

Introduction,

Since 2014, Egypt has begun a new phase of political, social and economic development.

Under the leadership of President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, the people of Egypt have made important strides empowering the country to move from a difficult political, security and economic period to a state of political and security stability, economic and social advancement, national cohesion, and the strengthening of Egypt's regional and international status.

Egyptian women had a prominent position in the priorities of national action during this stage; they were active and influential partners in various achievements at all levels.

Improving the status of women and empowering them to reach their full legitimate rights was a top priority for President Sisi. The accomplishment of these goals was entrusted to all State bodies and institutions to attain full equality between women and men in all rights and duties and to provide care and protection for women for being half of the society and the priority care group, and a key actor in the march of nation's progress, generations' building and future shaping.

The process of empowering women began with Egypt's constitution issued in early 2014, which restored several political and social rights for women. Besides, amendments to this constitution in 2019 gave a significant boost to women's empowerment, especially in the political field, where 25% of the seats in parliament were reserved for women.

Following the promulgation of the Constitution, Egypt issued a National Strategy for Women Empowerment (2016-2030) to cover all areas, and serve as a binding plan of action to achieve desired progress to promote the status of women. This was followed by several strategies to attain political and economic empowerment and

social protection for women and families in Egypt, in addition to the President's announcement of 2017 as the Year of Women.

These efforts have borne its fruits on the ground; this can be reflected by figures and statistics about women in the fields of education, culture, leadership positions, social welfare, employment opportunities, sources of funding, establishment and management of enterprises and health care, alongside dozens of other indicators that are documented in this book. Also, the book covers key achievements in the period from 2014 – 2019 that only represent the outset of an ongoing march aiming to promote the status of women, who is essential in the overall advancement of the Egyptian society in all fields.

Hopefully, this book would appeal to specialists and concerned readers in Egypt and everywhere else.