

First Woman TV Announcer in Saudi Arabia



In a country where women are not allowed in public without the veil and where they are mostly confined to the private sphere of the family, Salwa Shaker breaks out with traditions to become

the first female public figure on Saudi Television.

A multi-talented woman who sings and writes for children, acts in radio and television serials, Salwa Shaker presents a family program on TV with emphasis on health.

Her husband, a radio announcer himself, has been with her on a study tour to the U.S.A. to learn elocution and voice techniques. Back home they both present a popular radio program.

Asked whether it was harder to work for

television or radio, Mrs. Shaker commented: "Each medium has its own characteristics and special demands. Radio requires a good and clear voice while television concentrates more on a person's features. TV work also takes more preparation time than radio."

* Information based on an interview with Ms. Shaker in **Sayidaty**, No. 152, 6-12 February, 1984, pp. 28-29.