

Call For Papers

Muslim Women in Public Life: History, Debates and Realities

January 26 - 28, 2025


JADAL
حوار في بحوث المرأة
Women's Research Dialogue

Jadal | Call For Papers

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Jadal was born out of sustained reflections on how women converse; how women congregate; and how women cultivate. As such, the exchange is crafted to address the integrated intellectual, spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of women. It does so by facilitating research conversations and community between an international group of Muslim women on topics that are intellectually enriching and practically relevant.

Our inaugural summit seeks to explore how Muslim women have engaged in, and contributed to, society and public life from the inception of Islam to the present day. We welcome scholars and practitioners to explore the various dimensions of women's public involvement, whether as scholars, economic actors, patrons, or political agents. We also welcome scholars and practitioners to engage with how Muslim women's public roles have been shaped by cultural, religious, and political factors and thus undergone transformation in diverse historical and contemporary contexts. We are interested in how women navigated public life in varied ways, whether through negotiating their public presence, challenging the status quo, or by creating parallel women-only or women-led spaces and communities. Finally, we also welcome papers that explore how modern socio-economic transformations have shifted the experiences and public engagement of Muslim women, and what possibilities exist for their future.

Jadal is divided into three days: Day one focuses on understanding Muslim women's public participation historically. Day two turns to explore contemporary transformations through colonialism and modernity and the engagement of Muslim women. Finally, day three looks to the future to address both the challenges and opportunities for Muslim women's public participation.

Jadal will be a women's only event: presenters, attendees and all supporting participants will be women.

We encourage paper proposals from practitioners, thought-leaders and facilitators, in addition to academics, on the following topics:

1. THE PAST

- **Muslim Women in Public: The Past:** exploring the extent to which women emerged in public life prior to modernity. Papers can explore specific cases, the contributions that women made, and the various socio-economic factors affecting their participation.
- **Religious Discourse about Women in Public Life:** exploring the way legal discourses as well as social values and virtues, shaped ideas about women's public presence and contribution.

2. THE PRESENT

- **Muslim Women in Public Life: The Present:** exploring the way Muslim women emerge in the public sphere in modernity. Papers can explore the specific challenges Muslim women face, the rise of Women-only spaces, and particular case studies.
- **Colonialism, Modernity and Transformation of Public Life:** exploring the way colonization and modernization affected the ways in which Muslim women engaged in public life. Papers can explore specific cases, or overall trends.

3. THE FUTURE

- **Muslim Women in Public Life: Opportunities:** exploring opportunities for Muslim women to be involved in public life into the future. Papers can explore the way contemporary initiatives and ideas are opening new vistas for participation and engagement.
- **Muslim Women in Public Life: Challenges and Solutions:** exploring the current and future challenges Muslim women face within public life. Papers can explore new models of leadership, the need for women's only spaces, challenges of marriage/divorce, and work/home balance.

Format and Procedures for Submission of Individual Papers

Please submit an abstract of 250-300 words to be considered for participation in Jadal. The top of the abstract should include your name, institutional affiliation, and which subtheme you are applying to. The abstracts must be prepared in Arabic or English.

All abstracts must be submitted on <http://www.almujadilah.qa/Jadal> by Sep 15, 2024. Use the 'Individual Presenter' button when submitting.

Group Panels

We welcome submission for panels consisting of 3-4 individuals tied together thematically related to one of the aforementioned themes. To submit a panel, please ensure that one submission is made online at <http://www.almujadilah.qa/Jadal> following the 'Group Panel' button.

Publication and Dissemination Plans

Select papers will be chosen for publication on the Jadal website or a special conference volume. These papers will be given an honorarium of \$3,000 USD. If you would like your paper to be considered for publication, please indicate when submitting your paper on January 2nd.

Funding

Successful applications will receive an economy-class ticket and accommodation for the duration of the summit.

Ethical Conduct

Ethical conduct is of utmost importance and any form of plagiarism will result in the rejection of the paper. Duplicate publication, or self-plagiarism (i.e., publishing the same intellectual material more than once by the author) or the violation of copyright (i.e., unauthorized republication of scholarly material) will be rejected without further review, and additional action will be taken as appropriate. To verify compliance, submissions may be checked by originality or duplicate checking software.

For more, see Terms and Conditions on the website.

Important dates

Application must be completed on the website: <http://www.almujadilah.qa/Jadal>

- **15 September 2024:** Deadline for submitting an abstract.
- **3 October 2024:** Applicants notified of decision.
- **2 January 2024:** Deadline for submitting full paper.
- **26-28 January 2025:** Inaugural Jadal.

Contact Us

Applications must be completed on our website <http://www.almujadilah.qa/Jadal>

For any inquiries about this call-for-papers, please contact jadal@qf.org.qa

Al-Mujadilah Research is a destination for leading world-class research on Muslim women's histories, their lived experiences, and contemporary challenges. While al-Mujadilah Research will contribute to academic discourses, its unique imprint is its translation of impactful scholarly insights into engaging formats accessible to a wider practitioner and non-specialist public. Al-Mujadilah will be a hub for research networks, capacity-building, and intellectual exchange between scholars, practitioners, and Muslim women of all backgrounds.

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