

The Hijab is a
RIGHT

Respect it!

A Muslim woman's choice of the hijab is her right.

HIJAB

Yes, You can!

Aishah (a Biochemistry undergraduate in one of the renowned universities in Nigeria) while walking down to her lecture theatre from her hostel accommodation on a hot afternoon; all kitted up in her hijab, ears plugged listening to a poem on her iPod when stopped by two friends Ngozi and Bukky.

Ngozi: Hey, why are you all covered up?

Bukky: Don't you feel hot in this?

Aishah: Hello, have we met before, my name is Aishah and you are (facing Ngozi)?

Ngozi: Oh sorry, my name is Ngozi and here is my friend Bukky

Aishah: What I have on is called the Hijab and I don't feel any hotter than you do.

Aishah: this Hijab is a commandment from God. It's a symbol of piety; serves as a protection- a shield, a sign of purity and dignity.

Ngozi and Bukky exchange glances and sigh, walking away from Aishah as fast as their legs could take them. If you had crossed their path, you would think they just had an encounter with a ghost.

Aishah on the other hand smiles, replaces her earphones and continues to listen to the concluding part of the poem playing on her iPod: "My hijab, Without it, I would be a bird with no wings, I would be the sun with no shine, I would be a tree with no bark. I would be a zebra with no stripes. I am a rose with my petals tightly wrapped around my scent" She smiles again.





Hijab is more than a woman's clothing....

It is an Act of Obedience

.... they should draw over themselves some of their outer garments (when in public); this will be more conducive to their being recognised (as decent women) and not harrassed...

Qur'an 33:59

Those who harass believing men and believing women undeservedly, bear (on themselves) a calumny and a grievous sin...

Qur'an 33:58





It is a Sign of Modesty

"Each religion has a morality and the morality of Islam is Modesty" Prophet Muhammad (SAW)

Who decides what modesty/decency is?

I remember the early 80s when it was a taboo for a woman to be seen in public with tight clothes, let alone leaving any part of the chest or thighs uncovered which by the way, is now the order of the day. Then came the 90s and the definition of decency/modesty started to differ amongst the generations so much so that there were specific (Cinderella) gowns reserved for religious places while it was ok to reveal some part of the chest and a little bit of flesh above the knees (the birth of minis) when appearing in public for other functions besides religious engagements. How I wish those days could return.

Do you ever wonder why women (who by the way have more to hide) lay it all bare while the men (who have much less to hide) cover up. If you are not clear exactly what I am saying go on reading...

All are equal before the law ... All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination ... and against any incitement to such discrimination.



A Muslim woman's choice of the hijab is her right.



Standards of decency need not be the same; they only need to be mutually respected.



A Muslim woman's choice of the hijab is her right.

All are equal
before the law

We, the World's
Peoples, agreed
these principles at
the UN.
Respect them when
they concern me.
Please.

All human beings are born free and equal
in dignity and rights.

Everyone is entitled to ... rights and
freedoms ... without distinction of any
kind...



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DID YOU KNOW

That Discriminating Against Someone in Hijab is **ILLEGAL?**

Muslim female students of Kwara State College of Education won a landmark victory on Monday, 08 May, 2006 in their case against the board of the college which had approved a dress code for students banning Niqab- a form of hijab. The High Court in Kwara State, presided over by Justice Durosinlorun Kawu, ruled in favour of the female students and declared that the content of the Article 'J' of the school's new dress code "is unwarranted, unfair, discriminatory...unconstitutional, null and void and of no effect whatsoever."

In a landmark judgement on Thursday, November 18, 2008 Judge Olubunmi Oyewole of the Lagos State High Court ruled that ban on hijab was a breach of articles 38 and 42 of the Nigerian constitution.





Catholic Nuns

Spot the Difference



Muslims in Hijab

The concept of hijab is nothing new; it had been put into practice long before the time of the prophet Muhammad (SAW). In fact, images of most pious women mentioned in the scriptures are represented so.



All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.

.....

Everyone is entitled to ... rights and freedoms ... without distinction of any kind...



A Muslim woman's choice of the hijab is her right.

Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

No one shall be subjected to ... cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment...

We, the World's Peoples, agreed these principles at the UN.

Respect them when they concern me.

Please.

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A Muslim lady in hijab:

- Artist
- Basewoman
- Caterer
- Doctor
- Environmentalist
- Friend
- Guardian
- Human
- Industrialist
- Just
- Kind
- Leader
- Mother
- Neighbour
- Ornithologist
- Pious
- Queen
- Researcher
- Sister
- Teacher
- Unambiguous
- Valuable
- Wife
- Xiting
- Yardstick
- Zappy



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"It's been a long time coming, but tonight... change has come to America"

-President Barack Obama.
Tuesday, November 4th, 2008, Chicago, Illinois



As a fellow human,
she asks for some of
that type of change
from you.



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My head is not bare
And you can't see my
covered hair
So you sit there and you
stare
And you judge me with
your glare
You're sure I'm in despair
But are you not aware
Under this scarf that I
wear
I have feelings, and I do
care

SAMI YUSUF

[http://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=F7PRZUQnx-o](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7PRZUQnx-o)



The Hijab Martyr:

Marwa Ali El-Sherbini was an Egyptian pharmacist and national handball champion. On July 1, 2009, she was stabbed 18 times to death in front of her 3-yr old son and husband, in a courtroom in Dresden, Germany while testifying against a man who had made previous Islamophobic and xenophobic insults against her. Because Marwa was wearing a headscarf he had called her an "Islamist", a "terrorist" and a "bitch".



Notes:

A series of 20 horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.

Muslim Public Affairs Centre (MPAC) works with the community in pursuing the rights of all Muslims, for the integration of Islam into Nigerian pluralism, and for a positive relationship between Nigerian Muslims and other elements in the society. Thus establishing the Nigerian Muslim identity as a positive and constructive element of Nigerian pluralism.

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