



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

Legal Reform and Political Change Affecting Women in the MENA Region

Tuesday 12 June, 2012, St Antony's College

Supported by the St Antony's Development Fund and the Middle East Centre

09:00 Registration with coffee and tea (foyer of the Hilda Besse Building)

Nissan Lecture Theatre

09:30 Keynote lecture by Ziba Mir-Hosseini (SOAS): **In Search of Equality: the Politics and Hermeneutics of Muslim Family Law Reform.**

10:30-12:45 Legal Reforms in Theory and Practice (discussant Katja Žvan Elliott, University of Oxford)

Lina Mohammed Kassem (Qatar University): Qatar and women's rights: to lead or to follow?

Rania Maktabi (Ostfold University College): Comparing family law reform in the MENA: Reflections on regional patterns following economic globalization.

Lena-Maria Möller (Max-Planck-Institute Hamburg): Custody regulations in the United Arab Emirates: Legal reforms and social realities.

Dörthe Engelcke (University of Oxford): Changing state-society relations in Morocco through family law reform: "the state enters the home of the citizen."

14:00-16:30 Politicizing Women and Women's Issues (discussant Dörthe Engelcke, University of Oxford)

Alice Wilson (University of Cambridge): Gender, voting and quotas in an experimental democracy: Western Sahara's Parliament in exile.

Nova Robinson (Rutgers University, the State University of New Jersey): Before the "Days of Rage": Registers of Bahraini Women's Activism.

Burcu Ozcelik (University of Cambridge): Political reconciliation as women's democratic citizenship: Women's rights-claiming around the drafting of a new constitution in Turkey.

Sarah Fischer (American University): The Impact of European Court of Human Rights' Decisions and Turkish Code Reforms Pertaining to the Headscarf on Islamist Women in Turkey: Enabling Emancipation or Legitimizing Discrimination?

16:30 Coffee and tea break (foyer of the Hilda Besse Building)

The Buttery:

17:00 Concluding lecture by Saiyad Ahmad (American University Cairo): Balancing Reason and Revelation: The Status of Women in the Jurisprudence of Ayatullah Yusuf Sani'i.

17:45-18:15 Concluding remarks

The conference is free of charge, but as spaces are limited please register by sending your name and affiliation to legalreformconference@gmail.com