

# THE IDEAL MUSLIMAH.

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At a time when muslim women are being harshly attacked and attracted by the "feminist theories and studies" this article is a reminder that Islam has held women as highly esteemed and respected. It is enough that the Holy Qur'an contains a full chapter on women. The sources of Islam i.e. the Holy Qur'an and the Prophetic Traditions have always spoken of the women's rights and made them full partners in the human venture of history more than any other religion or thought.

## Who is an ideal Muslimah?

A true Muslimah is the one who is alert, knowledgeable, true to herself as well as to others. She is righteous, and faithful. She balances her obligations to Allah (SWT), her parents and children. She does not excel in one thing and neglect the other. Her ideals are the wives of the Prophet ﷺ

The blessings of Islam did not stop at raising women from humiliation and backwardness to a level of progress, honour, security and protection. Islam is also concerned with the formation and development of every aspect of her personality, so

that she may become refined and highly developed, worthy of her role as Allah's khalifah on earth.

**So how does Islam form her personality? How may her development reach such a high level that had never before been attained in the history of womankind, except in the religion of Islam?**

**Below are answers to the question above:-**

### **1. The believing woman is alert**

One of the most prominent distinguishing features of the Muslim woman is her deep faith in Allah (SWT), and her sincere conviction that whatever happens in this universe, and whatever fate befalls human beings, only happens through the will and decree of Allah (SWT); whatever befalls a person could not have been avoided, and whatever does not happen to a person could not have been made to happen. A person has no choice in this life but to strive towards the right path and to do good deeds, putting all his trust in Allah (SWT), submitting to His will, and believing that he is always in need of Allah's (SWT) help and support.

### **2. She worships Allah (SWT) and regularly prays five times a day**

The true Muslim woman enthusiastically worships her Lord, because she knows that she is obliged to observe all the commandments that Allah (SWT) has enjoined upon every Muslim, male or female. So she carries out her Islamic duties properly, without making excuses or compromises, or being negligent. And she offers each of the five daily prayers at its appointed time, and does not let domestic chores or her duties as a wife and mother prevent her from doing so. Prayer is the link between the servant and his Rabb. It is the rich source from which a person derives strength, steadfastness, mercy and contentment, and it is a means of cleansing the stain of his or her sins.

**Jabir (RAA) said: "The Messenger of Allah (PBUH) said: `The five daily prayers are like a deep river flowing by the door of any of you, in which he bathes five times every day.'**

### **3. She wears correct hijab**

The Muslim woman wears correct hijab when she goes out of her house. She does not go out of the house, or appear before non-mahram men, wearing perfume, make-up or other fineries, because she knows that this is haram according to the Qur'an. The Muslim woman wears hijab on the basis of her belief that it is a command from Allah (SWT), revealed to protect the Muslim woman, to make her character distinct, and to

keep her away from the slippery slope of immorality and error. So she accepts it willingly and with strong conviction, as the women of the Muhajirin and Ansar accepted it on the day when Allah revealed His clear and wise command **“that they should draw their veils over their bosoms.”**

#### **4. She understands the true meaning of being a servant of Allah (SWT)**

The true Muslim woman has the firm belief that she has been created to serve an important purpose in life, which Allah (SWT) has defined in the Qur'an: **“I have only created jinns and men, that they may serve Me.”**

Life, for the true Muslim woman, is not to be spent solely on daily chores or enjoyment of the good things of this world; life is an important mission, in which every believer must take on the responsibility of living in such a way that he or she will be a true and sincere worshipper of Allah (SWT). This can only be achieved by checking one's intention, in all one's deeds, to ensure that they are done for the sake of Allah (SWT) and to please Him.

#### **5. Her main concern is the pleasure of Allah (SWT)**

The true Muslim woman always seeks to earn the pleasure of Allah (SWT) in everything she does. So she measures everything against this precise standard, and will retain or discard any practice accordingly. Whenever there is a conflict between what pleases Allah (SWT), and what pleases other people, she chooses what pleases Allah (SWT), with no hesitation or argument, even if it will anger other people. She does this because she knows, with her deep understanding of Islam and her own common sense, that pleasing the people is a goal that can never be achieved, and it will only bring about the wrath of Allah (SWT). The Prophet (PBUH) said: **“Whoever seeks the pleasure of Allah (SWT) at the risk of displeasing the people, Allah (SWT) will take care of him and protect him from them. But whoever seeks the pleasure of the people at the risk of displeasing Allah (SWT), Allah (SWT) will abandon him to the care of the people.”**

#### **6. She turns to Allah (SWT) in repentance**

The Muslim woman may find herself becoming neglectful and slipping from the Straight Path, so she may fall short in her practice of Islam in a way that does not befit the believing woman. But she will soon notice her error, seek forgiveness for her mistakes or shortcomings, and return to the protection of Allah (SWT). The heart that is filled with love and fear of Allah (SWT) will not be overcome by negligence. It is those who ignore

Allah's (SWT) commands and guidance who will be led astray. The heart of the sincere Muslim woman is ever eager to repent and seek forgiveness, and rejoices in obedience, guidance and the pleasure of Allah (SWT).

**In conclusion, this is the attitude of the true Muslim woman towards her Lord:-**

- She has deep faith in Allah (SWT) and willingly submits to His will and decree.
- She worships Him sincerely, obeying all His commands and heeding all His prohibitions.
- She understands what it means to be a true servant of Allah (SWT)
- She constantly strives to please her Rabb and to make His word supreme on earth.
- She is proud of her Muslim identity, which draws its strength from her understanding of the purpose of human existence in this life, as defined by Allah (SWT) in the Qur'an: **I have only created jinns and men, that they may serve Me.**

**May Allah make us ideal muslimahs and grant us the best in this life and the best in the next life. Ameen.**