



# **Peace and development between challenge and contribution from the Yemeni woman point of view**

*Descriptive research*

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## *Peace and development between challenge and contribution*

### *from the Yemeni woman's point of view*

#### **Abstract :**

At the global and local level, there is consensus on the importance of the woman's role in the peace-building process and in promoting community-based development. Many workshops and seminars are held regarding the importance of the woman in the peace building and the promotion of overall development areas at the level of all institutions and bodies. However, the roles assigned to women in reality are not separate from the traditional scope; there is an obvious gap between the capabilities of Yemeni women and their efficiency in performing the tasks assigned to them. Therefore, according to the descriptive research methodology, this research addresses three main axes. The first axis identified the challenges and obstacles that limit the effective participation of Yemeni women in the field of community coexistence and peace building from Yemeni women's points of view in seven fields: social and cultural, economic, political and legal, familial, personal, media and skills. The research sample found that most prominent challenges facing Yemeni women were: (1) Perception of the male-controlled society limits women participation (2) Deterioration of the living situation (3) Refusal of male decision-makers to the participation of women in decisions (4) Loss of the household head, so the woman became the breadwinner.

The second axis dealt with extracting solutions mechanisms, and activates the role of women as a key partner of men in promoting peace to reach a comprehensive development. One of the most important solutions was the need to give women the right to participate in leadership positions for decision-making and support women to participate in business and political activities as an actual partner for men, furthermore, activating the legislative and legal side to support women. While the third axis focused on the relationship between development and peace, and accordingly a constructive model was proposed to activate peace and promote comprehensive development (the pyramid of comprehensive development requirements).

**Keywords:** Women's role - Community coexistence - Peace - Challenge - Contribution - Comprehensive development.

## **Introduction:**

Yemen is going through exceptional circumstances that have contributed in the deterioration of the community's infrastructure, as most of them are unable to provide services to the citizens.

So the economic and living conditions of the people have been deteriorated, and manifestations of famine and poverty have spread on a large scale, in all regions, whether northern or southern.

Thus peace has become an urgent necessity that must be made, and accordingly, a group of civil society organizations that work in the field of development and spread of the culture of peace and concern for women's issues, on the premise that considering the role of women is the basis of the development of society and its advancement due to the importance of its effective role in raising generations, along with its role in various entities and institutions as an essential element in the process of building community peace and promoting development, have emerged.

The political participation of women is one of the most essential elements for measuring the level of the democracy practice in any country.

As it is an indicator of enhancing citizen participation, and a criterion for redistributing complementarity relations in gender roles, and improving the mechanisms of democratic practice.

The decision to make peace is one of the areas in which women must play a fundamental role where they constitute more than 50% of the population, which makes it their right to participate in the peace process to open negotiations between all parties and ensure justice of the citizenship right for all without any exceptions. .

Empowering women in unstable societies has become a necessity because women are part of the solution to the various problems that countries and societies are facing.

So, supporting women to actively participate in the process of rebuilding the societal body and reconciling points of view between the various political decision-makers will contribute positively to the implementation of the peace process.

## Research problem:

In light of the deteriorating conditions that Yemen is going through, one of the negative phenomena has intensified, which is the marginalization of the role of women in particular in the political field and the limitation of their role which affected the disrupting of the peace process. Although Yemeni women actually participate in the National Dialogue Conference, it is regrettable that their participation was more figurative than actual. The parties involved in the decision-making were decision makers according to their party agendas, just like the role of women in the dialogue that was directed to a large extent in this context. Instability, various forms of violence have spread, including violence against women, such as marginalization and exclusion, (the National Committee for Women; United Nations Office 2016). In addition to other forms of violence in their work sites by the conflicting groups on a large scale from the governorates of the Yemen Republic, and therefore it was necessary to shed light on this phenomenon because of its negative and destructive effects on women and the formation of the societal body, bearing in mind that there are international charters and agreements that stipulate the damage caused by these phenomena and asked to eliminate them. Among these agreements is what was mentioned in the Security Council Resolution No. 1325 which was issued in October 2000 and stipulated the complete and total elimination of all forms of violence against women, (Ubadah; and others: 2008). This agreement emphasized on the importance of involving women in all sectors, including the political sector, in governmental or civil institutions. Such a decision is still completely absent from the realistic aspect that women live in conflict and war zones, including Yemen.

The importance of the current research problem lies in the premise that everyone talks about the importance of the role of women in the peace building process and the promotion of overall development areas at the level of all institutions and bodies. However, the roles assigned to women in reality are not separate from the traditional scope; there is an obvious gap between the capabilities of Yemeni women and their efficiency in performing the tasks assigned to them which weakened their role in general. So, it was necessary to shed the light on the most

important obstacles and challenges that hinder women from contributing in the community peace building process, promoting development and finding appropriate solutions that can enhance women's capabilities and enable them to exercise their roles more effectively so that they can contribute directly to the cause of peace and then promote the development process in its various fields, and this is what the current research focused on.

### **The importance of the study:**

The pace of changes in the Arab region brings into question despite the series of studies that have been conducted on the political participation of women, and the many seminars and conferences held on this issue, so what has been achieved on the ground in terms of progress in the participation of women in the political sphere and peace-making is very limited. Despite the importance of the women role in various developmental aspects, their role is still below the desired ambition because they face multiple forms of marginalization that impede their involvement in the fields of comprehensive societal development. In general, the importance of the current study lies on the attempt to search for ways to enable the participation of Yemeni women in the process of peace making and identifying the difficulties and challenges facing women and preventing them from becoming involved in.

The deteriorating conditions that Yemen has reached in all aspects of political, social and economic life and the infrastructure of Yemeni society in all areas of development, famine appeared and some civilians died of starvation in addition to the infrastructure damage. It is worth noting that the various Yemeni factions want to return to dialogue and peace if they have the choice. However, the pace of the managed conflict increases in intensity and in light of this complex situation and to avoid these grave disadvantages, reviving the peace process for Yemen has become an urgent necessity. In the same context, restricting the peace process to men alone has become useless because the conflicting parties which are managed internally and externally are dominated by men of various political and party affiliations. Hence the importance of

urgently involving women in the process of peace making, as on one hand the majority of women are peacemakers and development builders by nature, because they possess the emotion of motherhood that overflows with the values of giving, peace and tolerance, and on the other hand, women are the most affected by the impact and consequences of conflict and wars, and the greatest burden falls on them to protect children in areas of conflict and armed conflict, and this makes them more willing to revive the peace process and make it happen.

Some studies and research have mentioned that societies tend to be more peaceful with the increase of women leaders representation in decision-making positions (Alawi: 2016) which will be highlighted on and in more detail in the theoretical side and applied during the implementation of this study, of which one of its expected results is the identification of the most important difficulties and obstacles that stand in front of Yemeni women and limit their ability to activate the peace process, which will provide us with sufficient information through which it is possible to present proposals and solutions to overcome these difficulties and challenges.

It is evident that no society can achieve comprehensive development if women did not have a role in the active participation in decision makings related to their private lives and decisions that concern the society in general, such as the decision of peace. And if they do not take their share of professional, administrative and economic work, and do not participate in the institutions of power at various levels and in decision-making institutions. Therefore, it was necessary to address how to empower women, which has become the most important challenge to achieving development on the basis of participation and equal opportunities.

**So, the research questions that the current research will answer can be summarized as follows:**

- How has the conflict affected Yemeni women?
- What are the obstacles and difficulties that led to the reluctance of Yemeni women to participate in the activation of the peace process and the promotion of development areas?
- What are the solutions that can contribute to activating the role of women in the process of societal coexistence and the promotion of development?
- How can the comprehensive development process be promoted in Yemen?

### **Research objectives:**

The main objective of the current research is to collect, analyze and interpret data on how Yemeni women can contribute to building community coexistence to reach the peace process and promotion comprehensive development through the following goals:

- 1- Identifying the difficulties and obstacles that prevent Yemeni women from participating effectively in the peace process and promotion development.
- 2- Defining the methods and solutions through which Yemeni women can be empowered to participate in the peace building process and the promotion of comprehensive development.
- 3- Study of the relationship between peace and development to present a constructive proposal for a model of an empowering women mechanism to build societal body to reach the stage of peace and promote comprehensive development according to the results of the current research.

### Key terms for research

**The role of women:** It is the roles that women play in various fields to contribute to societal coexistence that leads to peace and from which the advancement of comprehensive development is achieved.

**Societal coexistence:** it is the coexistence by properly managing environmental and value diversity, which is the acceptance of difference and recognition of others, and that the societal relationship between the members of society shall be positive based on the equality before the law to reach the stage of peace and harmony.

**Peace:** an important stage that precedes the developmental promotion in which the difference is accepted and the gap of differences is narrowed, to work on social stability and safety by completely stopping the conflict.

**Challenge:** the difficulties and obstacles that limit the role of women.

**Contribution:** the actual role of women in building peace and promoting comprehensive development.

**Comprehensive development:** The current research will deal with the comprehensive development on the basis of discovering weaknesses in all areas of development, and working to address them in a systematic way, taking into account the use of the country's natural resources and human capital for the promotion and integrated construction in a way that serves the interests of current generations, and does not harm the interests of future generations.

### Research limits:

1. Temporal boundaries: The research focuses on the role of women in building community coexistence and peace in order to promote development from the viewpoint of Yemeni women pioneers in the field of peace and development for the year 2020.
2. Spatial boundaries: The study was limited to Sana'a, Aden and Ibb.

3. Human boundaries: Yemeni women working in the field of development and peace from Sana'a, Ibb, and Aden.

### Theoretical framework and previous studies

The participation of women in the decision-making is one of the issues that capture the interest of activists in the fields of human rights, democracy and citizenship, especially in the Arab world, which is witnessing political mobility and internal strife in some of its countries and external interventions, which calls for intensifying all human efforts to establish stability in it, including the need for the role of women who participated in some popular protests in some Arab countries that are still mired in conflicts and are unable to establish community coexistence and build peace where women are by nature an essential advocate for security and safety. Knowing that it was this same woman who paid dearly for the price of political conflicts at the expense of her dignity, the fragmentation of her family, and the loss of the possibility of effective influence in the course of events that contribute to her marginalization, the situation has reached a marked deterioration in her role under intellectual extremism.

Among the results of the conference held in Beirut on how to enhance the role of women in building peace and resolving conflicts, in which its elite Arab women participated (parliamentarians, members of advisory councils, party leaders, civil society activists and academics), from various intellectual and social references, representing a number of countries in the region (Yemen, Iraq, Syria, Libya, Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, as well as the Kurdistan region of Iraq), it concluded with a set of results that shed light on the most important challenges facing women in the countries of the region, including: The old - new challenge, based on the idea of male Arab societies and the cultural heritage that still casts a shadow over women (Conference on Promoting the Role of Women in Peace building and Conflict Resolution: 2016).

It is worth noting that Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Sudan and Egypt suffer from calamities, wars and crises. Arab women are the most affected in the Arab countries that suffer from conflicts and struggles. According to

the 2013 A.D. statistics, the number of displaced women from four Yemeni governorates which are Saada, Abyan, Hajjah and Al-Bayda has reached 284,551 refugees until March, distributed over 14 governorates, accounting for 49% of the total number of people displaced from those governorates due to violence and fighting in the country (Humanitarian Response Plan: 2016). This was before the intensification of the conflict. Taiz, for example, has become a blighted city, and the displacement of women in it to the rest of the governorates has become apparent, and so is Al-Hodeidah Governorate.

Moreover, the United Nations has adopted women's issues since the first International Conference on Women, which was held in Mexico in 1975, the second in Copenhagen in 1980, the third in Nairobi 1985, and Beijing 1995. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979) represented the international legitimacy of women's rights, as it details what is considered discrimination against women, the measures that must be taken to eliminate that discrimination, and what is considered a violation of their rights. If they are deprived of enjoying the same rights as men, and with the growing global interest in women's issues and the need for their participation and inclusion in the processes of equality and development, the efforts of regional governmental and non-governmental institutions joined forces with the United Nations to shed light on the complex and intertwining problems that women face in their society. The United Nations Resolution No. 1325 issued by the Security Council in 2000 is considered one of the most important commitments made by the international community regarding the participation of women in the decision-makings in peace processes (Ancel Derian, and others 2017).

It is worth noting that there is a close relationship between women, peace and development. If we review what happened at the beginning of the twenty-first century from the issuance of a set of basic resolutions issued by the United Nations Security Council, on top of which was Resolution 1325 issued in 2000, followed by Resolutions 1820 and 1888 in 2008 and Resolution No. 1889 in 2009, which dealt with the status of women and their rights, as well as the need to develop a local international strategy that contributes to protecting women from

the effects of conflicts and struggles. And we discussed the level that Yemen has achieved in implementing these standards, starting with the issuance of Security Council Resolution No. 1325 in 2000 and after the security disturbances that Yemen has experienced, as well as the efforts aimed at building peace jointly by Yemeni women. This research tries to shed light on the position of Yemeni women regarding the social, cultural, economic and developmental aspects, to find out the most important obstacles that led to the reluctance of Yemeni women to participate effectively in these aspects (United Nations: 2012) International legal protection of human rights in armed conflicts.

The Security Council Resolution 1325 in its document that includes 18 points, shed light on four axes, all calling for the importance of the participation of women in all areas of decision-making and in peace processes. It also included gender training in peacekeeping operations and the protection of the rights of girls and women and the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into the reporting and implementation systems of the United Nations. The Security Council Resolution 1325 urges, within these topics, the action of the UN agencies, the Security Council, the Secretary-General, governments and all parties involved in conflicts. It is regrettable to confront the truth and say that Security Council Resolution 1325 will not be a magic tool that guarantees protection for all girls and women in the stage of conflict and beyond, because international norms and their implementation are limited by nature in terms of geographical impact under the lack of local monitoring mechanisms, as it is difficult to measure the effects of International policy tools such as Resolution 1325 and other decisions that benefit women, children and vulnerable groups who live in the mid of armed conflicts and their post-conflict periods (Al-Mutawakel: 2011-2016).

Resolution 1325, issued by the Security Council at its session held in October 2000, affirms the significant role of women in preventing and resolving conflicts and in the peace building process, which emphasized the importance of women's equal participation and their full participation in all efforts aimed at maintaining peace and security. When the resolution confirmed the need to increase the role of women in the decision-making related to conflict prevention and resolution, it stressed on

the need for the full implementation of international humanitarian law for human rights that protect women's rights during and after conflicts.

And it stresses on the need for all parties to ensure that all parties take into account the demining programs and awareness of their dangers, and strengthen on the urgent need to mainstream women's perspective in all conservation processes, recognizing that understanding the effects of armed conflicts on women and providing effective institutional arrangements to ensure their protection and full participation in the process of establishing and strengthening international peace and security, and we note the need to standardize data on the effects of armed conflicts on women in various data.

Thus, there has become an urgent necessity to support all types of qualitative and quantitative research that provide measurable indicators, in order to contribute to reducing the gaps between international and regional policies and the actual reality that girls and women are living in different instable countries, like Yemen. In this context, it is worth noting that since 1990, the number of civil society organizations in Yemen has increased significantly, including the Yemeni Women Federation Organization, which led the movement to defend women's rights and most of these efforts were supported by international development agencies and private donors, which affects the orientations of the civil society and its capacity. As a result, its activities declined dramatically after the outbreak of the conflict. Nevertheless, the coalition of women leaders and two activists in the field of the advancement of women took the initiative to draft a charter for peace aiming at exerting pressure on the warring parties to stop targeting women and girls, enter peace talks, ensure the representation of women and make a national plan related to women and peace. This point was discussed in the National Dialogue Conference for Yemen, where the conference concluded with one of its proposals on the action plan related to women, peace and security, which includes allocating a quota for women with a percentage of 30% from the government, political parties and civil society organizations. The participation of women in security, army and intelligence agencies, and gender sensitivity when developing the state's general budget, to implement the conference's proposals and the action plan related to

security and peace. This supported the struggle of women to establish peace and provide aid to women activists to ensure that their voices and attempts to resolve current conflicts go through. (HRP: 2016).

### The previous studies:

There are many researches and studies that have dealt with the issue of the role of women in societal coexistence, peace and development. Some of which focused on studying the obstacles that hinder women from providing a positive role, and the other focused on the influencing factors. Below are some of these studies that are related to the current research variables:

Hani's study 2017 entitled "Women and Development between Challenge and Contribution", showed the results of this study that despite the tremendous changes that have taken place in the Iraqi society, the society's perception of women has changed a bit in spite of the effectiveness of the role of women in various levels and their contribution to the development process. However, customs, traditions and social norms play an active role in shaping the male view of women, and limit their participation in the fields of development.

**Al-Rawashda and Al-Arab study 2016** entitled "The Obstacles that Limit the Participation of Jordanian Women in the Political Life in Light of some Social Variables."

The study found that there are many obstacles that limit the participation of women in political life, including social, legal and political, economic and media obstacles. Social factors were manifested in the lack of community awareness of the importance of women's participation and encouragement for them to play their political role. As it made clear that customs and traditions stand strong in front of them, while legal and political obstacles are represented in the non-participation of women in the political life and democratic development, and some legislations are inactive in their handling of women's issues. In addition, the economic obstacles are represented in the economic dependence of women on men and their weak financial capacity, which weakened their opportunity to reach administrative positions. As for the media obsta-

cles, it addresses women's issues superficially, and does not work on changing the traditional view of women, and providing awareness programs on the importance of women's participation in the political life.

**Al Ayla study 2007** entitled "The Reality of Palestinian Women in Political and Public Participation". This study deals with women's political independence from the premise that it will contribute to their liberation from inherited social restrictions. It explained that the role of women will not be effective without having a role in the political life, which calls for removing social, economic, political and legal obstacles that prevent their effective participation, as well as the removal of restrictions that are made by women and impede their political and public participation.

**Massaad study 2000** dealt with the political participation of women in the Arab and international instruments, and it also focused on the advantages of the political participation of women in the Arab world and dealt with the women's quota in the Arab political reality. Then it dealt with regional models for the participation of Arab women in a number of Arab countries such as Syria, Yemen, Palestine, Sudan, Jordan, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt and the Arabian Gulf.

**Al-Jasem 1999** entitled "The Role of Arab Women in the Political Life". It focused on studying the case of Arab women after the 1968 revolution. The results of this study indicated the extent of the Arab women's contribution to the Arab liberation movement for the sake of independence and freedom since the beginning of the twentieth century. And with the growth of the awareness movement and the rejection of colonialism and backwardness, her claim to national political rights came before social, through participating in political movements that put forward national demands against colonialism, so women's groups gave the political work the priority.

### The study methodology and its procedures

The methodologies mean the standardized scientific way that the researcher follows to arrange ideas in an accurate scientific manner, so that they lead to the discovery or understanding of a truth. In order to

study the current topic of the research, the criteria of the descriptive analytical approach were followed, which relies on studying the phenomenon as it is in reality, giving an accurate description and clarifying its characteristics, and providing data from various sources (including the interview and the open questionnaire).

### Research community

Yemeni women who are cadres of civil society organizations, leaders and activists in the field of development and peace in the governorates of Sana'a, Ibb and Aden.

### The research sample

A group of twenty-one female activists in the field of peace and development were randomly selected from Sana'a governorate as a city representing the northern regions, Aden representing the southern regions and Ibb representing the central regions.

### Research Tool:

#### Interview and Open Questionnaire

When designing the interview guide, questions were drawn up to simulate the living reality of Yemeni women, to make sure the results are realistic about the difficulties and challenges facing Yemeni women and limit their participation in the peace building. In addition to that, they suggest possible solutions that will contribute to the possibility of promoting the role of women in the peace and advancement process with comprehensive development from the sample's point of view, so that everyone is given the opportunity to express their perceptions and opinions through their experience in the field of community coexistence and peace in order to advance comprehensive development. The tool was presented to a panel of judges (five specialized professors in the field of human and social sciences) and it was amended in light of the committee's proposals. The interview guide included three main points:

**The first axis:** Identifying the obstacles and challenges facing Yemeni women in the field of peace and development, and it included five questions

**The second axis:** Identifying solutions and suggestions that will contribute to empowering women to contribute to the peace and development process. It included five questions.

**The third axis:** the study of the relationship between peace and development, which included two questions. (Review Appendix No.1 - Interview Guide).

Then the interview questions were formulated within an open questionnaire in order to obtain the opinions of the women who we were not able to be interviewed for various reasons, or who apologized for the impossibility of being interviewed (Review Appendix No. 2 - the open questionnaire).

### Statistical means

The research used the following statistical methods:

- Encode answers into paragraphs, (paragraph coding unit)
- Duplicates to count the repeated paragraphs
- Percentages to calculate the percentage of occurrences at the level of paragraphs and fields by comparing them.

### Viewing and discussing results

#### First: displaying the search results

- The current research focused on three main axes: The first is concerned with identifying the difficulties and challenges that hinder the contribution of Yemeni women in the field of peace and the advancement of comprehensive development. The second suggests possible solutions to solve the difficulties and challenges from the viewpoint of the research sample and work to enable women to actively contribute to the peace process and the advancement of development fields. And the third exam-

ines the relationship between peace and comprehensive development in order to be able to suggest a development model for the requirements of promoting comprehensive development in Yemen.

The answers from the interviews and open questionnaires were classified into paragraphs and coded as follows:

- Classifying paragraphs into fields according to their content, so that the coding unit was the paragraphs.
- Calculating the frequency of responses for individuals of the sample at the level of each paragraph.
- Calculating the occurrences of fields according to the paragraphs that belong to the domain.

### The first axis

#### The obstacles and challenges that hinder women from contributing to the peace process and the advancement of development

Seven areas fall under the obstacles and difficulties, which are explained as follows:

**(1) Social and cultural obstacles:** The results of the current research indicated that there are many reasons that hindered the participation of women in the field of peace and community development related to the traditional view of the society towards the capabilities of women and this is consistent with what the results of Hani (2017) went to for Iraqi women, as well as the study of Al-Rawashda ; Al Arab (2016) for Jordanian women. The results of the current research also indicated that there are those who consider the participation of women in the decision-making and building societal body to reach peace and advance development is a form of social revolt, out of the domination of men. This pushed many women to refrain from exercising their legitimate rights in building the social body and advancing community development. In addition to that, social upbringing played an important role in the reluctance of

women to actively participate due to the perception of discrimination between men and women in terms of mental competence and physical abilities, so their participation was limited to feminist businesses.

Among the most prominent obstacles that are facing women in engaging in activities related to decision-making or the political aspect and even development in its various fields are the spread of illiteracy among the middle of women, due to the low percentage of girls enrolled in education, and there are many discourses that are dyed with a non-moderate religious nature that affect negatively the acceptance of women in the public domain.

The results of the current research, as shown in Table 1, showed that one of the most prominent obstacles in the social and cultural aspect, according to the sample's point of view, 19% mentioned that it's the negative view of the male community towards women in addition to the unemployment of the head of household and the increasing burdens of women in the family are among the most prominent social and cultural obstacles which hinder women from participating in the political life. Moreover, 9% of the sample members believe that unfair customs and traditions, with widespread ignorance among women are considered a strong obstacle that limits the participation of women with men in all fields. 3% of them also mentioned that the culture of shame is a major obstacle to the effective participation of women.

<b>Table (1) cultural and societal obstacles</b>			
	<b>Categories coding paragraphs</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage%</b>
1	Patriarchal society's view ( the deficiency that limits women's capabilities)	17	19%
2	Unemployment of the head of household exacerbated the burden on the woman	17	19%
3	Unfair customs and traditions against women (restricting women's role)	8	9%
4	Widespread ignorance and community disrespect for the role of women	7	8%
5	Shame culture	3	3%
6	Unequal opportunities for men and women in all aspects of life	2	2%
7	Racism and violence towards women	1	1%
8	Deterioration of the morals, behaviors and values levels	1	1%
9	Negative thinking and psychological frustration resulting from the harsh situation	2	2%
10	High rates of assault, crimes, and violations (kidnappings)	5	6%
11	Embracing the ideas of extremism and fundamentalism	1	1%
12	Society's negative view of women's role	1	1%
13	Society's perception of women differs from one environment to another	1	1%
14	Widespread of rape	3	3%
15	Exacerbation of displacement rate	3	3%
16	Increase of the divorce rate due to the family disputes because of the deterioration of the living standards	4	4%
17	Increase of the widows percentage	4	4%
18	Increase of the early marriage rate (due to fear of displacement and poverty)	3	3%
19	Increase of the societal disputes frequency	2	2%
20	Successive crisis and injustice	1	1%
21	Spread of diseases and epidemics due to the widening of poverty	1	1%
22	Separation of educational institutions from the political side	2	2%
<b>Total</b>		<b>89</b>	<b>100%</b>

## (2) Economic obstacles:

The impact of the conflict on women in the field of work, as the responsibility doubled on her shoulders that she assumed the greatest role so she became the main breadwinner in many families due to the absence or death of the head of household, or because of the physical disabilities of some men that led to depriving them of their ability to work. The woman went out in search of sources to provide the basic needs for her family in addition to the destruction of the facilities and institutions, and consequently the loss of many job opportunities and their restriction to a few. As these establishments abandoned their employees for the inability to pay salaries, and the women were the most vulnerable to that, which forced them to accept work for a very low salary in order to be able to provide a living for their family. It also made them delve into the field of various small projects (making food in homes, sewing, marketing products in homes, cosmetics, incense, sweets etc...). The results of the current research indicated, as shown in Table No. (2), that one of the main obstacles in the economic field is the deterioration of the living standard, so that 26% of the sample indicated that, and this deterioration was due to the interruption of salaries, which 21% of the research sample indicated. This is the spread of poverty, which has led women to accept any type of work for a small amount of 19%. This result is consistent with the results of the Rawashda study - The Arabs (2016) for Jordanian women, and the family study (2007) on the reality of Palestinian women.

<b>Table (2) Economic Obstacles</b>			
<b>(Encoding categories (paragraphs</b>		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage%</b>
1	Deterioration of the living standard	21	26%
2	Severance of salaries had a devastating impact	17	21%
3	Woman accepting any kind of work against small sums ((exploitation by employers without paying duties	15	19%
4	Extreme poverty due to job loss	8	10%
5	Forcing woman to do street work as bagger	1	1%
6	Lack of job opportunities and scarcity	5	6%
7	Stopping female entrepreneurs projects	3	4%
8	Decrease of investment	3	4%
9	Expensiveness and high prices	3	4%
10	Firing woman from her job	1	1%
11	Destruction of many factories and institutions resulting loss of work	3	4%
<b>Total</b>		<b>80</b>	<b>100%</b>

**(3) The political and legal obstacles** that dealt with the results of the current research concerning the nature of the laws related to women's rights in particular at the family level still disadvantage women, and this is in agreement with the findings of the study of Al-Rawashda; The Arabs (2016) for Jordanian women, in addition to Al Ayla 2007 study on the reality of Palestinian women in political and public participation in addition to an agreement with the results of the Massaad study (2000) on women's political participation in Arab and international documents and Al-Jasem (1999) on the role of Arab women in political life.

The lack of security and stability during wars and conflicts has a negative impact on the life of women consequently a change occurs in the roles of Yemeni women, as the wars have resulted in the killing of thousands of young men and heads of households and exposing some of the others to various injuries and disabilities that prevented many of them from returning to the labor market, and that prompted a lot from women to bearing additional burdens that turned her into a basic breadwinner for the family, so the woman found herself forced to search for work to support their families and meet their needs. International reports revealed that women in Yemen go through daily struggle in order to manage daily affairs and their suffering increases in preserving their

dignity and caring for their families in overcrowded homes and unsafe tents where they live under violence and physical and psychological exploitation.

According to some members of the current research sample, the participation of Yemeni women in the political life is still very limited despite the efforts of women's organizations and the international community in order to give them all the rights to gain their position in society. However, the social reality and cultural heritage reality is still considered as one of the most prominent obstacles and challenges facing Yemeni women. Judging women as an inferior being and treating them as weak creatures with limited capabilities and subordinate to men who are still the dominant ones in a society characterized by a male view, as this mentality is what controls decisions at various social and political levels. As indicated in Table No. (3), 31% believe that the deterioration of the security situation is one of the main obstacles that stand in the way of the inclusion of women in political work. 16% of the members of the research sample think that the peace perception is a political one given to men only as well as the refusal of the male decision makers the participation of women and giving her rights.

<b>Table (3) Political and Legal Obstacles</b>			
<b>encoding categories (paragraphs)</b>		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage%</b>
1	Deterioration of the security situation	15	<b>31%</b>
2	Seeing peace as a political process entrusted only to men	8	<b>16%</b>
3	Not giving her the real opportunity in decision- making positions	5	<b>11%</b>
4	Refusal of male decision-makers women participation and giving them the right to make decisions for not appreciating the developmental role of women and their marginalization	5	<b>11%</b>
5	Absence of the official, societal role of women	2	<b>5%</b>
6	Not including her in ministerial portfolios	1	<b>2%</b>
7	Not nominating women for senior leadership positions	3	<b>6%</b>
8	Some people making women a tool of conflict	2	<b>4%</b>
9	Lack of adequate legislation and laws supporting women at the family level (killing her with impunity in the name (of guardians of blood	4	<b>8%</b>
10	Misunderstanding of our noble religion precepts using it against women's right	3	<b>6%</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>48</b>	<b>100</b>

**(4) Family Obstacles:** The results of the current research indicated that family obstacles were as follows: The most prominent obstacle in the family field was the loss of the head of household, where the result was (40%) of the opinions of the research sample, and considering domestic violence the second obstacle, where it was (22%). As the ways of expression varied regarding the increase in domestic violence after the outbreak of the conflict, as was the lack of encouragement of the parents (19%), and it was mentioned that the injury of the husband, children, or brother (disability) due to the conflict is a hindrance (12%). Some women mentioned that one of the obstacles is the multiple roles of the woman, so that she is forced to go out to find work, and at the same time she is required to take care of her family or injured husband, and they represent 3% of the sample, as it is shown in Table No. (4).

Table (4) Family Obstacles			
	Encoding categories (paragraphs)	Frequency	Percentage%
1	Loss of the head of household and women becoming the main breadwinner to many families	17	40%
2	(Domestic violence aspects (and many frequent disputes	9	22%
3	Parents discouraging women	8	19%
4	(Spouse, children, or brother injury (disability	5	12%
5	Pressure on women assuming multiple roles	3	7%
<b>Total</b>		<b>42</b>	<b>100%</b>

**(5) Obstacles related to women:** Based on their response to societal inspirations without their role and the reduction of their various possibilities to participate in the decision-making process, including the societal peace decision, which led to their reluctance to provide actual participation in this aspect, this may develop for some women and become a major obstacle, which is the view of women from their personal perspective, where some of them, if not most, lost self-confidence, which was reflected in the level of their active participation in the societal advancement in various fields due to the firmness of some prevailing beliefs.

For example, the basic role of women is represented in childbearing, raising children, and housework, and what is beyond that is considered a departure from the social norm and the prevailing view. In light of this traditional view, the level of women's participation in political decision-making centers, including the peace decision, or participation in the fields of advancing development, has decreased, as shown in Table (5), where 33% of the research sample mentioned that one of the reasons that hinder women from active participation in all aspects of societal and institutional work are represented in their lack of self-confidence, and 24% of the research sample said that the current situation affected the woman's moral, because due to her emotional nature, she tends to peace.

In addition, 14% of the sample answers touched on the fact that the dispersion in women's opinions on important issues and the failure to unify their efforts to highlight their role is one of the obstacles facing women, while 10% of the research sample responses touched on the fact that women's hostility to women and her fight in leadership roles and positions is considered one of the most severe difficulties that hinder the participation of women in presenting their role in an appropriate manner.

The results of the current research indicated that women's fear from the point of view of the male community, which may sometimes reach societal ostracism, is one of the important obstacles facing women.

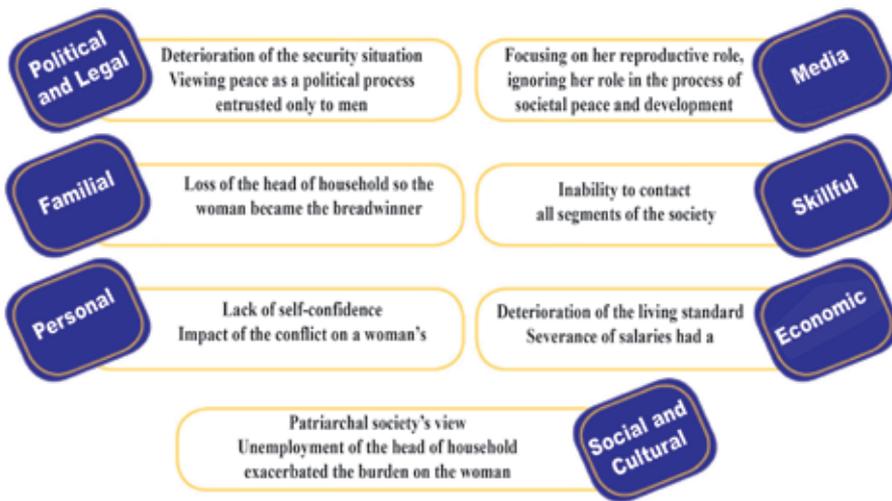
Table (5) Personal Difficulties (being a woman)			
	Encoding categories (paragraphs)	Frequency	Percentage %
1	Lack of self-confidence	7	33 %
2	Impact of the conflict on a woman's moral because of her emotional nature that tends to peace	5	24%
3	Fearing the point of view of patriarchal community leading to social ostracism	4	19%
4	Dispersion of women's opinions on important issues- failing to unite efforts to highlight their role	3	14%
5	Enmity of woman to woman and their fight in leadership roles and positions	2	10%
<b>Total</b>		<b>21</b>	<b>100%</b>

**(6) Obstacles in the media aspect:** the stereotypical image of women in the media is considered as one of the obstacles. The results of the current research indicate that the most important obstacles in the media side are the media's focus on the reproductive role of women at the expense of their role in the process of community coexistence, peace and development, as indicated by 50 % of the current research sample, and 30% of them referred to the absence of the media's role in highlighting the importance of the women's role in societal coexistence and reducing the gap of differences. In addition to that, they mentioned that one of the obstacles is the stereotypical image of the different media outlets of the women's roles as shown in the table N° (6) This is consistent with the results of the study (Al-Rawashda; Al-Arab: 2016 for Jordanian Women).

<b>Table (6) the sixth field: obstacles in the media aspect</b>			
	<b>Encoding categories (paragraphs)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage %</b>
1	Focusing on the reproductive role of women, ignoring their role in the process of societal coexistence, peace and development	5	50%
2	Absence of the media's role in highlighting the importance of women in societal coexistence and reducing the gap of differences	3	30%
3	Image stereotyping of women's role in different media	2	20%
<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>100%</b>

**(7) Obstacles in the skillful aspect:** Table N° (7) indicates that the inability to contact and communicate with all segments of society and the scarcity of qualifying courses for women is a prominent obstacle that limits the participation of women in various fields. 33% of the research sample members agreed on this. In addition to that, the poor level of education among women represented a hindrance associated with poor contact and communication skills.

<b>Table (7) the seventh field: obstacles in the skillful aspects</b>			
	<b>Encoding categories (paragraphs)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage %</b>
1	Inability to contact and communicate with all segments of the society	3	33 %
2	Scarcity of training sessions for women in the aspect of peace and development	3	33 %
3	Poor levels of education and skills for women	2	22 %
4	Women fearing leadership positions	1	12%
<b>Total</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>100 %</b>



*Illustration 1: The most important obstacles and challenges that hinder women from contributing to the peace process and the advancement of development*

### Results of the second axis Suggested solutions to empower women in peace participation and development advancing

According to the Security Council Resolution N°. 1889 of 2009 on the necessity of the full and effective participation of women in the stages of the peace and development process, several steps must be taken through which the role of women can be activated. In line with this, the results of the current research emerged to propose a set of solutions that contribute to activating the role of women in several areas, including solutions to empower them in the political, legal, economic, social, and media fields, in addition to the field of women's self-perception.

**(1) Solutions to empower women in the political and legal field:** The results of the current study focused on the importance of enacting laws and legislations that do justice to women and give them all their rights starting with the family and community environment, and then legislation related to their rights to contribute to decision-making, build the process of community coexistence, and effectively advance community development.

And this is consistent with Resolution (1325) adopted by the Council Security in its session held in October 2000 to achieve the principle of empowering women to play their role within the scope of civil society institutions and humanitarian organizations and work to increase their participation and give them the opportunity to find appropriate solutions for active participation in building societal body and peace which contributes to the process of developmental advancement in all fields.

Thus the results of the current research indicated that one of the most important solutions that must be taken into account in the political and legal field is to give women the right to participate in leadership positions in decision-making, and 24% of the current research sample agreed on this.

In addition to the importance of supporting women to participate in business and political activities and raising various issues which the percentage 21% indicated, and emphasized the need to activate the legislative and legal aspect in standing by the side of women's rights in the field of work and society. The percentage 11% mentioned that they also agreed that it is necessary to work on the participation of women in the development ministries and planning bodies (quotas), as the percentage 10% of the research sample mentioned. Furthermore the percentage 10% of the research sample indicated the need to stop the conflict in order to achieve security and stability in a way that guarantees the advancement of development fields. For more details, review Table N<sup>o</sup>. (8).

<b>Table (8) Solutions regarding Politic and Legal Side</b>			
	<b>Encoding categories (paragraphs)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Activating the role of women as a mediator among the various parties to narrow differences among them	4	5%
2	Involving women in developmental ministries and planning bodies (quota)	12	10 %
3	Giving women the right to participate in leadership positions for decision making.	19	24 %
4	Supporting women to participate in business and political activities and raising various issues (working to limit the marginalization of women in the political field)	17	21 %
5	Activating the role of legislative and legal side in supporting the rights of women in the field of work and society	9	11 %
7	Working on enacting legislation on the family side to provide equity to women	4	5 %
8	Working to revive peace in order to achieve stability and security, and to enable women's participation in the development fields	7	10 %
9	Correcting misconceptions among some interpreters of Islamic law that marginalize the role of women	2	3 %
10	Application of reward and punishment principle (justice and equality)	2	3 %
11	Involving women mainly in the organizations work of peace Supporting youth initiatives that promote peace building and advancing development	2	3 %
<b>Total</b>		<b>78</b>	<b>100 %</b>

## **(2) Solutions to empower women within the societal aspect:**

To empower women on the societal side, the traditional inferior view related to their role in society must be changed, starting with considering methods of socialization within the family and working to modernize them, passing through the need to change the old women stereotype and their role and work for equality in the upbringing process, as the old outlook was that women are creatures limited in potentials and capabilities and unable to give outside home role limits. Therefore, it is imperative to work on enhancing the positive perception of women by

the family and society, and by the woman herself so that the results of the current research in table (9) show that one of the most significant solutions is to support the activation of the woman role in the social aspect. Thus, the decision-makers are urged to work on societal awareness of the importance of the woman's role as she is the actual partner of the man and complements him, which was mentioned by 25% of the research sample in addition to the importance of giving her the real opportunity to show her abilities to become an effective competitor and partner, with the importance of raising awareness concerning educating and empowering girls.

<b>Table (9): Solutions Concerning The Societal Side of Women</b>			
	<b>Encoding categories (paragraphs)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage %</b>
1	The work of women on training a generation capable of running the country's affairs which is known by its education and knowledge	3	6%
2	Raising awareness of the importance of educating and empowering girls	4	7 %
3	Encouraging and stimulating women to work and reducing school dropout	4	7 %
4	Offering women the real opportunity to show their abilities to become competitors and partners	5	10 %
5	Community awareness of the importance of a woman's role as .being a partner of the man and his complement	8	15 %
6	Moving away from intermediaries, favoritism and fighting against corruption	1	2 %
7	Establishing a national reconciliation that brings together all components ( spreading coexistence between the feminist) sector first and then the society as a whole	3	6 %
8	Supporting community awareness concerning the role of women in building peace	3	6 %
9	Empowering women to be self-reliant in order to be an active partner in development	3	6 %
10	Women should support each other by creating feminist coalitions that enhance the effectiveness of their roles	2	4 %
11	Women not refrained from participation to avoid society criticism	3	6 %
12	Women adopting the peace culture spread to contribute to the development of society	3	6 %
13	Women's contribution to educating her family and environment and then her society about the importance of coexistence and acceptance of the other (staying away from (regional	10	19 %
<b>Total</b>		<b>52</b>	<b>100 %</b>

**(3) Solutions to empower women in the economic aspect:** Table N° (10) shows that one of the most important solutions that will contribute to activating the role of women in the economic field is focusing on methods of empowering women economically, as the percentage 25% of the research sample indicated.

That is by building projects for various developmental fields within civil society institutions and organizations.

As well as supporting the private sector by giving it the necessary facilities to advance development and formulate strategic developmental planning to combat poverty, illiteracy and unemployment, and to promote education in all disciplines and levels to support the comprehensive development process.

In addition, they indicated the importance of establishing a national program that works to harness the proceeds of the country's natural wealth in order to raise the standard of living for the advancement of all areas of development.

Table (10): solutions regarding economic field			
	Encoding categories (paragraphs)	Frequency	Percentage %
1	Building projects for developmental fields within civil society institutions and organizations	3	7 %
2	Working on women's economic empowerment	11	25 %
3	Activating the role of women as a key partner in development	5	11 %
4	Enacting legislations on health insurance and reducing work risks for women	1	2 %
5	Involving the people of country with expertise and competencies (to promote development (human capital	3	7 %
6	National program aiming at exploiting the country's natural resources in order to raise the living standard of the Yemeni citizen and to advance all areas of development	4	9 %
7	Supporting the private sector by providing it the necessary facilities to promote development	3	7 %
8	Concluding international agreements regarding foreign investments	2	5 %
9	Supporting the research and development fields to create appropriate investment opportunities	5	12 %
10	Promoting all specializations and levels education to support the comprehensive development process	2	5 %
11	Strategic developmental planning to fight poverty, illiteracy and unemployment	2	5 %
12	Taking interest in reconstruction projects for the advancement of development	2	5 %
<b>Total</b>		<b>43 %</b>	<b>100 %</b>

#### (4) Solutions to empower women in the field of skill support:

It is imperative to train women and develop their various skills, through rehabilitation programs and courses aiming at involving them in community development according to the viewpoint of the sample members by the percentage 46% who indicated that one of the most important solutions for skill support is awareness of all groups of women about their rights as shown in Table N° (11), as well as 27% of them emphasized the importance of training and qualifying women to develop their knowledge and performance skills in the political and developmental field.

<b>Table (11): Solutions regarding skills development</b>			
	<b>(Encoding categories (paragraphs</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage %</b>
1	Raising awareness of all groups of women on their rights	5	46 %
2	Taking interest in training and qualifying women to develop their skills in the political and developmental field	3	27 %
3	Working to develop women's cognitive and performance skills by having recourse to the technology to activate their role	3	27 %
<b>Total</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>100 %</b>

### **(5) Solutions to empower women within the media domain:**

The role of the various media outlets must be activated in the efforts that must be focused on standardizing and modernizing stereotypical views of women, through comprehensive awareness aiming at the importance of the role of women in various levels, whether social or religious, by working to eliminating the negative image of women and replacing it in a more positive way, through youth awareness among men, that the women are active partners and their role is complementary with their male partners.

As shown in Table N° (12), the research sample indicated the need for positive media awareness about the importance of the role of women in participating in political work by involving the media in public awareness of the importance of peace to build the nation and advance in all fields in addition to preparing popular orientation programs to support women's participation in peace building and the promotion of development.

Table (12) : Solutions concerning media field			
	Encoding categories (paragraphs)	Frequency	Percentage %
1	Positive media awareness of the importance of the women role in participating in political action and community coexistence	4	44 %
2	Preparing popular orientation programs to support women’s participation in building peace and advancing development	3	33 %
3	Involving the media in raising public awareness of the importance of peace for building the nation and advancing all fields	2	23 %
<b>Total</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>100 %</b>

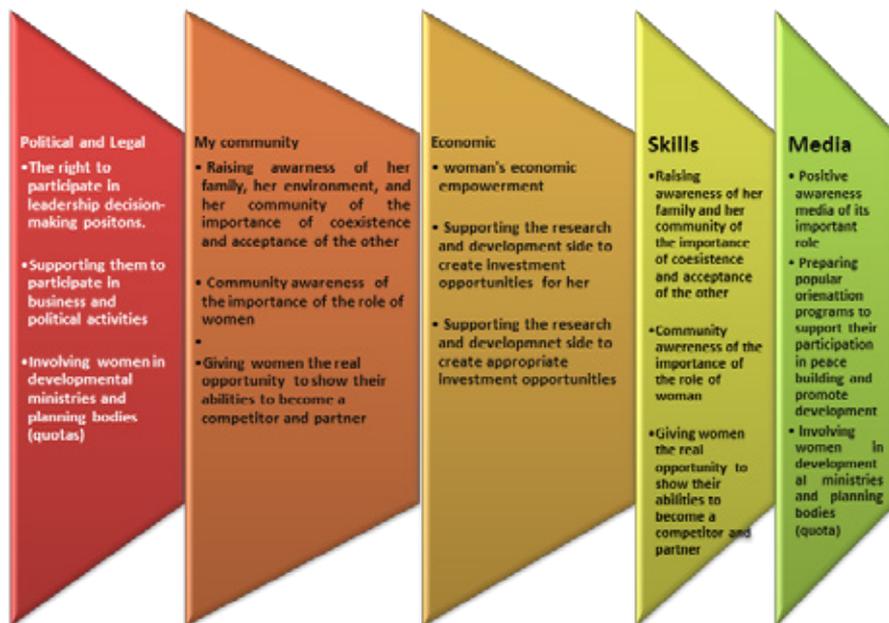


Figure 2: The most prominent suggested solutions to empower women in building peace and promoting development

**Results: Third axis The relationship between community coexistence and peace with the way to advance development fields from the viewpoint of the research sample**

Everybody agree about the devastating effects of wars and conflicts in the regions of their occurrence, including but not limited to the phenomenon of displacement and the resulting economic, social and psychological problems, and the risk of exposing the population to poverty in countries that destabilize them due to conflicts. Moreover, these wars have exhausted the lives of millions of people and caused tremendous suffering, as people deny their rights to live in freedom and safety. It also destroyed the service, economic and social infrastructure, as well as governmental and private institutions. Crises and conflicts have a serious impact on the development of countries, and this is what happened in Yemen. Where Yemen was previously stumbled economically and in development, but the ongoing conflicts for more than five years have curbed the wheel of development and destroyed the infrastructure. Therefore, it was necessary to highlight the relationship of peace and development from the point of view of Yemeni women themselves, as they are the most affected by what is happening.

The results of the current research indicated as shown in table N° (13) according to the viewpoint of 29% of the research sample as saying that stopping the conflict (bringing peace, if peace provides advancing development), that is, stability and peace is the basic basis for comprehensive development, as 20% said the relationship between them is complementary. If peace is found, development has occurred, while others asserted that 7% of the research sample said that the relationship between peace and development is very strong.

<b>Table (13): the relation of peace with the advancement of comprehensive development</b>			
	<b>Encoding categories (paragraphs)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage %</b>
1	Conflict suspension	16	29 %
2	.If peace exists, development is reached	11	20 %
3	Strong relationship between peace and development	7	13 %
4	Development is linked to the existence of infrastructure with a stable situation	7	13 %
5	To put the nation's public interest as a priority over private interests	3	5 %
6	No development without stability	3	5 %
7	Development is related to providing equal rights for members of society	3	5 %
8	With community solidarity and cohesion, the development process rises	2	4 %
9	Agreement among all Yemeni parties	2	4 %
10	Building a civil state that preserves the rights of citizens	1	2 %
<b>Total</b>		<b>55</b>	<b>100 %</b>



Social and cultural obstacles affected women the most, at a rate of 30%, followed by economic obstacles which accounted for 27%, followed by family barriers which accounted for 14%, followed by obstacles related to women’s self-perception which accounted for 7% of the obstacles. Finally, the media and skillful obstacles affected them, each of which was 3%, as shown in Table (14).

**Table (14): Percentage of the obstacle field according to the overall axis of the obstacles**

	Obstacles fields that hinder women from participation	Total frequency of each field in the axis of obstacles	Percentage % of each field
1	Societal and cultural	89	%30
2	Economic	80	27%
3	Political and Legal	48	16%
4	Family obstacles	42	14%
5	Personal obstacles	21	7%
6	Media	10	3%
7	Skillful	9	3%
		299	100%

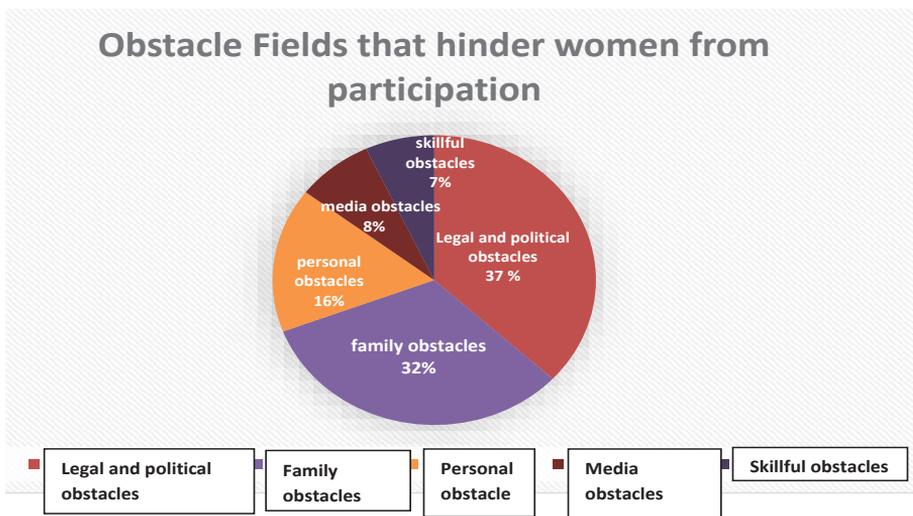


Figure (4): The obstacles facing women

It is also worth noting that among the results of the current study, which indicated that the deterioration of the security situation made women victims of political and sectarian conflicts, so that the proportion of widows increased due to the death of their husbands in the conflict in addition to the high rate of divorce, which leads to the deterioration of the societal body. Also, the phenomenon of displacement from one region to another, in which camps were made available for the displaced, and the severe damage that women suffered, but that prompted many families to prefer marrying their daughters in infancy fearing to be exposed to various risks, so early marriage cases increased.

This is in agreement with what was mentioned in the results of some studies and reports that indicated that early marriage increased by about 66% (the Foundation for the Development of Young Leaders, in cooperation with UNICEF: 2016) than it was before the conflict, and this is consistent with the results of the current research. Among the points indicated by the results of the current research is that one of the most important obstacles that women must overcome if they want to engage in political work is the economic obstacle as the search for solutions confirmed that it is necessary to work on empowering women economically for her to be able to participate effectively.

The research also confirmed the existence of some obstacles on the family side, including the multiplicity of women's roles and the burden that falls on them. The research sample confirmed that the rate of domestic violence against women increased its intensity after the conflict as a result of the pressures that the men suffer from. It also touched upon a very important point, which is the woman's view of herself and her ability to effect change.

The women must realize their feminine identities and their right to political citizenship as a complement to their male partner and embarking on the exercise of political, civil and societal work, and breaking the barrier of fear. They also have to pay attention to the general affairs of the country and the various issues of society and do not limit their role to concern for women's issues. They are half of the society and govern-ess for the other half.

They have to create a qualitative accumulation in their varied and multiple performances in various fields and disciplines. It is worth noting that the second axis of the current research focused on a set of solutions through which women can be integrated into all the facilities and institutions in order to be able to perform their role. So the solutions were given according to the sample's point of view, which is illustrated in Table N° (15) and the solutions in the political and legal sphere topped the list of solutions, where 40% indicated that women must be given the right to participate in leadership positions to contribute to decision-making, with the need to involve women in development ministries and agencies planning (quota) in addition to the fact that 10% of them emphasized on the importance of stopping the conflict as a beginning of stability that will enable them to advance the wheel of comprehensive development of the country. After that, the solutions were related to the community field, with a rate of 27%.

They indicated the need for community awareness by emphasizing on the importance of the women's role as they are the men's actual partners, complementing him. We also underline the need to give women the real opportunity to show their abilities, and emphasized on the importance of caring for girls' education, empowerment, encouragement, and motivation for us to work.

Thus, in order for Yemeni women to contribute to societal development, a national reconciliation initiative that brings together all Yemeni components and segments is necessary.

In addition, it was mentioned that from the solutions in the economic aspect, of a rate of 22%, women must be empowered economically, in addition to supporting development research to create appropriate investment opportunities. Hence, the idea of a national program initiative to exploit the country's natural wealth to raise the living standard of the Yemeni people has become a demand that must be implemented, and that can be done with national reconciliation first and then conclude clear international agreements with the great countries in the investment fields with clear provisions, taking into account the preservation of Yemen's sovereignty on all its lands and assets.

The solutions in the skillful aspect of women were among the suggested solutions, which took 6%, as they mentioned the need to pay attention to training and qualifying women to develop their skills in the political and developmental field.

The solutions in the media field were 5%, as they mentioned that positive media awareness of the importance of the women’s role and their participation in political and societal work, and the preparation of popular orientation programs to support the participation of women in building peace and promoting development.

Table (15) Percentage of field solutions according to the total solutions axis			
	Fields solutions	Frequency	Percentage %
1	Solutions in the political and legal field	78	40 %
2	Solutions in the societal field	52	27 %
3	Solutions in the economic field	43	22 %
4	Solutions in the skillful field	11	6 %
5	Solutions in the media field	9	5 %
<b>Total</b>		<b>193</b>	<b>100 %</b>

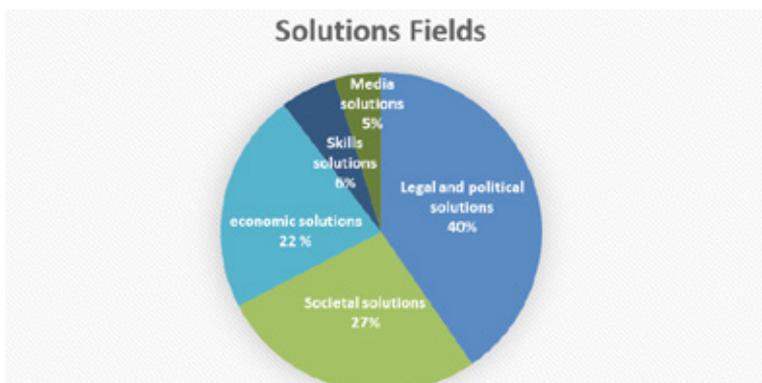


Figure 5: Suggested Solutions Fields

It is worth noting that 28% of the current research sample stated that Yemeni women, despite all the stress and difficulties they are facing now, have proven that they are able to withstand all pressures and obstacles and have been able to stand by their families and society in this difficult situation.

In order to promote women's empowerment, they must overcome the fear stemming from the prevailing patriarchal view of society and culture that marginalizes them and weakens their role. In addition to that, in order to activate the process of integrating women into the peace building and national reconstruction plan to advance the areas of comprehensive development, this should be accepted by her male partner, and the decision-makers allow her to actively participate in all leadership areas related to decision-making in order to be able to make peace, and work on providing her with the necessary resources to build her knowledge and ability to achieve practicality and increase her participation in building the state and advancing various developmental fields.

It is also imperative to raise community awareness for all segments of society to work on changing the deficient perception of the role of women and their capabilities in making all fateful decisions, including the peace decision with the community participation to advance comprehensive development areas.

This includes working on amending some legislations to drop all forms of discrimination against women, working on activating the content of international agreements that remove all forms of discrimination within national legislation, and enacting laws on the family, community and institutional side in a way that supports women's rights, the first of which is their right to participate actively in the decision-making process and gather the Yemeni people and unify their word.

As for the third axis of the current research, which sheds light on the relation of peace and women with the advancement of comprehensive development areas, as explained above in Table N° (13), the results of the research confirm that in order to advance comprehensive development in all its fields, in a way that leads to raising the living standard for the Yemeni society, it must be preceded with this essential step (pri-

orities), which are the political stability, societal harmony and stopping conflicts in order to be able to achieve an increase in the participation of women in particular, which will help in achieving the lofty goal that all the people of Yemen aspire for in all their segments and various affiliations, which is the comprehensive development and prosperity of the homeland. Accordingly, we can present the following constructive suggestion, which represents the hierarchy of the comprehensive development advancement process (Figure 6).

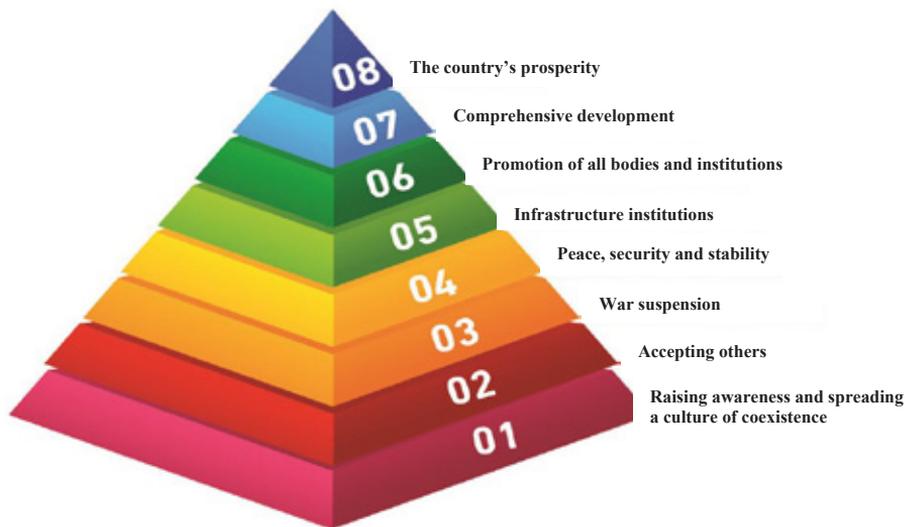


Figure N° (6) - The constructive vision for promoting the comprehensive development of the society and reaching the nation's prosperity phase.

Source: the researcher; based on the analysis of the theoretical framework and the content of the research sample interviews.

As shown in Figure 6 (the pyramid of developmental needs), in order to reach comprehensive development, the appropriate basis must be provided to achieve it, which starts from the necessity of societal awareness at all levels and media, religious and institutional platforms of the need for coexistence, which is one of the principles of our true religion, that we deviated from without awareness. As it urges us to co-

existence, tolerance and honesty with oneself and with others, Yemen accommodates all its children of all affiliations and beliefs. Building coexistence in which the woman will play a pivotal role as half of society and governess for the other half as a sister, wife and co-worker. This will lead to the disappearance of social classes and ideological differences in addition to the quality of a man, a woman, and each one will begin to present his role to complete the role of the other to participate in building the cohesion of the homeland.

When this is achieved, conflicts stop. The peace of the people diaspora and their unity will strengthen. Then stability will prevail, security and safety will return to all parts of the homeland, and internal and external investments will revive, which by its achievement, by the infrastructure services will play their roles and the citizens' living conditions will improve, which in turn will lead to the development of the performance of all governmental and private bodies and institutions. As a result, the wheel of comprehensive societal and economic development will be promoted and the prosperity of the homeland will be achieved.

### **The future research**

In order to link the results of this research to the roles of actors (government - parliament - the private sector - community organizations - the international community ...) and to appropriate strategies and mechanisms for the purpose of governing procedures and legislation to support Yemeni women in the process of promoting comprehensive development in all its fields, in a manner that leads to raising the standard of living for the Yemeni community as a whole, the researcher recommends that the future research of the Yemen Information Center for Research and Media focuses on the governance of Yemeni women's roles in order to find solutions applicable to the Yemeni reality after taking advantage of the strengths of Yemeni women as well as the opportunities available, especially those related to the international community.

### Recommendations:

1. The necessity to coordinate with all components of the Yemeni society by taking an urgent initiative for the national peace that is inclusive of all components, as Yemen has room for its entire people.
2. Official media should adopt a comprehensive awareness program for all media on the importance of coexistence and acceptance of the other, in order to settle community peace and to improve the standard of living for the Yemeni citizen.
3. Paying attention to the methods of family education based on non-discrimination between men and women, to enhance women's confidence in themselves and their ability to give outside their families frame.
4. Work to effectively implement Law 1325 to give women the full right to actively participate in peace building programs and the advancement of community development.

### The proposals:

- 1- Enacting laws and legislations that protect women first within her family and surroundings, and then in society.
- 2- Enacting laws and legislations that guarantee women the right to perform their societal and political role equally with men without discrimination or marginalization.
- 3- Carrying out more studies and research on how to empower women to build peace and contribute to society according to the point of view of her male partner and the point of view of society.

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## Appendices

### Manual Research Interview Titled

#### Peace and development between challenge and contribution from the point of view of Yemeni women

The research aims to study the difficulties that hinder Yemeni women from contributing to building the peace process and promoting development, and how to address them and develop appropriate solutions to overcome them.

Interview No. ( )

Date: \ \ 2020 AD

#### First: Personal data

Age: ( )

**Educational level:** High school ( ), Diploma ( ), Bachelor's ( ), Master's ( ), PhD ( )

**Marital Status:** ( ) Field of Work: Administrative Officer ( )

Education ( ) Human Rights Activist ( )

Place of Residence: .....

Q.1 / According to your point of view, how have the conflicts affected the lives of Yemeni women in the social and work fields?

Q2 / According to your point of view, are there specific reasons to women that may prevent them from participating in the activation of the peace and development process?

Q3 / What do you think are the most important challenges and obstacles that Yemeni women are facing and hinder them from contributing to the peace process and advancement of development in Yemen?

Q4 / How do you view society's point of view of women's participation in the peace process?

Q5 / What are the solutions that can contribute to activating the role of women in the peace process and advancing development?

Q6 / In your opinion, is there a relationship between the peace process and the development process?

Q7 / How can Yemeni women contribute to the peace building process?

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Q8 / How can the comprehensive development process take place in Yemen?

Q9 / In your opinion, what is the required role of women to promote development?

Q10 / What are your contributions in the field of peace and development?

Q11 / I thank you for all this valuable information. Is there anything you would like to add before the end of the interview?

## Open questionnaire: for research entitled Empowering Yemeni women to contribute to the peace process and the advancement of development

The research aims to study the difficulties that hinder Yemeni women from contributing to building the peace process and advancing development, and how to address them and develop appropriate solutions to overcome them.

Date: \ \ 2020 AD Application/Form N°.: ( )

**First: Personal data** Age: ( )

**Educational level:** High school ( ), Diploma ( ) Bachelor's ( ) Master ( ) PhD ( )

**Marital Status:** ( ) **Field of Work:** Administrative Officer ( ) Education ( )

**Human Rights Activist** ( )

**Place of Residence:** .....

Question	Answer
1 According to your point of view, how have the conflicts affected the lives of Yemeni women in the social field?	
2 According to your point of view, are there the specific reasons to women that could prevent them from participating in the activation of the peace and development process?	
3 In your opinion, how is the current situation on the lives of Yemeni women in the field of work?	
4 In your opinion, what are the most important challenges and obstacles that Yemeni women face and hinder them from contributing to the ?peace process and the advancement of development in Yemen	
5 How do you see society's view of women's contribution to the peace process?	
6 How can Yemeni women contribute to the peace building process?	
7 What are the solutions that can contribute to activating the role of women in the peace process and advancing development?	
8 In your opinion, is there a relationship between the peace process and the development process?	
9 How can the comprehensive development process be promoted in Yemen?	
10 In your opinion, what is the required role of women to promote development?	
11 Do you have contributions to peace and development?	
12 Thank you for all this valuable information, is there anything you would like to add?	



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