



## Summer School

### An academic participation for the second consecutive year

In the framework of the collaborative project on 'academic approaches to peace building and state building in Yemen between GDRSC at Sana'a' University and the University of Bonn, Germany, the GDRSC's academics and students went to the Jordanian capital Amman in the mid of last August 2017 to participate in the summer school.

The delegation included: 1. Iman Al-Sharafi, 2. Mona Al-Ariqi, 3. Jamal Sultan, 4. Fatima Al-Raei, 5. Mohammed Al-Shami. The students' delegation was accompanied by four faculty members: 1. Dr. Bilkis Zabara, 2. Dr. Husnia Al-Kadri, 3. Dr. Fawzia Al-Ammar, and 4. Dr. Aref Al-Haj. This year's summer training took place in Jordan after the training venue was changed from Germany due to the circumstances of the war and.....[Read more on page 6](#)



### In the presence of the Minister of Higher Education, Mr. Hazib, Sana'a University holds the first workshop of the strategic plan



The Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Mr. Hussein Hazib, inaugurated the first workshop of the strategic plan for Sana'a University for 2017-2022.

The Minister of Higher Education praised the efforts made by Sana'a University in this sensitive period through holding this workshop, which seeks to highlight academic activities at all times. In



his speech, Mr. Hazib called for avoiding the university partisan rivalries that do not serve the academic work. He stressed that Sana'a University is the cornerstone upon which the rest of the universities will build their strategies. Therefore, the successful bet in this time will be on Sana'a University to achieve the perfect strategies which lead to academic .....[Read more on page 6](#)

### In the presence of 14 researchers The researcher's committee meet at the GDRSC

The committee of researchers at the GDRSC held its first meeting on Wednesday, 5/7/2017, which included 14 researchers from different colleges and research centers and various academic disciplines. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the proposed studies in the giz workshop and the topics that could be presented. The participants discussed the possibility of implementing any of these studies according to the academic specializations of the members of the Center as well as those who are interested or would like to join the Center's team.

The idea of the meeting developed in giving observations on each scientific study presented and presenting visions in the preliminary plans that can be completed within the project presented by (giz). It is worth mentioning that the management of the GDRSC seeks through the relationship between the research centers of the university to generalize the research experience to benefit from in the service of the reality of community development in Yemen, especially that the objective pursued by the Yemeni government falls under the framework of the development reference that it wishes to achieve in the Yemeni society.



## Editorial

### Scientific Research Centers

The interest in research centers and studies has increased globally in the last decades of the twentieth century.

It has become one of the most important indicators of the development of the state and its evaluation of scientific research and its prospects for the future horizons, according to the cognitive perspective of the development of human societies in general, and some people consider these centers an indicator of civilizational, developmental, and cultural achievements, and a sign of progress and one of its indicators in development and policy making. The study of the issues and problems facing the society and the state and its analysis is one of the most important roles played by the research centers in general. It aims at identifying the reasons behind them and developing the scientific visions and proposals related to them, as well as solving them properly. These centers are playing a developed and a pioneer role in leading the global



Dr. Abdulwahab Al-Washali

policies, and has become a key tool for the production of many effective, strategic projects. They are the main actors that can draw up plans for participation in such projects and contribute actively to them. Research centers and studies have become an integral part of the political and development landscape in many developed countries. We may not exaggerate if we say that they have a fundamental role to play in the advancement of nations and the progress of peoples towards achieving their goals.

These modern centers have developed to the point where they have become one of the actors in shaping the political, social, economic and educational trends, and one of the influencers, and one of the participants in the development of solutions to these problems through the use of scientific research in the service of community issues, providing visions and alternatives and options that would support the process of decision-making and policy-making. At Sana'a University, activating the role of research and studies centers has become one of the political, economic, media, academic, social and developmental necessities. As this is the best way to deliver specialized knowledge through its scientific publications and specialized seminars, which will increase the level of awareness of decision makers, institutions and individuals, and help them to link the facts of the field and its scientific and theoretical framework.

\* Assistant President of Sana'a University for Scientific Centers Affairs

### The Quality Management at the Center keeps up with modern academic descriptions

The Center's management since 2014 has endeavored to keep pace with the academic work within the university and at international universities. As the Center has partnership with international universities such as the Danish University of Roskilde. This academic partnership was accompanied by the development of academic work in terms of quality recognized by the most prestigious universities,.....[Read more on page 6](#)

### A Step Forwards Towards Quality Assurance

Based on the Accreditation Council of Sana'a University, the Center has established an accreditation unit headed by Dr. Saleh Huomid aiming at applying international standards to academic programs at the center. For international recognition of the diploma/master program in International Development and Gender which started in 2009/2010, Dr. Huomid

looks forwards to ensure academic and administrative requirements set up internationally are fulfilled. It is worth mentioning that this program has been developed with international partners at Roskilde University, Denmark, and the American University in Cairo and highly demanded by local and international institutions working in Yemen and abroad.

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## 71 recent titles at the Center's library

### Yahya Al-Qishwi

Within the frame of continuous supply of the GDRSC Library adopted by the Center's management, more than 71 new publications have arrived during the current year 2017. These were classified by the librarians of the center and they are ready for readers and researchers who are interested in international development and gender issues.

Among these publications: Islam and Peacemaking in the Middle East, Aid for Peace, Building International Peace and Local Resistance, Education and Conflict, War against Women, Peace Building; Sustainable Resettlement in Divided

Societies, Peace in International Relations, Political Environment and the Role of Water, Towards Good Governance, Building International Peace, Corruption and Good Governance and Economic Development, Governance and Risks.

It is worth mentioning that the administration of the center is keen to provide readers, researchers of the center as well as postgraduate students in the program of Gender and International Development with these recent publications related to qualitative specialized fields to serve the reality of development in Yemeni society and to rehabilitate Yemeni staff in various international development fields.



### The Deputy Director of the GDRSC attends a workshop

## A workshop on integrity and transparency in humanitarian aid

The Yemeni Observatory for Human Rights held its first workshop on the draft guide of integrity and transparency in humanitarian aid during the period from 19-20 August 2017, which was held at Taj Sheba Hotel in Sana'a, representatives of civil society organizations, academics and media participated.

Mrs. Mariam Al-Jawfi, Deputy Director of the GDRSC represented the center, she presented an intervention which included the initial observations by the GDRSC focusing on the inclusion of gender in this guide, which deviated from something called gender.

She also commented on the contents of the guide, whether in the basic standards of humanitarian aid or statistics listed in the manual, as well as mentioning the forms of corruption, in addition to providing visions for the next training phase, which is supposed to be included in the training manual based on the results of the workshop

### 257 visitors to the library of the GDRSC



The Center's library received 257 research visitors from Sana'a University and other universities and those who are interested in research aspects at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Last month, these students checked the publications of the library. In addition, they used the internet which is available for the researchers. By checking the lists of the visitors of the library, we found out that most of the visitors were of various scientific disciplines, both in the humanities and applied sciences.

## GDRSC Library... A reflection of organized academic work



As part of the persistent follow-up of the GDRSC's leadership, the library continued its regular activities in providing services to its students in the diploma and master programs in international development and gender, as well as, providing services to visitors in both master and doctoral programs. In addition to welcoming a number of students of Yemeni universities interested in research aspects, whether through the network of the Center or through the desktop browsing within the library.

The tasks of the library staff are linked to the

annual work-plan, which consists of providing information services from scientific journals and book collections through the automated library system OPAC, as well as, conducting training courses on how to search for sources of information in the library and websites.

It is worth mentioning that the GDRSC management serves to prepare the annual plans and the staff of the different units of GDRSC adhere to them, so that is what made the GDRSC a pioneering Center at the academic level, locally and internationally.

## 225 trainees on LIBSYS at the library of the Center

### Hafeethah Al- Hailama, Mervat Al-Tharhani

The librarians of the (GDRSC) conducted a training course for 200 students from the library department at the Faculty of Arts, Sana'a, University using the automated library system LIBSYS.

Another training course was conducted for the staff of the Central Library within the framework of the activities organized by the (GDRSC) and within the annual agenda



of the Center's library for 2017. This training course focused on how to manage the automated library system (LIBSYS) and 25 trainees have

availed. The training was conducted by the team of the library staff including Yahya Al-Qishwi, Hafithah Al-Hailama and Mervat Al-Tharhani.

## GDRSC Newsletter hosts Vice Rector for Graduate Studies :

# Priorities for Graduate Studies: Continuity of existing academic programs and thinking about offering new programs to serve the labor market in various fields

- **First of all, who is Majdi Aklan?**

- A simple academic man, who was sent by Sana'a University to Ain Shams University in Egypt, where I received a master's and a doctorate in criminal law. Upon my return to Sana'a University, I held several positions, where I was the academic advisor at the Faculty of Shari'a and Law, Sana'a University, then head of the Criminal Law Department, then Dean of the College, Assistant Vice Rector for Students' Affairs, then the legal advisor for the university, and recently Vice Rector for post graduate studies and scientific research, I have been here for five years and still in office.

- **In the current situation in Yemen, what are the priorities of postgraduate studies at the university?**

- Regarding the priorities in the postgraduate studies:

Continue offering existing programs.

Opening Master and PhD programs, in coordination with colleges and centers.

Reducing the scholarships for our students abroad; because of the lack of budget that covers the expenses of study abroad.

- **We have noticed throughout the leadership positions you held at the presidency of the university, your keenness on the sustainability of innovation in the academic work to serve the developmental work in the society. What about opening new graduate programs in research centers and colleges in line with the requirements of the market?**

- As for the new graduate programs, the policy of higher studies aims to encourage cooperation with the university faculties and research centers in developing programs aimed at meeting the requirements of the market and the society in various fields, as well as working to modernize and develop academic programs both at the faculties and centers.

- **In the workshop conducted by the university last month, we noticed the emergence of the strategic plan project for Sana'a University. Where was it over the past years and why did it emerge today?**

- Regarding the delay of the plan and the project of the strategy for Sana'a University, I would like to point out that this plan has not been delayed. It has been prepared for more than four

The Graduate Studies and Scientific Research at Sana'a University works to enrich human knowledge in all its branches through specialized studies and serious research to reach innovative scientific and applied additions and uncover new facts. Through the approval to offer new academic programs, that keep pace with the labor market in various fields, especially after the development of the infrastructure, and the expansion of university faculties and research centers, which contributes to the preparation of scientific and professional competencies and highly qualifying them in various fields of knowledge, and accelerate the development of scientific research, and direct it to address issues of Yemeni society.

The financial barrier remains a stumbling block for the postgraduate leadership at Sana'a University, which seeks to improve the level of undergraduate programs to interact with postgraduate programs.

As we believe in the importance of shedding light on the most important academic issues within the university. GDRSC newsletter conducts this academic interview with Prof. Magdy Mohamed Aklan, Vice Rector for graduate studies and scientific research. The interview as follows:

**The interview was conducted by the editor**

## Scarcity and paucity of material resources are among the main challenges of postgraduate studies

years. The colleges, departments and centers were asked to develop a detailed and accurate plan and a proposal about its own strategy. The reason for the delay was taking care of good and comprehensive preparation to develop the various departments of the University.

- **What are the main challenges facing postgraduate studies at Sana'a University?**

- The challenges faced by the Graduate Studies are numerous and varied, notably the following:
  - Scarcity and paucity of material resources.

## Developing strategic plans to improve curricula at the university

- Non-delivery of financial-dues to members of the faculty, whether teaching, or supervision of scientific dissertations or financial dues

of viva committees; where there was a budget allocated for postgraduate studies within the budget of the University within the scope of 75 million riyals annually; to meet those entitlements to the higher education; To graduate studies for years, despite our continuous attempt with the presidency of the university, and the Secretariat; to disburse those allocations from the Ministry of Finance, but unfortunately to no avail so far.

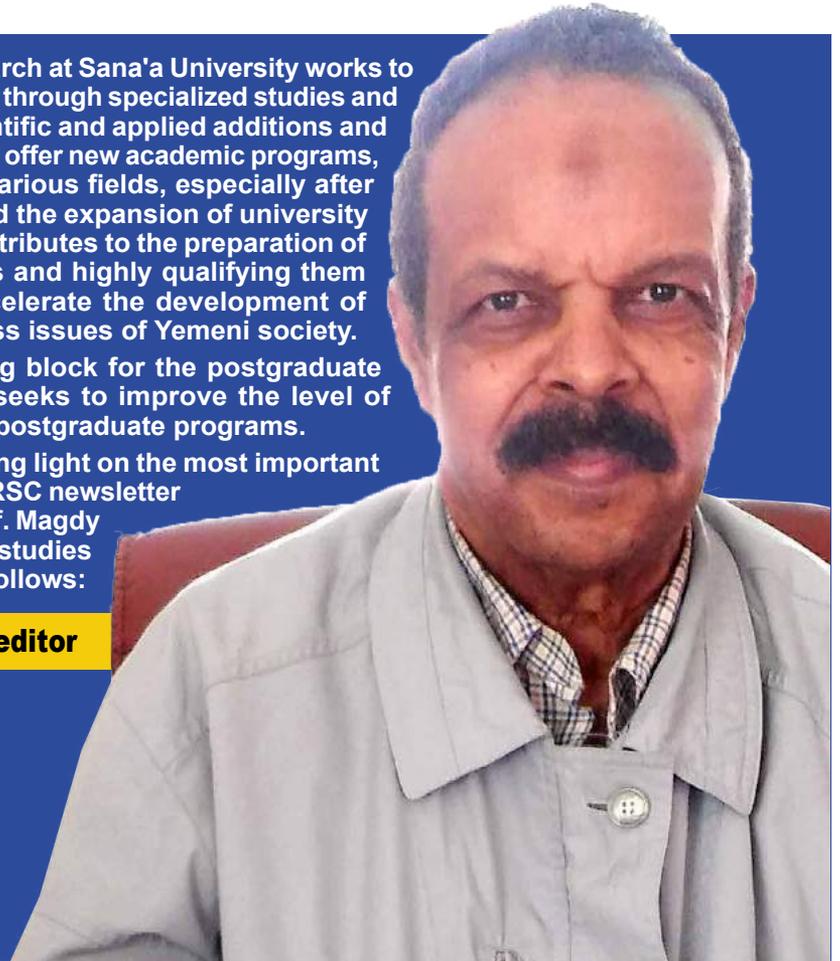
- We do not have our own building, especially for the postgraduate studies.

- Lack of sufficient computers to run postgraduate studies, lack of adequate offices, lack of communication facilities with our students, and cultural attachés abroad.

- **What are the available opportunities for advancing academic work at Sana'a University from your point of view?**

- As for the opportunities available to promote the academic work, I believe that the main concern is scientific research and the development of strategic plans for curriculum development to serve and meet the requirements of the society, as well as activating the role of scientific departments in colleges and research and scientific centers, as well as conducting workshops, seminars and training courses either for the staff or the faculty members, to raise their intellectual, scientific, and administrative level, as well as establishing a website for postgraduate studies on the Internet; to provide data and information for the benefit of students.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the editor-in-chief of the GDRSC newsletter, Dr. Saleh Humaid, and I wish more excellence in academic work for the leadership of the center. Hoping that I have managed to answer your questions.





**GDRSC explores the views of the Yemeni academics ... The reflection of the war on their lives**

# The war has changed the social roles between Yemeni men and women and women played new roles in their lives

## Yemeni women have endured the long-suffering of the war.

Dr. Amal Al-Mujahid, Professor of Administrative Sciences and director of the Center of Economic Consultancy & Management and Training at Dhamar University, said that, Yemeni women, are living a life with no decent standard of civilized living due to the brutal aggression on our country. This war has made Yemeni women displaced, widows and breadwinner of a family and has done everything. However, they have proved that they bear the suffering of war and never be defeated by conflicts, they moved in the work fields to have a role in the face of aggression.

## For every human case, a story of grief that may reach death due to the aggression.

In the same context, Dr. Ibtisam Al-Mutawakil, Assistant Professor of Arabic Language at the Faculty of Arts in Sana'a University, stated that the suffering of women in the light of aggression is multi-faceted and multi-levels. It is well-known that women are the most agonized ones in any war or conflict, let alone the Saudi aggression and whosoever allied with it for the sake of taking out the entire life in Yemen, which means that any harm, or killing directly or indirectly have affected women. Also, families have been targeted by genocide and a large number of women have been killed. The tragedy of displacement has extended to women and their families and burdened all of them, mothers, wives, and daughters. Moreover, the siege has increased the suffering of women, who are the only breadwinner of their families, and this is just the tip of the iceberg left by the aggression. For every human case, a story of grief that may reach death due to the aggression.

## The war has created a challenge for Yemeni women.

Dr. Boshra Al-Siddiqi, a professor of Business Administration, shares the view that there is a real suffering, but at the same time there are talents that have shown up, and the educational process for women in various areas have advanced. Furthermore, without war conditions, women would not have been granted such freedom. Therefore, the challenges are more extensive than the suffering itself which is part of the challenges: whether it is suffering or steadfastness all fall under so-called challenges. I have seen the female students of universities insisting on studying despite the ceaseless air strikes. This has motivated us, academics, to give and challenge the war, which the war-makers wanted to hinder the educational process of women in Yemen, and their improvement. But women have created a challenge from the womb of suffering.

## Yemeni women do not know despair.

Dr. Elham Mohammed Al-Redha,

Since the beginning of Saudi aggression on Yemen in 2015, the suffering of Yemeni women has started to vary here and there. The Yemeni women have become either dead, wounded, or grieving the sudden loss of a husband, son or relatives, not only that but also, they have become displaced or locked in a house after it had become very difficult to get outside.

The war made no distinction between an academic, a housewife or even a student because the war and its reflection on the reality of Yemeni women took a tragic turn in their lives today.

Hence, from the perspective of Yemeni female academics in this regard, "GDRSC Newsletter" had this contribution.

GDRSC/ Sana'a / Hanan Ghamdhan / Amerh AL Shami



## Yemeni women are examples of remaining steadfast.

an assistant professor in Sana'a University, expresses this suffering by saying: Women are within the fabric of this society that has suffered and still suffering and they have only just begun to take their position in our Yemeni society. There are those who think that the aggression on Yemen discouraged women, but Yemeni women do not know despair despite the psychological pressure on them, starting from committing crimes to innocent people, up to the gradual absence of the standard of living. Yet they spare no effort for the sake of their families and communities. Some women have started with handiwork to assuage their families' hunger, others raised the flag of stopping the war. Women are diligent in every walk of life, whether they are workwomen, school teachers or etc. In light of the cutout of the salary, women are doing their duties to the fullest.

Dr. Dunya Ahmed, Assistant Professor in business administration, confirms that women in Yemen have always been and remain an example of standing firm in the face of the most and greatest challenges and critical circumstances of all time. Perhaps this critical time that our country has gone through is the most vivid example and proof of steadfastness of Yemeni women. Despite the difficult living and economic conditions that have been passed through this period and the suffering experienced by women, Yemeni women, spare no efforts to play their roles to the fullest both inside and outside the house. Many women have faced very crucial circumstances, and others have lost their families' breadwinner. There are those who suffer from difficult economic conditions that forced head of families to lose their

jobs, which created an active role in self-helping first, then helping their families. The suffering of women is not limited to the economic or social aspects, but also to the security situation. Therefore, the suffering of women in Yemen under such circumstances is one of the most challenging things that women face.

## Women accepted cheap labor for the sake of living.

Dr. Najwa Ahmed Noman, assistant professor of Applied Statistics in Sana'a University said: Women in Yemen under such aggression are very worried about their children so that some of them decided to work as housemaids, as well as working for very little money just to assuage their families' hunger. Women accept any decent work they could make a living out of it, unlike some men who refuse to work. For example, some projects for women have stopped and project-works are no longer the

same as in the past, where sales and profits have decreased, but women are still on even for very little money. The displacement of women to other areas affected their business and forced them to shut it. It affected them psychologically, family-wise and economically. The cutout of salary of working women, especially when they are the only breadwinners of the house, some have started their business from home such as knitting, embroidery, perfume manufacture, as well as making sweets and foods, selling clothes in order to cover their expenses and to help their husbands after the breaking off of their salary. Moreover, some women have started to establish some charitable foundations and seek support in order to help people, themselves, and their families.

Yemeni women have played new roles in their life.

## Academics continue recounting the suffering of women in Yemen during the war.

Dr. Zamzam Saleh Saad Ahmed Al-Khulani, an Assistant Professor in Educational Planning & Management and the head of Zamzam Foundation for Scientific Research & Entrepreneurship, said: "The suffering of women in war, peace, and aggression does not end in Yemen. The role of women during the war has doubled, especially in the city, where the responsibilities of the house have doubled: due to the cutout of water and gas and most of the basics which led the woman to go out and look for these basics which were among the roles of men before the war like: providing the basic economic things. Recently, suicide cases of mothers with their children have spread as a result of economic problems.

Eventually, we say: The painful reality will end.

A few days ago, UNICEF and the WHO stated that 65% of pregnant women in Yemen did not receive health care services. The mortality rate among pregnant women is rising considerably, especially in rural areas, where approximately 70% of its 26 million population of Yemen live. Women suffer a lot in Yemen between displacement and dislodgment and they bear many burdens as a result of the war waged by the coalition against Yemen.

In conclusion, we emphasize that this war made women widows and their children are orphans, and an easy target for extortion. These practices increased the suffering of women and put psychological and physical pressure on them. They became displaced women with their children, others who were stranded and unable to reach their families and children because of the cutting of roads and kidnapping, not to mention killing them in their homes. Yemeni women have tasted the woes of this war, and one of the country's top priorities must be to pay attention to this weak stratum. ■



## Graduate Students at the GDRSC

# The educational program, a Master's in International Development and Gender, provided us with necessary skills and knowledge in the field of development and gender

The development studies provided by the GDRSC at Sana'a University is from the international perspective of development required by the institutions through the rehabilitation of their staff and help them to control their career paths and to promote the formation of society both domestically and internationally. The issue of international development is one of the most important issues facing Yemen. And the world, it is the basic foundation on which the modern state is based. The continuation of globalization and the development and practice of development theories have led to the spread of these global trends.

In order to create a new generation capable of contributing to development of institutions in Yemen and to meet global

challenges, the program that was established for this purpose is sought by students by linking it to pressing international issues and providing them with theoretical knowledge and practical skills to solve the problems of tomorrow. (GDRSC Newsletter) conducted these interviews with a number of graduate students at the Center enrolled in the International Development Program to measure: how do they view the Master's Program in International Development from the academic aspect first, and second how they have applied the gained knowledge.

### Interviews / Graduate Studies Department

#### Workshops and a new field of knowledge

The beginning was with a master student in international development / Aida Bazara, who believes that the benefit was in: On the Academic level: The program provided an enormous amount of information and knowledge on international development topics from the concepts of Gross Domestic Product, GDP to the concepts of peacebuilding. This is important because it gives the student the opportunity to get general knowledge about these subjects, and then continue to specialize according to the aspirations of the student. Aida says "The program also provides us with the opportunity to study in a different academic style that is not available in Yemeni universities,". On the practical level: the program provided an opportunity to study the concepts of international development and to strengthen the critical thinking that made us better prepared to join the work of international organizations. However, the study is an endless effort that prompts students to seek knowledge. On the personal level, the program opened several channels for students to participate in different workshops and participate in events abroad and the opportunity to test their knowledge.

#### Good performance ... and new topics in our academic life

As for her colleague, Waela



Humran: At the practical level, "I benefited a lot after I studied new subjects that I was not aware of," which are different from her major specialty (laboratory medicine), but her study of this specialization gave her an opportunity to work in civil society by applying the concepts she learned in the Center.

She added that at the level of knowledge and skills, she has improved her research skills and acquired various aspects of social research that she has never been aware of before. "However, I still need to work harder in this aspect and try to be more professional and there are still a lot of things to date to learn. Research like any other science changes and develops every minute, and we have to keep up with this improvement and update ourselves all the time.", she says.

#### Different theories of development and new academic research

Samira Handhal expresses her opinion: academically speaking, we have acquired knowledge and information on different theories of development and expanded our perception of writing and academic research so we became people with a sound mind away from bias and overreaction. Academic research taught us how to look for information in more than one source and how to think moderately. As we started our studies in a country that is still in the process of economic growth and finished our program while we are in a politically collapsed country, because of our study we began to understand our reality that we want to improve for a prosperous and developed Yemen. Practically speaking, Samira says: "Our vision for work has changed, especially after the knowledge and skills needed in the field of development and gender have

been acquired, "Our country really needs such programs, and in order to promote our dear country we must employ all the information and skills we have acquired. In the end, we must give thanks and appreciation to the efforts of the administration and distinguished doctors who did not hesitate and did not hide any information and challenged all difficulties to complete the program.

#### New research skills and opportunities to work in organizations

The opinion of Ejlal Shuja'a Adeen agrees with the opinion of her colleague Handal, where she identified the reality of academic work in the Master's Program for International Development by saying: For me, the program of International Development and Gender was a real experience, before joining the program I did not have previous knowledge or experience in international development issues and gender or even what these concepts

mean. The program has made me focus on the issue of gender discrimination and the patriarchal outlook of women in the Yemeni society. I have also learned how women can raise their voices for their rights. Participatory research at the end of each academic term was a very useful applied training, which enabled me to build my research capacity and enabled me to prepare and participate in a number of research papers. The program also encouraged me to join organizations working in development issues; a new area of work for me.

After joining the Master program, my thoughts and attitudes changed a lot and there were general changes in my personality. As for the academic aspect of the program, the effect will be felt when the thesis is completed and the master's degree is obtained, God willing.

#### Developing knowledge and skills ... and broadening the horizons of thinking

The opinion of the student Mohammed Abdullah Marish agrees with his colleagues "The study at the Center is rewarding and informative." He gained great knowledge during his study in the first semester, which led to an improvement in educational achievement and became a vital reason for continuing the program especially in the field of international development and related fields, whether in the economy, social sciences and cultural studies or about political and economic variables and new technology that is taking place both locally and internationally. The academic study at the Center has led to the development of knowledge and skills, broadening the horizons of thinking about many issues that are taking place locally and internationally, and has changed my way of seeing events as well as analyzing them.

Although I have not had the opportunity to apply the knowledge I have gained from the Center in my working life and the procedures related to my work, I feel that I will be more qualified and able to meet the new challenges in the tasks that will be entrusted to me in the future more efficiently.

Finally, any program or project is always a work in progress to achieve its best and it must be strengthened and developed. I wish the Center the best of luck in its endeavors to make this master program one of the best and most enjoyable programs. ■



**Samira Handhal:**  
The acquisition of missing knowledge and skills



**Aida Bazara:**  
New Topics in International Development



**Maresh:**  
A distinctive participative academic research



**Waela Humran:**  
The program offers real experiences in development



**Ejlal Shujaa Adeen:**  
Applied training develops research capacities



## Point of view

### Alliance "Women for Peace in Yemen"

Since my participation in Inqath (Rescue) movement of December 2013 and the issuance of a presidential decree to suspend me from work as a Deputy-Minister for the women's sector in the Ministry of Youth and Sports, my work with the women's sector stopped and started working with the youth only through my leading movement Inqath a political, youth, popular movement January 14 youth and it was more than a wonderful experience with wonderful people.

However, this experience isolated me completely from working with the women's sector so that for the last four years I haven't attended any activity or even any women social occasion except my presence to offer condolences, but the events of the wedding or what we call (women's gatherings) I have completely stopped them since 2014 even with close friends.

But since I conducted the shooting course for girls two months ago, which targeted girls randomly by inviting them through my page on Facebook

and received a large response from women and the number of girls who participated in the course reached a hundred.

I realized that working with women is very important for me in addition to my work with young people and I found that together we could do a lot for our country and our people.

The ideas of these girls renew energy and bring hope that life continues and the country is still fine and the future is better, God willing.

During the course, I met wonderful girls who gave me the enthusiasm and the hope to resume my activity with the women's sector, some of the girls and I thought to form a women's alliance for a long time. The idea of creating the Alliance Women for Peace in Yemen was a diverse collection of 100 Yemeni women from various components and segments of society no selection, no discrimination, no classification.

Alliance Women for Peace in Yemen took the idea of similar alliances exist in a number of countries suffering from conflicts and wars, I liked the idea in Iraq, Somalia, Afghanistan and Syria, so I wanted to do it in Yemen.

Alliance Women for Peace in Yemen plans for the long term by activating the role of women in peacemaking in their community at the neighborhood, village, district, city and governorate levels.

Let the women be the creator of social peace in times of war, violence, pain and suffering.

The Alliance seeks to spread the values of tolerance, love, good and peace, and to establish a culture of dialogue, peaceful coexistence, justice, equality, renunciation of violence, extremism, terrorism and discrimination in all its forms, and endeavoring to implement national projects that serve women in particular and society in general.

I believe that Yemeni women are different from all other women in the globe, had not she been so, God would not recognize the wisdom of the Queen of Sheba, the only fair Queen mentioned by the Holy Quran.

She said, "Indeed kings - when they enter a city, they ruin it and render the honored of its people humbled. And thus, do they do." God Almighty has spoken the truth.

The Queen of Sheba did not say: let the kings enter your country, but warn them against entering by saying: "when they enter a city, they ruin it and render the honored of its people humble." but she dealt with the issue wisely and with political smartness to save herself and her country.

Yemeni women are a continuous series of unique offspring, why not and she is the granddaughter of the two queens (Bilkis and Arwa ...)

She is saying as she made an ancient history recorded by God in his holy book and recorded by the civilization and the history of seven thousand years she will make a present and a future that will astonish you, and the whole world.

Greetings to all the Yemeni women, the steadfast women, the brave mothers, sisters and daughters of the honorable, free men.

Greetings to all men who believe in and support the role of women in society in all walks of life.

- Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee of "Women for Peace in Yemen"



Nora Algerwy

## GDRSC holds the first training workshop on the training needs of civil society organizations

The GDRSC held its first training workshop entitled "Determining the Training Needs of Civil Society Organizations" on Tuesday, 8 August 2017.

The general program of the workshop included the opening speech of Dr. Bilquis Zabara, the director of the center, who welcomed the representatives of civil society organizations. A brief description of the center and its activities, the stages of its establishment and development was presented by Dr. Maryam Al Joufi, Deputy-Director of the center. She focused on the academic programs offered by the center; the diploma, and the master in development and gender, in addition to the activities of the training and consulting department, as well as the library section.

Dr. Abdul Wahab Abdulkader reviewed the training program for the center which represents the first phase of the training program of the center and included (23 different training courses).

After the short break, the workshop was resumed by presenting the training needs



of civil society organizations presented by Dr. Saleh Humaid. He touched on the most important training needs required by civil society organizations, and he focused on the most important strengths of the GDRSC that made the GDRSC a distinguished center among the other research centers in Sana'a University and in Yemen. A questionnaire was presented to the participants specially designed to take their opinions about the workshop and their needs. Through the results of

the analysis, the Center's leadership will provide scientific solutions to address the challenges of the civil society organizations, and to implement them in the next plan and programs of the Center in order to serve the community partnership.

The workshop was attended by a number of representatives of civil society organizations, in addition to a number of media members of the organizations and a number of academics at the University of Sana'a.

## Human Rights Council in Geneva

### Yemeni women live in a catastrophic situation, the worst throughout history

Observatory / Gender / Private

The Yemeni Alliance, for monitoring human rights violations, organized a seminar on the situation of women in Yemen during the armed conflicts in early June this year at the headquarter of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

The Secretary-General of the Social Democratic Forum, Director of Yemen Program in the Arab Organization for Human Rights, Mr. Nabil Abdel-Hafiz, addressed the repercussions of the conflict in Yemen on economic and social rights, pointing out that the estimated number of internally displaced people due to the war reached 3 million people, while the number of migrants outside Yemen due to the war reached 120 thousand people.



The poverty level in Yemen has reached more than 81% of the population, which means that about 21.5 million people are below the poverty line.

As reported, the recent estimates indicate that more than 14 million people are entering the stage of food

insecurity.

The report highlights the fact that the high incidence of social violence has reached 70%, under a significant gap in funding programs for the protection of women. Moreover, their suffering doubled and their fate became uncertain

in clear disregard of all the forces surrounding them, and descended them into a spiral of violence being as the first victims. The current war threatens their rights, which entails them to displacement and migration.

This has increased the suffering of women, especially in the absence of public services, which forces them to undertake difficult tasks in the absence of the role of civil society organizations specialized in women's issues.

The absence of government programs to provide assistance for widows and their children, and the lack of basic necessities of life which forced them to travel and emigrate.

For more information, please visit this website: <http://www.ycmhrv.org/News/Read/>

## Continued from front page

### An Academic Participation

its negative logistical implications in the dealings and facilitation of entry procedures into German territory.

This is the second consecutive participation of the students and professors of the Center and lasted a week as a result of the academic benefit reflected on the students of the Center as well as students participating from the German University of Bonn.

### Sana'a University holds

quality that must be the dominant in higher education today.

Later on, specialized participants distributed into four groups whereby the first group discussed the vision and the mission prepared by the advisory team that also worked on insertion and deletion. The second group dealt with the external environment while

the third group dealt with the internal environment and the institutional capacity. The fourth and final group dealt with the internal environment regarding teaching and learning.

Afterwards, the results of the four groups were presented, commented on and come up with the recommendations. A number of head members of the Ministry of Higher Education, the University, the Secretariat and the sectors of the State concerned with the activities and results of this workshop were invited. The GDRSC was represented by Dr. Saleh Huomaid, Assistant Professor of Mass Communication and Dr. Mariam Al-Jofi, Assistant Professor of Law and Deputy Director of the Center.

### quality assurance

Based on this vision, the Director of

Quality Management at the Center, Dr. Saleh Houmaid presented a vision to keep up with the new work in the field of description of academic programs and to establish this principle among the staff of the Center as well as faculty members of the Diploma and Master programs through direct link with the Quality unit to provide them with new knowledge in this regard.

It is worth mentioning that the quality management was established in 2014, similar to the departments established in the colleges and research centers in the university where the academic development and quality assurance center at Sana'a University supervises its performance and contributes to updating the training courses and their continuity for faculty members in the colleges and research centers.

# The GlZ supports academic centers

The giz peace building component held an introductory workshop in May 2017 to discuss the support of ten studies in the field of peace building. The workshop was attended by a number of academics from Sana'a University, and from other Yemeni universities, and representatives of research centers and civil society organizations. The main issues of research studies identified by the giz peace building component were discussed, as well as the discussion of the study methodologies and to identify any of the ten studies that needed field studies. The participants discussed the following 10 research topics:



1. The roots of conflict and peace-building requirements
2. The federal state and peace-making

3. National dialogue and peace-building
4. Towards a fair and just electoral system that achieves social peace
5. Civil society roles in war and peace
6. The role of media in conflict and peace-building
7. Political parties and peace-

- building
  8. Human rights as a fundamental guarantee of sustainable social peace
  9. Situations of children's rights during the war and during peace-building
  10. Involving gender in conflict resolution and state-building efforts
- The workshop was attended

by Dr. Bilkis Zabara as a representative of the GDRSC, as well as Dr. Mariam Al Joufi. It is worth mentioning that the academic workshop held by giz was designed according to a participatory methodology in which the main issues of the ten studies were presented by the team of "Concept Training and Development".

## Activation training courses throughout the year

### Private / Gender

The GDRSC management has approved the training plan presented by the faculty

members of the Center, in light of which the training courses for ministries and government institutions, as well as civil

society organizations and university students.

The Center offers qualitative training courses in various development fields, especially as it has a distinguished academic training base with different competencies related to gender and international development, mainly they belong to various colleges and scientific centers in Sana'a University or outside the university, they have been practicing training for years for different segments of the society.

The Center's training unit focuses on disseminating different developmental and cultural concepts to the concerned authorities and decision-makers, which will be reflected in the developmental change in those ministries and institutions as the Center is a key partner in providing the society with scientific competencies.



## Women Presence in Yemeni Media

### A report of the Studies and Economic Media Center

The Studies and Economic Media Center published a recent report entitled "Women's Presence in the Yemeni Media" for the year 2017, which is an evaluation study of the presence of women in the media in Yemen (TV channels). The study consists of: introduction, objectives of the study and its importance, methodology of monitoring, the theoretical side of the study, and the results of monitoring on the presence of women in Yemeni media. It also includes the areas of media interests, the allocated space to women in media debates, the extent of women's participation in television programs, women's participation in the media, the roles of women in the media, the issues of equality between women and men in the media, evaluating the role of women in the program or in the news, the stereotyped image of women in the media, and protecting female victims and witnesses who appear on TV shows.

The main findings and recommendations of the study were as follows:

#### First: Results

- Women's participation space in Yemeni media is not balanced as speakers based on the personal experience or major speakers on the topics and issues addressed by the media, experts, commentators or eyewitnesses. It is a very narrow space compared to that given to her male partner in Yemeni media.

- A large absence for Yemeni women in Yemeni media, though they are present as employee in the media, but most of the media never cares to publish and discuss women issues. The media does not try to approach the Yemeni women as a decision maker or expert, although there are many tragic humanitarian stories experienced by Yemeni women, but Yemeni media does

not address them. Moreover, Yemeni women emerged as an expert in many fields; Yemeni media does not try to deal with women as an expert or a reference in economic, political and social issues discussion.

- The weakness of women presence to participate in drama and news stories which is explained as the policies of the media towards the image of women in Yemeni society ignores the development in her roles and her position in the society map. There is also a big difference between the picture drawn for both (men and women) and the demographic and objective reality.

#### Second: Recommendations

1- To contribute to promote the position of Yemeni women in the media in a balanced and objective manner in accordance to her legal and human rights to be presented in the media as a human being with all the qualities of creativity, excellence and able to achieve balance in all areas of life along with men.

2 - Understand the real situation of the trends of the development of Yemeni women in the media to be capable of developing policies and formulating the appropriate programs to correct the image of women and present her in an appropriate way.

3- Media observation for Yemeni women real trends in the society and granting her the right time and space.

4- To phase out the negative framing of women as a subject of sex and seduction in the visual, printed, and electronic media, especially in commercials.

5- Enhancing media content that promotes the image of women to be a leading, creative, and independent personality who is capable of living the modern life with confidence and power.

6- Enhancing media content that supports women's rights and gender equality concepts.

7- Raise the level of awareness among media professionals about women's issues and rights.

8- Raising the level of awareness of senior management in media institutions about women's issues and rights.

9- Updating the internal rules and regulations in the media institutions to suit the presentation of objective and balanced image of women.

10- Encourage young women to study media in institutes and universities.

11- Offer job opportunities for young women media graduates to work in media institutions without discrimination.

12- Confirming the intellectual, mental and professional abilities of media women in lieu of nominal appearances.

13- Provide material and morale incentives for working women in the media.

14- Provide professional training for women in media.

15- Providing media women the opportunity to hold senior positions in media organizations.

16- Work on the development of legislation that includes a clear emphasis on women's rights in various sectors, including the media sector.

17- To spread social awareness among the public about the role of women in society and the importance of gaining their rights.

18- Provide women with access to education at all levels.

19- offer women the opportunity to enter the workplace without discrimination.

It is worth mentioning that the report issued by the SEMC was prepared by Mr. Mohammed Farhan under the supervision of the administration of the SEMC.

## Legal Window

### Impact of war on women from a legislative perspective

Despite the severe suffering experienced by women in Yemen during this war, we are still away from the principles contained in international legislation, especially the resolution 1325 issued by the Security Council in 2000.

The issue of women in armed conflicts and wars has not yet received sufficient attention in our country in terms of research, analysis and data collection to raise awareness and knowledge of the impact of these conflicts and wars on women's lives. Currently we need to apply the principles contained in international resolutions to protect women in armed conflicts.

Women are subjected to violence during and after wars, and rarely do relief operations and humanitarian assistance take into account the daily reality of women.

The implementation of programs and

assistance rarely takes into consideration the gender in planning and implementation. Therefore, the reality of women in the context of war must be taken into consideration through conducting field studies to examine the needs of women and prepare appropriate

programs in dealing with the effects of wars and conflicts reflected on them.

Protecting women and their rights during wartime begins in peacetime by modifying laws that undermine women's rights, integrating the concept of equality between women and men in the way governmental and non-governmental institutions work, and developing programs to change stereotypes of women and to change the ideas about the value of women as human beings.

As we have noted, the war has led to a decrease in public and private freedoms in the interest of preventing the danger surrounding the country. It denies some rights, such as freedom of expression, and the country's resources are diverted to the defense and military budgets rather than invested in developing institutions and programs, awareness of women's rights and projects to reduce poverty and unemployment.

The vulnerability of wars varies from one person to another depending on gender, age, social class, residence and other factors that may also be intertwined and interrelated. This is characteristic of the reality of women in Yemen today, in addition to the suffering from the siege, killing, poverty and unemployment that are the features of the war in general. Amnesty International's Statute has defined the 11 types as acts amounting to crimes against humanity, namely murder and extermination.

In this hurriedness it must be emphasized that the particular problems and needs of women during armed conflicts require the participation of women themselves in the preparation and development of protection and assistance activities because participation itself enhances protection

Ensuring better protection and assistance for women affected by armed conflict requires understanding of the laws and legislations that protect them. International law, particularly international humanitarian law, refugee law and human rights law, all adequately address the needs of women in wartime.

The challenge lies in the effective implementation of these laws and measures to protect women during armed conflicts. Such measures include the introduction of humanitarian law to all parties involved in the armed conflicts, the monitoring and promotion of respect for the law and the focus on public and private protection granted to women by law.



Dr. Mariam Al Joufi\*

\* Professor of International Law and Deputy Director of the GDRSC

## Planning to open a Graduate Program in Gender and Development in Arabic

By / Atheer Alsharfi

The administration of the GDRSC in Sana'a University is currently working on opening a Diploma/Master Program in Arabic, which comes as part of the series of academic interests adopted by the Center in its academic plans for this year. This vision is in response to the needs of the Yemeni society with all its different institutions that pursue vocational specializations serving in social gender and development more than ever before. The Center's administration is preparing to hold an upcoming



workshop to discuss the courses to be taught in keeping with the quality of global university education. Where these subjects were examined by specialized

experts in the descriptions of those subjects.

It is notably known that the GDRSC is the first research center in the university in the domains of gender and development. It is rather the first center established in Yemen, which uniquely concerned in the teaching aspects that are directly related to the development of the Yemeni society.

The Center's Director, Dr. Bilkis Zabara, stated that the task to open the program was assigned to specialized professors to prepare its academic syllabi, as it is important to improve the developmental work in the Yemeni society.

## In coordination with the Water and Environment Center, A documentary film about the Sana'a Basin



**Type / Private**

On Sunday, July 16, 2017, pertaining to the interests of the faculty members of the Water and Environment Center at Sana'a University, a scientific event was held through which a documentary film entitled 'Escaping from Depletion' was presented. The film was supervised scientifically by Dr. Saleh Huomaid, professor of mass communication at Sana'a University and it was

a graduation project prepared by a group of students at the department of Radio and Television.

The film tackled the problem of water depletion in the Sana'a water basin through repeated random digging, which has not been stopped until now. It also showed the water sufferance of the capital, Sana'a, and what could be the result after years of almost complete drought and desertification of the agricultural

lands that surround Sana'a, which is fed on this basin.

After presenting the film, the discussion was opened to the faculty members and those interested in this matter. Meanwhile, scientific notes were given to the film makers on how to improve their academic skills in future. Especially that there are distinct visions to discuss such problems that concern the Yemeni citizen.

Headed by Al Washali

## The Scientific Council of the GDRSC was held



Dr. Abdulwahab Al Washali, Assistant Rector for Research Centers Affairs, chaired the regular meeting of the Center on Monday, 7/8/2017. The participants approved many academic decisions related to the academic work within the Center. The most prominent of these was the approval of the scientific committee's decisions at the center which approved the issuance of a magazine, (Development and Gender) by the Center, in both Arabic and English, which is a scientific reviewed journal. They also approved the opening of a master's program in Arabic, after holding a mini workshop with faculty members of the Center and the program, as well as those who are interested in quality within the university and the Academic Accreditation Council for the purpose of approving the program in its official form in accordance with the legal frameworks recognized by the University.

## Approving the issuance of the GDRSC journal

The Scientific Committee of the GDRSC, at its third meeting on Monday, 24 July, 2017, approved the issuance of a scholarly reviewed journal "Development and Gender Journal". This approval came after a proposal was presented to the committee containing the name, logo of the journal as well as the general policy and professional divisions of the journal in addition to the conditions of publication, and the requirements of the text submitted for publication. The names of the editorial board of the journal were also reviewed, in addition to the advisory body, which included national, regional and international experts to provide the journal with a wide range of readership.

It is worth mentioning that the GDRSC, through its academic leadership, always seeks to dedicate the academic aspect to its various activities, especially that the journal will serve as an outlet for publishing the research of the faculty members of the Center and other research centers as well as faculties in the university and other local and Arab universities which have links with development and social gender. Additionally, other joint research, between our higher studies students and other universities signed academic protocols with the GDRSC, will be published.

## An Evaluation Committee for Scientific Research Centers

The academic evaluation committee of the scientific and research centers started its work in May 2017 through field visits to the research centers for the purpose of evaluating them in accordance with the new regulations of the research centers. The Committee formed by the University Council started its work by setting conditions and criteria for evaluation, based on which decisions will be taken to classify the functions of the research centers. In order to ensure the success of this academic work, the leadership of the Center provided all the requirements of the Committee: the documents related to the diploma / Master program whose description was supervised by academic experts in the field of specialization.

It also delivered intellectual production of the faculty members in the Center in terms of participation in conferences and seminars internally and externally.

In addition, the documents related to the training department represented by the literature of the training courses offered by the



center to the students of the university as well as its employees, and the contributions of the center in the local development by holding many training workshops for civil society organizations as well as those concerned in institutions and ministries.

The director of the GDRSC

## attends a workshop on statistics and gender

On Tuesday 25/7/2017, the Central Statistics Organization, CSO, conducted a workshop to launch the National Framework for Gender Statistics project (Phase I). The first phase of the project aimed at identifying the availability of gender indicators in databases of ministries and institutions. The GDRSC was represented by Dr. Bilkis Zabara, Director of the Center.

The workshop included a number of activities, most notably the speech of the UNFPA Resident Representative, who spoke about the importance of highlighting gender in the future work of the CSO. A working paper on the

draft national framework for gender statistics proposed by ESCWA was also presented. As well as a previous study on the reality of gender statistics in Yemen in 2010, which gave an initial indication of the availability of qualitative indicators in the source bodies within the Republic of Yemen. In the public debate, the papers and the study presented were enriched by the remarks of the attendees.

It is worth mentioning that the development of the gender statistics framework represents the first step in the development of gender statistics

and an important instrument for monitoring and reporting evidence-based policies to meet national, regional and international needs.

The workshop came out with many recommendations, most notably:

- Holding bilateral meetings between the Central Statistics Organization and the concerned authority.

- Conducting specialized surveys

- Issuing a circular defining the term gender in all bodies

- Provide financial support to the Authority to conduct such studies.

## Open Academic Day

The GDRSC held an open academic day on Wednesday, 9th August 2017. The directors of the research centers and their faculty members, as well as a number of media professionals and students from Yemeni universities were invited to the event. A documentary film about the research centers in Sana'a university was played. The film presented the academic field of these centers since their inception until today. The film was prepared by a group of students from the Radio and Television Department under the supervision of the professor of mass communication at the center, Dr. Saleh Humaid. An open discussion about the content of the documentary was held. The discussion was enriched by the comments of the directors of the centers and the faculty as well as the media professionals. The training program for the GDRSC was presented by Dr. Abdulwahab Abdul Qader, who gave a brief presentation about the training program which included 23 training courses. The aim of presenting the training program was to get the researchers in the scientific centers in Sana'a University involved in the researches and the training courses conducted by the GDRSC in the fields of gender and development.



A scientific committee was formed as a result of the meeting, equally between males and females among members of the faculty of the scientific centers, this committee will be responsible for the supervision of research, seminars and joint scientific conferences.