

Jury for the Ibn Rushd Award 2011

Toujan al-Faisal

Toujan al-Faisal is a human rights activist, born in Jordan in 1948. She was a TV journalist and Jordan's first female Member of Parliament, serving from 1993 to 1997 in the first parliament after martial law was lifted.

Al-Faisal has a Baccalaureate and MA in English Literature from the University of Jordan. She was facilitator and programme manager of talk shows in Jordan TV and director of media development. She was head of the cultural programmes of Noor al-Husain Foundation from 1993-1997 and also taught English at al-Ahliyya Amman University and the University of Philadelphia.

She is the author of several books and a political analysis, including "The School we want", 1984; abuse of children in "Doing Damage/Harming Children", 1985; towards the change of Laws concerning marital/civilian status, on so-called honor killings, 1989. Al-Faisal is very generous with her time, helping in several fields, such as the development of pedagogical process. She currently lives in Amman, Jordan.

Subhi Hadidi

Subhi Hadidi was born in Qamishli/Syria, in 1951. Hadidi graduated from Damascus University in 1974 and continued his studies in France and the UK.

He is a writer, critic, editor and translator and is renowned for his work on contemporary Arab poetry. His many translations into Arabic include Ken Kesey's *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Yasunari Kawabata's *The Sound of the Mountain*, and Edward Said's 'Afterwards' in *Orientalism*, as well as *Islamic Political Thought* by Montgomery Watt; *Middle Eastern Mythology* by S. H. Hooke and *Myth and Meaning* by Claude-Lévi Strauss.

His recent publications include writings on the lyrics of Mahmoud Dawish, reflections on the historic novel and postcolonial literature.

Subhi Hadidi also is a regular contributor to *Al-Quds Al-Arabi* and *Le Nouvel Afrique-Asie*.

He lives in Paris, France.

Hamdy Kandil

Hamdy Kandil was born in Monofia, Egypt in 1939. He is a TV presenter, journalist and activist.

After three years of studying medicine, Qandeel decided to become a journalist. The prominent journalist Mustafa Amin invited him to join the magazine *Akhir Sa3a* (last hour), which he did in 1951. He became an editor of the publication responsible for, among other things, the readers' Letters to the Editor.

He was the on-air personality and helped create numerous programs such as *With Hamdy Kandil* radio show and Television el Arab, *Kalam Rassas* (pencil) on Dubai Channel and Libyan Satellite channel. He also worked as an editor on the Egyptian Satellite Channel and Dream TV.

Hamdy Kandil is a political activist and was part of numerous movements such as National Association for Change (NAC), which includes numerous prominent activists such as George Ishak. NAC is a major supporter of Dr. Mohamed Elbaradei presidential bid.

Nadia Lamhaidi

Nadia Lamhaidi is a professor at the 'Institute Supérieur de l'Information et de la Communication' at the University Mohammed V in Rabat, Morocco and works as a consultant for numerous international organizations. Lamhaidi studied at the Institute of Journalism in Rabat, Morocco and continued her studies in Paris, France, where she received her PhD from the Université de Droit, d'Économie et de Sciences Sociales, Paris II Panthéon.

Her research today is focused on the position of women in Journalism and the image of women in the media. She is an active member of the UNESCO project 'Med media' for the education/training of women journalists and advises the Acdi (Agence Canadienne pour le Développement International) for their project on 'Institutionalisation of Equal Opportunities of the Sexes in the sector of communication in Morocco. She is also the co-author of the Unesco-study on the profile of female journalists in the Maghreb.

Dr. Lamhaidi also works with a number of Moroccan journals, such as Le Matin, Finances News Hebdo, La Vie Eco, Al Ahdad Al Maghribia, etc.

Laila Al-Shaikhli

Laila Al-Shaikhli was born in Baghdad, Iraq, and raised in Saudi Arabia. She has been working for Al Jazeera Television since 2006. Her shows include *Dialogue with the West* (MBC), *Agenda* (MBC), *Dunnia* (ADTV), *Panorama* (ADTV), and *Behind the News* (Al Jazeera).

Laila studied in England and received her college degree from the University of Pittsburgh in the USA. Her TV career began at ANA, a local TV station in the USA, in 1991. After joining the BBC World Service in London in 1994 she became the first female to anchor a political show on Arab Satellite TV. She went on to anchor several political and social programs in some of the major Arab stations including the Middle East Broadcasting Center, which she joined in 1996 and Abu Dhabi TV in 1999, before starting her present work at Al Jazeera.

Her field experience includes the coverage of the Israeli withdrawal from Southern Lebanon, the US war on Afghanistan, September 11 in Washington and the coverage of various international events. Laila has received several awards of excellence in TV journalism and was appointed good will ambassador to Comoros Islands.