

# Social media in the Arab world: How has it evolved in the past two years?

## Commentator on Arab affairs Sultan Al Qassemi in conversation with Brian Whitaker

Please join Caabu for a private meeting with commentator on Arab affairs, and one of the world's most influential voices on Twitter, Sultan Al Qassemi who will be in conversation with Brian Whitaker, a former Middle East editor of the Guardian.

Sultan Al Qassemi will discuss the role of social media in the Arab world, and it has evolved over the past two years since the start of Arab uprisings. Over the past two years, has become a prolific commentator on Arab affairs largely through social media, gaining a Twitter following of nearly 250,000. He is well placed to speak of how social media has impacted the Middle East, and how it has evolved during that time.

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**When:** Thursday, 12 September, 2 - 4pm

**Where:** Boardroom, Arab British Centre, 1 Gough Square, EC4A 3DE

[Click here for directions](#)

**About the speaker:**

**Sultan Al Qassemi** is a UAE based Entrepreneur and well recognised commentator on Arab Affairs writing for numerous local and international publications including The National, Gulf News, New York Times, the Financial Times, Foreign Policy, Open Democracy, the Independent and the Guardian. He tweets prolifically [@SultanAlQassemi](#) and has nearly 250,000 followers and was listed in the '140 Best Twitter Feeds of 2011' by Time magazine.

He is a non-resident Fellow at the Mohammed Bin Rashid School of Government and lecturer at the Dubai Men's College, teaching Middle Eastern history and Entrepreneurship.

He received a Master's Degree in Global Banking and Finance from the European Business School where he graduated with distinction in 2004 and a BSc in International

[\(incl £75 donation\)](#)

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Business Administration from the American University of Paris.

**Brian Whitaker** is a former Middle East editor of the Guardian. He blogs about the Arab world at [al-Bab.com](http://al-Bab.com). Brian is also the author of two books: [\*What's Really Wrong with the Middle East\*](#) and [\*Unspeakable Love: Gay and Lesbian Life in the Middle East\*](#).

As the event is about social media in the Middle East, live Tweeting and social media engagement will be actively encouraged. Feel free to Tweet Caabu with your thoughts. You can keep track of the event by following [@Caabu](https://twitter.com/Caabu) on Twitter, and keep up to date with Caabu's work by 'Liking' our [Facebook page](#).

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