

MWO Literary Society - November 2024

This month we're beginning to look at our new theme - Muslim Women in Movements. Muslim women have long been the backbone of the development of Islam, including Islamic thoughts, practices, and movements. Despite these extensive contributions, Muslim women's roles in the development and execution of movements are often overlooked. Our discussions will focus in particular on the following questions:

- What is different between movements led by women? What motivates women led movements?
- In what ways do women's movements continue to face opposition (interpersonal, institutional, structural, internalized)?
- How do we push for systemic change around ideas that are new or unpopular?
- Was there anything you learned about current movements or plan to use in your own movement work?
- What support do women led movements need to thrive?
- How important is mentorship and have you participated in mentorship (either as a mentor or mentee)?

Some guidance on the intersection of faith & social justice, from *Sentipensante Pedagogy*, by Laura Rendon

- Requires "critical consciousness" (Freire, 1971) - an individual's ability to recognize social and economic inequities that often result in marginalization, powerlessness, violence, and exploitation, and to take action to eradicate such inequities;
- Requires action to transform entrenched institutional structures to ensure people from all social group memberships have equal access to resources and opportunities;
- Requires love and compassion to work with people who have less privilege and resources; and
- Requires working to heal and to provide hope for all people, especially those who are victims of social and economic inequities.

- Cannot focus only on self-development and personal goals to the exclusions of the collective good;
- Cannot be grounded only on individual aims without regard to interdependence and social justice.

Texts and Other Materials:

All materials that will enable you to further your understanding of each month's topic are linked below. These may include documentaries, readings, presentations, videos, and so forth. It is up to you to determine which materials you would prefer to engage with; you should interact with at least one in order to bring your own unique perspective to the discussion.

BOOK: [We Are Not Here to Be Bystanders](#) by Linda Sarsour

BOOK: [Handbook of Islamic Sects and Movements - Chapter 7 Women and Islamic Movements](#) by Eva Nisa

BOOK: [Medina by the Bay: Scenes of Muslim Study and Survival](#) by Maryam Kashani

ARTICLE: [How to Understand the Role of Community Organizer](#) WORC

ARTICLE: [Summer 2022 Reflections - At the Heart of HEART a conversation with Nadiah Mohajir](#) by Dreamer By Night

ARTICLE: [Women lead in Sudan's clamor for good governance](#) United Nations

ARTICLE: [WHY BEING MUSLIM MAKES ME A BETTER CLIMATE ACTIVIST](#)

ARTICLE: [Iran: Two years after 'Woman Life Freedom' uprising, impunity for crimes reigns supreme](#) Amnesty International

TOOLKIT: [Muslims for Just Futures - Rapid Response Resources for Community](#)

VIDEO: [Brief but Spectacular - How this advocate fights gendered Islamophobia in medicine](#) PBS

MOVIE: [Cairo 678](#) (will be screening at The Hub)

VIDEO: [Poem read by Emi Mahmoud \(award-winning Sudanese spoken word artist\) on education](#)

ART: **THE ONLY DAUGHTER** WOMANHOOD, COURAGE, LIBERATION, AND
POWER MEHWISH JAVED IQBAL, PAKISTAN / AUSTRALIA

PHOTO: Sudan protests