

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

THE PUREST PEARLS

Our role model

'Ummul Mu'minīn

HAZRAT KHADIJAH

رضي الله تعالى عنها

WHO WAS SHE?

Khadijah bint Khuwaylid ibn 'Asad ibn
'Abdul 'Uzzā ibn Qusayy

- Date of birth: 556 C.E., 68 years before *Hijrah*.
- She was from the 'Asad clan of the tribe of Quraysh.
- Her mother was Fāṭimah bint Zā'idah.
- She is related to Nabī ﷺ through his forefather, Qusayy, making her the closest relative to him ﷺ from amongst all his wives.

WHO WAS SHE?

- She married our beloved Nabī ﷺ at the age of forty.
- Nabī ﷺ was twenty-five years of age.
- She was married to Nabī ﷺ for 25 years.
- Death: 10th or 11th *Ramaḍān*, 619 C.E., three years before *Ḥijrah*.
- This year was called ‘*Āmul Ḥuzan*, the year of grief.

A FEW VIRTUES

- The first person to accept Islām.
- The first wife of Nabī ﷺ and Nabī ﷺ did not marry another woman during her lifetime.
- Nabī ﷺ declared her as the best of women and mentioned her as one of the four perfect role models and examples for the women of the 'Ummah.
- Received the *salāms* of Allāh and Jibra'īl ؑ.
- Received glad-tidings of Paradise.

THE ONLY WIFE

Hazrat 'Ā'ishah رضي الله عنها narrated:

“Nabī صلى الله عليه وسلم did not marry any other woman until the death of Khadījah.”

(Muslim: #2436)

BEST OF WOMEN

خَيْرُ نِسَائِهَا مَرْيَمُ ابْنَةُ عِمْرَانَ،
وَخَيْرُ نِسَائِهَا خَدِيجَةٌ.

‘Alī رضي الله عنه narrated that I heard the Messenger of Allāh صلى الله عليه وسلم saying:

*The best woman of her time was
Maryam bint ‘Imrān and the best
woman of her time was Khadījah.*

(Bukhārī: #3432)

ONE OF FOUR VIRTUOUS WOMEN

حَسْبُكَ مِنْ نِسَاءِ الْعَالَمِينَ مَرْيَمُ ابْنَةُ عِمْرَانَ وَخَدِيجَةُ بِنْتُ
خُوَيْلِدٍ وَفَاطِمَةُ بِنْتُ مُحَمَّدٍ وَأَسِيَّةُ امْرَأَةُ فِرْعَوْنَ.

ʿAnas رضي الله عنه narrated that the Messenger of Allāh صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

*“Sufficient for you among the women of
mankind are Maryam bint ‘Imrān,
Khadījah bint Khuwaylid, Fāṭimah bint
Muḥammad and ‘Āsiyah - the wife of
Fir‘awn.”*

(Tirmidhī: 3878)

SALAMS OF ALLAH AND JIBRIL

Abū Hurayrah رضي الله عنه narrated:

“Jibrīl (عليه السلام) came to Nabī صلى الله عليه وسلم and said,

‘O Messenger of Allāh (صلى الله عليه وسلم)!

This is Khadījah coming to you with a utensil
containing gravy, food or drink.


When she reaches you, greet her on behalf of
her Lord and on my behalf.....’



GLAD TIDINGS OF PARADISE

“.....and give her the glad tidings of a palace of hollowed pearls in Paradise wherein there will be neither any noise nor any difficulties or fatigue.”

(Bukhārī: #3820)



EXCELLENT QUALITIES

- Beautiful, well-mannered and refined in character.
- Compassionate, hardworking and extremely generous.
- She spent a great deal of money helping others: assisting the poor, sick, disabled, widows and orphans. She would also pay the *mahr* of those unable to do so to enable the marriages to take place.

EXCELLENT QUALITIES

- She was also one of the few, who lived an upright life even in the pre-Islāmic era and saved herself from the indecency that was widespread in that time, thus she was famous by the title, ‘Ṭāhirah’, which means: ‘The one who is pure’.
- Such purity, nobility and excellent character are the qualities which Nabī ﷺ preferred in selecting her as his wife.

AN EXCELLENT WIFE

- She was an excellent wife.
- She served her husband.
- Before the commencement of revelation, she would prepare food and provisions for Nabī ﷺ for his lengthy stays of seclusion in the Cave of Ḥirā'.

AN EXCELLENT WIFE

- She was considerate about the consolation and well-being of her husband. She neither annoyed him, offended his feelings, criticised him nor complained.
- Rather, she always supported Nabī ﷺ both physically and mentally before and after his Prophethood.
- She praised him, reassured him, motivated him and sacrificed all she had.

AN EXCELLENT WIFE

After the first revelation, Nabī ﷺ was terrified and anxious. He came to *Hazrat Khadijah* رضي الله عنها and said: “Cover me! Cover me!” So, she covered him, and when the panic subsided, he said to Khadijah [رضي الله عنها]: “O Khadijah! What has happened to me? I fear for myself.” He then informed her about what occurred [in the Cave of *Hirā'*].

(Bukhārī: 4953)

AN EXCELLENT WIFE

She consoled Nabī ﷺ by saying:

“Never! Receive the good tidings! By Allāh, Allāh will never disgrace you. By Allāh, indeed, you join family ties, speak the truth, bear the burden of others, earn for the poor and the destitute, entertain your guests and assist those who are stricken with calamities.”

(Bukhārī: 4953)

AN EXCELLENT WIFE

Look at her words of validation and support.
What a companion and excellent wife she was!

This statement was undoubtedly a sign of her perception, wisdom, maturity, and deep understanding of the situation. It was also an expression of her devotion, support and encouragement to Nabī ﷺ.

These soothing and encouraging words gave him unmeasurable strength and confidence, reminding him of his good virtues and qualities.

AN EXCELLENT WIFE

A wife is a husband's peer, and partner of life. The wife is the key to the sustainable progress of her husband.

The wife of Nabī ﷺ, *Hazrat Khadījah* رضي الله عنها sacrificed her desires and ambitions and created a tranquil, healthy and stable environment for her husband, Nabī ﷺ. This allowed him to work with ease for Islām and fulfil Allāh's commands.

She was the source of inspiration to her husband. She stood by him in all the crises and she also celebrated all his achievements. She was that person to whom Nabī ﷺ turned to for love, sympathy, comfort, consolation, and reassurance.

NABI ﷺ'S PRAISE FOR HER

“She believed in me when the people disbelieved. She testified in me when they denied me, she assisted me financially when others deprived me and Allāh granted me children from her and not from other women.”

(Musnad Aḥmad: #3818)

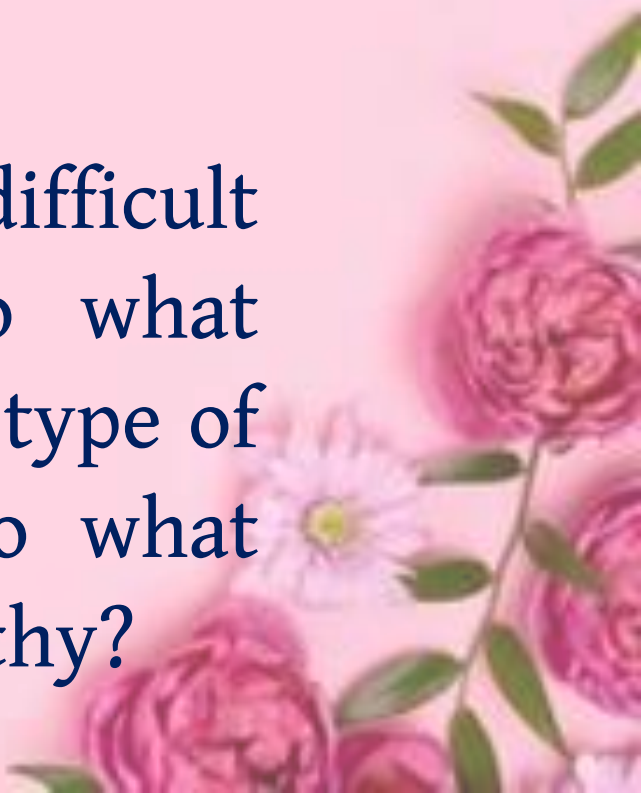


A LESSON FOR US

We should reflect on our actions and how our behavior and interactions with our husbands are.

Do we serve our husbands and be a means of tranquility for them?

When our husbands fall into difficult circumstances and are vulnerable, to what degree are we sources of support? What type of help and reassurance do we offer? To what degree do we have compassion and empathy?



SACRIFICES FOR NABI ﷺ & ISLAM

- Hazrat Khadījah رضي الله عنها not only spent all her time and energy in the service of Nabī ﷺ but she also spent her wealth for the sake of Islām.
- When she accepted Islām she was one of the wealthiest women of Makkah and at the time of her death she possessed nothing.
- After her marriage to Nabī ﷺ, she gifted all her wealth to him. In doing so, she spared Nabī ﷺ, the trouble of labour. Therefore, He was able to remain exclusively occupied in calling towards Allāh ﷻ.
- Allāh ﷻ reminded Nabī ﷺ of this blessing in *Sūrah Duḥā* in the verse:
وَوَجَدَكَ عَائِلًا فَأَغْنَى. “And did He not find you poor and made [you] self-sufficient.”
- The *Mufasirrīn* interpret the verse as: “Did he not find you poor and make you wealthy with the wealth of Hazrat Khadījah?”
- She spent generously and unlimitedly, especially during the years of the boycott in the valley of ʿAbū Ṭālib.

NABI ﷺ'S LOVE FOR HER

- Nabī ﷺ loved her tremendously. Hazrat Khadījah رضي الله عنها went further than sacrificing her material comforts, she gave all that she had in the path of Allāh ﷻ.
- Instead of complaining about the hardship of her situation, she supported her husband without hesitation.
- She put the needs of her husband above her personal needs for the sake of Allāh ﷻ, and as a result, Nabī ﷺ's love and admiration for her overshadowed those that he bore for the wives that he married after her death.

NABI ﷺ'S LOVE FOR HER

Hazrat 'Ā'ishah رضي الله عنها narrated:

“I was not jealous of any of the wives of Nabī ﷺ as much as I was jealous of Khadījah. I never saw her, but Nabī ﷺ used to mention her abundantly. At times, he would slaughter a sheep, cut it into pieces and send them to the friends of Khadījah. At times, I would say to him: ‘It is as though there was never any woman in the world like Khadījah!’ He would say, ‘Khadījah was such and such, and I had children from her.’” (Bukhārī: #3818)

The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:

“I have indeed been bestowed with her love [by Allāh Himself].”

(See: Muslim: #2435b)

NABI ﷺ'S LOVE FOR HER

Hazrat Zaynab رضي الله عنها, the daughter of Nabi ﷺ, sent a necklace which was gifted to her by her mother *Hazrat Khadijah* رضي الله عنها in ransom for her husband. When Nabi ﷺ saw the necklace, the memories of *Hazrat Khadijah* رضي الله عنها came to his mind and tears filled his eyes. He returned the necklace to *Hazrat Zaynab* رضي الله عنها and released her husband without ransom.

A MISREPRESENTATION VS. THE REALITY

Hazrat Khadījah رضي الله عنها is often misrepresented as an icon to suit the western model of female empowerment.

She is identified as a successful CEO. Her story is misappropriated to fit the capitalist, materialist worldview, where economic value is the only thing worthy of mention.

For many, the mere fact that a wife of Nabī صلى الله عليه وسلم was a wealthy entrepreneur in a time where most business owners were men is a source of great pride.

She is incorrectly portrayed as the modern-day businesswoman who goes out of her home to work and interact with non-*maḥram* men.

A MISREPRESENTATION VS. THE REALITY

BUT WAS SHE?

- Was she the modern-day entrepreneur?
- Was she the CEO of today?
- Was this what distinguished her?
- Is this what made her worthy of being the wife of Nabī ﷺ and the mother of the entire 'Ummah?
- Was her being a businesswoman the reason she was the best woman , received *salāms* from Allāh and Jibrīl عليه السلام and the glad tidings of Paradise?




A MISREPRESENTATION VS. THE REALITY

NEVER!

1. The business was inherited from her father and not by any achievement of her own.
2. She managed and approved all business dealings from within her home in Makkah via her slave.
3. She did not personally go out on any business excursions or journeys.

Rather, her policy was to employ hard-working and distinguished managers to trade on her behalf. She would send these employees far and wide on her behalf, exporting her goods as far as Syria. She did not directly interact with customers and the public.




A MISREPRESENTATION VS. THE REALITY

- So, what is it that caused her to attain such a lofty rank in the sight of Allāh ﷻ and His Messenger ﷺ?
- What is it that made her great?
- What did Allāh ﷻ and His Messenger ﷺ praise her for?
- Why was she given glad tidings of Paradise?




A MISREPRESENTATION VS. THE REALITY

Although Paradise is a place where there will be no undue noise or reprehensible conditions, commentators mention that she was specifically given glad tidings of Paradise “*wherein there will be neither any noise nor any fatigue*” because she bore lots of difficulties and hardships in the beginning of Islām, like none other.



A MISREPRESENTATION VS. THE REALITY

It was her submission to Islām, her unwavering *'imān*, her excellent character, the purity of her soul, her loving and stalwart support for Nabī ﷺ, her services and sacrifices for her husband, Nabī ﷺ and for Islām during those early and challenging times which accorded her this elevated status in the eyes of Allāh ﷻ and His Messenger ﷺ.



The entire 'Ummah is indebted to her for consoling Nabī ﷺ and supporting him in the earliest and most trying times.

If there is a woman in Islām to be emulated by the women of our 'ummah, it surely is *Hazrat Khadījah* ﷺ .

She is a great inspiration and a role model for millions of women. Without a doubt, her personality is extremely inspiring. She is recognized as a great woman and is a model of intelligence, virtue, courage, and devotion to her family and to Allāh ﷻ .

Khadijah bint Khuwaylid ﷺ was the very best at everything she did. She was the best mother, the best wife, the best friend and one of the best believers. Whatever she did was blessed with excellence.

Should we then not take *Hazrat Khadijah* as our role model?

Should we not aspire to be like her?



May Allāh ﷻ unite us with our beloved mother,
Hazrat Khadījah رضي الله عنها in *Jannatul Firdaws* so we can
finally meet this treasured, accomplished lady.

May Allāh ﷻ have mercy on Hazrat Khadījah رضي الله عنها
and allow us to follow in her footsteps of
excellence.

Āmīn.