



ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WOMEN AND ISLAMIC CULTURES

Women in the STEM field: Arab Region

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- ❖ The 2010 United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) report that more than half of all college science undergraduates in the Palestinian Authority, Oman, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, Bahrain, Qatar and Jordan, are women.¹
- ❖ According to 2007 data on the total number of scientific researchers by region, women account for about 40% of researchers in the STEM field in West Asia.²
- ❖ In 2006, women accounted for more than 41% of PhD students in the STEM field in Algeria, 38% in Egypt, 31% in Morocco and 29% in Saudi Arabia.³
- ❖ The annual L'Oréal–UNESCO Awards for Women in Science awards \$100, 000 to five female scientists, one from each continent, who are making great advances in the field. Between 1998 and 2010, five out of the 13 recipients in the Africa and Arab States region, were from West Asia.⁴
- ❖ The British Council and Qatar University launched the first Women in Science Day in 2011 to celebrate the achievements and leadership of female scientists.⁵
- ❖ In 2011, the Masdar Institute of Science and Technology, jointly established by the Government of Abu Dhabi, UAE, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, initiated efforts to provide women with the resources to become pioneers and innovators in a green economy and leaders in clean energy related fields.⁶
- ❖ Girls in Tech Egypt is a branch of Girls in Tech (GIT), a global organization that was created in February 2007. GIT Egypt offers a various number of resources to women such as mini-conferences and network meetings in order to advance the professional and educational goals of women in the field.⁷
- ❖ Starting in 2009, the U.S. State Department's Middle East and North Africa Environment, Science, Technology, and Health Office has inducted women from Egypt, Bahrain, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, Israel, U.A.E., Oman, Jordan, Yemen, the Palestinian Territories, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq into the "Women in Science Hall of Fame."⁸

¹ http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/Worldswomen/WW_full%20report_color.pdf

² United Nations Publications. 2010. "The World's Women 2010: Trends and Statistics." p.70.

³ http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SC/pdf/sc_usr10_arab_states_EN.pdf

⁴ http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SC/pdf/sc_usr10_arab_states_EN.pdf

⁵ http://www.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/58/csw58_issues_paper_review_theme_14_feb_2014_fin al%20pdf.ashx

⁶ http://www.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/58/csw58_issues_paper_review_theme_14_feb_2014_fin al%20pdf.ashx

<http://contexts.org/articles/what-gender-is-science/>

⁷ <http://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2013/05/01/girls-in-tech-launches-first-branch-in-egypt/>

⁸ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2012/03/05/women-advance-science-and-technology-middle-east-and-north-africa>