

Smart Teenage Muslimah

An inspirational guide for Muslim girls

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INTRODUCTION

Bismillah ar-Rahman, ar-Rahim, I begin in the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful. All praises and thanks to the One Who created us with a mind capable of understanding and acting on His divine guidance. Mubarak on selecting such an excellent book; maybe your mum or another relative gifted it to you. Regardless of how it got to you, I hope you enjoy every page of this book, even the ones you find a little daunting.

As you know better than me, Muslim teenagers face unique challenges. A myth is peddled that following Islam makes your life difficult, and you'll be happier if you were less religious. Similar struggles to yours were experienced by the young men described in Surah Kahf. They were under immense pressure to abandon their deen and follow social norms. What did they do about it? They escaped so they would not have compromise their faith. Allah protected them, and they slept for over three hundred years in the cave. Alhamdulillah, they were never discovered.

When they awoke, they felt like they had only slept for a little while. One of them went to buy food, hoping the enemy wouldn't capture him. But the locals noticed he had coins and clothing from three centuries ago. Allah had saved the young men from their oppressors, who had passed away, and the town was now full of believers.

Let's face it, sometimes being a practising Muslim can seem like Mission Impossible. Sin is fashionable: Islam is outdated. The boys could have abandoned their belief in tawhid, but their trust in Allah was greater than their fear. Surah Kahf teaches us that when we hold on to Islam, Allah will protect us, even allowing us time travel!¹