



## Summer School in Amman

By: Fuad Al-Homaidi

After a 23-hour risky trip from Sana'a to Sayoun-Hadramout, my colleague, Ali and I could make it to Amman on September the 7th to join the Summer School held by Institute of Oriental and Asian Studies at the University of Bonn, Germany in partnership with the Gender-Development Research & Studies Center (GDRSC), Sana'a University.

The Summer School aimed to focus on "Academic Approaches to Peace-building in Yemen for six consecutive days. The daily presentations, discussions, and group work with German academic staff and students were really beneficial and inspiring. We exchanged ideas and shared experiences particularly on conflict resolutions and peace-building. Moreover, the discussions on the research projects were undoubtedly inspiring to me in the sense that I could improve my research proposal and my future peace-building



objectives. In addition, the presentations given by the member of the women's delegation to Kuwait, Dr. Bilkis Abu Uosba, and the German Ambassador to Yemen, Andreas Kindl as experts in peace-building were definitely remarkable that we gained updated information on the current peace-building process in Yemen. Not only the sessions of the Summer

School, but also the time we spent with the German team outside the meeting hall was full of fun and great discussions colored with high respect and mutual understanding. Although the Summer School lasted only for six days, we felt that we are one team of peace-builders who have known each other for a long time.... **Read more on page 6** .....

### GDRSC Concludes the

### Diploma Exams in Gender and International Development

Early in the second week of June, 2016, students of intake 3 at the GDRSC had finished their final exams.

Thirteen (male and female) students took the exams under the supervision of specialized local and foreign professors from both the University of Sana'a and the Danish University of Roskilde.

It's worth mentioning that the GDRSC has already announced via its website that the registration for the academic year of 2016-2017 is now open to new batches of students.

## The First Conference of Research Centers Held at Sana'a University



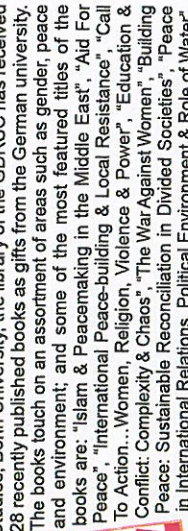
The Ministry of High Education and Scientific Research, MoHESR, held the first scientific conference for three days at the University of Sana'a under the slogan: "The Scientific and Research Centers & Their Role in Community Development." Speaking to Yemen's News Agency, Saba, Deputy Minister Dr. Abdullah al-Shami said

that "the conference aims to strengthen the role of the scientific and research centers in the community development and contribute to a real partnership with the civil society organizations and the private sector, in order to come up with successful solutions to the problems and challenges .... **Read more on page 6** .....

### 28 Latest Books:

### Gifts from Bonn University

Within the framework of the bilateral protocol (Academic Approaches to Peacebuilding and State Building) with the Institute of Oriental and Asian Studies (IOA) - Dept. of Islamic Studies, Bonn University, the library of the GDRSC has received



28 recently published books as gifts from the German university. The books touch on an assortment of areas such as gender, peace and environment; and some of the most featured titles of the books are: "Islam & Peacemaking in the Middle East", "Aid For Peace", "International Peace-building & Local Resistance", "Call To Action... Women, Religion, Violence & Power", "Education & Conflict: Complexity & Chaos", "The War Against Women", "Building Peace: Sustainable Reconciliation in Divided Societies", "Peace in International Relations, Political Environment & Role of Water", "Violence Against Women", "Filling the Gap", and "Preparing for Peace". It's worth mentioning that the GDRSC library receives supports from the donors in light of the framework of the joint project with Bonn University, in what's known as funds by the German Academic Exchange Program, DAAD, known as Change for Exchange. To know more about these publications, you may visit the GDRSC library and website [www.gdrsc.net](http://www.gdrsc.net).



### Inside the issue

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### Editorial

### A Life With A Feminine Form

Since the beginning of the aggression against our country and our lives, there has been this 'feminine form' that brands the Yemeni existence— where a woman can have and assume her roles to resume the making of her grand ancestors' glory that once had adorned the ancient Yemen. For more than a year now, Yemen has been boasting a life of resistance and a will of survival. The GRSC Newsletter proves such resistance and survival as it continues publishing in a country that was thought to be crushed down in just a couple weeks by an offensive and heinous 'Storm'— which launched by the entire world with Saudi Arabia taking the lead.

The kind of life, which the few pages here bring us into, is such an extraordinary act that fits the Yemenis and can only be done by them.



Dr. Ebtesam AlMotawakeel

During this months-long period, which seems to have been passing like a storm or lasting like the moments of pain and the times of siege, the Yemeni women have mostly been the victims of this aggression; yet, they have proved to be the most activist and the most resilient! Still, each sense of fear that steeped into the heart of a girl, a mother and a wife is a real testament to the deliberate killing of peace and safety by the hands and tails of the 'Storm'.

In this short period of incalculable time, of pain and pride, the Yemeni women have been able to engrave compound presence and unflinching resilience, as well as a remarkable attachment, all of which can only be seen through their actions in the time of aggressive war against our country. Moreover, during such circumstances, where living seems to be far from normal, the Yemeni women could tame the fear itself and ride out the airstrikes and the blockades — just to go on and defend their life on their homeland. And unlike other women around the world, who prefer to stay in safe IDP camps until the military operations are over, the Yemeni families preferred to return to their homes once they had a chance to fly back: a spectacular and curious move that embodies the meaning of the Yemenis' love and attachment to their homeland!

The aggression has intended to blockade the entire Yemen and deny access to the ways of livelihood that the basic needs have become virtually absent with little to no food and fuels. The Yemeni women have, instead, lit their hearts and used their awareness; they have utilized every possible simple way to bring about lights and cook meals at their homes. Indeed, the women could make it happen in a life that lacks all basic needs. The Yemeni people cannot afford to lose their dignity and pride; this is how they continue to survive in the face of such relentless aggression!...

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Dr. Najat Jumaan: The decision of my appointment was surprising to some



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## In the presence of the Deputy Minister of High Education and Scientific Research The Supreme Committee for Quality Assurance Meeting Held at Sana'a University

By: Dr. Ghaleb al-Ganes

With the devotion and motivation of the Ministry of High Education and Scientific Research, MoHESR, to improve the educational process in Yemeni universities, Professor Abdullah Mohammed al-Shami, the Deputy Minister of MoHESR and the acting minister, chaired a meeting with the Supreme Committee for Quality Assurance at the Academic Development & Quality Assurance Center, University of Sana'a. The meeting was attended by the Committee members Prof. Fawzi al-Saghir, the Rector and the Committee Chairman; and Prof. Ibrahim al-Mota', Academic Deputy, Committee Deputy Chairman and Deputy Director of the Academic Development & Quality Assurance Center. In addition to the Deans and Directors of the Quality Assurance Units at the Faculties of Medicine and Health Sciences, Pharmacology, Commerce, Education, and Law. Also, the deputy Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, the Director of the Quality



Assurance Unit at the Faculty of Engineering, and Prof. Adnan al-Senwi – the representative of the Council on Academic Accreditation, had all attended the meeting. Meanwhile, they discussed several topics including: review of what has been achieved in the self-assessment process of the three medical faculties and the Faculty of Engineering. The Heads of the Quality Assurance Units explained what has been achieved in the past period together with the difficulties they faced and their anticipated timeframe for completing the remainder of the phase that would have supposedly been finalized if obstacles hadn't faced them. It was agreed that these faculties would be given a three to five month period to complete the remainder of the phase. Moreover, the Faculties of Commerce, Education, and Law and the Academic Development Center have approved to include the academic program description in accordance with the development project plan of the 2016-2019 academic programs for Sana'a University. This plan that at a-Shami

## With the Participation of the GDRSC,

# UN Hosts "Women & Peace Building" Conference



Dr. Buluk Zabara, the GDRSC director and Lemia Al-Eryani, representing the Yemeni Women Union, took part in a panel session on "Amplifying women's voices for peace and rights during conflict: Experiences from Palestine and Yemen" in a conference held under the auspices of the United Nations on March 17 in New York City. On the other hand positive impacts started emerging during the war. Some women started new businesses, some social barriers have been broken (more women go on streets defending their rights, look for job opportunities). Zabara presented the impact of war on the Yemeni society, with special focus on the double burden on women and girls to cope with daily life activities. In the panel session she discussed how women managed to provide their families with basic resources for survival such as water, cooking gas, lumber and food. She also mentioned how women raised

their voices for peace and rights during the time of conflicts. Moreover, she presented the role of the GDRSC in educational research on conflict settings visa vi the master's program in International Development and Gender provided by the center addressing to decrease the poverty and gender gap in Yemen. Al-Eryani highlighted the terrifying increase of gender based violence, GBV, and the role of the YWU in protecting women and girls from all kinds of violence through its several branches across the country. She also mentioned the relation of the UNSCR 1325 and its weak implementation in Yemen. Both Yemeni presenters were supported by Oxfam GB under the Women's Peacemakers Program. The panel discussion ended up with key recommendations such as the importance of involving women in peace-building processes and the urgent need of improving gender equality for sustainable development.

## 400 Visitors to the GDRSC Library in June 2016

According to the visitor's log, a large number of students across Sana'a University have visited the GDRSC library to go through the available resources of latest books, in addition to using the free internet services.

The GDRSC library enjoys qualified staffers with perfect experience in library searching methods, serving all scholars and researchers – not to mention the training courses in the latest indexing and internet search techniques, held throughout every year, which has added up to the GDRSC reputation.

Several students from various faculties have also made use of such courses and became regular visitors to the library. Every month, at least 400 students of various majors visit the GDRSC library; the rate of female student visitors come to be higher. In the last month, June, 253 female students visited the library compared to 147 male students.



## Yemeni Student Brutally Murdered in Egypt

By Ehsan al-Droobi

Yemeni student Mona Muffah, from the Department of Political Sciences at the University of Sana'a, was killed by a gang in the morning of Friday, June 24, 2016, while in her apartment in Cairo/Egypt.

Media sources reported that the student was brutally assaulted before being hung to a rope and killed. The apartment was set on fire hours after the Egyptian security left the crime scene.

It is worth mentioning that Muffah was studying masters in political science at Cairo University. The Egyptian security authorities announced they have arrested the culprit, who admitted that the reason for killing of the Yemeni student was stealing.

The student's family is still following up the case demanding the Egyptian authorities to carry out the death sentence against the offender.

## What do you know about Women and Memory Forum?



THE WOMEN AND MEMORY FORUM

By: Huda al-Aghbari

Founded in 1995, the Women and Memory Forum (WMF) is composed of a group of women academics, researchers and activists concerned about the negative representations and perceptions of Arab women in the cultural sphere. Dominant cultural views and images of Arab women constitute a major stumbling block in the course of women's development and attainment of their rights.

We believe that one of the main obstacles facing Arab women now is the scarcity of alternative cultural information and knowledge about the role of women in history and in contemporary society. The group decided to attain a formal status in order to advocate and promote the integration of gender as a category of analysis in the study and interpretation of Arab history and the social sciences in general. The long-term objective of WMF's specialized research is to produce and make available alternative cultural information about Arab women that can be used for raising awareness and empowering women.

The forum is based in the Arab Republic of Egypt and managed by a governing Board of Trustees that sets policies, plans activities, and monitors their implementation. The Board is supported by an executive staff that carries out the decisions made by its members, in addition to overseeing daily administrative tasks.

**Mission:** In order to accomplish its vision, the WMF adopts a gender-based cultural approach. Through this approach, it aims at contributing effectively to the production and dissemination of alternative knowledge concerning women in the Arab region. It also aims at reconciling Arab tradition and cultural history in order to create a new cultural and social awareness that is supportive of women's social and intellectual roles in the face of dominant negative stereotypes.

**Goals:** WMF seeks to achieve a central goal: to support and empower women by producing and disseminating knowledge.

**Vision:** The WMF looks forward to a society in which justice and equal opportunities for men and women prevail; a vibrant society capable of constantly producing alternative knowledge in order to reshape power relations within the different social structures in such a way that would support and maintain human dignity in the face of all forms of discrimination.

The following URL will give you more details about the WMF: <http://www.wmf.org.eg>







# Ra'ofah Hassan..

## The Omnipresent Media Forerunner

**By: Dr. Saleh Humid**

• Dr. Ra'ofah Hassan al-Sharqi had left this life for the world of eternal peace; it's that peace she had been seeking for decades to accomplish among all the people around her in our homeland, Yemen. She passed away in April 2011 at a hospital in the Egyptian capital, Cairo, after long days of suffering from hepatic diseases. To commemorate the dear departed friends—especially those whose moral, academic and professional values do continue to live within, we decided right from this platform that we should carry on what she had begun at the GDRSC: Compiling the historical accounts of all the forerunners of Yemeni woman; an idea she put into action, engraving it in every memory of her students, whether at Sana'a University or at the GDRSC.

Dr. Ra'ofah Hassan passed away with firm belief that there are qualified academic researchers who can rekindle that idea.



Therefore, we should take on the history of the Yemeni woman pioneers all over again by setting up a special project at the GDRSC to be a reference for all scholars and researchers in the field of gender. And in this issue, we decided that the beginning of such a project should take place with the idea's originator, Dr. Ra'ofah Hassan, as the first pioneer under spotlight here; this is to show her colleagues and friends how Dr. Ra'ofah Hassan is always present among us, and how her idea that she dreamt of realizing will always be renewed; and we will make her dream happen!

So, who is Dr. Ra'ofah Hassan? Dr. Ra'ofah Hassan had dedicated most of her years to the academic life, particularly mass media—her specialty, in addition to promoting women's activities and the civil society organizations in Yemen and the Arab region.

She was a character of stellar greatness in the real sense of the term: an expert on the Yemeni affairs and one of the leading women who enriched the public life in Yemen.

in establishing Women's Studies & Applied Researches at Sana'a University in 1996; and she had proficiently directed the Cultural Development Planning Foundation, which she used as a base for carrying out workshops on gender issues, in addition to training female parliamentarians and registering women to vote in the elections.

Shortly before her passing away, Dr. Ra'ofah had organized a series of seminars to establish a national museum of contemporary Yemen, which would represent a progressive political and social vision that gives an unbiased picture of Yemen's history and people. Her dream, however, couldn't be realized!

Her demise has caused a big loss to the Arab World; indeed, we have lost the special exemplar of contemporary Yemeni and Arab women.

When this pioneer began defending the rights of Yemeni and Arab women, she had triggered a fierce war against the male parental regime whose roots are deeply entrenched in the Arab societies. She had set a living example of persistence and diligence as a women activist whose main goal was but to focus on a truly equal opportunity for both men and women. Her tireless and unavoidable efforts had reached beyond her national borders. She had contributed to establishing the principles of freedom, democracy and women's rights in all Arab societies.

Dr. Ra'ofah Hassan was the first on the board of trustees of the Arab Council on Social Sciences, which was elected by the council's general assembly in Cairo, in 2009. And out of her scrawny figure, her strong views and extensive knowledge did emerge. During the few months that preceded Dr. Ra'ofah Hassan's passing away, the Arab Council missed her presence and her constructive contributions; the council had particularly missed her strong capability of managing debates objectively, as well as her enthusiasm for advancing the council.<sup>6</sup>

### Misery and Remorse\*

• Once again, I tried to interest myself by briefly watching some news, before I would return to flipping through other channels on cooking, couture or décor. I was thinking that this way might be fun for me to live up before I would go back to have myself absorbed into a novel on my reading list. Then I would browse the internet and check this inbox of mine to go through some of the emails – since the other email account has been suspended. I, sometimes, leap through newspapers, while only catching up the headlines; I would rarely stop to read further, except for the articles I saw as very important. I have taken for granted that things were fine, and that I was feeling good and living in tranquility. But all of a sudden, I have become unable to sleep well at nights, and pain was taking over me. Then I have realized that this way, which I have taken on, does only cause me misery and remorse; I have become aware that the news in the Arab countries doesn't bode well at all, nor those who have themselves locked up or confined to web pages and emails. My last and only doorway to this frightening world has been the weekly column in al-Belad Newspaper.

I have decided that I will stop writing my column so as to ease up my misery and remorse, until I overcome such ordeals and then come back. If you heard no more from me, that should mean, at the very least, more crises would come. I have also noticed the disappearance of several voices of people, whom I was soundlessly lauding their standpoints. I thought that they might be undergoing a similar case of mine; and that they might have decided not to blow in the winds anymore, since their voices might have become too wearied to explain any further to light a candle in total darkness. They might have been drawn into despair after they lost their endurance to the extent that they hushed their voices and became out of view like the Cavemen. If this is their path, then I wouldn't be the only one who took such a road, and wouldn't be out of place...!

\* This article from the Saudi newspaper, al-Belad, was the last column written by Dr. Ra'ofah Hassan, 12 days before she passed away

## The Résumé of Late Dr. Ra'ofah Hassan

Name: Dr. Amat al-Ra'of Hassan al-Sharki

Date of Birth: 1958

Marital Status: Single

Place of Work: University of Sana'a

Occupation: Professor of Sociology

Qualifications: Ph.D. in "Rural Informational Sociology, former University of Paris, France – 1991.

Previous work experiences:

-Deputy Director of the Technical Bureau at the Ministry of Information, 1984 – 86.

- Chief of the Investigative Reports Unit at al-Thawrah Newspaper, 1980 – 84.

- Preparer and host of women's programs on Sana'a TV, 1975 – 80.

- Preparer and presenter of women's programs on Sana'a Radio, 1970 – 75.

- Founded women's

department at the Ministry of Social Affairs in 1976.

Publications & Researches:

- Master degree dissertation in Media Development (English).

- Doctoral dissertation in Social Change (French).

- Academic paper on Yemeni working women, presented at the Arab Woman Conference, Cairo – Egypt.

- Tens of articles/reports and columns in al-Thawrah Newspaper, in addition of radio and TV episodes.

Local and international conferences and symposiums:

- Working Woman Conference, Arab League, Libya – 1975.

- Working Woman Conference, Arab League, Cairo – 1976.

- International Girls Conference, Moscow – Russia, 1975.

- International Woman Conference, Berlin – Germany.

- Arab Woman Conference, Arab Women Union, Damascus – Syria, 1976.

- Arab Labor Conference, Morocco – 1980.

- First Arab Youth Festival, Algeria – 1972.

- International Journalists Conference, Sofia – Bulgaria, 1986.

- Youth Forum – China.

- National Symposium on Family and Population, Aden, 15 – 18 September, 1991. (Academic paper was presented).

- First Population Policy Conference, Sana'a, 26 – 29 October 1991.

- Membership and affiliation:

- Member and former director of Yemen's Women Association.

- Member of the International Women's Union, Berlin – Germany 19-1991.

- Member of the International Women's Council, London – UK, 1977 – 91.

- Member of Arab Women's Solidarity Association, Cairo – Egypt, 1987 – 91.

- Member on the National Youth Committee, Sana'a – Yemen, 1985 – 86.

- Member of Yemen's Journalists Syndicate, 1975 – 1986; and head of the Syndicate's social committee, 1984 – 1986.

- Member of the (former) Regional Council on Maternity and Childhood – Sana'a. - Founding member of the (former) Challenged People's Association – Sana'a.<sup>6</sup>





"Forgotten Women" on World Women's Day

# The Yemeni Woman in a First Critical Study of 'Hammi Hammak'

On World Women's Day, the GRDSC organized an event, featuring an academic study on the picture of the Yemeni women depicted in the Ramadan local drama series. This study, which was entitled: "The Image of Yemeni Women in the Ramadan Drama Series and its Relation With the Community Culture", has addressed most of the passive stereotype pictures presented through the local drama series, Hammi Hammak (My concern is yours), in addition to providing ways of tracking such images back to the prevailing culture in the community. The study has also offered solutions to the local media outlets, aiming to change the existing media policy by analyzing the image of the gender. Moreover, during the event a documentary—entitled: "Forgotten Women", was displayed. It addressed the reality of the Yemeni women inmates and how the local community views them. Standpoints of the academicians and the students in attendance have been shared here by the GRDSC:

• Dr. Ibrahim al-Akwa, Associate Professor of Public Relations from the Yemeni University, says: "I could realize that the study of the Yemeni women's image is exceptional, on top of being the first critical study reviewing a drama series that is hitting nationwide. And here I am calling on all academic authorities, especially in the media fields, to have interest in such gender studies that will surely contribute to the media performance."

• Dr. Mutahar Ali Aqida, Associate Professor of Public Relations from University of Sana'a, says: "This study is unique and very important, especially when it comes at a time in which several principles in our society have gone by as some other actions emerged, regarding the Yemeni women and the stages of their involvement in the social life."

• Dr. Miriam al-Jawfi, the GRDSC Deputy Director from Sana'a University, says: "The event was exceptional as it dealt with the situation of the Yemeni women from an academic perspective by featuring a research study by Dr. Saleh Humaid, in addition to displaying a documentary about the Yemeni women inmates. This documentary 'Forgotten Women' discusses a very important issue in the Yemeni society; it focuses on how the Yemeni women are smirched by the society and abandoned by their families once in jail. The government itself does abandon them, although it's the duty of the government to help the citizens, especially when there are many more cases of insolvent inmates."

• Dr. Angela Abu Osba, Associate Professor of English Language, Faculty of Languages - Sana'a University, says: "The Yemeni woman has been long ago trying to achieve freedom, equality and justice like any other man, in terms of the basic rights. The Yemeni woman's situation has been fragile and hollow, and comes to be more inferior to men's position when it comes decision making. Today, on the World Women's Day, the GRDSC presentation of this documentary about Yemeni women inmates in the Sana'a central prison comes to show in a nutshell how far the government is negligent about women and their rights."

• Dr. Elham al-Redha, an Associate Professor from Sana'a University says: "As we celebrate the women's day, the GRDSC comes up distinctly with this academic study on the Yemeni women's image depicted in the Ramadan drama series, in addition to the documentary on the Yemeni woman inmates; the study



By: Tayseer al-Serari

along with the study that analyzed the drama series Hammi Hammak as it involves the image of the Yemeni woman; we could see how the Yemeni women are being marginalized by the community, which is reflected in the local drama series. Women are not having opportunities and are not given confidence to be creative in the community; their rights are still at the behest of men, who always look down upon women. Also, the Yemeni community does abandon women once they face any problem as is the case with the forgotten women in the prisons."

far women are being oppressed whether by the community or by their families, and how they always look down upon women."

• Huda al-Aghbari, Student of Public Relations from the Modern University, says: "The study was an outstanding presentation, as it focused on gender and analyzed that image of Yemeni women, which are being presented through satellite channels; it really showed how far the women's roles are being marginalized within the family or the community."

• Ihsan al-Droobi, Student of Public Relations from the Modern University, says: "It was an amazing study; we really got to know a lot of information that shed light on how the Yemeni women are being oppressed within their families or in the community. Also, the documentary could really bring out the real perspective of the Yemeni community regarding the woman inmates, who are imprisoned in cells and the community itself."

• Samiah Abdullah al-Howbani, Student of Public Relations from the Modern University, says: "We could see a lot of things from this Forgotten Women documentary,

**The Yemeni woman's position is still far away from decision making**

reach the producers of the drama films and series that should reflect the Yemeni reality. Through the findings of the study we could realize that Hammi Hammak doesn't reflect the reality of the Yemeni society. Besides, this event was distinguished with the presentation of a documentary on the Yemeni women inmates; it really expressed what's going on in the Sana'a central prison and other prisons across Yemen. I hope it could be presented on the Yemeni satellite channels as a matter of awareness."

• Samira Hussein, Research, Faculty of Education—Sana'a, says: "I have this impression that the study was exceptional in terms of the subject matter and the presentation. It really provided new information that we didn't know about and made difference clear between the theoretical and the practical, in addition to highlighting how



Therefore, the GRDSC always seeks to academically focus on changing the existing perspective against the Yemeni women, through which the local media project such drama series and other programs.

This aims to give solutions to the local media outlets in order to change the stereotyped image that distorts the role of women as active partners in building the community life alongside men. And this is what the study findings along with the participants' viewpoints do assert.

Based on the outcomes of this survey here, we can say that the aim of the media studies or analyses of the media programs is usually centered on dealing with those rampant phenomena in the community.

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Dr. Najat Jumaan to The Gender and Development Newsletter:

## The decision of my appointment was surprising to some of those who don't believe in women's participation in presiding over the university

Since the Unification Day – May 22, 1990, the Yemeni women have made great strides in public life, national efforts and community participation, in addition to their involvement in the process of development and accomplishment of some gains and rights in various fields; and consequently, they could assume academic positions in the Yemeni universities.. With male domination over the senior positions in Sana'a University, especially those academic ones, a woman assuming the deanship was something surprising to some. Yet, disconcerting to a few others who wish to continue presiding over such a position.. In this exclusive interview by The Gender and Development Newsletter, Dr. Najat Jumaan, the Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Economics at Sana'a University, talks about the most important academic issues and the potentials for the labor market, as well as the deanship's present and future aspirations. She also gives some pieces of advice to her colleagues and her students. Following are the details of the interview:

By: Editor-in-Chief

• GJ: To begin with, we would like our readers to know who is Dr. Najat Jumaan.

•• Najat Jumaan is an Associate Professor of Administration at the Faculty of Commerce and Economics, Sana'a University; received a bachelor degree in Business Management with honors from Sana'a University, 1979 – 1983; a master degree from Azusa Pacific University, California – USA, 1986 – 1990; and Ph.D. from Cairo University, Egypt – 1993 – 95; then another Ph.D. from Suez Canal University, Egypt – 1995 – 99; held several executive positions including the Customs Institute at the Ministry of Finance; currently the Dean of Commerce College at Sana'a University; has 23 years of academic and administrative experiences; supervised many theses for master degrees in Business Management at Sana'a and Aden Universities; also a member to several local and foreign agencies, top of which are:

- The Businesswomen Club (OECD) – Paris, France.
  - The Chamber of Commerce in both Sana'a and Taiz.
  - The Yemen Industry League
  - The Supreme Committee on Industrial Development
  - The Exchange and Stocks Committee at the Trade Union
  - Yemen Management Association
  - The Technical Committee on setting up the Stock Market Project
  - Head of Businesswomen Department at the Trade Union
  - Member of a Taskforce on the Development of Family Businesses Governance. Consultant at the Yemeni Businessmen Council.
- That was a quick overview of Dr. Najat Jumaan, the Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Economics at Sana'a University.

• GJ: Was the decision of your appointment as the Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Economics surprising being the first woman who takes on this position in a male-dominated society?

•• NJ: Thanks to the Gender and

Development Newsletter that cares about women's issues, including the importance of the participation of women in development, through the opportunities that have been made available for them to reach leading positions, and to participate in the process of building the society through what God has given them of knowledge and competency.

Concerning your question, the decision of my appointment was not a surprise to me, because I met all the requirements; I was qualified to assume this position. So, I had to go on and undertake my duties as it should be, by working along with my colleagues to realize the goals of our college and our vision of the higher education; this vision can be generally summed up in "creating an innovative academic milieu that brings about a constructive competition for distinctive learning, in order to make our students creative and productive in building the community and competing at the local, regional and international levels."

And of course, the decision of my appointment was surprising to some of those who don't believe in women's participation in presiding over the university or even the faculty; they even don't give women a chance!

• GJ: How cooperative did you find your (male) colleagues in the college and the members of the University presidency?

•• NJ: Thank God, I found considerable support from members of the University presidency and the Higher Education, as well as most

**– "There are several leading women who can make an endeavor like their colleagues do, possibly much more."**

**"There was a 'male' opposition by those who hoped for this position, but they failed to get ahead."**

**"The rate of female students, who joined the Faculty of Commerce and Economics, has amounted to %30 of the total number."**

of my colleagues. I even got support from other government bodies. However, there had of course been opposition from a few colleagues; they were only three people as far as I know. They hoped for this position, but they failed to get ahead.

• GJ: From your viewpoint, do you think that the deanship positions should be presided by male figures?

•• NJ: The answer to your question

is of course "No"! Why, because there are several leading women who can make an endeavor like their colleagues do, possibly much more. Women must be given an equal opportunity to participate.

• GJ: What's your new vision that aims to promote the faculty, especially when you are a professor of administration?

•• NJ: Naturally, I will not come over the academic visions and goals; we have to learn from the experiments of the well-regarded universities that have made positive changes in their societies. We should go along with these well-regarded universities and learn from them, while maintaining our own style of originality that fits our backgrounds as Yemenis who have an established civilization. And the most important thing is to have a positive value in building the presence for better and prosperous humanity.

• GJ: Tell us about the current academic programs? Is there a certain vision for more academic programs, as for MA and Ph.D programs in particular?

•• NJ: Concerning the master degrees, a number of programs have been already launched, but facing challenges because of the old regulations that were set up in the early 1990s and never been amended since then. Although there have lately been a lot of development and changes, those old regulations stand as obstacles to such programs; therefore, they need to be amended on regular basis. The invariability of such

regulations is something appealing to those narrow-minded people whose interests get conflicted with the programs; thus, they try to impede the programs. Sometimes, the productive initiatives get hampered too, unfortunately. I hope the Ministry of High Education and Scientific Research and the Higher Council on Universities will take all this into account and act on stopping the conspiracy against the development of education, if they want to have too effective and flexible Graduate Studies programs that can go along with the rapidly changing labor market.

• GJ: How is the capacity of the faculty? How many students have registered according to the latest figures?

•• NJ: As of today, nearly 19,000 students have registered to join the faculty; the annual maximum capacity of the faculty is 3000 students. The rate of female students is noticeably increasing with 30% of the total number.

• GJ: Last question, what would Dr. Najat Jumaan like to tell the university presidency members, her colleagues and her students?

•• NJ: I would say there absolutely are a lot of challenges facing the faculty, and we must be aware of that and work as a team and a family to confront them. We have challenges facing the resources and the operational costs; challenges stemming out of the outdated regulations that can no longer suit the current requirements of higher education; we have political conflicts and partisan affiliations inside the faculty that often cause problems to the academic work; we have challenges facing the implementation of the principles of quality education; we have challenges arising from the protracted centralism and routine in terms of procedures; and we have challenges stemming out of the limited capabilities. If we are aware of all these challenges and work together to eliminate them, then we will be able to realize the goals of the higher and academic education. I would like to thank again the Newsletter that cares about gender issues in Yemen, including the education issues at the universities on top of many others. ■







With the participation of the GDRSC deputy director,

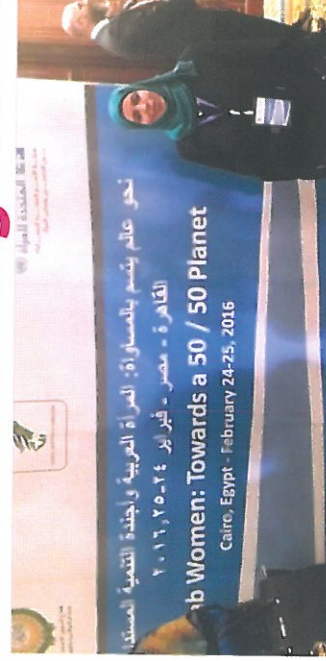
## The AWU 2016 Annual Meeting Held in Cairo

By Samiyah al-Hawbani

Dr. Mariam al-Jawfi, the GDRSC deputy director and member of the executive bureau of Yemeni Women's Union, delivered a paper during the annual meeting of the Arab Women Union, which was held from February 24 – 26, 2016 in Cairo. Dr. al-Jawfi's paper was entitled: "The most important political, economic and social changes that happened in Yemen in 2015 and their impact on the Yemeni woman's situation." She indicated that 2015 was the most gripping year in the Yemeni scene, during which the country has seen several political, economic and social changes that have left impact on the Yemeni woman's situation. As for the political changes, the

National Dialogue Conference (NDC) was a singular experiment in Yemen and the region. During the NDC women could obtain a lot of rights and privileges that they had been seeking to achieve for decades through various women's rights groups— organizations, associations and unions. Among the achievements made during the NDC were:

- Women's political participation; where the state shall be committed to the active representation of women in government authorities and agencies as well as the elected councils with no less than 30%.
- Rights to candidacy in the presidential, parliamentary and local elections as well as



referendums.

- The political components shall be committed to arrange their election lists in a way that ensures the inclusion of at least 30% of women in the council election.

But Yemen has been under an external aggression since March 26, 2015, as well as the internal strife, which have eliminated all aspects of development and sent the country 50 years back. Women's livelihood has been greatly affected; life has become tougher; unemployment rate on the rise; and most of the economic activities came to a halt. Also, this situation facing the Yemeni women is heralding major threats to all the political and social achievements women obtained during the NDC. International reports indicate that the aggression has so far left 25,000 civilians dead or wounded, in addition to 3500 children and 2700 women dead or wounded.

With the Participation of GDRSC Professors and Students,

### An Academic Workshop Held in Lebanon

A four-day master thesis - initiating seminar was held in Beirut, the Lebanese capital from 6 – 10 March, 2016.

This seminar was intended to let each student work on her/his thesis -proposal, and therefore it vacillates between lectures, discussion, facilitation and writing sessions. Background readings in methodology books such as 'Arab women in the field', in addition to the preparation for the seminar besides the thesis proposal, meant to enhance interactive work and workshop outcomes.

Topics such as the relevance of fieldwork for international development, gender conflict and development, the need of theories, what theories to use, methods, analytical



As part of the collaboration between the GDRSC and the public sector, a meeting was held on Tuesday Feb. 23, 2016 at the headquarter of the National Water and Sanitation Authority, NWSA.

The meeting aimed to discuss topics of interest related to gender and its effective mainstreaming into NWSA. Moreover, the exchanging of information and expertise was discussed along with the initiation of joint projects based on the involvement of both men and women. The attendees stressed that the current period calls for everyone to pay attention to the training side by activating it in the fields of library, information and media training, as well as in gender related fields. It was also agreed that the joint training sessions will be held at the GDRSC premises and the Human Resources Center of NWSA.

In this context, Dr. Bilkis Zabara,

## GDRSC, National Water and Sanitation Authority Sign Mou

The GDRSC Director, indicated that the goal of the visit was to have a permanent relationship with the authority, and this can only be achieved by starting joint awareness sessions and capacity building. She urged the two sides to provide the training agendas that will be utilized in the coming period.

Dr. Zabara also focused on the nature of the information that every side would need, which must include the order to serve the community, as well as the process of involving gender in most of the projects that the Republic of Yemen lack.

Therefore, the accurate information on gender in all the Yemeni governorates must be taken into account by one and all, which shows an element of interest by the leaders of NWSA and the GDRSC.

It is worth mentioning that the agendas the GDRSC presented to

the public corporation included two stages in the current period. The first stage aimed at the training of the corporation's personnel on media: news industry - media campaigns – documentaries - short films.

The second stage aimed at providing a training program in the field of qualitative gender studies, which would be expanding gradually to include participants from other governorates.

The GDRSC delegation was briefed on the facilities of NWSA through a short presentation by the Deputy Director General Hassan Sheikh, who explained the tasks and responsibilities of the various departments.

The center's delegation was represented by its director along with Dr. Husnia Al-Kadiri; Dr. Saleh Huomaidi; Dr. Abdul Wahhab Abdul ai-Qader; and the librarian Yanya al-Qishwi.

Continued from Editorial .....

Even in terms of medications, accommodations, economy and education— among other means of life, the Yemeni women have reverted to utilize the legacy of their grand ancestors. They have learnt on such legacy of an ancient civilization, first pillar of which is 'land is like one's honor' that must not be ceded. The legacy's other pillar represents the feasible provisions that are based on the natural experiences: herbal medication was one thing that the Yemenis have thought about, which has fairly helped alleviating the brunt of the blockades. However, this hasn't solved all the medical problems since there have been chronic diseases that need to be treated with certain medicines and special medicinal sessions, such as cancer and kidney failure. The land of Yemen is blessed with an ancient civilization that dates back thousands of years ago, way before the creation of all the countries that are now partaking in the aggression itself. Thus, it was not unusual that the Yemeni women reverted to draw from such ancient repository to keep life going. They could bring about ways to run their houses amid power and food shortages, which have remarkably helped to ease up these hard circumstances that the continuing aggression has imposed in an attempt to force the people to run riot from the inside or go outside of the country – which has and will never happen!

Schools and universities have shut down after being the targets of hideous airstrikes; but women have taught their children at homes how to love and live for their homeland, in the face of this increasingly ruthless aggression. Even when schools and universities stanchly reopened, parents didn't hesitate to send their children to schools; they even encouraged them to chant the national anthem louder in the face of aggressive fighter jets rumbling overhead. There hasn't been a comprehensive count of what the aggression has done to the Yemenis' lives and their country; all published records and figures appear as incomplete, and are mainly confined to the material losses. Yet, we do know that the material losses also imply that there are hundreds of victims from women and children; many have been killed, injured or displaced; and many women have become widows while many children have become orphans. The records of moral harms, there, will continue to be raging louder, with the grunts of many women, whose pride and patience keep holding back tragic accounts that depict unspeakable deaths caused by missiles and bombs, and compounded by horror and blockades. The Yemeni women, instead, have chosen to just disclose a picture of glorious and pridetful Yemen.

Continued from front page

### Summer School in Amman

I will never forget the happy moments we spent together on the day of Eid when we celebrated the occasion. I felt myself at home celebrating with my own family. I am so grateful to the German team and GDRSC for the effort they put to make this Summer School exceptional and a wonderful experience.

### The First Conference of Research

facing the country at the economic, social and political levels." The deputy minister indicated that the conference, which was held from August 1 – 3, succeeded in discussing the scientific papers on the reality and ambitions of the scientific and research centers, and how to develop their future visions and programs. He also pointed out that the current situations facing the country leave no choice for the educational institutions (the universities), but to shoulder the economic challenges by activating their role of providing possible solutions with scientific visions and up-to-date techniques. Dr. al-Shami also confirmed that the scientific and research centers are considered to be one of the scientific research tools of communication with the private sector, as well as a tool for the development of communities, by providing scientific researches tackling the country's social and economic problems.



## GDRSC's Training Department Holds its First Meeting, Decides on the Agendas

The Training and Consultancy Department at the GDRSC held its first meeting on Sunday, June 12, 2016.

The meeting aimed to discuss the training department's agendas, whose importance is based on the requirements and needs of the organizations and the government bodies that regard gender as a basis in the implementation of their activities.

Dr. Bilkis Zabara, the GDRSC Director, has opened the sessions by welcoming all attendees and briefed them about the training agendas, through which the center's training process will be initiated in partnership with various organizations and government bodies.

After that, Dr. Mariam Al-Jawfi, the acting Head of the Training Department, also welcomed the attendees and appreciated everyone's interaction in enriching the components of the training department. She also confirmed that the collective action is the only thing that will lead to success, citing numerous examples of various local activities that always demand the involvement of gender.

To take into account this national important demand, it was necessary



to activate the training department, and therefore, the GDRSC's vision has been dedicated to putting forth the following main question:

"How can we form a team of trainers for the GDRSC, and what are the requirements that we will be focusing on?"

The meeting was attended by Dr. Bilkis Zabara, the GDRSC director, Dr. Mariam Al-Jawfi, the GDRSC deputy director and head of the training department, Dr. Saleh Humaid, Dr. Abdul Wahhab Abdul Qader, Dr. Abdussalam al-Dar, Dr. Suhair Atef, Dr. Husnia Al-Kadri and Dr. Fawziyyah al-Ammar.

Dr. Fawziyyah al-Ammar presented the minutes of the sessions, and the attendees assured that it would be remarkable if each member could

single out new points, which might make the GDRSC stand out more than other institutions.

The attendees have also agreed that the training programs shouldn't be confined to gender and development only; rather, the programs should be expanded along with list of trainers, whose expertise will be utilized.

Moreover, it was agreed that the training manual should be designed in general and the training courses in particular, in addition to the subscription of trainers to the GDRSC that would be a prelude to creating a database for the training department; the roles of the male and female trainers would be divided on the gender basis, while the training materials would be a mixture of theoretical and practical

aspects, but should be within the framework of realistic experiences. The field visits to the Sana'a University faculties and research centers, first, and to the institutions and ministries afterwards, were expected within the next weeks. Such visits aimed to identify the training requirements on the ground in order to draw up the training strategy in a way that suits the community requirements.

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## With New Intake of 21 Master's Degree Students, GDRSC Kicks off its Academic Meetings

On November 19, the GDRSC held the first academic meetings with the fourth batch of 21 (male & female) students, who were enrolled for the master's degree. The academic meetings, which took place in the conference hall at the GDRSC premises, started with three lectures.

Dr. Mariam al-Jawfi, the GDRSC deputy director, delivered the first lecture, in which she presented the center's overview along with its research and academic goals. She also touched on the common relationship between both the administrative & academic side and the students.

For his part, Dr. Abdulwahab Abdulqader contributed, with another lecture, to this first day of the academic

meetings with the fourth batch students.

Dr. Husnia al-Kadri delivered the third lecture, in which she introduced the general objectives of the master's program and how they will be achieved during this academic semester, while Dr. Mohammed al-Sabahi presented an introduction to the skills of academic writing.

During the next session, the meeting was centered on the scientific research methodology, where Dr. Saleh Humaid gave a lecture on gender-oriented research methodology. He also touched on the other types and approaches of methodological research and how they can be utilized in the field of gender. The lecture was based on mutual interaction between the lecturer and the students, with the aim

of delivering the main concept while bringing about other ideas through brainstorming.

Dr. Abdulwahab Abdulqader has also contributed to this part of the meeting by introducing gender-based research methodology from statistical perspective. On the third meeting, the students were chiefly exposed to how they can map out a research plan, in addition to an introduction to development that was presented as a recapitulation of what the third batch students have learnt and experienced over the past years.

These first academic meetings were concluded on Saturday, November 26, with library searching, where the GDRSC librarian has introduced the fourth batch students to the research aspects.

## Legal Window

### The Importance of Resolution No. 2000/1325 for Enhancing Women's Role in Peacemaking

Yemen and the Arab Region have been exhausted by multifaceted and protracted conflicts and crises; the unrest has spawned more obstacles that stand on the way to ensuring full participation of women in the civil society. However, extremism has become the most serious of all challenges and obstacles facing Yemen and the Arab region in all.

In response, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has adopted the Resolution No. 1325 under the subject: "Women, Peace and Security in October 31, 2000."

The Resolution recognizes the disproportionate impacts of the conflicts on women and girls, and calls for the adoption of a gender-based perspective to consider the special needs of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict settings.

It also calls for attention to the importance of the role of women in:

- 1- Preventing and resolving conflicts
- 2 - P e a c e Negotiations
- 3- Peace-building
- 4- Peacekeeping
- 5- Humanitarian Response
- 6- Post-conflict Reconstruction

The Resolution No. 1325, in fact, stresses on the importance of the women's participation on an equal footing in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security; it urges all actors to increase the participation of women and the integration of a gender perspective in all the United Nations efforts for peacekeeping and security. The Resolution also calls on all parties to the conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, especially sexual abuse in armed conflict situations.

The Resolution specifies a number of important executive orders that have repercussions on the Member States and the United Nations system of entities.

It has now been 15 years since the adoption of Resolution No. 1325, but there are still gaps especially in the Arab World, where radical leaders enjoyed significant impacts on not applying it. Through the reviews of 21 countries in the Arab region, it has been concluded that women do not participate in the decision-making process in all ways and forms, including peace talks and security. The reviews showed that efforts to ensure a sensitive response to the gender crisis and to prevent conflict, have come under the criteria stated in the relevant Resolutions regarding women, peace, security and accountability frameworks, especially in light of the increasing numbers of refugees and displaced persons.

We emphasize on the protection of women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, especially during armed conflicts, - facilitating access to justice and legal empowerment,

- increasing women's participation and the integration of a gender-based perspective in the political and economic participation,
- translating the Resolution No. 1325 into reality,
- supporting women in a way they become active participants in the community, and
- calling for reforms of the discriminatory laws and practices that reduce and prevent the promotion of peace and security and the protection of women and girls in all aspects of public and private life.

\* Professor of International Law and Deputy Director of the GDRSC



Dr. Mariam al-Jawfi\*

## GDRSC Marks World Women's Day at Sana'a University



### By: Dr. Saleh Humid

On March 7, 2016, the GDRSC held a celebration at the University of Sana'a to mark the anniversary of World Women's Day that coincides on March 8.

Dr. Mariam Al-Jawfi delivered the opening speech, in which she welcomed all the attendees from the Sana'a University faculty members and the Mass Media students from various universities.

Dr. Al-Jawfi also spoke of the historical background of the World Women's Day, pointing out how this anniversary has become internationally recognized. Addressing the Yemeni women, she touched on their current reality in light of the ongoing war in the country, where they have so far been largely affected as their husbands and sons are being involved in the conflict.

Then, Dr. Saleh Humaid, Professor of Public Communication at Sana'a University and GDRSC researcher, presented a research paper under the title: "The Image

of Yemen's Women in TV Drama Series during Ramadan & its Relation to the Community's Stereotyped Culture" - an analytical study of Hammi Hammak (My Concern is Yours) Drama Series, 2015, al-Sa'eeda Satellite Channel.

Dr. Huomaid presented the three elements of the study that incorporates the methodological, the theoretical and the empirical frameworks. Moreover, as he presented the chapters of his study, Dr. Huomaid attributed his thesis argument to the stereotyped image of the Yemeni women in the local media outlets. He also pointed out the recurrence of that stereotyped image in HammiHammak, which presents a passive picture of the Yemeni women.

This TV drama series depicts the Yemeni woman as a housemaid whose presence is confined to the kitchen; and as usual, a woman under the man's control when it comes to making decisions within the family. Also, in case she doesn't give birth to male babies, the Yemeni woman will sure

have to face polygamy as her husband will another wife, or will have to be divorced. At the end, the session was enriched as the professors and the students in attendance had interacted effectively. The next session began with a presentation of a documentary entitled: "Forgotten Women", a graduation project done by Mass Media students at Sana'a University.

The documentary sheds light on woman inmates at the Central Prison, who have faced injustice and have been overlooked by both the state authorities and the family members that disowned them; it's really a twofold distress. The documentary also depicts the true affliction on the reality of Yemeni women, where the cited events had a great impact on all the attendees in the hall.

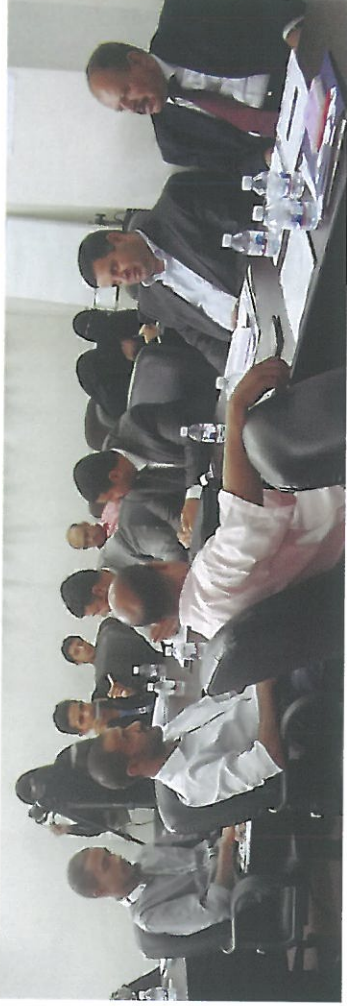
At the end, the session was enriched by various academic interactions. Dr. Ahmed Motahar Aqabat, the Rector's advisor, along with the directors of the University centers and a large number of mass media students attended the celebration.





## GRDSC Holds

# A Seminar on Child Labor Policy in Yemen



**Sana'a – Saba News Agency**

The GRDSC at Sana'a University held on Wednesday, August 17, a seminar in cooperation with Heya Center for Public Policy to discuss Child Labor Policy in Yemen.

The seminar, which was attended by 30 specialists, sociologist scholars and Sana'a University professors, as well as representatives from the media and the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), sought to lay down integrated policies for the

core problems of child labor.

The seminar touched on the roles that should be assumed by the government authorities and the CSOs to protect those children who have been forced by the harsh economic conditions to take on works, in addition to protecting them from the potential risks on their physical, mental and psychological growth. It also touched on the importance of developing code of practice that guarantees child protection from all

kinds of economic exploitations.

At the beginning of this seminar, GRDSC Deputy Director Mariam al-Jawfi valued the efforts, which Heya Center has been making to support development while focusing on gender issues.

Al-Jawfi stated that the GRDSC is keen to support the participation of women in various fields as partners of men in the building and development process.

For his part, Director of Heya Center Ahmed al-Masri pointed to the importance of laying down effective procedures to tackle the phenomenon of child labor, especially during the current circumstances facing Yemen. He also stressed on the need for all authorities to take up their roles in this regard, and indicated to the big role of media in shedding light on such a phenomenon that impedes the progress of the society.

The Field Coordinator of Heya Center, Nermeen al-Jabri, presented an overview of the center and its recent activities.



## GRDSC, Hand in Hand Foundation Hold Consultative Meeting

In August, a consultative meeting was held in the GRDSC building at the University of Sana'a. The meeting, which was attended by the directors of both the GRDSC and the Hand in Hand Foundation for Development, (Yadh Byad Foundation for Development) discussed mutual partnership that focuses on integrating gender in the strategic plans of the CSOs, and on the youth's roles in development.

The meeting also came as a prelude to a mutual agreement to be signed off by the GRDSC and the Hand in Hand Foundation.

It is worth mentioning that the Hand in Hand Foundation started off their voluntary/charitable activities in 2012 with a main focus on development, training, youth and women, as well as orphans. It also focuses on encouraging youth to carry out voluntary/charitable activities.

## YWU in Ibb Continues to Aid GBV-displaced Women

**Ibb – Saba News Agency**  
Head of Yemen's Women Union (YWU) bureau in Ibb, stressed on the importance of activating the referral and liaison system to engage the authorities in concern, so as to provide services to women who became displaced due to Gender-based Violence (GBV). Hayat al-Kayna'ee, the Head of YWU bureau in Ibb, told Saba News Agency that "the union continues to provide services to GBV-displaced women

through the police stations, the judiciary and the local councils, as well as the hospitals and other health centers." She explained that the YWU aims to provide consultations and help to those women, indicating that the union also provides healthcare to both women and children who have been subjected to violence. She also said that the union deals with the mental cases through sessions conducted by psychiatrists, in addition to providing free-of-charge medicines.

## YWU Supports Women, Community During a Year of Saudi Aggression

**By Amriyyah al-Moraiti**  
**Sana'a – Saba News Agency**

Yemen's Women Union (YWU) has carried out several programs to empower women and support their causes, as well as activate their roles in the field of peace and emergency projects in light of the deteriorated humanitarian situation caused by the Saudi-led/US-backed aggression on our country.

A recent YWU report, reviewed by Saba News Agency, indicates to the yearlong support activities for women and society, which the union has staged since the beginning of the aggression that has affected the Yemenis, especially children and women, and the blockade that has displaced thousands of families.

According to the report, YWU teams have conducted 1400 field visits to the targeted provinces in order to gather information about the total count of the displaced families and the hosting families while identifying their basic needs of shelter, food, drinking water and sewerage, and then report to the UNHCR for discussing the possibility of meeting such needs. The report indicates that the YWU has carried out an emergency project for distributing clean drinking water in addition to sanitation services, which targeted the displaced and the hosting families altogether, with the aim of enhancing their health by reducing the spreading of water-related diseases.

Clean drinking water has been delivered to at least 700 displaced families, while 3,080 IDPs and hosting families the Districts of Amran and Raida have been accordingly assisted with sanitation and sewerage services.

In these two districts, the union has distributed water distillers to the displaced families and 1,252 medical kits and 1,252 women's Karama kits to the targeted families. Another 1,400 displaced families were empowered to apply the safe conduct of cleanliness, in addition to forming 22 community committees of both men and women, who have been trained. A group of the trained men and women has been selected to volunteer in implementing the health and environment awareness program.



The report also pointed out that the union has implemented an emergency response project for the legal protection of the IDPs and the most vulnerable categories in conflict-stricken areas. This aimed to alleviate the suffering of the IDPs through awareness campaigns and legal support in the districts of Raida, Amran and Khamer in the province of Amran.

The project has included three protection groups that were trained on how to protect women and girls, in addition to supporting the self-referral process, providing 60 women with legal support, and assisting 120 displaced women through social mediation.

Moreover, 12 seminars on protection were conducted, targeting 240 women, together with 144 awareness sessions for 3,105 stakeholders in the targeted districts in Amran. With regard to emergency response, the union has also conducted a joint response project for reducing the crisis in Yemen, which aimed to assist 3,280 IDPs and more than 5,000 hosting communities in their urgent needs of clean drinking water, sanitation and sewerage in Districts of Raida, Kharef and Yazeed Mountain in Amran province. This was intended to reduce the spreading of water-related diseases. The project has optimized the chances of getting clean drinking water and supplementary health

needs. It also conducted volunteering activities regarding sanitation and sewerage with the aim of protection from diseases such as diarrhea. At least 552 displaced and hosting families have received clean drinking water. Moreover, according to the report, the union has carried out a project for tracking the movement and the needs of the IDPs, in an attempt to provide accurate and updated information about them and their needs in the most conflict-affected areas that require humanitarian intervention.

The project has directly targeted the displaced and hosting families in the capital Secretariat of Sana'a, Hodeida, Dhamar, Mahweel and Sa'adah- with three districts in each province. This was intended to build the capacity of 108 field coordinators by training them on how to collect information on the IDPs and their needs.

During the past year, the union has been active in deploring the aggression, by issuing statements and staging sit-ins that condemn the silence of the international rights groups regarding the atrocities in Yemen.

The union has also held meetings with the leaderships of the political and civil parties and organizations in an attempt to solve the political crisis and discuss the humanitarian situations in the conflict-stricken areas, and to eventually come out with a vision to be handed over to the

United Nations representative in Yemen. Also, during the past year the union has conducted a project for combating Gender-based Violence (GBV) in the provinces of Sana'a, Aden, Lahj, Abyan, Shabwa, Marib, Amran, Hajjah, Sa'adah, al-Bayda, Hodeida and Taiz. This project was funded by the UNFPA, and provided health, psychological and legal services, in addition to shelters for 5,394 stakeholders. It also provided psychological rehab services for GBV victims by distributing Karama Kits to 88 families, and coaching 460 trainers and training 260 male and female trainees on GBV and how to refer the cases to the specialists.

The union has also held 248 psychological support sessions along with 111 other sessions on GBV awareness and how to refer the cases to the aid workers; 6,660 male and female IDPs in schools and camps were targeted. Databases were optimized in 12 provinces, in addition to documenting 5,047 violations during the time of conflicts and wars in 12 provinces.

Also, the report mentioned that the union has carried out a development project for peace. This project was conducted in Sana'a, Aden and Taiz in partnership with Youth Leaders Development Foundation and CARE organization, and was funded by the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Netherlands. The project has targeted two districts in each of the three provinces, and its emergency-related activities focused on distributing seven water tanks in seven neighborhood in Sho'oub district, in addition to providing 42 water trucks to these areas, from which 25,200 families have benefited.

The report also indicated that has supported two initiatives: "Let us rule" and "Salam Youth", which aimed to carry out various emergency-related activities of six training courses that targeted 120 male and female trainees. The training courses were centered on carpentry, electronics, solar appliances, couture, coffee and income-making.

Also, 90 shows of five movies were displayed in the targeted provinces, which addressed good citizenship & equality, development, volunteering, peace, conflict resolution and democracy.