



ARAB HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2005

Contributors for AHDR 2005

Advisory Board Members

Rima Khalaf Hunaidi is the chairperson of the Advisory Board of the *Arab Human Development Report* (AHDR) and the principal architect of the series. She also chairs the UN Global Democracy Fund Advisory Board, and is a Trustee of the American University of Beirut. She is a regular contributor to regional and international policy forums concerned with the state of development in the Arab world. Between September 2000 and February 2006, she served as Assistant Secretary-General and Director, Regional Bureau for Arab States (RBAS), at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Under her leadership, the Regional Bureau launched the AHDR series, the first issue of which, entitled “Creating Opportunities for Future Generations”, appeared in July 2002 and received the 2003 Prince Claus Award in “recognition of exceptional achievements in the field of culture and development”. The second report, on “Building A Knowledge Society”, came out in October 2003 and the third, “Towards Freedom in the Arab World”, was published in April 2005. The latter received the prestigious King Hussein Leadership Prize, which annually recognizes individuals, groups and institutions that have “demonstrated exceptional leadership in their efforts to advocate for and promote sustainable development, equity, human rights, tolerance and cross-cultural understanding, and peace”. In 2005, the League of Arab States honoured her with its award for “the Most Distinguished Arab Woman in the Field of International Organizations”. Dr. Khalaf Hunaidi has also pioneered important regional initiatives on Arab education, knowledge acquisition and economic growth. Before joining UNDP, she was Deputy Prime Minister of Jordan where, as head of the ministerial economic team, she promoted the drive for economic reform in Jordan while simultaneously working on a package for building human capabilities, alleviating human poverty and strengthening social safety nets. She also served as Minister of Planning and Minister of Industry and Trade; she was also a Senator in the Upper House of the Jordanian Parliament. Dr. Khalaf Hunaidi has a degree in Economics from the American University of Beirut, and holds an MA in Economics and a Doctorate in Systems Science from Portland State University.

Ahmed Kamal Aboulmagd is a Professor of Public Law at Cairo University. He is also a Judge at the World Bank Administrative Tribunal, where he has previously served as President. He is the current Vice-President of the National Council for Human Rights in Egypt. Dr. Aboulmagd occupied many important positions including that of the Legal and Constitutional Adviser for the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Kuwait, and has served as both the Minister of Information and the Minister of Youth in Egypt. Between 1966 and 1971, Dr. Aboulmagd served as a Cultural

Counsellor to the Egyptian Embassy in Washington. In 2001, he co-authored a document endorsed by the General Assembly entitled *Dialogue Amongst Civilisations* advocating the promotion of intercultural understanding and engagement. A prominent Islamic thinker, Dr. Aboulmagd studied Islamic Law at Cairo University following his Bachelors in Law. He received his Doctorate in Law from Cairo University in 1958. He is currently a member of the Academy of Islamic Legal Research at Al Azhar University.

Haifa Abu Ghazaleh is the Regional Programme Director at the United Nations Development Fund for Women since 1997. Prior to joining UNIFEM, Dr. Abu Ghazaleh served as the Arab Regional Focal Point for the United Nations at the Non-Governmental Organisations Forum on Women in Beijing 1995, was President of the General Federation of Jordanian Women for three years and held several prominent positions at the Ministry of Education in Jordan. Dr. Abu Ghazaleh holds two Doctorate degrees from the Jesuit University in Beirut the first in Education and the second in Psychology. She has published extensively on education, counselling, gender and development, and has contributed to different publications for UNIFEM, UNICEF and the Ministry of Education in Jordan. Her articles appear in international journals and her papers were presented at many international forums. She was awarded the Women Leadership Award by the Jordanian Ministry of Education in 2001 and was recently nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Fowziyah Abu-Khalid is Assistant Professor at the Sociology Department in King Saud University. Professor Abu-Khalid obtained her Doctorate in Sociology from the University of Salford in the United Kingdom. She has written extensively for both Saudi and Arab press on socio-economic and political issues with special emphasis on feminist and socio-political analysis and critique. In addition, Abu-Khalid has designed and facilitated various creative writing workshops offered to young women and school girls, and has also served as a founding and active member in one of the first women research and discussion groups for Social and Cultural Affairs in Saudi Arabia since 1994. Professor Abu-Khalid has published widely on topics related to literature, children's literature and sociology in addition to translating various literary works.

Nidal Al-Ashkar has been an actor since 1965, playing leading roles in television and cinema both in the Arab world and internationally, including staging plays at the Royal Albert Hall in London. She has also directed many plays for Arab and international authors. Ms. Al-Ashkar launched the Al-Madina Centre of Art and Culture in Beirut in 2005, and was founder and president of Masrah Al-Madina for Arts and Culture from 1994 up to 2004. She has also established the Beirut Theatre Workshop in 1968. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, England and has worked and trained with Joan Little in Tunisia, London and Paris. In addition, Ms. Al-Ashkar has served as a jury member in several Arab and European festivals. She is a member of several committees on women's, artistic and cultural issues, having received several honorary awards including Knight of Arts and Letters from the French Government in 1997.

Aziz Al-Azmeh is a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Central European University in Budapest-Hungary. He held professorial positions at the University of Exeter, United Kingdom and at the American University of Beirut. He has also served as visiting Professor at Columbia, Yale, Berkeley and Georgetown Universities, USA. He has lectured at institutions worldwide, and advised a number of international organisations. He studied in Beirut, Lebanon, Tubingen,

Germany and Oxford, United Kingdom, where he completed his Doctorate in Islamic Studies. He is the author of nine books, including *Islams and Modernities* and *Secularism*.

Khadija Ahmed Al-Haisami, is the Minister of Human Rights in the Government of the Republic of Yemen. Prior to that, she served as the Dean of National Institute of Administrative Sciences, and Assistant Professor for Political Sciences and Deputy Manager of Women Studies Centre at Sana'a University, Yemen. She is a founding member of the Unity of Arab Peninsula and the Gulf in Sana'a and a member of various organisations. Dr. Al-Haisami is the first female Yemeni lecturer at the College of Supreme Command and General's Staff, the Military School of Yemen. She obtained her Doctorate in Political Sciences from Cairo University, Egypt. She has participated in many international and local conferences dealing with women's issues, administrative reform, and human rights issues, in addition to widely publishing works on these subjects.

Jebrin Al-Jebrin is the Director of Projects Department at the Arab Gulf Programme for the United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND), whereby he manages and supervises projects which are focused on human development, particularly those directed to development of early childhood sector in the Arab World, combating poverty, empowerment of women and support of the development of civil society organisations in the Arab region. Mr. Al-Jebrin worked as Senior Economist Advisor to the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) in Riyadh whereby his work focused on financing infrastructure development projects in developing countries, as well as supervising and managing the implementation of these projects. Moreover, he has worked as Deputy Governor at the African Development Bank Group where he represented his country in the Bank's Board of Governors. He holds a Masters Degree in Economics from the University of San Francisco, USA, and is a member of the Saudi Economic Society. Mr. Al-Jebrin participated in writing numerous researches and reports on contemporary development issues and participated in many regional and international meetings and conferences.

Nasser Al-Kahtani is the Executive Director of the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND). Mr. Al-Kahtani received his Master's degree from the University of Miami, U.S.A. His work experience focused on sustainable human development, particularly early childhood development, open learning, civil society, and the eradication of poverty through microfinance, and child abuse. He has presented various papers in numerous international conferences and meetings. Mr. Al-Kahtani is a member of the Board of Trustees of each of The Arab Network for Non-Governmental Organisations in Cairo, The Arab Open University in Kuwait, and The Centre of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR) in Tunisia. He is also a Member of the Advisory Committee of the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP) Microfinance Initiative in the Middle East and North Africa, among many other national and international committees of which he is also a member.

Farida Allaghi, a native citizen of Libya, is a Senior Adviser to his royal highness the President of the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND). She is also an international freelance consultant in the fields of human development, civil society and institution building. Between 1983 and 2001, she held the position of the Director of the Women and Child division at AGFUND in Saudi Arabia. She is also a member of several regional and international boards including The Arab Thought Foundation, The Arab Reform Forum and The Mentor Foundation. Since the early 1980s, she has been actively involved in establishing countless

national, regional and international foundations and non-governmental organisations, with a primary focus on promoting and empowering women, children and youth. She received her Doctorate in Sociology-Social Planning and Development from the USA.

Nabil Alnawwab is the Senior Social Development Adviser at the United Nations-Department of Economics and Social Affairs at the Ministry of Economy and Planning in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Prior to that, he was a Regional Adviser on Social Development and Issues and Policies with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). Dr. Alnawwab received his Doctorate in Sociology and Social Development from the University of Keele, UK. His experience and application of development issues include assessment and identification of social sector needs, social policy formulations, application and analysis. Dr. Alnawwab has published numerous articles and research on human development, education, gender and social welfare.

Soukaina Bouraoui is the Executive Manager of the Centre of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR) in Tunisia. She is also a Professor of Law at the Legal, Political and Social University of Tunis where she obtained her Doctorate in Development and Town Planning and served as the Manager of the Civil Law and Criminal Sciences Department. She served as Associate Lecturer at several foreign universities where she lectured on criminal law, criminal politics, civil law, environment law and human rights. She founded and was in charge of the Centre of Research, Documentation and Information on Women (CREDIF). She was also Chairperson of the Women Development Plan Committee for the Eighth Plan of the Tunisian Economic and Social Development Plan. She has been a member of the International Court of Environment Arbitration since 2000, as well as a member of the Board of Directors of the Tunisian Association of Criminal Law, International Association of Economic Law and the International Comparative Law of Environment Centre. In 1997, she was elected Regional Governor of the International Environment Council. She has several publications on environmental law and women's rights.

Mohamed Charfi is Professor Emeritus at the College of Law, Politics, and Sociology in Tunisia where he worked from 1964 to 1989 as Associate Professor and then as Professor of Higher Education. From 1961 to 1962, he was the Secretary-General for the Union of Tunisian Students in Paris. He contributed to the founding of the Centre for Socialist Studies and Work, which led to a two-year prison sentence after his trial at the Tunisian Supreme Court. He also occupied the position of Minister of Culture, Higher Education and Scientific Research between April 1989 until 1994, and from which he resigned in protest of the declining status of civil liberties. From 1972 until 1988, he contributed to the establishment of the General Teachers Union for Higher Education. He also founded and directed the Association of Maghreb Meetings. He has published widely on religion, international law, education and freedom. He obtained his Doctorate in Legal Studies from the University of Paris, France.

Hani Fahs writes in several Lebanese and Arab newspapers and intellectual periodicals. He is a member of the Legislative Council for the Shiite Higher Board in Lebanon and a founding member of the Arab Team for the Islamic Christian Dialogue and the Permanent Committee for the Lebanese Dialogue. Sheikh Hani Fahs obtained his Degree in the Arabic Language and Islamic Studies from the University of Islamic Jurisprudence in Iraq. He participated in the publication of

several intellectual periodicals in Najaf, Qum and Lebanon and has published several books himself, while also taking part in many conferences and workshops regionally and internationally.

Ziad Fariz is the Minister of Finance and Deputy Prime Minister in the Jordanian Government. Prior to that, Dr. Fariz was the Chief Executive Officer of the Arab Banking Corporation in Jordan. Dr. Fariz served as Jordan's Minister of Planning from April 1989 to December 1989. He also held the post of Minister of Trade and Industry from December 1989 to June 1991, and was re-appointed in June 1991 as Minister of Planning. In November 1995, he was elected Chairman of the Board of the Bank of Export and Finance and was subsequently appointed as the Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan until December 2000. Dr. Fariz is a prominent economist and planner. He received a High Diploma in Development Planning from the Arab Institute for Planning in Kuwait in and a Doctorate in Economics from Keel University, UK.

Mohammed Fayek is a long time human rights activist and intellectual. He is currently the Secretary General of the Arab Organisation for Human Rights, member of the Egyptian National Council for Human Rights, vice-president of the Egyptian Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity, and vice-president of the Arab Institute for Human Rights. He has also served as Minister of Information, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, adviser to the President of Egypt for African and Asian Affairs, member of the Egyptian Parliament, and as representative of Egypt to the Fourth Committee of the United Nations, General Assembly from 1962 to 1965. In addition, he was a close assistant to many of the African liberation movements in the struggle for independence of African states from 1953 to 1971.

Fahmy Howeidy is an Egyptian writer specialised in Arab Islamic and political affairs. He joined the Cairo based *Al-Ahram* newspaper in 1958. He was appointed as the Managing Editor of the Kuwaiti cultural monthly magazine, *Al-Arabi*, then as deputy editor of the London-based *Arabia* magazine. He has 16 published books on issues related to Islamic thought and the state of the Muslim world. He is now a full time writer who publishes three columns weekly in various prominent publications including *Al-Ahram*, which is published simultaneously in a number of newspapers in seven Arab countries, *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* newspaper and *Al-Majalla* magazine.

Taher H. Kanaan, born in Nablus-Palestine, is the Managing Director of the Centre for Public Policy Research and Dialogue in Jordan. He is a Senior Research Fellow, and member of the Board of Trustees of the Economic Research Forum in Cairo. Earlier, he served as Minister of Planning in the Government of Jordan (1986-1989), and as Deputy Prime Minister/Minister of State for Development Affairs (1997-1998). He had also worked with the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development as Director of Programmes (1973-1976) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) as Chief of Development Finance (1978-1982). He studied economics at the American University of Beirut and at Cambridge University Trinity College, UK where he obtained his Doctorate.

Clovis Maksoud is a prominent Arab intellectual who has occupied various high-ranking positions including that of ambassador, lawyer, journalist and diplomat. He is Professor of International Law at the Washington College of Law at the American University, USA. Professor Maksoud is also the Director of the Centre for the Global South at the American University and a member of the Advisory Board of the United Nations Development Programme's Regional Bureau for Arab States. Maksoud held the post of Chief Representative of the League of Arab States in India from

1961-1966. He served as the Senior Editor of *Al-Ahram* and then as Chief Editor of *Al-Nahar Weekly* from 1967-1979. Professor Maksoud is the author of many articles and books on the Middle East and the global South. He has also served as chairperson and convener of many conferences tackling issues related to the environment, development, human rights, human security, landmines, population and disarmament.

Bader Malallah is a Human Development Expert at the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, where he also worked as a Coordinator among the various Arab development organisations. He was an Associate Professor at the University of Kuwait. Dr. Malallah obtained his Doctorate in General Politics and Research Methods from Claremont University, USA. He has prepared and published several studies in the various fields of human development and has participated in many national and international conferences in this domain.

Abdelouahab Rezig is the Director of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Sub-Regional Office for North Africa. He holds a Doctorate in Economic Science. Before joining the United Nations, Dr. Rezig held the following positions: Professor at Algiers University; Lawyer; Associate Professor or visiting Professor for European Universities; Member of the National Economic and Social Council (Algeria); Dean at the Faculty of Economic Science; Director-General of the Algerian Research Centre in Applied Economy for Development (CREAD); Rector at Arab Maghreb University (UMA); Coordinator of MED CAMPUS projects (North Africa-Europe); and member of UNESCO Inter-governmental Council (MOST Programme). Dr. Rezig has completed several research projects, particularly in the fields of economic analysis, international relations, and economic development.

Abdulaziz Sager is Chairman and founder of the Gulf Research Center in addition to being Chairman of the Sager Group Holding in Saudi Arabia, which is active in the fields of information technology, aviation services and investments. He also serves as a member of the Mecca Province Council since 2003. Mr. Sager holds a Masters Degree in International Relations from the University of Kent at Canterbury, UK, and is a regular contributor to *Al Sharq Al Awsat*, *Al Khaleej Newspaper*, *The Daily Star* and other gulf newspapers. His research concentrates on peace, Gulf strategic issues, combating violence and reforms in Saudi Arabia.

Fatima Sbaity is a socio-economic development expert in women and gender issues and a Visiting Scholar at the Institute for Research on Women and Gender, Columbia University. She was the Director of the Centre for Women at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), as well as the coordinator of the network of gender focal points for gender mainstreaming within ESCWA. Dr. Sbaity worked with the United Nations as an economist and researcher on issues of trade diversification and regional integration in the Arab region, while also serving as a gender expert and researcher on women's issues. She obtained her Doctorate in International Relations (all but dissertation) from Columbia University, USA. She is a member of several professional associations and has published many studies and reports on trade, development and Arab women's issues.

Leila A. Sharaf is a Senator and former Minister of Information in Jordan. She is also Chair of the Board of Trustees at Philadelphia University in Jordan, President of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature and vice-president of the Arab Foundation for Modern Thought. Ms. Sharaf serves on a number of prominent boards including the Board of Trustees of the Arab

Thought Forum and its Executive Committee in Jordan, The American University of Beirut both in Lebanon and New York, The American Center for Oriental Research in Jordan and the USA, and the America-Mid East Educational and Training Services in Washington D.C. She is also a member of the International Academic Council of the United Nations University for Peace. Ms. Sharaf is committed to serve the cause of democracy and human rights especially the rights of women in the Arab World. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Institute for Human Rights in Tunisia, The Amman Center for Human Rights, a former member of the Board of the Arab Organisation for Human rights in Egypt, and a founding member and former vice-president of its branch in Jordan.

Haifa Zangana is an Iraqi novelist and writer who has participated in various European and American surrealist publications and group exhibitions. She also lectures regularly on Iraqi culture, literature, and women's issues, contributing to prominent European and Arabic publications such as *The Guardian*, *L.A Times*, *Al-Ahram* and *Al-Quds*. Ms. Zangana graduated from Baghdad University, School of pharmacy, and as a member of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation was manager of the pharmaceutical unit, moving between Syria and Lebanon in 1975. She is a founding member of The International Association of contemporary Iraqi Studies and co-founder of Act together: Women Action for Iraq. She has several literary and cultural publications on various subjects and has contributed chapters in academic books on USA – Iraqi women organisations as an arm of USA policy in Iraq.

Core Team

Nader Fergany is the Director of Almishkat Centre for Research in Egypt. He has also served as lead author for the first series of the Arab Human Development Reports (2002, 2003, 2004, and co-lead author of 2005). He obtained his Doctorate from the University of North Carolina, USA. He has taught and undertaken research at numerous institutions in Egypt and elsewhere, and acted as a consultant to many Arab and international organisations. He has also published on demography, international migration, labour markets, education and development in the Arab world.

Islah Jad is Assistant Professor at the Women's Studies Institute, Bir Zeit University, and the co-lead author of the Arab Human Development Report 2005. She lectures on gender and development with a special focus on political development and political participation. She is a founder of many women's centres and coalitions in the Palestine. She obtained her Doctorate from the School of African and Asian Studies (SOAS), University of London. She has published widely on women's movements, gender issues and women and politics in Palestine.

Kamal Abdellatif is a Professor at the Department of Political Philosophy and Contemporary Islamic Thought at Mohamed V University in Rabat, Morocco, where he received his Doctorate in Philosophy. Dr. Abdellatif is also founder of the Arab Society of Philosophy and a member of the Union of Moroccan Writers. Additionally he has been a visiting scholar across universities within the Arab region and abroad, as well as consultant with several institutions and universities within and outside of Morocco. He has published widely on topics related to Arab political thought and Arab renaissance.

Ebtisam Al-Kitbi is a Professor of Political Sciences at the United Arab Emirates University, Dubai. She holds the post of Treasurer at the Arab Association for Political Studies, and is a member of the team preparing a study on national education methods in the Ministry of Culture and Education in the UAE. She served as Director for the Women's Programme at the Gulf Research Centre, and was an Advisory Board member of the Gulf Centre for Strategic Studies. She has researched and published widely on issues such as political laws, civil society, democratic transformation, social and political developments, and women's issues in the Gulf.

Mohamed Nour Farahat is a Professor of Legal Philosophy at Zagazig University in Egypt and an Attorney of Law. In 2001, he was awarded the Egyptian State Award for Excellence in Social Science and in 2004, with the State Award of Appreciation in Social Science. Dr. Farahat worked in various capacities with a number of UN agencies, including the High Commissioner on Human Rights, UNESCO, UNDP and United Nations Department of Economics and Social Affairs (UNDESA). His projects focus on the promotion of human rights, governance and democracy. He is also widely published in the disciplines of legal history, philosophy, sociology and human rights in the Arab region.

Haytham Manna is a leading figure in human rights advocacy and activism within the Arab region, having founded the Syrian League for Human Rights and co-founded the external branch of the Committees for the Defence of Democratic Freedoms and Human Rights in Syria. Dr. Manna has also served as a member of the Board of Trustees at the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies and the Arab Programme for Human Rights Activists. He is currently spokesperson for the Arab Commission for Human Rights, and was previously President of the International Bureau of Humanitarian NGOs. Dr. Manna received his Doctorate in Anthropology from the Higher Institute of Social Sciences in Paris, France. He has conducted many seminars and published works on human rights, Islam and the Arab region. Dr. Manna's activism has been recognized and honoured by Human Rights Watch and the National Academy of Sciences.

Naila Silini is a Professor of Higher Education at the Faculty of Literature and Social Sciences at Al Wast University - Université du Centre, Tunisia. She received her Doctorate in the History of Quranic Interpretation and Social Relations. Dr. Silini is a specialist in the history of Islamic thought. Her most distinguished publications deal with schools of interpretation since the 7th Hijri Century, the question of the veil from an Islamic context to interpretation rules, and the status of women in the Maliki interpretation. She is a member of the comparative research panel on Quranic manuscripts and printed Qurans.

Authors of Background Papers

Kamal Abdellatif is a Professor at the Department of Political Philosophy and Contemporary Islamic Thought at Mohamed V University in Rabat, Morocco, where he received his Doctorate in Philosophy. Dr. Abdellatif is also founder of the Arab Society of Philosophy and a member of the Union of Moroccan Writers. Additionally he has been a visiting scholar across universities within the Arab region and abroad, as well as consultant with several institutions and universities within and outside of Morocco. He has published widely on topics related to Arab political thought and Arab renaissance.

Rula Abu-Duhou is a teacher and researcher at the Women's Studies Institute (WSI) at Bir Zeit University, West Bank, where she obtained her Masters Degree on Women, the Law and Development. She is part of a research team at the WSI working on the local Palestinian society in the era of war and struggle. She is also a member of a research team working on documenting the experience of the Palestinian families during the *Intifada* from a qualitative social perspective. She conducted field research with Palestinian resistance leaders between 1967-1992 on the topics of women and decision-making. Ms. Abu-Duhou is also an activist in the Association of Conscience for Caring for Prisoners and Human Rights in the field of documentation and political imprisonment. She is currently writing a book on the experience of imprisonment and Palestinian women prisoners based on her nine years of imprisonment for resisting occupation.

Fowziyah Abu-Khalid is Assistant Professor at the Sociology Department in King Saud University. Professor Abu-Khalid obtained her Doctorate in Sociology from the University of Salford in the United Kingdom. She has written extensively for both Saudi and Arab press on socio-economic and political issues with special emphasis on feminist and socio-political analysis and critique. In addition, Abu-Khalid has designed and facilitated various creative writing workshops offered to young women and school girls, and has also served as a founding and active member in one of the first women research and discussion groups for Social and Cultural Affairs in Saudi Arabia since 1994. Professor Abu-Khalid has published widely on topics related to literature, children's literature and sociology in addition to translating various literary works.

Lamis Abu Nahleh is Assistant Professor in the field of Gender and Development, and Women, Gender and the Social Sciences at the Institute of Women's Studies at Bir Zeit University. Professor Nahleh holds her Doctorate in linguistics from the University of Michigan, and was a Fulbright Scholar at the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies in Georgetown between 1996 and 1997. She has worked as a gender consultant and as a gender and development trainer in Palestine for the Palestinian National Authority Ministry of Education, and for The Maram Project and the Women's Center for Legal Aid and Counselling (WCLAC) among others.

Badria Abd Allah Al-Awadhi is a lawyer and the Director of the Arab Regional Centre for Environmental Law. She also served as Professor of International Law at the University of Kuwait and as Dean of the Faculty of Law and Sharia. She obtained her Doctorate in International Law from University College London (UCL) in the UK. Dr. Al-Awadhi was a member of several international law associations. She has published widely on the legal aspects of the rights of children, peace and war, pollution, women and the environment.

Aziz Al-Azmeh is a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Central European University in Budapest-Hungary. He held professorial positions at the University of Exeter, United Kingdom and at the American University of Beirut. He has also served as visiting Professor at Columbia, Yale, Berkeley and Georgetown Universities, USA. He has lectured at institutions worldwide, and advised a number of international organisations. He studied in Beirut, Lebanon, Tubingen, Germany and Oxford, United Kingdom, where he completed his Doctorate in Islamic Studies. He is the author of nine books, including *Islams and Modernities* and *Secularism*.

Ali Abdel Gadir Ali is economic adviser to the Arab Planning Institute (API), a research and capacity building institution that focuses on economic development issues facing the Arab region. Prior to his post at API, Dr. Ali directed the Economic and Social Policy Analysis Division of the

UN Economic Commission for Africa between 1997 and 2000. Dr. Ali was educated at the University of Khartoum, Sudan and later received his Masters in Economics, followed by a Doctorate from the University of Essex, UK. Dr. Ali has served as a Consultant to numerous international and regional development organisations such as the World Bank, UNDP and the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development. He has published widely on poverty and the economy in Sudan.

Baqer Alnajjar is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Bahrain where he served as the Chairman of the Social Sciences Department between 1991 and 1995 and was Dean of the Faculty of Arts from 1995 until 1999. He was a Research Coordinator in Kuwait, and served as a member of the Consultative (Shura) Council. Dr. Alnajjar obtained his Doctorate from Durham University, United Kingdom. He has published widely on the industrial sector, sociology and women's modernity in the Arabian Gulf, and issues of foreign labour.

Madawi Al-Rasheed is a Professor of Social Anthropology at King's College, University of London, UK. Her research spans 19th century history and 20th century society and politics in Saudi Arabia in addition to contemporary issues addressing development and modernity. Dr. Al-Rasheed has focused on the Iraqi community in London to study the complexity of the Arab migratory experience. More recently her research has focused on the Arab Gulf, with special emphasis on trans-national religious, social and cultural flows. She has published widely on such issues as politics in the Arabian oasis, Iraqi Assyrian Christians in London, and contemporary history and society in Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

Mustapha Kamel Al-Sayyid is the Executive Director of Partners-in-Development for Research, Consulting and Training, a think tank devoted to issues of development. He has been teaching Political Science at Cairo University and the American University in Cairo since 1982. He spent one year as a visiting scholar at the University of California Los Angeles and one semester at the Harvard Law School. He held leading positions in both the Egyptian Human Rights Organisation and the Arab Political Science Association. He directed the Centre for the Study of Developing Countries at Cairo University from 1995 to 2004. He served as a member of the Committee on Global Security and Cooperation of the USA Social Science Research Council. He has several publications in Arabic, English and French. He works mostly on political economy, human rights, and civil society issues. Educated in Egypt and Switzerland, he obtained his Doctorate in Political Science from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland.

Mohammed Aref is a writer and consultant in science and technology. He has lectured widely and contributed to establishing scientific institutes including the Arab Institute for Science and Technology in the UAE during the period 2000-2003, and *Science and Technology* in London between 1988-2000. He has various publications on such diverse issues as the globalisation of the Arab media, the Abu Dhabi Summit for the Gulf Cooperation Council, contemporary thought, the environment and development. He holds a Masters Degree in Literature and Mass Communication as well as Economics of Science and Technology.

Mohsen Awad is a lecturer at the Arab Research Institutes, League of Arab States. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Arab Organisation for Human Rights where he served as the Assistant to the Secretary-General from 1986 to 2004. He is a researcher, lecturer and writer on Arab and African affairs, human rights and democracy. Mr. Awad received his Masters in African

Studies at Cairo University, Egypt. Since then, he has undertaken research for the Egyptian Presidency under the Department of Research and Foreign Relations, and has served as Editor-in-Chief of the Centre for Arab Unity Studies and Director of its office in Cairo. He was also former Director of the Arab Future Publishing House.

Munir Bashshur is a Professor of Education at the American University of Beirut where he served twice as the Chairman of the Department of Education and was Chairman of Admissions Committee and Publications Committee. Previously, he was a visiting Professor both at the University of Wisconsin and at Florida State University. Dr. Bashshur obtained his Doctorate in Comparative Education from the University of Chicago, USA. He published extensively on educational trends in the Arab world and the effects of war on the educational system.

Noha Bayoumi is a Professor at the University of Bahrain, French Language Department, and Assistant Professor in French Literature at the Lebanese University, Faculty of Arts, Department of French Language and Literature. She obtained her Doctorate in Contemporary and Comparative French Literature from Paris III Sorbonne University, France. Dr. Bayoumi is the coordinator of several research journals and publications and has published widely on prominent Arab women and men, Arab women and modern challenges, and women and war.

Rachida Benmessaoud is a Professor at the University of Mohammed V in Morocco. Dr. Benmessaoud is currently also member of the House of Representatives for 2002-2007. She holds her Doctorate in Modern Arabic Literature from the University of Mohammed Bin Abdallah. She is the vice-president of the Writers' League in Morocco and was member of the national office for the Moroccan Organisation for Human Rights. She has published several books on issues related to women's issues, women and democracy, and women's initiatives.

Azmi Bishara is a leading Palestinian intellectual and prominent advocate of the Palestinian cause. He has served as Deputy at the Israeli Knesset since 1996. Upon completing his Doctorate in Philosophy from Humboldt University in Germany, he joined the faculty of Bir Zeit University and headed the political science and philosophy departments until 1996. Bishara was also the director of research at the Van Leer Institute, and is currently Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Muwatin, the Palestinian Institute for the Study of Democracy, which he co-founded. He is the founder and first chairman of the National Committee of Arab High School Students, and the founder of the Arab Students Union in Israel and the National Democratic Assembly. Professor Bishara has written and edited various books on nationalism, minority rights in Israel, Islam and democracy, and the Palestinian question. He publishes his work in several languages including Arabic, English, German and Hebrew.

Mohamed Charfi is Professor Emeritus at the College of Law, Politics, and Sociology in Tunisia where he worked from 1964 to 1989 as Associate Professor and then as Professor of Higher Education. From 1961 to 1962, he was the Secretary-General for the Union of Tunisian Students in Paris. He contributed to the founding of the Centre for Socialist Studies and Work, which led to a two-year prison sentence after his trial at the Tunisian Supreme Court. He also occupied the position of Minister of Culture, Higher Education and Scientific Research between April 1989 until 1994, and from which he resigned in protest of the declining status of civil liberties. From 1972 until 1988, he contributed to the establishment of the General Teachers Union for Higher Education. He also founded and directed the Association of Maghreb Meetings. He has published

widely on religion, international law, education and freedom. He obtained his Doctorate in Legal Studies from the University of Paris, France.

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Fahmy Howeidy is an Egyptian writer specialised in Arab Islamic and political affairs. He joined the Cairo based *Al-Ahram* newspaper in 1958. He was appointed as the Managing Editor of the Kuwaiti cultural monthly magazine, *Al-Arabi*, then as deputy editor of the London-based *Arabia* magazine. He has 16 published books on issues related to Islamic thought and the state of the Muslim world. He is now a full time writer who publishes three columns weekly in various prominent publications including *Al-Ahram*, which is published simultaneously in a number of newspapers in seven Arab countries, *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* newspaper and *Al-Majalla* magazine.

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Nadim Jarjoura is the editor of the theatre section and the author of a weekly column in the daily Lebanese newspaper *As-Safir*. He is also a founding member of the Lebanese Association for Documentary Films and serves as the communications attaché at the Beirut International Festival of Documentaries. Mr. Jarjoura is also a critic of Arab and foreign movies and publishes articles in

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Nahawand Kadiri is a Professor at the Lebanese University, Faculty of Information and Documentation. She has taught several subjects including history of journalism, mass media and political regimes, disciplinary journalism, ethics, the charter of mass media, and theories of communication. She obtained her Doctorate in the Science of Mass Media and Communication from Paris II, Sorbonne University, France. She is a member of the Lebanese Association of Women Researchers. She has researched widely on journalism and mass media, and women and the media in the Arab world, with a special focus on Lebanon.

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Maroun Lahham is a teacher of catechism at the Saint Saviour Franciscan Seminary. Dr. Lahham has participated and given lectures in various international and national religious forums and conferences. He is Chief Editor of the *Latin Seminary Publications* and has been directly involved in 15 of those publications on different topics including Catechism, Adult Religious Education, Young Christians and the Bible, and Education to Priesthood. Dr. Lahham obtained his Doctorate from the Pastoral Theology and Catechesis – Pontifical Lateran University, Italy.

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Haytham Manna is a leading figure in human rights advocacy and activism within the Arab region, having founded the Syrian League for Human Rights and co-founded the external branch of the Committees for the Defence of Democratic Freedoms and Human Rights in Syria. Dr. Manna has also served as a member of the Board of Trustees at the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies and the Arab Programme for Human Rights Activists. He is currently spokesperson for the Arab Commission for Human Rights, and was previously President of the International Bureau of Humanitarian NGOs. Dr. Manna received his Doctorate in Anthropology from the Higher Institute of Social Sciences in Paris, France. He has conducted many seminars and published works on human rights, Islam and the Arab region. Dr. Manna's activism has been recognized and honoured by Human Rights Watch and the National Academy of Sciences.

Moncef Marzouki is a medical Professor and human rights activist. He served as the President of the Collective Medicine Department at the University of Sousa (previously Al West University – Université du Centre) in Tunisia from 1982 up until 2000, when he was expelled from the university for political reasons. He is the founder and leader of several organisations and political parties promoting democracy and human rights, his activism leading to both his persecution and imprisonment. He currently lives in exile in France. Dr. Marzouki obtained his Doctorate in Medicine from Strasbourg University, France and taught preventive medicine at the University of Paris where he was Associate Professor between 2001 and 2004. Dr. Marzouki has widely published on democracy, human rights, intellect and literature and is a recipient of several international human rights awards.

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Emily Nasrallah is a novelist, journalist, freelance writer, teacher, lecturer, and women's rights activist. Author of many novels and winner of several awards, Mrs. Nasrallah is one of a number of Lebanese women authors known as the Beirut Decentrists, who stayed in Beirut, shared the experience of the war and wrote about the conflict. She obtained her Bachelor Degree in Education from the American University of Beirut.

Naziha Rjiba holder of a Teacher's degree from the University of Tunis, Ms. Rjiba is renowned for her knowledge in literature and Arab culture. She taught at Tunisian high schools and the University of Tunis to resign shortly afterwards dedicating her time to journalism. She is currently the Editor in Chief of the e-magazine *Kalima* and an activist in human rights whereby she participates in the preparation of related reports and researches. She has published several articles in Tunisia and abroad.

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Marie Rose Zalzal is a lawyer with a degree and career in International Law. She is a founding member of the Secular Lebanese Wing and a member of the Gathering of Lebanese Women Researchers. She is also an activist promoting non-violence, human rights, and environmental issues, and has participated in numerous local and global conferences. She has authored many publications on law and general human rights issues.

Arabic Readers Group

Khalid Abdalla is a leading analyst and consultant on Arab and international relations, and he currently advises Dar Al Khaleej Press. Throughout his career, he has served as Chief Representative of the League of Arab States in Vienna and the USA. Dr. Abdalla also acted as Director of the Department of Strategic Studies and the International Economic Affairs Department at the League in Tunisia, and held the Chair of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Palestinian Affairs at the League in Cairo. Between 1979 and 1980, Dr. Abdalla served as Chief Planner for the Warsaw Planning Development Office, also working with the municipalities of Baghdad, Iraq and Tripoli, Libya. Dr. Abdalla received his Doctorate in Economics from the Central School of Planning and Statistics in Warsaw, and has been a visiting scholar at the Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences.

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English Readers Group

Leila Ahmed came to the Harvard Divinity School in 1999 as the first Professor of Women's Studies in Religion and was appointed to the Victor S. Thomas Chair in 2003. Prior to that, she was a Professor at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, where she served as the Director of the Women's Studies Programme and earlier as the Director of the Near Eastern Studies Programme. Dr. Ahmed obtained her Doctorate from the University of Cambridge. Her current research centres on Islam in America and issues of women and gender. She has published widely on women in Islam and the Middle East.

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Ziad Hafez is a Research Fellow at the Centre for the Global South at the American University in Washington DC, as well as an independent international consultant. He previously worked in the International Finance Corporation (IFC) as economist and investment analyst specialised in Africa and the Arab World. He is multilingual with a broad background in economics, political science, and law, with over 25 years experience in the field conducting economic analysis, research, investment analysis, risk assessment, project finance, investment implementation, administration, and supervision. He has published in both Arabic and English. Mr. Hafez has numerous publications in Arab and French periodicals on current economic, political, and cultural issues in

Lebanon and the Arab world. He participated as a Reader in the preparation of the second and third UNDP *Arab Human Development Reports 2003 and 2004*.

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Dina Rizk Khoury is Associate Professor of History and International Affairs at the George Washington University, where she obtained her Doctorate degree. Prior to that Dr. Rizk was an Associate Professor of history and international affairs and Director of the Middle East Studies Department at the Elliot School of International Affairs. She received several grants and is a member of various historical associations. Her publications focus on Turkey and the Ottoman Empire, Iraq, the Middle East and women in Islamic societies.

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Omar Noman is a Senior Adviser to the UN Assistant Secretary-General, Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, UNDP, NY. Prior to this, he was Deputy Director of the Human Development Report Office, where he co-authored the Global Human Development Reports. Before joining UNDP in 1996, Omar Noman taught at Oxford University, where he was a Senior Research Economist. His teachings and publications cover issues such as child labour and primary education, macroeconomic policies, comparative development strategies, environmental policy, democracy and human development. He has presented papers at the USA Council of Foreign Relations, the State Department and various other policy institutes, while appearing regularly in international media.

Maureen O'Neil is President of the International Development Research Centre since 1997. She also served as the Interim President of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, President of the North-South Institute and Deputy Minister of Citizenship for the Government of Ontario. Ms. O'Neil currently serves on the Board of Directors for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IIDEA), and is co-chair of the World Economic Forum's Digital Divide Supervisory Committee. Ms. O'Neil has been a member and Chair of numerous Boards, including the Advisory Board to the Minister of Foreign Affairs; the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development (Chair); the Institute for Women, Law and Development; and the Board of Governors, Carleton University (Chair). She represented Canada on the UN Commission on the Status of Women and on the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) committees. Ms. O'Neil has a Bachelor's degree in sociology from Carleton University and honorary Doctorates of law from Carleton University and Wilfrid Laurier University, in Canada.

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Eugene L. Rogan is Director of the Middle East Centre and a Fellow of St Antony's College, University of Oxford, where he lectures on the modern history of the Middle East. He earned his Bachelors of Art in economics from Columbia University and his Masters and Doctorate in history and Middle East studies from Harvard University. He has lived for over a decade in the Arab world, in Beirut, Cairo and Amman, and has travelled extensively throughout the Middle East and North Africa. He is author of numerous works in the social and economic history of the Middle East, and is currently writing a major new history of the modern Arab world.

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