

Arab Feminisms: A Critical Perspective

October 4-7, 2009

American University of Beirut

Program

Issam Fares Hall

Sunday, October 4th, 2009	
6:00 p.m.	Conference Opening: Noha Bayoumi – Secretary General, Lebanese Association of Women Researchers (Bahithat) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Opening Speech Jean Said Makdisi – Conference Organizing Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Welcome Rafif Rida Sidawi – Conference Organizing Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Introducing Dr. Mervat Hatem
	Keynote Address: Mervat Hatem - Department of Political Science, Howard University, Washington D.C., President of the Middle East Studies Association, Women and Memory <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	
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
12:00-02:00 p.m.	PANEL 2 New Directions for Arab Feminist Thought (II) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Chair: Rafif Rida Sidawi - Bahithat

Amira Y. Badri - Ahfad University for Women, Umdurman, Sudan	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Role of Sudanese Women's Movements in Peacemaking and Well-being 	
Noha Bayoumi - Lebanese University, Bahithat	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feminist Studies and the Feminine Self 	
Hatoon Ajwad Al-Fassi - King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Is There a Saudi Feminism? 	
Mai Al-Nakib* - Kuwait University, Kuwait	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accounting for Affect: Kuwaiti Women Between Freedom and Apathy 	
02:00-05:00 p.m.	Lunch
05:00-07:00 p.m.	ROUND-TABLE 1 Feminism and the Arts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chair: Nada Sehnaoui - Bahithat 	
Fowziyah Abu-Khalid - King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Question of Freedom and the Feminist Perspective in the Work of an Arab Creative Artist 	
Dina Georgis* - University of Toronto, Canada	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Injured Masculinities and Violent Reactions: A Feminist Response (cinema) 	
Watfa Hemadi - Lebanese University, Bahithat	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feminist Features in Dramaturgical Discourse 	
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" 	

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

12:00-02:00 p.m.	PANEL 4 Feminism and Islam ▪ Chair: Ahmad Dallal – American University of Beirut
	Omaima Abu Bakr - Cairo University, Egypt, Women and Memory ▪ Themes and Directions in Muslim Feminist Thought
	Amel Grami - University of Manouba, Tunis ▪ A New Feminist Movement or a Feminist Strategy to Gain Rights
	Hosn Abboud - Independent Researcher, Bahithat ▪ Feminist, Modernizing Koranic Exigesis: The Work of Aisha Abdel Rahman and Amina Woudoud
	Hoda El-Saadi - American University of Cairo, Egypt, Women and Memory ▪ Islamic Feminism in the Arab World: Acceptance or Rejection
	Elora Shehabuddin* - Rice University, Houston, Texas ▪ Rokeya in the world: The experience of 20th Century Bengal
02:00-04:00 p.m.	Lunch
04:00-06:00 p.m.	ROUND-TABLE 2 Globalization and Colonial Feminism ▪ Chair: Nayla Kaedbey
	Amina El-Annan* - Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut ▪ The American Relationship with the Middle East: Globalization, Art, Religion and Gender
	Laleh Khalili* - SOAS, University of London, UK ▪ Gendered Practices of Counterinsurgency
	Eileen 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	
09.30-11.30 a.m.	PANEL 5 Feminism, Islamism and Secularism ▪ Chair: Huda Zreik - Bahithat
	Islah Jad - Bir Zeit Univeristy, Palestine ▪ The Palestinian Women's Movements Between Secularism and Islamism:
	Marnia Lazreg* - Hunter College, CUNY ▪ Postmodern Theory and Muslim Women

<p>Azza Charara Baydoun - Lebanese University, Bahithat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feminist Approaches to the Study of Arab Masculinity: The Example of Nawal al Saadawi 	
<p>Saba Mahmood* - University of California at Berkeley</p> <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.	<p>PANEL 6 War, Occupation and Arab Feminism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chair: Rosemary Sayegh - American University of Beirut
<p>Amal Amireh - George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Disappearing Act of Palestinian Women: 	
<p>Haifa Zangana - Iraq</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Iraqi Feminist Movement: From Resistance to Acceptance 	
<p>Nadera Shalhoub Kevorkian - Arab Center For Applied Social Research, Palestine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Palestinian Women: Between Racist Theology and the Physics of World Power 	
<p>Anisseh al Amine-Merhi - Psychoanalyst, Bahithat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ War and Conflict: The Clandestine Discourse of Women 	
<p>Elaheh Rostamy-Povey* - SOAS, University of London, UK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Afghan Women Resistance and Struggle in Afghanistan and Diasporic Communities 	
02:00-04:00 p.m.	Lunch
04:00-06:00 p.m.	<p>ROUND-TABLE 3 Feminism in the World</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chair: Fadia Kiwan – St. Joseph University
<p>Zainah Anwar* - Sisters in Islam, Malaysia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working on Women’s Rights within Religion: Successes and Challenges 	
<p>Hazel Carby* - Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut</p>	
<p>Deniz Kandiyoti* - SOAS, University of London, UK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Between Feminism and Social Engineering: The Troubled Trajectory of International Gender Activism 	
05:00-05:15 p.m.	Coffee Break
<p>Mari Oka* - Kyoto University, Japan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Unfinished Project of Decolonizing National Memories in Japan: Narratives of Korean Women Residents in Utoro, Japan 	
<p>Kumkum Sangari* - University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, Wisconsin</p>	
<p>Joan Scott* - Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feminism’s Difference Problem 	

Guest Participant:

- **Nivedita Menon** – University of Delhi, New Delhi, India
- **Rosemary Sayegh** – American University of Beirut
- **Suad Joseph** – University of California

* English presentation

Conference on Arab Feminisms: A Critical Perspective

List of Participants Presenting Papers

Name	University or Association/Country
Amal Amireh	George Mason University, U.S.A.
Amel Grami	University of Manouba, Tunis
Amina El-Annan	Yale University, U.S.A.
Amina El-Bandary	Women and Memory Forum, Egypt
Amira Badri	Ahfad University for Girls, Sudan
Anastasia Valassopoulos	University of Manchester, U.K.
Dalia Said Mostafa	CASAW - University of Manchester, U.K.
Deniz Kandiyoti	SOAS - University of London, U.K.
Dina Georgis	University of Toronto, Canada
Eileen Kuttab	Beir Zeit University, Palestine
Elaheh Rostami-Povey	SOAS - University of London, U.K.
Elora Shehabuddin	Rice University, U.S.A.
Fowziyah Abu-Khalid	King Saud University, Saudi Arabia
Hayfaa Zangana	Independent Writer, Iraq
Hala Kamal	Cairo University – Women & Memory Forum, Egypt
Hatoon Al-Fassi	King Saud University, Saudi Arabia
Hazel V. Carby	Yale University, U.S.A.
Huda Alawi Hussain	University of Aden, Yemen
Hoda El-Saady	Women & Memory Forum, Egypt
Hoda Elsadda	CASAW - University of Manchester, U.K.
Islah Jad	Beir Zeit University, Palestine
Joan W. Scott	Institute for Advanced Study, U.S.A.
Kaltham Al-Ghanim	Qatar University, Qatar
Kumkum Sangari	University of Wisconsin, U.S.A.
Laleh Khalili	SOAS - University of London, U.K.
Mai Al-Nakib	Kuwait University, Kuwait
Mari Oka	Kyoto University, Japan
Marnia Lazreg	City University of New York, U.S.A.
Mervat Hatem	Howard University, U.S.A.
Mouza Ghubash	Association of Humanistic Studies, U.A.E.
Nadera Shalhoub Kevorkian	Mada Al-Carmel, Palestine
Nivedita Menon	Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
Omaima Abou-Bakr	Cairo University – Women & Memory Forum, Egypt
Saba Mahmood	University of California at Berkeley – U.S.A.
Shahrazad Mojab	University of Toronto, Canada
Suaad Zayed Al-Oraimi	United Arab Emirates University, U.A.E.
Veronica Ware	The Open University, U.K.
Zainah Anwar	Sisters in Islam, Malaysia
Zeina Zaatari	Global Fund for Women, U.S.A.
Anisseh Al-Amine	Bahithat, Lebanon
Azza Charara Baydoun	Bahithat, Lebanon

Hind Soufi	Bahithat, Lebanon
Hosn Abboud	Bahithat, Lebanon
Jean Said Makdissi	Bahithat, Lebanon
Nahawand Kaderi	Bahithat, Lebanon
Najla Hamadeh	Lebanese American University - Bahithat, Lebanon
Noha Bayoumi	Bahithat, Lebanon
Watfa Hamadi	Lebanese University – Bahithat, Lebanon