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A portal for providing legal knowledge and offering solutions managed by a team of specialized lawyers and supervised by Ms. Nehad Abulkomsan, senior lawyer



Legal articles ... Issue Article

THE EGYPTIAN CENTER FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS: RURAL WOMEN CONTRIBUTE HALF OF EGYPT'S AGRICULTURAL LABOR BUT OWN ONLY 5% OF THE LAND



On the International Day of Rural Women, observed every year on October 15, the Egyptian Center for Women's Rights (ECWR) highlights the vital role those rural women play in Egypt — as a cornerstone of agriculture, rural development, and food security — despite the harsh challenges that hinder their full and sustainable empowerment.

The rural woman represents the backbone of rural communities in Egypt; she cultivates, produces, manages the family's resources, and shoulders the burdens of both agricultural work and household chores — truly serving as the guardian of development in the Egyptian countryside.

Despite this vital role, the rural woman still faces a series of structural obstacles that limit her potential, the most prominent of which are:

- **Low rate of formal ownership of agricultural land:** Despite women contributing nearly half of the agricultural workforce, only 5.2% of women in Egypt own agricultural land, and merely 2% own any type of land at all, according to data from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). This figure is below the Arab regional average of around 7%.
- **Limited access to resources and financing:** Rural women continue to face major challenges in obtaining agricultural loans, financial services, modern technology, and training — all of which constrain their productivity and limit their opportunities for income growth.
- **Double burden and unpaid work:** Rural women work long hours in the fields, then return home to shoulder the burden of unpaid caregiving and household chores. According to FAO data, women spend about 12 times more time than men on unpaid care work.
- **Dominance of informal employment:** Around 71% of rural women in Egypt work in the informal sector, and 70% of them are unpaid family workers — depriving them of legal and social protection. The tragic death of 19 rural girls from the Ashmoun district in Monufia Governorate while on their way to work in grape farms stands as a stark reminder of their vulnerability and lack of protection.
- **Limited access to health and education services:** Many women in rural areas suffer from severe gaps in access to reproductive health services and quality education, which negatively affects their own futures as well as the well-being of their families.

Nehad Aboelkomsan, ECWR's Chairwoman, calls on all relevant stakeholders — including the government, civil society, the private sector, and international partners — to join forces to ensure the economic and social empowerment of rural women, through the adoption of comprehensive policies and programs that include:

- Facilitating rural women's access to land ownership and productive assets.
- Enhancing their access to markets, financial services, and affordable credit.
- Investing in vocational and technical training programs tailored to their needs.
- Expanding social protection coverage to include them, while recognizing and reducing the burden of unpaid care work.
- Ensuring their access to quality and efficient education and health services.

ECWR emphasizes that rural women are not recipients of aid, but true partners in achieving food security and economic development. Investing in their empowerment is not an act of charity, but a smart investment in Egypt's future — one that leads to more prosperous, just, and stable rural communities.

YOUR LAWYER'S LEGAL SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF FREE CONSULTATIONS:

YOUR LAWYER PLATFORM IS A PORTAL FOR LEGAL KNOWLEDGE AND PROVIDING SOLUTIONS. THIS IS MANAGED BY A TEAM OF SPECIALIZED LAWYERS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF MS. NEHAD ABUELKOMSAN, SENIOR LAWYER.

Ask Your Lawyer



A question:
What is the importance of supporting rural women?



The Answer

SUPPORTING RURAL WOMEN IS VITAL BECAUSE IT PROMOTES ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT, CONTRIBUTES TO FOOD SECURITY, AND EMPOWERS THEM TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. STRENGTHENING THEIR CAPACITIES HELPS INCREASE INCOME, IMPROVE LIVELIHOODS, ENHANCE RESILIENCE, AND ADVANCE GENDER EQUALITY — ALL OF WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL FOR ACHIEVING GLOBAL STABILITY AND PROSPERITY.



LEGAL INFORMATION

THE EGYPTIAN LAW SUPPORTS RURAL WOMEN THROUGH FOUR MAIN PILLARS:

- 1. ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT — BY PROVIDING ACCESS TO LOANS AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT.**
- 1. EDUCATION — THROUGH LITERACY PROGRAMS AND CURRICULUM IMPROVEMENT.**
- 1. SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT — BY ENSURING ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES AND PROMOTING POSITIVE CULTURAL CHANGE.**
- 1. ADDITIONALLY, 35% OF THE FINANCING FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SMES) HAS BEEN ALLOCATED SPECIFICALLY TO WOMEN.**

Legal Concepts



The United Nations has supported rural women through a variety of programs that promote economic empowerment by providing training and access to credit, improving livelihoods, and strengthening their rights to land and resources. The UN also focuses on including rural women in decision-making, enhancing their roles in agriculture and food security, and helping them adapt to climate change and manage disaster risks — all in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- Goal 1: No Poverty
- Goal 5: Gender Equality
- Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities



Legal Updates

New Labor Law 2025:

The new law grants female employees a four-month fully paid maternity leave and guarantees the right to return to their jobs afterward. It also provides one hour of breastfeeding leave per day for two years and allows two years of childcare leave in companies employing 50 workers or more. Moreover, companies with 100 or more employees are required to provide childcare facilities.

MOHAMEK

OUR CLIENTS



- Phone
- Facebook

This month, , a total **498** of consultations were received by "Mohamek" across its 2 different communications means, including Facebook pages, and telephone, , as follows:

● Facebook ● Phone consultations



Phone: : 333 consultations were received on mobile and landlines, making up 66.8 % of the complaints

Facebook: 165 consultations were received on Facebook, making up 33.1%

Your Legal Advisor in Family Matters ..Court Reduces Sentence of Man Who Killed His 15-Year-Old Wife Over a Plate of Koshary to Seven Years—Nehad AboelKomsan Condemns the Ruling



Nehad AboelKomsan addressed families in Egypt and the Arab world, stressing that tolerating child marriage is, in itself, a crime. She emphasized the need to take women's complaints about violence and child marriage seriously, as such practices expose them to severe harm. She also added that no girl or woman should be forced to remain in abusive relationships under the pretext of preserving the family, pointing out that most domestic murders are not premeditated crimes, but rather the result of accumulated violence, humiliation, and neglect of rights.

From a legal perspective, she explained that the case

From a legal perspective, Nehad AboelKomsan explained that the legal classification of the case is "assault leading to death", for which the maximum penalty is seven years in prison — the sentence issued by the Court of Appeals.

AboelKomsan clarified that the initial death sentence issued by the first-instance court was reduced because the conditions required for capital punishment are strict and demand proof of premeditated intent to kill and that the act was committed with prior planning or ambush — conditions that were not proven before the court.

AboelKomsan also stressed that the parents who marry off their underage daughters should themselves be prosecuted.

She explained that the verdict was based on the legal provision for the crime of "assault leading to death," as stated in Article 236 of the Egyptian Penal Code, which stipulates that:

"Whoever wounds or beats someone on purpose or gives him harmful materials without meaning thereby to kill, but doing that has led to death, shall be punished with hard labor or imprisonment for a period of three to seven years. However, if doing that is preceded with premeditation or ambush, the penalty shall be hard labor or imprisonment."



**For a free consultation
Please fill out an online
form, send us an email,
or call us via phone for
30 minutes**



working days

Sunday – Thursday from
10:00 am to 04:00 pm

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Contact Us

Phone :
01061496144
01066854655
0225242141

WhatsApp:
01061496144

E-mail:
info@mohamek.com
complaints@mohamek.com

**To contact the support team or
complaints (messages via WhatsApp
only) 01024234501**