

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Sharifa Khalfan al-Yahyai
Former Minister of Social Development
Academic and specialist in women Studies (Oman &GCC).

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Achievements in National Policies:

Focused to enhancing policies related to the empowerment of women, children, disabled and the elderly through introducing new strategies, policies, regulations, amending existing laws and joining new international conventions aligned with the international policies in social development.

Examples of that include:

Amending National Laws:

1. Amending the land granting law to include women regardless of their social status issued by the Royal Decree number (125/2008).
2. Establishing the National Committee of Human Rights under the Royal Decree (124/2008).
3. Organized the first national women symposium in the Sultanate as directed by His Majesty the Sultan of Oman which resulted in assigning October 17th as the national Omani Women's Day by HM.
4. Amending the Omani passport law (69/1997) to grant the Omani wife an independent Omani passport without her guardian's approval.
5. Royal Decree No 55/2010 which amended the Judicial Authority Law and the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law to exclude from the competence of the Preliminary Courts and the Courts of the Appeal the power to examine cases relating to the objections against marriages, and instead allow women to resort to the Supreme Court to examine her plea, and appeal to His Majesty within 30 days of the issuance of the statement of claims.

Oman joining International Conventions:

- Oman joined the Convention of Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in May 2005 and a national committee has been formed with a Ministerial Decision (248/2005) to prepare the first national report that was presented in the UN in October 2011.
- Oman joined the Convention of the Disabled in December 2006.

Prepare and Review National Laws and Regulations:

- Law of the Juveniles issued by a Royal Decree number (30/2008)
- Law of the Disabled issued by a Royal Decree number (63/2008)
- Law of the Child issued by a Royal Decree number (22/2014)

Prepare Regulations and Ministerial Decisions to regulate social work in Oman from 2004 – 2011:

Regulation Number	Regulation
12/2007	The National Committee of Family Affairs
94/2008	Issuing Disabled Card
124/2008	Centers for Rehabilitation of the Disabled
120/2010	Amendment in Issuing Disabled Card
212/2012	Child Care Centre
294/2013	Family Consultation Centres
259/2013	Juveniles Centre

Ministerial Decision	Ministerial Decision Number
Issuing regulations of family care nursery	49/2007
Establishing Social Development committees in various wilayats in Oman	17/2009
Issuing rules and regulations of fund raising from the public	53/2010
Regulations of issuing Disabled card	120/2010
Regulations of Juvenile Centre	126/2010
Regulations to combat beggary groups	21/2011
Regulations of HM's award for Social Work	128/2012
Regulations of the National Committee of Family Affairs	146/2012
Home Care Program for the Elderly	254/2012

Other Achievements:

- HM's Declaration of HM's Award of Voluntary Work and its regulations in 2009.
- Prepare and review national strategies such as the National Strategy of Women's Development, National Strategy of Education, and National Research Strategy among others.

Professional & Work experience:

- 2011- Present: researcher in women studies in Oman & GCC.
- 2011- present: A member of the Arab business women Council – Arab League.
- Oct- 2016: A member of The Arab women Foundation- Dubai UAE.
- Oct 2016: A member of The Advisory board at University of Business and Technology- Jeddah – Saudi Arabia Kingdom.
- Oct. 2004-Mar.2011: The Minister of Social Development - Sultanate of Oman
- 2001 - 2004: Assistant Professor: Sultan Qaboos University, College of Arts and Social Sciences, Dept. of Arabic Language & Literature, MCT, PC 123, Sultanate of Oman.
- 1995–2000: Assistant Lecturer: Sultan Qaboos University, College of Arts and Social Sciences, Dept. of Arabic Language & Literature, Sultanate of Oman.

Academic Qualifications:

1. Ph.D. (Middle Eastern Studies), 2001, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, United Kingdom.
2. MA. (Modern Arabic Literature), 1995, Sultan Qaboos University, College

of Arts and Social Sciences, Department of Arabic Language & Literature.

3. BA. (Arabic Language & Literature), 1992, Sultan Qaboos University, College of Arts and Social Sciences, Department of Arabic Language & Literature. Sultanate of Oman.

Languages:

- English: Fluent.
- Arabic: Fluent (mother tongue).

Teaching/Supervision Experience: -

2011- present: Visiting lecturer at SQU- College of Arts and Social science.

2001 – 2004: Taught various Graduate and Undergraduate courses at the Department of Arabic & Literature, College of Arts and Social Sciences, SQU, MCT, PC123, Sultanate of Oman.

2001 – 2004: Supervised/participated in supervision of a number of Theses and Dissertations at the post-graduate level.

1997-2000: taught Arabic for Non-speakers Students. The University of Leeds.

Publications:

1. "The Prose Poem in Oman its Appearance and Development" published in Journal of Human Sciences, Issue no. 8, summer 2004. University of Bahrain.
2. "The Manifestations of Places in the Omani Short Story: A Thematic Approach". Published in Arab Journal for the Humanities, issue no, 86, spring 2004, 22th year. The Academic publication Council, Kuwait University.
3. Studies in Modern Arabian Gulf Literature, edited by dr. sharifa al-yahyai and dr. Aiman Maidan. Dar al-massira, 2004.
4. Omani Women's Poem: Deconstructing Cultural and social values. Referred paper presented in SQU College of Arts & Social sciences conference 2015 (IN Arabic) published by Arab Diffusion, Beirut 2016

Academic participation: Mar2011- to present:

1. 2nd Global Summit for Women- Istanbul, Turkey, May 2011
2. Presenting paper on "Omani Women's Rights between legislations and Social Practice and Values", Cambridge, GRC, July 2011.
3. Presenting a paper on "Omani Business Women: Opportunities and Challenges", 18th International DAVO Conference, Free University, Berlin, German, 6-8 Oct 2011.
4. Lecture on "Social and Cultural Values that hinder Arabian Gulf Women", in The Cultural and Media Center for H.H. Sheikh Sultan Bin Zayed al-Nihyan, H.H. The President Representative. 23. Oct 2011
5. Participating at Gender and women studies in the Arab World conference at the American Univeristy Sharjah 7-9 March 2012
6. Presenting a paper on Oman experience in women empowerment, 8th annual conference, Kuwait University 27-29 March 2012
7. Women and leading change, Bahrain, March 2012.

8. Board member of the Arab business women- 2012- present
9. Omani women rights between legislations and practice on the occasion of Omani women day 20 Oct. 2014
10. Arab business women in making decision – MEDays- Tangier, Morocco – 13-15 Nov. 2014
11. A keynote speaker in Developing Youth Leadership- Qatar University 17-18 Nov. 2014.
12. A speaker in the second session (Our economy on International map). in The 63rd FCEM World Congress, Bahrain 22-26 March 2015.
13. The Masculinization of values and traditions in the Gulf Societies, paper presented in The Escalation of Violence Against Women in the Mena Region, 29-31 May 2015, Fez Morocco. ISIS Center for Woman and Development.
14. Education and The Empowerment of Gulf Women, paper presented in Gulf Studies Forum, Arab Center for Research & Policy Studies, 5-7 December 2015. Doha, Qatar.
15. Keynote speaker in The University of Manchester, center for the Advanced Study of the Arab World, School of Arts, languages and Cultures. Symposium on Women, Empowerment, Citizenship and Development. 28-29 January 2016.
16. A referee for Arab Center for Research & Policy Studies, Doha- Qatar.
17. A speaker on Omani Women's Rights 1970s & beyond at Center for International Learning (CIL). Muscat, 12th April 2016.
18. A speaker at the Building Women Capacity Workshop in The Gulf Education & Exhibition Conference in 22-23 February 2017 held in University of Business & Technology, Jeddah. KSA.
19. A speaker on Oman Experience in Women Empowerment at The Qatif Investment Forum held in Qatif on 25-26 February 2017.
20. A speaker in 3rd World Conference on Women's Studies 2017 about "Breaking the Glass Ceiling in Omani Women's Social Life", held on 4-5 May 2017. Colombo, Sri Lanka.
21. Participate as a panelist in The Gulf & Jordanian Economic Forum 27-28 September 2017. Amman, Jordan
22. A speaker on "How to Be the First in Your Field", in Women's SME 2017 Conference. Dubai 3-4 October, 2017.

Conventions; Conferences; Councils' Participation; and Presentations Oct,2004- Mar 2011: (for Examples)

- Participated in the first Women's Summit in Putrajaya, Malaysia. October 2010.
- Headed and organized the first symposium of the Omani women which was held in the Royal camp in Sohar, Oman, Oct. 2009.
- Attended the launch of the book "Women in the Concept and Issues of Human Security: Arab and International Perspectives" by the Arab women organization at the Geneva International Conference Center. Geneva, Switzerland. July, 2010
- Headed the Omani delegation to Malaysia to observe their experience in social development. February 2010.
- Participated in the World Family Summit +5 "Families in Balance" – Achieving Gender Equality. Istanbul, Turkey. December 2009.
- Chaired the twenty-sixth session of the GCC Social Affairs Ministers Council. Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. November 2009.
- Attended the first Meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Third

Conference of the Arab Women Organization. Cairo, Egypt. November 2009.

- Attended the fourth meeting of the Women's Committee by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) under the theme of “enhancing economic partnership of Arab women. Beirut, Lebanon. October 2009.
- Attended the fifty-first session of the Child Rights Committee that aims to discuss the Sultanate's reports on the two protocols of the Child Rights Convention. Geneva, Switzerland. June 2009.
- Attended the Fourth Meeting of the Supreme Council of the Arab Women Organization. Tunisia. June 2009.
- Participated in the Eighteenth Meeting of the Committee on the office of the Executive Board of the Arab Women Organization and the seventh unordinary meeting of the Executive Board of the organization. Tunisia. June 2009.
- Attended the opening ceremony and the activities of Cooperative Society Forum. Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. May 2009.
- Participated as a member of Oman’s Delegation to the “First regular Arab Summit”, and “The twenty-second Summit of the Arab and South American States”. Doha, Qatar. March 2009.
- Attended the Second Arab Conference for “The Protection of the Family from Domestic Violence. Amman, Jordan. Feb. 2009.
- Attended the regular meetings of the twenty-eighth session of the Council of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs. Cairo, Egypt. Dec. 2008
- Participated in the “Third World Congress against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents” and delivered a speech regarding the Omani government initiatives against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents. Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Nov., 2008.
- Attended the Second Ministerial Conference on Women of The Organization of The Islamic Conference. Egypt. Nov., 2008.
- Attended the meeting of the twenty-fifth session of the Council of Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs of the GCC countries (social sector). Doha, Qatar. Nov. 2008
- Attended the Second Conference of the Arab Women Organization. Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Nov. 2008.
- Attended a series of Official meetings regarding “The Chinese Experience in Achieving social development”. China. Oct. 2008.
- Attended and addressed the Arab International Women's Forum “Partners for Change: Realizing the Potential of Arab Women in the Private and Public Sectors”. Washington DC, United States of America. June 2008.
- Participated in the Middle East Regional Forum of Local and Regional Women Entrepreneurs. Athens, Greece. June 2008.
- Attended the First Regional Conference on “Caring for the Elderly“. Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. April 2008.
- Attended a meeting of the General Assembly at the senior official’s level in the United Nations headquarters on “childhood +5”. New York, United States of America. Dec. 2007.
- Attended the Twenty-fourth session of the Council of Ministers of Labor and Social Affairs (the social affairs and development sector of the GCC Arab Countries). Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Nov. 2007.
- Attended the third meeting of the Supreme Council of the Arab Women Organization. Abu Dhabi – United Arab Emirates. May 2007.
- Attended the First International Conference on "Children between the Mother

tongue and Communication in the present era". Doha, Qatar. Feb. 2007.

- Participated in a seminar on "Muslim Women in a Contemporary World" at Sultan Qaboos Centre for Islamic Culture. Presented a paper entitled "The Active Participation of the Omani Women in the Society". Muscat, Oman. Feb. 2007.
- Attended the twenty-sixth ordinary session of the Council of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs at the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States. Cairo, Egypt. Dec. 2006.
- Attended the International Symposium on "Modernity, Development, and human rights". Tunisia, Dec., 2006.
- Attended a conference on Women's Rights in the Arab world entitled "From Words to Deeds". Sanaa, Yemen. Dec. 2005.
- Attended the twenty-third session of the Council of Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs of the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries (GCC). Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Nov. 2005
- Participated in the Omani Exhibition & Activities. Washington, United States of America. June 2005.
- Attended the second meeting of the "Supreme Council for Women". Kingdom of Bahrain, June 2005
- Participated in the Ministerial Meeting on "Empowering Women in Facing the Challenges of Globalization". Putrajaya, Malaysia, May, 2005.
- Participated in the preparatory consultative meetings for a Pan-Arab comprehensive research on "The Dimensions and pillars of cohesion in the Arab family". Sharjah - United Arab Emirates, Feb. 2005.
- Attended the twenty-fourth session of the Council of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs at the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States. Cairo, Egypt. Dec. 2004.

Membership in Specialized Councils & Associations: -

- Head of the National family affairs Committee 2004-2011.
- Head of the National committee for the international convention of CEDAW 2005-2011.
- Head of the National committee of Care for the Disabled 2004-2011.
- Member of the "Higher Education Council", Sultanate of Oman. 2004 - 2011.
- Member of the "Research Council", Sultanate of Oman. 2007 – 2011.
