsequent separation from her husband gave her time for an extended formal education as well as an unexpected taste of independence and a critical understanding of the price of confinement shaarawi s feminist activism grew along with her involvement in egypt s nationalist struggle and culminated in 1923 in a daring act of defiance when she publicly removed her veil in a cairo railroad station

cynthia nelson brings to life a bold and gifted egyptian of the mid twentieth century who helped define what it means to be a modern arab woman doria shafik 1908 1975 an egyptian feminist poet publisher and political activist participated in one of her country s most explosive periods of social and political transformation during the 40s she burst onto the public stage in egypt openly challenging every social cultural and legal barrier that she viewed as oppressive to the full equality of women as the founder of the daughters of the nile union in 1948 she catalyzed a movement that fought for suffrage and set up programs to combat illiteracy provide economic opportunities for lower class urban women and raise the consciousness of middle class university students she also founded and edited two prominent women s journals wrote books in both french and arabic lectured throughout the world married and raised two children for a decade she ignited the imagination of the press where she was variously described as the perfumed leader a danger to the muslim nation a traitor to the revolution and the only man in egypt then in 1957 following her hunger strike in protest against the populist regime of gamal abdul nasser she was placed under house arrest within months her magazines folded her name was officially banned from the press and she entered a long period of seclusion that ended with her suicide in 1975 with the cooperation of shafik s daughters who made available her three impressionistic unpublished and sometimes contradictory memoirs nelson has uncovered shafik s story and brings the life and achievements of this remarkable woman to a western audience brilliantly re creates the untold story of doria shafik the most impressive exponent of liberal egyptian feminism magically the delicately sketched background gives the reader

a wonderful sense of the sweep of modern egyptian history the effect is mesmerizing raymond w baker williams college a compelling story beautifully written jacqueline s ismail university of calgary

the emergence and evolution of egyptian feminism is an integral but previously untold part of the history of modern egypt drawing upon a wide range of women s sources memoirs letters essays journalistic articles fiction treatises and extensive oral histories margot badran shows how egyptian women assumed agency and in so doing subverted and refigured the conventional patriarchal order unsettling a common claim that feminism is western and dismantling the alleged opposition between feminism and islam the book demonstrates how the egyptian feminist movement in the first half of this century both advanced the nationalist cause and worked within the parameters of islam

qasim amin 1863 1908 an egyptian lawyer is best known for his advocacy of women s emancipation in egypt through a number of works including the liberation of women and the new woman in the first of these important books in 1899 he started from the premise that the liberation of women was an essential prerequisite for the liberation of egyptian society from foreign domination and used arguments based on islam to call for an improvement in the status of women in doing so he promoted the debate on women in egypt from a side issue to a major national concern but he also subjected himself to severe criticism from the khedival palace as well as from religious leaders journalists and writers in response he wrote the new woman published in 1900 in which he defended his position and took some of his ideas further in the new woman amin relies less on arguments based on the quran and sayings of the prophet and more openly espouses a western model of development although published a century ago these two books continue to be a source of controversy and debate in the arab world and remain key works for understanding the arab feminist movement the liberation of women and the new woman appear here in english translation for the first time in one volume

the women s movement in egypt has been heralded as improving the lives of women in egypt and paving the way for women throughout the arab world as seen through the eyes of the university educated elite and middle class this is no

doubt true yet such a narrow view fails to account for the diversity of women's experience in changing perspectives. cathlyn mariscotti provides a critical re examination of the women's movement framing it within the broader economic and political movements occurring in egypt and abroad her nuanced account unveils a rich differentiated and complex history of egyptian women drawing upon published journal reports and newspaper articles mariscotti explores the tensions between upper class harem women and lower class women rather than a unified movement the author describes the way in which elite feminism created a concept of womanhood that fed into the nationalist cultural ideal one that was not necessarily progressive for all egyptian women demonstrating active resistance the non elite women constructed a model of feminism in line with their own class position and political interests mariscotti's reveals the tension in the movement through the profiles of from this class struggle a unique synthesized form of feminism emerged infused with the politics and culture of egypt at that time humanizing her analysis the author profiles two outspoken and prominent women who symbolize the conflict the university educated and wealthy huda sha rawi and munira thabit who represented the working class women the first book to emphasize the class conflict among women this book makes an invaluable contribution to the fields of women's studies and middle east studies

in 1923 when the pioneer of feminist activism huda shaarawi removed her veil in cairo's train station she created what became a landmark and much copied gesture for feminists throughout egypt and the middle east and cemented her status as one of the most important feminists in twentieth century egypt in casting off the veil her granddaughter sania sharawi lanfranchi uses never before seen letters and photographs to explore the life and thought of egypt's first feminist as she campaigned against british occupation as well as striving to improve conditions for women throughout the country from her birth into a wealthy and powerful family her early years spent in a harem to her iconic status as one of the most influential feminists in middle eastern history this is a fascinating portrait of a determined and ground breaking woman a rich and important story which will captivate everyone with an interest in egyptian feminist or colonial history

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the liberation of women and other works starting from the premise that the liberation of women was an essential prerequisite for the liberation of egyptian society from foreign domination he used arguments based on islam to call for an improvement in the status of women his criticisms were aimed at the veil and the social seclusion of women arranged marriages polygamy and divorce practices and he insisted on education for women as the primary means to enable them to play a constructive role in society it was the liberation of women which promoted the debate on the status of omen from a side issue to a major national concern although published almost a century ago the liberation of women continues to be a source controversy and debate in the arab world and is still a key work for understanding the feminist movement there

the women s movement in egypt has been heralded as improving the lives of women in egypt and paving the way for women throughout the arab world as seen through the eyes of the university educated elite and middle class this is no doubt true yet such a narrow view fails to account for the diversity of women s experience in changing perspectives cathlyn mariscotti provides a critical re examination of the women s movement framing it within the broader economic and political movements occurring in egypt and abroad her nuanced account unveils a rich differentiated and complex history of egyptian women drawing upon published journal reports and newspaper articles mariscotti explores the tensions between upper class harem women and lower class women rather than a unified movement the author describes the way in which elite feminism created a concept of womanhood that fed into the nationalist cultural ideal one that was not necessarily progressive for all egyptian women demonstrating active resistance the non elite women constructed a model of feminism in line with their own class position and political interests mariscotti s reveals the tension in the movement through the profiles of from this class struggle a unique synthesized form of feminism emerged infused with the politics and culture of egypt at that time humanizing her analysis the author profiles two outspoken and prominent women who symbolize the conflict the university educated and wealthy huda sha rawi and munira thabit who represented the working class women the first book to emphasize the class conflict among women this book makes an invaluable contribution to the fields of women s studies and middle east studies

cynthia nelson was an outstanding professor of anthropology at auc and the founding director of the institute of gender and women s studies this collection of her essays which highlight her distinguished scholarly career is grouped under three main themes phenomenology and the meaning of religious phenomena in egypt women power and politics in the middle east and the politics and ethics of location cynthia nelson was the editor of the first cairo papers monograph in 1977 thirty years later this issue marks her legacy to the humanistic and social scientific understanding of egypt a legacy balanced by the enormous institutional contributions she made to establishing feminist anthropology in egypt cairo papers vol 28 no 2

this volume brings together a series of discussions by scholars from a range of disciplinary trans regional and epistemic perspectives that came out of the berlin based co2libri networking initiative with longstanding collaborative partners based in the global south co2libri stands for conceptual collaboration living borderless research interaction as an interdisciplinary and transregional oriented initiative co2libri envisages a multicentric perspective that integrates neglected positions of southern theory and praxis into the heart of academic conversations co2libri s collaborative endeavor builds on long standing active connections with partners in africa south and southeast asia and the middle east instead of setting an agenda from the north it proposes to figure out ways forward through collaborative engagement building on relationships of mutual trust using formats that facilitate substantial and open ended discussion we are re thinking theory and method academic practices and research ethics while keeping material inequalities in view contributors to this edited volume are working toward the implementation of various innovative activities research perspectives and collaboration formats which all subscribe to the principle of dialogue on equal footing with scholars and activists based in divergent positionalities along and beyond the global north south divide in different ways the authors work toward the goal of producing more adequate and more sensitive critical knowledge and applying a fresh view to approach methods and ethical standards overall the volume works sometimes in exploratory ways with alternative frames of reference while it presents diverse theorizations of lived experiences

bringing together historians political scientists and literary analysts this volume shows how biographical narratives can

shed light on alternative little known or under researched aspects of state power in african politics part 1 shows how biographical narratives breathe new life into subjects who upon decolonization had been reduced to silence women workers and radical politicians the contributors analyze the complex relationship between biographical narratives and power questioning either the power of biographical codes peculiar to western colonial origins or the power to shape public memory part 2 reflects on the act of auto biography writing as an exercise of power one that blurs the lines between truth and invention auto biographical narratives appear as politicized ambiguous stories part 3 focuses on female leadership during and after colonization exploring on how women gained lost or reinvented power brought together the contributions of this volume show that the function of biographical narratives should no longer oscillate between romanticized narratives and historical evidence their varied formats all offer fruitful opportunities for a multidisciplinary dialogue this book will be of interest to scholars from various disciplinary backgrounds working on the african postcolonial state the decolonization process women s and gender studies and biography writing

during the uprisings of late 2010 and 2011 which took place across the middle east and north africa women made up an important part of the crowds protesting women s rights were central to the demands made however despite this in the ensuing social and political struggles these rights have not progressed much beyond the situation under previous governments hiam el gousi s book offers an examination of the status of women under egypt s various authoritarian regimes in exploring the role played by religious scholars in helping to define women s status in society she focuses on personal status laws and health rights in examining the issue of women s rights el gousi begins with an account of feminism in egypt the centre of feminist thought in the middle east at the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth century based on extensive research in the country especially at grassroots level el gousi goes on to analyse the constitutional and legislative rulings which have affected the lives and rights of egyptian women this book will become a vital primary resource for those studying feminism in the wider middle east and north africa

the sole objective of this two volumes book muslim feminism and feminist movement in africa is to conduct a study of the conceptual development of muslim feminism and motive of feminist movement in african countries algeria djibouti

egypt eritrea ethiopia gambia ghana ivory coast jordon kenya liberia mali morocco namibia nigeria sierra leone south africa sudan west africa and yugoslavia this book consists of 48 important articles of eminent scholars focused on the development of feminist culture and fundamentalists resistance in african countries these articles basically deal with the nature and motivation of feminist movement and its impact on the socio political and legal reforms in family law and the status of african muslim women

this book examines different brand of womenâ€™s feminist struggles and focuses on the struggles of muslim women who are insiders in the islamic movement as represented in nigerian muslim womenâ€™s islamic activism drawing on different secular islamic gender feminist theoretical frameworks the book closely analyses islamic texts and these muslim women brand of feminism which reflect the effects of their strong islamic commitment culture on their gender relations postulations and feminist struggles in general it argues that the islamic texts portray the pre modern basis of these muslim women islamic feminismâ€ born in the prophetic era before the secular feminist movement contrary to the common notion of the islamic endorsement of muslim women stereotypical backwardness domestication and patriarchal domination this book demonstrates how muslim women writers have used islamic organizations to work for and contribute to feminist changes

it is not egypt s 2011 revolution that opened a space for women s and feminist activism but as this book shows the long history of women s activism that created the intellectual and political background for revolution by centering the experiences and ideas of multiple generations of women activists and intellectuals lucia sorbera traces the feminist genealogies of egypt s nationalist student marxist labor human rights and democratic social movements biography of a revolution gathers a series of interrelated intimate and relational stories charting in vivid detail the entanglements between women s aspirations across a century of politics and friendships this historical analysis innovatively deploys decolonial and indigenous feminist epistemologies bringing women s gender and feminist history into the center of egypt s political social and intellectual history more than a decade after the 2013 military coup women s intellectual and political activism remains crucial to keeping the embers of revolution aglow

the definitive anthology of feminist writing this collection presents the true history of feminism within both global and historical frameworks and provides a vital addition to the field

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