

DAY II 20th April 2016 Parallel Sessions IV “Women across Cultures” organised by the Centre for General Studies	
Theme:	Theme: Language, Literature and Education
Chair	Mr. Parsa Zoqaqi, Director QAAU, Royal University for Women
Speaker	Dr. Doha Abualsaud, Dar Al Hekma
Title	<i>“Tea Cake Had Gone Crazy’: Moments of Trauma in Their Eyes Were Watching God”</i>
ABSTRACT This paper endeavors to analyze the dramatic discourse of African American women and their identity formation. Feminist theory shows that female representation in literature provides the “role models which indicated to women, and men, what constituted acceptable versions of the ‘feminine’ and legitimate feminine goals and aspirations” (Barry 117). Moreover, this research suggests that Janie's incapability of having successful emotional bonds with the males in her life can be understood through the analysis of her delayed identity recognition in respect to Lacan's Mirror Stage. Second, Janie's suppressed sexual desires that stem from the patriarchal society can be the reason for her to release these desires into an object that symbolizes her sexuality, in this case her hair. This paper aims to answer the following research question: How do women who have grown up in patriarchal societies and underwent several traumatic moments as Janie come to develop their identity as women?	

Theme	Theme: Language, Literature and Education
Chair	Mr. Parsa Zoqaqi, Director QAAU, Royal University for Women
Speaker	Ms. Norhan Rahman, RUW
Title	<i>“The Effectiveness of Recasts in Second Language Acquisition”</i>
ABSTRACT Errors are considered a natural positive stage of language learning. They might occur due to the presence of progress in the learner’s interlanguage system, which is an indication of the integration of the rule. Errors may also reflect the “overgeneralization of a second language (L2) rule” or an invalid transfer of the learner’s first language (L1) to L2 (Lightbown& Spada 2006). It is the teacher’s role to make use of those errors to enhance the language acquisition through offering the appropriate corrective feedback for the non-target-like production and not to allow too much freedom for the learners without correction, as it might cause “early fossilization”(Lightbown& Spada 1999, p.119). Corrective feedback can be provided in different ways, for example, it might be offered in form of explicit correction, recasts, clarification requests, metalinguistic, elicitation, and repetition (Lyster& Ranta 1997; Lyster 1998). Most researchers found that recasts are the most common type of feedback used in the second language classroom (Lyster& Ranta 1997; Mackey, Gass& McDonough 2000; Ellis et al.2001; Loewen 2002). Researchers have been eager to examine the effectiveness of the recasts and how they promote the language acquisition process witnessed through the learner’s immediate modification of the output known as learner’s uptake (Lyster&	

Ranta 1997). The usage of recasts is very controversial yet so crucial in our daily classroom interaction, thus it is very important to examine whether recast is a good way to offer a corrective feedback that promotes second language acquisition or should teachers abandon the use of recasts. Relatively few studies have examined these aspects from the learners' perspective, however, their perspectives are very significant and should be considered when designing a classroom activity or offering a sort of corrective feedback. Researchers and practitioners should give more attention to the students needs, as these needs should be fulfilled to create solidarity and to facilitate the second language acquisition (SLA).

Theme	Theme: Language, Literature and Education
Chair	Mr. Parsa Zoqaqi, Director QAAU, Royal University for Women
Speaker	Dr. Jennifer E. Orlikoff, West Virginia University
Title	<i>"(Re)claiming Her Voice: Anne Frank and the Diary of a Young Girl"</i>

ABSTRACT

Through her original journaling, Anne Frank initiated the claiming of her voice to share her experiences with "Kitty," her created friend and confidante while she and her family hid in the upper floors of a warehouse in Amsterdam during World War II. During a radio broadcast, the exiled Dutch Minister of Education pleaded with his listeners to capture their personal experiences for posterity and to tell their own stories, instead of allowing government documents to be the only source of information to track events. Upon hearing this, a matured Anne Frank rewrote her diaries and claimed a much stronger voice that included perceptive interpretations of family dynamics, philosophical discussions, and societal critiques, including the role of women. These challenging and pointed observations were later removed for publication, and it is only recently that the Diary, as Anne Frank had intended it, has been made publicly available.

Session III	
Theme	Women, Violation and Activism
Chair	Dr. Chitra Sinha, Associate Professor, Royal University for Women
Speaker	Dr. Hoda Thabet, Sohar University
Title	<i>"Re-identification of Female Suffering: A Contrapuntal Reading"</i>

ABSTRACT

To investigate Arab females' empowerment; an enhanced reading, into Hanan El-Sheikh/Lebanese, Nawal El Saadawi/Egyptian, Ghada Samman/Syrian, Salwa Bakr/Egyptian, Sahar Khalifeh/ Palestinian and Ahlam Mosteghanemi/Algerian, is proposed. The Arab female authors in these lands stand in the heart of cultural reforms due to their leading roles in addressing the state of females in the entire region. Through reading Arab female characters (Ferdaus/ Woman at Point Zero, Kafa/ The Night of the First Billion, Aziza/ The Golden Chariot,

Nahla/ The Inheritance, Ahlam/ Memory in the Flesh and Zahra/ The Story of Zahra,) –their preliminary cultural empowerment is extended into systematized global presence.

The empowerment of women in the East and West can present significant transition in the cultural and global power translations. To identify these power-related modifications, the interaction between the Orient and the West presents another significant transitional state. Feminist and Women theories, usually associated thematically with females’ cultural victimization, investigate females’ pain, nostalgia and empowerment in line with the presence of a male culture. The intact of East and West relation in Orientalism, Imperialism, Colonialism, post-Colonialism, Modernism and post-Modernism theories, usually associates with East as the victimized in line with the presence of the victimizer as being the West. In investigating the power-interaction paradigms, major theories follow similar methodologies. Both, the gender and the East/West cultural analysis, are limited thematically. With gender theories the empowerment of Eastern females' necessities oriental translations; and investigating the Orient/East, is defined through its victimized relation with the West. Therefore though culturally it is possible to translate females’ empowerment there is a gap in modifying it globally. To inline the cultural with the global, many theories, including the Contrapuntal Theory, offer possible proposals to new ways of reading literature. At present, there is no theory available to analyze the empowerment of females, Eastern and Western in parallel, from a global perspective; the cultural reading though essential is extremely limited.

Contrapuntal in music, defines composing counterpoint melodies in harmonic context. Applying the musical term, Contrapuntal on the East and West intercultural-relations present new possibilities to read into females’ empowerment. Through reading contrapuntally into Arab females’ characters in the selected literary works written by Arab female authors, it is expected to verify females’ power as active and subjective characteristics in their personalities instead of limiting them as objective and reactive personas.

Theme	Women, Violation and Activism
Chair	Dr. Chitra Sinha, Associate Professor, Royal University for Women
Speaker	Dr. Hanadi Bader, Dr. Marwan Ghanem, Dr. Gül Özerol and Dr. Joy Clancy, Birzeit University
Title	<i>“Gender Empowerment and Treated Wastewater Reuse in Western Ramallah – Palestine”</i>

ABSTRACT

The rights to water and sanitation are essential elements of the right to an adequate standard of living and the right to the highest attainable standard of physical, economic, social and cultural needs. In urban and peri-urban areas of Palestine, where agricultural landscape is replaced by an anonymous built environment and the domestic and industrial sectors dominate

the use of extremely scarce freshwater resources, treated wastewater can serve as a new source of water. Women and men are recognized by having different interests, needs, and gain different benefits from the use and management of water resources. In Palestine, women are disproportionately affected by lack of access to sanitation and adequate quantities of safe water. This paper aims to improve the empowerment of communities and individuals, particularly women, on the acceptance of wastewater treatment projects and the reuse of treated wastewater. Research was carried out at the Al-Tireh quarter in Ramallah about whether or not training women can increase their awareness and acceptance regarding the reuse of treated wastewater from the Al-Tireh Wastewater Treatment Plant. It was found out that the percentage of women who accepted the reuse of treated wastewater has increased through the training program. The importance of creating knowledge and awareness toward sustainable wastewater reuse in urban areas is a strategic need for the Palestinian public, researchers and decision makers. Based on the research that we will present, we would recommend that women should be involved actively in wastewater. For that purpose, the establishment of baseline data in women's empowerment and wastewater reuse is identified as a critical need to create a more gender approach of projects on treated wastewater.

Key Words: empowerment, wastewater treatment, treated wastewater reuse

Theme	Women, Violation and Activism
Chair	Dr. Chitra Sinha, Associate Professor, Royal University for Women
Speaker	Dr. Madiha Faiz Rana, Dar Al Hekma
Title	“Role of women in media in empowering the women in GCC” *

ABSTRACT

Media is seen to be playing an effective role in resolving the different issues. Also it has been the source of women empowerment also as it has provided the different women the opportunities to work in the field of media whether it is in front of the camera or behind the camera. Women who see the other women working positively and confidently; especially the women working in the media are seen to be considering them as the source of the inspiration. Also the positive impacts are seen in the GCC region and due to the increase representation of the women in the Gulf media it is seen that much attention is given towards the women empowerment. Especially in the GCC region, Bahrain is considered as the country giving the much attention towards empowerment, besides Bahrain, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar have also taken the positive steps in this regard. In this study the women empowerment through the media is discussed and for the data collection both primary and secondary data was used.

Key words: women in GCC, women empowerment, media, women in media.

Session IV	
Theme:	Socio-Cultural Themes
Chair	Dr. Jennifer E. Orlikoff, Director, Center for Women's and Gender Studies West Virginia University
Speaker	Ms. Jessica L. Davis, Dubai International Academic City
Title	“Theorizing Transnational Praxis in the UAE: Where Do We Go from Here?”

ABSTRACT

Recent shifts in feminist theory in the academy have moved from an examination of the external to a critical introspection of feminism itself. The emergence of transnational feminist theory coincided with a critique of the hegemony of ‘western’ feminism to set the model for the rest of the world. As an alternative, transnational feminist theory seeks to expand the voices and locations of feminist enterprise, enhance feminist perspectives on oppression, resistance and liberation, and open new spaces for transnational collaboration without compromising women’s differences. This paper looks at the potentiality of applying transnational feminist theory as a conceptual framework in the UAE context. A broad overview of the Emirati State, including demographics, organizations, actors and international collaboration, provides the potential groundwork for transnational feminist research. This paper concludes that incorporating diverse women’s voices into the feminist project through the use of qualitative research will enhance our understanding of issues facing women in the UAE.

Key Words: Transnational feminism, theory, praxis, UAE

Theme:	Socio-Cultural Themes
Chair	Dr. Jennifer E. Orlikoff, Director, Center for Women's and Gender Studies West Virginia University
Speaker	Dr. Sukaina A. Alzyoud, Dr. Sreenivas Veeranki, Hashemite
Title University	"Women Waterpipe Smoking and Nicotine Dependence"
ABSTRACT	
<p>Waterpipe (WP) has become a major contributor to female tobacco use in the Middle East and other regions of the world. In recent reports, WP was considered a symbol of female emancipation, where women smokers reported feeling social, attractive, and defiant of traditional gender norms when smoking WP. This study aims to examine changes in WP smoking over three points of time before, during, and after Ramadan among a sample of Jordanian women. Methods: a repeated measure design was used to assess differences in a 109 Jordanian women's waterpipe smoking before, during and after Ramadan. Using the Women Tobacco Smoking Questionnaire participants recruited from two hospitals maternal outpatients clinics were asked about their tobacco smoking status over three periods of time (i.e., before, during, and after Ramadan). Women nicotine dependence level was also assessed using a nicotine dependence scale. Results: Age ranged between 17-56 years (m= 25.97, SD ± 9.02) and the majority hold a university degree. The percentage of women who smoked WP daily increased significantly between the study's three time points 19%, 32.1%, and 39.5% for before, during, and after Ramadan respectively. Smoking one head of WP tobacco also significantly increased from 56.88% for during to 67.89% for after Ramadan. While almost half 48.6% participants scores reflected mild nicotine dependence, 23.9% showed sever level of dependence. Conclusion: this is the first study to report change in WP smoking habits among women, also it is the first to report nicotine dependence level among women. Our findings illustrate the changes in women tobacco smoke in a culture that frown on women who smoke cigarettes yet accepting their WP tobacco smoking.</p>	

Theme:	Socio-Cultural Themes
Chair	Dr. Jennifer E. Orlikoff, Director, Center for Women's and Gender Studies West Virginia University
Speaker	Ms. Rama Nair, RUW
Title	"Women across Cultures: A Comparative Study of the South Asian and Eastern Arabian Countries"
ABSTRACT	
<p>This paper explores some of the cross cultural similarities and differences in women's issues, focusing on a comparison of four aspects; based on gender issues and equality between South Asian and Eastern Arabian countries over the past two decades. Mainly, the societal requirements of marriageable age, child bearing and patriarchal families and transnational feminism would be examined. Then the diversities in global feminism, times, regions and societies would be reviewed in the context of women's studies. Also, it would assist to recognize and respect diversity through multiculturalism and appreciate women's rights as human rights that underscore the right to political, economic, educational, social and personal freedom. To sum up, it would be very interesting to note the emerging transformation in the role and position of women in today's society and across specific cultures in the modern times.</p> <p>Key words: cross- cultural, patriarchy, global feminism, multiculturalism</p>	

Theme:	Socio-Cultural Themes
Chair	Dr. Jennifer E. Orlikoff, Director, Center for Women's and Gender Studies West Virginia University
Speaker	Dr. Sukaina A. Alzyoud, Dr. Bani-Hani, Hashemite University
Title	<i>“The Map of Leadership in Social Responsibility: A Female Academician Navigator”</i>

ABSTRACT

Universities are in a changing environment of becoming more financially independent which require them to move toward corporatization. This corporatization calls for universities to be a good corporate citizen and the best approach for universities to achieve that is by adapting the concept of Social Responsibility [SR]. Yet, very few universities are oriented to the concept or integrate it in their system and none has officially adapted SR in Jordan. The current paper presents Dr. Sukaina Alzyoud experience in a managing role to apply SR for the first time in a Jordanian university in this case the Hashemite University [HU]. Dr. Alzyoud role was to steer, manage, and develop an action plan for SR in a higher education organization. In this role Dr. Alzyoud was the only female academician to chair a committee at the organization level. The experience of managing this project was a new illuminating experience to manage a project on a macro level. Through this project Dr. Alzyoud gained knowledge of the challenges of managing a project and a team in a male dominant environment. Another aspect of this experience was that perseverance and believing that a female academician is capable of achieving the work as much as a male. Other challenges were the stance of fellow colleagues and employees of not expecting a female to lead such project. A sense of doubt of a female ability to achieve the task and that she can hold the responsibility of a macro level project. These all reflect the gender stereotyping that excludes women from leadership roles. It cannot be denied that receiving support, encouragement from the university administration represented by the President played a role in the success of this experience. This support reflected that when you have a mentor who believe in you and show others that you can make achievements as much a male could do it will be reflected on your career. Confidence, making achievements, and having support and encouragement from a mentor impacted Dr. Alzyoud career greatly. Success of the project resulted in identifying HU priority areas of social responsibility as an organization. Develop SR action plan for HU was another achievement of the project. Collaborate with colleagues to put words into actions concerning governance in social responsibility such as developing institutional administrative standards/guidelines for transparency, human rights, and social responsibility. An example of institutional administrative guidelines a review and revision of HU Academic Promotion was undertaken to meet one of the SR needs areas in HU. In conclusion, there are many challenges to females in leadership and management positions. Many of the challenges come from colleagues and other people. Yet some of them come from the females themselves. Confidence, raising your voice in the figuratively sense, seeking a mentor, and networking with others are the navigation tools to success in reaching the distention on the leadership/management map for females in academic settings or other fields for that matter.

Theme:	Socio-Cultural Themes
Chair	Dr. Jennifer E. Orlikoff, Director, Center for Women's and Gender Studies West Virginia University
Speaker	Dr. Chitra Sinha, RUW
Title	<i>“Social Construction of the 'Feminine' in Independent India: A Historical Perspective”</i>

ABSTRACT

The paper explores the formation, sustenance and evolution of the feminine image in Indian society since its independence in 1947. It makes an attempt to analyse the evolution of the feminine image through dynamic interaction of social variables. With the colonial legacy as a backdrop, the paper analyses the contribution of three major social institutions on the formation of women's image - first, the role of a pro-active State, second, the role of organized women's movement and third, the contribution of growing market forces and liberalization of the economy. By examining the social forces historically, the paper tries to bring out the visible changes in the image of women in the cultural terrain and explores the manner in which the representation of women in Media is shaped by dominant ideological paradigms. Drawing upon available evidence, the paper observes two dominant alliances that have dictated the formation of women's image in contemporary India - first, the alliance of state and patriarchy and second, the alliance of patriarchy and market forces.

The paper also underscores the growing importance of image in modern societies, and urges women's organizations to focus their attention towards a fair representation of women in Media which will have a positive impact on women's empowerment. In view of the rapid technological change in Indian society coupled with the progress of mass media in the developing countries, media portrayal of women assumes centrality in the 21st century. Combining qualitative and quantitative parameters, the paper advances a methodological basis to analyse the evolution of women's image in society.