



Fatma Al-Onsi

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Fatma Al-Onsi is a 27 year-old WIT scholarship recipient from Sana'a, where she lives with her son and husband. Through the WIT program, Fatma had the opportunity to participate in Microsoft's Unlimited Potential Training offered through SOUL for the Development of Women and Children.

Fatma who lives with her son and husband in Sanaa' did not get the opportunity to conclude her education but had made it up to the 11th grade.

Even though Fatma realized the importance of being computer proficient, the prospect of enrolling in computer classes has always intimidated her. Despite her husband's initial objections she joined the training and her progress led him to change his mind fully support her efforts. Fatma hopes to receive an employment offer after the conclusion of the training and is especially interested in working in the secretarial field.

Fatma thinks that in this age, real literacy means having computer skills because they have become fundamental to competing in the professional field. Advancing her professional qualifications and helping her son with his computer studies were the two main reasons Fatma enrolled in the program.

Participating in the training was not very easy as Fatma faced my hurdles before and during the training. The high price of trainings prevented her from registering for classes in the past, but upon hearing about the UP program, Fatma applied and received a full scholarship for the training. Additionally, her husband had refused the idea of her participating in the courses and even when he agreed her extended family members were not accepting of the idea.

Talking about the difference between the generations of Yemeni women Fatma says "When my mother was the same age as me, she played the role of the housewife and her only concern was to take care of me and the family. Women during that time had limited ambitions, and even I faced similar conditions, not finishing my education and getting married at an early age. But, I also have been looking for opportunities beyond my duties towards my family. For my daughter, life has really changed and it is very difficult to imagine what she would be doing when she is my age."

Fatma mentioned that She always her older sister has always been her role model because of her strong will and intelligence.

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WIT MENA delivers five core activities to Partner Organizations and Participants, including **Professional Development Workshops**, **IT Training through Microsoft's Unlimited Potential (UP) Curriculum**, **Business Planning for Sustainability Workshops**, **Professional Development Networks for Women** and **Professional Exchange and Capacity Building**.

For more information on the WIT program, please visit www.witmena.org

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