

Working women in saudi arabia



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Women in Saudi Arabia are known as the biggest part of the population. Till 10 years ago women were not accepted as a part of the working community. This research demonstrates the lack of working sectors open to Saudi women, as well as the transportation issue, and peoples attitude towards employed women. The Kingdom has given priority to quantity and quality expansion of education in the last seven to five-years development plans. Despite the low percentage of Saudi women working in the labor force in the Kingdom compared to advanced countries, it is the unavailability of working sectors open for Saudi women - usually limited to education and medicine - which has caused some saturation in these sectors.

The Saudi government is planning to undertake a study of the role of women in the country's economy(The Kahleej Times ; Dubai;). Some of the goals expressed by Saudi Arabia's 8th Five-Year plan (2005-2009) are to enlarge the scope of economic activities available for women. One of the steps being considered to realize the goals as set forth in the Plan is to take a look at current regulations and see what needs to be done to modify or eliminate them to open the economy further to women. Other parts of the plan focus on long term policies needed to support females who want to work. The objective is to lower the unemployment rate for women.

In keeping with this objective, the plan wants government and private organizations to provide counseling for women for whom the novelty of employment may be stressful. The Saudi Plan goes beyond employment to address the entrepreneurial and investing ambitions of the country's women. According to the Times many Saudi females have access to idle funds, which they could be using not only to provide employment for themselves-as

traders—but also as an asset to the Saudi economy as a whole. Saudi Arabia is considering changing some of its restrictive policies directed at limiting the participation of women in the country's economic life.

Remarkable changes have been made with big influences in the social and economical lifestyle in the country. Having to deal with transportation on a daily base is considered a problem to women who work in Saudi Arabia. As the job requires to be on time, some women can't afford to have a private driver with a car. A study done by: (Najah bint Muqbel bin Abdullah Al-Qarawi an assistant professor of economical geography at girls literature college in Dammam, and head of geography section) under the name of "Transporting Working Women". This study aims to note the present situation of the available working women's transportation means in Saudi Arabia, and connect it with the most important factors in choosing the transportation method for the daily return trip between the origin and destination, all that as a part of a series of geographical studies focusing on the transportation of working women in Saudi Arabia from all viewpoints according to fixed-time schedule. We need to have a public transportation system," Sara Baghdadi the first woman to serve as executive director for public relations of the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry said.

I don't drive in London. I use the public transport system. " She said the government was in favor of women working. " The challenge comes from society," with men unwilling to share the household responsibilities of working wives. " Women's problem is social rather than political," she said.

In my opinion, the sectors that has women working in them either the privet sector, or the government sector should cover the transportation issue by adding extra money to the salary as an allowance for the transportation, or to provide an acceptable transportation system that allows for all to be on the job at time. There is a movie being made in Saudi Arabia based on working women, and their life styles as one of the most closed and conservative Muslim societies in the world. Filmmaker Bregtje van der Haak was the first to be granted permission to film the lives of working females in this fascinating country, where only five percent of paid employment women. In a personal road movie, she explores how working women in Saudi Arabia search for new opportunities, combining Islamic tradition and the latest technologies. Accompanied by the Ministry of Information, she meets a gynecologist and IVF-specialist, a journalist for the Saudi Gazette, a photographer, the first female airplane pilot, a university professor and a newsreader for Saudi state television. Step by step, she tries to understand what it means to be a modern woman in a country steeped in religion.

Searching for the forces of change, the film leads to Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal, the fifth richest man on earth, who is using his personal capital to passionately promote the acceptance of women in the Saudi workplace. Inside his Kingdom Holding and in his private palace, half of the employees are women, unveiled and dressed in the latest fashion, but in his luxury desert camp, the filmmaker meets only thousands of Saudi men. This documentary gives a unique insight into the lives of Saudi working women, while also providing a personal account of filming with restrictions in a society in transition, that has so far chosen to remain largely invisible to the

West. On the other hand, a lot of people are not accepting the working Saudi women, and the society doesn't trust her working skills . In conclusion, working women is a worldwide issue, but it's a developing matter in Saudi Arabia especially. The government is trying to solve this matter by giving women an opportunity to work in different sectors, but still having to deal with the transportation, one of the Saudi's working women issues.

Also, the peoples point of view, and what does the society in general consider the effective women to be. It's a non stopping issue, and it won't stop, not soon anyway. Because the community is changing almost hourly. Works Cited Al-Qarawi Najah bint Muqbel bin Abdullah " Saud University" <http://www.ksu.edu.sa/printpress/research.asp?rid=1093&id=1> " Opportunities Open up for Saudi Women"

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