



ROTARY GRIQUA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY

8 July 2019

<http://rotarykimberley.org.za/>

THE WORLD'S FIRST UNIVERSITY WAS FOUNDED BY A WOMAN

Fatima bint Muhammad Al-Fihriya Al-Qurashiya (فاطمة بنت محمد الفهرية القرشية) founded the world's first university in 895 AD in Fez, which is now in Morocco. She is more usually known simply as Fatima al-Fihri and when she and her sister inherited their father's wealth, she used her share to found The University of Al Qarawiynn.

The university started as a large mosque and later grew into a place of education. The Madrasa (Islamic School) Al-Fihri founded is still in operation today as the University of Al Quarauiyine. It is the oldest continually operating educational institution in the world and was the first institution to award degrees according to different levels of study, in Islamic studies, mathematics, grammar, and medicine.

The University of Al Quarauiyine became a state university in 1963 and now awards degrees in Islamic, religious and legal sciences with an emphasis on classical Arabic grammar and linguistics and law. Interestingly, teaching is still delivered in a very traditional manner, whereby students are seated in a semi-circle around a Sheikh (Islamic scholar), who prompts them to read sections of particular texts, asks them questions on aspects of grammar, law, or interpretation, and explains difficult points.

Adjacent to Al Quarauiyine mosque and university is the world's oldest library. The library will hopefully soon to be reopened after a massive restoration overseen by another woman; this time the architect Aziza Chaouni.

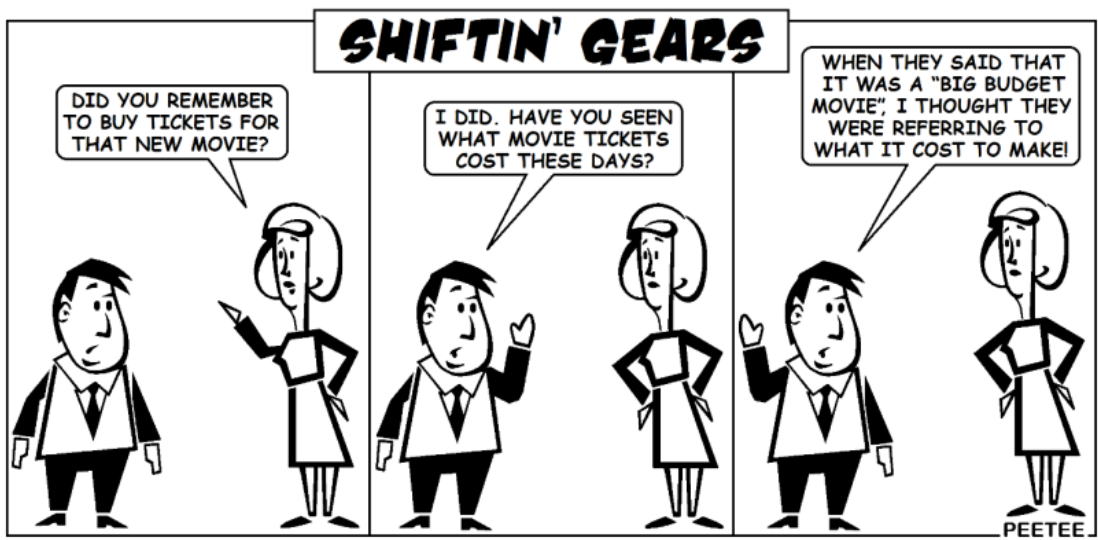
Chaouni grew up in Fez and recalls seeing the great locked doors of the library as a young child. Her vision is for the library to once more become a second home for the people of Fez, a living functional library, not just a tourist attraction. The, partially re-opened, historic 9th century (CE) library now includes an isolated drainage system to avoid future damage, and a lab to treat, preserve and digitise the oldest texts. It also houses, with the greatest possible security, temperature and humidity controls 'a precious ninth-century copy of the Qur'an, written in ornate Kufic script on camel skin vellum (parchment).

A survey by Al Fanar Media in 2018 showed that women earn the majority of undergraduate degrees in many Arab countries, and make up a growing proportion of teachers at the primary and secondary levels of education. However, they are often missing from the upper ranks of higher-education leadership.

For International Women's Day 2019, let's remember how women contribute to scholarship around the world and be thankful for Fatima al-Fihri's early vision and leadership in Morocco.

ROTARY CLUB OF KIMBERLEY
2019-2020
 Chartered 20 August 1951
 Rotary District 9370
RI President: Mark Daniel Maloney
District Gov: Jaco Stander
Assistant Gov: Rob Gibson
Club President: Ken Quinn
Club Secretary: Corlia van Tonder
Club Board:
 Barry Downs
 Gill Quinn
 Colleen Fairweather
 Peter Thomas
 Amanda van Zyl
Bulletin Editor: Peter Thomas
Club Meetings:
 Kimberley Club
 Mondays 12:45 for 13:00
INFO: 084 688 0508

DIARISE: 29 July: 12:45 for 13:00 – John Dory's Fellowship Lunch



CALENDAR & DUTIES

JULY

First Month of the New Rotary Year

- 8 Jul: No Lunch - Club Outing - 12:30 for 12:45
"Walk-a-bout" to Sol Plaatje University
15 Jul: Business Meeting - 12:45 for 13:00
22 Jul: BOARD MEETING - 12:45 for 13:00
29 Jul: Fellowship Lunch – John Dory’s at 13:00

"Look deep into nature, and
then you will understand
everything better"

Albert Einstein

DUTIES

*If you are unable to do a duty, please
make arrangements for a substitute.*

WEEK OF 8 JULY

S.P.U. CLUB OUTING – No Duties
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Willem Badenhorst

WEEK OF 15 JULY

FELLOWSHIP: Philip Maritz
CORPORAL: Peter Thomas (for Gill Quinn)
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Brenda Booth

WEEK OF 22 JULY

FELLOWSHIP: BOARD MEETING – No Duty
CORPORAL: BOARD MEETING – No Duty
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Peter Thomas

WEEK OF 29 JULY

J.D. FELLOWSHIP LUNCH – No Duties
TUES COFFEE CLUB: Corlia van Tonder

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE ROTARY GRIQUA
ARE WELCOMED. PLEASE E-MAIL TO:
petertee@vodamail.co.za



Disclaimer: The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the editor and the contributors. They do not necessarily reflect the views of the Rotary Club of Kimberley, of Rotary District 9370 or of Rotary International.

AUGUST

Membership & New Club Development

- 5 Aug: Social Meeting - 12:45 for 13:00
(Guest Speaker - Small Business in the N.Cape)
9 Aug: National Women’s Day
12 Aug: No Lunch – Club Outing - 12:30 for 12:45
(Details to be announced)
19 Aug: Business Meeting - 12:45 for 13:00
26 Aug: BOARD MEETING - 12:45 for 13:00

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 08 Jul. Shirley Dally (Honorary)
24 Jul. Dries van Tonder
15 Aug. Willem Badenhorst
20 Aug. Rotary Club of Kimberley (1951)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 16 Jul. Gordon & Shirley Dally (Honorary)
29 Aug. Mike & Beryl Bradnum (Honorary)

INDUCTION ANNIVERSARIES

- 13 Jul. 2015 Brenda Booth
05 Oct. 2010 Corlia Van Tonder

COFFEE CLUB BIRTHDAYS

- 15 Jul. Mark Harding
17 Jul. Robbie V.D. Nest
8 Aug. Derek Preece



LAST LAUGH

If you answer
the phone with
"Hello, you're on the air!"
most telemarketers
will quickly hang up...