## Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak in the celebration of the Egyptian Association for Development and Childhood

## The quick response from businessmen for rebuilding schools is a Medal for people who believe in voluntary efforts

Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak, Board Chairman of the Egyptian Association for Development and Childhood affirmed that the rapid initiative of Egypt's citizens, whether at homeland or abroad, for rebuilding schools destroyed by the October 1992 earthquake and competing in construction field and patriotic works, is a new Medal for people who believe in voluntary efforts and community initiative, which aims at building, repairing, erecting and reconstruction, particularly in the face of crises and hard times.

This came in a speech delivered by the First Lady of Egypt in the celebration, held by the association in the Conferences Hall, Nasr City. The celebration aimed at honoring those who contributed to rebuilding schools destroyed by the quake.

Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak welcomed and appreciated all abled-people, who participated in rebuilding schools immediately after the national disaster hitting Egypt. They were driven by extraordinary enthusiasm and noble motivation.

Today we don't celebrate the construction of 100 schools, but rather we celebrate the great symbol that we consider as a new precedent on the map of our country and a model in our modern history, Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak said.

She pointed out that the construction of 117 schools embodies a serious attempt to contribute effectively, and participation of Egyptians when the need call. Furthermore, it reflects the sense of responsibility and poses a commitment on business.

This commitment defines clearly the role of the private sector. The new buildings show a new thinking, as they meet the contemporary children needs and reflect the modern education philosophy, she added.

She went on saying that the hardship, which is experienced by the country, was suitable for establishing a new model of a school, adapted to developments in the education philosophy and the spirit of renewal.

Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak said that the work, which is being celebrated, represents a qualitative leap for the national thinking about the philosophy of the government work, since the government can't shoulder all burdens or facing disasters alone. Actually, this issue is not confined to Egypt, but rather it is well known to the whole world.

It is worthy mentioned that the Egyptian government play a key role in the face of adversities. This role may exceed the same role of other governments. For example, the Government has housed 30 thousand families in a month in the aftermath of the 1992 earthquake, she added.

At the end of speech, she said that Egypt is not great because of Nile and Pyramids only, or either rich because of its heritage and civilization only, but rather it is proud of the great human wealth.

Dr. Eng. **Nader Riad** 

Minister of Education, Dr. Hussein Kamel Bahaa El-Din delivered a speech in the celebration on the 100 schools project, pointing out that it costed 50 million pounds.

He also pointed out to the National Project for Education, called by President Mubarak and the Reading for All Festival, adopted by Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak.

The representative of parents of students at schools, which were constructed, gave Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak the loyalty shield.

<sup>\*</sup> Translated from Arabic Original <u>Source:</u> Al Ahram Newspaper 27/3/1995