

Comparative Feminist Studies

Series Editor

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Aims of the Series

COMPARATIVE FEMINIST STUDIES foregrounds writing, organizing, and reflection on feminist trajectories across the historical and cultural borders of nation-states. It takes up fundamental analytic and political issues involved in the cross-cultural production of knowledge about women and feminism, examining in depth the politics of scholarship and knowledge in relation to feminist organizing and social movements. This series draws on feminist thinking in a number of fields, targeting innovative, comparative feminist scholarship; pedagogical and curricular strategies; community organizing, and political education. Volumes in this series will provide systematic and challenging interventions into the (still) largely Euro-Western feminist studies knowledge base, while simultaneously highlighting the work that can and needs to be done to envision and enact cross-cultural, multiracial feminist solidarity. CHANDRA TALPADE MOHANTY is Professor of Women's Studies and Dean's Professor of the Humanities at Syracuse University. Her work focuses on transnational feminist theory, cultural studies, and anti-racist education. She is the author of *Feminism Without Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity* and co-editor of *Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism*, and *Feminist Genealogies, Colonial Legacies, Democratic Futures*. Mohanty has worked with three grassroots community organizations, Grassroots Leadership of North Carolina, Center for Immigrant Families in New York City, and Awareness, Orissa, India, and has been a consultant/evaluator for AAC & U and the Ford Foundation.

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Empowering Women after the Arab Spring

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This edited volume is the product of the first annual international conference hosted by the Women's Rights in the Middle East program at Rice University's James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. The conference was held in Houston, Texas, on April 24, 2014, and featured prominent scholars, policy practitioners, and academics who presented their most up-to-date scholarship on women's rights in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). This cross-disciplinary dialogue aimed to ignite discussions about the roles of Arab women in the political, economic, and public spheres and to shed light on their evolving roles post-Arab Spring. The conference focused on investigating topics ranging from citizenship, political participation, and socioeconomic empowerment to addressing domestic violence across the region. The conference concluded by providing specific policy prescriptions informed by balanced, multifaceted perspectives on gender relations in the Arab world.

The editors would like to thank all the contributors to this edited collection for their continuous effort and dedication to make this project a success over the past years. Notwithstanding the fact that the MENA region is undergoing a process of continuous transformation at the political level and also—and most importantly—on the societal and ideological levels, the authors have remarkably managed to capture the dynamics of this change in their work and to provide one of the most vivid and comprehensive accounts of the challenges and opportunities currently facing women on various levels. We are also very grateful to the anonymous reviewers for their very helpful comments, and to the editors at Palgrave Macmillan for their excellent support and assistance.

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GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

ADFM	Democratic Association of Moroccan Women (Association Démocratique des Femmes du Maroc)
AFEM	Moroccan Businesswomen's Associations (Association des Femmes Chefs d'Enterprises du Maroc)
AFTURD	Association of Tunisian Women for Research on Development (Association des Femmes Tunisiennes pour la Recherche sur le Développement)
ATFD	Association of Democratic Tunisian Women (Association Tunisienne des Femmes Démocrates)
AWO	Arab Women's Organization
CAWTAR	Center of Arab Women for Training and Research
CEDAW	UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CPR	Congress for the Republic; Tunisian political party (Congrès pour la République)
CPS	Personal Status Code, Tunisia's family law (Code du Statut Personnel)
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CREDIF	Tunisian women's research and policy agency (Centre de Recherches, d'Etudes, de Documentation, et de l'Information sur la Femme)
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GONGO	Government-Sponsored NGO
IAF	Islamic Action Front
ILO	International Labor Organization; International Labour Office (secretariat in Geneva)

JNCW	Jordanian National Commission for Women
JWU	Jordanian Women's Union
MOPIC	Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in Jordan
NCA	National Constituent Assembly, Tunisia (in French: Assemblée Constituente Nationale, ANC)
NGO	Non-governmental organization
PJD	Party of Justice and Development, Morocco (Parti du Justice et Développement)
PSU	Unified Socialist Party, Morocco (Parti Socialiste Unifié)
SCW	Supreme Council for Women in Bahrain
UAF	Women's Action Union, Morocco (L'Union d'Action Feminine)
UGTT	General Union of Tunisian Workers (Union Générale des Travailleurs Tunisiens)
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency
USFP	Socialist Union of Popular Forces, political party in Morocco (Union Socialiste des Forces Populaires)

GLOSSARY

<i>‘idda</i>	a three-month “waiting period” after divorce designated to ensure that a woman is not pregnant
<i>‘isma</i>	the marriage knot
<i>‘isyan</i>	willfulness
<i>‘ulama</i>	Muslim clerics
<i>abna’</i>	the oldest of unmarried children
<i>Al-Asalah</i>	a Sunni political party in Bahrain
<i>Al-Menbar</i>	a Sunni political party in Bahrain
<i>al-murahiqā</i>	a teenager
<i>Al-Wa’ad</i>	Bahrain’s largest secular-left political society
<i>Al-Wasat Party</i>	an Islamist political party in Jordan
<i>Al-Watan</i>	a political associated in Bahrain
<i>Al-Watan Al-Hurr</i>	a Bahraini political society created by Layla Al-Rajab
<i>Al-Wafaq</i>	the primary Shiite political association in Bahrain
<i>dalalas</i>	peddlers dayas midwives
<i>Dostour Party</i>	a political party in Tunisia
<i>Ennahda</i>	a moderate Islamist party in Tunisia
<i>Ettakatol</i>	a political party in Tunisia
<i>faqih (pl. fuqaha’)</i>	Muslim scholar(s)
<i>fatawi</i>	juristic opinions
<i>fi ‘ismati</i>	woman married to someone
<i>fiqh</i>	Islamic legal theology
<i>fiqhi</i>	based on Islamic theology
<i>hakim, hakim shar’i</i>	judge
<i>Hashed Party</i>	a Jordanian political party that has members in the Council of Representatives

<i>hifz al-mal</i>	the protection of money and property
<i>hifz al-nasl</i>	the protection of progeny, a central objective of Sharia law
<i>hurma</i>	previously married woman, adult
<i>Istqal Party</i>	aka the Independence Party, a Moroccan political party
<i>jasadi</i>	physical characteristics
<i>jinsiyya</i>	gender, which is one of the three categories of distinction between men and women when God created them.
<i>khul'</i>	a “divorce by ransom” woman initiates divorce from her husband, with the former providing monetary compensation to the latter
<i>ma'alimas</i>	female bosses
<i>maqasid al-shari'a</i>	objectives of Islamic law
<i>mata'iam</i>	religious space in shia tradition
<i>morshidate</i>	female preacher in Morocco
<i>Mudawana</i>	family code in Morocco
<i>mufti</i>	official Islamic legal scholar
<i>nafaqa</i>	the “maintenance” that husbands are required to provide their wives as guardians. Such maintenance includes food, shelter, clothing, and basic services.
<i>nafaqa al-'idda</i>	the type of maintenance a husband provides his wife during 'idda
<i>“Nidaa” Tounès</i>	a coalition of progressive parties created in 2013.
<i>nikah</i>	marriage/sexual relations
<i>nisf</i>	a token of currency
<i>Nour party</i>	a Salafist party in Egypt
<i>nushuz</i>	disobedience or rebellion; in reference to men fearing disobedience or rebellion from women, as stated in Quran 4:34.
<i>parité</i>	equality, parity
<i>qadi</i>	judge
<i>qawama</i>	male guardianship and authority over women
<i>qawwamun</i>	in authority; in reference to men being in authority over women, as stated in Quran 4:34.
<i>qubul shar'i</i>	legal acceptance
<i>rab al-usra</i>	head of family
<i>riyals</i>	a token of currency
<i>sadaq</i>	dowry, paid by the husband to his wife
<i>ta'a</i>	obedience
<i>ta'dib</i>	discipline; in reference to the requirement that husbands discipline their wives.

<i>tabi'atuhuma</i>	natural characteristics, which is one of the three categories of distinction between men and women when God created them.
<i>takfir</i>	charges of apostasy, excommunication
<i>wa-dribubunna</i>	hit them, walk away from them, and/or have sex with them; in reference to the action a husband should take vis-à-vis his wife in situations of her disobedience, as stated in Quran 4:34.
<i>wali</i>	guardian of a woman
<i>waqf</i> (pl. <i>awqaf</i>)	religious endowment
<i>zina</i>	extramarital sex