

## Woman to perform marriages in Egypt

*by UPI*

QINAYAT, Egypt - An Egyptian woman has been authorized to perform marriages in Egypt, believed to be a first in that country and the Muslim world, a report said Friday. Amal Soliman, a 32-year-old lawyer and mother of three, will work in Qinayat, east of Cairo, the same town where her father-in-law conducted weddings until his recent death, the BBC reported. As an appointed judicial assistant, Soliman can read Koran verses, sign marriage certificates and authorize divorces, the British network said. She was selected over 10 men for the post. The BBC said Soliman has told Egyptian news media that being female she get a better read on whether the bride really wants to marry the groom and is not being coerced by her family. She said she also thinks she may be able to mediate couples' disputes and deter divorces, the network said.

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