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OBITUARIES

Nazih Nassif Mikhail Ayubi

Born, 22 December 1944, Cairo; died, 4 December 1995, Exeter, leaving a wife Rosalind and a son, Sami.

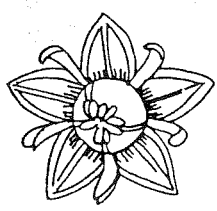
It is with great sadness that we convey news of the death of Nazih Ayubi. His intellectual contribution to the study of the Middle East was formidable. His breadth of knowledge, his personal commitment, and the force and clarity with which he expressed his views left an indelible impression on all who were fortunate enough to learn from him. His tragically early death, at the age of 50, has cost the discipline of Middle East Politics one of its most profound thinkers. The depth of that loss can be appreciated through the calibre of Nazih's books such as *Political Islam* (1991) which consolidated his reputation as a subtle and original student of Islamic political theory. But towering over even such influential works was the study in which he took most pride, his magisterial *Over-Stating the Arab State*, published last year, which promises to establish itself as a classic treatment of the politics of the Arab world.

Nazih was born in Egypt where he held his first academic posts before taking an Oxford Doctorate and a Professorship at Cairo University. He moved to the United States and, after four years as a Professor at the University of California Los Angeles, came to Exeter in 1983 as a key appointment in the development of Middle East studies. The enterprise succeeded brilliantly and Nazih was one of the central figures in the rapid design and launch of one of the most successful graduate programmes in Middle East Politics in Europe. The many Masters and Doctoral students who passed through his hands will share the admiration of his colleagues for his range of academic

competencies which stretched from Egyptian politics to development administration, political economy, international relations, and - his latest love - the international politics of Islam. In 1990 Nazih received the unusual compliment of a double promotion to a Readership which was followed by Fellowships held at the University of Manchester and at the European University Institute, Florence. He was under consideration for a well-deserved Personal Chair at the time of his death.

Nazih's wide circle of friends and colleagues at Exeter join with his wife, Lindy, and son, Sami, in mourning his loss. He leaves a legacy of warmth, good humour, culture and a love of scholarship which have enriched the Department and the University. We will miss him.

The Staff of the Department of Politics, University of Exeter.



Marion Farouk-Sluglett

For anyone studying modern Iraq, the work of Dr Marion Farouk-Sluglett and her husband Peter Sluglett is indispensable. Her death, from cancer at the age of 59, ends a remarkable life - and a remarkable scholarly partnership.

Together, Marion and Peter produced a number of works on the 20th century Middle East, including translations from German and, in 1987, their influential *Iraq: From Revolution to Dictatorship*. That book benefitted enormously from Marion's personal involvement and insight into the

turbulent politics of Baghdad in the 1950s and early 1960s.

It was in 1954 that the teenage Marion Wogatzki, accompanying her mother, arrived in the Iraqi capital from Germany. She was born in Berlin and had survived the worst of the second world war in a small village, where she and her family were evacuated by the German authorities.

Once in Iraq, she learned Arabic and married Omar Farouk, a royal guard captain with whom she had two sons. In 1958 the monarchy was bloodily overthrown and five years later, after her husband had been killed for his political opinions by the ruling Ba'ath party militia, Marion - with her children Marwan and Shalaan - returned to East Germany.

At the Humboldt University in East Berlin, she continued her studies, writing a doctoral thesis on land tenure and social structure in Iraq under late Ottoman and British rule, from 1870 to 1932.

It was while she was in London working through the British dispatches from Iraq in the old Public Record Office in Chancery Lane that she met and fell instantly in love with Peter Sluglett: they were both looking at the same documents on the Mandate period. Marion worked for a while as a lecturer in English at Humboldt before marrying Peter and joining him with her two young sons in Durham. She took temporary language teaching posts in Durham, Oxford and Dublin, as well as acting as a consultant to a Dutch group working in North Yemen, before finally establishing herself as a lecturer in politics at University College, Swansea. At the time of her death, she was teaching at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, where she and Peter moved in 1994.

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