



# Khadija

*Re?it Haylamaz*

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## **Khadija** Re?it Haylamaz

Exploring the birth period of Islam, this biography focuses on one of the most prominent and respected Muslim women in history, Khadija, the wife of the Prophet Muhammad. Addressing both her devotion and her leadership roles in Mecca, this book shines light on a figure who is an inspiration to women, both Muslim and non-Muslim alike.

## **Khadija Details**

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Author : Re?it Haylamaz

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**From Reader Review Khadija for online ebook**

## Sophie Whatmore says

Lovely rendition of the life of Khadija and her allegiance to the Prophet PBOH. Narrated in a lovely easy to read format, a romance of old. Very nice.

## Amirah Maliki says

The book tells us the life of Khadija r.a in a flowing story. I find the narrative managed to bring us to really appreciate and feel the arduous moments and how heavy it was to do such and such. I cried reading few pages. She truly is exemplary for every woman. High achieving in the times when women were not valued for these values and willing to sacrifice every single thing in Allah's way, believing in the final abode.

It however is very brief and tells only the big events.

## Lilya says

This was a very brief book. Encompasses a brief overview of her background, family and general history. I was expecting a more in depth description of her character and Anecdotes of her relationship with The prophet (pbuh), which was a disappointment. In general this books was good for what it was, but a let down for what I thought it was.

## Aurora says

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## Farah says

This book only covers the major events that happened in Khadija's life and it also describes how the Prophet Muhammad SAW loved her so much that he talked about her dignity, modesty and much more values of her a lot to his Companions even after her death.

There are also some pictures inserted in this book such as Khadija's veil she wore on her wedding and her box that might be used to store her valuable things or whatsoever, her place of maqam and much more.

Overall, this book is very simple and easy for me to read. It makes me want to know much more of Khadija's life after reading it.

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## Tahir Hussain says

This work is part of a series entitled 'Leading Companions of the Prophet' and what better way to begin than with the first Muslim to embrace Islam and the rock in the life of the Prophet Muhammad (?all? All?hu ?alayhi wasallam), Khadija bint Khuwaylid.

The book has been written by Re?it Haylamaz and translated from the original Turkish by Hulya Cosar. It is the story of one of the most remarkable women to step foot on the earth. As you would expect it is interwoven in to the life of the Prophet Muhammad (?all? All?hu ?alayhi wasallam). It begins by detailing the life of Khadija prior to her marriage to the Prophet Muhammad (?all? All?hu ?alayhi wasallam). I don't think a lot of information is generally available regarding this period hence the scarce details are understandable. It does however offer enough to contextualise the environment and her beginnings with her noble family. It makes mention of her previous marriages and offspring as well as her reputation as one leading an upright life, known for her dignity and elegance even in the Age of Ignorance (j?hiliyy?h).

The introduction of the Prophet Muhammad (?all? All?hu ?alayhi wasallam) in to the life of Khadija is preceded by signs indicating his radiance. What follows is a story about the perfect love they had for each other and a model for all spouses. Khadija is a woman to be admired, an international business woman, sophisticated and pure. She was known as "Tahira" meaning "pure and clean", and amongst the locals she was called "Sayidda", meaning "a great lady" and as the saying goes behind every great man there is a great woman. She was unparalleled in her support for the Prophet Muhammad (?all? All?hu ?alayhi wasallam). Even before she proposed marriage to him she investigated his life to such an extent that when the ceremony took place, Khadija invited the wet-nurse of the Prophet Muhammad (?all? All?hu ?alayhi wasallam), Halima as-Sadiya, to the wedding.

The perfect wife, the Prophet Muhammad (?all? All?hu ?alayhi wasallam) would find her a source for

relieving his anxiety and always found her reassuring him of his excellent nature and mission. It was an immaculate partnership. Khadija was affluent but she sacrificed all her wealth for God in support of the religion and her husband, the Messenger of God. It was a union exemplifying the quintessence of love. After Khadija died, the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) never forgot her and always remembered her. ‘A’isha bint Abu Bakr, whom the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) married years after Khadija stated that “...He mentions her often and holds her in such high regard that whenever he slaughters a sheep and divides it into pieces, he still sends Khadija’s friends their portion.” She was the apple of his eye and the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) remembered her fondly, saying, “Was there any like her?” continuing, “I swear by God that He has not given me anyone as beneficent as she. When people denied me, she believed in me; she affirmed me when people labelled me a liar; when people deprived me she supported me from her property; and God gave me children through her.”

The book is simply written and is easy to follow. The chapters are short and the story moves along at a good pace. It is not loaded with information regarding Khadija but there is enough here that you will have familiarity with her life, her struggle, her loyalty, her support and her love. The book begins with a useful family tree depicting her roots as well as those of the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ). The references are selective so not every bit of information is followed by the source (not given in the footnotes but found in the notes section at the end) but there are enough references given to glean the sources of the important information. The conclusion of this work is followed by a short chronology of major events in the life of Khadija, a very useful reference tool and overview of the information contained in this work. It also contains some fascinating pictures (black and white) such as an aerial view of Khadija’s house which was rediscovered during the Haram extensions in 1989 but hideously covered over so as to obliterate any trace. There are not many books on the life of this remarkable woman and I would recommend purchasing this for a glimpse in to one of the four greatest women of the world, the other three being Fatima the daughter of Muhammad, Maryam the mother of Jesus (ﷺ) and Asiya the wife of Pharaoh. The life of Khadija bint Khuwaylid is inspirational and she is a role model for the world, may God grant her peace and abundant blessings.

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## Siti Nur says

"Behind a great man is a great woman"

This saying is what really comes up to my mind once I finished reading this book. As a great and noble man Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, is Allah SWT bestowed him great wives. Khadija RA, the first wife of the Prophet, peace be upon him, the first muslim, the first companion who sacrificed her all in God's way.

She set an exemplary standard of being a good wife; a wife who can be the reliance and source of comfort and support for her husband that Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, has a very special place in his heart for her that even Allah SWT and angel Jibril sent her greetings and good tidings for her that she has secured a castle decorated with pearls in the heaven.

Masha Allah.

The only thing that holds me to give this book five stars is the book's writing style.

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## **Alyssa says**

This novelization of Khadija's story is told in the style of the author's own perspective. I would hesitate to label it as a biography as the writing is often punctuated by assumptions and inferences without adequate citation and much of its content lacks relevant historical context.

In many cases, the events are narrated without personification and readers are left with neither an engaging character novel nor a scholarly text.

That said, this book contains a detailed look into the events of Khadijah's life and provides a compelling background to the events leading up to the prophethood. Further exploration is encouraged.

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## **May says**

Khadija was born in 555 CE. and was the daughter of Khuwaylid, who was amongst the most honored man of the Qurayshi tribe. Khadija married Muhammad (pbuh) in 595 CE. At this time, Muhammad (pbuh) wasn't a prophet yet. Khadija was an international business women and was married two times before the marriage with Muhammad (pbuh). Just as the Makkans called Muhammad 'Sadiq' and 'Ameen,' they called Khadija 'Tahira,' which means "the pure one."

Khadija was the first wife of the prophet (pbuh) and is truly an example for every one of us. She devoted and sacrificed everything she had for the prophet (pbuh) until poverty and hunger touched her. Yet she kept motivating and encouraging Muhammad (pbuh) in the difficult times he was facing. How many (wealthy) people would do that? It's easy to say that we would do that, but when it comes to the truth, there are only a very few. Therefore Khadija is called one of the most perfect of all women ever since the first creation.

Haylamaz covered the life of Khadija to a very large extend. For me it was disappointing, but one couldn't expect much more of 143 pages. It is easy and quick to read if you are interested in the main events that occurred in the life of Khadija while married to Muhammad (pbuh).

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## **Tariq Mahmood says**

'At the time Khadija was born, Hijaz was, in every sense of the word, living in the time of ignorance. However there were a few roses among the swamp where people found solstice and wisdom..... ' What irony in the statement, how can you have a completely ignorant society which produces some of the wisest men on earth?

If you can somehow bypass such stark assumption made by the author and keep focused on trying to gauge as much information as possible about one of the most allusive and neglected personalities of the Islamic faith then you might be able to get answers to some very important questions, like, why role did Hazrat Khadija play in protecting her husband in a very hostile atmosphere after his open declaration of the new faith. Could he have ever accomplished what he did without her ardent support? How many husbands are pulled right left and centre by wives pushing their own agenda, completely destroying all of their husband's dreams in the process. Her diminished and subdued role in the story of Islam has to be highlighted in order to tackle this very patriarchal attitude prevalent in the Islam of today. I also the concept of coming of a messiah is still pretty much an entity of all religions, the Hindus with their avatars, Muslims with Imam Mehdi,

Christians and Jews with the messiah, so I understand the authors insistence that the Hijaz at that time was rampant with signs of the coming of a Prophet. The atmosphere described is very much similar to the one we have today, hence pretty normal I think.

Basically this book is a waste of time. The only revelation for me was that Hazrat Khadijah had already married twice and had kids from both earlier marriages before she got engaged to the Prophet.

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### **Ellie says**

This book is fairly short and certainly easy to read. The author chooses 'succinctness' over purple prose and elaborate sentences and word choices, and I think that really benefits this book. It allows the content to take centre stage and to be accessible to all readers.

I find myself with a new respect for this rather incredible woman. She must have been an amazing person to know, and it sounds like she dealt with life's hardships with great poise and grace and also a great kindness. Her faith, and her loyalty - both to her God and her husband *are* inspirational, regardless of whether you believe in God or not. As was his love for her. If all spouses loved each other this much, I think we'd never see another divorce. They were clearly completely devoted to each other.

There were multiple occasions during this short book that I found myself covered in goosebumps, and considering the writing, while good, was quite to the point, I think it's more due to the content of her life than the author's choice of words - although I think he has written a very accessible book that powerfully draws the reader into Khadija's life.

I'm really pleased I stumbled across this book because I think it's one that will stay with me. It's certainly left an impression.

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### **nelwakil7 says**

Lady Khadija wanted to give prophet mohammed all the support necessary for him to cope with all the hate he received from the Quraish tribe. But this was not as easy as it sounded, prophet mohammed and lady khadija had to overcome adversity and make Islam the way it is today. It took some time but over an extensive period the prophet and his lovely wife khadija were able to convince the Quraish that Islam was a worth while cause. Then as the religion grew and grew, lady khadija fell terribly sick and passed away. This troubled the prophet greatly and he was deeply affected by the loss of his beloved wife. This book shows how much hate the muslims received and is very touching. The main theme for me is overcoming adversity.

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### **Notavailable says**

"Mary, mother of Jesus, is the best woman of the heavens, and the worthiest woman of the earth is Khadija, daughter of Khuwaylid"  
(Prophet Muhammad)

I really enjoyed this book I don't know why I left it too late to read it!

I enjoyed the prophet Muhammad (SAW) and Khadija's relationship and the book was very good at portraying just how much our beloved prophet loved her.

The reason I did not give the book the full 5 stars was because there were certain parts to do with her personality and characteristics that were constantly being repeated. The book is called 'Khadija' however there is not a great deal of what happened in her life apart from that of her relationship with the prophet.

However, it is an easy read about one of the most inspiring and admirable women in Islam. A true role model. May Allah bless her x

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### **Shaheena says**

Subject great but writing left a lot to be desired.

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### **Zamzam says**

I learnt quite a few new points on her life but still think there is plenty more about her life and character which i would like to know about. If anyone knows any other books, please recommend.

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