

Great muslim women

A'ishah Bint Abu Bakr- the daughter of Abu Bakr and the wife of the Prophet Muhammad (saw). She is referred to as 'the mother of the believers'. She narrated over 2000 ahadith. She excelled in many areas of knowledge including law, poetry and medicine.

The mother of Isa (Jesus) pbuh was none other than the beloved Maryam/Mary (peace be upon her). Maryam bint Imran was a righteous child and woman and she was always engrossed in the worship of Allah. She is regared as a role model for chastity and virtue for all women as well as being extremely pious and patient.

Khadija bint Khuwaylid – the first wife of the prophet (saw) and the mother of his children. She was the best woman of her time and was given glad tidings of paradise. Even before Islam, she was known as 'the pure woman'. She was a successful business owner, being a wealthy woman.

Asiya. The wife of the Pharaoh and foster mother of Moses (pbuh). She is regarded as one of the four greatest women in Islam. She raised prophet Moses and was known for her humility and generosity. She remained firm in her belief in God, despite enduring incredible pain and hardships in the face of oppression, when asked to renounce her faith.

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Islam on WOMEN



The honour of women in Islam

In pre-Islamic Arabia, Arabs were living in a time of ignorance, where women had little to no rights. Newborn daughters were considered shameful and buried alive by their own fathers. Women did not have rights of inheritance and had little social standing in society.

Islam came and elevated the status of women; The pathway to heaven is through serving your mother. The mothers' rights are greater than the fathers' rights.

A man came to Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and said:

"O Messenger of God, who is most deserving of my good company?"

He said: "Your mother." He said:

"Then who?" He said: "Your mother." He said:

"Then who?" He said: "Your mother." He said:

"Then who?" He said: "Then your father."

[Al-Bukhaari (5971) and Muslim (2548) narrated that Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him).]

This hadith (saying of Prophet Muhammad pbuh) indicates that our mother has a right over us. Part of our obedience to God is to be dutiful to our parents, particularly our mother, whose favours we will never be able to repay. Similarly, the daughters are also honoured. Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: *"Whoever takes care of two girls until they reach adulthood, he and I will come like this on the Day of Resurrection," and he held his fingers together.*

(Narrated by Muslim, 2631).

Rights of women in Islam

These are only some of the rights of Women in Islam:

- They have a right to own property, to buy and sell and to inherit.
- The woman does not have any financial obligations. When she is living at home, her father or brother must provide her with her essential needs. When she gets married, it is the duty of her husband to provide for her, and anything that she spends on her family is regarded as charity.
- Whatever money she earns is entirely hers to keep, whereas it is the obligation of the husband to ensure all the needs of the household are met.
- Keep their own surnames when getting married.

Living in the west as a muslim

We live in a world where, our worth and prosperity is measured by what society deems as successful, and unfortunately one of the measurements of success is determined by how physically beautiful we are. What happens when women cover their beauty? Why do they cover? And how does the hijab fit into today's society? First and foremost, they cover because Allah (SWT) has commanded them to.

"And tell the believing women to reduce [some] of their vision and guard their private parts and not expose their adornment except that which [necessarily] appears thereof and to wrap [a portion of] their headcovers over their chests and not expose their adornment..." [Qur'an 24:31]

"O Prophet, tell your wives and your daughters and the women of the believers to bring down over themselves [part] of their outer garments. That is more suitable that they will be known and not be abused. And ever is Allah Forgiving and Merciful." [Qur'an 33:59]

Observing proper hijab is part of submitting to Allah (SWT). Hijab preserves a woman's honour and dignity, and they will surely be rewarded by Allah (SWT). There are a variety of reasons why Muslim women wear Hijab. For most it is a personal choice that is intended to reflect their own devotion to their faith. Some Muslim women also wear it as an expression of their cultural identity. The Hijab has also become a symbol for Islamic identity, and many Muslim women wear it to reflect this identity and demonstrate that they are devoted practitioners of their religion. Though a very small minority might claim to be forced to wear the hijab, this is not true for the majority of Muslim women for whom it is a conscious decision and commitment to their faith.