

Conference Program:
Muslim women's Challenges in the Middle East and Beyond

Venue: Radisson Blu Scandinavia Hotel, Holbergsgate 30, Oslo

Time: 25.-26. October 2013, 09.30-16.00

Registration by e-mail to: s.m.igesund@nchr.uio.no by no later than 10. October 2013

Friday 25. October 2013

09.30-09.45 Welcome by Lena Larsen, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights

09.45-10.30 Key note speech: Ziba Mir-Hosseini (SOAS: London): *Justice, Equality and Muslim Family Laws: Challenges and Opportunities.*

10.30-10.45 Coffee Break

10.45-12.15 **Session I: The life of the family - legal and social approaches**

Moderator: Anne Hege Grung, Faculty of Theology

Mulki al-Sharmani (University of Helsinki): *Feminist Religious Knowledge and Gender Activism in the Family Domain: Reflections from Post-Islamist Egypt.*

Aicha al-Hajjami (Morocco): *Le Code de la famille marocain dix après sa promulgation: obstacles et défis (The Moroccan Family Code, ten years after its enactment: obstacles and challenges).*

Batool al-Toma (UK): *Muslim converts and their attitudes towards isolation, Sharia courts, Muslim scholarship, marriage, domestic violence and sexuality.*

12.15-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.30 **Session II: Legal approaches to Muslim women's challenges**

Moderator: Ragnhild Zorgati, Institute for Cultural and Oriental Studies

Lynn Welchman (SOAS, London): *Qiwamah and wilayah as legal postulates in modern family laws.*

Rania Maktabi (Østfold University College): *Female citizenship and family law in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA): Political Transition or Old Rules with New Rulers?*

Monica Lindbekk (University of Oslo): *Challenges Facing the Enforcement of CEDAW in Egypt.*

15.30-16.00 Discussion



Saturday 26. October 2013

09.30-11.00 **Session III: Democracy vs. Women's rights?**

Moderator: Anne Hege Grung, Faculty of Theology

Dalenda Largueche (le Centre de recherche d'études, de documentation et d'information sur la femme (Credif), Tunisia). *Tunisian Women's Rights and the challenge of the political Islam.*

Maike Vorhoove (Netherlands): *Tunisian Debates on Women's Rights - Before and After the Revolution Compared.*

Mona Abdel-Fadil (Fafo, Oslo): *Playing the Shame and Blame Game: Public Debate on Sexual Assaults in Tahrir Square.*

11.00-11.15 Coffee Break

11.15-12.15 **Session III (continues): Democracy vs. Women's rights?**

Moderator: Anne Hege Grung, Faculty of Theology

Dima Dabbous (Institute for women's studies in the Arab World, Lebanese American University): *The Controversy around the Draft Law to Protect Women from Family Violence: the case of Lebanon.*

Sadigheh Vasmaki (Uppsala/Iran): *Shariah, Muslim Women's basic challenge.*

12.15-13.30 Lunch

13.30-15.00 **Session IV: New conservative interpretations of women's questions**

Moderator: Lena Larsen, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights

Maryam Borghée Ecole pratique des hautes études (Paris): *Sociology of a Paradox. On the practice of wearing niqab in France.*

Kristina Großmann (Goethe University): *Muslim women activists in the implementation of the Islamic Criminal Code in Aceh Indonesia.*

Lanny Octavia (Yayasan Rumah Kita Bersama, Indonesia): *Three Reasons Why Islamic Fundamentalism is Attractive to Women.*

15.00-15.15 Coffee Break

15.15-16.00 **Panel discussion**

Moderator: Ragnhild Zorgati, Institute for Cultural and Oriental Studies

Panel: Lynn Welchman, Mulki al-Sharmani, Dalenda Largueche, Batool al-Toma and Maryam Borghée.