

Her faith is built out of love for the Creator. Muslims are not embarrassed to show and practice Islam; they are proud of it.

### Dress code for both genders

Allah gave both women and men a dress code. The reason it is different is because of physical and psychological differences.

Prescribed clothing for men and women in public is modest and humble: Loose, not transparent, not showy in order to avoid pride and not provocative, without any recommended colour.

The area of a woman's body that must be covered is everything except her hands and face. For a man it is from the navel till the knees.

The *hijaab* is meant for the public as women do not have to observe the *hijaab* when they are at home with their family.

### Double Standard

A lot of people are confused by what Muslims wear and find it to be something strange. Interestingly, looking at the righteous women throughout history, we see that they were always covered in a similar way. Modesty is a part of all Abrahamic religious traditions and moral life-styles.

Even today, Catholic nuns and Orthodox Jews cover their hair. Have you ever seen a picture of Mary, the mother of Prophet Jesus? What is she wearing in the pictures? Yes, a *hijaab*!

### There is a double standard:



### Oppression of women in Muslim societies?

If oppression of men and women is taking place it is because Islam is NOT being implemented.

More women than men are embracing Islam in the West and other places, because **Islam is the true savior and liberator of women.**

*Free yourself from the servitude of men.  
Instead, serve the Creator of men.  
Experience true freedom.  
Earn the pleasure of Allah.  
And Allah knows best.*

by: Khadijah Dingjan



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## In The Name of Allah

The Intensely Merciful, The Eternally Merciful

### Have you ever caught yourself watching Muslim women and wondering “why are they wearing those clothes?” (*hijaab*).

Well, the Islamic dress helps safeguard the modesty and decency of a person and the moral ideals of society. There is a deep impact that outer modesty makes on inner spiritual well-being. Furthermore, inner spirituality is reflected in one’s appearance.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Tawakkul Karman, when asked about her *hijaab* by journalists and how it is not proportionate with her level of intellect and education, replied: **“Man in early times was almost naked, and as his intellect evolved he started wearing clothes. What I am today and what I’m wearing represents the highest level of thought and civilization that man has achieved, and is not regressive. It is the removal of clothes again that is a regression back to the ancient times.”**

It’s people’s ignorance and stereotyping behavior that makes people believe a piece of material covering the hair strips a woman of the ability to speak up, pursue a career or work a remote control. Muslim women cover their hair (and body), not their brain!

### Hypocrisy and freedom

People think Muslim women need to be freed. But is it freedom showing parts of her body that she doesn’t want others to see?

If a woman is free to show her body, why should she not be free to cover it?

Ironically, the very people supporting freedom of choice, insist to “take off the *hijaab*”. This is a way of also dictating what she should or should not wear.

### Equal, not identical

Ever since secularism and feminism deleted God from society, man became the only role model: i.e. women could never be a full human being, until she becomes just like a man.

In Islam, women are honoured to a higher level of righteousness and piety, not being just a sexual object to men.

Allah (God) created man and woman as a pair; equal, but not identical. Men and women are complementary to each other, not competing with each other.

[Refer to the Qur’aan 4:32]

Women are not here to be displayed. Her body is not for public consumption. She will not be an advertisement tool. She has a soul, a mind, and she is a servant of Allah. Her worth is defined by the beauty of her soul, her heart, her moral character. With her headscarf she put her faith on display rather than her beauty. Her submission is not to fashion, nor to men, but to the Creator of man(kind).

[Yasmin Mogahed]

Women will never reach true liberation until they stop imitating men and value the beauty of their own God-given distinctiveness.

### So why the special clothing?

Allah made modest clothing a compulsory act of worship; **it is an act of obedience to the Creator.**

The most important message of the Creator is to believe in Him and worship Him alone. That includes following all the guidelines that Allah laid down for humanity.

[See the Qur’aan 33:59 & 24:31]

This special attire is the best way to cover according to Allah Himself. He knows best what is good for us and He commands both men and women to keep their body private.

The natural beauty of women is kept away from prying and un-deserving eyes.

### Hijaab is modesty

*Hijaab* is not only to cover nudity, to protect, and to decorate (to a certain extent), but more importantly, *hijaab* is the spiritual clothing of “piety” (taqwa), which is the best clothing.

[Refer to the Qur’aan 7:26]

*Hijaab* is the way one walks, talks and carries oneself. This is how one’s inner- and outer self will resonate in harmony.

In the Qur’aan both man and woman are told to ‘lower their gaze and to guard their modesty’ [Refer to the Qur’aan 24:30-31].

### Hijaab is identity

Muslim men and women who dress as Allah commands them, present an image of dignity, modesty and morality.

This Muslim identity is recognized anywhere in the world.

A woman in *hijaab* is not seen as weak, rather it is displaying her strength, commitment and confidence, to and in her faith.