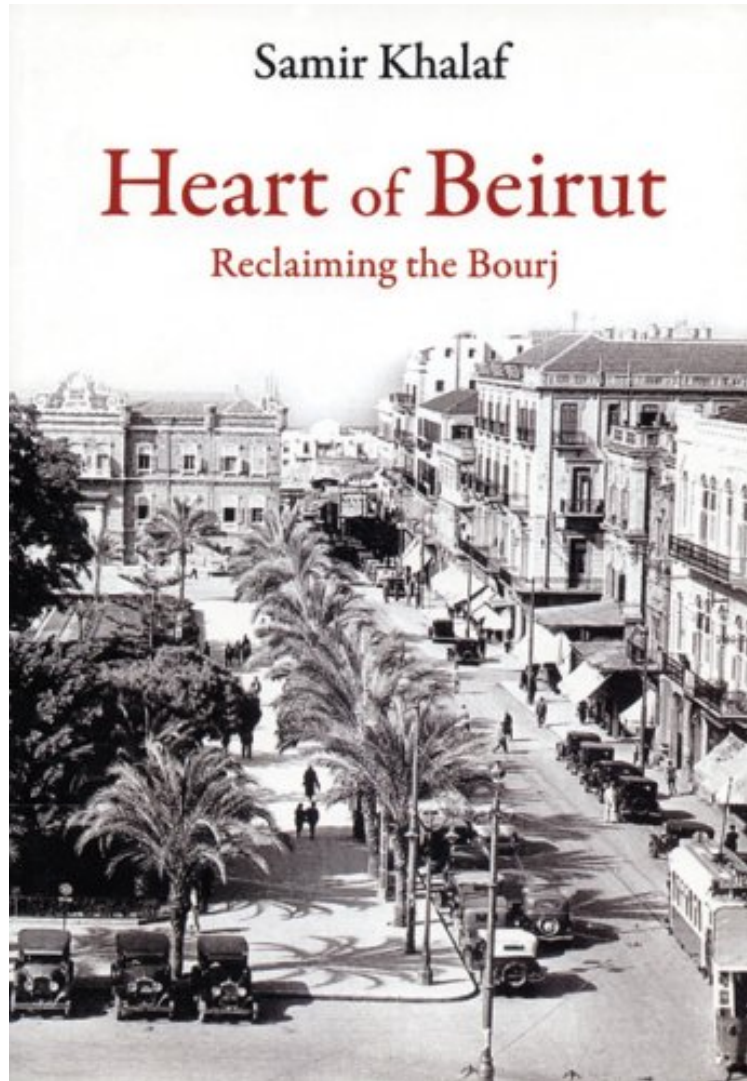


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Heart of Beirut: Reclaiming the Bourj

Samir Khalaf

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Over centuries, the Bourj has come to embody pluralism and tolerance as an open museum of tolerance. In 2005, former Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri was assassinated, and the Bourj witnessed extraordinary scenes of popular, multi-faith protest. Once again, Samir Khalaf argues, the heart of Beirut is establishing itself as a unique open space that allows people to appreciate their diversity and banish indifference.

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About the Author Samir Khalaf is Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Behavioral Research, American University of Beirut. He has held academic appointments at Princeton, Harvard, MIT and New York University. Also by the Same Author Sexuality in the Arab World (Saqi, 978-0-86356-948-7), Heart of Beirut (Saqi, 978-0-86356-542-7) Cultural Resistance: Global and Local Encounters in the Middle East (Saqi, 978-0-86356-814-5)