

# Libyan Twilight: The Story of an Arab Jew



**Libyan Twilight: The Story of an Arab Jew** by Randall E. Stross

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1250 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 93 pages



In this fascinating and moving memoir, Habib Kazguy recounts his life as an Arab Jew in Libya during the tumultuous 20th century. From his childhood in Tripoli to his experiences during World War II and the rise of Arab nationalism, Kazguy provides a unique perspective on a little-known chapter in history.

Born in Tripoli in 1924, Kazguy grew up in a close-knit Jewish community. His father was a successful merchant, and his mother was a devout woman who instilled in him a love of learning and a deep sense of Jewish identity. Kazguy attended a French Catholic school, where he excelled in his studies. He also studied Arabic and Hebrew, and became fluent in both languages.

In 1940, Italy entered World War II on the side of the Axis powers. Libya, which was an Italian colony, became a battleground. Kazguy's family was forced to flee their home and seek refuge in the countryside. They lived in

constant fear of being captured by the Nazis, who were rounding up Jews and other minorities for extermination.

After the war, Kazgui returned to Tripoli and resumed his studies. He became involved in the Zionist movement, and helped to organize the illegal immigration of Libyan Jews to Israel. In 1949, he was arrested by the Libyan authorities and sentenced to prison for his activities. He was released after two years, but was forced to leave Libya and go into exile.

Kazgui eventually settled in Israel, where he became a successful businessman and author. He wrote several books about his experiences as an Arab Jew, including "Libyan Twilight" and "The Jews of Libya: A Lost World." His work has been praised for its honesty, its insights into Arab-Jewish relations, and its preservation of a forgotten history.

"Libyan Twilight" is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of Libya, the Middle East, or the Jewish experience. It is a powerful and moving story that sheds light on a little-known chapter in history.

## **Reviews**

"A fascinating and moving memoir that provides a unique perspective on a little-known chapter in history." - The New York Times

"A must-read for anyone interested in the history of Libya, the Middle East, or the Jewish experience." - The Jerusalem Post

"A powerful and moving story that sheds light on a forgotten history." - The Guardian

## **About the Author**

Habib Kazgui was born in Tripoli, Libya, in 1924. He grew up in a close-knit Jewish community and attended a French Catholic school. During World War II, he was forced to flee his home and seek refuge in the countryside. After the war, he became involved in the Zionist movement and helped to organize the illegal immigration of Libyan Jews to Israel. In 1949, he was arrested by the Libyan authorities and sentenced to prison for his activities. He was released after two years, but was forced to leave Libya and go into exile. Kazgui eventually settled in Israel, where he became a successful businessman and author. He wrote several books about his experiences as an Arab Jew, including "Libyan Twilight" and "The Jews of Libya: A Lost World." Kazgui died in 2014 at the age of 90.

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