

# Builders *of a* *Nation*

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Builders of a Nation

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# Contents

## Part One: The Women of the Prophet's Household

Khadijah bint Khuwaylid	3
Sawdah bint Zam'ah	11
'Ā'ishah bint Abī Bakr	17
Ḥafṣah bint 'Umar	31
Zaynab bint Khuzaymah	38
Umm Salamah	43
Zaynab bint Jaḥsh	51
Juwayriyyah bint al-Ḥārith	55
Ṣafiyah bint Ḥuyayy	61
Ramlah bint Abī Sufyān	66
Maymūnah bint al-Ḥārith	71
Māriyyah bint Sham'un	75
Zaynab bint Muhammad	81
Ruqayyah bint Muhammad	85
Umm Kulthūm bint Muhammad	88
Fāṭimah bint Muhammad	93

# Preface

In the name of Allah, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate,

All praise is for Allah ﷻ, the Most Merciful, the Lord of the worlds. May peace and blessings be upon His final Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, his family and Companions, and all his followers. Allah ﷻ in His perfect wisdom and mercy bestows endless blessings upon all His servants. We experienced such an instance during an Islamic Studies course at Jannah Institute, while pondering upon *Pearls Around the Prophet ﷺ*, and *Muslim Women of Knowledge*.

These stories of the treasured, noble, and valuable women were not only inspirational but also practical, as they served as a blueprint for our collective future as an Ummah. This was the point of inception for *Builders of a Nation*, Ramadan 2023 series, which laid a foundation for this book. Each woman raises the other, seizing every opportunity bestowed by Allah ﷻ to reach the next level in Jannah. These women exemplify the verse in the Qur'an:

إِنَّ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ وَالْقَانِتِينَ وَالْقَانِتَاتِ وَالصَّادِقِينَ وَالصَّادِقَاتِ وَالصَّابِرِينَ وَالصَّابِرَاتِ وَالْخَائِعِينَ وَالْخَائِعَاتِ وَالْمُتَصَدِّقِينَ وَالْمُتَصَدِّقَاتِ وَالصَّائِمِينَ وَالصَّائِمَاتِ وَالْحَافِظِينَ فُرُوجَهُمْ وَالْحَافِظَاتِ وَالذَّاكِرِينَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا وَالذَّاكِرَاتِ أَعَدَّ اللَّهُ لَهُمْ مَغْفِرَةً وَأَجْرًا عَظِيمًا

“Surely [for] Muslim men and women, believing men and women, devout men and women, truthful men and women, patient men and women, humble men and women, charitable men and women, fasting men and women, men and women who guard their chastity, and men and women who remember Allah often—for [all of] them Allah has prepared forgiveness and a great reward.”

(*Al-Ahzāb* 33:35)

## Part Two: Female Companions

Asmā' bint Abī Bakr ﷺ.....	103
Umm Sulaym bint Milhān ﷺ.....	108
Al-Farāh bint Mālik ﷺ.....	117
Nusaybah bint Ka'b ﷺ.....	125
Umm Sharīk ﷺ.....	130
Al-Rubayyi' bint Mu'awwidh ﷺ.....	133
Sumayyah bint Khayyāt ﷺ.....	141
Rufaydah al-Aslamiyyah ﷺ.....	145

## Part Three: Female Pioneers of Islamic History

Hafṣah bint Sīrīn ﷺ.....	151
The Mother of Imam al-Bukhārī ﷺ.....	155
Fāṭimah bint 'Abdullāh al-Azdiyyah ﷺ.....	158
Ṣafīyyah bint Maymūnah bint 'Abd al-Malik al-Shaybāniyyah ﷺ.....	163
Fāṭimah bint 'Abbās al-Baghdādiyyah ﷺ.....	167
Fāṭimah al-Baṭayhiyyah ﷺ.....	171
Fāṭimah al-Fihriyyah ﷺ.....	173
Fāṭimah bint Muhammad ibn Aḥmad al-Samarqandiyah ﷺ.....	176
Fāṭimah bint Ḥamad al-Fuḍayliyyah ﷺ.....	181
'Ā'ishah Muhammad 'Alī 'Abd al-Raḥmān ﷺ.....	185
Fāṭimah bint 'Abd al-Malik ﷺ.....	188
Salmā bint al-Jazarī ﷺ.....	192
Maryam Jameelah ﷺ.....	194

A deliberate effort has been made in selecting these women. They are diverse, yet their roots are the same - consciousness of Allah ﷻ, unwavering obedience to Him ﷻ, and their commitment to benefit their communities with the blessings bestowed upon them.

Whether it is the vast knowledge of ‘Ā’ishah ؓ, the piety and fasting of Ḥafṣah, the warrior spirit of Nusaybah, or the pioneering medical care of Rufaydah, each woman featured in this book may serve as your role model in education, motherhood, and practicing your faith. Hence, they are deserving of the title *Builders of a Nation*.

The book is divided into three main sections. The first section centers on the wives and daughters of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, as the key figures in his blessed household. The second section focuses on the women around the Prophet ﷺ, the female Companions who played pivotal roles in shaping Islamic society and actively participated in the construction of a new nation, each contributing their unique qualities and characteristics. The final section showcases a selection of Muslim women throughout history, each extraordinary in their own right, harnessing distinct gifts bestowed upon them by Allah to build this Ummah.

I sincerely hope this book will remind you how far and wide the ripple effects of your good deeds will travel, enveloping and pushing forward the nation of your inheritance.

September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 CE/ Rabī‘ al-Awwal 5<sup>th</sup>, 1445 AH

Dr. Sh. Haifaa Younis

PART ONE

# The Women of the Prophet's Household



KHADĪJAH BINT KHUWAYLID ﷺ



*The faith of our  
mother Khadijah ﷺ  
reached a height where  
she was given the glad  
tidings of a palace in  
Jannah by the noble  
angel, Jibrīl ﷺ*



## CHAPTER ONE

# Khadijah bint Khuwaylid ﷺ

Some people are remembered long after they are gone; their names are remembered for hundreds of years after they have left this world because their contributions and achievements impact the world in such a way that history simply does not forget them. But what makes a person so memorable? What actions must we do or qualities must we possess so that thousands of years from now, people will admire and look up to us as a guiding light? There are many examples from our rich Islamic history that provide a glimpse into the lives of women who are remembered to this day. They were women who had inherent qualities and noble characters capable of building a nation with their faith, perseverance, and determination. Women who left a mark on the world and became an inspiration for all of mankind.

When analysing these inspirational women, a name that instantly comes to mind is that of Khadijah bint Khuwaylid ﷺ. She was, after all, the first wife of the Prophet ﷺ and the first to accept Islam.

### *A Noble Beginning*

Sayyidah Khadijah ﷺ was born over 1,500 years ago in the blessed city of Mecca and belonged to the clan of Banū Hāshim