

## DR. ALAA AL ASWANY

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Novelist and Dentist  
draswany57@yahoo.com

### LITERARY WORKS

#### Novels

*The Republic, As If*, 2018  
*The Automobile Club of Egypt*, 2013  
*Chicago*, 2007  
*The Yacoubian Building*, 2002  
*Essam Abd al-Aatty Papers*, 1990

#### Short Story Collections

*Friendly Fire*, 2004 and 2008  
*Awaiting the Leader*, 1998  
*He Who Approached and Saw*, 1990

#### Compendium of Articles

*Who Dares to Speak?*, 2016  
*Democracy Is the Answer* (English), 2015  
*Dictatorship and Religious Extremism* (French), 2014  
*How Do We Create the Dictator?*, 2013  
*Did the Egyptian Revolution Err?*, 2012  
*On the State of Egypt*, 2011  
*Egypt on the Substitute Bench*, 2010  
*Why Don't Egyptians Revolt?*, 2010  
*Do We Deserve Democracy?*, 2010

### LITERARY AWARDS

La Legion D'Honneur as the Chevalier De L'Art Et Des Lettres, France, 2016  
Johann Philipp Palm Award, Germany, 2012  
Tiziano Terzani Award, Odeon, Italy, May 2011  
Majidi bin Zahir Arab Literature Award, Montreal, Canada, 2011  
Achievement Award from the University of Illinois, October 2010 (Alaa Al Aswany completed his master's degree at the University of Illinois)  
Bruno Kreisky literary Award, Austria, 2008 (awarded by Austria's prime minister)  
Friedrich Rukert Literary Award, 2008 (Alaa Al Aswany was the first recipient of the award)  
Mediterranean Culture Award, Naples, Italy, 2007  
Grinzani Cavour Award, Turin, Italy, 2007 (the most prestigious Italian award for translated literature)

Grand Prix of the Novel, Toulon France Festival, 2006

Bashrahil Award for Arabic Fiction, 2005

Cavafy Award for Literary Talent, Greece, 2005

Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres medal from the French government, 2016

## HONORS

Alaa Al Aswany's literary works have been translated into 37 foreign languages. They include Armenian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Castilian, Chinese, Croatian, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, Galician, German, Greek, Hebrew, Icelandic, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Malaysian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish, and Turkish.

He was chosen by *The Times* (UK), as one of the most important novelists in the world in the last fifty years.

His name and literary works were added to the famous French encyclopedia *Le Petit Larousse*.

He has given talks and lectures at universities around the world, including at Princeton University, University of Oxford, Dartmouth College, and New York University.

He was a visiting professor at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, spring 2019

He was a distinguished writer in residence and visiting professor of literature, Bard College, Annandale-On-Hudson, New York, spring 2017

He was chosen as honorary president of the Blois Festival, one of the largest literary festivals in France, 2015

*The Christian Science Monitor* chose *The Automobile Club of Egypt* third in a list of the best ten novels in the United States, 2015

*The Journal of American Publishers* chose *The Automobile Club of Egypt* as the novel of the week, 2015.

He was chosen as guest of honor in Le Marathon des mots, France's largest international literary festival in Toulouse in 2009 and 2012, where international actor Omar Sharif and French actress Ariane Escarad read excerpts in French from his literary works.

*Foreign Policy* magazine ranked him in first place on a list of the 100 most influential thinkers in the world, 2011

The renowned French director John Louis Martinelli presented a play based on his novel *Chicago*. The play opened on September 2011 in Paris's Les Amandiers Theater.

He was chosen at the international book fair in Paris as one of the 30 most important non-French writers in the world, March 2010.

In May 2009 his short stories were published in the literary supplement of the *Sunday Times*.

*The Yacoubian Building* celebrated its millionth copy sold in non-Arabic languages, 2007

Al Aswany was chosen as the most prominent figure in the Arab world by an Al Arabiya news channel poll, 2007

The French literary magazine *Lire* chose the novel *The Yacoubian Building* as sixth in a ranking top 20 non-French books in 2006.

*Newsday* chose the *The Yacoubian Building* as the best translated novel in the United States, 2006

*The Yacoubian Building* was made into a major motion picture, 2006

## WORK

Published articles, short stories, and serialized novels in most of Egypt's literary periodicals.

Wrote a weekly literary critique entitled "Parenthetically" in the Egyptian newspaper *al-Sha'ab*, later becoming the culture page editor.

Wrote a monthly political article in the Egyptian newspaper *al-Arabi al-Nasiri*.

Wrote a weekly article in the Egyptian newspaper *al-Dustur*.

Wrote a weekly article in the Egyptian daily newspaper *al-Shuruk*.

Wrote a weekly article in *al-Masri al-Youm* until 2014 when he was prohibited by the regime from publishing in the Egyptian press.

Many of his articles were translated and republished in major international newspapers, such as *Le Monde*, *El País*, *The Guardian*, *The Independent*, among others.

Wrote articles in international newspapers such as *La Repubblica*, *Financial Times*, and *L'Observateur*.

Wrote a monthly op-ed in *The New York Times*.

Currently writing a weekly article for Deutsche Welle Arabic news website. Articles are translated into German and English.

Organized weekly salons since 1998 to present the works of new writers and discuss literature, culture, and politics in Egyptian society. This salon played a role in intellectually preparing for Egypt's revolution.

## Education

Master's degree in dental and oral medicine, University of Illinois, 1985

Studied Spanish literature in Madrid, Spain

Bachelor's degree in dental and oral medicine Cairo University, 1980

French baccalauréat, Lycee francais du Caire

### **Languages Spoken**

English, French, Spanish, and Arabic

### **Social Media**

Facebook: [facebook.com/AlaaAlAswanyAuthor](https://facebook.com/AlaaAlAswanyAuthor)

Twitter: [twitter.com/AlaaAswany](https://twitter.com/AlaaAswany)

YouTube: [youtube.com/AlaaAlAswanyWriter](https://youtube.com/AlaaAlAswanyWriter)