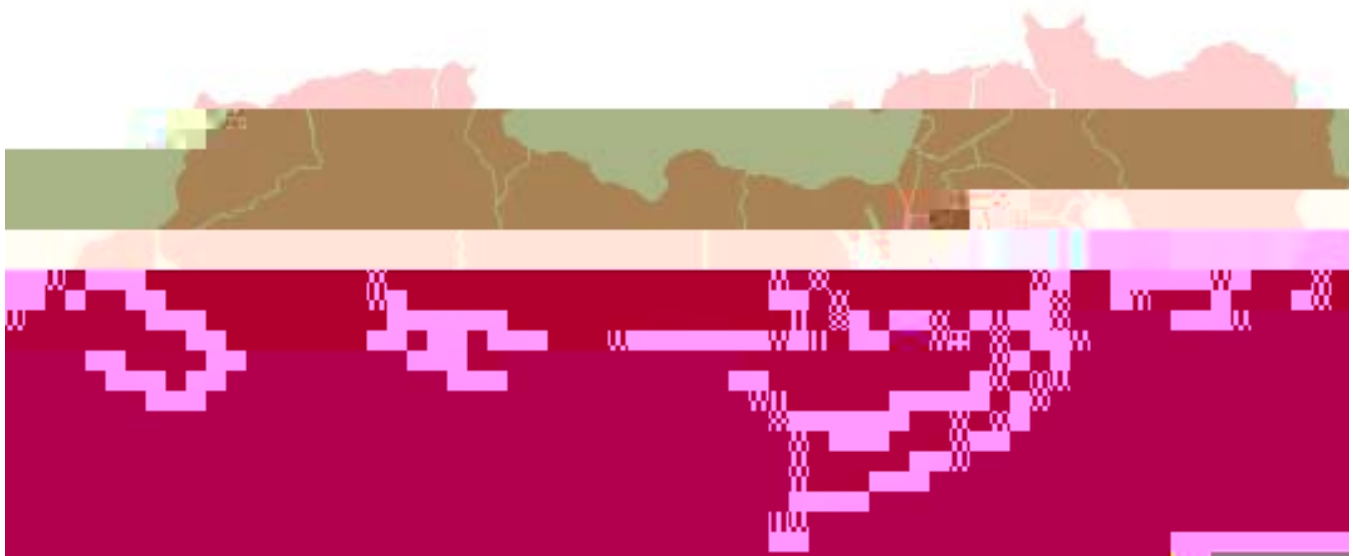


MENA Women's News Brief

October 6-20, 2014

October 12: Women's Sporting Rights Put Saudi Arabia and Iran on the Defensive

“The struggle for women's rights to engage in sports and attend sporting events has commanded increased attention with the hunger strike of Ghoncheh Ghavami, a British-Iranian national incarcerated in Tehran's notorious Evin prison, th



October 14: Meet the Yazidi MP fighting to save women and girls from sex slavery at the hands of ISIL

“Vian Dakhil– who is Iraq’s only Yazidi MP (the government has 25 per cent women MPs in all) – drew the world’s attention to the massacre of her Yazidi brethren at the hands of ISIL when she collapsed in Parliament following an impassioned speech.” ([The Telegraph](#))

October 14: ISIS Says the Quran Allows Enslaving Women. Will Clerical Leaders Respond?

“In an article that appeared Sunday, October 12 in Dabiq, the group’s English-language online publication, Islamic State militants crossed a last possible boundary of decency by citing the Quran as authority for the barbarism they have been practicing against women. Equally disturbing, Arab leaders and the ulama, the clerical leaders of Islam, have been silent in the face of this effrontery. In the article, ISIS brags of its right to enslave, marry, sell, and buy the girls and women who fall under its control in conquered territories. They are the “spoils of war,” the group asserts. No apology for barbarity toward women, no hiding of atrocity, is necessary; the Quran allows it.” ([Wall Street Journal](#))

October 15: A portrait of Shirine, Kurdish female fighter

“She chose martyrdom over death, and confrontation over hiding. She left fear behind and chose courage as a way to write history for her people. Shirine never expected to join the Women’s Protection Units (YPJ). After obtaining her high-school degree, she enrolled in university.” ([Al-Monitor](#))

October 16: Islamic State Sex Slave Market Staged In London By Kurdish Activists

“A controversial stunt to shock Londoners into seeing the brutality of Islamic State (IS) brought the terrorist group’s horrific actions vividly to life on the streets of London last night.” ([Huffington Post](#))

Israel

October 14: Poll: 2/3 of Israelis wa

Oman

October 17: Omani Women's Day An Occasion To Celebrate Empowerment

"Omani women from all walks of life have expressed their happiness on the occasion of Omani Women's Day which is celebrated on October 17 every year." ([Muscat Daily](#))

Qatar

October 16: Winners of Arab Woman Awards Qatar 2014 selected

"Fifteen winners of the Arab Woman Awards Qatar 2014 have been selected by the judges board. Judged by a panel of leading female executives, the winners span a wide range of sectors, including art, business, fashion, entrepreneurship and charity." ([Gulf Times](#))

Saudi Arabia

October 10: New era for Saudi women

"In a country where women make up a small percentage of the workforce, a female engineer is showing her male colleagues a thing or two. Wearing a headscarf and science goggles, Jumana Almuzel is a rare sight on the shop floor of Saudi Arabia's GE gas turbine facility." ([Arab News](#))

October 13: Women harassers face SR500,000 fine, 5 years

"Harassers may face up to five years in prison and incur a SR 500,000 fine [approximately \$140,000 USD] under a new draft law that is currently being studied by the Shoura Council's Social Affairs Committee." ([Arab News](#))

October 14: Women 'allowed to enter' Saudi soccer stadium for match

"Female supporters of Western Sydney Wanderers Football Club will be allowed to enter King Fahd International Football Stadium (KFFS) in Riyadh. The spokesman said this is not the first time women have been in Saudi stadiums." ([Al-Arabiya](#))

October 15: New taxi hailing service eases commuting for Saudi women

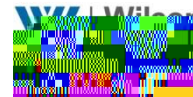
"A global taxi hailing service has enabled Saudi women to contribute to the Kingdom's economic future by being able to commute safely and securely. The introduction of Easy Taxi has come to the rescue of many." ([Arab News](#))

Syria


October 5: Kurdish female fighter in suicide attack on ISIL amid fighting for key Syria town

"A female Kurdish fighter carried out a suicide bomb attack against Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (Isil) jihadists outside a key Syrian town, a monitoring group said.

By Samaa Ahmed



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