

BEBE ARCIFA KHAN – AJODHA

Bebe has been a Soroptimist for over 13 years, and was Communications Officer, Vice President to President Elect and President of SI San Fernando 2018-2020. She successfully led the club to win SIGBI's Best Practice Award 2018 and First Place Advocacy. She presented at Conference in Cardiff on STEM (2017) and presented to FPAC meeting on Human Trafficking. She served for four years as National FPAC Chairman. She is also a qualified Project Management Professional (PMP) and has delivered several trainings in Project Management to local clubs.

As an environmentalist and educator, she received several prestigious awards working with students, communities, ministers and local and international organizations. In 1999, she won first place in the Young Leaders Award with junior secondary students in an environmental project on Pollution "Our River of Problems", where a student drowned, highlighting the negative effects of pollution and lobbying communities and politicians, making an invaluable contribution to civic society and the community. She was nominated in 1997 for Woman of the Year in Trinidad and Tobago. She served on several Government and NGO boards:

- Trinidad and Tobago Honorary Game Warden 1998
- Palmiste Park Management and Development Committee
- Environmental Management Authority Board

Bebe was involved in the Environment Modules for EMA 1997 and the Glossary of Environmental Terms 1993 publications. In 1999, she was awarded the prestigious UNEP Global 500 Laureate Award on World Environment Day in Japan. She was presented to the Emperor and Empress of Japan and featured with the Mayor on television. In 2000, she was awarded a National Award, the Hummingbird Silver, for long and meritorious work in the sphere of environment.

In her professional life, she worked as an educator par excellence at the Corinth Teachers College, devised the Curriculum Elective in Environment and taught same. Her students, of whom many are supervisors and principals today, still respect and regard her as role model. She also designed and taught Environmental Science at the San Fernando Technical Institute, and worked at the Ministry of Environment as an Information and Communication Officer with the EMA.

She held several positions under the Ministry of Education:

- Director of Instructional Materials – Designing and producing instructional materials aligned to the curriculum.
- School Supervisor III - Team Lead for content for laptop distribution, designing and executing eCal project for teachers.
- Team Lead – Two-day conference Hyatt Trinidad Econnect and Learn Project.
- Co-ordinator for the project "Together We Light the Way", to address violence and indiscipline in schools.
- Team leader for the project "Infusing Technology into the Curriculum".

She is currently Vice-President of Naparima District Scout Council and is managing the construction of a green building for Scouts' Headquarters. Bebe is also a member of the Project Management Institute; Project Management Institute Southern Caribbean Chapter and National Science Teachers Association. She continues to work in the field of education and environment and improving the lives of not only women and girls but an entire nation, with international impact.



Photo credit Ronald Chung