

# The International Prize for Arabic Fiction cordially invites you to the following programme of shortlist events in Amman:

## OPENING EVENT

Sunday 9 February 18.30 – 19.30

**Yasir Suleiman: 'Through the Looking Glass: Orientalism and the Translation of Arabic Literature'**

Columbia Global Centers | Middle East  
5 Moh'd Al Sa'd Al-Batayneh St.  
King Hussein Park, Amman

Despite growing international interest in the Middle East and increasing translation of Arabic literary fiction into English, some argue that Arabic literature is still not properly represented as a major literature of the world. One reason given is the Orientalist bias of the English speaking audience, which tends only to be interested in specific subjects, such as women or despotism. This talk by Professor Yasir Suleiman, Chair of Trustees of the International Prize for Arabic Fiction – which promotes the readership of high quality Arabic literature internationally - examines this issue, looking at how much Orientalism can be blamed and how much one culture's expectations of literary fiction differs from another's.

## RSVP

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## SHORTLIST PRESS CONFERENCE

Monday 10 February 10.00 – 12.00

Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation  
15 Al Kullyah Al-Ilmiyah St.  
Jabal Amman, Amman

Join the 2014 judges as they announce the six books in contention for the Prize. This will be the first public appearance for the five judges, whose names have not been revealed until now. The event will be followed by an informal reception.

## PANEL EVENT

Monday 10 February 18.30 – 20.00

***The International Prize for Arabic Fiction: A Jordanian Viewpoint***

Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation  
15 Al Kullyah Al-Ilmiyah St.  
Jabal Amman, Amman

Following the announcement of the 2014 shortlist, a panel of leading commentators on contemporary Arabic fiction – writers, critics and academics – will discuss the International Prize for Arabic Fiction, the 2014 shortlisted titles and the Prize's wider relationship with Jordan. The panel includes: Yasir Suleiman, IPAF Chair of Trustees; Fakhri Saleh, former judge and critic; the 2014 Chair of Judges, and three formerly-shortlisted Jordanian authors: Ibrahim Nasrallah, Elias Farkouh and Jamal Naji.

Following this event, the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation is proud to present a celebratory musical performance from Jordanian talents 'Yarub and the Group'. Performing world class Arabic music in a new fusion style, the musicians will play music from around the world in a range of different genres.

## RSVP

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All events are bilingual