



Middle East Newsletter

Vol. 16, No. 1

September 1990



WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

October 20, 1990
University of Washington

Most of the Middle East and North Africa qualify to be called "developing" or "third world" nations. Over the years many organizations in the Middle East or bilaterally or multilaterally funded groups have carried out development projects in this area aimed at making local economies more viable and generally improving the standard of living of the people. Our workshop this fall will look at how such projects have affected the lives of one half of the population in the Middle East: the women.

Women in the Middle East, like women in many parts of the world, are expected to take charge of running a household. In many places they also work in the home to produce articles for sale, do agricultural work, and raise livestock. Their output can account for up to two-thirds of the informal economic sector. In addition, as women gain access to education, more also work outside the home in professional and clerical jobs.

Despite their contributions to societal well-being, Middle Eastern women, as women in many other parts of the developing world, do not have equal access to the goods and services in their societies. In most places, for instance, the rate of literacy among women is much lower than among men, and women are less able to get medical attention when they need it. Ironically, even though women stand in need of development programs as much as men, until recently some would argue that many development projects actually *increased* the burden women already bear. Not every project--no matter how well-designed or how well-intentioned--can be easily implemented in a Middle Eastern village or town. So what's to be done?

For this fall's Middle East workshop an especially well-qualified group of women has agreed to speak on the subject of Women in Development in the Middle East. All have lived in the Middle East and bring a wealth of experience to share. The workshop will take place on Saturday, October 20, on the UW campus. As with our past workshops, we will provide a lunch and a packet of materials for you to take with you. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend!

Confirmation of registration will be sent to you along with the location of the seminar on the UW campus. If you register, but do not hear from us, please call (206) 543-4227.

PROGRAM

8:30-9:00 a.m.

Registration. Coffee, tea, and rolls available.

9:00-9:10

Words of welcome: Jere Bacharach, Director, Middle East Center, UW

9:10-10:00: WOMEN, THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS, AND 'DEVELOPMENT'

Marta Colburn, Portland State University.

10:00-10:50: APPROPRIATE HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES FOR WOMEN AND CHILD PROGRAMS

Elizabeth Abu Haydar, PATH (Programs for Appropriate Technology in Health), Seattle.

10:50-11:00 Break

11:00-12:00 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: GIRLS' AND WOMEN'S EDUCATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

May Rihani, Creative Enterprises, Washington, D.C.

12:00-1:30 Lunch

1:30-2:20: ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN RURAL CYPRUS

Gloria London, Seattle.

2:20-3:15 Film: FAMILY TIES

Registration Form

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Yes, I would like to attend the workshop WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST on Saturday, October 20, 1990. I have enclosed a check for my registration fee.

Name _____

Address _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Registration is \$20 general, \$10 student. Please make check payable to the NEAR EAST STUDIES COUNCIL. Mail check and registration form to: Charlotte Albright, Middle East Center, 225 Thomson Hall, DR-05, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195

SPEAKERS:

Marta Colburn Between 1985 and 1989 Ms. Colburn worked for the Yemen Arab Republic and Oxfam in North Yemen where her work concerned women. She is currently a graduate student in Political Science at Portland State University.

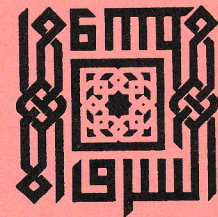
Elizabeth Abu Haydar was born and raised in Beirut, Lebanon. For the past four years she has worked for PATH (Programs for Appropriate Technology in Health) field testing the introduction of appropriate health technologies for PATH Safe Birth programs in the Middle East and North Africa. She has worked in Yemen, Jordan, Egypt, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Malawi. Ms. Abu Haydar is currently working for her doctorate in Public Health through the University of North Carolina. PATH is a non-profit, non-governmental international health organization with headquarters in Seattle and offices in Washington, D.C., Indonesia, Kenya, and Thailand. Its primary mission is to improve health, especially the health of women and children, in developing countries.

May Rihani also comes from Beirut, Lebanon and has an M.A. from the American University of Beirut. For the past 12 years she has been actively involved in designing and implementing development projects in the Middle East and Africa. She and her associates have worked both with the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) and as private consultants. Ms. Rihani is currently a Senior Associate at Creative Associates International. She is particularly concerned with programs designed to educate women. She has worked on these projects in North Yemen, Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia, Jordan, Kuwait, and the Sudan. Ms. Rihani has written numerous papers on her work, including a bibliography "Development As If Women Mattered."

Gloria London received her Ph.D. from the University of Arizona. From 1985-87 she was a Stroum Fellow in the UW's Jewish Studies program. During this time she both taught and did research on the archaeology of the eastern Mediterranean. She spent part of 1986 studying the pottery industry in Cyprus on a Fulbright grant. Her book, based on that study, *Traditional Pottery in Cyprus*, was published last year. In summer, 1989, she took part in an excavation in Jordan at Tell el-'Umeiri.

BUSINESS WORKSHOP SLATED FOR OCTOBER

The Washington Committee on U.S.-Arab Relations (WCUSAR) and Bellevue Community College are the primary sponsors of a business seminar, **POLITICS, BUSINESS, AND SOCIETY IN THE MIDDLE EAST**, on October 23, from 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The event will take place at the Glendale Country Club, 13440 Main Street, Bellevue, WA.



The program will include the following presentations:

- ▶ **IRAQ-KUWAIT CONFLICT: MIDDLE EAST POLITICAL RISKS.** Dr. Marwan M. Hujeij, Middle East investment counselor.
- ▶ **FOREIGN CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT AND U.S. ANTIBOYCOTT LEGISLATION.** Panel discussion by Peter Sloane, Boeing; Linda Cheever, John Fluke Manufacturing; Mounir Ghaly, World Resources, Inc.; Murad Hannoush, Commercial Bank of Kuwait.
- ▶ **INTRODUCTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST MARKETING ARENA.** Executive Director, WCUSAR, and Middle East marketing consultant.
- ▶ **CURRENT TRENDS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.** J.S. Patterson, Chair and CEO, U.S. Arab Chamber of Commerce (Pacific); Lockheed Corp.
- ▶ **SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ASPECTS OF DOING BUSINESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.** Daoud Khourma, Manufacturing Engineer, Eldec Corp.

- ▶ **TRANSLATING THE CORPORATE IMAGE: CULTURAL AND MARKETING CONSIDERATIONS.** Mamoun Sakkal, ASID, Architect and Graphic Designer of Sakkal Design in Seattle.
- ▶ **A WOMAN'S PERSPECTIVE: LIVING AND WORKING IN THE MIDDLE EAST.** A panel discussion moderated by Charlotte Albright, Middle East Center, University of Washington.

The full-day fee for this event is \$65; morning \$45, afternoon \$40. To register for this seminar, call Barbara Melvin at the International Business Center, Bellevue Community College, 206-562-6154.

GLORIA LONDON DESIGNATED AIA TRAVELING LECTURER

Dr. Gloria London, a Middle East archaeologist who lives in Seattle and contributes regularly to our Middle East Center programs, has been designated a traveling lecturer for the Pacific Northwest by the Archaeological Institute of America. In this capacity she will give several lectures around the region in October. Her schedule is as follows:

Monday, October 1

8:00 p.m. ANCIENT ISRAELITES AND CANAANITES

Museum of Anthropology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Tuesday, October 2

8:00 p.m. TRADITIONAL POTTERY IN CYPRUS

Olin Hall, Room 157, Whitman College, Walla Walla

Wednesday, October 3

Lunchtime lecture ANCIENT ISRAELITES AND CANAANITES

Alaska Room, Walla Walla College, Walla Walla

8:00 p.m. ANCIENT ISRAELITES AND CANAANITES. Cheney Cowles Museum, Cheney, WA

Thursday, October 4

12 noon CURRENT TRENDS IN BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Eastern Washington University, Spokane

Tuesday, October 9

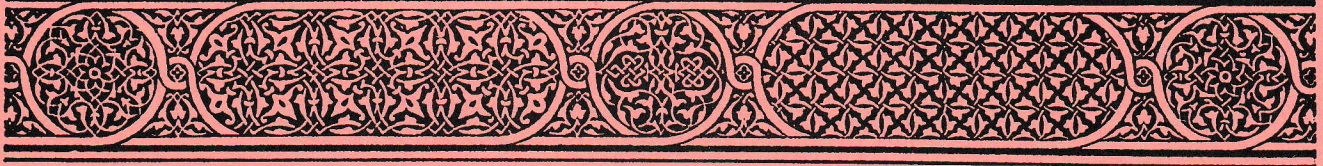
8:00 p.m. ANCIENT ISRAELITES AND CANAANITES

Lawrence Hall, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

TAKING A LOOK AT SOCIAL STUDIES AND TEACHING ABOUT RELIGION

The September, 1990 issue of Social Education, the magazine published by the National Council for the Social Studies, is almost entirely devoted to a discussion of teaching about religion in the social studies classroom. The issue editor is Charles C. Haynes, who is the President of the National Council on Religion and Public Education. Mr. Haynes points out in his article "Taking Religion Seriously in the Social Studies: What is at Stake?," that, while freedom of religion, or freedom to have no religion, is guaranteed under the First Amendment of our Constitution, ignorance about religion will promote "misunderstanding and intolerance, and leaves students prey to distorted notions of the faiths of others." Moreover, our pluralistic society includes religious pluralism. Haynes adds that "if we are to continue to live together as one nations of many faiths, it is a matter of some urgency that students develop a strong commitment to the First Amendment principles of religious liberty and a clear understanding of the role religion plays in history and society.

The remaining articles in the September, 1990 Social Education provide teachers with a variety of ideas and teaching materials for incorporating information about religion into a curriculum, including "Teaching about the Religions of the World, A Course Outline," "Religion in the Classroom: Meeting the Challenges and Avoiding the Pitfalls," and "Teaching Controversial Material: New Issues for Teachers." Take an hour to browse through this issue of Social Education, its full of food for thought!



NEW MATERIALS FROM THE MERC

You may borrow these materials from the Middle East Resource Center free of charge by writing to the Center c/o the return address, or by calling (206) 543-4227.

Audiovisual Materials:

Arabia Sand, Sea & Sky: The Mountain Barrier. VHS, 53 min., color. FF& McKinnon Films. Program about the wildlife in the 13,000 foot Sarawat mountains of western Arabia. Gift of Dr. Othman al-Rawaf.

Gaza Ghetto: Portrait of a Palestinian Family. 1984, 82 min. color VHS. Written, directed, and produced by Joan Mandell and Pea Holmquist. Low-keyed documentary on the frustrations of Palestinian refugees living in the Gaza strip and the irreconcilability of hard-line positions.

Museum of Islamic Art. VHS program on Islamic Art. Gift of Manar Darwish.

Voices in Exile: Immigrants and the First Amendment. 1989, 30 min. color VHS. Written, directed and produced by Joan Mandell. Tells of the attempt by the U.S. government to deport Palestinians living in Los Angeles who were protesting U.S. policies with regard to Israel and the Palestinians in the Middle East. The Los Angeles Palestinians were not U.S. citizens, so the documentary revolves around the question: What first-amendment rights do non-citizens in the U.S. have?

Other Teaching Materials:

"Academic Freedom in the Middle East," Joe Stork and Steve Niva. Special publication of MERIP Middle East Report, 1500 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Suite 119, Washington, D.C. 20005. Designed for use and discussion by high school students.

Arab World Notebook. Secondary School Level. Audrey Shabbas and Ayad Al-Qazzaz, Eds. Berkeley: NAJDA: Women Concerned about the Middle East, 1989. A 3-ring binder containing over 400 pages of information on the Arab world. Part I covers religion, family and society, language and literature, history, Palestinians, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and Arabs in America. Part II gives a country profile for each Arab country. Part III shows how a teacher can analyze her/his own class textbook to assess its strengths and weaknesses in covering subjects such as Islam, the medieval period, and the Palestinian-Israeli question. Elementary and secondary level.

"Islamic Holidays," Middle East Resources. Vol. II, No. 1. Defines major Muslim holidays, gives the Muslim calendar for the next four years, gives recipes for some food associated with particular religious holidays. Elementary or secondary.

A Curriculum Resource Guide on the Middle East. Constance Newnam and Ralph Valente, eds. New York: Middle East Studies Program, Fordham University, 1990. Contains lesson plans (complete with objectives, study questions) for geography, religion, art, culture, and politics in the Middle East. Also sections on improving teaching skills and a 70+ page bibliography.

"Taking Religion Seriously in the Social Studies," Special Section in the Sept., 1990 issue of Social Education.
Charles C. Haynes, ed.

General:

After the Last Sky: Palestinian Lives. Edward W. Said with photographs by Jean Mohr. New York: Pantheon Books, 1986. A book about Palestinians. Illustrated with beautiful photographs.

"The Court-Citadel: An Islamic Symbol of Power," Article on Islamic architecture by Jere Bacharach. From a paper delivered at a conference on Urbanism in Islam, Tokyo, Japan, 1989.

Five Plays by Ali Salem. Translations into English from Arabic of five plays by Egyptian playwright, Ali Salem.

"In Good Faith," Salman Rushdie in defense of Satanic Verses. 1990.

"The Press in the Middle East: Constraint, Consensus, Censorship," Barbara Koeppel. A special issue on human rights published by MERIP (Middle East Research and Information Project). 1989. 14 pp.

Sufi: A Journal of Sufism. One issue (Spring, 1989) of this journal concerning Khaniqahi Nimatullahi Sufism.

"Tips for Travelers to the Middle East and North Africa," Department of State Publication 9629, June, 1988.
Gives visa and entry requirements, currency regulations, health tips, and information on dress and local customs for each country in the Middle East and North Africa.

Veiled Sentiments: Honor and Poetry in a Bedouin Society. Lila Abu-Lughod. Berkeley: University of California, 1986. A study of the bedouins in the Western Desert of Egypt.

"Who Is Ali Salem?" Collection of articles, clippings of play reviews, etc., concerning Egyptian playwright, Ali Salem.

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