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ROP Day Celebrated



Sayyid Saud bin Ibrahim Al Busaidi, the Interior Minister, presided on 5th of January over the graduation of the sixth batch of university graduate officers and the fourth batch of Police College students, new police recruits and policewomen at the military parade ground at Sultan Qaboos Academy for Police Sciences in Nizwa.

The ceremony coincides with the ROP celebrations marking its annual day, which falls on January 5 every year. The chief guest then delivered a speech in which he pointed to the care

extended by His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, the Supreme Commander of the ROP, and his appreciation of the major national role it plays in building the contemporary state.

He praised the excellent preparation and organization of the graduation ceremony wishing all ROP personnel success in spreading the noble message of the police that satisfies God and obtains the confidence of His Majesty the Sultan.

The personnel of the Special Task Force Headquarters performed a parachute drop show

after which the chief guest presented ‘ excellent service orders’ to a number of senior ROP officers and familiarized himself with the new planes supplied to the Directorate of Police Aviation.

Lieutenant General Malik bin Sulaiman Al Ma’amari, Inspector General of Police and Customs, gave a speech on the significant achievements made by the ROP in all aspects during 2007.





He then honoured the officers who topped the sixth batch of graduate officers and distributed certificates to the fourth batch of degree students of the Police College. He also honoured the officers supervising the training of the batches.

Lt-General Ma'amari also conferred medals of competence on a number of ROP officers and individuals. At the end of the ceremony, Lt-General Ma'amari presented a commemorative gift to Sayyid Saud bin Ibrahim Al Busaidi.

The ceremony was attended by a number of ministers, members of the State Council and Majlis Al Shura, commanders of the Armed Forces Corps, sheiks and dignitaries of the wilayats of the Dakhiliyah Region ■





ROP launches new team of paratroopers

The Royal Oman Police launched on 5th of January a new team of paratroopers at the Police Special Taskforce Headquarters. The team will take part in a number of security operations especially those held at inaccessible areas. It will also perform drop shows during national and police occasions.

The team which consists of 8 paratroopers has been well trained in order to carry out its duties efficiently. It has undergone many training programs divided into two phases. In the first phase, they learned the rudiments of parachuting such as, the main components of a parachute and ground operations. In the second phase, they were acquainted with the essential theoretical and practical information ■



Lt Gen Al Maamari receives GCC official

Lieutenant General Malik bin Sulaiman Al Ma'amari, the Inspector General of Police and Customs, received on January 6 Major General Moahmmmed Ali Fadhil al Nuaimi, Assistant Secretary for Security Affairs at the General-Secretariat of GCC at his office in Qurum.

They discussed matters of common concern, particularly security matters. Senior ROP officers attended the meeting ■



Police chief receives US delegation

Lieutenant-General Malik bin Sulaiman bin Said Al Ma'amari, Inspector-General of Police and Customs received on January 8 a delegation from the US House of Representatives. Major-General Salim bin Musallam Qatan, Assistant Inspector-General of Police and Customs, and senior ROP officers attended the meeting. The US delegation also visited Bait al Baranda in Muttrah.

The head of the delegation admired the documentation of different aspects of modern and ancient Omani life at the museum ■



UK official meet

Lieutenant-General Malik bin Sulaiman bin Said Al Ma'amari, the Inspector General of Police and Customs, received on January 16 Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope, the Supreme Commander of British Fleet and his delegation currently visiting the Sultanate at his office in Qurum.

During the meeting, cordial conversations were exchanged and viewpoints on a number of joint topics particularly security concerns were reviewed.



Major General Salim bin Mussalam Qatan, the Assistant Inspector General of

Police and Customs and ROP senior officers attended the meeting ■

ROP chief in talks with Arab official



Lieutenant-General Malik bin Sulaiman bin Said Al Ma'amari, the Inspector General of Police and Customs, received on January 16 Dr. Mohammed bin Ali Koman, the Secretary General of Arab Interior Ministers' Council at his office in Qurum ■

Oman, Iran police officials discuss several issues



An official session of talks was held on 6 January between the Omani side led by Lieutenant-General Malik bin Sulaiman bin Said Al Ma'amari, Inspector-General of Police and Customs, and the Iranian side led by Dr Ismail Ahmedi Muqqadim, Commander of the Iranian Police Forces, at the Royal Oman Police (ROP) headquarters. The Inspector-General of Police and Customs welcomed the Iranian delegation and reviewed the growing relations between the two friendly countries.

The session also discussed on security and customs cooperation, activation of a joint committee and issues related to infiltration and narcotic trafficking.

The Iranian delegation also visited the Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF) Museum and viewed the historical manuscripts and artifacts that depict the ancient Omani history. The head of the delegation also signed the register book expressing his delight and that of his accompanying delegation for the Sultanate's heritage.

The commander of the Iranian Police Forces on his arrival in the Sultanate was received by Lieutenant-General Malik bin Sulaiman Al Ma'amari, Major-General Salim bin Musallam Qatan, Assistant Inspector-General of Police and Customs, the Iranian ambassador to the Sultanate and a number of ROP senior officers ■

Iranian delegation visits Nizwa police academy

Maj Gen Dr Ismael Ahmadi Muqadam, Commander of Police Forces in Iran and his delegation visited on January 7 the Sultan Qaboos Academy for Police Sciences in Nizwa.

On his arrival at the academy, the guest was received by Lt Gen Malik bin Sulaiman al Maamari, the Inspector General of Police and Customs.

The women's police music band played musical pieces and personnel of Special Taskforce Command performed parachuting and various other exercises.

The guests viewed the modern aircrafts supplied to the Directorate of Police Aviation. They also visited various sections of the academy. Earlier, the guests visited the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque in Baushar accompanied by Maj Gen Salim bin Musallam bin Ali Qatan, Assistant Inspector General of Police and Customs ■



Medal of special service conferred on ROP personnel

Lieutenant-General Malik bin Sulaiman bin Said Al Ma'amari, the Inspector General of Police and Customs, conferred on December 12 at his office in Qurum the special service medal on a number of Special Police Security Unit personnel in appreciation of their remarkable efforts during the pervious years.

On this occasion, the Inspector General congratulated the honored personnel and wished them a practical life full of success and prosperity. He also urged them to exert more efforts in order to hone their skills.



The event was attended by Major General Salim bin Mussalam Qatan, the Assistant Inspector General of Police and Customs and the Director of Special Police Security Unit ■

Seminar of senior ROP commanders held



Lieutenant-General Malik bin Sulaiman Al Ma'amari, the Inspector-General of Police and Customs, presided on December 30 over the Senior Royal Oman Police Commanders Seminar at the Traffic Safety Institute in Seeb in the presence of Major General Salim bin Musalam bin Qatan, Assistant Inspector General of Police and Customs and commanders of various police regional headquarters.

The Seminar discussed a number of police issues with the aim to enhance the services rendered by the ROP to the public ■



Police third art competition top achievers awarded



Lieutenant-General Malik bin Sulaiman bin Said Al Ma'amari, the Inspector-General of Police and Customs, presided on December 30 over the prize-distribution ceremony of the third police art competition for 2007 organized by the Police Sports Federation.

The ceremony started with a welcoming speech after which the top poets recited their poems. There was also a brief introduction about the winning stories. Then, the chief guest presented gifts to the top competitors.

In the category of traditional Arabic poetry, First Lieutenant Moahmmmed bin Salam al Hashami from the Sultan Qaboos Academy for Police Sciences achieved the first position for his poem "Weather

conditions and People", while Civilian Officer Ahmed bin Rashid Al Sooti from the D.G of Customs became first in the category of folk poetry for his poem "Memories Remain". As for the category of short stories, Civilian Staff Taha Mustafa Ramadan Shaheen from the D.G of Customs bagged the top prize for his story "Ascending to down".

At the end of the ceremony, Brigadier Ali bin Salim Al Sinani, the D.G of Human Resources and President of the Police Sports Federation presented a commemorative gift to the chief guest. The function was attended by Major General Salim bin Musalam bin Qatan, Assistant Inspector General of Police and Customs and a number of ROP senior officers ■

New second public prosecutors take oath

A new batch of 22 second public prosecutors took oath on 2nd of January before His Excellency Lieutenant General Malik bin Sulaiman Al Ma'amari, the Inspector General of Police and Customs, the General Supervisor of Public Prosecution on the premises of Public Prosecution in Al-Khuwair. The ceremony was attended by His Excellency Husein bin Ali Al-Hialai, the Public Prosecutor. It was held in implementation of Article 11 of the General Prosecution Law issued under Royal Decree No 92/99 ■



Riot dispersing course concluded

Major General Said bin Nasir Al Salmi, Commander of the Royal Army of Oman presided on January 16 over the graduation ceremony of the fourth course of riot dispersing for the Royal Army of Oman personnel at the premises of Special Taskforce Police.

During the ceremony, the Special Taskforce Police personnel performed a number of shows, notably taekwondo fighting.

On this occasion, Major General Salim bin

Mussalam Qatan, the Assistant Inspector General of Police and Customs, presented a commemorative gift to the chief guest.

The ceremony was attended by Rear Admiral the Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman, Major General Salim bin Mussalam Qatan, Assistant Inspector General of Police and Customs, and a number of senior military and police officers ■





Shinas police station opens

The Shinas Police Station opened on January 7 to mark the Royal Oman Police annual day in a ceremony held under the auspices of Shaikh Muadad bin Mohammed al Yaqoubi, Wali of Shinas.

Col Nasser bin Said al Harthy, Commander of Police in the Batinah Region, said the construction of this important edifice comes in implementation of the directives of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos, the

Supreme Commander of the Royal Oman Police, aimed at enhancing security across the country.

The chief guest unveiled the plaque marking the opening of the police station. Also present at the ceremony were walis of the Batinah region, members of the Majlis Addawla and Majilis Ash'shura, ROP commanders, officers, shaikhs and dignitaries ■



Symposium on vital installations security



A symposium on the security of vital installations organized by the Royal Oman Police was held on February 17, at Barr al Jissah Resort and Spa under the auspices of Major General Salim bin Musalam bin Qatan, Assistant Inspector General of Police and Customs in the presence of under-secretaries, senior officers of the Sultan's Armed Forces and security apparatuses.

Colonel Salim bin Mohammed al Maslahi, ROP Acting Director-General of Operations, spoke on the significance of the symposium.

“A total of 250 participants representing vital sec-

tors are taking part in the symposium, besides experts and researchers in security and safety”, he said.

It will discuss security challenges facing vital installations, specifications and standardization and the best methods in security, precautionary measures and preparation of security and emergency plans, among others.

The chief guest opened an exhibition of products of security and safety technology companies on the sidelines of the symposium in which the companies showcased the latest equipment ■



Author's Literary and Material Rights

in Oman's Law for Protection of Copyrights and Related Rights

by: Lieutenant

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Intellectual efforts of members of the society, including their scientific, literary, and artistic output plays an important role in the community's development and prosperity. Various countries of the world take care of the intellectual property rights and protect them by laws.

Intellectual property rights mainly include: the industrial and commercial property rights (patents), literary and artistic property rights (author's copyrights). The Omani legislator has placed emphasis on the author's copyrights, the subject of this study, because of their significance and the serious effects that result from infringing them.

In line with the rapid development in copyrights and the relevant rights the Law of Protection of Copyrights and Related Rights was issued in the Sultanate on 21 May 2000 by Royal Decree No. 37/2000. In this article I'll cast light on the moral and financial rights of the author.

I. Copyrights of an Author:

I think that the best definition of the copyright is: “It is an authority stipulated by law for the author to protect their moral personality from any possible infringement.”

Copyrights are divided into 4 basic rights: the author’s right to ascribe a work to themselves, the right to protect their work, the right to decide to publish their work, and the right to withdraw their work. The Omani legislator has mentioned only the first two rights without any reference to the right to publish or to withdraw the work.

1. Author’s Right to Ascribe a Work to Themselves:

This is a “Brainchild Right”. It means that the author has a right to maintain that the work is thought up, created by them, and to ensure that the work reaches the public bearing their name, nickname and academic qualifications. Such right is not restricted to the work, but includes also its advertising in the media, internet, etc.

On the other hand, this right entitles the author to offer their work to the public anonymously or under a pseudonym. It is worth noting that the author can disclose themselves at any time even if there is an agreement preventing the author from disclosing their personality, because such agreement is null and void. Where an anonymous author dies, the heirs are not authorised to disclose the author so long the latter did not permit them expressly to do so before they die.

2. Author’s Right to Protect their Work:

This is known as the “Right to Respect”. It means the author’s right to prevent any distortion or corruption on their work, whether by removal; alteration; addition or by change of sequence of the contents which may distort the form in which the author wants the work to appear.

As any amendment to the work is subject to the author’s agreement, the author’s right to protect their work from any alteration applies to all parties involved, including the publisher,

It is worth mentioning that in the Law of Protection of the Author’s Copyrights and Related Rights the Omani legislator has ignored two basic rights: the right to decide to publish the work, and the right to withdraw it. However due to the importance of these two rights, we think that the Omani legislator must promptly include them in this Law.

a. Author’s Right to Decide to Publish a Work:

The author has the sole right and will to decide where, when, and how to publish their work, and it is their sole decision not to publish it. There is no other authority that may compel the author to publish their work or not, or to publish it in a certain place, time or manner. The work reflects the author’s reputation and intellectual position, and therefore they have the right only to publish it when they ensure that it is an appropriate manner matching their status.



Arab legislations are different regarding the transfer of this right to the heirs after the death of an author. However, the majority of them tend to transfer the right of publication to the heirs.

b. Right to Withdraw a Work:

This right exists if an author discovers after publication that the work has some defects, no longer reflects their ideas or beliefs, or the theories on which the contents are based have become obsolete. In such circumstances, the author has the right to stop the circulation of the work and withdraw it to either destroy it or make some amendments to. In this case the author is committed to compensate fairly those who have financial rights in the publication of the work.

In most Arab legislations the right to withdraw a work is not transferable to the heirs.

Characteristics of Copyrights:

According to Article 5.1 of the Law of the Protection of Copyrights and Related Rights the author's copyrights are characterized as follows:

1. Moral Right Cannot be Transferred, Surrendered:

As long as the work is the author's brainchild, and the moral right is part of their personality, such right cannot be disposed of or transferred. It has more significance than the transferable material properties. And, if the transfer of such right is ever possible, this may give way to other people to exploit the author's need, buy their ideas, and ascribe them to themselves.

2. Moral Right Does not Lapse by Time:

The moral right remains the author's own in life and posthumously. It will remain part of their personality and will never lapse by time. After the author's death such right will be transferred to the heirs, whose role is restricted to the custody of that heritage to protect it from any distortion or corruption.

3. Moral Right Cannot be Confiscated:

This stipulation is not included in Article 5, Law of Protection of Copyright and Related Rights, which Article stipulates the author's moral and financial rights. However, being considered a means of protection of the author's rights, this characteristic is included in Article 13, which stipulates that the author's moral right cannot be confiscated because, as aforesaid, it cannot be transferred or surrendered. On the contrary, allowing such confiscation will mean that the author may be compelled to offer, against their will, their ideas to the public, an apparent infringement of the author's copyrights.

Creditors cannot confiscate the debtors author's work so long the latter has not disclosed the work or put it to circulation. But they only have a right to copies of an already published work in order to regain their debts.

In this regard the Omani legislator refers to an important provision regarding a work whose author died before its publication, and stipulates that it should not be confiscated unless it is explicitly proved that the author intended before death to publish it.

II. Author's Financial Rights:

The author's financial right is their right to gain an appropriate part of the financial returns of their work. It implies the author's authority to gain a financial benefit from their work whether they utilize it by themselves, or waive this right to other parties with or without compensation.

Contrary to the moral right, the financial right can be transferred, disposed of, confiscated, and can lapse by time.

Financial rights as stated in the Oman's Law of Intellectual Property include copying, derivation, performance in public, communication in public and material exploitation of the work as follows:

1. Copying:

This is the author's most important financial right. It takes place by producing copies identical to the original work, like printing of books, photographing of paints, recording of sounds on audio tapes, or by preparing models of the work such as casting in moulds in sculpture.

2. Derivation

In the Omani Law derivation is defined as the "translation of a work into another language, summarization, extraction of a work, or making alteration in a work." A derived work implies that there is an original work from which a new work is produced. The Omani legislator gives examples of derivation as follows:

- **Translation:** to express a work in a different language.

- **Summarization:** a mental process which results in bringing a work in a new form that is different in volume, wording and style from the original text.

- **Extraction:** The process of taking a specific text from one work and using it in another with reference to the source and the author.

3. Performance in Public

This is the most prominent form of the direct, material exploitation. It takes place when a work is performed in public such as singing or acting in front of an audience. Other means of direct transfer of literary or artistic works to the public include broadcasting by radio or T.V.

4. Material Exploitation of a Work:

Forms of financial rights are concluded in this generalized statement: "all forms of financial exploitation of a work including the commercial renting of the work or copies thereof."

The legislator has not stated particular forms of material exploitation of a work, but mentioned them as examples when used the word "including". The only example the legislator mentioned is the commercial renting of a work, to enable the public to benefit from it or copy it for a specific period against a certain payment. The legislator has well done, especially within the ongoing technological developments in the means of transferring literal or artistic works to the public.



by: Lieutenant Colonel

Abdullah bin Mohammed Al-Jabri

Assistant Director General of Civil Status

LIBERATION AND FEMALE CRIMINALITY

(2-2)

THE DEBATE

The growth in women's crime rates has raised a controversial debate in female criminality which has been attributed to liberty and feminism. It seems that it is still not finalised because it is considered something new in the criminological literature. Criminologists such as Pike (1876) argued that "as women grow more independent they would also grow criminal" and after less than two decades (1895) Lombroso and Ferrero produced their study of female offenders (Smart, 1979). While Bishop (1931). The study suggests that the recognition of the existing signs of the increasing rate of women's crimes is caused by increasing emancipation (Pollak, 1950, cited by Heidensohn, 1994).

On the other hand, Rock concludes by observing that "criminology is a masculine discipline, and the other big idea of the 1970s feminism has not spread far within it" (Heidensohn, 1995, p. 67)

In recent years, there has been something of a moral panic among women. This phenomenon is connected with the high rate of unfeminine and untraditional crime among the liberated

females. Historically, women have often been associated with sexual offences, but nowadays women challenge men in some other crimes which do not fit the organic and sociological nature of women such as robbery and violence. Researchers such as Betrand (1969) tried to demonstrate the developments in sex-role theory and crime, including female self-perception, cultural deviant life style of women roles, punishment laws and female emancipation which are all connected. On this basis, she argued that the female crime rate varies according to the woman's commitment towards her home and children, and women who have established civil rights penal codes would not be discriminatory (Heidensohn, 1994).

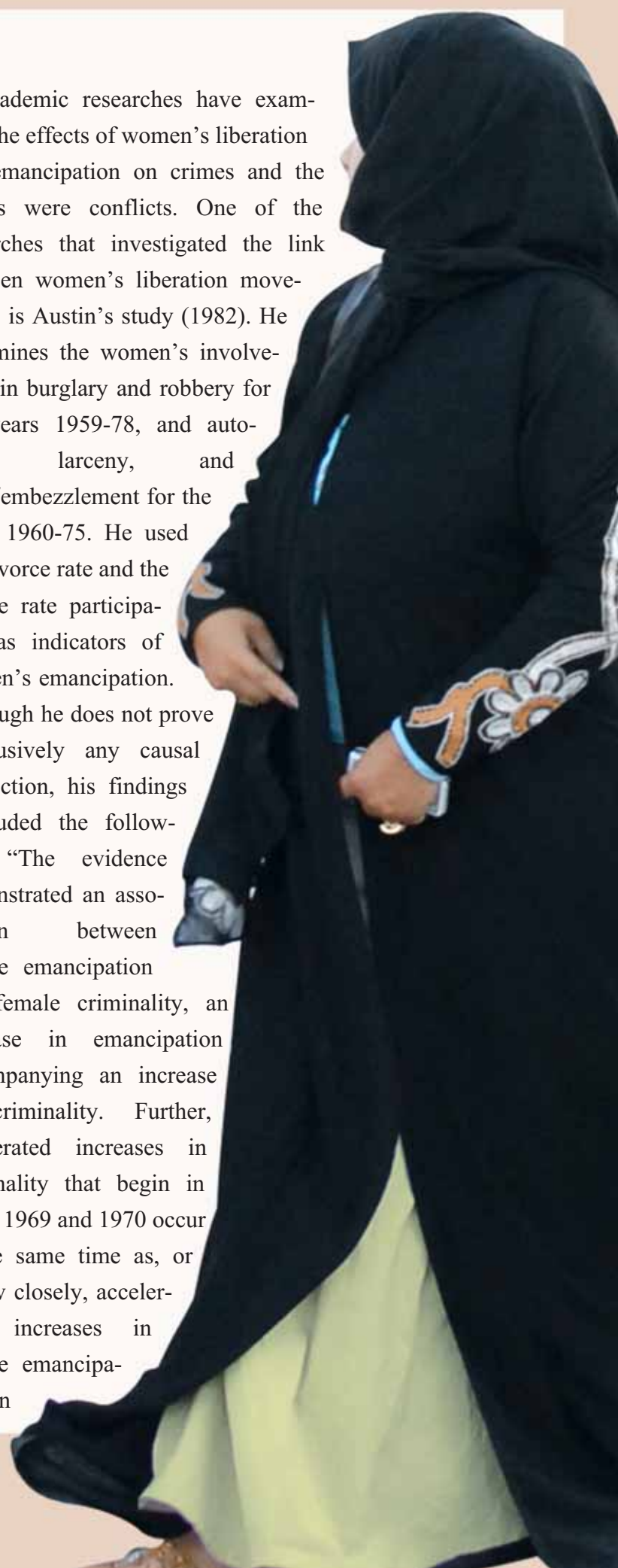


This debate started with the concept that working mothers are more prone to commit crime due to their association with 'masculine' values at work. They also have many opportunities to commit crime outside home, as cultural differences between man and women have narrowed. As a consequence, the criminologists have argued that the children of wage earning mothers are more likely to become delinquents in the future which involve some social control complications (Smart, 1979). Similarly, researches indicated many discrepancies in the systems enforced in females, often owing to them being dependent on the regimes made for males, along with the consequent stresses and discords (Heidensohn, 1985).

On the other hand, some other criminologists were unable to locate any empirical support for this claim. Thus, they diminished from the seriousness of female criminality, one of those is Steffensmeier, (1980) who suggests that "The new female criminal is more a social invention than an empirical reality and that the proposed relationship between the women's movement and crime, is indeed, tenuous and even vacuous. Women are still typically non-violent, petty property offenders" (Box & Hale, 1983).

Furthermore, Heidensohn pointed out that women were less likely than men to be convicted of crimes; far fewer were in prison (Heidensohn, 1986, 1995).

Academic researches have examined the effects of women's liberation and emancipation on crimes and the results were conflicts. One of the researches that investigated the link between women's liberation movements is Austin's study (1982). He determines the women's involvement in burglary and robbery for the years 1959-78, and auto-theft, larceny, and fraud/embezzlement for the years 1960-75. He used the divorce rate and the female rate participation as indicators of women's emancipation. Although he does not prove conclusively any causal connection, his findings concluded the following: "The evidence demonstrated an association between female emancipation and female criminality, an increase in emancipation accompanying an increase in criminality. Further, accelerated increases in criminality that begin in 1968, 1969 and 1970 occur at the same time as, or follow closely, accelerated increases in female emancipation in





1967 and 1968. Therefore, temporal sequence criterion for demonstrating a causal relationship is also satisfied ...and...contrary to the dominant position in the literature, the evidence does not show a stronger or more likely effect of female emancipation on larceny-theft than on more serious offences” (Box & Hale, 1984).

In comparison, such of this result, is not conformed to what he had pointed out in a previous paper (Austin, 1981) when he criticised Smart’s statistical analysis which concluded that ‘dramatic rises in female criminality are not a new phenomenon’: female crime rose sharply from 1935-46’. That was due to ‘socio-economic position of working-class women which needs to be considered. While middle-class women have benefited from changes in the labour market, the position of black and working-class women may actually have deteriorated’. Austin argues that the period 1970-75 showed a greater change in the female percentage of all offenders’ and went to suggest that there was ‘clear evidence of a relationship between the movements and female criminality’ (Heidensohn, 1994).

In a series of papers, Steffensmeier et al (1981) concluded that ‘female crimes of violence against the person have increased absolutely but not relatively to the male rate, whereas female property offences have increased faster than the male rate’ (Box & Hale, 1983; Heidensohn, 1994, p. 158). Regarding the last point, Heidensohn suggested that ‘this point was due to non-occupational frauds such as shoplifting’. He demonstrated that shoplifting is well recognised as a

major classification of crime in which females have a significant role (Ibid).

Correspondingly, upon analysing the data gathered about crime rates in general in England and Wales; Box & Hale (1983) concluded there was no significant difference. Thus, they inferred the following:

1. Changes in convictions for violence were explained in terms of labelling.
2. Economic marginality is behind the increasing rate of property crimes.
3. The growing numbers of female police officers also had an impact on conviction rates (Ibid).

The other side of the matter or the women in the penal institutions is drawn in dark colour by Carlen. She cited that since no one has ever cared for them, women really couldn’t care less about themselves either. Marginalized by both poverty and isolation from family, friends and other non-institutional associations, catapulted out of care into extremes of poverty and existential chaos, many young women also begin to believe that they have nothing to lose (and may be something to gain) by engaging in criminal activity (Carlen, 1988).

Carlen, (1983; 1988) argued that the effect of an increase in convicted women is the lowest socio-economic class of these groups of women. Similar assumptions are to be found in different discussions

(Pascall, 1986; Carlen, 1988), when they had indicated that increasing numbers of part-time working women leads them to be excluded from the usual full-time employees' benefits and equal pay act. Moreover, the increasing isolation of females from the male labour force has a great impact on widening the pay differentials between men and women in the labour force market.

CONCLUSION

Liberation and feminism allowed women to live, study and work as men in a masculine world. The equality demands had broken the traditional typical fabric of family life. Over the long history, females have a consistently much less rate of reported crime than what males have. Surprisingly, statistics demonstrate a high rate of crimes amongst women in the second half of the 20th century. Historically, women have often been linked with sexual offences, but nowadays women's emancipation take times into new masculine areas especially 'unfeminine' forms of crime such as robbery and violence.

Hence, researches and studies have been conducted to examine whether the allegation that female

liberation and emancipation have lead the female to have more freedom to commit crimes is really plausible.

Some criminologists attribute this new phenomenon to their association with 'masculine' values at work, along with the availability of opportunities to commit crime outside home.

On the other hand, one criminologist argues that this allegation can not be empirically proved. Thus, they diminished from the seriousness of female criminality and suggest that women are still typically non-violent, petty property offenders. Moreover, some claims that women were less likely to be convicted; far fewer were in prison. In this essence, one researcher determines the women's contribution to some serious property crime using emancipation as indicators such as divorce rate. Correspondingly, he does not prove conclusively any causal connection.

Researchers after analysing the data gathered from England and Wales found that there was no significant difference in crime rate in general. Changes of convictions for violence were explained in terms of labelling. While increases

in property crimes were the result of economic marginality. Finally, the growing numbers of female police officers also had an impact on conviction rates.

It can be concluded from these researches, data, and information that there is no clear cut evidence of a relationship between liberation and female criminality.

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by: 1st Lieutenant
Abdullah Said Al- Harthy
Directorate of Public Relations

Food For Thought

- The profound global economic crisis between 1929-1939 is known as the Great Depression.
- Around 1,513 people on board Titanic died when the giant ship sank in 1921.
- The mountain Everest is named after the British military engineer, Sir George Everest.
- The South Pole was first reached on December 14, 1911 by the Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen.
- The word "volcano" is derived from Vulcan, the god of fire in Greek mythology.
- Kamikaze is a Japanese word which means "divine wind".

"Fire and Ice"

Some say the world will end in fire,
Some say in ice.
From what I have tasted of desire
I hold with those who favor fire.
But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice

Robert Frost (1874-1963)

Excerpt from Macbeth:

Out, out, brief candle!
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player,
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
And then is heard no more. It is a tale
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing.

William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

"The Charge of the Light Brigade"

Half a league, half a league,
Half a league onward,
All in the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.
'Forward, the Light Brigade!
Charge for the guns!' he said:
Into the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

'Forward, the Light Brigade!
Was there a man dismay'd ?
Not tho' the soldier knew
Some one had blunder'd:
Their's not to make reply,

Their's not to reason why,
Their's but to do and die:
Into the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

Cannon to right of them,
Cannon to left of them,
Cannon in front of them
Volley'd and thunder'd;
Storm'd at with shot and shell,
Boldly they rode and well,
Into the jaws of Death,
Into the mouth of Hell
Rode the six hundred.

Flash'd all their sabres bare,
Flash'd as they turn'd in air
Sabring the gunners there,
Charging an army, while
All the world wonder'd:
Plunged in the battery-smoke
Right thro' the line they broke;
Cossack and Russian
Reel'd from the sabre-stroke
Shatter'd and sunder'd.
Then they rode back, but not
Not the six hundred.

Cannon to right of them,
Cannon to left of them,
Cannon behind them

Volley'd and thunder'd;
Storm'd at with shot and shell,
While horse and hero fell,
They that had fought so well
Came thro' the jaws of Death,
Back from the mouth of Hell,
All that was left of them,
Left of six hundred.

When can their glory fade?
O the wild charge they made!
All the world wonder'd.
Honour the charge they made!
Honour the Light Brigade,
Noble six hundred!

Alfred Tennyson (1809-1890)

World of idioms:

- Throw the baby out with the bath water: It means to get rid of the good parts as well as the bad parts of something when you are trying to improve it.
- I'll scratch your back if you scratch mine: It means that I will help you if you will help me.
- Leave a bad taste in your mouth: If an experience leaves a bad taste in your mouth, you have an unpleasant memory of it.
- In the bag: If something is in the bag, you are certain to get it or to achieve it.
- Be a blessing in disguise: Something which has a good effect, although at first it seemed it would be bad.
- In the blink of an eye: Extremely quickly.
- Blue blood: Someone who has blue blood is from a family of the highest social class.
- Out of the blue: Something happens suddenly and you are not expecting it.
- Miss the boat: To be too late to get something that you want.
- A bone of contention: Something that people argue about for along time.
- Actions speak louder than words: It means that what you do is more important than what you say.
- An apple a day keeps the doctor away: It means eating an apple every day will keep you healthy.
- A bad workman blames his tools: It means someone blames the objects he is using for his own mistakes.
- Beauty is in the eye of the beholder: It means each person has his own opinion about what or who is beautiful.
- Beauty is only skin deep: It means a man's character is more important than his appearance.
- Beggars can't be choosers: It means when you cannot have exactly what you want, you must accept whatever you can get.
- The bigger they are, the harder they fall: It means the more power or success a person has, the harder it is for him to accept losing it.
- A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush: It means it is better to keep what you have than to risk losing it by trying to get something better.
- Birds of a feather flock together: It means people who have similar characters will often choose to spend time together.
- Blood is thicker than water: It means family relationships are more important than other kinds of relationships.
- You can't make bricks without straw: It means you can't make something correctly without the necessary materials.
- Cleanliness is next to godliness: It means except for worshipping God, the most important thing in life is to be clean.