Women In Islam

Islamic Feminism, the Veil, Politics, and Love

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Women in the Prophet’s Lifetime: Khadidjah bint Khuwaylid

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

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/08/Khadija_al-Kubra.jpg
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 Adnajin
  - Dressed as man
  - Routed Muslim forces
  - Rescued POWs
  - Mistaken for Khalid bin Walid

- Fighting Byzantinians
  - Taken prisoner
  - Routed women prisoners
  - Killed five, including captor

- Iraqi all-women’s unit
- UAE women’s military college
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).
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

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/29/Tissot_Hagar_and_the_Angel_in_the_Desert.jpg
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.”
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

http://www.islamicspain.tv/Andalusi-Society/Islamic%20Spain%20images%20056.jpg
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

http://0.tqn.com/d/womenshistory/1/0/3/j/2/benazir_bhutto_dec_27_2007.jpg
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

http://static.guim.co.uk/sys-images/Guardian/Pix/pictures/2008/06/13/ebadi460.jpg
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