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Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice
www.reclaimingthepropheticvoice.org

Liaison: Rev. Allie Perry
203-865-6575

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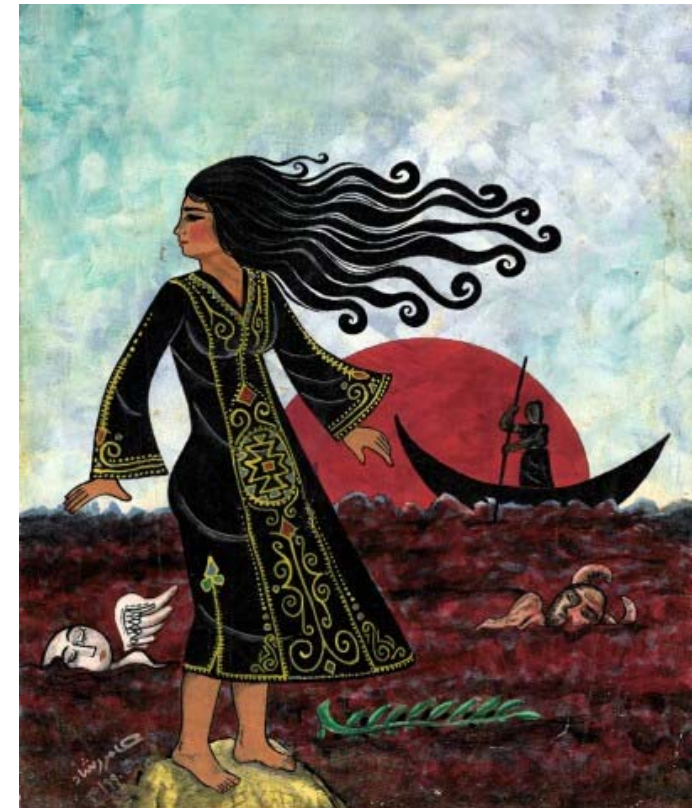
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WOMEN TO RACE

TO THE USA 2003

THE CRADLE OF CIVILIZATION AFTER THE INVASION

The Challenge of Conversation
The Courage to Listen



- December 8 7.30 pm Trinity College, Hartford
Wean Terrace, Room B, Mather Campus Center
- December 9 12.00 pm Wesleyan University, Middletown
PAC, Room 001
- December 9 7.00 pm Charter Oak Cultural Center
21 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford CT 06106
- December 10 12.00 pm Yale University, New Haven
Luce Hall, Auditorium, 34 Hillhouse Avenue
- December 10 2.30 pm Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven
Engleman Hall: C 115 (off Crescent Street)
- December 10 7.30 pm United Church on the Green
270 Temple Street, New Haven CT 06511

Thank you for supporting the American visit of **Amal Al-Khedairy** and **Nermin Al-Mufti**, two Iraqi women who stayed and survived through the First Gulf War, the ensuing 13 years of oppressive sanctions and now the U.S. occupation. *The Fellowship of Reconciliation* has invited these women to bring their compelling stories of friendship and survival to the American public, policymakers, and scholars.

This visit offers the American public a rare opportunity to listen to and interact with informed Iraqi women who passionately want to dispel the assumptions about Iraq, by sharing their personal experiences and extensive knowledge of Iraq's culture and people. As scholars of art, archeology, culture and civil affairs, Ms. Al-Khedairy and Ms. Al-Mufti will offer their perspective as two independent Iraqis who have sought to celebrate the history and dignity of their culture despite a continuum of political turmoil and oppression, wars, sanctions, and other deprivations.

Guest Speakers

Amal Al-Khedairy is the founder and director of [Al-Beit Al-Iraqi](#), an arts and cultural center in Baghdad. After Al-Beit Al-Iraqi was destroyed and re-built as the result of the first Gulf War, it remained the only intellectual center in Baghdad throughout the 90's. The center hosted exhibitions of contemporary Iraqi artists, concerts, lectures and classes on a regular basis until its destruction by U.S. bombs in the spring of this year. **Ms. Al-Khedairy** is a widely traveled expert in Iraqi history, regional culture, arts, archeology and music. In addition to Arabic, she is fluent in French and English.

Nermin Al-Mufti is an internationally recognized Iraqi journalist. Until this year, Ms. Al-Mufti produced weekly columns on sociopolitical concerns for a well known Iraqi weekly. Ms. Al-Mufti writes articles on sanctions, war, and history that appear on a regular basis in Al-Ahram, a weekly paper in Cairo. She has received fellowships in international journalism from Hungary and the UK, and has served as a consultant for many international media agencies. Ms. Al-Mufti is also an expert in the archeology and art of her ancient. **Ms. Al-Mufti** is a well-known speaker and panelist on the contemporary Iraqi situation at conferences, on radio and on television, delivering her insights to an international audience in English and Hungarian, as well as her native Turkoman and Arabic.

Goals of the Tour

- Provide opportunities for two highly educated, prominent women from Iraq to interface with the American individuals and groups who do not know Iraqi society and culture.
- Reveal the condition of the cradle of civilization after the invasion through dialogue, presentations and creative endeavors in every media.
- Speak to international policy makers on Iraqi women, peace and security issues.
- Reach out, support and link grassroots efforts by Iraqi women's rights groups to the extensive women's resource network in the US.
- Build momentum for the continuing exchanges between the women of US and the women of Iraq.
- Establish an exchange between Iraqi and American artists which will develop into collaborative international and national art exhibits.
- Develop a reconstruction fund for Al-Beit Al-Iraqi, the arts and cultural center founded by Amal Al-Khedairy which was recently destroyed for the second time by US bombing.
- Assemble funding and support for Nermin Al-Mufti to build on her work as an internationally esteemed journalist through the start-up of a professional, independent journal in Iraq.
- Raise funds to film and complete a compelling feature-length documentary of the tour with the working title, 'Why I love my country'.

For a tax-deductible contribution, please make check payable to:

**FOR: Women of Iraq Tour
521 North Broadway
Nyack, NY 10960**

For further information about the USA Tour or Donations, please contact:
Rev. Patricia Ackerman
packerman@forusa.org
845-358-4601 ext.39



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