



mydeen

THE COMPLETE WAY OF LIFE

Ramadan
KAREEM



Volume 2. Issue IX
ONLINE EDITION

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THE COMPLETE WAY OF LIFE

Assalam Alaikum warahmatuLlahi Wabarakatuh.

There is an urgent appeal to revive an Islamic founded magazine that was launched end of 2009 and has been shelved since 2012 after the 8th issue.

MyDeen magazine was established to promote awareness about Islam since its the complete way of life and to encourage Muslims to practice their Deen. It will be a vessel to inform the public about Islamic principles in everyday life and to actively interact with one another so as to empower the communities we live in economically, socially and spiritually.

We need to generate income to sustain the magazine and leave a beneficial legacy for any strategic alliances we partner with.

Our content delivery will focus on akhlaq (good mannerisms) and steer clear of controversial issues plus focus on diversity and inclusion.

We are excited to partner with MyDeen kids from Canada that has been successfully engaging kids for the last 7 years and still going strong .

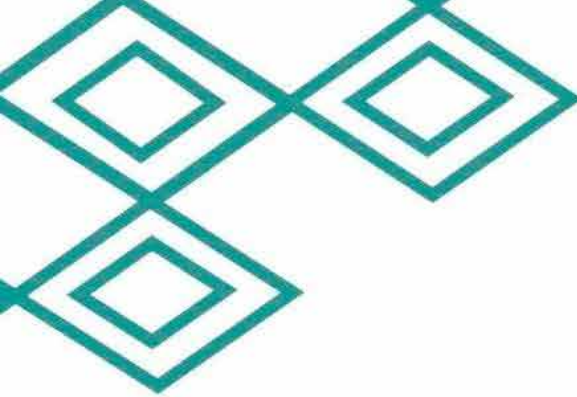
We shall localize their content and ride on their success. This will ensure continuity and relevance in distributing the magazine in schools & to parents. Bi idhni Rahman.

The founding members who still have the good will



include Zuhra Mulumba, Imaam Kasozi, Jamil Sewanyana, Umar Kakonge, Musa Senyonga, Zahra Muhammed, Zaitun Saad and Hafiz Ndaula(R. I. P.)
Allahu Ghafuru Rahim

Our value proposition is Functionality/Relevance;
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Psychological/Sadakatul jaria; etc.
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END OF SHABAN

Narrated `Abdullah bin `Umar (RA): Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said, "The month (can be) 29 nights (i.e. days), and do not fast till you see the moon, and if the sky is overcast, then complete Sha'ban as thirty days."

(Sahih al-Bukhari 1907, Book 30, Hadith 17)

The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) said: "Whoever fasts Ramadan out of faith and in hope of reward, his previous sins will be forgiven." Narrated by al-Bukhaari (38) and Muslim (759).

The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "There has come to you Ramadan, a blessed month which Allah has enjoined you to fast, during which the gates of heaven are opened and the gates of Hell are closed, and the rebellious devils are chained up. In it there is a night which is better than a thousand months, and whoever is deprived of its goodness is indeed deprived." (Narrated by al-Nasai, 2106; Ahmad, 8769, classed as sahih by al-Albani in Sahih al-Targhib, 999.)

Ramadan & The Women Companions of The Prophet.

As many of us witness the blessed month, gearing up for a marathon of spirituality and closeness to God, let us commit this Ramadan to learning more about the female Companions of Prophet Muhammad, God's peace and blessings be upon him.

When it comes to this topic, many of us are woefully and wilfully ignorant. Yet, we live in a time when the access to knowledge about these women, who were among the best generation of Muslims and human beings, is greater than ever before.

Most Muslims are familiar with Khadija, Maryam, Fatima, Asiya, and Aisha, may Allah be pleased with them all. But far too many of us have allowed ourselves to stop there. It is unfortunate that most of our Khutbas, speeches, books, articles, and social media content also fail to go beyond, especially in the English language, the lingua franca of the world.

This Ramadan, choose to study the lives of four female Companions of the Prophet you do not already know, one for each week. Take it further by not just learning about them, but adopting one good characteristic that can take you further during the blessed month in your journey to closeness to God. Whether it is bravery, generosity, kindness, or any other trait you want to develop as a Muslim.

Islam is for all human beings. Women have been an

integral part of the establishment and spread of Islam from the beginning. Like the male Companions, they chose Islam and lived it to the fullest. It is necessary for every Muslim, today and tomorrow, to learn and implement the lessons these brave, steadfast, and remarkable women have lived and upheld. And there is no better time than Ramadan to start doing that.

Maasha Allah, the blessed month of Ramadan is nearly upon us. This is a month of fasting, introspection, and community connectedness. Fasting during the month of Ramadan is ordained in the Quran and is a form of Ibadah (worship) that is for Allah, alone. It is a beautiful time that we all look forward to and it deserves to be fully realized by us preparing ourselves in advance for this wonderful, auspicious occasion. Let us equip ourselves spiritually, mentally and physically BEFORE we begin the blessed fast.

Drawing Inspiration From Influential Muslim Women Scholars

For some reason, history teaches us to study about certain people, cultures and places but not all! Such is the case when it comes to Muslim scholars - unless one takes deep interest in the subject matter. This is perhaps one of the reasons why our generations are often unaware of the contributions made by female Islamic scholars. This article highlights the remarkable talents of six influential women who served as great scholars in

the advent of Islam.

Umm Ayman

May God Be Pleased With Her

Barakah or Umm Ayman was the name of the woman whom the noble Prophet Muhammad, God's peace and blessings be upon him, esteemed so highly. She was the first person to hold him in her arms when he was born and the only person who knew him from that point until his death. She was one of the few Muslims who the Prophet assured of a place in Paradise. "Be a mother to him, Barakah. And don't ever leave him," Amina instructed her about her son as she lay dying.

Nusayba Bint Ka'b,

The First Woman Warrior

Nusaybah gained a reputation as the most distinguished woman who took part in the Battle of Uhud. She was one of two women who expressed an interest in swearing their Bayah or allegiance to the Prophet in the second pledge at Aqaba. She believed that a woman had the same duty in defending the new religion as a man.

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What is NOT a Dream Dua

Assalamu Alaikum

To understand the Visionaire experience, let me first explain the key distinction between Duas and Dream Duas.

People assume when we say "Raise Your Dua" and "Design Your Dream Duas", we're referring to everyday Duas like "O Allah enter me into Jannah" or "O Allah guide my children".

Prophetic Duas, Quranic Duas, Duas for your life and Akhirah - they're all beautiful Duas you should make everyday without a doubt.

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QUR'AN REFLECT

Don't Forget the Fish

Reflecting on these verses together (18:63 & 93:11), I was thinking about those amazing moments we witness and then so easily forget. When we witness the Power, Might, and Generosity of our Lord, let's try to remember it. Let's not allow satan to make us forget. Our enemy knows how much benefit comes to a believer when they remember and reflect on those awe-inspiring moments of life that could have come from none other than Allah. And consider sharing it with those in your life who will be inspired by it and gain benefit from it (while being cautious to glorify Allah and not ourselves).

□ Tell me a moment when you have experienced the power and blessings of Allah in your life. Was it an answer to a dua, a positive change that you saw in someone you never thought possible, a problem solved that seemed unresolvable, etc?

Let's reflect on how amazing our Lord is and let's never forget those powerful moments we are blessed to witness.

سورة 18 : الكهف الآية: 63
قَالَ أَرَأَيْتَ إِذْ أَوَيْنَا إِلَى الصَّخْرَةِ فَإِنِّي نَسِيتُ الْخُوتَ وَمَا أَنسَنِيهِ إِلَّا الشَّيْطَانُ أَنْ أَذْكُرَهُ وَاتَّخَذَ سَبِيلَهُ فِي الْبَحْرِ عَجَبًا (63)

Chapter 18 : Al-Kahf, Verse: 63

He replied, "Do you remember when we rested by the rock? 'That is when' I forgot the fish. None made me forget to mention this except Satan. And the fish made its way into the sea miraculously." (63)



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Your Ramadhan Prep Guide Is Here

Ramadan is just around the corner and, as we all know, it is a month of blessings, mercy, devotion and forgiveness. As we prepare ourselves for this incredible month, we should also be thinking about how our children will receive the month of Ramadan.

The associations we can create for our children with the month of Ramadan will last them a lifetime. The more our children can feel the excitement and anticipation of Ramadan, the more they will be able to connect to Ramadan as adults themselves.

When we make a big deal for our kids' birthdays, or even their summer break from school, but don't bring much excitement or energy to Ramadan, then we are teaching them without even knowing it. We are telling them what is and isn't a priority in their lives - and that Ramadan and Eid are low on that list.

As an imam who interacts often with Muslim kids, I often hear about their parents not speaking to them about Ramadan, or even taking time off work for Eid in order to take them for Eid prayers and celebrate the day with them.

So how can we make Ramadan fun, exciting and important to our children? Here are a few ideas:

Welcome Ramadan

Our Prophet ﷺ used to welcome the month of Ramadan, telling his Companions, "The month of Ramadan has come to you, a blessed month!" He would also search for the Ramadan moon, and make du'a at its sight saying, "O Allah, let this moon (month) pass over us with blessings, iman, safety, and in the belief of Islam."

Following this example, we need to encourage our children to anticipate and look forward to the month of Ramadan. That means going outside to search for

the moon, an activity that is both a sunnah and can bring the family closer together.

And it means decorating the house, and calling family and friends together to wish them a blessed month of Ramadan.

Have a Daily Watch Party

Do you look forward to watching Yaqeen's Ramadan series every year? Try watching it together as a family! Make it a daily activity to watch after suhoor, before Iftar, or after Taraweeh. After each episode, engage your children by encouraging them to ask questions and facilitate a conversation from there. Check out the trailer for this year's series, Jannah: Home at Last

<https://yaqeeninstitute.org/watch/series/trailer-jannah-home-at-last-ramadan-series>



Buy them toys

The Companions used to encourage their children to fast and would also make toys for their children out of wool. When their children would complain during the fast, they would give them the toys to play with and pass the time.

We should also encourage our children to fast, based on their age and capacity to do so, and give them toys to play with as encouragement for engaging in their fast.

Make a Qur'an challenge

Ramadan is the month in which the Qur'an was revealed and the month in which our Prophet ﷺ would recite it all from beginning to end.

In fact, we can say that the blessed nature of this month is because of its connection to the divine revelation. So just as we should be trying to engross ourselves in the Qur'an, we need to encourage our children to do so as well.

Consider making a Qur'an challenge for you and your child. Choose a Surah for each of you to memorize or review during the month of Ramadan and set aside a time every day to recite together.

Take them to the Masjid

Throughout the life of the Prophet ﷺ, we see many examples of children in the Masjid. Ramadan is a beautiful time when the Masjid is always alive with activity. By bringing our children to the Masjid for iftars and taraweeh, we are building a positive relationship between them, the house of Allah and the

broader Muslim community.

Create a goal to give back

When Ramadan would begin, Imam al-Zuhri would say, "This is the time of reciting Qur'an and feeding the hungry." As we speak to our children about the Ramadan fast, we should encourage them to think about the hunger that others face.

And thinking is not enough - we should motivate ourselves, and our children, to do something to help those in need. Create a goal with your child to raise money to feed the poor. If you and your child can volunteer to help feed the hungry - then even better!

Make Ramadan gifts for your neighbors

A great way to prepare for Ramadan with your children, perform an act of da'wah, and fulfill an important obligation in Islam is to create a Ramadan gift for your neighbors.

Giving gifts to our neighbors is part of our faith. A'ishah (ra) wanted to gift her neighbors once, but only had a single gift, so she asked the Prophet (saw) what to do. He (saw) told her, "Gift it to the neighbor whose door is closest to yours"

Ramadan is an excellent opportunity to revive the sunnah of gifting our neighbors

Learn a du'a together

Ramadan is the month of du'a. We are instructed to make du'a when breaking our fast, and to strive to make du'a in pursuit of Laylat al-Qadr (the night of power).

Everything we do in Ramadan should revolve around connecting our children to Allah. Teaching them to make du'a and ask Allah for all their needs and wants is perhaps the most powerful way to connect them to Allah.

Ramadan

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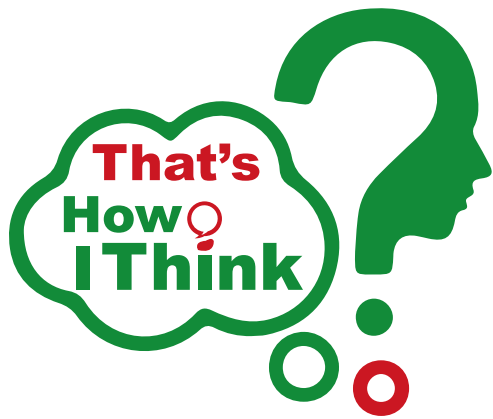


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BOYS TO MEN

A Call for Mentorship in a Changing World

In the patterns of human existence, the transition from boyhood to manhood is a delicate thread woven with the guidance and mentorship of those who have walked the path before. Yet, in today's world, this vital thread often being weakened and breaks, leaving many young boys drowning in a sea of darkness, with the absence of the guiding light of mentorship.

As I, Kasozi Abdul Wahab, reflect on my own journey from boyhood, I cannot help but lament the lack of mentorship that plagues countless young boys today. In a society that often overlooks the needs of young boys, favoring instead the nurturing of girls and women, we are left to navigate the tumultuous waters of adolescence alone, with no compass to guide us.

The system, it seems, is stacked against us from the very beginning. In the innocence of youth, our voices are drowned out, our struggles ignored. We are told to be men before we even know what that truly means, forced to swallow our pain and suppress our emotions lest we be deemed weak. But what of the boys who never had the opportunity to learn what it means to be a man? Who never had a mentor to show them the way?

I speak not only from my own experience but from the collective experience of countless young boys who have been left in the shadows, their voices

unheard and their potential untapped. As a firstborn son, I was fortunate to receive love and guidance from my parents, but I know that this is not the reality for many boys around the world. Without the guiding hand of a mentor, we are left vulnerable to the whims of a world that often seems stacked against us.

But it is not only the boys who suffer in this absence of mentorship; it is society as a whole. For how can we expect the current generation of girls and women, who have been nurtured and mentored, to coexist harmoniously with a generation of men who have been left to fend for themselves? The imbalance created by this lack of mentorship threatens to tear at the very fabric of our society, leaving us divided and disconnected.

We must recognize the importance of mentorship in shaping the men of tomorrow. We must create spaces where young boys can find guidance and support, where they can learn to navigate the complexities of manhood with strength and compassion. We must redefine what it means to be a man, tearing down the walls of toxic masculinity that have long confined us to narrow definitions of strength and emotionlessness.

It is time for a change. It is time to invest in the mentorship of young boys, to give them the tools they need to navigate the journey from boyhood to manhood with confidence and resilience. Only then can we hope to build a future where men and women can coexist as equals, bound together by mutual respect and understanding.

I ABDUL WAHAB THAT'S HOW I THINK



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OUR MISSION:

My Deen Magazine has an objective of propagating Islamic education (Dawa), e.g Islamic Banking while explicitly being current on matters concerning our daily lives with elaborate social, environmental and economical content, as guided by the Quran and hadith and targets to reach over 50% of the Islamic population across East Africa. This mission fits with our tagline 'the complete way of life'.

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5 Muslim Women Who Built the North American Muslim Community

Islam first came to America via Muslim slaves, women and men, who were brought here against their will from the early 1600s onward. It is estimated that about 30 percent of these slaves were Muslims from West and Central African countries like Gambia and Cameroon.

During this first wave, Islam was suppressed at the hands of white, European settlers who were slave owners and imposed Christianity through forced conversions. However, these first Muslims bravely practiced their faith unbeknownst to their slave owners. Reports of them quietly praying, reading Quran, fasting, and engaging in other Islamic practices are documented by their descendants and through artifacts.

Women were part of this struggle to retain their faith under the worst of circumstances. Although there is information about some male figures from this era, like Omar bin Said, very little, if anything, is known about specific women personalities.

From the 1960s onward, there was a revival of Islam among African-Americans. For a number of people in the community, it was an effort to reclaim their lost heritage as the descendants of the Muslim slaves.

This development occurred in the same decade that America passed the Immigration Act of 1965, which lifted many of the country's race-based immigration restrictions. It allowed Asians, Latin Americans, and Africans to come to the United States. Among them were an influx of Muslim immigrants who have remained to this day. Their children are now third- and fourth-generation American Muslims. A similar development was seen in Canada, where, in 1962, the federal government ended racial discrimination as a feature of the immigra-

tion system.

Over the last 60 years, this has led to tremendous growth of Islam in North America, and today's Masjids, Islamic schools, and other institutions have been built primarily by this generation of Muslim activists and their descendants.

As was the case centuries before, Muslim women have been at the forefront of establishing the Muslim community and retaining its practice, traditions, institutions, and heritage. Here are five Muslim women you should know who built today's North American Muslim community (in alphabetical order).

1. Sharifa AlKhateeb

Sharifa AlKhateeb was the co-founder and President of the North American Council for Muslim Women (established in 1992). From the start of her activism, she worked tirelessly to ensure the inclusion of Muslim women in the community's institutions and programs, as well as in developing its educational and social services. Beginning in the 1970s by focusing on the Muslim Students' Association (MSA) (which had been established only a decade earlier at that point), she worked consistently to expand women's voices and opportunities.

Education about Islam and Muslims inside and outside of the community were of critical importance to her. She was one of the editors of an updated version of Marmaduke Pickthall's English translation of the Quran. From 1989 to 2004, she was President of the Muslim Educational Council, a non-profit organization which educated public school staff and administrators about Middle Eastern culture, Muslims, and Islam. She was also co-author of the Arab World Notebook. This was used in public school history classrooms across the United States.

AlKhateeb was one of the first Muslim activists to address the crisis of domestic violence in the Muslim community. In 1993, she conducted the first documented survey designed to assess the incidence of domestic violence among Muslims in the US. She was the founder and Director of the Peaceful Families Project, a Muslim organization that raises awareness about domestic violence in the Muslim community, and trains Imams and leaders in how to effectively handle this crisis.

AlKhateeb also represented Islam and Muslim women in venues around the world, including the United Nations' Fourth World Conference on Muslim women in Beijing in 1995, where she served as the chairwoman for the Muslim Caucus.

She died in October 2004 of pancreatic cancer in Virginia. She was 58.

2. Aminah Assilmi

Aminah Assilmi (nee Janice Huff) was an American Muslim activist, Emmy-award winning broadcaster, speaker, and director of the International Union of Muslim Women. She was named one of the 500 most influential Muslims in the world in 2009, the first year of this ranking, by the Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre based in Amman, Jordan. Assilmi was an advocate for women's rights based on the primary sources of Islamic law.

Born in Oklahoma and raised a Southern Baptist, Assilmi was part of the American feminist movement before converting to Islam in 1977. She held degrees in education, broadcasting and communications.

She lectured on college campuses, at Muslim youth events in the United States, and around the world. She spoke at the 2004 conference of the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions in Barcelona, Spain.

Assilmi helped establish the American branch of the International Union of Muslim Women in 1980. Other branches, one of which was in Pakistan, and a few other Muslim countries, closed down either due to government bans or pressure. At the time of her death, the American chapter was the only remaining representative body of the IUMW.

As a result of donning the Hijab after her conversion, she immediately lost her job as a radio broadcaster. She attempted to wear the Niqab (face-covering) as well but stopped after she found the experience too difficult. At one point, a guard at a bank pointed a gun at her when she tried to cash a check with her face covered. In her lectures, she often talked of this harassment and misunderstanding about women's Islamic dress.

In 1993, she was instrumental in involving the National Organization of Women (NOW) in a successful effort initiated by Bosnia Task Force USA to designate rape a war crime. The UN Commission on Human Rights passed a resolution on December 20, 1993 affirming this. It also called for an international tribunal to prosecute these crimes.

As a broadcaster, media activism was something she remained interested in even after becoming Muslim. She was involved with various Muslim media endeavors including Sound Vision, Radio Islam and ISNA Vision in the early 1990s.

Assilmi played a major role in the United States Postal Service issuing a stamp commemorating the Eid holiday in September 2001. She helped Muhib Beekun, the elementary school student from Nevada who came up with the idea, launch a nationwide campaign through letters, emails, phone calls, a petition and postcards addressed to the PostMaster General.

The Eid stamp is the first in American history to recognize an Islamic holiday. Designed by American Muslim calligrapher Muhammad Zakariya, it features a Turkish style of calligraphy in gold letters on a royal-blue background. On top, Eid Mubarak in Arabic is written in gold. The words "EID GREETINGS" run above and below the calligraphy.

At the time of her death in 2010, she was working on a project to establish a Muslim women's center that would focus on educating Muslim women of their Islamic rights, as well as host retreats and camps for youth.

Assilmi was killed in a car accident in Tennessee in March 2010. She had been returning from a speaking engagement at the time of her death. She was 65.

3. Ella Little-Collins

Ella Little-Collins was the older half sister of El Hajj Malik El Shabazz, better known as Malcolm X. For anyone who has quoted Malcolm X's letter from Hajj, followed him from Nation of Islam to Sunni Islam, and been moved and changed by his life, speeches, activism, it is critical to know that without Ella Little-Collins, there would very likely be no Malcolm X as we know him today. He followed in her footsteps.

Little-Collins was born in Butler, Georgia in 1914 (some reports say 1912) to Earl Little, Malcolm X's father, and his first wife Daisy Mason. She moved from there to New York when she was older, working as secretary for Adam Clayton Powell, the first African-American to be elected from New York to the United States Congress in 1945. She later settled in the Roxbury area of Boston.

Little-Collins first joined the Nation of Islam in the mid-1950s, where she became an active member of the community. She helped establish the Nation's mosque in Boston, which had a daycare center attached to it.

In 1959, she became a Sunni Muslim. She also founded the Sarah A. Little School of Preparatory Arts in the city. Today, the Ella Collins Institute at the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center is named in her honor.

At some point, she adopted the Muslim name Alziz A. Hamid.

She first met Malcolm X when he was in seventh grade, and he described her in his autobiography as "the first really proud black woman I had ever seen" and wrote "I had never been so impressed with anybody." She agreed to be his guardian until he turned 21, moving to Roxbury to live with her.

"No physical move in my life," Malcolm wrote later, "has been more pivotal or profound in its repercussions. All praise is due to Allah that

I went to Boston when I did."

She paid for him to make his first Hajj after he left the Nation of Islam in 1964. Little-Collins drove from Boston to New York when he was killed in February 1965 to identify the body. She also paid his funeral and business expenses after his assassination. She led his Organization of Afro-American Unity, established after he had left the Nation, including a project he had started before his death of giving 35 scholarships from Al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt, and from the University of Ghana to students wishing to study overseas.

She died in October 1996 in Boston.

4. Khadija Haffajee

Khadija Haffajee was a Canadian Muslim activist and speaker. She was among the generation of activists that emerged from the early days of the Muslim Students' Association, which was established in 1963 in Champaign, Illinois.

Born in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, she arrived in Canada in the 1960s after spending some time working in the U.K. A teacher by profession, she taught high school and elementary school primarily in the country's capital, Ottawa, from 1969 until her retirement.

Haffajee was one of the founding members of the Ottawa Muslim Association, and served as its treasurer. She also taught at the community's Islamic weekend school, and served as president of the former Ottawa Muslim Women's Auxiliary (later the Ottawa Muslim Women's Organization). This institution was instrumental in establishing the city's first mosque.

Haffajee organized Halaqas, camps, and meetings that offered support to Muslim women, as well as youth. She was a regular speaker at local, national, and international events.

In 1995, she was part of a delegation of Muslim women at the United Nations' Fourth World Conference on Muslim women in Beijing. In an interview I conducted with her for the McGill Daily newspaper, she said that some of the event's participants expressed surprise and even disdain toward her and other Muslim women in Hijab at the conference.

Haffajee was an interfaith activist, regularly speaking at churches and other venues about various aspects of Islam. A long-time member of the Christian Muslim Dialog Group of Ottawa, she also participated in the Multicultural Advisory Committee at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, the Children's Aid Society, the Multifaith Housing Initiative, and Religions for Peace-Canada movement.

Haffajee was the first woman ever elected to North America's largest and oldest Islamic organization, the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA). In 1997, she became a member of its Majlis Shura.

Haffajee died after a short illness in September 2020 in Ottawa, Canada.

5. Tayyibah Taylor

Tayyibah Taylor was founder, publisher, and editor-in-chief of the Muslim women's magazine *Azizah*, which was the first (and so far, the only) English-language magazine in the United States by Muslim women for Muslim women. Launched in 2000 in Atlanta, it won a New America Media Award and three FOLIO Eddie awards.

She was 12 years old when she picked up a copy of *Ebony Magazine*, which made her realize the significance of Black people presenting their culture and contribution through their own images and voices.

Born in Trinidad to a Barbadian Christian family, she converted to Islam at the age of 19 in 1971. That same year, she was kicked out of a masjid in the Caribbean by men who felt the Masjid was not a place for women. This made her cognizant of the gender inequalities in mosques. Such observations led Tayyibah to organize the women's group Seattle's Islamic Sisterhood (SIS) in the 1980s.

Taylor's family immigrated to Toronto, Canada, where she spent her formative years. She moved to Saudi Arabia for some time, then permanently relocated to Atlanta.

Taylor's activism was focused on media and interfaith work. Among many other posts, she served on the board of directors of Atlanta Interfaith Broadcasters, the board of trustees for the Georgia Council for International Visitors, Faith Alliance of Metro Atlanta, Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality and Equality, and volunteered with the Interfaith Community Initiative.

She traveled to almost 40 countries, presenting lectures on Islam and Muslim women at national and international conferences. Her interfaith work took her to Turkey, Spain, Morocco, Jerusalem, Greece and Jordan, traveling with Jews, Christians, Muslims and others. In 2010, she was one of eight Muslims who met with the Dalai Lama as part of an Islam-Buddhism Common Ground event.

She was named one of the "500 Most Influential Muslims in the World" in 2009, the first year the ranking was issued by the Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre based in Amman, Jordan.

She died of cancer in 2014 in Atlanta. She was 62.



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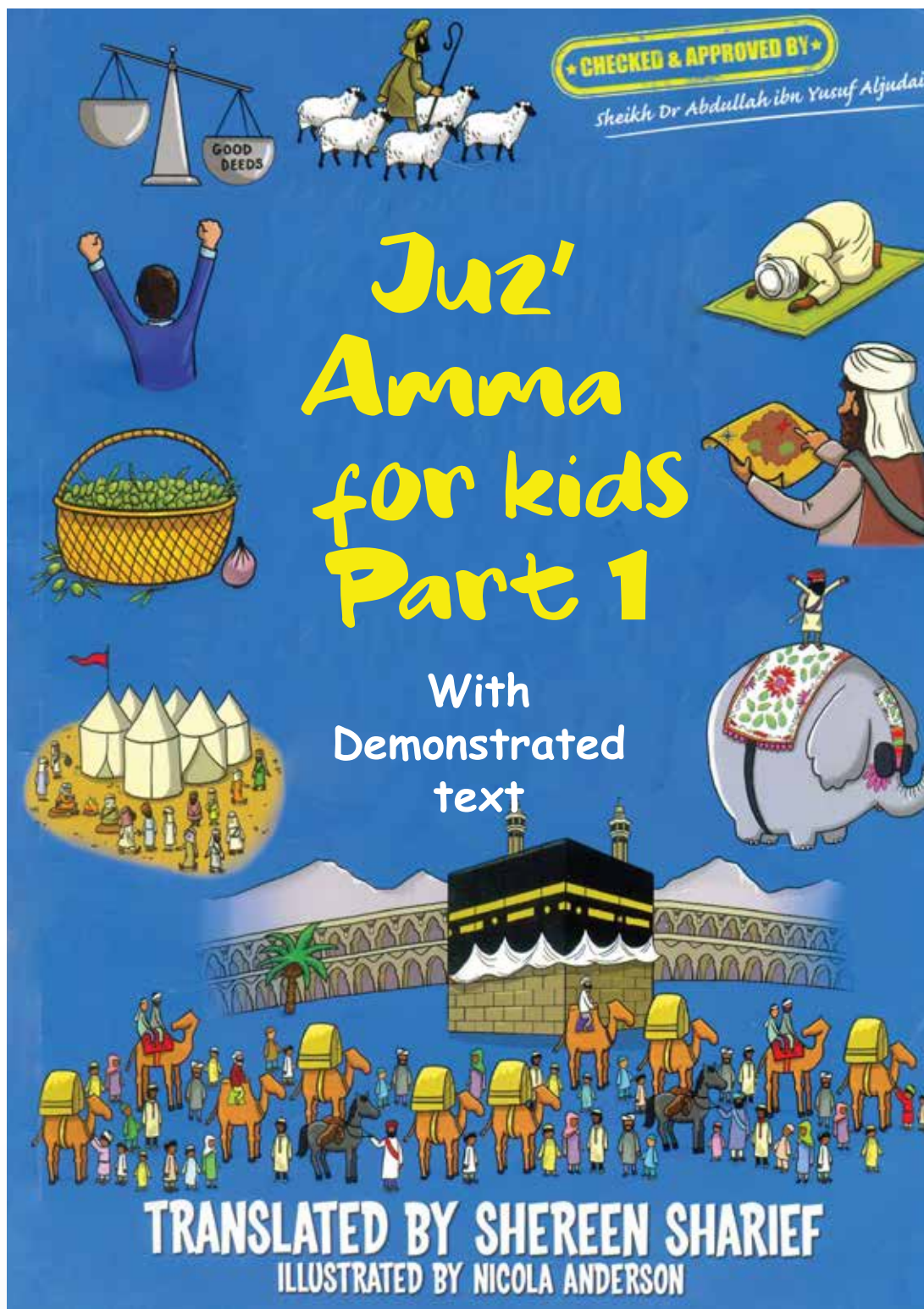
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