**Author: Aisha Abd al-Rahman (1913-1998)**

Also known as Bint al-Shati. Egyptian writer and professor of Arabic language and literature and Quranic studies. Wrote more than sixty books on Arabic literature, Quran interpretation, lives of women in the early Muslim community (especially members of Muhammad's family), and contemporary social issues, as well as works of fiction. Is recognized and respected throughout the Arab world. Takes a literary, rather than traditional, approach to Quranic exegesis, arguing against multiple interpretations of verses in favor of single interpretations based on the use of the word in the Quran as whole. Rejects the use of external sources in Quran interpretation. Insists that women's liberation does not abandon traditional Islamic values.

**Translator Bio:**

Dina Hassan currently works as a lecturer at the department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics, where she teaches Arabic in the Arabic Flagship Program. She received her Ph.D. degree from Texas Tech University, Texas. She previously completed a graduate diploma in simultaneous interpretation and written translation, after which she completed her Master’s degree in Translation from Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt. She has another graduate certificate in Applied Linguistics. She has more than twelve years’ experience in teaching Arabic, ESL, Technical translation, Literary translation, Technical communication, and Arab-American Literature.

The submission is the English translation of an Article from Aisha Abd-Al Rahman's

"الحياة الانسانية عند ابي العلاء المعري" or “Abu Al-‘Ala’s Views on Human Life”

The translated manuscript is an excerpt from her MA thesis that she was awarded from Cairo University in 1941. This is the first translation of this text. The thesis discusses important philosophical views of the Arab poet Abu al-'Ala' al-Ma'arri (973-1056) and his debates against major Islamic schools of thought.