

# Social Affairs Activities in Bahrain<sup>(1)</sup>

The last issue *Al-Nashra al-Dawriyya*, a quarterly published by the Unit of Social Research in the Ministry of Social Affairs in Bahrain<sup>(2)</sup>, reports on social activities performed in that country during the first quarter of 1983, particularly those connected with the Directorate of Social Affairs. The main activities consisted of the following:

1. Fifth session of the Council of Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs in the Gulf States.
2. Seventh Family Day Festival in Bahrain.
3. A training workshop on research work in the field of breast-feeding.
4. A training session for kindergarten teachers.
5. Visits made by members of local women's organizations to kindergartens and other children's institutions in Jordan for acquaintance and study.
6. Participation in the second conference of the Regional Center of International Movement held in Shirdja (U.A.E.) and attended by 6 Arab States.

The following are a few notes reporting on training sessions organized during the first quarter of 1983.

## **1. A training session or workshop on breast-feeding:**

Held from February 26 to March 3, 1983 and organized by the Ministry of Health in cooperation with the World Health Organization and UNICEF, discussed the importance of breast-feeding, the factors that hinder it, its influence on the health of mother and child and the necessity of encouraging it. The session included a training course in research work done in this field, its technique and methodology.

## **2. The third training workshop for kindergarten teachers:**

Organized by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs was held from February 26 to April 23, 1983. Its aim was to study the role of kindergartens in securing the parents' participation in their children's education. The participants were four groups of kindergarten teachers (22-24 in number) and four groups of mothers (10-12 in number). They discussed the methods used to ensure parents' participation, the stages of child development, the emotional problems of children, the influence of family health on child development, the role of the kindergarten teacher, the importance of children's nutrition and the role of radio and television programs.

## **3. The first training session unit for kindergarten teachers:**

This session took place on January 24 to February 6, 1983 at the new Center for Training Kindergarten and Nursery Teachers, established by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. Its purpose was to train participants in detecting and analyzing the aspects of children's behavior, acquainting them with methods leading to normal children's development, development of individual skills and to study the physical, intellectual, linguistic and social forms of child development. Fifteen teachers from five kindergartens attended the session which was conducted by a UNICEF delegate assisted by women experts of various ministries.

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(1) *Al-Nashra al-Dawriyya*, No. 32, Jan. Feb. March, 1983.

(2) See *Al-Raida* Nov. 1982, Vol. V, No. 22, P. 8.