

al-raida

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The Arab Institute for Women  
Lebanese American University | Vol. 48 Special Issue (2024)



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## The Arab Institute for Women at the Lebanese American University

The Arab Institute for Women (AiW) was established in 1973, building upon the Lebanese American University's (LAU) rich history as a school for women. At that time, it was the first such institute in the Arab region and it remains the only one of its kind in Lebanon. It is also among the first globally. The Institute advances women's empowerment and gender equality nationally, regionally, and globally through five pillars namely education, research, development projects, outreach, and engagement. The AiW works at the intersection of academia and activism.

In the Arab region and globally, The AiW serves as:

- \* A Bridge: representing women and gender issues in the region and bringing these matters into international dialogues, ensuring that the Institute's perspectives are represented.
- \* A Hub: sharing knowledge on and by Arab women with the world and supporting the creation of new knowledge from/for the region. The AiW also connects people and partners to Arab women and gender issues in the region by channeling funding and support to its work and by using its vast network.
- \* A Voice: amplifying Arab voices in global discourses on gender and promoting gender equality and human rights in the Arab region.

### Al-Raida Journal

*Al-Raida* first appeared in May 1976, three years after the founding of the Arab Institute for Women. It started off as a thin newsletter consisting of a dozen stenciled pages, with the modest purpose of reporting on the activities of the Institute. With time, however, *al-raida* grew in size and scope, a development that was also gradually reflected in its new appearance. by the mid 1980s, the journal began accepting research-based articles, marking an important step in the journal's content and mandate. By 1994, *Al-Raida* reached a new level of maturity with the introduction of a specialized section – or “File” – that focused on cutting edge themes and sometimes controversial issues related to the status of women and gender in the Arab region. In 2002, the Institute made al-raida available online in both Arabic and English, giving readers around the world immediate access. In 2007, *Al-Raida's* appearance was updated to the now-current format, and new sections, namely the “young scholars” section and a section for book reviews, were added.

In 2013, more than three decades after its first issue, *Al-Raida* became a bi-annual, interdisciplinary peer-reviewed academic journal, publishing both academic and non-academic materials. As such, *Al-Raida* continued to expand its readership, and attracted rich and varied submissions that contributed to larger debates on issues of gender and women in the Arab region.

In 2017, the Institute completed its work to digitize the entire archive of *Al-Raida*, making more than 40 years' worth of invaluable research available online for free. Searchable by article, author, theme, issue, country focus, and key word, the digitization of *Al-Raida* brought the entire archive back to life. Today, *Al-Raida* continues to invite submissions from across disciplines, both academic and non-academic with the aim to contribute to local, regional, and international discussions by, and for women in the Arab region.

Cover Image: Walaa Babi, 2021.

Funding for this program was provided by the U.S.-Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI), a grant from the United States Department of State.

### Submission Preparation Checklist

As part of the submission process, authors are required to check off their submission's compliance with all of the following items, and submissions may be returned to authors that do not adhere to these guidelines. The submission has not been previously published, nor is it before another journal for consideration (or an explanation has been provided in Comments to the Editor).

The submission file is in OpenOffice, Microsoft Word, RTF, or WordPerfect document file format. Where available, URLs for the references have been provided.

The text is single-spaced; uses a 12-point font; employs italics, rather than underlining (except with URL addresses); and all illustrations, figures, and tables are placed within the text at the appropriate points, rather than at the end. The text adheres to the stylistic and bibliographic requirements outlined in the Author Guidelines listed below. If submitting to a peer-reviewed section of the journal, the instructions in Ensuring a Blind Review have been followed.

### Author Guidelines

*Al-Raida* welcomes submissions not only from academics and researchers but also from activists and practitioners. *Al-Raida* publishes scholarly articles that undergo a double-blind peer-reviewing process, as well as creative pieces, reflections by activists, viewpoints, interviews, short stories, poems, photographic essays, conference reports, as well as reviews on topics across a wide range of disciplines.

All submissions undergo a screening process and are initially reviewed by the Editorial Committee of *Al-Raida* to make sure that the contributions adhere to the journal's submission guidelines. The Arab Institute for Women (AiW) reserves the right to accept/reject the submissions received. Accepted submissions will be edited according to journal standards. Contributors will be given designated periods to submit revisions to content and style as recommended by *Al-Raida's* editorial committee and by the blind-reviewers. If previously accepted articles do not adequately address mutually agreed upon revisions by the deadline, Arab Institute for Women reserves the right to reject the publication of the article.

Articles submitted for publication should follow the APA style guide and should be sent directly to: [al-raida@lau.edu.lb](mailto:al-raida@lau.edu.lb)

Scholarly articles must include the following:

- 6000-8000 words (including notes and references)
- 300 word abstract
- 5-6 keywords
- Separate page with the title of the paper, and author's name, affiliation, full contact details, and a brief biographical statement (up to 40 words)

The Editorial Committee of *Al-Raida* will inform the authors within 2 weeks of submission whether or not their submissions will be sent for review. The submissions in this section will be anonymously reviewed by two blind reviewers. A decision about acceptability for publication will usually be taken within 4 to 6 weeks of submission to the reviewers. Acceptance of articles for publication will then be subject to modification as suggested by the reviewers.

Note: In case of disagreement between two blind reviewers, a third reviewer will be consulted for a final decision.

All other submissions – such as creative pieces, reflections by activists, viewpoints, interviews, short stories, poems, photographic essays, conference reports – must include the following:

- 1500-4500 words depending on the submission
- include a short bio data (up to 40 words)
- Endnotes (rather than footnotes) – not exceeding 7 or 8 (no more than 40 words per endnote)
- In-text citations for endnotes containing references
- References should be restricted to works cited in the text
- These pieces are not sent out to be peer-reviewed and are selected by the Editorial Committee of *Al-Raida*. All contributions must not be under consideration by any other publication.

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