



Beyond the Dunes

An Anthology of
Modern Saudi Literature

Editors: Mansour al-Hazimi, Salma Khadra Jayyusi, Ezzat Khattab

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An Anthology of Modern Saudi Literature

By Mansour al-Hazimi, Ezzat Khattab & Salma Khadra Jayyusi (Eds)

Saudi Arabia has changed beyond all recognition in the past few decades, and the country's writers have been pre-eminent in grappling with the dilemmas, the cultural jarring and the identity problems thrown up by such an accelerated pace of change. *Beyond The Dunes* opens up for the first time the diversity and richness of contemporary Saudi Arabian literature to an English-speaking audience in this uniquely accessible book. Mansour al Hazimi, Salma Khadra Jayyusi and Ezzat Khattab have put together a varied selection of poetry, short stories, novel extracts, personal accounts, drama and essays which provide a fascinating insight into the challenges and tensions of a culture that is striving to balance globalisation and modernity with highly cherished traditional values.

The social dislocation experienced by Saudi Arabians finds vivid formal expression in the dramas included in this volume, which may surprise many Western readers with their bold experimentalism and surrealist elements. This ground-breaking book provides an indispensable introduction to the thoughts, forms and expressions of one of the most complex and fascinating of world literatures at a moment of pivotal transformation.

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Will significantly add to the understanding of Saudi literature and culture, as well as to the understanding and appreciation of modern Arabic literature in general. - Dr Ayman El Desouky, SOAS

Mansour al Hazimi is a Professor Emeritus of Arabic Literature at King Saud University. Salma Khadra Jayyusi received her Ph.D. from the University of London (SOAS), has published several books of her own writing and was the winner of the Arab-American Writers Organizations's Edward Said Prize for Career Excellence in 2005. Ezzat Khattab is Professor Emeritus of English Literature at King Saud University.

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