

REMIND HEART

Mothers of the Believers

أُمَّهَاتُ الْمُؤْمِنِين

The eleven wives of the Prophet ﷺ: who they were, what they gave, and what they taught the ummah.

Our mothers

The wives of the Prophet ﷺ are called the Mothers of the Believers. Allah gave them this title in the Qur'an: "The Prophet is closer to the believers than their own selves, and his wives are their mothers" (al-Ahzab 33:6).

They were his family, his companions and the teachers of this ummah. Much of what we know about how the Prophet ﷺ lived at home, how he prayed at night, how he treated his family and how he made wudu and ghusl, we know because they told us.

1 **Khadijah bint Khuwaylid**
خَدِيجَةُ بِنْتُ خُوَيْلِد

2 **Sawdah bint Zam'ah**
سَوْدَةُ بِنْتُ زَمْعَة

3 **Aisha bint Abi Bakr**
عَائِشَةُ بِنْتُ أَبِي بَكْر

4 **Hafsah bint Umar**
حَفْصَةُ بِنْتُ عُمَر

5 **Zaynab bint Khuzaymah**
زَيْنَبُ بِنْتُ خُزَيْمَة

6 **Umm Salamah**
أُمُّ سَلَمَة

7 **Zaynab bint Jahsh**
زَيْنَبُ بِنْتُ جَحْش

8 **Juwayriyah bint al-Harith**
جُوَيْرِيَةُ بِنْتُ الْحَارِث

9 **Umm Habibah**
أُمُّ حَبِيبَة

10 **Safiyyah bint Huyayy**
صَفِيَّةُ بِنْتُ حُيَيّ

11 **Maymunah bint al-Harith**
مَيْمُونَةُ بِنْتُ الْحَارِث

How to use this booklet. Read about one Mother of the Believers at a time. Each ends with a hadith or a dua connected to her and a lesson for our lives. When you mention them, say radiyAllahu 'anha: may Allah be pleased with her. Read it online at remindheart.com/mothers-of-the-believers.

1 Khadijah bint Khuwaylid

His first wife · The first to believe

خَدِيجَةَ بِنْتَ خُوَيْلِد



Khadijah was his first wife and the only one he married while she was alive. They were married for about twenty-five years, and all his children except Ibrahim were from her.

When the first revelation came, she comforted him, believed in him first of all, and took him to her cousin Waraqah. She supported him with her wealth and her love through the hardest years in Makkah. Allah sent her salam through Jibril, with the good news of a house of pearl in Paradise (Sahih al-Bukhari 3820).

> "By Allah, Allah will never disgrace you."
>
> **KHADIJAH, SAHIH AL-BUKHARI 3**

The lesson · Belief and loyalty in hard times are never forgotten.

2 Sawdah bint Zam'ah

The kind-hearted one

سَوْدَةُ بِنْتُ زَمْعَة



Sawdah was one of the early Muslims and had made the Hijrah to Abyssinia. After she was widowed, and after Khadijah passed away, the Prophet ﷺ married her in Makkah. She looked after his home and his young daughters.

She was known for her kindness and her sense of humour. When she grew older, she gave her day with the Prophet ﷺ to Aisha, wanting only to remain his wife (Sahih al-Bukhari 5212).

> Sawdah gave her day to Aisha, and the Prophet ﷺ gave Aisha her day and Sawdah's day.
>
> **SAHIH AL-BUKHARI 5212**

The lesson · Being generous with what we love is a sign of a big heart.

3 Aisha bint Abi Bakr

عَائِشَةُ بِنْتُ أَبِي بَكْر

The teacher of the ummah



Aisha was the daughter of Abu Bakr. When asked who was the most beloved of people to him, the Prophet ﷺ said: "Aisha" (Sahih al-Bukhari 3662). Revelation came to him while he was with her, which did not happen with any of his other wives (Sahih al-Bukhari 3775), and Jibril sent her his salam (Sahih al-Bukhari 3768).

When she was falsely accused, Allah Himself declared her innocence in ayat of Surah an-Nur that are recited until the end of time (an-Nur 24:11-26).

She was one of the greatest scholars of Islam, and narrated more than two thousand hadith. The senior Companions would come to her with their questions. The Prophet ﷺ passed away in her house, resting against her, and he is buried there (Sahih al-Bukhari 4449).

> "Aisha."
>
> **THE PROPHET ﷺ, WHEN ASKED WHO WAS MOST BELOVED TO HIM, SAHIH AL-BUKHARI 3662**

The lesson · Seek knowledge and share it. A single person who learns and teaches can benefit the whole ummah.

4 Hafsah bint Umar

حَفْصَةُ بِنْتُ عُمَر

The keeper of the Qur'an

Hafsah was the daughter of Umar ibn al-Khattab. Her first husband, Khunays, died after the battle of Badr (Sahih al-Bukhari 4005), and the Prophet ﷺ then married her.

She was known for her worship, her fasting and her prayer at night. After Abu Bakr had the Qur'an gathered into one collection, the pages were kept by Umar, and after him by Hafsah. It was from her copy that Uthman had the Qur'an written out and sent to the lands (Sahih al-Bukhari 4986).



> The collected pages of the Qur'an remained with Hafsah bint Umar.
> **SAHIH AL-BUKHARI 4986**

The lesson · Look after the Qur'an: read it, learn it and protect it.

---

5 Zaynab bint Khuzaymah

زَيْنَبُ بِنْتُ خُزَيْمَةَ

Umm al-Masakin, the mother of the poor

Zaynab was so generous to the poor and needy that she became known as Umm al-Masakin, the mother of the poor.

Her husband was martyred at Uhud, and the Prophet ﷺ married her afterwards. She passed away only a few months later, and she was the second of his wives, after Khadijah, to die during his lifetime.



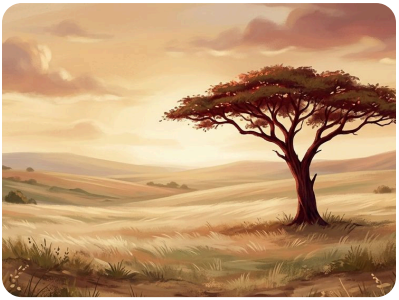
> She was known as Umm al-Masakin, the mother of the poor.
> **FROM THE BOOKS OF SEERAH**

The lesson · Feeding the hungry is one of the most beloved deeds to Allah.

6 Umm Salamah

The wise counsellor

أُمُّ سَلَمَة



Umm Salamah, whose name was Hind, made the Hijrah to Abyssinia and then to Madinah with her husband, Abu Salamah. When he died, she said the dua the Prophet ﷺ had taught for times of loss, asking Allah to replace it with something better. She thought: who could be better than Abu Salamah? Then the Prophet ﷺ asked to marry her (Sahih Muslim 918).

She was wise and calm. At Hudaybiyah, when the Companions were upset and did not obey the order to end their ihram, she advised the Prophet ﷺ to go out without saying anything, sacrifice his animal and shave his head. He did, and they all followed him (Sahih al-Bukhari 2731).

اللَّهُمَّ أْجُرْنِي فِي مُصِيبَتِي وَأَخْلِفْ لِي خَيْرًا مِنْهَا

"O Allah, reward me in my loss and replace it for me with something better."

SAHIH MUSLIM 918

The lesson · When you lose something, say this dua and trust Allah to give you better.

7 Zaynab bint Jahsh

Married by Allah above the seven heavens

زَيْنَبُ بِنْتُ جَحْش

Zaynab was the Prophet's ﷺ cousin. Her marriage to him was ordered by Allah in the Qur'an (al-Ahzab 33:37), and she would say to the other wives: "Your families married you off, but Allah married me from above the seven heavens" (Sahih al-Bukhari 7420).

She worked with her hands and gave what she earned in charity. The Prophet ﷺ once said that the first of his wives to join him would be the one with the longest hand. They measured their hands, but it was Zaynab who passed away first, and they

understood that "longest hand" meant the most charity (Sahih Muslim 2452).



> "The quickest of you to join me will be the one with the longest hand."
>
> **SAHIH MUSLIM 2452**

The lesson · Charity done quietly with your own hands has a special place with Allah.

8 Juwayriyah bint al-Harith

جُوَيْرِيَةُ بِنْتُ الْحَارِث

The most blessed for her people



Juwayriyah was the daughter of the chief of Banu al-Mustaliq, and she was taken captive after a battle. The Prophet ﷺ freed her and married her. When the Companions heard, they freed all the captives of her tribe, saying they were now the Prophet's ﷺ relatives. Aisha said she knew of no woman who was a greater blessing to her people (Sunan Abi Dawud 3931).

She spent long hours in dhikr. One morning the Prophet ﷺ left her sitting in her prayer place after Fajr and came back in the late morning to find her still there. He taught her a few words that outweigh everything she had said (Sahih Muslim 2726).

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَبِحَمْدِهِ عَدَدَ خَلْقِهِ وَرِضَا نَفْسِهِ وَزِنَةَ عَرْشِهِ وَمِدَادَ كَلِمَاتِهِ

"Glory and praise be to Allah, as many times as the number of His creation, as much as pleases Him, as heavy as His Throne, and as much as the ink of His words." Say it three times.

SAHIH MUSLIM 2726

The lesson · A few words of dhikr said with understanding can weigh more than hours of distraction.

9 Umm Habibah

The one who held firm far from home

أُمُّ حَبِيبَة



Umm Habibah, whose name was Ramlah, was the daughter of Abu Sufyan, the leader of Quraysh who fought against Islam for many years. She accepted Islam early and made the Hijrah to Abyssinia, where she stayed firm in her faith even when her husband left Islam.

The Prophet ﷺ married her while she was still in Abyssinia, and the Negus, the king, gave her mahr on his behalf (Sunan Abi Dawud 2107). She narrated the hadith that whoever prays twelve voluntary rak'ah every day and night, Allah builds for them a house in Paradise (Sahih Muslim 728).

> "Whoever prays twelve rak'ah in a day and night, a house will be built for him in Paradise."
>
> **SAHIH MUSLIM 728**

The lesson · Stay firm in your faith even when those around you leave it.

10 Safiyyah bint Huyayy

The daughter of Harun

صَفِيَّةُ بِنْتُ حُيَيّ



Safiyyah was the daughter of the chief of the Jewish tribe of Banu an-Nadir, from the family of the prophet Harun. She was taken captive at Khaybar. The Prophet ﷺ freed her and married her, and her freedom was her mahr (Sahih al-Bukhari 371).

Once, when she was upset because someone had spoken about her background, the Prophet ﷺ told her to answer: "My father is Harun, my uncle is Musa, and my husband is

Muhammad" (Jami at-Tirmidhi 3892). When she visited him while he was in i'tikaf, he walked her back to her house himself (Sahih al-Bukhari 2035).

> "My father is Harun, my uncle is Musa, and my husband is Muhammad."
> **JAMI AT-TIRMIDHI 3892**

The lesson · Never look down on anyone for where they come from. Honour comes from taqwa.

11 Maymunah bint al-Harith

مَيْمُونَةُ بِنْتُ الْحَارِث

The last of his marriages



Maymunah was the last woman the Prophet ﷺ married. The marriage took place at a place called Sarif, near Makkah, after the Umrah of 7 AH (Sahih Muslim 1411). She was the aunt of Abdullah ibn Abbas, who learned much from her.

She narrated many details of the Prophet's ﷺ life at home, including how he did ghusl (Sahih al-Bukhari 249). She passed away years later at Sarif, the same place where she had married him.

> Maymunah described the Prophet's ﷺ ghusl step by step, so the ummah could learn it.
> **SAHIH AL-BUKHARI 249**

The lesson · Small details matter. Passing on the sunnah, even in everyday things, is a great good.



"The Prophet is closer to the believers than their own selves, and his wives are their mothers."
Al-Ahzab 33:6

Free from **remindheart.com**. Please share it with anyone who would benefit. Hadith references follow sunnah.com. Details marked "from the books of seerah" come from the history books rather than hadith collections. The pictures show places and things, never people.