

Le Centre National de Recherches

Préhistoriques, Anthropologiques et Historiques

Organise

Dans le cadre de la manifestation

« Alger 2007, Capitale de la culture arabe »

et sous le haut patronage de Madame Khalida Toumi, Ministre de la Culture

COLLOQUE INTERNATIONAL

sur

‘Women and Knowledge in The Contemporary Arab World’

To enrich the various shows of ‘Algeria, the Capital of Arabic Culture in 2007’ , the National Center of Prehistoric Researches, Anthropology and History will organize a symposium about ‘Women and Knowledge in The Contemporary Arab World’ in Algiers from the 8th to the 10th of December 2007.

Entering the fields of knowledge is one of the pledges that Arab women faced and worthily traversed during the 20th century.

Focusing on the developing course special to every Arab country, it is important to note that there is a group of realities and historical events which have imposed their conditions and, thus, affected the development and the promotion of our societies. The colonial intrusion and the social transformations that resulted from it created a very difficult era/epoch because of the variety of struggles both of resistance and for liberation.

All along that period, the various forms of colonial pressures and the hard effects of the patriarchal system reacted and allied either to keep women in a situation of great dependence or to put them away from the fields of knowledge.

It is, therefore, sufficient to include numbers/statistics to express the numerous efforts that were employed to teach / instruct boys and, more specifically, girls to display one of the most horrible/hideous and cruelest aspects of colonial repression: the depravation from the universal right in education and instruction for all children...

Everyone knows that the era of independence has provoked a big enthusiasm that facilitates the registration of world and universal principles such as equality between men and women, and the right for education/instruction in the articles of Arabic constitutions. The generalization of teaching and its fast growth in all levels have led to establish a course which brought women to the various fields of universal knowledge even if we notice the relatively slow procedure and the orientation towards some branches that are considered secondary and, thus, diminish /lessen their (women) value.

Nowadays, we register and notice that women, in the Arab world, are present in almost all the branches and specialities. Moreover, their contributions in the field of researches are specific and not negligible despite their fewness.

Accordingly, a real development in all domains and an increasing rate of females-learners have been registered in the majority of our/Arab countries. It is obvious, therefore, that the road to equality is still long and that ways of discrimination and domination have not disappeared yet. Also, the Arab countries policies are generally conflicting with (the) society aspirations and women perspectives and ambitions.

Consequently, we should record/register all what has been done and realized by taking care and paying attention to the various mechanisms that are always looking for the way to curb advancement/progress and carry discrimination from one domain to the other.

Aiming at covering all the present situations in order to overstep them, we propose/suggest some axes of thinking that help analyzing the historical, social and cultural courses which control the emergence of women in the fields of knowledge; and also in resisting this trend and the various mechanisms of direct and indirect dispersion that really hamper progress and liberation. These situations will be discussed in workshops, round tables and general lectures...

1. Women, Education And Teaching : Reality And Outlooks Or Perspectives

2. Arab Women And Scientific Research

· In Social And Human Sciences

· In Exact Sciences

3. Women and Artistic Creativity.

This symposium aims at evaluating and straightening the presence and the place of women in every stage of scientific research, knowledge and creativity by analysing the historical and social mechanisms and courses that make this participation possible and recording the different stumbling sites and the way to exceed them.