

Muslim Forums on Women's Issues

A Resource Directory

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Muslim Forums on Women's Issues

A Resource Directory

Muslim Forums on Women's Issues: A Resource Directory is a compilation of resources that address Muslim identities, women's roles and experiences, gender-based violence, community empowerment, cultural change, and interfaith relations. The eradication of violence requires a broad approach from various segments of society and must recognize how complex markers of identity such as race, class, and gender shape experiences and solutions. Forums in this directory are identified by national origin, profession, or interest area. They provide space for online or event-based discussions and posting opinions and ideas about issues pertaining to their organizational purpose or affiliation. 'Muslim' describes people who self-identify as Muslims, whether they are practicing Muslims or not.

Disclaimer

The views represented on the forums and websites listed in this directory are entirely those of their authors and should not be construed as an endorsement by the Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence.

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Forums

1. American Muslims Intent on Learning and Activism (AMILA)

P.O. Box 420 614, San Francisco, CA 94142

Web: www.amila.org

AMILA (which means "to work" or "to act" in Arabic) is an organization that is helping to build the American Muslim community through activism, Islamic education, spirituality, and networking with other Muslim groups. Its introspective and non-dogmatic approach to Islam has allowed it to tap the resources of a wide variety of Muslim intellectuals in their monthly lecture series, study groups, book clubs, and annual Ramadan spiritual retreats. AMILA's constitution has fostered over five generations of elected leadership of men and women. AMILA has bridged the differences between Muslims of different ethnic and ideological backgrounds. AMILA members helped to found Muslims Against Family Violence, and facilitated a merger with Stepping Together in order to utilize social service resources more effectively and reach a larger community in the San Francisco Bay Area.

2. Arab Cultural & Community Center of Center San Francisco

2 Plaza Street, San Francisco, CA 94116

Tel: 415-664-2200, Fax: 415-664-2280

Email: info@arabculturalcenter.org

Web: www.arabculturalcenter.org

The Arab Cultural & Community Center provides services on cultural education, and offers a variety of services and programs available to the Arab community including a health program, women's program, domestic violence resources, adult social services program and cultural competency training.

3. Domestic Violence Forum (Islamic Society of North America)

P.O. Box 38, Plainfield, IN 46168

Tel: 317-839-8157, Fax: 317-839-1840

Email: stopdv@isna.net

Web: www.isna.net/Services/pages/Domestic-Violence-Forum.aspx

The domestic violence forum site of ISNA was established to bring awareness to the issue of domestic violence in Muslim communities and to provide opportunities for collaboration, exchanges of information and the promotion of continued research on the impact of domestic violence's impact on Muslim families.

4. FaithTrust Institute

2400 N. 45th Street #101, Seattle, WA 98103

Tel: 206-634-1903 (office), 877-860-2255 (toll free orders) Fax: 206-634-0115

Email: info@faithtrustinstitute.org

Web: www.faithtrustinstitute.org

FaithTrust Institute is a multi-faith, training and education organization offering communities and advocates the tools and knowledge they need to address the religious and cultural issues related to abuse in Asian, Buddhist, Jewish, Latino, Muslim, Black, Anglo, Indigenous, Protestant and Roman Catholic communities. Its website and blog also offer analysis and commentary on faith and domestic violence issues.

5. Gallup Center for Muslim Studies

The Gallup Building, 901 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20004

Tel: 202-715-3030, Fax: 202-715-3041

Web: www.gallup.com/se/127907/gallup-center-muslim-studies.aspx

The Gallup Center for Muslim Studies is a nonpartisan research center dedicated to providing data-driven analysis, advice, and education on the views of Muslim populations around the world, including American Muslims. It draws upon Gallup's unprecedented global research initiative, the Gallup World Poll and the Gallup Poll of the Muslim World, to enable global leaders, institutions, and the public to make more informed decisions. Gender issues and family matters are among the topics represented by Gallup.

6. IslamiCity.com

P.O. Box 3030, Culver City, CA 90231

Tel: 310-642-0006, Fax: 310-568-9533

Email: icinfo@islamiCity.com

Web: www.islamicity.com

Islamicity.com contains information about Islam and Muslims in text, audio and video current affairs, community services and multimedia outlets.

7. Islamic Social Services Association (ISSA-USA)

1030 Baseline Rd, Suite 105 PMB955 Tempe, AZ 85283

Tel: 1-888-415-9920 (toll free), Fax: 602-532-7057

Email: info@issausa.org

Web: www.issausa.org and www.issaservices.com

ISSA's mission is to promote awareness of the mental health, social welfare and general family issues impacting Muslims and the larger society. ISSA provides education, training, and consultation services for local Muslim communities and mainstream organizations. It offers workshops to those requesting information to make their masjid or Islamic center more women-friendly.

Relevant Publications:

- *Helping Victims of Domestic Abuse: A Guide for Imams and Community Leaders*
- *Muslim Culture and Faith: A Guide for Social Service Providers*
- *Women Friendly Mosques and Community Centers: Working together to Reclaim our Heritage* (www.womeninislam.org/Mosque.pdf).

8. Islamic Writers Alliance (IWA)

P.O. Box 299, Sunbury, PA 17801

Email: director@islamicwritersalliance.net

Web: www.islamicwritersalliance.net

The Islamic Writers Alliance (IWA) is an international, professional organization for Muslim women involved in the literary arts -- published and aspiring authors, novelists, poets, essayists, publishers, editors, illustrators, journalists, spoken word artists, playwrights. It supports writers, whether it be honing one's craft, seeking publication opportunities, or promoting published works to both the Muslim and non-Muslim world. It is dedicated to writing about, presenting, and supporting positive Islamic fiction and non-fiction reading materials, in all genres, for all ages. IWA is an inclusive organization, and welcomes Muslim women of all races, ethnicities, linguistic background, abilities, and creeds. IWA has published an anthology of Muslim women's writing called Many Voices, One Faith.

9. Karamah: Muslim Women Lawyers for Human Rights

P.O. Box 57195, Washington, D.C. 20037

Tel: 202-234-7302 or 202-234-7303, Fax: 202-234-7304

Email: karamah@karamah.org

Web: www.karamah.org

Karamah's goal is to empower Muslim women through education, leadership development, Islamic jurisprudential research, advocacy and network-building. The organization provides training to community and faith-based organizations, lawyers and mental health professionals on addressing domestic violence in immigrant and Muslim communities. It also provides legal referrals and advice on and interpretation of Islamic laws pertaining to Muslim women. The website posts research on Muslim women's rights and the Islamic perspectives on domestic violence. Extensive information and articles on domestic violence, rape, marriage and divorce, Muslim women's rights, gender issues, family planning, dress and identity: www.karamah.org/articles.htm.

10. Muslim Advocates

315 Montgomery Street, 8th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94104

Tel: 415-692-1484, Fax: 415-765-1774

Email: info@muslimadvocates.org

Web: www.muslimadvocates.org

Muslim Advocates envisions a world in which equality, liberty, and justice are guaranteed for all, regardless of faith, and in which the Muslim American legal community is vital to promoting and protecting these values. In pursuit of this vision, Muslim Advocates' mission is to provide leadership through legal advocacy, policy engagement, and civic education, and by serving as a legal resource to promote the full and meaningful participation of Muslims in American public life. Muslim Advocates is the charitable sister organization of the National Association of Muslim Lawyers (NAML).

- 11. Muslim Sexual Ethics: The Islam section of the Feminist Sexual Ethics Project**
 Department of Near Eastern & Judaic Studies, Brandeis University, Mailstop 054
 P.O. Box 9110, Waltham, MA 02454
 Tel: 781-736-3228, Fax: 781-736-2070
 Email: fse_project@brandeis.edu
 Web: www.brandeis.edu/projects/fse/muslim/mus-index.html
 Resources address issues of sexual ethics and gender relations in Muslim communities and Islamic texts. The project devotes particular attention to progressive views; and is for all Muslims and non-Muslims committed to ensuring Muslim women full dignity and participation in matters of faith, family, and society. Each topic brings together specific religious texts (verses of the Qur'an and selections from *hadith*), references to other sources, and interpretive commentary that serves as an introduction to the diversity of opinions on these subjects. There is an extensive bibliography and links to other pertinent resources.
- 12. National Association of Muslim Lawyers (NAML)**
 315 Montgomery Street, 8th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94104
 Tel: 415-692-1484, Fax: 415-765-1774
 Email: info@namlnet.org
 Web: www.namlnet.org
 The National Association of Muslim Lawyers (NAML) serves as the national representative of Muslims in the legal profession. NAML serves Muslims, the general public, and the legal profession by promoting justice for all peoples and the successful integration of Muslims into American society. NAML intends to promote meaningful access to legal representation for Muslims, and in turn to promote full, fair and equal participation by Muslims in American society overall.
- 13. Peaceful Families Project (PFP)**
 P.O. Box 771, Great Falls, VA 22066
 Tel: 703-474-6870
 Email: info@peacefulfamilies.org
 Web: www.peacefulfamilies.org
 The Peaceful Families Project (PFP) facilitates nationwide workshops based on an Islamic perspective that promotes peaceful family dynamics and awareness of the nature and impact of conflict and abuse in Muslim families.
- Relevant Publications:**
- *Change from Within: Diverse Perspectives on Domestic Violence in Muslim Communities;*
 - *Peaceful Families: If You or Someone in your Community is Experiencing Abuse at Home, There is Help;*
 - *Garments for One Another: Ending Domestic Violence in Muslim Families* (educational documentary);
 - *Muslim Power and Control Wheel* : www.peacefulfamilies.org/dvwheel.html;
 - Other publications available at www.peacefulfamilies.org/resources.php

14. Pluralism Project at Harvard University

Harvard University, 2 Arrow Street, 4th floor, Cambridge, MA 02138

Tel: 617-496-2481, Fax: 617-496-2428

Email: staff@pluralism.org

Web: www.pluralism.org

Since 1991, the Pluralism Project has engaged students and affiliates in the study of the new religious diversity in the United States. It has a special research interest in the communities and religious traditions of Asia and the Middle East that have become woven into the religious fabric of the United States in the past forty years.

Relevant Resources:

- Muslim women's bibliography
www.pluralism.org/affiliates/haddad/muslimwomen.pdf;
- Muslim community resources and statistics
www.pluralism.org/resources/tradition/?trad=9

15. SoundVision.com

9058 S. Harlem Avenue, Bridgeview, IL 60455

Tel: 708-430-1255, Fax: 708-430-1346

Email: info@soundvision.com

Web: www.soundvision.com

SoundVision.com provides access to Islamic products and media, as well as information on various Islamic topics, such as halal foods, parenting, social services, and domestic violence.

Relevant Resources:

- Domestic violence www.soundvision.com/Info/domesticviolence;
- Social services www.soundvision.com/info/socialservice/default.asp;
- Glossary of Islamic terms www.soundvision.com/info/~glossary/

16. South Asian Women's Network (SAWNET)

Email: info@sawnet.org

Web: www.sawnet.org

SAWNET is a forum for and about women from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

17. Sufi Women Organization (SWO)

14 Commercial Blvd., Suite 101, Novato, California 94949

Tel: 415-382-7834

Email: info@sufiwomen.org

Web: www.sufiwomen.org

The Sufi Women Organization (SWO) was established in 1993 under the auspices of the International Association of Sufism. As a forum for all Sufi women it gathers together women from diverse cultural backgrounds who share a dedication to the goals of Sufism, especially with respect to human rights, women's rights, education, and social awareness.

18. Texas Muslim Women's Foundation

P.O. Box 863388, Plano, TX 75086

Tel: 469-467-6241

Email: tmwf@tmwf.org

Web: www.tmwf.org

The Texas Muslim Women's Foundation believes that Muslim women must develop their identity and make significant contributions to society through community activism, provide a role model for Muslim youth, and set a standard for Muslim communities to demonstrate that Muslims in this country constitute a peaceful, ethical and philanthropic community that cares deeply about humanitarian causes, diversity, and equality.

19. Women for Afghan Women

32-17 College Point Blvd., Room 206, Flushing, NY 11354

Tel: 718-321-2434

Email: office@womenforafghanwomen.org

Web: www.womenforafghanwomen.org

Women for Afghan Women (WAW) is an organization of Afghan and non-Afghan women from the New York area who are committed to ensuring the human rights of Afghan women. WAW promotes the agency of local Afghan women through the creation of safe forums where Afghan women can network, develop programs to meet their specific needs, and participate in human rights advocacy.

20. Women Living Under Muslim Laws

PO Box 28455, London. N19 5JT. UK

Email: wluml@wluml.org

Web: www.wluml.org/english/index.shtml

Women Living Under Muslim Laws is an international solidarity network that provides information, support and a collective space for women whose lives are shaped, conditioned or governed by laws and customs said to derive from Islam.

21. Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality and Equality (WISE)

475 Riverside Dr. Suite 248, New York, NY, 10115

Tel: 917-492-8690, Fax: 917-492-8687

Web: www.asmasociety.org/wise

Developed by the American Society for Muslim Advancement, the Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality and Equality (WISE) addresses the current lack of women's participation in contemporary debates about the political, social, and religious concerns of Muslim women in the global community.

Media Resources

Blogs & Commentary

22. Altmuslim.com

Web: www.altmuslim.com

Altmuslim.com provides an interactive news and discussion forum that helps promote a critical (and self-critical) analysis of issues regarding the Muslim community.

23. Altmuslimah

Web: www.altmuslimah.com

Altmuslimah provides a space for compelling commentary on gender in Islam from male and female, Muslim and non-Muslim, perspectives.

24. Ijtihad.org

Web: www.ijtihad.org

Ijtihad means introspection. Ijtihad.org is an online collection of liberal articles on Islam and politics, particularly covering issues affecting Muslims in America. This site also contains a section on 'Islam, Democracy and Women's Rights.'

25. Muslimah Media Watch

Web: <http://muslimahmediawatch.org/>

Muslimah Media Watch is a forum where Muslim feminists critique images of Muslim women in the media and popular culture to address sources that may be one-dimensional and misleading. They aim to locate and critique misogyny, sexism, patriarchy, Islamophobia, racism, and xenophobia as they affect Muslim women.

26. On Faith

Web: <http://newsweek.washingtonpost.com/onfaith>

On Faith provides an on-line forum for informed conversation among specialists and generalists to understanding and delineating religion's influence on the life of the world. Its religion feature draws on figures from the academy, faith traditions, and journalism to weigh in on questions and encourages readers' commentary, opinions and questions.

Magazines & Ezines

27. Azizah Magazine

P.O. Box 43410, Atlanta, GA 30336-0410

Email: letters@azizahmagazine.com

Web: www.azizahmagazine.com

Azizah Magazine presents the issues, accomplishments and the interests of Muslim women in North America.

28. Divanee

Web: www.divanee.com

Divanee Magazine speaks to young South Asian American women about individuality, style, and personality in the community. It's about finding a place, being irreverent and battling outdated cultural notions and ideas.

29. EMEL Magazine

1 Canfield Place, London, NW6 3BT, UK

Email: info@emel.com

Web: www.emel.com

EMEL Magazine is a Muslim lifestyle magazine which celebrates contemporary Muslim living for Muslim and non-Muslim readers.

30. Illume Magazine

6167 Jarvis Avenue #243, Newark, CA 94560

Tel: 908-ILLUME8

Web: www.illumemedia.org

Illume Magazine is an independent media publication that aims to connect to the peoples of America and to the global electronic community in an effort to present the beauty of Islam through web and print media.

31. Islamic Horizons Magazine

Email: horizons@isna.net

Web: www.isna.net/Islamic-Horizons/pages/Islamic-Horizons.aspx

Islamic Horizons magazine is the bi-monthly publication of ISNA.

32. Mizna

2205 California Street NE #109A Minneapolis, MN 55418

Email: mizna@mizna.org

Web: www.mizna.org

Mizna is a forum for Arab American art and promotes Arab culture that values diversity in the Arabic community. It is committed to giving voice to Arab Americans on the local, national and international level through its magazine on literature, speakers and community events.

33. Q-News Magazine

P.O. Box 4295, London, W1A 7YH, UK

Email: info@q-news.com

Web: www.q-news.com

Q-News Magazine provides outside-the-box analysis of current affairs, culture, ideas and spirituality. With a potent and engaging mix of humor, faith and unconventional wisdom, Q-News has repeatedly set the agenda, rather than react to it.

Television & Film**34. Breakthrough TV**

4 West 37th Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10018

Tel: 212-868-6500, Fax: 212-868-6501

Web: www.breakthrough.tv

Breakthrough is an international human rights organization that uses multi-media, educational and pop culture to promote values of dignity, equality and justice; specifically addressing violence against women, HIV, civil rights, and deportation of immigrants.

35. Bridges TV

227 Thorn Avenue, Studio V, Orchard Park, NY 14127

Tel: 716-662-3363

Email: info@bridgestv.com

Web: www.bridgestv.com

Bridges TV is a Muslim television network that aims to foster a greater understanding among many cultures and diverse populations through education and entertainment with programming in English.

36. Link TV

P.O. Box 2008, San Francisco, CA 94126

Web: www.linktv.org

Link TV broadcasts programs that engage, educate and activate viewers to become involved in the world. These programs provide a unique perspective on international news, current events, and diverse cultures, presenting issues not often covered in the U.S. media.

37. SHaKTI Productions, LLC

Web: www.shaktiproductions.net

SHaKTI PRODUCTIONS, LLC produces and uses videos to advocate for ending violence against women. It documents women's lives and struggles within and outside the U.S.; uses art as advocacy to confront public and private violence against women; and provides information on forums, resource books and articles, and video documentaries on domestic violence (Voices Heard, Sisters Unseen), incestuous sexual abuse (The Children We Sacrifice) and perpetrator accountability (Enemy On The Inside).