

Nawal Nasrallah CV

Nawal Nasrallah is a native of Iraq. She got her BA in English Language and MA in English and Comparative literature from Baghdad University. She worked as a professor at the universities of Baghdad and Mosul teaching English language and literature until 1990, when she moved to the US.



Currently she is an independent scholar, researcher, and food writer residing in USA. She is a member of the Culinary Historians of Boston, author of many books and articles, and has been giving presentations and demonstrations on Iraqi/Middle Eastern cuisine and culture -- ancient, medieval, and modern -- to culinary groups, schools, and libraries.

Her published books:

1. *Dates: Global History* (London: Reaktion Books, 2011).
2. *Annals of the Caliphs' Kitchens: IbnSayyar al-Warraq's Tenth-Century Baghdadi Cookbook*. English Translation with Introduction and Glossary. Leiden: Brill, 2007. Came out in paperback in July 2010. Awards and Recognition for this book: Recipient of the *Gourmand World Cookbook Awards* in the category "Best Translation in the World" (London Gala Awards: April 13th 2008); recipient of the Best of the Best Gourmand Awards (of the past 12 years), Frankfurt Book Fair, October 14th 2008; recipient of Honorable Mention in 2007 Arab American National Museum Book Award (Arab American National Museum in Dearborn, MI November 1st 2008).
3. *Delights from the Garden of Eden: A Cookbook and a History of the Iraqi Cuisine*, (Bloomington, IN: Author House, 2003). A second edition of *Delights from the Garden of Eden* is coming out in March 2012, published by Equinox Publishing (London), illustrated with more than 300 pictures color and b/w. Awards and Recognition this book received: The *Gourmand World Cookbook Special Jury Award* 2007 (London Gala Awards: April 13th 2008). One of the recipes in the book was chosen to be included in *The Best American Recipes* 2004-2005 (Houghton Mifflin), which highlights the outstanding recipes of the year. When this book first came out in 2003, it received the following publicity:
 - A full page in the food section of *New York Times*, April 2, 2003 (syndicated and republished in many other major newspapers)
 - Article in *Boston Herald*, April 2, 2003
 - WBUR (NPR news) interview, April 21, 2003
4. *Beginner's Iraqi Arabic*, with 2 Audio CDs, published by Hippocrene of New York, 2006
5. *Hayy bin Yaqzan and Robinson Crusoe: A Study of an Early Arabic Impact on English Literature*. (Baghdad, Dar al-Rashees, 1980)

Of food-related published articles:

1. "Kebab: An Ancient Mesopotamian Treat," *Radcliffe Culinary Times* vol. XIII, no. 2, Fall 2003.
2. "An Iraqi Meal," *Boston Globe Magazine* (March, 9, 2008).
3. "The Iraqi Cookie, *Kleicha*, and the Search for Identity," *Repast* vol. XXIV, no. 4, Fall 2008.
4. "In the Beginning there was no *Musakka*: A Curious Case in the History of Culinary Metamorphoses," *Food, Culture and Society* Vol. 13, no. 4, 2010.

Currently, she is translating into English five medieval Arabic cookbooks to be published in a series by Equinox Publishing (London), and working on *History of the Arab Cuisine* for Reaktion Books, London.

Some online links to reviews and articles:

1. New York Times article on Nawal and her Delights from the Garden of Eden (April 2, 2003):
[Taking Comfort From an Unexpected Source - NYTimes.com](#)
2. Article by Nawal in *Boston Globe Magazine* (March 9, 2008)
[An Iraqi Meal - The Boston Globe](#)
3. One of Nawal's eggplant recipes that featured in *Food and Wine Magazine* (Non. 2007):
[Iraqi Lamb and Eggplant Stew with Pitas Recipe - Jessie Sheidlower...](#)
4. An article by Nawal on the national Iraqi cookie *Kleicha*: THE IRAQI COOKIE KLEICHA, AND THE SEARCH FOR IDENTITY in **REPAST**. VOLUME XXIV, NUMBER 4. FALL 2008. Pp 4 ff.

[Sweets from the Middle East \(Part 1\)](#)

5. Arab American Museum award for Nawal's English translation of 10th-century Baghdadi cookbook *Annals of the Caliphs' Kitchens* (2008)
[2008 Book Award Winners](#)