

ABSTRACTS

Women Fiction Writers in Israel

ARNA GOLÁN

IT IS ONLY RECENTLY that women started writing fiction in Hebrew. From that period, until the creation of the State of Israel their production was rather limited especially if we compare it to literature produced by men during that same time. Also, the critics paid little attention to it. It is only after the creation of the State of Israel that women writers grow in number and in importance, especially in the sixties when we can speak of a real blossoming of literature written by women. Yet, literary criticism does not look into this literature as one having its own peculiar "feminine" character but rather takes what it considers to be an "igualitarian" perspective. In this article the historical background of the above mentioned problems is analyzed as well as the traits of the fiction produced by women in different periods.

Female Infanticide in China

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IN THE LIGHT OF THE EXISTING CONCERN within China and abroad about the recurrence of female infanticide in the People's Republic, this article provides an overview of the factors which lead to this phenomenon. It attempts to go beyond the moral issues involved by analyzing the killing of female babies within the specific social context in which it exists, the possible reasons for it, and the cultural, historical, and economic conditions behind it. The concluding section discusses the resurgence of female infanticide in recent years, as reported both in Chinese and international press, linking it to the new one-child per family population policy in the People's Republic.

The Role of Women in Social and Economic Development: Indications as Instruments of Social Analysis. The Case of Nigeria and Uganda

MERE KISEKKA

IN THIS ESSAY THE MAIN OBJECTIVE is to emphasize qualitative data as a means to understand the condition of women and as a way to help elaborate plans which would integrate them in development. Quantitative data may give a picture of the condition of women yet they neglect the social and economic parameters which determine the nature and reach of their participation.

In the first part of this article there is a brief discussion of the conclusions reached when we examine the condition of woman within the social and economic context and especially in the areas of health, education and employment. After indicating which are the main obstacles for a broader participation of women (e.g. an inferiority complex *vis-à-vis* men, health, educational or legal obstacles) its sources and consequences for the promotion of women will be analyzed. Finally, two case studies will be discussed, one on Hausa women in Nigeria and one on Baganda women in Uganda.

Woman's Image in Medieval China: Seven Glimpses from the Margin

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DETAILS OF THE LIFE of the common people in general, and of women in particular, are not generally found in orthodox Confucian sources. Some such details can be glimpsed at times in such unorthodox sources as popular taoist and buddhist tracts, vernacular fiction, and popular poetry. In this short article seven medieval *yüeh-fu* poems about women from North China are analyzed. The portraits that emerge suggest that the social and economic position of women in North China during the period AD 200-600 was perhaps even more varied and complicated than has been appreciated heretofore.