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Book review of Muslim Women Throughout the World: A Bibliography by Michelle R. Kimball and Barbara Von Schlegell.

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intentions will have to be deduced from a comparison of the two versions.

It is unfortunate that this revised and augmented English edition does not display Stewart's name in a prominent place. In today's literary world where translators are becoming more visible, it is surprising and somewhat disappointing that the reader must look to the publication information printed on the back of the title page to identify the "T" of the "Translator's Introduction." It would also have been useful for those readers interested in translation to learn something about Stewart's background.

This small criticism aside, the Passeggiata Press edition of *Children of Gebelaawi* gives the reader the opportunity to discover or learn more about one of the masterpieces of modern Arabic literature.

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Muslim Women Throughout the World: A Bibliography. By Michelle R. Kimball and Barbara R. Von Schlegell. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Pub., 1997. Pp. ix, 309. US\$75.00 (ISBN 1-55587-680-3 Hardback).

This one volume bibliography offers an important new reference tool for scholars of the fast growing fields of women and gender issues, particularly as they relate to Muslim women. In over 2900 entries, the compilers have concentrated their efforts on scholarly material published since 1980 and up to 1995, though some notable works of prior years are given. Titles include journals and monographs. Pertinent chapters of listed collected works are entered individually in the bibliography. A handful of United Nations documents and fiction titles are also included. Entries are ordered alphabetically, exactly as originally cited, by the author's last name or publishing body, and numbered for index retrieval. A work by multiple authors is listed only under the first name cited. Names originally written in non-Roman script are entered as published. Here Nawal Sa'dawi is listed under El Saadawi. Nearly all of the entries are in English, though a limited number of citations are in other languages, primarily French.

The bibliography begins with a section of 53 annotated works determined on the basis of a national survey of scholars. Their recommended books and articles compiled into a core list of references on Muslim women have been carefully chosen to represent the many dimensions of Muslim women's lives and the conditions affecting them. The authors view this collection as a helpful source for educators selecting readings in the area of gender and Islamic issues. These entries are contained in the main bibliography as well.

One of the volume's unique strengths is its geographical breadth. Not only are the expected works on women in the Middle East and countries with predominant Muslim populations referenced, but also those which inform on Muslim women in all parts of the world. This distinction sets the work apart from other recent bibliographies on Muslim women such as Makar's *New Voices for Women in the Middle East* (1996). Citations of works referring to countries with relatively small numbers of Muslims, such as the United States, the Netherlands and France are thus included.

The most significant feature of this work is its 34-page index. Because the entries are listed alphabetically by author in the main bibliography, the index serves as the sole means to locate the numbered articles by content and geographical location. Author entries are not contained in the index. The index is organized by main topic with keyword(s) and phrase entries listed beneath. Effective use of the index requires cross checking under related topics. An entry for "employment in Egypt," for example, that also includes content on Jordan and Sudan, is found by checking the primary subject, "employment" not "Egypt." While it was obviously an enormous undertaking to index this number of citations, the result is a somewhat unwieldy tool. Beneath major topical headings, the subheadings and numerical entries are given in paragraph form, creating a physical layout that is daunting in some instances. The indentation for "Islam" continues uninterrupted for nearly four columns, and the numeric entries extend for twelve lines under the subheading "women's status in." Giving the subheadings individual lines would make the index easier to read.

There is no doubt that this bibliography represents a valuable contribution to the collection of reference aids in the area of gender studies in Islam. The work fulfills its purpose of assisting users to "understand the complex historical and social factors that influence the formation of gender identities in the Muslim world" as the compilers explain in their preface. Its focus on geographic comprehensiveness, recent publication dates and the provision of a core list of resources is commendable. The main concern is the over-reliance on the index to locate entries by subject and place. General regional or topical divisions could have lessened the dependence on indexing for retrieval and the possibility of overlooking applicable resources altogether.

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