

HRH Princess Basma bint Ali
Amman, Jordan



HRH Princess Basma bint Ali served for over 12 years in the Jordanian Armed Forces. She attained the rank of Major and was awarded the King Hussein Gold Medal for Excellence in 1995, as well as the Order of Merit from the Jordanian Armed Forces in 1998.

In 1995 she co-founded the [Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan](#) (JREDS). To this day, she continues to serve as Chairperson of the Board of Directors.

In 2000 Princess Basma bint Ali retired so as to dedicate herself fully to the environment. She founded the [Royal Botanic Garden](#) of Jordan in 2005.

Princess Basma bint Ali was honored as a Hero for the Planet by Time Magazine in 1998, the first Arab woman to be featured. In 2002 she was elected as a laureate of the Global 500 Roll of Honor for Environmental Achievement (UNEP). Again she was the first Arab woman and, in fact, the only individual on the Roll of Honor, the other laureates being organizations.

In 2011 she was awarded the Henry Shaw Medal by the Missouri Botanical Garden. She serves on numerous national and international committees and organizations promoting sustainable development and biodiversity conservation.

Education:

- Royal Military Academy – Sandhurst, UK 1989
Major: Military Science. Rank on Graduating 2 lieutenant
- Boston College, Boston, USA 1993
Major: Sociology, Environmental Studies, and Studio Art. BA Degree

Work Experience:

- The Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF), 1987-2000,
 1. Platoon Commander at the Royal Military Academy Zarka, 1993 – 1994
 2. Founder of the Directorate of Women's Affairs, JAF
 - Director Department of Training and Research, 1994 - 1996
 - Director of Planning and Manpower 1996 - 2000

Volunteer work:

- Co-founder of the Royal Marine Conservation Society (JREDS) 1995, Chairperson of the Board of Directors 1995 to date.
- Founder of the Royal Botanic Garden at Tel Al Rumman, 2002 to date.
- Since 2011 international patroness of the education platform HOBOS

Awards:

- The King Hussein Gold Medal for Excellence from the Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF) 1995
- Medal for Administrative Competence from the JAF 1995
- Honored as a Hero for the Planet by Time Magazine in 1998. The First Arab female to be featured.
- Order of Merit from the Jordanian Armed Forces 1998
- The Global 500 Roll of Honor for Environment Achievements (UNEP) 2002. The First Arab female to be featured, and the only individual to be featured, the others were organizations.
- The Henry Shaw Medal from the Missouri Botanic Garden 2011