



Fatma Bent Ali Al Hosny

Fatma Bent Ali Al Hosny, 31 years old, lives in the state of Al Khaburah, Oman, with her husband and children. Fatma learned about the Women in Technology (WIT) training program through an advertisement in the local newspaper. A devoted mother, her original motivation to take an Information Technology course was for her children's sake—she wanted to be able to help them in school by teaching them to use computers.

Prior to the course, Fatma had a Middle School education and “a basic understanding of computers.”

Once she enrolled in the WIT program, she found she learned much more than just computer skills. “The IT segments teach the theories, but also the practical applications,” Fatma explains. By the time she completed the course, she says, “I had developed the goal of further increasing my skills in computers”—not only to help her children, but to benefit herself as well.

“My mother did not get the opportunity to receive institutional education,” she explains. “I thank God for being able to receive some education, and I hope to be able to study further in the future.”

Fatma also benefitted from WIT's unique Professional Development component, which teaches entrepreneurial and business skills to help women compete in the IT job market. Although she is not seeking employment, Fatma found she could apply the principles of the course to her own life. “The Professional Development trainings helped me to increase my personal freedom, and I learned to communicate with others in a clear and concise way,” she says.

Her husband and family were encouraging and supportive of her participation in WIT. Fatma notes that WIT's unique curriculum “is not offered in other institutes, and the prices are reasonable.”

“I benefitted to a large extent from the WIT courses, and I hope that all women in my state could also benefit,” Fatma says. “In the final analysis, a woman who learns to use computers is benefitting herself and her family.”

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

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