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OBITUARY NOTICE

MOHAMED AL-NOWAIHI
[1917 - 1980]

Dr. Mohamed Al-Nowaihi, professor of Arabic Language and Literature, died in Cairo on February 13, 1980.

Dr. Nowaihi was born in Tanta on April 20, 1917. He earned his B.A. with distinction in 1939 from the Department of Arabic, Cairo University Faculty of Arts, and received his Ph.D. in Arabic Literature from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) of the University of London in 1942.

He began his career as a lecturer in Arabic at SOAS from 1939 to 1946. In 1947 he moved to Khartoum University, where he headed the Arabic Department for nine years.

Dr. Nowaihi joined the American University in Cairo as a part-time lecturer in 1957-1958, becoming an associate professor the following year. He was professor of Arabic Language and Literature from 1959 until his death, and was elected chairman of the Arabic Studies Department and director of the Center for Arabic Studies from 1973 to 1975.

In addition, he was part-time visiting professor in the Institute of Higher Arabic Studies and Research of the Arab League from 1956 to 1967, visiting professor in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literature of Harvard University in 1967-1968, and visiting professor in the Department of Near Eastern Studies of Princeton University in 1972-1973.

Dr. Nowaihi gained a worldwide reputation as a critical scholar and thinker in the fields of Arabic literature and Islamic thought. He was the author of ten books on classical and modern Arabic literature, including *The Psychology of Abu Nawas*, *Trends in Sudanese Poetry*, and *Pre-Islamic Poetry*.

He also wrote over 100 articles on religious, moral, intellectual and literary issues. They were often rather controversial and, as a result, beginning in 1965, his lengthy essays were published in the Lebanese monthly, *Al-^CAdab*.

Dr. Nowaihi also published many conference and colloquium papers, gave numerous public lectures, and was frequently consulted by the Arab and Western media.

Dr. Nowaihi is survived by his widow; his son Ali, a professor of mathematics at Chelsea University; a daughter Magda, an AUC graduate (1977) and doctoral candidate at Harvard; and sons, Omar and Hisham, students at Cairo University.