

Arab Feminisms: A Critical Perspective

October 4-7, 2009

American University of Beirut

Program

Issam Fares Hall

| Sunday, October 4th, 2009 | |
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| 6:00 p.m. | <p>Conference Opening:</p> <p>Noha Bayoumi – Secretary General, Lebanese Association of Women Researchers (Bahithat)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening Speech <p>Jean Said Makdisi – Conference Organizing Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome <p>Rafif Rida Sidawi – Conference Organizing Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introducing Dr. Mervat Hatem |
| | <p>Keynote Address:</p> <p>Mervat Hatem - Department of Political Science, Howard University, Washington D.C., President of the Middle East Studies Association,</p> <p>Women and Memory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do Women Want? A Critical Mapping of the Future Direction for Arab Feminisms |
| 7:00 p.m. | Reception |

College Hall - B1

| Monday, October 5, 2009 | |
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| 09:00-09:30 a.m. | Registration |
| 09.30-11.30 a.m. | PANEL 1 New Directions for Arab Feminist Thought (I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair: Maher Jarrar – American University of Beirut |
| Hoda El-Sadda - University of Manchester, Manchester, UK., Women and Memory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feminism in the Arab World: Challenging Discourses and Definitions | |
| Kaltham Al-Ghanim - Qatar University, Doha, Qatar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Limits of Arab Feminist Thought and Its Cultural Framework | |
| Najla Hemadeh - Lebanese American University, Bahithat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Comparison: Women Evolved Progressively Away from Men | |
| Suaad Zayed Al-Oraimi - The United Arab Emirates University, Al-Ain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Emergence of Arab Feminism: Possibilities and Challenges | |
| Zeina Zaatari - Global Fund for Women, San Francisco, CA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Arab Feminist Renaissance: Possibilities and Requirements | |
| 11:30-12:00 | Coffee Break |

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| <p>12:00-02:00 p.m.</p> | <p>PANEL 2</p> <p>New Directions for Arab Feminist Thought (II)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair: Rafif Rida Sidawi - Bahithat |
| <p>Amira Y. Badri - Ahfad University for Women, Umdurman, Sudan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Role of Sudanese Women's Movements in Peacemaking and Well-being | |
| <p>Noha Bayoumi - Lebanese University, Bahithat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feminist Studies and the Feminine Self | |
| <p>Hatoon Ajwad Al-Fassi - King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is There a Saudi Feminism? | |
| <p>Mai Al-Nakib* - Kuwait University, Kuwait</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accounting for Affect: Kuwaiti Women Between Freedom and Apathy | |
| <p>02:00-04:00 p.m.</p> | <p>Lunch</p> |
| <p>04:00-06:00 p.m.</p> | <p>ROUND-TABLE 1</p> <p>Feminism and the Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair: Nada Sehnaoui - Bahithat |
| <p>Fowziyah Abu-Khalid - King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Question of Freedom and the Feminist Perspective in the Work of an Arab Creative Artist | |
| <p>Dina Georgis* - University of Toronto, Canada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injured Masculinities and Violent Reactions: A Feminist Response (cinema) | |
| <p>Watfa Hemadi - Lebanese University, Bahithat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feminist Features in Dramaturgical Discourse | |

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| 05:00-05:15 p.m. | Coffee Break |
| Dalia ُSaid Moustafa - University of Manchester, UK | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Young Girl's Identity: War and Adulthood in Daniel Arbid’s Film “In the Battle Fields” | |
| Anastasia Valassopoulos* - University of Manchester, UK | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation of Women in the Early Films of the “New Cinema Collective” | |

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| Tuesday, October 6, 2009 | |
| 09.30-11.30 a.m. | PANEL 3 Feminist Studies and Social Transformation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair: Carmen Bustani - Bahithat |
| Hala Kamal - Cairo University, Egypt, Women and Memory | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Aesthetics of the Feminist Writing in the Works of Sahar al Mougi | |
| Mouza Ghubash - Association of Humanities Studies, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Impediments to the Education of Women | |
| Amina El-Bendary - American University in Cairo, Egypt , Women and Memory | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arab Feminist Historiography | |
| Huda Ali Alawi Hussein - University of Aden, Yemen | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Experience in Women's and Gender Studies at the University of Aden | |
| Nahwand Al-Kaderi - Lebanese University, Bahithat | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feminist Thought and Masculine Traps | |
| 11:30-12:00 | Coffee Break |

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| <p>12:00-02:00 p.m.</p> | <p>PANEL 4</p> <p>Feminism and Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair: Ahmad Dallal – American University of Beirut |
| <p>Omaima Abu Bakr - Cairo University, Egypt, Women and Memory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Themes and Directions in Muslim Feminist Thought | |
| <p>Amel Grami - University of Manouba, Tunis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A New Feminist Movement or a Feminist Strategy to Gain Rights | |
| <p>Hosn Abboud - Independent Researcher, Bahithat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feminist, Modernizing Koranic Exigesis: The Work of Aisha Abdel Rahman and Amina Woudoud | |
| <p>Hoda El-Saadi - American University of Cairo, Egypt, Women and Memory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Islamic Feminism in the Arab World: Acceptance or Rejection | |
| <p>Elora Shehabuddin* - Rice University, Houston, Texas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rokeya in the world: The experience of 20th Century Bengal | |
| <p>02:00-04:00 p.m.</p> | <p>Lunch</p> |
| <p>04:00-06:00 p.m.</p> | <p>ROUND-TABLE 2</p> <p>Globalization and Colonial Feminism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair: Nayla Kaedbey |
| <p>Amina El-Annan* - Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The American Relationship with the Middle East: Globalization, Art, Religion and Gender | |
| <p>Laleh Khalili* - SOAS, University of London, UK</p> | |

- Gendered Practices of Counterinsurgency

Eilleen Kuttab - Bir Zeit University, Palestine

- Arab Feminist Thought: Where is it Going?

05:00-05:15
p.m.

Coffee Break

Jean Said Makdisi - Independent Writer and Researcher, Bahithat

- “Women’s Rights” and Feminist Thought

Shahrazad Mojab* - University of Toronto, Canada

- Tracing Dollars, Mapping Colonial Feminism

Vron Ware* - The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK

- Reading to Change the World: Sexual Politics and Publishing in the Age of Public Diplomacy

Wednesday, October 7, 2009

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| 09.30-11.30 a.m. | PANEL 5 Feminism, Islamism and Secularism <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair: Huda Zreik - Bahithat |
| Islah Jad - Bir Zeit Univeristy, Palestine <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Palestinian Women's Movements Between Secularism and Islamism: | |
| Marnia Lazreg* - Hunter College, CUNY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Postmodern Theory and Muslim Women | |
| Azza Charara Baydoun - Lebanese University, Bahithat <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feminist Approaches to the Study of Arab Masculinity: The Example of Nawal al Saadawi | |
| Saba Mahmood* - University of California at Berkeley <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secular Feminism and Religious Reform: Politics of an Imperial Imaginary? | |
| 11:30-12:00 | Coffee Break |
| 12:00-02:00 p.m. | PANEL 6 War, Occupation and Arab Feminism <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair: Rosemary Sayegh - American University of Beirut |
| Amal Amireh - George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Disappearing Act of Palestinian Women: | |
| Haifa Zangana - Iraq <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Iraqi Feminist Movement: From Resistance to Acceptance | |
| Nadera Shalhoub Kevorkian - Arab Center For Applied Social Research, Palestine <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Palestinian Women: Between Racist Theology and the Physics of World Power | |

Anisseh al Amine-Merhi - Psychoanalyst, Bahithat

- War and Conflict: The Clandestine Discourse of Women

Elaheh Rostamy-Povey* - SOAS, University of London, UK

- Afghan Women Resistance and Struggle in Afghanistan and Diasporic Communities

02:00-04:00
p.m.

Lunch

04:00-06:00
p.m.

ROUND-TABLE 3

Feminism in the World

- **Chair: Fadia Kiwan** – St. Joseph University

Zainah Anwar* - Sisters in Islam, Malaysia

- Working on Women's Rights within Religion: Successes and Challenges

Hazel Carby* - Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

Deniz Kandiyoti* - SOAS, University of London, UK

- Between Feminism and Social Engineering: The Troubled Trajectory of International Gender Activism

05:00-05:15
p.m.

Coffee Break

Mari Oka* - Kyoto University, Japan

Kumkum Sangari* - University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Joan Scott* - Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ.

- Feminism's Difference Problem