

## **Amal Al-Jubouri**

*Baghdad, Iraq*

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### **PROFILE**

Amal is an experienced writer and award-winning poet, with 6 collections translated into over 12 languages. She has been a successful journalist and columnist since 1986, and was the founder and editor of the first Arab-German magazine, Diwan. Based in Baghdad, Iraq, Amal now runs the Soutuna.com media project and the associated Moderation Council, as well as the Arab Human Rights Academy in London. These projects have been covered worldwide, with over one million people having viewed the work of Soutuna and AHRA. She has successfully used her linguistic skill to bring people from across Iraq together, using art to overcome conflict and skilfully mediating between conflicting actors in Iraq. Her abilities have been recognised by the UNAMI and by the NED, both of which support her projects and rely on her skills to build peace from the grassroots upwards. Her strict neutrality has won her respect across the political divide. Amal is available to lend her artistic and political skills on request.

### **EXPERIENCE**

#### **Freelance Mediation**

Ongoing

*Baghdad, Iraq*

- Mediating between Sunni and Shia tribes to overcome conflict after the liberation of Alalaaam, Tikrit and Duloyyaia, amongst others.
- Mediating between protesters and security forces to prevent violence during the 2015 protests.
- Ongoing mediation in Baghdad, involving the government and civil society actors.

#### **Founder/President, Tarahamou**

November 2015 to Present

*Baghdad, Iraq - [www.compassioniraq.org](http://www.compassioniraq.org)*

- Registered NGO in Iraq delivering aid and assistance to displaced people.
- Providing local conflict management support to IDPs in Iraq.
- Campaigning and advocacy in Iraq.

#### **Founder/President, Soutuna.com**

November 2014 to Present

*Baghdad, Iraq - [www.soutuna.com](http://www.soutuna.com)*

- Management and creative leadership for a grassroots-led media project in Iraq. Over 750,000 viewers.
- Implementing partnership with UNAMI to create a roadmap for reconciliation. 100+ partners.
- Lead mediator for the Moderation Council, promoting peaceful political participation between Iraqis of different backgrounds. Cross ethnic and multi-sect involvement. Supported by NED.
- Media training for peace journalism.

#### **Founder/President, Arab Human Rights Academy**

November 2013 to Present

*London, UK - [www.arabhumanrights-academy.org](http://www.arabhumanrights-academy.org)*

- Vision and leadership for a culture oriented peacebuilding organization.
- Implementing projects which use art and culture to change perspectives across the Arab world.
- Running successful media campaigns, including the campaign to end child marriage, reaching over 645,000 supporters.

#### **Founder, Iraqi PEN (Damascus)**

est. 2007

*Damascus, Syria*

<b><u>Adviser on Iraq to the President of Yemen, Ali Abdul al Sali</u></b>	2003-2011
<i>Baghdad, Iraq</i>	
<b><u>Founder of the German School for Orphans</u></b>	2003-2005
<i>Baghdad, Iraq - <a href="#">2004</a> (video footage of founding)</i>	
<b><u>Founder of the German-Iraqi Cultural Centre</u></b>	2003-2009
<i>Baghdad, Iraq - _____ (video footage of founding)</i>	
<b><u>Founder/CEO East West Diwan Cultural Foundation for Arabic and German Culture</u></b>	est. 2001
<i>Berlin</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Organization of the first Arab-German poetry festival held in Yemen, with Günter Grass.</li> <li>● First Arab-German novel conference in Yemen.</li> <li>● First Arab-German cultural dialogue with Mohammed Bin Rashid and the Al-Maktoum foundation, 2008.</li> <li>● Leading translation project of German literature into Arabic.</li> </ul>	
<b><u>Cultural Consular, Embassy of Yemen (Berlin)</u></b>	2000-2011
<i>Berlin, Germany</i>	
<b><u>Founder/CEO, Al Masar Publishing House</u></b>	est. 1989
<i>Berlin, Germany</i>	

## SELECTED SPEECHES

<b><u><a href="#">#اطلاق سراح الاديان# Liberation of all religions (Speech)</a></u></b>	2016
<i>Speech delivered in Baghdad on the occasion of Interfaith Harmony Week</i>	
<b><u><a href="#">United Nations Tolerance Day (Speech)</a></u></b>	2015
<i>Speech delivered at UNAMI headquarters on the occasion of the UN Tolerance Day 2015</i>	

## SELECTED FILMS & PRODUCTIONS

<b><u><a href="#">Forgive But Never Forget (Film)</a></u></b>	2016
<i>A film about the attacks on Al-Mutanabi Street in Baghdad, and how the owner of the Alshabander cafe, Muhammed Alkshali, came to forgive the attackers who killed his five sons. Screened at the Al-Mutanabi Starts Here festival in Washington, DC.</i>	
<b><u><a href="#">The Story of Soutuna (TV)</a></u></b>	2015
<i>A short TV spot outlining the development and philosophy of the Soutuna project. Screened for UNAMI and on the Soutuna.com TV channel.</i>	
<b><u><a href="#">Amal Al-Jubouri: Between West and East ( TV )</a></u></b>	2003
<i>Production for DW German TV.</i>	

## PUBLICATIONS - "A crucial voice in contemporary Iraqi and Arabic-language poetry"

*Over 7 books translated from Arabic to German and English, in the genres of poetry, novel and non-fiction.*

<b><u><a href="#">From Horror to Hope - Iraq's Displaced Camps (Journalism)</a></u></b>	2014
<i>Journalistic narrative published in Reuters' Trust.org.</i>	
<b><u><a href="#">Me and the Paradise Beneath Your Feet (Poetry)</a></u></b>	2014
<i>Nominated for the Sheikh Zayad Literary Prize 2014.</i>	
<b><u><a href="#">Hagar Before the Occupation, Hagar After the Occupation (Poetry)</a></u></b>	2011

Winner of Library Journal's Best Books of 2011.

<b><u>99 Veils (Poetry)</u></b> Best Arabic poetry book, Arabic Lebanese Club (Paris) 2003.	2003
<b><u>Enheduanna, Priestess of Exile (Poetry)</u></b>	1999
<b><u>This Body is Yours, Do Not Fear for My Sake (Poetry)</u></b> Winner of the <i>Silver Prize in Aesthetics</i> from the Beirut Book Fair.	1997
<b><u>Words, Set Me Free! (Poetry)</u></b>	1993
<b><u>Wine from Wounds (Poetry)</u></b>	1986

## EDUCATION

<b><u>Human Rights Law, MA</u></b> ; SOAS, University of London	2014
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## LANGUAGES

**Arabic:** Native

**German:** Fluent

**English:** Fluent