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# Women in Islam

from  
Quran and Sunnah

**"As part of our efforts to spread authentic Islamic knowledge to the world and revive the traditions of the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ), our team at "One Allah" has presented this "Women in Islam" Handbook for all to benefit from.**

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**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.**

Surah Al Ahzab 33:59”

## The Best Four Women of Paradise

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: **The best of the women of Paradise are:**

**Aasiyah Bint Mazahim** – the wife of Pharoah

**Mariam Bint 'Imran** – Mother of Isa (AS)

**Khadijah Bint Khuwailid** – Wife of Prophet Muhammd (ﷺ)

**Fatimah Bint Muhammad** – Daughter of Prophet Muhammd (ﷺ)

Narrated by Ahmad 2663, Classified as Sahih by al-Albani in Sahih al-Jaami 1135

## 1) Importance of Treating Women Kindly

**Narrated Abu Huraira (ra):**

Allah 's Apostle (ﷺ) said, "**Treat women nicely**, for a women is created from a rib, and the most curved portion of the rib is its upper portion, so, if you should try to straighten it, it will break, but if you leave it as it is, it will remain crooked. **So treat women nicely.**"

Sahih al-Bukhari 3331

## 2) Male and Female created in Pairs

And of everything **We have created pairs**, that you may remember (the Grace of Allah).

Surah Adh Dhariyat 51:49

## 3) Hijab

### 3.1) Hijab is a Direct Commandment of Allah

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.

Surah Al Ahzab 33:59

### 3.2) Command of Wearing Hijab and the Maharams in Religion

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 except to their husbands, their fathers, their husbands' fathers, their sons, their husbands' sons, their brothers, their brothers' sons, their sisters' sons, their women, that which their right hands possess, or those male attendants having no physical desire, or children who are not yet aware of the private aspects of women. And let them not stamp their feet to make known what they conceal of their adornment. And turn to Allah in repentance, all of you, O believers, that you might succeed.

Surah An Nur 24:31

### 3.3) Some Women who would enter Hellfire regarding Hijab

#### Abu Huraira (ra) reported:

Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) having said this:

Two are the types of the people of Hell whom I did not see: people having flogs like the tails of the ox with them and they would be beating people, and the **women who would be dressed but appear to be naked**, who would be inclined (to evil) and make their husbands incline towards it. **Their heads would be like the humps of the camel inclined to one side.** They will not enter Paradise and they would not smell its odour whereas its odour would be smelt from such and such distance.

Sahih Muslim 2128

### 3.4) Prayer of Woman not Accepted without a Veil

#### Narrated Aisha (ra):

The Prophet (ﷺ) said:

Allah does not accept the prayer of a woman who has reached **puberty unless she wears a veil.**

Sunan Abu Dawud 641



## 4) Temptation of Women is a Trial

**Narrated Usama bin Zaid (ra):**

The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "After me I have not left **any trial more severe to men than women.**"

Sahih al-Bukhari 5096

**Note:** How apparent this is in today's world where the temptation of women is everywhere and a great trial.

## 5) Always be Grateful

**Narrated Ibn 'Abbas (ra):**

The Prophet (ﷺ) said: "I was shown the Hell-fire and that **the majority of its dwellers were women who were ungrateful.**" It was asked, "Do they disbelieve in Allah?" (or are they ungrateful to Allah?) He replied, "They are ungrateful to their husbands and are ungrateful for the favors and the good (charitable deeds) done to them. If you have always been good (benevolent) to one of them and then she sees something in you (not of her liking), she will say, **'I have never received any good from you.'**"

Sahih al-Bukhari 29

## 6) Interpretation of the word Mahram

A woman's mahram is a person whom she is never permitted to marry because of their close blood relationship (such as her father, grandfather, great-grandfather, etc., and her son, grandson, great-grandson, etc., her paternal and maternal uncles, her brother, brother's son and sister's son), or because of radaa'ah or breastfeeding (such as the brother and husband of the woman who breastfed her), or because they are related by marriage (such as the mother's husband, the husband's father, grandfather, etc., and the husband's son, grandson, etc.).

## 7) Women must avoid perfume outside home

**Zainab, the wife of Abdullah (b. 'Umar) (ra), reported:**

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said to us: When any one of you comes to the **mosque**, she should not apply perfume.

Sahih Muslim 443 b

### 7.1) Not to wear Perfume around Non-Mahrams

**It was narrated that Al-Ash'ari (ra) said:**

"The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

'Any woman who puts on perfume then passes by people so that they can smell her fragrance then she is an adulteress.'"

Sunan an-Nasa'i 5126

## 8) Travelling with a Mahram

### 8.1) Women should not travel without a Mahram

**Narrated Ibn `Abbas (ra):**

The Prophet (ﷺ) said,

**"A woman should not travel except with a Mahram** (her husband or a man with whom that woman cannot marry at all according to the Islamic Jurisprudence).

Sahih al-Bukhari 1862

**Narrated Abu Huraira (ra):**

The Prophet (ﷺ) said,

It is not permissible for a woman who believes in Allah and the Last Day **to travel for one day and night except with a Mahram.**

Sahih al-Bukhari 1088

## 9) Fasting is waived for pregnant & breastfeeding women

**It was narrated from Anas bin Malik (ra) that:**

He came to Prophet in Al-Madinah when he was eating breakfast. The Prophet said to him: "Come and eat the breakfast." He said: "I am fasting." The Prophet said to him: "Allah, the mighty and sublime, has waived fasting and half of the prayer for the traveler and for pregnant and breastfeeding women."

Sunan an-Nasa'i 2315

**Note:** The fast of Ramadan must be made up for the days missed when the period of pregnancy and breastfeeding is over.

## 10) Reward for the Pious and Dutiful Woman

**Abdur Rahman ibn Awf (ra) reported:**

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said, "When a woman prays her five prayers, fasts her month (Ramadan), guards her chastity, and obeys her husband, then it will be said to her Enter Paradise from whichever gate you wish."

Musnad Ahmad 1664

## 11) The Last Sermon of Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ)

**Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) delivered his last sermon (Khutbah) on the ninth of Dhul Hijjah (12th and last month of the Islamic year), 10 years after Hijrah (migration from Makkah to Madinah) in the Uranah Valley of mount Arafat. His words were quite clear and concise and were directed to the entire humanity.**

After praising, and thanking Allah he said:

“O People, lend me an attentive ear, for I know not whether after this year, I shall ever be amongst you again. Therefore, listen to what I am saying to you very carefully and take these words to those who could not be present here today.

O people, just as you regard this month, this day, this city as Sacred, so regard the life and property of every Muslim as a sacred trust. Return the goods entrusted to you to their rightful owners. Hurt no one so that no one may hurt you. Remember that you will indeed meet your Lord, and that He will indeed reckon your deeds. **Allah has forbidden you to take usury (interest)**, therefore all interest obligation shall henceforth be waived. Your capital, however, is yours to keep. You will neither inflict nor suffer any inequity. Allah has Judged that there shall be no interest and that all the interest due to Abbas ibn Abd Al-Muttalib (Prophet’s uncle) shall henceforth be waived...

**Beware of Satan**, for the safety of your religion. He has lost all hope that he will ever be able to lead you astray in big things, **so beware of following him in small things.**

O people, it is true that you have certain rights with regard to your women, but they also have rights over you. Remember that you have taken them as your wives only under Allah’s trust and with His permission. If they abide by your right then to them belongs the right to be fed and clothed in kindness. **Do treat your women well and be kind to them for they are your partners and committed helpers.** And it is your right that they do not make friends with any one of whom you do not approve, as well as never to be unchaste.

O people, listen to me in earnest, worship Allah, say your five daily prayers (Salah), fast during the month of Ramadan, and give your wealth in Zakat. Perform Hajj if you can afford to.

**All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also, a white has no superiority over a black nor a black has any superiority over a white except by piety (taqwa) and good action.** Learn that every Muslim is a brother to every Muslim and that the

Muslims constitute one brotherhood. Nothing shall be legitimate to a Muslim which belongs to a fellow Muslim unless it was given freely and willingly. Do not, therefore, do injustice to yourselves.

Remember, **one day you will appear before Allah and answer your deeds.** So beware, do not stray from the path of righteousness after I am gone. O people, no prophet or apostle will come after me and **no new faith will be born.**

Reason well, therefore, O people, and understand the words which I convey to you. I leave behind me two things, **the Qu'ran and my example, the Sunnah and if you follow these you will never go astray.**

**All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others** and those to others again; and may the last ones understand my words better than those who listen to me directly. Be my witness, **O Allah, that I have conveyed your message to your people”.**