

# 1 Khadijah (RA) an Ideal Wife: A Perfect Model and Example of 2 Muslim Women

3 Dr. Rashidah<sup>1</sup>

4 <sup>1</sup> International Islamic University Chittagong

5 *Received: 8 December 2018 Accepted: 31 December 2018 Published: 15 January 2019*

---

## 7 Abstract

8 The marriage is not just an economical and physical arrangement of living together but a holy  
9 agreement, a gift of Allah, to lead a joyful life and carry on the lineage. The connection  
10 between them is not like as neighbors and friends; it is more excessive. Allah (SWT) explained  
11 in the Quran: The sign of Allah is that He created mates for you from your selves to get  
12 tranquility in each other's, and He placed between them love and compassion (Al-Quran, 30:  
13 21). Husbands and wives must be well-mannered, pleasant, sympathetic, frank, helpful,  
14 reliable, well-wishing, loyal, and polite with one other. A good and virtuous wife is a most  
15 pleasure for a husband. Mother of the believers Khadijah (Ra) was dutiful, comfortable, and  
16 well-being of her husband to Prophet Muhammad (saw). This paper aims to explore and  
17 highlight the Khadijah (Ra) works, activities, behavior, and manners as a righteous wife of  
18 Prophet Muhammad (saw) and investigate the probable measures for Muslim women from her  
19 family life. This paper is a theoretical study based on the biography of Khadijah (Ra) and  
20 Hadith of the Prophet (saw). Therefore, I strongly think that today the instructions, lessons,  
21 and teachings from Khadijah (Ra) family life are indispensable for Muslim Ummah to bring  
22 peace and happiness in the modern age.

---

24 *Index terms*— khadijah (Ra), ideal, model, example. muslim women.

## 25 1 I. Introduction

26 wife is an institution of the whole nation. Its root goes back to the beginning of the first man and woman Adam  
27 and Hawwa, the first woman of the world Hawwa was the wife of Adam (first man). A good and sound society  
28 depends upon the smallest unit that is a family; and a family builds by love, care, and cooperation between the  
29 husband and wife. It raises peace of mind and provides a secure atmosphere for the growth and progress of the  
30 whole human race. The most of the Prophet, including the last Prophet Muhammad (saw) practiced system of  
31 marriage. His first wife was Khadijah (Ra), she is the perfect model, icon, example for Muslim women.

32 II. Short Biography of Khadijah (ra) Khadijah (Ra) was born fifteen years before the year of the Ele-  
33 phant (Amul Fil) in 566 CE at Makkah. Her Author: Assistant Professor, Islamic Studies Center for  
34 University Requirement Courses (CENURC) International Islamic University Chittagong, Bangladesh. e-mail:  
35 rashi.nawmy@gmail.com nickname was Ummul Hind and Ummul Kasim. She was famous by his surname  
36 "Tahira" (the sacred one), and Khadijah Al-Kubra (Khadijah the great). Her father, Khuwaylid ibn Asad was a  
37 great businessman of Makkah. Her mother, Fatima bint Za'idah was a third cousin of Prophet Muhammad (saw)  
38 mother (Aj- ?ahabi, 1990). She died in Ramadan, tenth year after the Prophet Hood. She buried in Jannatul  
39 Mualla in Makkah. The Prophet Muhammad (saw) feels grieffer for the death of Khadijah, later Prophet (saw)  
40 called this year "Amul Hujon" (the year of sorrow). Here mentionable that the uncle of Prophet (saw) Abu Talib  
41 also died at the year of Khadijah's death year (Tabari, 1998).

### 2 III. The Dignity of Khadijah (ra.) in Islam

Khadijah (Ra.) was the first from companions of Prophet (saw) who get the glad tidings as to enter into Jannat (heaven). The Prophet Muhammad (saw) said her, "O Khadijah, here is Jibreel. He ordered me to say Salam to you and to inform you the glad of tiding of a home of pearl in Jannat (heaven) in which there will be no pain or toil." She responded Allah is the contributor to Salam. Peace is upon Jibreel and peace, and mercy of Allah be upon you" (Saheeh Muslim, Chapter: The virtues of companions, the Mother of the Believers).

Abdullah Ibn Abbas (RA) reported one day the Prophet (saw) drew four lines on the land and told, "Do you know the significance of these four lines? The companions of Prophet (saw) who were present there respectfully answered, Allah and his Prophet (saw) knows best. The Prophet (saw) said that those four lines meant the four most graceful and great women of the universe, they are, Khadija bint Khuwalid (Ra), Fatima bint Muhammad (saw), Mariam bint Imran and Asia bint Mazahim.

The wife of the Prophet (saw) Ayesha (Ra) feels jealous about Khadijah (Ra), although Khadijah (Ra) had died before her married to Prophet (saw). Ayesha (Ra) said, "I never jealous any of the Prophet's wives as I jealous Khadijah (Ra), and I had not even seen her. The Prophet all the time remembered her. Whenever any sheep or goat slaughtered, He sent the choicest parts to Khadijah,s relatives and friends".

"The Prophet of Allah rarely went out of the home except mentioning Khadijah (Ra) and praising her, One day he said about Khadijah (Ra) at that time I feel jealous and said, was she not an old lady whom Allah has replaced for you with a better woman? He got angry and replied, "No, by Allah! He did not alternate her with other one. Because, Khadijah believed in my speech and work at what time people doubted in my mission, she helped me with her assets while men ignore me from their wealth, and Allah give me children from Khadijah (Ra) (Ayesha (Ra) said) and I said in my mind, "never shall I speak unfavorably of her again" (Saheeh Bukhaaree, The virtues of the Ansar).

IV. Khadijah (ra) Marriage to Prophet (saw) Khadijah (Ra) was a very successful merchant. She appointed others to business on her behalf for a commission. After she heard about the honesty and responsibility of Muhammad (saw), she offered Muhammad (saw) to do business on her promising gave to double from her usual commission. He agreed and left Makkah with the Khadijah's servant Maisarah. On this business trip, he had made a lot of profit for Khadijah. Maisarah informs Khadijah about the noble character and qualities of Muhammad after return from a business trip (Ibn ?isham, 1955). Before her marriage with Prophet Muhammad (saw), she married twice time. Her first husband was Abu Halah Malik bin Zararah Tamimi and the second husband was Atiq bin Aidah. By her first husband khadijah (Ra) had two children, Hind and Hala and by her second husband, he had a child Hinda. She refused many proposals of marriage after the death of her two husbands because she had no intent to marry a third time (Ibn Hajar, 1978). She changed her decision when she meets to Prophet Muhammad for her business transaction. She proposed the Prophet Muhammad (saw) through her friend Nafeesa to marry her. The Prophet Muhammad (saw) was delighted with the proposal, but he nonetheless first went to his uncles to ask their advice, they all settled that he should marry her (Ibn Saad, ND).

At the time of marriage Muhammad (saw) was twenty-five years old, and Khadijah was forty years old. She had two sons and four daughters by the Prophet Muhammad (saw). They are Qasim, Zainab, Ruqayya, Umme Kulsum, Fatima, and Abdullah (Ali Khan, 1983).

### 3 V. First Muslim

Khadijah (Ra) was the first female, or rather the first person, who believe Allah and His last Prophet Muhammad (saw) and believe in all that he receives from Allah by wahy (revelation) (Ibnul Asir, ND). She was also the first who hear revealed verses of the Quran from the Prophet Muhammad (saw) and after the Prophet (saw) first recite it. She was also the first person who acquires knowledge of prayer from Prophet (saw). One day, the Prophet Muhammad (saw) Came home after Jibreel trained him the rules of prayer. When Prophet (saw) told her of this, she said, "Just teach me how he trained you," the Prophet trained her. She then completed ablution as he did and prayed along with Prophet (saw) (Al-kandhalubhi, 1983).

### 4 a) Sacrifice wealth in the way of Allah

Allah said: Never will you attain the good (reward) until you spend in the path of Allah) from that which you love (Al-Quran, 3: 93).

Khadijah (Ra) practiced this order of Allah by heart and soul. She gave the charge of her trade to Prophet Muhammad (saw), who also visited numerous places in Arabia, including Yemen and Bahrain, in connection with the trade missions. Khadijah (Ra) said her husband that all her property was his (Muhammad saw), so he could use just as he desire it. The messenger of Allah Muhammad (saw) invested her (Khadijah's) all property in the way of Allah (Ibn ?isham, 1955). Especially her financial support for confined period of Muslims in the valleys of Abu Talibis mentionable. Khadijah knew her husband's dreams and hopes, so to complete her husband's vision; she spared him the trouble of labor by giving ownership of her vast wealth. As a result, the Prophet Muhammad (saw) devoted all his time in the way of Allah. Allah reminded the Prophet (saw) of this favor as He said:

"Allahfound you poor then He prepared you self-reliant" (Al-Quran, 93: 8).

She also showed compassion to poor and needy Muslims. She was very kind to them (Ali Khan, ND).

---

## 102 5 b) Family life

103 A peaceful family only set with a righteous, virtuous, and devoted woman. Khadijah (Ra.) was the first woman  
104 who obtained the credit to become the first wife of Prophet (saw) and the first Ummul Muminun (mother of  
105 the believers), and the Prophet's of Allah Muhammad (saw) did not marry any other woman until she died  
106 (Muhammad Ali Qutub, 2008).The respect, love, and admiration are complete the family relationship between  
107 Muhammad (saw) and Khadijah (Ra).

## 108 6 c) Choosing a spouse based on morality

109 A happy family life depends on husband-wife pure character and honesty. The family life of Khadijah (Ra.) and  
110 Prophet (saw) was full of pleased because both they have the same morals and manners, and their hearts also  
111 shared the same feeling. It described in the Prophet Hadith:

112 The most pleasure in life is a good, virtuous wife (Saheeh Muslim, The volume of Nursing; section: The  
113 greatest happiness of the earth is an honest wife).

114 Khadijah (Ra.) character and morality were so high that the Prophet (saw) entitled her as "the greatest  
115 amongst the women of this nation" (Abul Hasan Al-Balajuri, ND). In selecting Khadijah (Ra) as a wife, Prophet  
116 Muhammad (saw) prefer her nobility and character. Because she was also one of those few, who lived an upright  
117 life even in the pre-Islamic time and saved herself from the indecent that was widespread in that time, so she  
118 was famous by the name of Tahira, which meaning one who is pure (Aj-Jahabi, 1990).

119 On the other hand, the character of Prophet (saw) was so high that he was polite and modest; liberal and  
120 noble; thoughtful and considerate; truthful and sincere. He liked the good and disliked the bad. Allah said in  
121 the Quran: And indeed you are of a moral character. (Al-Quran, 68:4)

## 122 7 d) Careful mother

123 There is a famous saying: "Who brings up a male, brings up a man, but who brings up a woman, brings up a  
124 generation." The most effective teacher for a man "Mother", a very famous quotation from Napoleon Bonaparte,  
125 "Give me a good mother, and I shall give you a great nation!" (<https://www.azquotes.com/quote/>). Khadijah  
126 (Ra) was a caring mother. She gave her full contemplation on her children and family and took care of them  
127 properly. Khawla bint Hakeem said the Prophet (saw) after the death of Khadijah, Oh the Prophet of Allah!  
128 It seems you have been troubled for the demise of Khadijah. The Prophet (saw) then said, "Yes, she was the  
129 mother of the household and the caretaker of the family" (Muhammad Ali Qutb, 2008).

130 After the first revelation of Quran from Allah to Prophet Muhammad (saw) the wife of Prophet (saw) Khadijah  
131 (Ra) gathered their four daughters Zaynab, Ruqayyah, Umm Kulthum, and Fatima, She also gathered other two  
132 members of Prophet House Ali ibn Abi Talib and Zaid ibn Harith with them. Then she explained what had  
133 happened in the cave of Heera with Prophet (saw) and asked them would they believe in the message of Prophet  
134 Muhammad (saw) with seriousness and confidence. Without any hesitation this six-person, they stated their  
135 belief in Allah as their only creator and Muhammad as His messenger (Ibnul Asir, ND).

## 136 8 e) Give console at the crisis and threat time

137 The duty of a woman as a wife she must be careful about the consolation and well-being of her husband. She  
138 may neither annoy him nor offend his feelings. It's explained almighty Allah in the Holy Quran as the virtuous  
139 people desire, they pray:

140 Oh Allah, gift us from among our wives and children console to our eyes and build us a leader for the righteous  
141 (Al-Quran, 25: 74).

142 Ummul Muminin (mother of the believers) Khadijah (Ra) was an example of this verse. Because Khadijah  
143 (Ra) always support Prophet Muhammad (saw) physically and mentally before and after his Prophethood. After  
144 the first revelation of the wahy, Prophet Muhammad (saw) was terrified and anxious. He came into Khadijah  
145 (Ra) and said: wrap to me! Wrap to me! So, she covered him, and when the panic left him, he informed Khadijah  
146 about what occurred in the cave of Heera and said: I fear for myself, Khadijah (Ra) replied: Never! By Allah,  
147 Allah will never abandon you, because you attach ties of family connection, you carry the troubles of the feeble,  
148 you provide to people what no one else can supply, you are hospitable to your guests and relatives, and you assist  
149 people who are troubled with calamities. Khadijah (Ra) relieved Prophet Muhammad (saw) by reminding him  
150 of his good virtues and quality (Saheeh Bukhari, the beginning of revelation).

## 151 9 f) Asking advice from an honorable, honest person

152 The angel Jibril came to Prophet Muhammad (saw) when he was in the cave of Heera and said: "Read," the  
153 Prophet (saw) replied, I am not able to read. Jibril pressed him to his breast number of times then the following  
154 verses said:

155 "Read in the name of your creator who shaped man from a clinging substance. Read, and your creator is the  
156 most benevolent, He taught by the pen, Taught man that which he knew not" (Al-Quran, 96: 1-5).

157 At this moment, the Prophet (saw) returned home with frightened, and nervous. Khadijah (Ra) took Him  
158 to Waraka Ibn Nawfal (the cousin of Khadijah),who had accepted Christianity in the time of ignorance and was

159 able to write the previous divine book in the language of Hebrew. He was also well-versed with the existing  
160 divine religions. At that time, He was an experienced person who had lost his sight. Khadeejah (Ra) said to him,  
161 O my cousin, listen to what your nephew says. Waraka said, O my nephew, what you see? After the Prophet  
162 completed telling him what he had seen, Waraka said, He is An-Naamoos (Jibril), whom Allah had sent down  
163 to Prophet Moosa. I hope that if I were physically powerful! I hope to be alive when your community drives out  
164 you from your country. The Prophet said, will they drive out me from my country? Waraka replied, every man  
165 when arrived with what you receive, treated them as enemy. If I am alive when the time of yours comes, then I  
166 will help you. Waraka died after a short time (Saheeh Bukhari, the beginning of revelation).

167 She also confirmed him by Waraka Ibn Nawfal that he would be the last Prophet of Allah.

### 168 **10 g) Helpful in all kind of righteous activities**

169 The revelation stopped for a time after the first message revealed. The angel Jibril came to the Prophet  
170 Muhammad (saw) for a second time; Allah revealed to Prophet (saw) these verses:

171 "O you who covers himself (with garments), arise and warn. And your Lord glorify. And your garments  
172 purify" (Al-Quran, 74:1-4)

173 After the revelation of the second message from Allah, the Prophet (saw) woke up from his sleep. He became  
174 worried, anxious, and upset about his duty and responsibility. In this situation, Khadijah (Ra) approached him  
175 gently to go back to bed and have some rest and sleep. The Prophet replied the time to relax and sleep is over.  
176 Then he informed Khadijah (Ra) that has Jibril commanded him to warn and invite people to Allah and His  
177 worship. Then the Prophet said whom I should call? And who is going to accept my invitation? Khadijah (Ra)  
178 comforted him by her acceptance of the Prophet Hood of her husband. Thus the Prophet Muhammad (saw)  
179 and Khadijah (Ra) striving together in the way of Allah from the beginning of the revelation (Ibn Hisham, ND).  
180 h) Encourage to establish the truth Khadijah (Ra) was always loyal and helpful to Prophet Muhammad (saw)  
181 mission. She encourages and helped him to preach Islam. In 616, after seven years of revelation, the Quraish  
182 started a trade boycott against the Muslims. They attacked, imprisoned, and beat the Muslims. Although  
183 Khadijah (Ra) passed her whole life in wealth and luxury, but would not turn away from Allah's Prophet for the  
184 pleasure of life. Khadijah (Ra) passed away a short time after the boycott, due to the extreme conditions of the  
185 boycott without food and drinks (Ibn Hisham, ND).

### 186 **11 i) At a glance the characteristics of Khadijah (Ra) as a model 187 of Muslim women**

188 Khadijah (Ra) was righteous and superwoman; her life is full of lessons for every Muslim woman. The Prophet  
189 (saw) described her as "the best amongst the women of this nation." Now some noble character of her mention  
190 below at a glance: As Allah said in the Quran:

191 "The faithful males and females are partner of one another. They command what is right and prohibit what  
192 is incorrect and establish prayer and bestow Zakat, and obey Allah and his messenger. Those Allah will have  
193 mercy upon them" (Al-Quran, 9: 71).

## 194 **12 VI. Conclusion**

195 A wife is a husband's helpmate, peer, and partner of life. The wife is the key to the sustainable progress of her  
196 husband. A wife holds a variety of positions in the family, such as a leader, administrator, manager of family  
197 income, and a mother. The wife of the Prophet Muhammad (saw) Khadijah (Ra) who sacrificed her desire and  
198 ambitions, she created an essential environment for her husband, Prophet Muhammad (saw) to think and work  
199 more about for the Islam. She was the source of inspiration to her husband, Prophet Muhammad (saw). She  
200 stands by him in all the crises as well as she shared with him all achievements and successes. She was that person  
201 for whose the Prophet Muhammad (saw) turned to her for love, sympathy, comfort, console, and recognition.  
202 She was the symbol of purity, faithfulness, obedience, submission, and devotion to her husband. <sup>1 2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup>( A )

<sup>2</sup>© 2019 Global Journals

- 
- ? She shared the vision, mission, and ambition of Prophet Muhammad (saw) from her heart as a noble wife.
  - ? She had a good character and qualities that are essential for a superior wife.
  - ? She abstained herself from all kinds of offense that practiced in Arab society. She faced much opposition for staying upright life.
  - ? She was more ahead for racing towards virtue by declared her faith for the first time on the Prophet (saw). As Allah said: "Race towards virtue" (Al-Quran, 5: 48).
  - ? She maintains a mutual and understanding relationship with husband
  - ? She was very attentive about the rights of relatives and husband.
  - ?

Figure 1:



- 
- 203 [Al-Quran] , Al-Quran . 30 p. .
- 204 [Hasan Al-Balajuri and Ashraf] , Abul Hasan Al-Balajuri , Ansabul Ashraf . Egypt; ND: Darul Marif.
- 205 [Hajar et al. ()] , Ibn Hajar , Shihabuddin Al-Askalani , Al-Isaba Fi , Tamijis Sahaba . *Bairut: Darul Fikar*  
206 1978. 4.
- 207 [Al-Kandhalubhi and Sahaba ()] , Yusuf Al-Kandhalubhi , Hayatus Sahaba . 1983. Dimuscs.
- 208 [Hisham] *As-Sirah An nababiyah*, Ibn Hisham . Cairo. p. 1955.
- 209 [Asir and Muhammad] Ibnul Asir , Ali Ibn Muhammad . *Usdul Gaba fi Marifatiss Sahaba*, (ND)
- 210 [Saad] ‘At-tabakatul Kubra’. Ibn Saad . *Bairut: Darul Fikar*
- 211 [Biographies of the Prophet’s Companions and Their Successors] *Biographies of the Prophet’s Companions and*  
212 *Their Successors*, New York: SUNY Press. 39 p. 161.
- 213 [Khan et al. ()] Ali Khan , Dr , Majid . *Muhammad the final Messenger, Pakistan: Sh. Muhammad Ashraf*  
214 *publishers*, 1983.
- 215 [Muslim and Chapter] Saheeh Muslim , Chapter . *The virtues of companions, the virtues of Khadeejah, the*  
216 *Mother of the Believers, Hadith number*, p. 2432.
- 217 [Tabari and Jarir (ed.) ()] *Tarikh al-Rusul wa’l-Muluk*, Muhammad Ibn Tabari , Jarir . Landau-Tasseron, E.  
218 (ed.) 1998.
- 219 [Muslim] ‘The book of Nursing’. Saheeh Muslim . *The best enjoyment of the world is a righteous wife*, Chapter.  
220 (Hadeeth number: 1467))
- 221 [Bukhaaree] ‘The virtues of the Ansar’. Saheeh Bukhaaree . *Hadith number: 3818, the beginning of revelation*  
222 *Hadeeth number*, p. 3.
- 223 [Qutub ()] *Women around the messenger of Allah*, Muhammad Ali Qutub . 2008. International Islamic Publishing  
224 House.