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## Jefferson writings in Arabic—Revolutionary Democracy: How America Became the Republic of Liberty

What may be the first Arabic translation of Thomas Jefferson's writings has been published as a book and distributed in Arabic-speaking countries. The writings were translated by Professors Mounira Soliman and Walid Hamamsy of Cairo University for the book titled the Arabic equivalent of *Revolutionary Democracy: How America Became the Republic of Liberty*. The volume addresses constitutional and governmental issues such as freedom of religion, the separation of powers, inalienable rights and the sovereignty of the people.

"Because the US was largely hostile to Arab nationalism, Arab translators were little drawn to American works. Some literature was translated—for example, the works of Mark Twain. But history and political phi-

losophy were mostly neglected," said Juan Cole, Richard P. Mitchell Collegiate Professor of History at the University of Michigan and President of the Global Americana Institute, who oversaw the project.

Cole said the goal of the project is to foster greater understanding between the cultures of the Arab world and the United States.

The project was made possible through the support of the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies, Reid Nagle, SNL Financial and many individual donors.

*Revolutionary Democracy* is now widely available in Lebanon, Jordan and Bahrain. It will eventually be shipped throughout the Arab world. The cost of the book is equivalent to US\$12.

