

2023
CATALOG

DAYBREAK PRESS

GIVING RISE TO
WOMEN'S VOICES



Rabata Cultural Center
3533 Lexington Ave N,
Arden Hills, MN 55126
bookshop.rabata.org



Rabata works to build a better society through the educational and spiritual development of women by women, amplifying the female voice in scholarship and publishing, and graduating teachers and religious leaders ready to serve their communities. Rabata is both a virtual and in-person learning space, where Muslim women - those who were born to the faith, those who have grown up under its shade, and those who are newcomers - can find and nurture their spiritual selves.

Rabata, Inc. is recognized as a nonprofit organization by the IRS. Section 501(c)(3). Please visit us at the Rabata Cultural Center in Arden Hills, Minnesota or online at rabata.org.



Daybreak Press publishes Muslim women writers in a variety of literary genres and academic fields, bringing to life work that cultivates positive cultural change.

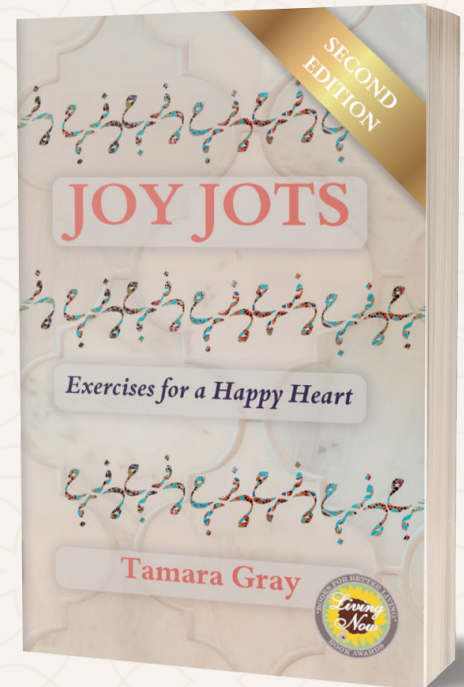
Our juvenile and YA books tackle challenging issues, provide heartfelt inspiration, and serve as springboards for learning and discussion about many kinds of inclusion, breaking down walls as only literature can. Our nonfiction and academic works broaden the knowledge and deepen the spiritual lives of students and readers around the world.

JOY JOTS: EXERCISES FOR A HAPPY HEART

By Dr. Tamara Gray
@tamaralgray

Paperback | \$22.99 | 272 pages
978-0990625919
bookshop.rabata.org

Joy Jots, now in its second edition, is a collection of 52 weekly essays that take the reader through a year of seasons, blessings, and joyful spiritual growth. "Joy jot" is a phrase coined around mindful gratitude. As the reader works through the reflection prompts and practical projects, she will find herself collecting joy jots- happy moments or points of deep thankfulness to God. As the habit of joy develops, the reader will begin to know herself better, draw closer to her fellow human beings, and set herself firmly upon the path that leads to real, all-encompassing joy in this life and the next.



Silver Medal: Living Now Awards
Category: Spirituality/ Enlightenment
2023 International Book Awards
Finalist: Self-Help/Spirituality

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Dr. Tamara Gray is the founder of Rabata, an organization dedicated to promoting positive cultural change through creative educational experiences. She is an Islamic scholar and holds multiple ijazas in Islamic sacred texts and subject matters. Dr. Tamara completed her doctoral studies in the Leadership, Policy and Administration program at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN. She also holds a master's degree in Curriculum Theory and Instruction, and worked for 25 years in the field of education, before moving into the nonprofit world.

Dr. Tamara is also a public speaker, often engaged to speak about issues of gender, leadership, Islam, and spirituality; locally, nationally and globally. Some of her platforms have included, the International Leadership Association, the World Parliament of Religions, the Bonyaan conference on the Muslim woman (Sweden), the Islamic Society of North America and several universities, including Princeton, Virginia Tech and Oxford University.

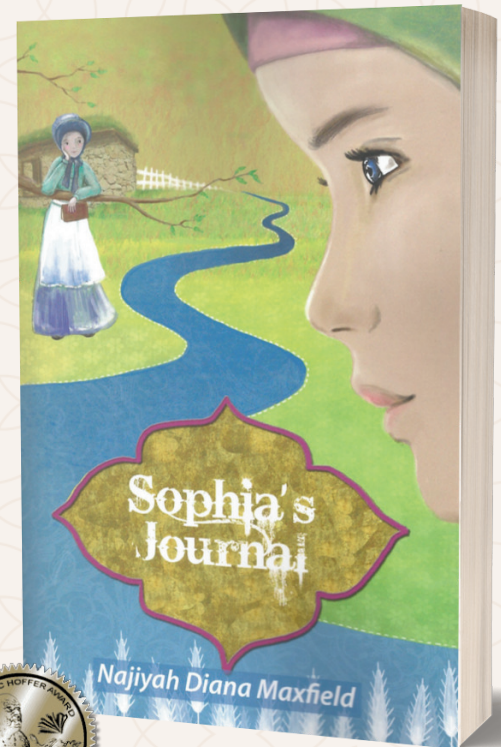
SOPHIA'S JOURNAL

By Najiyah Diana Maxfield
@clickedmyrubyslippers

Paperback | \$12.99 | 300 pages
978-0990625902
bookshop.rabata.org

After a bad fall in the Kansas river near Lawrence, Sophia, a 16-year-old Muslim-American, emerges soaking wet in what she is shocked to discover is Bleeding Kansas. Not long after her arrival, however, her worries turn from her own mystifying situation to the horrific ones endured by the enslaved people and First Nations people she meets. Sophia and her adopted sister Abby set out to help their friends, but soon learn that change can be dangerous.

Filled with adventure, self-discovery, and a dash of romance, Sophia's Journal offers a glimpse into a world half-forgotten from a vantage point like no other.



Honorable Mention: Purple Dragonfly Book Awards - Young Adult Fiction

2023 Eric Hoffer Book Award Category Finalists

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Najiyah Maxfield is the award-winning author of many articles, poems and short stories. Her young adult novel, *Sophia's Journal*, explores themes of inclusion and identity and is being taught in several middle and high schools across North America. She taught secondary level English and history in the States and university level English in Syria. She spent three years as the Managing Editor of *Discover: The Magazine for Curious Muslim Kids* and is now the Editorial Director of Daybreak Press, Rabata's non-profit publishing company. She lives in Canton, MI where she kayaks in the summer, knits in the winter, and divides her time between her six children, two granddaughters and studying and volunteering with Ribaat.

PIECES

By Afshan Malik

@afshanmalikwrites

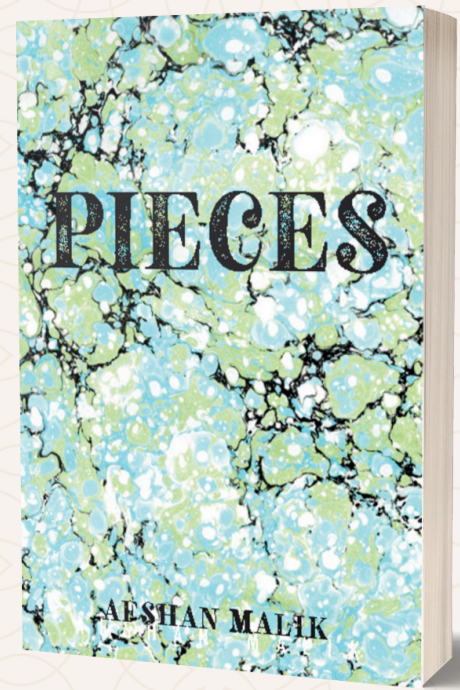
Paperback | \$19.99 | 184 pages

978-0999299012

bookshop.rabata.org

As if track practice, yearbook meetings, and tumultuous friendships weren't enough, sisters Hannah and Noreen are catapulted into a disorienting new reality when their dad returns home from his medical mission in Syria a haunted and broken man.

All of a sudden, their once tight-knit family is falling to pieces. Little do they know, things will become a lot more crazy and unpredictable as each of them fights a different battle.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Afshan Malik is a Chicago native turned southern belle who loves Dr. Pepper, afternoon naps, and historical novels. She holds a BA in English Language and Literature and an MA in Nonprofit Management. Afshan is excited to bring her interest in uplifting Muslim women at the global nonprofit Rabata. She is currently the Director of Development at Rabata working to amplify its mission of positive cultural change. She is also in the first graduating class from the Ribaati Academic Program and continues to pursue additional Islamic studies certifications under the tutelage of Dr. Tamara Gray. Afshan is the calm eye of the storm in much of what life tosses her way and enjoys soaking up the Texas sun with her husband and five children.

AN ACQUAINTANCE

By Saba Syed

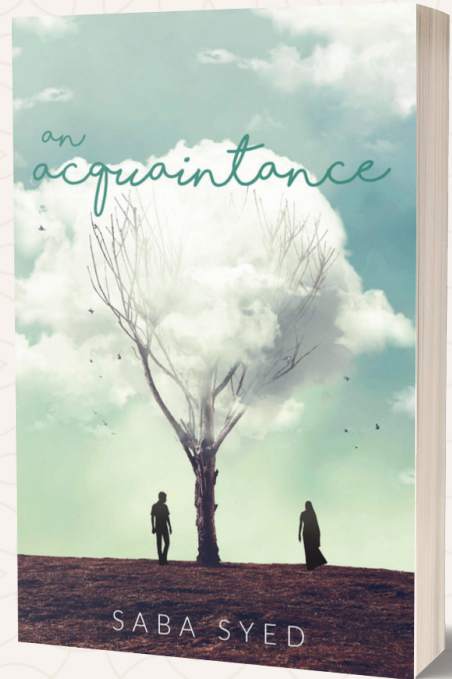
@saba_umreem

Paperback | \$18.95 | 292 pages

978-0999299005

bookshop.rabata.org

An Acquaintance is the exciting story of a smart, driven young Muslim girl living in small town America who falls for the new guy at her high school. Family and friends misunderstand their developing relationship, and Sarah struggles to be faithful to her moral code. As rumors of misconduct crescendo throughout the school year, what will become of their mere acquaintance...or is it more?



Finalist: International Book Awards
Category: Young Adult Fiction

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Saba Syed is the author of the international award-winning novel, *An Acquaintance*. Saba has a BA degree in Islamic Studies. She studied Arabic Language & Literature at Qatar University and at Cairo Institute in Egypt.

She also received her Ijaazah in Quranic Hafs recitation in Egypt from Shaikh Muhammad al-Hamazawi. She has been actively involved with the Islamic community since 1995 through her MSA, then as a founding member of TDC, and other community organizations. In 2002, she organized and hosted the very first "Muslim Women's Conference" in Houston, TX.

Since then, she's been passionately working towards empowering Muslim women through the correct and untainted teachings of Islam.

BREWING STORMS

By A.M. Ramzy

@amramizi

Paperback | \$9.99 | 98 pages

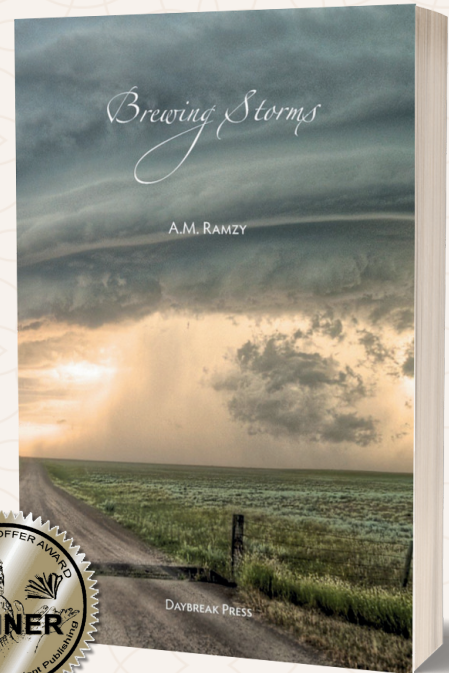
978-0990625926

bookshop.rabata.org

The stories of men as seeker and teacher abound in the pages of heritage texts and literary works, but the stories of women are rare. *Brewing Storms* is a collection of poems that offers a window into the spiritual path of one young woman as she navigates her way through the storms of the soul. Ramzy's poems provide deep and honest insight into the challenges of growth and spiritual development, along with moments of profound fulfillment experienced along the way.

The beauty of poetry as an art form is that it can touch readers no matter what their path or background, and it is hoped that this collection will speak to those emotions which bind us all: searching, struggle, love, and longing.

 **rabata**
Daybreak Press



2023 da Vinci Eye Finalist
2023 Eric Hoffer Award Grand Prize Short List
2023 Legacy Fiction Winner
2023 First Horizon Award

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Dr. Anna-Maria Ramzy learned Arabic from scratch as a non-native speaker. Her relationship with this beautiful language took her to the University of Oxford, where she gained a First Class in her Arabic degree and is now working on her PhD. Her undergraduate studies led her to the lands of Syria, where she met Dr. Tamara Gray, honed her Arabic skills through intense study, and embarked upon the journey to gain her ijaza in tajwid.

Dr. Anse Anna-Maria built the Ribaat Arabic Program and continues to oversee this department. She has been teaching with Ribaat since its inception in 2013.

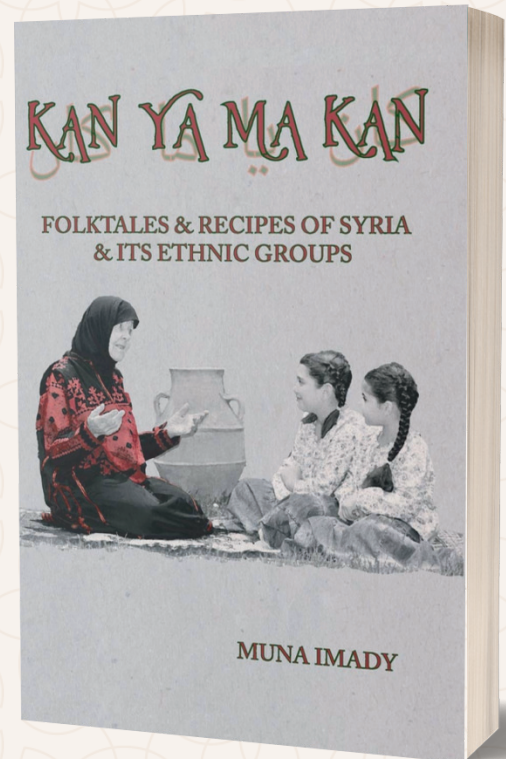
KAN YA MA KAN: FOLKTALES & RECIPES OF SYRIA & ITS ETHNIC GROUPS

By Muna Imady

Paperback | \$24.99 | 408 pages
978-0999299029
bookshop.rabata.org

With the terrible civil war raging in Syria one of Muna Imady's biggest fears was that her country's unique culture would suffer. In particular, she worried that the oral tradition of storytelling, and even the ancient stories themselves, would be lost.

The result of her quest to preserve them is this book of folktales and traditional recipes from diverse regions of Syria, handed down through generations, painstakingly collected in numerous interviews, and charmingly retold here.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Muna Imady was born to an American mother and a Syrian father. She earned a BA in English Literature and a diploma in English-Arabic Translation from Damascus University, as well as a Maitrise from the Sorbonne.

Imady has designed a beginner's English reading course for children, and has written several text books to teach children English as a second language.

She has had a lifelong interest in folktales and promised herself that one day she would write a book of the folktales she eventually collected.

DRUMMER GIRL

By Hiba Masood

Illustrated by Hoda Hodadi

@hibamasood

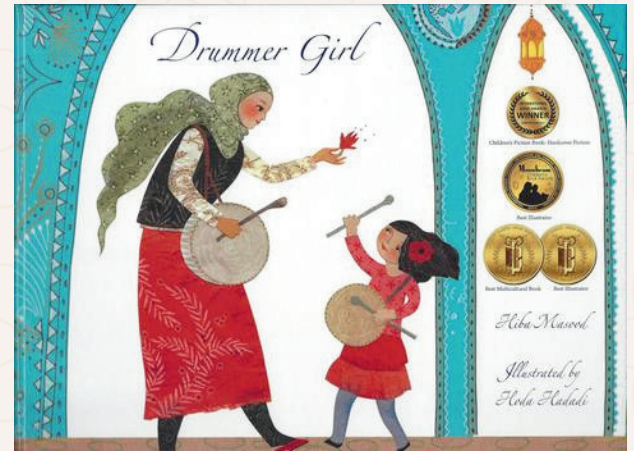
Hardcover | \$24.99 | 28 pages

978-0990625971

bookshop.rabata.org

Year after year, in the blessed month of Ramadan, little Najma has happily arisen to the drum beat of her neighborhood's *musaharati*. He walks through the streets of her small Turkish village, waking each family for the pre-dawn meal before the long day of fasting. Najma wants nothing more than to be a *musaharati* herself one day, but no girl has ever taken on the role.

Will she have what it takes to become the drummer girl of her dreams? Find out in this inspirational story of sincerity, determination, and family support.



Gold Seal Winner: International Book Awards
Category: Best Picture Book

Gold Seal Winner: Moonbeam Children's
Book Awards
Category: Best Illustrator

Gold Seal Winner: Literary Classics Awards
Categories: Best Multicultural Book & Best
Illustrator

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Hiba Masood is a Canadian-Pakistani writer, storyteller, and speaker. Apart from running her wildly popular Facebook page (Drama Mama), she is also a columnist for Muslim Matters. Currently based in Karachi, Hiba runs Happy Place, an enrichment center for women and kids, where she holds story, art, and yoga sessions centered around her primary passion, children's literature. Hiba is the author of Aiza and Alina, a story of friendship and Down syndrome, which she wrote for use in inclusive programs across Pakistan. *Drummer Girl* is Hiba's second book. As an uplifting story about empowered women and a supportive father, this book encapsulates her mission in life: to encourage women to become their best, most radiant selves, and to celebrate everyone who helps them in this essential journey.

THE CROWNING VENTURE: INSPIRATION FROM WOMEN WHO HAVE MEMORIZED THE QURAN

By Hafiza Saadia Mian, MD
@saadiamian

Paperback | \$22.99 | 156 pages
978-0999299036
bookshop.rabata.org

If you've ever sighed wistfully upon hearing of someone memorizing the Quran, wishing it was something you could do, too, then prepare to replace that wistfulness with determination! Filled with inspirational stories for your heart and memorization techniques for your mind, The Crowning Venture reminds us that memorizing the Quran is not an achievement to be conquered, it's a journey to savor - a journey YOU can make.



Winner: International Book Awards - Religion, General

Finalist: Best Book Awards - Religion General & Religion Eastern

Finalist: International Book Awards - Best Cover Design, Non-Fiction

Finalist: Next Generation Indie Book Awards - How-to/Self-Help/ Inspirational, Religion/Spirituality

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Dr. Saadia Mian is board-certified in internal medicine and endocrinology. After completing an undergraduate degree in psychology at the University of Michigan, she went to medical school at Michigan State University. She works full-time at Metro Detroit Endocrinology Center in Dearborn, Michigan.

She is a member of the founding board of Rabata and continues to serve while working full-time as an endocrinologist. She is also a member of AACE (American Association Clinical Endocrinologists), Endocrine Society, Syrian American Medical Society and Women Physicians for Humanity.

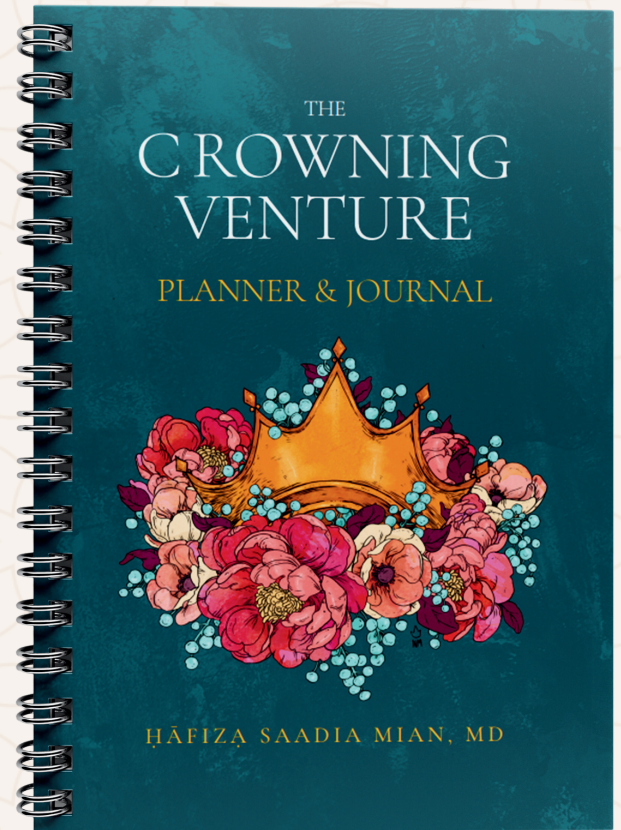
Anse Saadia leads the level 4 Quran course at Ribaati, "The Crowning Venture: Quran Memorization" and also works with tajwid students one-on-one as part of the Quran Program.

THE CROWNING VENTURE PLANNER & JOURNAL

By Hafiza Saadia Mian, MD
@saadiamian

Spiral | \$24.95 | 262 pages
bookshop.rabata.org

The Crowning Venture Planner and Journal recognizes that to achieve our visions we need to first clarify those visions and then take measured steps to realize them. Whether your goal is to strengthen your relationship with the Quran, improve your health, nurture your social interactions, or sharpen your time management skills, there is something in this planner for you. We are so excited to present this all-in-one tool for embracing your life in new ways and growing past obstacles that keep you from realizing your fullest potential.

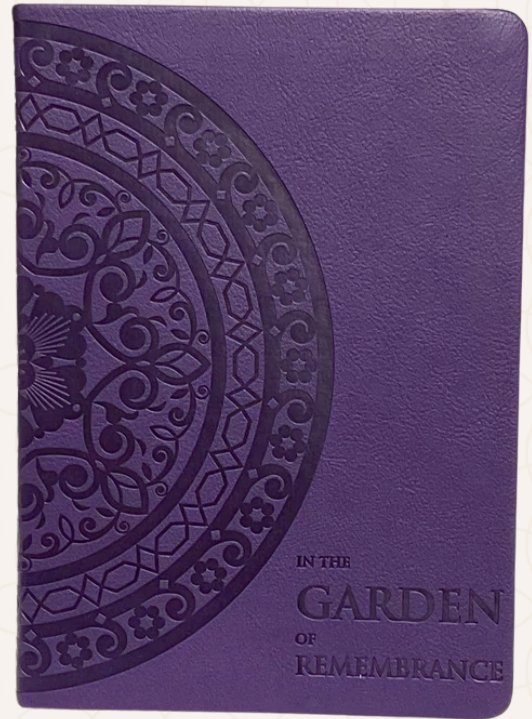


IN THE GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

By Murad Mujahid al-Ash'ari al-'Adnani
Translated by Nishat Lal

Smyth Sewn Binding | \$15.00 | 114 pages
978-0-9906259-8-8
bookshop.rabata.org

Allah loves to hear our voices in du'a... has He heard yours lately? Unlock the gate to the Garden of Remembrance which this dun book published by Daybreak Press. Praise Allah as the Prophet ﷺ praised Him and echo the litanies of the awliya with these transformative prayers. Turn to this collection of du'as to brighten your heart, ease your burdens, and surround yourself with the fragrance of faith. In the Garden of Remembrance was translated by Ribaata Academic Institute Arabic instructor Nishat Lal, who holds a Masters in Arabic translation from SOAS University of London. It includes praises and salawat followed by du'as for forgiveness, protection, and need. Familiar du'as used at Rabata events round out this unique compilation. An essential for every Muslim home, this beautifully-bound treasury of profound and touching du'as will nurture spirits for generations to come.



2023 International Book Awards Winner: Religion



ABOUT THE TRANSLATOR



Nishat Lal was raised in Cardiff, Wales. A born Muslim of Indian origin, she began studying Arabic at age 14, which was her springboard to receiving Bachelor's degrees in Arabic and History from the University of London. She then traveled to Syria for her third year of study, where she met Dr. Tamara Gray, earned her ijāza in tajwīd and studied at the University of Damascus.

Nishat has taught both Arabic and tajwīd online extensively as well as in person. Nishat has been teaching Arabic with the Ribaata Academic Institute since 2014.

PROJECT LINA: BRINGING OUR WHOLE SELVES TO ISLAM

By Dr. Tamara Gray &
Najiyah Diana Maxfield

Paperback | \$29.99 | 254 pages
978-0-999299-5-0
bookshop.rabata.org

Lina is the Arabic word for palm tree, and the three modules found in this book - Know Yourself, Declare Independence, and Tend Your Ties - provide a springboard from which converts can grow like palm trees, with deep roots of faith, strong and flexible trunks of devotion, and sweet, nutritious fruits of service. Whether new to Islam or a seasoned convert with tales and advice of your own to share, Project Lina will help you continue to bring your whole self to Islam. It is the open arms, the spiritual guidance, and the balanced way forward that converts need for a healthy transition from newbies to vital members of their communities - and then to the leaders their communities need.



Legacy Nonfiction 1st Runner Up
Eric Hoffer Award Grand Prize Short List
2023 Eric Hoffer Book Award Category Finalists
2023 International Book Awards Finalist: Self-Help/Spirituality

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



Anse Dr. Tamara Gray is the founder of Rabata, an organization dedicated to promoting positive cultural change through creative educational experiences. She is an Islamic scholar and holds multiple ijazas in Islamic sacred texts and subject matters.



Award-winning author Najiyah Maxfeld was raised on the windswept prairies of central Kansas. She taught English and social studies for 12 years before turning to writing as a way to help students peer beyond stereotype and prejudice and see others for who they truly are.

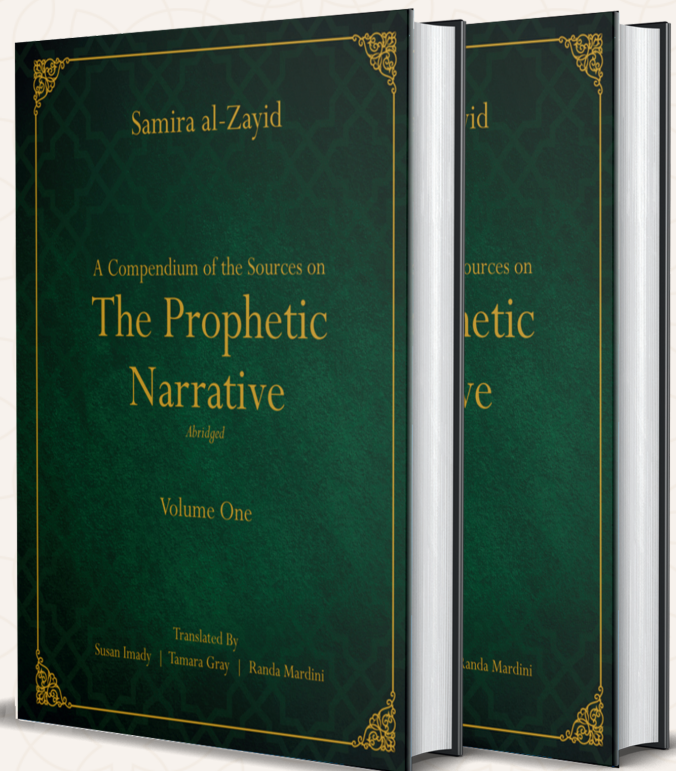
A COMPENDIUM OF THE SOURCES ON THE PROPHETIC NARRATIVE

By Samira al-Zayid

Translated by Susan Imady,
Dr. Tamara Gray, & Randa Mardini
@tamaragray

Soft cover | \$150.00 | Vol. 1 & Vol. 2-1128
978-00990625988
bookshop.rabata.org

This multiple award-winning comprehensive compilation of narrations and details of the life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ has never before been available in English! Internationally acclaimed as "the most authoritative resource" on the sira, this two-volume translation brings his life to life for everyone who ventures upon it. The original volumes have won the approval and praise of numerous scholars. Now, it is at last available as a treasured text for your personal or educational development.



National Award: by the Sultan of Brunei for the original six volume Collected Works of the Narrative of the Life of the Prophet (S)
Acclaimed Reviews: from the notable faculties at University of Sharjah, University of Damascus, United Arab Emirates University, and more.

ABOUT THE TRANSLATORS

Anse Dr. Tamara Gray is the founder of Rabata, an organization dedicated to promoting positive cultural change through creative educational experiences. She is an Islamic scholar and holds multiple ijazas in Islamic sacred texts and subject matters. Anse Tamara completed her doctoral studies in the Leadership, Policy and Administration program at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN. She also holds a master's degree in Curriculum Theory and Instruction, and worked for 25 years in the field of education before moving into the nonprofit world.

Ustadha Anse Sawsan Imady learned traditional Islam from her female teachers over 40 years. She has a BA in English literature and a Masters in Education. During her career she has been a teacher of English and other subjects, as well as an academic supervisor, curriculum developer, director of instruction, and teacher trainer. Learn more about her at <http://www.peacespective.org>

A student of Anse Samira al-Zayid, Anse Randa Mardini is the preeminent Sira scholar in the world today. She uses her background in computer science to bring the Prophet's biography to life for students in Kuwait, where she currently lives, and around the globe.

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