INTRODUCTION TO ISLAMIC FEMINISM

PART II - CAMPAIGNS & MODERN HISTORY

WOMEN IN ISLAM SERIES
CAMPAIGN AREAS

- Women in leadership
- Bodily autonomy
- Equal inheritance
- Access to education for all
- Muslim family law reform
- Personal law reform
- Dress code
- Right to work
- Reproductive justice
- Equality in leading prayer
- Inclusive mosques
Supporting women to have choices in their lives [need] not threaten the social fabric. Ensuring that people enjoy the full measure of their rights strengthens the community. And by way of shared values, it extends the sense of community, even to the global level.

THORAYA AHMED OBAID

@MPVUSA | #ISLAMISJUSTICE
A group of Egyptian feminists, led by Doria Shafik, successfully campaigned for a provision in Egypt's Constitution of 1956 that granted women the right to vote.

The Jordanian parliament abolished a law, which allowed rapists to escape punishment provided they marry their victims after a successful campaign by Jordanian women groups.

A ban on women driving in Saudi Arabia was lifted in 2018 after decades of protests and violations by Saudi women activists who recorded themselves driving and shared the videos across social media.

In 2017, Tunisia overturned a law that forbid Muslim women from marrying a non-Muslim man, clearing the way for a Muslim woman to marry the man of her choosing, regardless of his religion.
In 2005, after nearly a decade of advocacy from women's rights organizations, the Maputo Protocol, which guarantees comprehensive rights to women across the AU, went into effect.

Women Living Under Muslim Laws was founded in 1984 by women in 8 majority Muslim countries to conduct advocacy work with a focus on the impact of laws inspired by Islam on women.

The world's first ever congress of women ulema (Islamic scholars) was held in Indonesia in 2017. Participants released a fatwa after the congress raising the age of marriage for girls to 18.

In collaboration with activists, the Deputy Grand Imam of al-Azhar, Sheikh Dr. Salah Abbas, issued a fatwa declaring that marriage in Islam is based on 2 consenting parties, and therefore child marriage is illegal.
We are certainly a long way from the Prophet’s mosque, open to all, welcoming to all those interested in Islam, including women. The mosque now suffers a betrayal of Muhammad’s (pbuh) ideal community: women are declared strangers to the place of worship. Women, who had the privilege of access to the mosque as sahabiyyaat, companions of the Prophet, very quickly became polluting, evil beings.

SHAMIMA SHAIKH
Aisha Taymur, known as the Mother of Egyptian Feminism, begins campaigning for women's rights, especially access to education.

Raden Adjeng Kartini begins writing letters criticizing Javanese cultural practices and Dutch colonial perceptions and laws that eliminated and restricted the human rights of Indonesian women.

Begum Rokeya founded the Muslim Women's Association, which fought for women's education & employment in then East Bengal.

Aisha Abd al-Rahman, a Professor of Arabic Literature at Ains Shams University becomes one of the first women in modern history to undertake Quranic exegesis.
A BRIEF & RECENT HISTORY

1949
Du Shuzhen
becomes the imam at Shifu Mosque making her one of the first female Imams in modern Chinese history.

1977
Fatima Ahmed Ibrahim
founded the Sudanese Women’s Union, a women’s rights organization, now one of the largest post-independence women’s rights organizations in Africa.

1977
Meena Keshwar Kamal
founded the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan to promote education equality.

1988
Benazir Bhutto
becomes the first woman in modern history elected to head the government in a Muslim-majority country, after she was democratically elected as Prime Minister of Pakistan.

@MPVUSA | #ISLAMISJUSTICE
Homa Darabi died after self immolating herself after removing her hijab in Tehran, Iran in a protest against compulsory hijab.

Amina Wadud became the first female in modern history to publicly give Friday Khutbah and led Friday prayer for a mixed gender, nonsegregated audience at a community center in New York City.

Samar Badawi filed a lawsuit for women's suffrage in Saudi Arabia after her voter registration was denied, the first to do so in the state.

Hind Makki starts "Side Entrance", an online blog documenting the inadequate prayer spaces for women in mosques and educating Muslim men about the conditions Muslim women are forced to deal with in religious spaces.
REFERENCES

- WOMEN AND ISLAM - OXFORD STUDIES ONLINE
- ISLAM'S OTHER HALF - MARGOT BADRAN
- THE REALITY AND FUTURE OF ISLAMIC FEMINISM - RACHELLE FAWCETT
- WOMEN ULEMA FOR THE WORLD - THE JAKARTA POST
- EXPLORING ISLAMIC FEMINISM - MARGOT BADRAN
- FEMINISM VS. MULTICULTURALISM: AN INSIGHT INTO ISLAMIC FEMINISM - MERN ABOUL-EZZ
- JORDAN BANS RAPISTS FROM ESCAPING JUSTICE BY MARRYING VICTIM - REBECCA RATCLIFFE
- A WOMEN-LED MOVEMENT IN INDONESIA SAYS INTERPRETING ISLAM ISN'T JUST FOR MEN - AMY GUNIA
- TUNISIAN WOMEN FREE TO MARRY NON-MUSLIMS - BBC
- SAUDI ARABIA'S BAN ON WOMEN DRIVING OFFICIALLY ENDS - BBC
- PROTOCOL TO THE AFRICAN CHARTER ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS ON THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN IN AFRICA
- POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN MUSLIM FAMILY LAWS - MUSAWAH
- WOMEN LIVING UNDER MUSLIM LAWS
- SENIOR ISLAMIC CLERIC ISSUES FATWA AGAINST CHILD MARRIAGE - RUTH MACLEAN
- AISHA TAYMUR - ACCESSING MUSLIM LIVES
- RADEN ADJENG KARTINI - BRITANNICA
- BEGUM ROKEYA: THE WRITER WHO INTRODUCED US TO FEMINIST SCI-FI - AMNA NASIR
- OBITUARY: AISHA ABDUL-RAHMAN - ADEL DARWISH
- BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF CHINESE WOMEN: V. 2: TWENTIETH CENTURY - LILY XIAO HONG LEE
- FATIMA AHMED IBRAHIM, AND WOMEN'S POWER IN SUDAN - LEWIS TWIBY
- A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF MARTYRED MEENA, FOUNDING LEADER OF RAWA - RAWA
- BENAZIR BHUTTO - BRITANNICA
- IRANIAN WOMAN IN SUICIDE PROTEST - THE INDEPENDENT
- AMINA WADUD (2005) - THE PLURALISM PROJECT ARCHIVES
- SAMAR BADAWI - TOM LANTOS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION UNITED STATES CONGRESS
- HOW HIND MAKKI IS CHANGING THE CONVERSATION AROUND WOMEN'S INCLUSION IN MOSQUES - RELIGION NEWS SERVICE

@MPVUSA | #ISLAMISJUSTICE