

Changes in Muslim Female Rights Means Modernization



20 Women win seats in Saudi municipal election as females vote, stand for office for first time

Twenty women have won seats in municipal councils in Saudi Arabia as the ultraconservative Muslim kingdom allowed females to vote and run as candidates for the first time in history in an election on Saturday.

The 20 elected females represent just under one percent of the roughly 2,100 municipal council seats that were contested in the election, according to results released to the Associated Press.

It was also only the third ever election in Saudi Arabia. Just men participated in the 2005 and 2011 polls.

The development is viewed as historic for Saudi Arabia where women have fewer rights than men, being forbidden to drive cars and making major life decisions without consent from male relatives, among other restrictions.

"I deeply believe in the importance of voting in order to be part of my country's drive to empower women and elevate their status. The turnout was good and the voting proceeded smoothly. I personally voted based on the candidates' programs and plans," one of the female first-time voters told Gulf News.

[READ MORE: Saudi women run & vote in election for the first time](#)

However, the election was only for two thirds of municipal council seats which have no legislative or national powers but are rather limited to local affairs.

The turnout was also quite low, with just 25 per cent of the voters casting ballots due to election still being a new thing for the Saudis.

Salma bint Hazab al-Otaibi, who won a seat in the Madrika district of Mecca, was hailed as first woman councilor in Saudi Arabia on social media.



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*I have Sworn on
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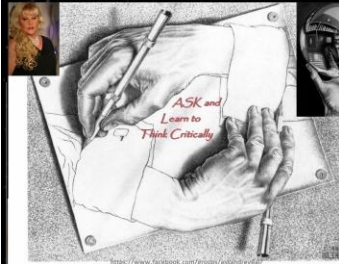


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TIMES the number of visible Stars in the Sky.

No Human being has ever been able to Directly Perceive our True Energetic Nature. So any Human Conceived Philosophy or Perception is flawed. Our senses can be lied to. Our Perception can be Twisted by Motivation. Our Income can Influence Ideas. As We Think We Are. The Powers of the Mind are Infinite. We can Expand our Consciousness by Reducing the Judgements and in Accepting the Impermanence + Pliability of Philosophies."

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