

This work deals with the position of women in Tunisian society at present, and attempts to put it into the historical, political and religious context of the country. Due to a lack of Czech sources it is supported by foreign (francophone) sources.

Tunisia offers an interesting exploration both from the perspective of the current position of women and also due to the circumstances involved in its formation. Tunisia is ahead of its maghreb neighbors as far as women's rights are concerned. This is a result of a combination of the political fortune, courage and skill of Habib Bourguiba, Tunisia's first president, combined with favorable socio-economic conditions. Tunisia obtained as much benefit as possible from its historical dependence on France. Apart from that, due to its relatively trouble-free acquisition of independence, development during the first few years of independence was not slowed down.. On the other hand, Tunisia is a land of contrast. Tunisian women have gained freedom, in remarkable measure for an Arabic country, but the thinking of the people often remains far away from the legislative measures of the government..

This bachelor thesis is divided into four parts. The first part outlines the impact of Islam on Tunisian society in order to show the divergence between Bourguiba's and the common Tunisians' concept of the status of women in society.

The second part engages in Bourguiba's political visions, his style of argument and the methods that he used to enforce them. It examines the success of the establishment of a secular state. It shows that Bourguiba built a two-faced state: truly Islamic on the outside, but with a secular organization. At the same time, the power of his authority is fascinating, being grounded in both his astounding charisma and his ingenious policy.