



Women In Islam

Islamic Feminism, the Veil, Politics, and Love

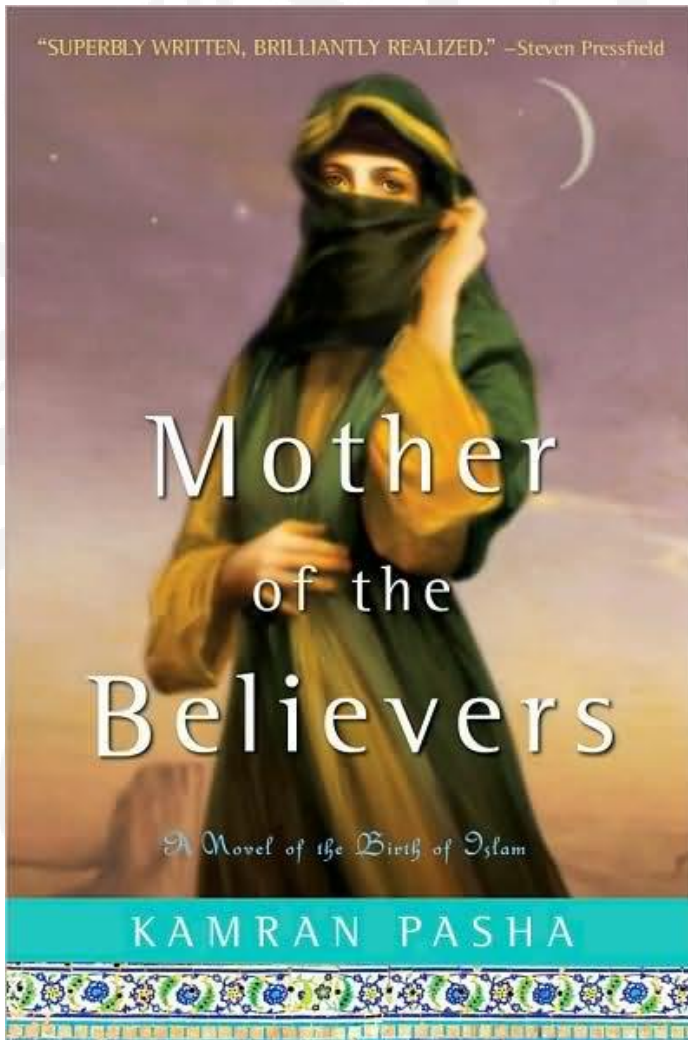
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Women in the Prophet's Lifetime: Khadidjah bint Khuwaylid

- ▶ Muhammad's (alayhi salaam) first wife
- ▶ Convinced of Jibreel's revelations
- ▶ Went to Waraqa ibn Nafwal
- ▶ First to publicly accept Islam
- ▶ Had five children



Women in the Prophet's Lifetime: Ayesha bint Abu Bakr



- ▶ Wife of Muhammad (alayhi salaam)
- ▶ Married 6, consummated 9
- ▶ Favorite wife
- ▶ Adultery accusation
- ▶ Memorized Qur'an
- ▶ Abu Bakr first caliph
- ▶ Sunnism vs. Shiism

Women in the Prophet's Lifetime: Fatima bint Muhammad

- ▶ Muhammad's (alayhi salaam) daughter
- ▶ Ali's wife
- ▶ Tasbih of Fatima
- ▶ Disputed Fadak with Abu Bakr
- ▶ Fatimid Caliphate (Ismailis)
- ▶ Mother of the Imams
- ▶ Sayyid, Fatima's line



Women in the Prophet's Lifetime: Khawla bint al-Azwar



- ▶ **Battle of Adnain**
 - ▶ Dressed as man
 - ▶ Routed Muslim forces
 - ▶ Rescued POWs
 - ▶ Mistaken for Khalid bin Walid
 - ▶ **Fighting Byzantians**
 - ▶ Taken prisoner
 - ▶ Routed women prisoners
 - ▶ Killed five, including captor
 - ▶ **Iraqi all-women's unit**
 - ▶ **UAE women's military college**
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Women in the Qur'an: Khaulah bint Thalabah

- ▶ Husband said *ad-dhihar*
- ▶ Complained to Muhammad (alayhi salaam)
- ▶ God heard Khaulah



Al-Mujadilah 58:2

If any men among you divorce their wives by *dhihar* (calling them mothers), they cannot be their mothers: None can be their mothers except those who gave them birth. And in fact they use words (both) iniquitous and false: but truly Allah is one that blots out (sins), and forgives (again and again).

الَّذِينَ يُظَاهِرُونَ مِنْكُمْ مِمَّنْ نَسَأْتُهُمْ مَا هُنَّ أُمَّهَاتُهُمْ إِنَّ أُمَّهَاتُهُمْ إِلَّا اللَّائِي وَلَدْنَهُمْ وَإِنَّهُمْ لَيَقُولُونَ مُنْكَرًا مِّنَ الْقَوْلِ وَزُورًا وَإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَعَفُوءٌ غَفُورٌ

Women in the Qur'an: Hajar



- ▶ Ibrahim's first wife
- ▶ Ismail's mother
- ▶ Muhammad's (alayhi salaam) ancestor
- ▶ Left in Faran
- ▶ Al-Safah and Al-Marwah

Women in the Qur'an: Maryam bint Imran



- ▶ Born to Imran
- ▶ Mother of Isa (Jesus)
 - ▶ Isa bin Maryam
- ▶ Miraculous conception
- ▶ Isa spoke in cradle

Aali-Imran 3:42

Behold! the angels said: “O Mary! Allah hath chosen thee and purified thee—chosen thee above the women of all nations.”

يَا مَرْيَمُ اقْنُتِي لِرَبِّكِ وَاسْجُدِي وَارْكَعِي مَعَ الرَّاكِعِينَ

Historical Muslim Women: Rabia al-Adawiyya

- ▶ 717-801
- ▶ Basra, Iraq
- ▶ Sufi poet
- ▶ Two movies
 - ▶ Turkish
 - ▶ Arabic
- ▶ Divine Love
- ▶ Legends



Historical Muslim Women: Walladah bint Mustakfi

- ▶ 1001-1080
- ▶ Cordoba
- ▶ Daughter of Umayyad caliph
- ▶ Arabic poet
- ▶ Did not wear hijab
- ▶ Public affair with ibn Zaydun



Historical Muslim Women: Mumtaz Mahal



- ▶ 1593-1631
- ▶ Persian princess
- ▶ Shi'a
- ▶ Third wife of Shah Jahan
- ▶ Fourteen children
- ▶ Taj Mahal



Prominent Muslim Women: Benazir Bhutto



- ▶ 1953-2007
- ▶ Karachi, Pakistan
- ▶ Radcliffe College and Oxford University
- ▶ 1979 Zulfikar Ali Bhutto killed
- ▶ 1988 elected Prime Minister of Pakistan
- ▶ First woman prime minister of Islamic country
- ▶ 2008 killed by suicide bomber

Prominent Muslim Women: Shirin Ebadi

- ▶ 1947 –
- ▶ Hamedan, Iran
- ▶ Tehran University Faculty of Law
- ▶ 1969 served as judge
- ▶ First Iranian woman judge
- ▶ 1979 dismissed
- ▶ 1992 opened law practice
- ▶ Nobel Laureate (Peace Prize 2003)
- ▶ 2009 seizure of award



Prominent Muslim Women: Surayya Pakzad



- ▶ Herat, Afghanistan
- ▶ Founded Voice of Women Organization
- ▶ Grant from UN Special Fund to Eliminate Violence Against Women
- ▶ 2008 Women of Courage Award
- ▶ National Medal from Afghanistan



Prominent Muslim Women: Malalai Joya

- ▶ 1978 –
- ▶ Farah Province, Afghanistan
- ▶ National Assembly 2005-2007
- ▶ 2006 Gwangju Prize for Human Rights
- ▶ 2010 Woman of the Year (Swiss University of Peace)
- ▶ 2010 Time 100
- ▶ *A Woman Among Warlords*



