

Lesson 3

LO: to learn about famous muslim women.

Read these two Hadith and annotate with their messages (think back to lesson 1).

The Messenger of Allah said: 'Whoever has three daughters, or three sisters, or two daughters, or two sisters and he keeps good company with them and fears Allah regarding them, then paradise is for him.'

'Oh Muhammed, who is the most deserving of my fine treatment? Muhammed replied, 'Your Mother.' The man again asked: 'Then who?' Muhammed answered: 'Your mother.' The man again asked: 'Then who?' Prophet Muhammed said: 'Your mother.' 'Then who?' the man asked. 'Your father,' replied the Prophet.



Your task is to research and create an information booklet/poster about famous Muslim women - you may present this anyway you wish ...

1. Khadija bint Khuwaylid (RA)



Possibly the most famous Muslim women in the era of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) is Khadija (RA). Yes, Prophet Muhammad's first wife.

Born in 555AD in present-day Saudi Arabia, Khadijah was well ahead of her time. Not only was she a successful entrepreneur BUT she also defied some other stereotypes of her own. She declared her interest in marrying Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and once a married couple, she continued to work and to be a great success.

As well as being financially successful, Khadija was also important in Prophet Muhammad's spiritual journey. She was in fact, the first Muslim (as someone to accept Prophet Muhammad's prophethood).

Yes, upon receiving the first revelation, Prophet Muhammad (SAW) was naturally scared and confused. Yet Khadija believed her husband, encouraging him and supporting him right until her death in Makkah in 619AD.

2. Fahma Mohammed

Teenage activist @FahmaEndFGM working to #endFGM receives honorary doctorate from @BristolUni <https://t.co/Luxijgm5b> v @guardian

— UN Women (@UN_Women) July 18, 2016

Born in the Netherlands, Fahma is most-well known for leading a popular campaign against FGM. Whilst volunteering for anti-FGM charity Integrate in Bristol back in 2011, she was shocked by the horrors of this violent practice.

So, Fahma decided to do something about it. She launched her own campaign in 2014 with The Guardian, calling on then Education Secretary Michael Gove to promote awareness of FGM in schools to help tackle the issue.

Her petition was a great success – reaching 230,000 signatures – and Fahma later met with Mr Gove and inspired compulsory FGM-awareness training for public sector workers to raise doctors', teachers' and social workers' understanding of the risk posed to girls.

If that wasn't enough, Fahma also met former UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, and has also been awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Bristol!

3. Fatima al-Fihri



Image: LLUCCO / Shutterstock.com

Originally from Kairouan (Tunisia), Fatima is an inspiration to women and educators alike. Why? Well, she founded the first and oldest-surviving madrasah and university in the world!

Yes, Al-Qarawiyun mosque and university in Fez (Morocco) was founded and built (under supervision) by Fatima with the inheritance she received from her father. The mosque took a whopping 18 years to be completed. The university then followed.

This beautiful site – which is named after her hometown – can still be visited today. In fact, it's also near Al-Andalus, the mosque that her sister Maryam built!

Wow, what a family! 🌟🌟🌟

4. Aina Khan OBE

On Friday 10 January 2020, I had the pleasure to meet with Jonathan J. J. J., Special Advisor on Faith to the Prime Minister and Matthew Lever, Senior Policy Advisor on Faith at 10 Downing Street. pic.twitter.com/V7ygeA24Hp

— Aina Khan OBE (@ainakanlondon) January 13, 2020

Managing Director of Aina Khan Law Solicitors, Aina is a family law specialist and member of the International Bar Association with almost 30 years' experience.

As well as running her own legal firm, Aina also founded a growing women's rights campaign "Register Our Marriage", which is calling for the establishment of legal civil marriages alongside religious ceremonies.

The movement's aims are designed to protect women's financial, legal and spiritual wellbeing with full legal protections under UK law. This includes predominantly Muslim women.

The campaign has featured on BBC Asian Network, and Aina also recently met the UK's Special Advisor on Faith to the Prime Minister and the government's Senior Policy Advisor on Faith at 10 Downing Street.

Yep, Aina is certainly top of her field!

5. Poetic Pilgrimage

Hip-hop Hijabs: the Muslim rappers smashing stereotypes <https://t.co/Qn1L9ePWHo> pic.twitter.com/WbZ06DjZ

— gal-dem (@galdemine) April 13, 2018

As a Muslim woman, I know all about the stereotypes out there... Quiet. Shy. [3g9pUj](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3g9pUj) got much to say...

Uh, I [3g9pUj](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3g9pUj) think so! We have plenty to say!