

## CONTENTS

*Foreword:*

*Understanding Recent Social and Political Developments  
in the Middle East and North Africa:*

*A Personal Odyssey*

*Peter Sluglett*    xiii

*Acknowledgments*    xxiii

INTRODUCTION    1

1. TUNISIA    19

Tunisian Revolution: Gaining Our Freedom and Dignity  
*Abes Hamid*    21

The Death of My Cousin and the Birth of a New Tunisia  
*Ahlem Yazidi*    25

Tunisians Breaking the Silence  
*Marwen Jemili* 30

Revolution from the Outside  
*Noureddine Cherif* 34

The Torments of the Revolution  
*Marwa Hermassi* 38

Tunisia's Hard Times and Its Best Times  
*Yesmina Khedhir* 41

The Smell of Jasmine: The Tunisian Revolution from the Outside  
*Nada Maalmi* 46

2. EGYPT 51

The Moment the Barrier of Fear Broke Down  
*Adel Abdel Ghafar* 55

Funny Beginnings and Happy Endings  
*Mona Prince* 60

The Egyptian Revolution: A Personal Account  
*Jordan Fitzgerald Smith* 64

It Is Just . . . the Beginning  
*Sara Hany* 67

Welcome to Utopia!  
*Amor Eletrebi* 71

My Egyptian Revolution  
*Maha Hindawy* 75

The Bullets Are Still in My Leg  
*Al-Mutazbellah Ahmad Ali al-Abd* 78

It Happened in Egypt!  
*Aly Hassan Amin Rabea* 83

Diary to Democracy (*Inshallah* [God Willing])  
*Claudia Wiens* 88

Telling My Secret  
*Kholoud Said Amer* 93

The Fall and Rise of an Egyptian Uprising  
*Samaa Gamie* 98

The Spirit of Tahrir Square: “Like Going to Mecca on a Pilgrimage”  
*Al-Sayed Abdulkhigni* 109

### 3. LIBYA 113

My Mission in the Libyan Revolution  
*Mohammed Zarrug* 114

Fighting Qaddafi: More Determination Than Weapons  
*Khairi Altarhuni* 121

The Dark Night on the Tripoli Front  
*Abdulmonem Allieby* 126

Fighting for Freedom  
*Ehab Ibrahim al-Khinjari* 129

From School to the Battlefield  
*Yusef Mohamed Benruwin* 133

Living Through the Libyan Uprising  
*Gay Emmaya Tongali* 137

Benghazi, My Love  
*Adel el-Taguri* 140

My Work in Revolutionary Libya  
*Annabelle Veso Faller* 144

The Days of My Life  
*Ezedin Bosedra Abdelkafi* 148

Blood for My Country  
*Aisha A. Nasef* 153

4. YEMEN 157

Witnessing the Yemeni Revolution  
*Mahmoud Sagheer al-Fasly* 159

Yemeni Observations  
*Joshua Zettel* 163

The Yemeni Dream  
*Reemy Mojahed* 167

The Emerging New Yemen  
*Ameen Jaber Sailaan* 171

Killing the Rose but Not the Spring  
*Abduljalil Yousef* 175

The Aroma of Freedom and the Smell of Blood  
*Abdullah Sufian Modhesh* 181

The Tent and the Revolution  
*Mohammed al-Omari* 185

The Challenges of Our Yemeni Revolution  
*Sarah Jamal Ali Ahmed* 190

5. SYRIA 198

Syrian Women's Revolution: The New Women of Quraish  
*Rustum Mahmoud* 201

The Road from Damascus to al-Qaboun  
*Odai Alzoubi* 206

Freedom and Nothing Else  
*Hani al-Furati* 212

A Story from Homs  
*Mohammed Kadalah* 217

The First Steps Toward Democracy  
*Bishr Said* 222

A Small Community of Great Syrian Revolutionaries  
*Amer Mahdi Doko* 226

From the Damascus Spring to the Arab Spring: A Nonpersonal Story  
*Radwan Ziadeh* 230

Before and After the Arab Spring: Kurdish Strife for Freedom  
*Walat Khabat* 233

State Security and My Country  
*Hasan Khalil* 238

*Bibliography* 243

