

Initial results show 3 Saudi women elected for first time

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Riyadh, Saudi Arabia: Initial results show at least three Saudi women have won seats on local municipal councils a day after women voted and ran in elections for the first time in the country's history.

The mayor of Mecca, Osama al-Bar, told The Associated Press on Sunday that Salma al-Oteibi won in an area called Madrasah, about 93 miles (150 kilometers) north of Islam's holiest site.

Al-Bar also confirms that Lama al-Suleiman won in the western city of Jiddah, Saudi Arabia's second largest city.

The official Saudi Press Agency quoted the head of the election committee in the northern region of al-Jawf as saying that female candidate Hinuwf al-Hazmi won along with 13 men in that district.

Around 7,000 candidates, among them 979 women, were competing for 2,100 seats.

- AP