

INTRODUCTION

Women in Islam are thought to be subjugated, degraded, oppressed - but are they really? Are millions of Muslims simply that oppressive or are these misconceptions fabricated by a biased media?

*"And for women
are rights over men,
similar to those of men
over women."
Quran 2:228*

Over fourteen hundred years ago, Islam gave women rights that women in the West have only recently begun to enjoy. In the 1930's, Annie Besant observed, **"It is only in the last twenty years that Christian England has recognised the right of woman to property, while Islam has allowed this right from all times. It is a slander to say that Islam preaches that women have no souls."** (The Life and Teachings of Mohammed, 1932)

Men and women all descended from a single person - the Prophet Adam (peace be upon him). Islam does not accept for either of them anything but justice and kind treatment.

EQUAL REWARD & EQUAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Men and women worship Allah in the same way, meaning they worship the same God (Allah), perform the same acts of worship, follow the same scripture, and hold the same beliefs. Allah (the Arabic word for the One true God of all creation), judges all human beings fairly and equitably. Allah emphasises the just treatment and reward due to both men and women in many verses of the Quran:

*"Allah has promised to the believers, men and women,
gardens under which rivers flow, to dwell therein,
and beautiful mansions in gardens of everlasting bliss."*

Quran 9:72

*"Never will I allow the loss of the work of any worker amongst
you, male or female; you are of one another."*

Quran 3:195

These verses show that reward is dependent upon one's actions and not one's gender. Gender does not play any part in how a person is rewarded and judged.