



AL-HODA CENTENNIAL

A Tribute to the Pioneers of the Arabic Press in America

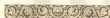


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Museum of the City of New York
1990 11th Avenue
New York, NY.



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Contents

Looking Back at Al-Hoda	2, 3
History of Al-Hoda and Its Publishers	4-7
Photo History	8-11
Biographies of Al-Hoda Publishers	12-15
Centennial Tribute Program	16
Biographies of Symposium Speakers	17
Sponsors, Friends and Patrons	18
Acknowledgements	19

Looking Back At *Al-Hoda*

△ a milestone trip back in time

Today we honor *Al-Hoda*, the newspaper that shaped the consciousness of Americans of Lebanese, Syrian and other Arabic-speaking descent for much of the 20th century.

Whether campaigning for Lebanon's independence, organizing the first Mahrajan in the United States, raising money for war victims or just keeping us abreast of the daily news, *Al-Hoda's* founders, Naoum Mokarzel, his younger brother Salloum and their successors, Mary Mokarzel and Fares Stephen, published an internationally respected and technologically innovative newspaper that recorded our saga and guided our lives.

Al-Hoda began on Washington's Birthday, February 22, 1898, in Philadelphia, the city where America declared her independence from Great Britain.

Perhaps this inspired Naoum, who pursued one overriding ideal as he wrote the stories, set them in type, printed the newspaper, mailed it and billed his subscribers: Lebanon's independence from the Ottoman Empire.

At first, the tiny newspaper's campaign must have seemed rather quixotic, a voice crying in the wilderness, but after moving in 1903 to New York City, a larger market and a much better city from which to conduct international relations, the newspaper's voice began to be heard.

In 1919, Naoum went to Paris to lobby for Lebanon's independence, and he carried that struggle to the Versailles Peace Conference and the League of Nations.

After Naoum passed away in 1932, Salloum continued the mission so effectively that the Lebanese government awarded him the Order of the Cedars for his efforts to help his homeland gain independence from the Ottomans Empire and later from France in 1945.

After Salloum died, Mary Mokarzel's tenure as *Al-*

Hoda's publisher, 1954 to 1971, corresponded with Lebanon's golden years. But by 1975, Lebanon had plunged into civil war and foreign occupation, forcing *Al-Hoda's* latest publisher, Fares Stephen, to take up the cause for Lebanese sovereignty.

By the time *Al-Hoda* suspended publication in 1993, Stephen --like his predecessors -- had been awarded the Order of the Cedars and an honor from Jordan's King Hussein for his work on Lebanon's behalf.

Al-Hoda's influence in the world of Arabic journalism went far beyond its editorial stance. Salloum was the first person to adapt Mergenthaler Linotype machines to the Arabic language. Linotype machines essentially automated the process of typesetting, as big an improvement over hand-set type as computer word-processing is over the typewriter.

Thanks to Salloum's work, Mergenthaler was able to sell thousands of linotypes throughout the Arabic-speaking world, stimulating the growth and competitiveness of Arabic journalism. As an expression of gratitude, Mergenthaler gave him a \$1,500 bonus to help defray the expenses of his 1929 trip to Lebanon.

Al-Hoda's editorial approach, emphasizing American-style objectivity over traditional Middle Eastern editorialization, even within the body of a story, also set a new standard in the Arabic language press.

But for all *Al-Hoda's* illustrious firsts, we still have to ask ourselves a question: Why look back at yesterday's newspaper? Because, as the platitude warns, we may be doomed to repeat history if we ignore it!

Perhaps, but there are more uplifting reasons to reflect upon the past. Ignoring history would mean missing out on great stories that have helped form how we think and who we are, whether or not we care to acknowledge it.

We honor *Al-Hoda* by taking pride in ourselves and our culture. The Mokarzels and Mr. Stephen made

it their business not only to inform, but to uplift their readers, to tell the inspiring stories as well as the sobering ones.

The life of Kahlil Gibran, a penniless Lebanese immigrant who adapted to life in America so well that he wrote "The Prophet" in English, is one of those stories. Translated into all major languages, "The Prophet" is one of the best-selling books of the 20th century, and it certainly is one of the most beloved.

In fact, the Mokarzelis plied their readers with fine literature, including many of Gibran's essays and poems, such as, "I Believe in You."

Intended as a tribute to the children of the first Arab immigrants, it originally was published in the inaugural issue of the *Syrian World*, an English-language monthly founded in 1926.

We honor *Al-Hoda* by passing self-respect along to the next generation. Our children deserve to be proud of their heritage.

Throughout the *Al-Hoda* timeline included in this program, you will see photos and essays of national and world leaders who graced the newspapers' pages, including Ben Franklin, Teddy Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt and Lyndon Johnson.

We honor *Al-Hoda* by having faith in the future because -- with the grace of God and the hard work the Mokarzelis heroically pioneered -- America's future is ours.

I have a special debt to *Al-Hoda* that I would like to acknowledge here. My mother, Yvonne Haddad, and my father, Edward Joseph, met at the paper's Golden Jubilee in 1948. They married the following year. So in a fundamental, biological sense, I owe my life to *Al-Hoda*.

By Lawrence E. Joseph



Naoum and Salloum pose for a photograph in 1898, soon after Salloum's arrival in the United States.

History of *Al-Hoda* and its Publishers

- 1890 Naoum Anthony Mokarzel immigrates to United States.
- 1898 Salloum Anthony Mokarzel immigrates to United States.



Salloum adapts linotype for Arabic.

- 1898 Naoum begins *Al-Hoda* as a weekly in Philadelphia February 22.
- 1900 Salloum joins Naoum at *Al-Hoda*; they begin publishing as an *Al-Hoda* as an eight-page tabloid twice a week.
- 1903 The Mokarzels move *Al-Hoda* to New York and publish a daily, four-page tabloid.
- 1908 Salloum publishes Syrian American Commercial Directory.

- 1909 Salloum leaves *Al-Hoda*; publishes *Baris Amrika* for five months. He dedicates first issue to President William Howard Taft. He hopes to enhance Syrian business in United States, and he plans to include a series on American politics.
- 1910 Salloum adapts Mergenthaler linotype for *Al-Hoda*, the first Arabic-language newspaper in the world to do so.
- 1911 Naoum helps establish Lebanon League of Progress.
- 1913 Naoum leads Lebanon League of Progress delegation to Syrian Arab Conference in Paris; Lebanese delegates remain behind to call for independence.
- 1916 Naoum forms American Committee for Relief of Syrian and Lebanese Victims; *Al-Hoda* raises \$300,000.



Naoum, seated second from right, with members of the Lebanon League of Progress.

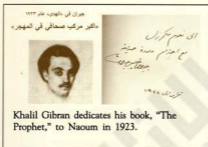


Salloum publishes Arabic version of "Poor Richard's Almanac."

- 1917 *Al-Hoda* calls for migrants to volunteer for Oriental Battalion with allied forces.
- 1919 Naoum attends signing of Treaty of Versailles. Salloum publishes *Almajallah Tijariyah* magazine.
- 1923 *Al-Hoda* celebrates Silver Jubilee at Hotel Bossert in Brooklyn.
- 1926 Salloum founds *Syrian World*, an English-language literary journal dedicated to American-born generation. Salloum's Syrian American Press publishes Arabic translation of "Poor Richard's Almanac" by Benjamin Franklin.

History of *Al-Hoda* and its Publishers

- 1929 The Mokarzel help organize the first annual Maharajan in Connecticut. Salloum visits Lebanon, and President Charles Dabbas organizes reception in his honor.



Khalil Gibran dedicates his book, "The Prophet," to Naoum in 1923.

- 1931 *Al-Hoda* editorial praises young women over young men.
- 1932 Naoum dies in Paris after taking immigrant petitions there to nominate Emile Eddé for President of Lebanon. Ibrahim Hitti buys *Al-Hoda* from Naoum's widow and forms *Al-Hoda* Company. He sells *Alhoda* to Salloum, and *Syrian World* ceases publication.
- 1934 Lebanese magazine *Ad-Dubbour* publishes caricature for cover story praising Salloum for his work to keep alive Lebanese culture and issues.

- 1934 Salloum leads New York delegation of Lebanese leaders to Arlington Cemetery for ceremonial planting of cedar tree.
- 1934 Naoum's body arrives in Lebanon on October 23, and the government declares it "Mokarzel Day." Salloum forms National Defense Committee to help Maronite Patriarch appeal to League of Nations over tobacco monopoly in Lebanon.
- 1938 Salloum lobbies for Lebanon pavilion at 1939 World Fair in New York.



Salloum in 1930s



Silver Jubilee Program

- 1945 Emile Eddé, first president of the Republic of Lebanon sends Salloum a pen he used to sign the treaty that gave Lebanon independence from France on Nov. 13.
- 1946 Salloum meets Prince Faisal of Saudi Arabia and Gov. and Mrs. Earl Warren of California at the opening of the United Nations in San Francisco.
- 1948 *Al-Hoda* celebrates its golden jubilee; Salloum receives the Order of the Cedars from the Lebanese government. Salloum begins project to document immigrant stories and organizations.
- 1950 *Alhoda* buys four-story building on East 28th Street.
- 1951 Salloum is hospitalized with throat cancer.



Golden Jubilee Program

History of *Al-Hoda* and its Publishers



Joseph Sharbel

- 1952 Salloum dies January 2 in New York and *Al-Hoda* is placed in trusteeship.
- 1953 Mary Mokarzel becomes managing editor of *Al-Hoda*.
- 1954 Mary acquires *Al-Hoda* and buys the *Lebanese American Journal*, an English-language newspaper.
- 1955 Mary accompanies Salloum's remains to Lebanon, where he is buried next to Naoum in Freike.

- 1959 *Al-Hoda* sells East 28th Street building and buys new office on West 30th Street.
- 1962 Joseph Sharbel retires from *Al-Hoda* after 62 years as chief linotype operator.
- 1963 *Al-Hoda* cuts publications to three times a week.
- 1964 President Lyndon B. Johnson invites Mary and other editors of foreign-language publications to White House.
- 1965 *Al-Hoda* cuts publication to semi-weekly.
- 1971 Mary closes *Al-Hoda* press in September. She sends Mokarzel library to St. Joseph's University in Beirut and *Al-Hoda/Lebanese American Journal* to Library of Congress and New York Public Library.
- 1972 Lebanese American leaders, including Maronite bishop, negotiate possibility of resuming publication. Fares Stephen assumes ownership and prepares to publish under *Al-Hoda Al Jadid* and *The New Lebanese American Journal*.



Mary with Rashid Karami and clergy

- 1973 The presses are ready to roll for *Al-Hoda's* 75th anniversary on Feb. 22. In March, *Al-Hoda* celebrates its Diamond Jubilee at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York. A high-level delegation from Lebanon, including Sheikh Pierre Gemayel and other dignitaries, attends.
- 1974 Lebanese President Suleiman Franjeh visits *Al-Hoda* during a trip to New York to address the United Nations on the Palestinian situation.

History of *Al-Hoda* and its Publishers



Salloum Mokarzel's dedication to his homeland and interest in Lebanese issues attracted the attention of the country's leaders, including its first president, Emile Edde, who sent Salloum the pen he used to sign the treaty ensuring Lebanon's independence from France. Here, Salloum receives the Order of the Cedars award from the Lebanese government at *Al-Hoda's* 50th anniversary celebration in 1948.

1975
to 1990

Al-Hoda focuses on events of the Lebanese civil war; Fares visits Lebanon via Cyprus annually to meet with the country's leaders and offer support from the Lebanese-American community.

1987

Fares is honored with a testimonial dinner at Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral in Brooklyn.

1990

Work begins on a tribute book marking the 92nd anniversary of *Al-Hoda*.

1993

Tribute book is published with messages of support from scores of political and religious leaders from the United States and Lebanon.

1993

After years of operating on a shoestring budget and shrinking paid subscriptions, *Al-Hoda*, *Al Jaddid* and *The New Lebanese American Journal* are closed.

1998

Arab American organizations, scholars, diplomats and friends gather to honor the myriad contributions of *Al-Hoda*, *Syrian World* and the *Lebanese American Journal* at a centennial celebration at the Museum of the City of New York.



Top:
Early Al-Hoda
masthead.

Center:
Salloum and
the Lebanon
League
of Progress
present cedar
trees to
Eleanor
Roosevelt
at Arlington
National
Cemetery.



Bottom:
Salloum greets
California
Gov. and Mrs.
Earl Warren
with
Prince Faisal
of Saudi Arabia
at the
1946 opening
of the
United Nations
in
San Francisco.



Lebanese American Journal

AL-HODA PUBLICATION

The *Al-Hoda* Legacy

By Linsbergh E. Goldson

When Mary Mokarzel suspended publication of *Al-Hoda* and its sister paper, *Lebanese American Journal*, in 1971, I was on the staff of the LAJ and I was able to observe first hand the pain that Miss Mary went through in reaching her decision.

When ABC-TV came to interview her on the closing of the historic newspaper that linked the Arabic-speaking community, mostly Lebanese, for almost 75 years, she was so distraught she didn't appear on camera. After all, her family had carried on this tradition of informing the Lebanese community and fighting for their rights since 1898.

There was now an obvious void in this crusade that had to be filled.

Enter Fares Stephen in 1972 in time to host the newspaper's

Diamond Jubilee at the Waldorf Astoria, which was attended by leaders from the Arab World, Lebanese officials and ambassadors, as well as a lot of Lebanese and their friends.

Fares Stephen revived *Al-Hoda* and the LAJ on the eve of the unfortunate internal strife in Lebanon. And *Al-Hoda's* job was once again handed to it: to inform and guide the Lebanese people.

Those of us who know of the many threats to Lebanon's sovereignty throughout her history could well imagine what a formidable task it was.

Fares Stephen and his loyal staff of writers, analysts, typesetters and volunteers carried the paper through the turbulent chapter.

Like the pioneers, the job for Stephen was full of sacrifices and called heavily on his sense of

patriotism.

Publishing *Al-Hoda* and LAJ was a labor of love from its inception. For the new publisher, reality could not be ignored, and he had to make a decision 21 years later, in April 1993, to suspend publication.

The action of the organizers of the symposium to celebrate *Al-Hoda's* centennial is a good omen that even in absence, *Al-Hoda* lives on.

Linsbergh E. Goldson was editor of the Lebanese American Journal from 1971 to 1993. He continues to work with Fares Stephen and lives in Easton, Pennsylvania.



سلوم مكرزل رسول المهاجرين



تسلم يديك يا ابن لبنان الحبيب
يهد ضمت يد ابن بلادها
أنت (هجرة الرسل) لبعيد وقريب
ويهد التي صاغت سيمو القرب
«شعور الزواحي»

Salloum Mokarzel, the Messenger of the Emigrants

"Bless your hands, you beloved son of Lebanon
You are the connection between those who are far
and those who are near
One hand clasps the hands of your countrymen
The other grasps the hands of your estranged brothers."

Ad-Dabbour magazine

1934



Salloum Mokarzel, his wife Helen, their daughters Rose, Mary, Alice, Yemna and Lila.

Professor Salloum Mokarzel has five daughters, each of whom is distinguished by a high qualification.

Three of them have already received diplomas of honor upon their graduation, but even after they have finished their period of study they are always in constant company of books.

The fourth, Yemna, has graduated with much honor last Sunday and she is bound to achieve literary distinction like her other sisters. But Lila, the youngest of the sisters, is the president of her class despite the fact that most of her school-mates are older than she, and her marks are the highest in all subjects.

The family of Salloum Mokarzel is therefore a "living library" composed of himself, his respectable wife and their five daughters: Mary the wise lily, Rose the modest rose, Alice the fragrant and intelligent jasmine, Yemna the sweet basil of the home and Lila the little jasmine full of life.

Among our young generation in our land of immigration there are thousands of fine young men and young women. It is with regret, however, that we say that our young women, as a whole, are better and more useful than the young men.

That is, most of our young women are subjects of pride while some of our young men are cause for shame.

*Nasim Mokarzel
Al-Hoda Editorial
June 26, 1931*



Biographies of *Al-Hoda* Publishers



Naoum Anthony Mokarzel

Naoum Anthony Mokarzel was born in August 1864 in the mountain village Freike, Lebanon. He was the son of a Maronite priest, the Rev. Antoun Mokarzel, and Barbara Akl Mokarzel.

He entered the Al Hikmat (Wisdom) School in Beirut to study Arabic and French and graduated from St. Joseph's Jesuit University, also in Beirut.

After teaching literature at the Jesuit School in Cairo for one year, he became ill with a fever and returned to Freike. There, he established a boarding school.

In 1890, Naoum emigrated to New York, where he opened a store that soon failed, costing him his capital. While working as a bookkeeper at another company, he published *Al-Asr*, a mimeographed tabloid believed to be the second Arabic-language publication in the United States.

When *Al-Asr* failed, Naoum enrolled in medical school in Philadelphia. He left after two years and in 1898 began publishing *Al-Hoda*, which means, "The Guidance."

Al-Hoda fared poorly in Philadelphia, even after Naoum's brother, Salloum, began working as an apprentice in 1900. In 1903, Naoum moved the newspaper to New York, the center for Arab immigrants to America.

By 1911, Naoum began to gain wealth and esteem. He organized the Lebanon League of Progress to help unify and uplift immigrants and was unanimously elected president for life.

From then on, he was involved in almost every major project involving the Lebanese community in the United States. In 1913 and again in 1919, he went to Paris to lobby for Lebanon's independence from the Ottoman Empire, and would carry on that struggle to the Versailles Peace Conference and the League of Nations. He designed the modern Lebanese flag.

Consequently, the Ottoman Sultan Abdul Hamid of Constantinople condemned him to death. But Naoum continued his work until 1932, when he died in Paris while on a mission to reform the Lebanese government. In 1934, his remains were removed to Lebanon, received in Beirut with great ceremony and interred in his native village Freike.

Biographies of *Al-Hoda* Publishers



Salloum Anthony Mokarzel

Born in August, 1883 in the mountain village Freike, Salloum Anthony Mokarzel came with his mother to the United States first in 1890 and then in 1898 to visit his brother Naoum in Philadelphia.

When he arrived, he worked a variety of jobs. His stint as an 1898 Chicago World's Fair barker ignited his lifelong passion for the World's Fair movement.

Afterward, he returned to Beirut to study at St. Joseph's Jesuit University and then came back to the United States. In 1900, he began working with Naoum on *Al-Hoda*, which soon moved its headquarters to New York.

Shortly thereafter, Salloum married Helen Kalil and the couple produced five daughters: Mary, Rose, Alice, Yemna and Lila. In 1925, he sent his family back to Lebanon for what would turn out to be a two-year stay so his daughters could learn the language and culture.

In 1926, Salloum founded *the Syrian World*, an English-language literary monthly; he published it until 1932. Salloum was responsible for adapting the Mergenthaler linotype machines to the Arabic language requirements of *Al-Hoda*.

In 1929, he represented Mergenthaler in the Middle East, introducing linotype the publishing houses of Arabic-speaking countries and stimulating the growth of Arabic-language journalism.

He worked with Naoum to organize the first Mashrajans in America, and fought to establish a Lebanese pavilion at the 1939 World's Fair in New York. Although he considered himself American first and foremost, Salloum never lost his passion for Lebanon. In 1948, he received the Order of the Cedars for his services to Lebanon.

Upon Naoum's death in 1932, Salloum went deeply into debt to purchase *Al-Hoda*.

He later received the French Legion of Honor for fostering amicable relations between Lebanon and France.

Salloum died in 1952. In 1955, his remains were removed to Beirut, where they were received with ceremony, and then buried with his brother's remains in a tomb in Freike.

Biographies of *Al-Hoda* Publishers



Mary M. Mokarzel

Mary Magdalene Mokarzel was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., the eldest of five daughters of Salloum Mokarzel and Helena Kalil. She attended the New Jersey College for Women and the Art Students League.

While working in public relations in Washington, D.C., she returned to New York in 1950 to care for her father, whose advanced throat cancer left him unable to speak. With her sister Yenna, she nursed Salloum for a year until his death in 1952.

Encouraged by the wishes of many readers to keep *Al-Hoda* in the Mokarzel family, Mary bid for ownership of the paper, a move that met with strong opposition among the papers' trustees. They were convinced a woman without journalistic training or knowledge of Arabic could not continue the family's publishing enterprise.

Strengthened by the loyalty and talent of Joe Sharbel, who had worked at the paper for almost five decades as chief typesetter, Mary began the transition as managing editor and acquired full ownership of *Al-Hoda* in 1954.

Meanwhile, James Tayoun of Philadelphia, who had begun to publish the *Lebanese American Journal*, implored Mary to take it over when he was drafted into military service. Thus the LAJ became the English-language sister of *Al-Hoda*.

Mary continued with pride the values and traditions *Al-Hoda* readers had come to respect since the turn of the century. In 1968, Mary was able to fulfill her father's wish of publishing the full story of *Al-Hoda*, its founders and the immigrants they served.

By 1971, the strain of keeping up the papers in an era of declining subscriptions took its toll. Mary decided it was finally time to close the presses. At the urging of Bishop Mansour Stephan, she agreed to turn the papers over to his nephew Fares Stephen, who renewed publication in time for the 75th anniversary.

For years after the ownership transfer, Mary arranged for the Mokarzel library to be donated to St. Joseph's University in Beirut, had both papers archived at the Library of Congress and the New York Public Library, and established a Mokarzel file at the Immigration History Research Center in Minnesota.

Now in retirement, Mary keeps busy traveling, painting and spending time with friends and family.

Biographies of *Al-Hoda* Publishers



Fares K. Stephen

Fares Stephen was born in 1934 in Ghosha, a village in Lebanon. He studied at *Al Hikmat*, also known as the College de la Sagesse, in Beirut and moved to New York to complete his studies at Fordham University.

In 1965, Stephen married Diane Sugany. They have two sons, Paul and Khirallah. After a varied early work experience in New York, Stephen opened a travel agency in 1963. He operated it for 30 years.

Stephen acquired *Al-Hoda* and the *Lebanese American Journal* in 1972. The following year, he hosted *Al-Hoda's* Diamond Jubilee at the Waldorf Astoria, a banquet attended by diplomats and dignitaries from around the United States and the Arab world.

He published the newspapers weekly under the names *Al-Hoda Al-Jadid* and *The New Lebanese American Journal* until 1993, when circumstances forced him to suspend publication.

In 1995, Stephen was named honorary consul of Lebanon for New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Stephen had the profoundly difficult job of shepherding *Al-Hoda* through the Lebanese civil war from 1975 to 1990 and for several difficult years thereafter. During that turbulent time, Stephen made annual trips to Lebanon via Cyprus to meet with the country's leaders and offer support from the Lebanese-American community.

For his heroic work, he was awarded the Order of the Cedars by the Lebanese government, and was given a special citation by King Hussein of Jordan.

Stephen remains committed to the ideal of an independent Lebanon, "not occupied or guided by anyone else." He also remains hopeful that *Al-Hoda* can resume publication to support, and ultimately record, that joyous occasion.

Al-Hoda Centennial Tribute Program

3 p.m.

Symposium

Opening Remarks, Helen Hatab Samhan

Symposium Chair and Moderator, May Rihani

Panel I

Al-Hoda: A Landmark Contribution to Arabic Media in the U.S.

Breaking New Ground: Al-Hoda and the Arabic Press at the Turn of the Century

Dr. Edmund Ghareeb

Al-Hoda's Multidimensional Role: A View from Lebanon

Dr. Ameen Albert Rihani

Affiq Karam: The Voice of Al-Hoda's most Prominent Woman Contributor

Dr. George Dimitri Selim

The Mokarzel: A Publishing Family's Service to the Arabic-Speaking Community

Dr. Michael Suleiman

Panel II

A Lasting Legacy to Generations of Immigrants

Salkam Mokarzel's Vision for American Institutions

Dr. Jake Jorishie Jr.

The Syrian World: A Bridge to the American-born Generation

Dr. Eugene Paul Nassar

John Moses

Salkam Mokarzel's Other Vision: The Role of Business Success in Becoming American

Dr. Alisha Nuff

Reflections, Wadiah Zogby and Dr. Clovis Maksoud

6 p.m.

Exhibit Viewing of Al-Hoda/Mokarzel Archive

Cocktail Reception

Closing Remarks, Peter J. Tancous

Music by Najeeb Shaheen (oud) and Tony Hajjar (rny)

Biographies of Symposium Speakers

Edmund Ghareeb is a professor at American University and a specialist on media and Middle Eastern affairs. He has taught Middle Eastern history, politics and international relations at University of Virginia, McGill University and George Washington University.

He has a doctorate's degree in modern Middle Eastern and North African history from Georgetown University.

Jake Jorishie Jr. is president of the Southern Federation of the Syrian Lebanese American Clubs. He has been a dentist in Tulsa, Oklahoma, since 1977. Jorishie has a bachelor's degree from the University of Tulsa and a doctorate of dental medicine from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He was an officer in the Navy after completing his dental residency.

John G. Moses is a retired educator, counselor, principal and director of guidance for the Utica Public Schools. He also taught at Colgate University and Utica College of Syracuse University. His educational background includes graduate research and study at New York and Syracuse universities, a master's of arts degree in Greek and Latin from Columbia University and a bachelor of arts degree from Hamilton College.

His publications include: "Lebanon: The Story of Western Civilization in Miniature," "From Mount Lebanon to the Mohawk Valley," "The Lebanese in America," and the "Annotated Index to the Syrian World," which he co-authored with Eugene P. Nassar of Utica College.

Eugene Paul Nassar is a professor of English and director of the Ethnic Heritage Studies Center at Utica College of Syracuse University. A former Rhodes scholar who completed his doctoral degree at Cornell University, he is the author of books on Wallace Stevens, Ezra Pound, Dante and two books of literary essays, as well as several articles in scholarly journals.

Alicia Naff has a doctorate in the history of the modern Middle East. She created the Arab American Project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Naff Arab

American Collection of Immigrant Artifacts and Archival Materials, which she donated to the Smithsonian Institution. She has published two books: "Becoming American: The Early Arab Immigrant Experience," and "The Arab Americans," an illustrated history for young adults.

Ameen A. Rihani is provost and vice president for academic affairs at Notre Dame University, Lebanon. He has written 12 books on modern literature and co-authored four. He previously taught literature, philosophy and education at American University of Beirut and the Lebanese American University. He has published magazine articles in Lebanon, Bahrain, Iraq and the United States.

May Rihani is senior vice president and director of Gender and Education at the Academy for Educational Development. She has directed several international programs to ensure equity and increase the participation of girls in education in Egypt, Yemen, Morocco, Mali, Malawi, Benin and Pakistan.

She has published several studies related to women's and girls' education. Her studies have been translated into several languages and have been extensively disseminated among policy makers and practitioners.

George Dimitri Selim has been an Arab area specialist at the Library of Congress since 1967. He was born in Alexandria, Egypt, to Lebanese parents. He graduated from Georgetown University, where he taught from 1958 to 1967. His publications include studies on Arab American literature, with an emphasis on *mushjar* poetry.

Michael W. Suleiman is a university distinguished professor of political science at Kansas State University. He has received several research awards for his work on Arabs in the United States, including a fellowship from the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey. His works include "The Arabs in the Minds of America," "Arab Americans: Continuity and Change," and "Arabs in America: Building a New Future."

Honorary Committee

- Mary M. Mokarzel
Alice Mokarzel Jaoudi
Fares K. Stephen
H.E. Mohammad Chatah, *Ambassador of Lebanon to the United States*
H.E. Hisham Hamdan, *Acting Consul General of Lebanon*
Dr. Clovis Maksoud
Hon. Thomas Libous, *New York State Senate*
H.E. Samir Modbarak, *Ambassador of Lebanon to the United Nations*

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Louise Hadad Hamawi, Brooklyn, NY
Paul and Christine Hatab, Boise, ID

George Hatab, Haworth, NJ
Lorraine and Wilfred Jabara, Brooklyn, NY
Raja Jabri, M.D., Rocky Point, NY
Dr. Maria Jaoudi and Family, Davis, CA
A.P. Joseph, New York, NY
Hisham Kaw, Brooklyn, NY
G. Bruce Leib, New York, NY
John Mashy, Hillsdale, NJ
George and Ann Malloek, Garden City, NY
Alice E. Malouf, New York, NY
Christopher Moses, Astoria, NY
Clement J. Moses, Rome, NY
Gerard E. Moses, Syracuse, NY
Hansid and Leila Mouzalem, New York, NY
Sohad Ameen Rafei, New York, NY
In loving memory of Rafic Rasmay from his children
Jeanine Shama, New York, NY
Annun Stephen, New York, NY
Kevoek Tonoyan, New Canaan, CT
Lorraine and Kati Trabaco, Brooklyn, NY

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Finally, a debt of gratitude is owed to the Mokarzel family for safeguarding the many photographs, documents and artifacts on exhibit this evening. Mary Mokarzel and Alice Mokarzel Jaoudi were especially gracious and generous to share with the public the treasured legacy of their father and uncle which we hope will be available for many future generations.

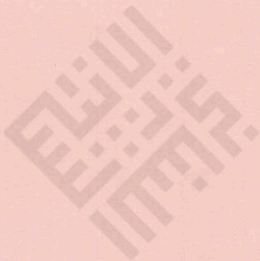
Tribute Committee

Dr. Edmund Ghareeb
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 John Moses
 Dr. Alixa Naff
 Dr. Eugene Nassar
 Souhad Ameen Rafeq, American Academy of Arts and Letters
 May Rihani, Academy for Educational Development
 Helen Hatab Samhan, Arab American Institute, *chair*
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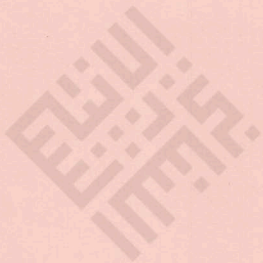


Notes





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