

## International Forum: Today's Islamic Feminisms: National and Transnational Perspectives

Dates : 7,8, & 9 June, 2019  
Venue: Hôtel Les Mérinides, Fès

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Languages of the Forum: Arabic, French, English (simultaneous translation will be provided)

*Modern Islamic feminisms seek equality in Muslim family laws and revisit the fiqh-based background of these laws from within Islam. These Feminisms appeared in the last two decades of the twentieth century and are developing quickly in the twenty-first century. National, transnational, individual-based and network-based, these feminisms constitute a genuine social movement and have resulted in knowledge-production and policy-based analyses. The Fez Nineth Mediterranean Women International Forum invites reflection on today's overall status of Islamic feminisms by addressing four main axes: the Concepts of Islamic feminisms, challenges of Islamic feminisms, and Islamic feminisms in Diaspora.*

### PROGRAM

#### Friday 7 June

9: 00 h Arrival of participants  
9: 30 h Opening Session: Welcoming speeches

Keynote Address: **Feminism/s: A Fresh Look**  
Margot BADRAN, Center for Muslim Christian Understanding, Georgetown University, USA

10: 30: Reception

1<sup>st</sup> Session: Islamic Feminism: Ideology, Knowledge, Activism  
Moderator: Moha ENNAJI, International Institute for Languages and Cultures, Fez

11: 00 h **المساواة بين الجنسين: منظور ديني** (Equality between the Sexes: A Religious Perspective)

Driss FASSI FIHRI, Imam, University al-Qarawiyyin, Fez

11: 15h **Rethinking Feminist Interventions, Decolonising Gender Knowledges**

Sarah FARAG, University of Zurich, Switzerland

11: 30 h **Islamic Feminism and Political Activism in Morocco**

Moha ENNAJI, International Institute for Languages and Cultures, Fez

11: 45 h Discussion

2nd Session: Islamic Feminism: Cultural Politics and Decolonization

Moderator: Sara FARAG, University of Zurich, Switzerland

15: 00 h **Fatema Mernissi's Transpositions of Difference: Tracking a Feminist Cultural Politics in Post-Colonial Morocco**

Najib MOKHTARI, International University of Rabat

15 : 15 h **Moroccan Women and the State in the Wake of Reform**

Souad EDDOUADA, Ibn Tofail University, Kénitra, Morocco

15: 30 h **Islamic Feminism in Morocco: Towards a Decolonial Praxis**

Meriem EI HAITAMI, International University of Rabat

15: 45 h Discussion

16h:15 Coffee Break

3rd Session: Islamic Feminism: Opportunities and Challenges

Moderator: Mohamed YACHOULTI, Moulay Ismail University, Meknès

16 : 45 h **Islamic Feminism in Morocco, the Inheritance Controversy and the *Vivre Ensemble***

Rajae RHOUNI, Chouaib Doukkali University, El Jadida

17: 00 h **Islam and Human Rights: The Contribution of Tunisian Intellectuals and Activists in Feminizing the Discourse**

Jumana AL-AHMAD, Wake Forest University, USA

17: 15 h **Islamic Feminist Icons in Morocco: The Case of Asmae Lamrabet**

Mohammed YACHOULTI, Moulay Ismail University, Meknès

17 : 30h Discussion

## Saturday 8 June

### 4th Session: Islamic Feminism and Hermeneutics

Moderator: Mohamed MOUBTASSIME, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fez

- 9: 00 h **Women's *Ijtihad* as a Strategy for Liberation**  
Meryem YAFOUT, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
- 9: 15 h **Muslim Theology and the "closure of the gate of *ijtihad*"**  
Sadiq RDDAD, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fez
- 9: 30 h **Islamic Feminism and Reform in the Post Arab Spring: Beyond the Secular/Religious Debate**  
Rachid TOUHTOU, National School of Statistics and Applied Economics, Rabat
- 9: 45 h Discussion
- 10:15 h Coffee Break

### 5th Session: Islamic Feminism and the State

Moderator: Souad SLAOUI, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fez

- 10 :45 h **Féminisme Islamique, activisme et état en Algérie**  
Khaled MEHIZ, Activiste, Association Nationale De Volontariat, Algérie
- 11 : 00 h **The Interplay Between the Politics of Religion, Gender and the Rhetoric of Political Liberalization: What Future for Islamic Feminisms in Morocco?**  
Souad SLAOUI, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fez
- 11 : 15 h Discussion

### 6th Session: Islamic Feminism: A Transnational Social Movement?

Moderator: Connie Carøe CHRISTIANSEN, Lebanese American University, Beirut

- 15:00 h **Islamic Feminism – Perspectives from a Transnational Social Movement Approach**  
Connie Carøe CHRISTIANSEN, Lebanese American University, Beirut
- 15 : 15 h **Distorted Citizenship: Egyptian Women Legal Identities within the Public-Private Paradigm**  
Sara ABDELGHANI, American University of Cairo, Egypt
- 15: 30 h **The Potential Impact of Islamic Feminism on Advancing Gender Equality in Lebanon**  
Reem MAGHRIBI, Lebanese American University, Beirut

15: 45 **The 2004 Moudawana Reforms: An Example of Islamic Feminism?**  
Fatima SADIQI, International Institute for Languages and Cultures, Fez

16:00h Discussion

16:30h Coffee Break

7<sup>th</sup> Session: Islamic Feminism and Activism

Moderator: Rajae RHOUNI, Chouaib Doukkali University, El Jadida

17:00 h **الحركة النسوية وتطور حقوق المرأة في تونس** (The Feminist Movement and the Evolution of Women's Rights in Tunisia)  
Jinan AL IMAM, Faculty of Legal, Political and Social Sciences, Tunis

17:15 h **«Une révolution musulmane et féministe»: décolonisation, action et politicisation**  
Malika HAMIDI, École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) de Paris

17: 30h **Book Review: *Activisme, Feminisme en Islam: Stemmen van Marokkaanse en Marokkaans-Nederlandse Vrouwen***, edited by Marjo Buitelaar, Moha Ennaji, Fatima Sadiqi and Karen Vintges  
Laura VAN DER TOORN, University of Amsterdam

17:45h **Moroccan Dutch Women and Islamic Identity**  
Roosmarjin van WOERDEN, University of Amsterdam

18:00 h Discussion

Sunday 9 June

8<sup>th</sup> Session: Islamic Feminism in Europe

Moderator: Ulrike LINGEN-ALI, University of Oldenburg, Germany

9: 30 h **Islamic Feminisms in Western Classrooms**  
Lydia POTTS, University of Oldenburg, Germany

9: 45 h **Feminism and 'Islamic Feminism' as Discussed in German Media**  
Helma PASCH, University of Koln, Germany

10: 00 h **Cross-cultural Interviewing of Islamic Feminists in Europe**  
Touria KHANNOUS, Louisiana State University, USA

10: 15: Discussion

10: 45: Coffee Break

11: 15 h **Female, Islamic, Different. Threshold Positions of Belonging and Polarizations in Current German Debates**  
Sylvia PRITSCH, University of Oldenburg, Germany

11: 30 h **Gender, Islam and the Law in South Africa: The Feminist Struggles and Advocacy for Muslim Marriage Recognition**  
Sheila MEINTJES, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

11: 45: Discussion

9<sup>th</sup> Session: **Imagining the Intersectionality of Diasporas, Recognizing Rhetorics of Difference and Dignity**

Moderator: Sonya Maria JOHNSON, Beloit College, USA

12: 15 h **Utilizing Performance as an Intersectional Response To Violence Against Women**  
Zoe FLOWERS, U.S.-based creator, author, filmmaker and Founder of Soul Requirements, Inc.

12 :30 h **The Ancestors Make It Home: Palo Monte/Mayombe and the Making of Social Place in Contemporary Cuba**  
Sonya Maria JOHNSON, Beloit College, USA

12 :45 h **At the Intersection of Race, Gender, Sexuality, and Social Class: An Examination of a Chinese Woman's Immigration in Early 20th Century United States**  
Beatrice MCKENZIE, Beloit College, USA

13: 00 h **Protecting Black Girls From the School to Prison Pipeline: Movement Building for Culturally Specific Approaches in Prevention and Intervention**  
Aleese MOORE-ORBIH, Senior Director of Programs, Women of Color Network, Inc., USA

13:15 h Discussion

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13: 45 h **Recommendations and Closure**  
Moderator: Fatima SADIQI (Director of the Forum)

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14: 15 h End of the Forum

16:00-18:00 Guided Tour to the Medina (Old city) and Ville Nouvelle (New City)

21: 00: Farewell Party: Local Women's Music

## Organizing Committee

Fatima SADIQI  
Steffen KRUEGER  
Abir IBOURK  
Moha ENNAJI  
Yousra BETTACHE  
Souad SLAOUI  
Mohamed MOUBTASSIME  
Mohamed YACHOULTI  
Rachid ELOUARDI  
Karima AZAIMI  
Ghita TAOUFIQ  
Oussama MOUSSAOUI  
Soukaina ABDERRAHIM

Book Exhibit: Librairie Mékouar – Fez  
Anouar Diffusion - Fez  
Lefennec - Casablanca

Painting: Khadija MADANI ALAOUI, Tarik SADIK, Moha ENNAJI, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fez

Exhibition of feminine products: Rajae SLAOUI-HAMMOUDA, Presidente, ESPOD, Association for the Promotion of small enterprises, Fez