

## **Outeiba A. Merhebi**

Outeiba A. Merhebi has been committed to public service since 1992, working as a lawyer and a Human Rights Advocate. Ms. Merhebi holds a Bachelor of Law degree from the University of Lebanon, Tripoli and earned her Master of Law (LL.M.) from the University of Minnesota Law School with a concentration in human rights and international law. From 2009-2010, she was a Fulbright Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow at the University of Minnesota Law School. She was selected by the US Department of State for this one-year program of graduate study and professional development at the University of Minnesota Law School and coordinated by its Human Rights Center. Ms. Merhebi is an active member of the North Lebanon Bar Association, as a member of number of committees and as an attorney and a legal consultant of the Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering women's organizations. She is a co-founder of the Forum on Arabic Women' lawyer held in Bahrain in January 2009. A major goal of this forum is to activate the role of Arab women lawyers in the development of legislation relating to the situation of Arab women. She is also the co-founder of Merhebi International School, Akkar, Lebanon, and served as its principal from June 2004-through March 2009. This school is a private and modern school from K-12 that focuses on quality education in rural areas. As an educator, and trainer of women rights, Ms. Merhebi spreads human rights awareness in schools and universities.