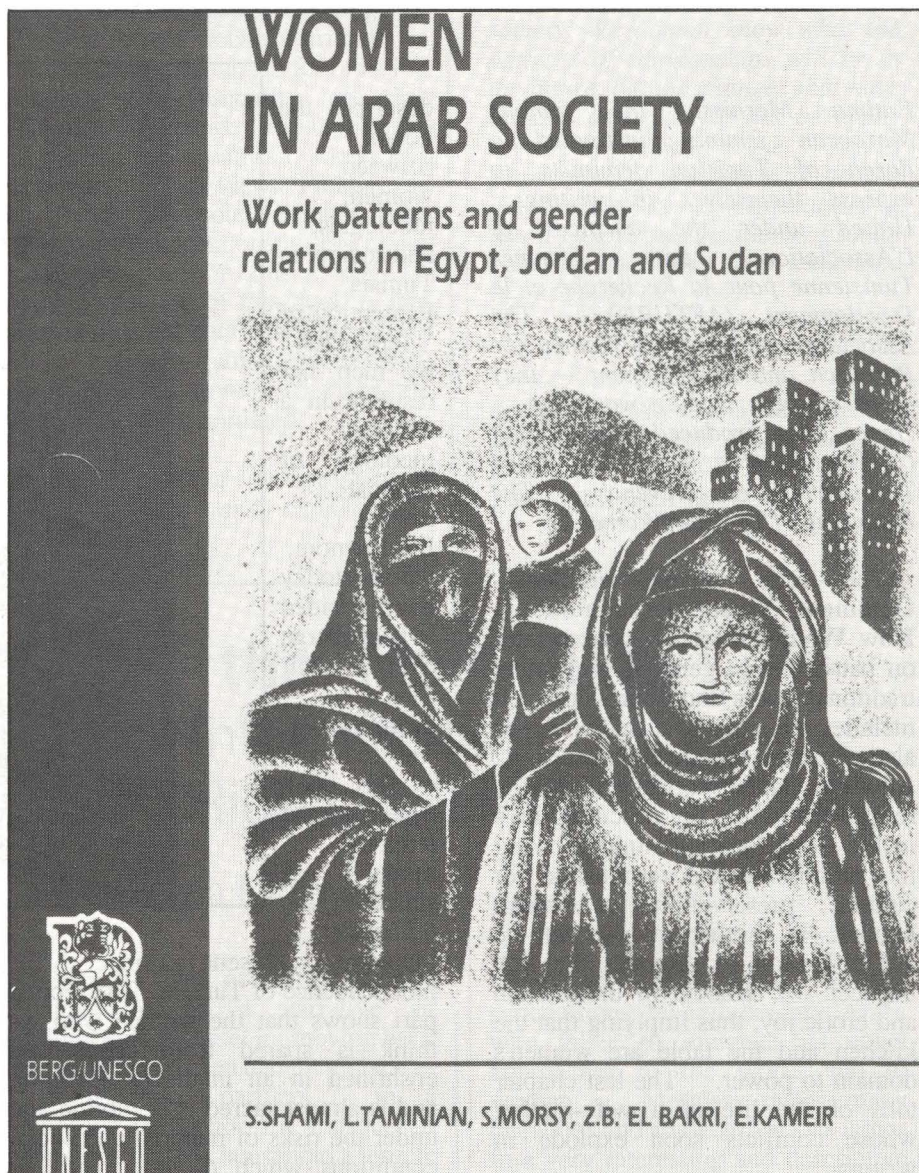


Women in Arab Society

Work Patterns and Gender Relations in Egypt, Jordan and Sudan

By S. Shami, L. Taminian, S. Morsy, Z.B. El Bakri, E. Kameir

The studies in this book are the result of a cross-cultural research project based on the recommendations of the Unesco Regional Working Group on Women's Participation in Public Life in the Arab States Region organized in co-operation with the Institute of Archeology and Anthropology, Yarmouk University, Jordan. It examines the impact of the oil economy and the effect which racial, social and economic changes have had on patterns of women's work and on value systems concerning their position in society. The women's situation is studied in rural and urban settings. Empirical analysis is combined with life histories to demonstrate the complex dynamics of gender relation in the Arab states. The results reveal that 'traditional' patterns of relationships have in fact been reinforced by 'modern' forces of labour migration and market-oriented production, while women's entry into the labour market has not automatically led to empowerment and emancipation. The picture, however, is not one of powerless beings. It reflects an image of resourceful women engaged in daily and longer-term survival strategies for their family, kin and community, thus rejecting rigidly quantitative approaches which view the importance of women's work simply in terms of economic contribution. This book will be of interest to policy-makers, the scientific community, universities, women's associations, and non-governmental organizations at the regional and national level.



Setaney Shami, Lucine Taminian, Soheir A. Morsy, Zeinab Bashir El Bakri, El-Wathig Kameir. **Women in Arab Society: Work Patterns and Gender Relations in Egypt, Jordan**

and Sudan. New York: Burg Publishers/Unesco. 1990. ISBN:0-85496-724-9 or 92-3-102655-0 Unesco
Review taken from Inside Jacket.