

Al Mar'a Fi Al-Islam (The Status of Women in Islam)

The Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World recently published the second (Arabic) edition of *Al-Mar'a Fi Al-Islam*, i.e. *The Status of Women in Islam*, written by the late Sheikh Dr. Subhi Al-Saleh.

About the book

The status of the Muslim woman in traditions and in personal status codes is the specific concern of *Al-Mar'a fi Al-Islam*. The book adopts an objective and academic approach to the various issues and makes reference to the Koran.

Sheikh Dr. Subhi Al-Saleh explains that, in principle, Islam does not discriminate against women. He discusses the various dictates of the Koran which describe the human, social and financial rights and duties of women. He touches upon specific matters, such as marriage, inheritance and sex, which have been the source of controversy in women's rights arguments.

Beginning with a quote from Simone de Beauvoir's «the Second Sex», the author emphasizes the equality between the sexes inherent in Islam. The status of women as it appears in the Koran is also compared with the dictates of the Bible.

Written in simple Arabic and using contemporary as well as historical perspectives, *Al Mar'a fi Al-Islam* offers rich material. The mature, objective and sincere style of the author is grabbing. Unlike complicated scholastic and theological books, *Al Mar'a fi Al-Islam* is easy to read.

About the author

Sheikh Dr. Subhi Al-Saleh was the Vice-President of the High Islamic Council of the Lebanese Republic. He held a Ph.D. in literature from the Sorbone in Paris and the Highest degree from the Theological Institute of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif.



A scholar, author and religious figure, he taught literature and Islamic theology at various universities in Lebanon and throughout the Arab World. He was one of the respected officials and personalities in the Sunnite Islamic Court and Councils of Lebanon.

An advocate for peace, he was assassinated on November 7, 1986 •

To order the book contact or sent a check in the amount of \$3.00 plus postage to the order of the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World, Beirut University College, P.O.Box 13-5053, Beirut, Lebanon.