

Arabic Poetry and Story in Translation 2019-2020

Workshop 1

Haifa Zangana and Wen-chin Ouyang

Arabic Travel Writing

Translation

- Access to classical and modern Arabic literature
- Process of cultural encounter
- Creative Act
 - Author
 - Translator
 - Participants

Reading ⇔ Translation

Encounter Mediated by Language

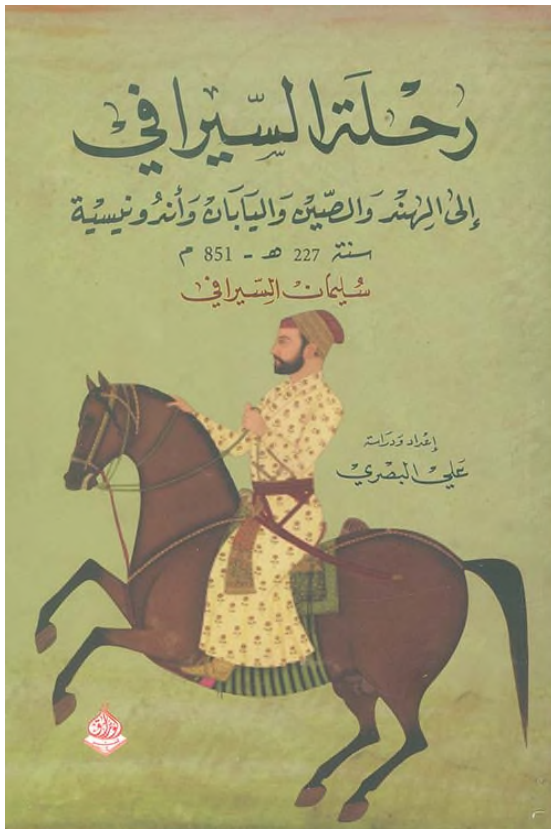
- The world of the author ⇔ of the reader
 - Then ⇔ Now
 - Here ⇔ There
- Material Conditions of living
- Language is multilingual in that
 - It absorbs languages it encounters through linguistic and conceptual blending
 - It combines word, image and sound
 - It is additionally embodied

Pre-modern Arabic Travel Literature

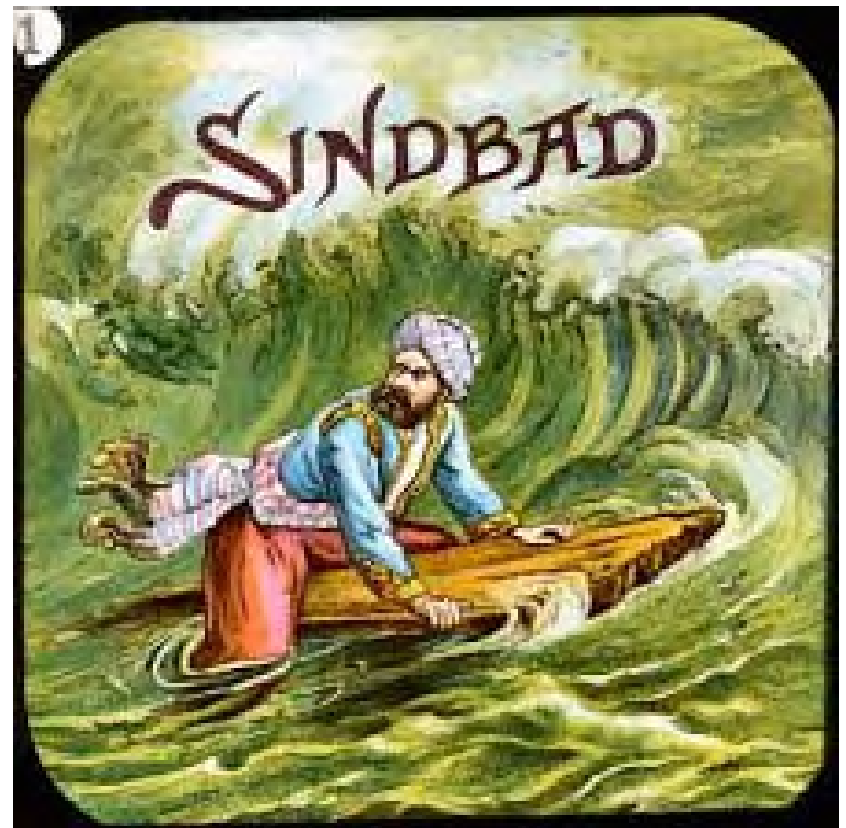
- Geography and cartography
- Seafaring
- Pilgrimage to holy cities (Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem) and to Sunni and Shi'i shrines
- Virtues of cities (e.g. *Fada'il* genre)
- Journey in search of knowledge
- Ambassadorial Missions

History ⇔ Story

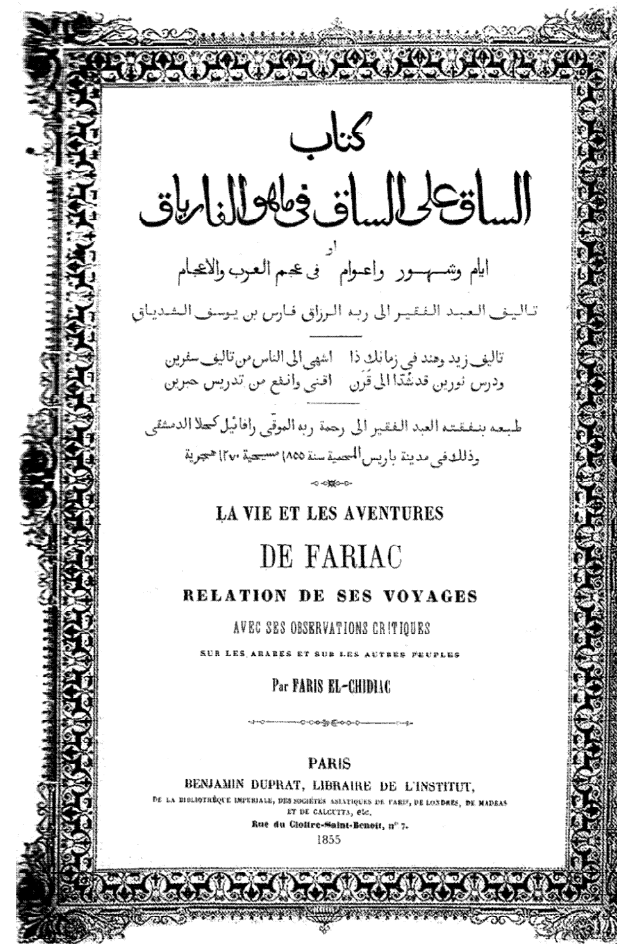
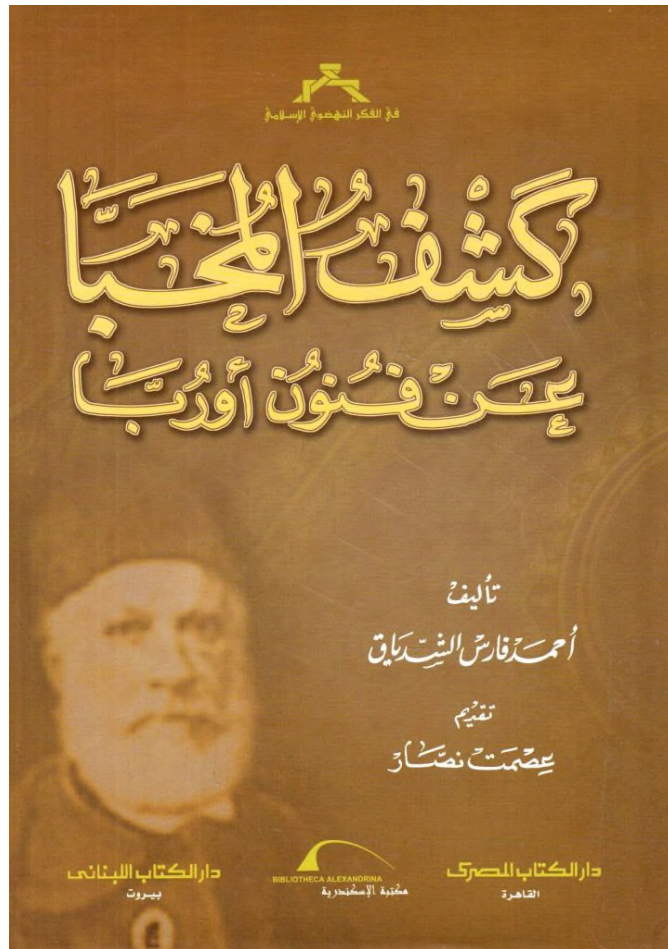
Al-Sirafi



The Arabian Nights: Sindbad



Travel ⇔ Fiction



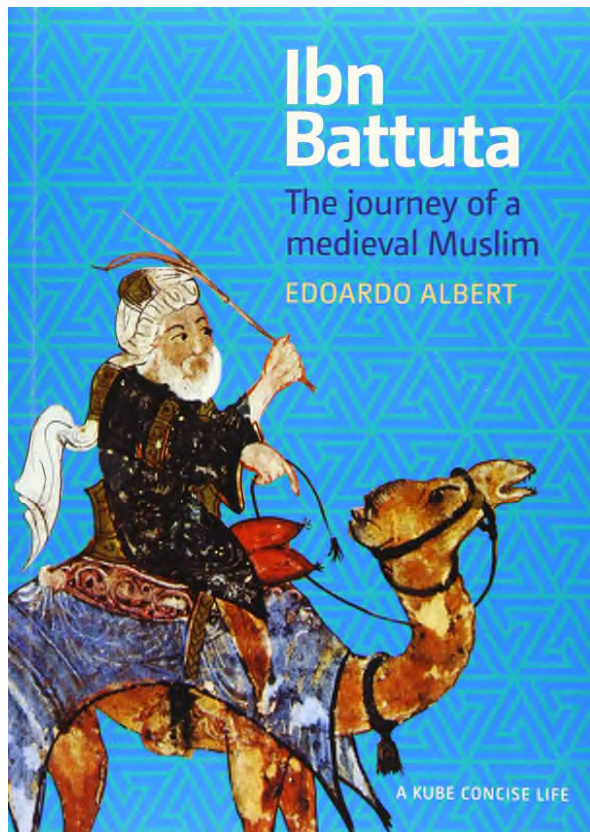
Rihla ⇔ Maqama

Al-Miknasi

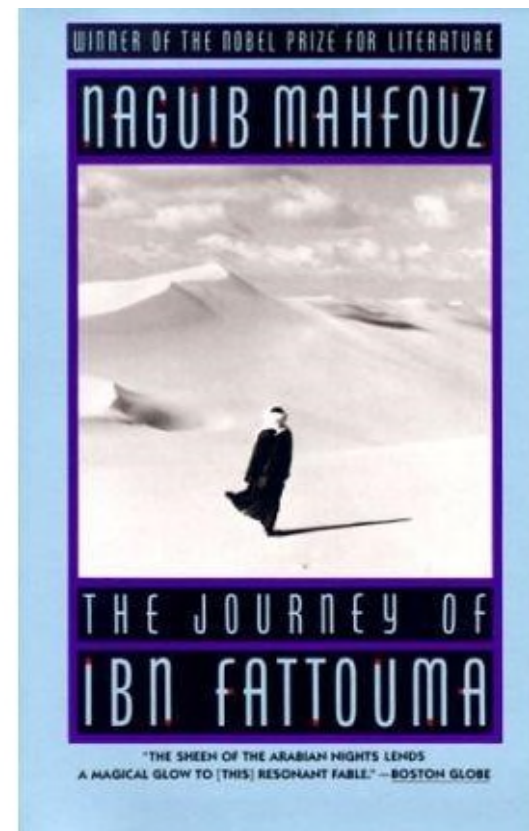


The Presence of Arabic Travel Literature in Contemporary Arabic Writing

Ibn Battuta

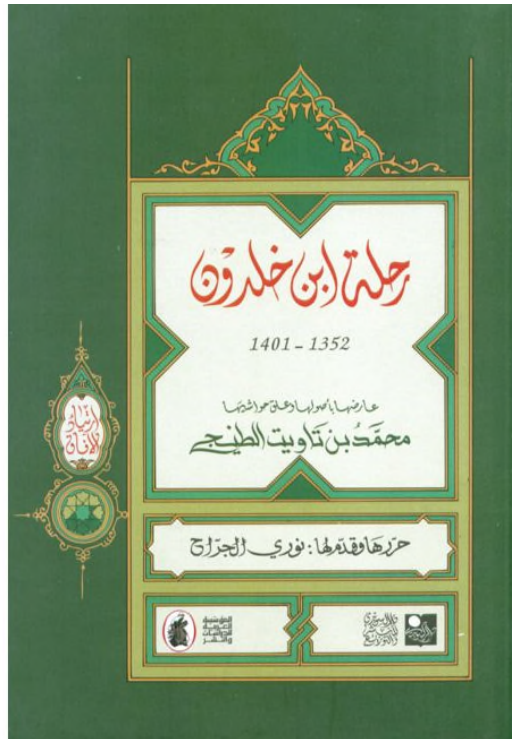


Ibn Fattouma

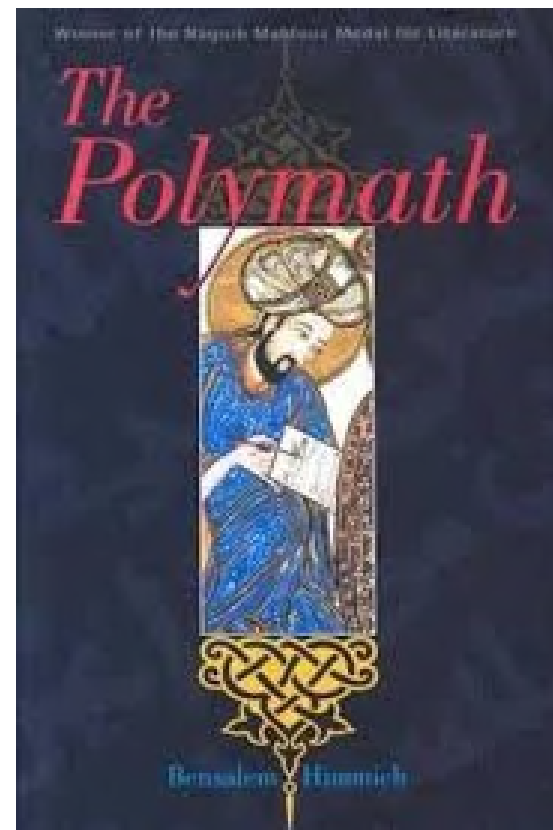


Autobiography ↔ Novel

Ibn Khaldun



Bensalem Himmich

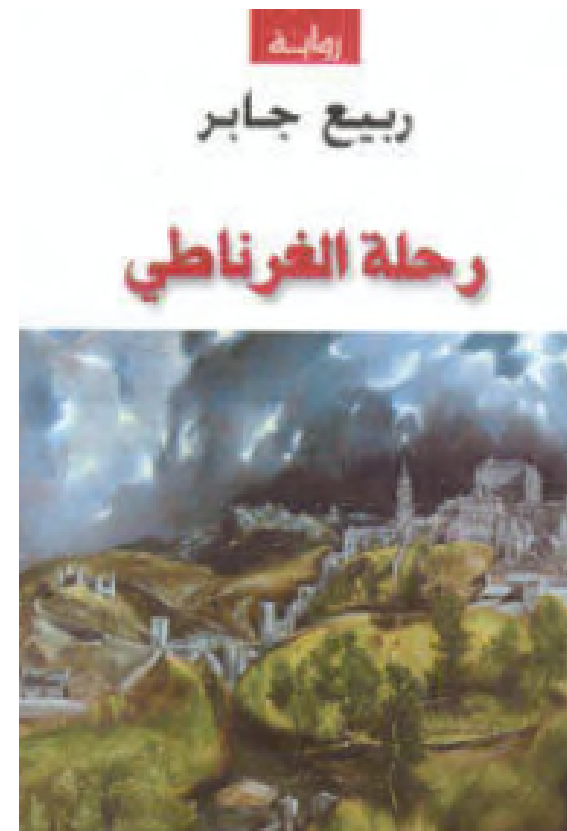


History ⇔ Story

Al-Gharnati



Rabi Jabir



Today we catch a glimpse of how this body of Arabic writing is very much a part of the fabric of contemporary Arabic narrative and language

First hour:

Haifa Zangana on

Relevance of Arabic travel writing

Wen-chin Ouyang on

Translating Haifa Zangana

Second hour:

Translation of Excerpts from Ibn Battuta

Third hour:

Creative writing with Haifa Zangana

References:

Tim MacKintosh-Smith

Ross Dunn



IT WAS AND IT WAS NOT...

ARABIC POETRY AND STORIES IN TRANSLATION

نساء على سفر مفاتيح مدينة

Keys to a city Women on a journey

A Series of Workshops Presented by Marina Warner (Birkbeck) and Wen-chin Ouyang (SOAS)

8th Nov 2019 The Keynes Library School of Arts Birkbeck College University of London 43 Gordon Square London WC1H 0PD	Haifa Zangana and Wen-chin Ouyang	Workshop: 2:30-5:30 pm Pilgrimage and Beyond Creative uses of Arabic travel writings, exploring the works of Ibn Battuta, Tim MacKintosh-Smith and Ross Dunn.	Public event: 6:30-7:30 pm Life Journeys Reading Women on a Journey and Keys to a City, in which Ibn Battuta also features.
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Haifa Zangana is an Iraqi author and activist. She has published three novels and four collections of short stories. Among her other books: *City of Widows: an Iraqi woman account of war and resistance*, *Dreaming of Baghdad* and *The Torturer in the mirror*, together with Ramsy Clark & Thomas Ehrlich Reifer. She is a founding member of International Association of Contemporary Iraqi Studies (IACIS); and co-founder of Tadhmun, Iraqi Women Solidarity. She edited *Party for Thawra: Palestinian women writing life*, a collection of non-fictional creative writings by former Palestinian women prisoners.



Wen-chin Ouyang FBA is Professor of Arabic and Comparative Literature at SOAS, University of London. Born in Taiwan and raised in Libya, she completed her BA in Arabic at Tripoli University and PhD in Middle Eastern Studies at Columbia University in New York City. She is the author of *Literary Criticism in Medieval Arabic-Islamic Culture: The Making of a Tradition* (1997), *Poetics of Love in the Arabic Novel* (2012) and *Politics of Nostalgia in the Arabic Novel* (2013).

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