

## HAZRAT KHADIJA (R.A) AS A ROLE MODEL

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### **Abstract**

*Khadija bint Khuwaylid (RA) has been known as an important figure of Islam, herself being a strong, contributing, and devoted person in the early stages of Islam. Khadijah (R.A) was the first person to accept Islam, and as such extended emotional, financial and moral support to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) during the early stages of his prophethood. This article focuses on various aspects of Hazrat Khadija's (RA) life: her career, wife and help-meet and support for the early Muslim community during persecution. This woman's charity, her perseverance during difficult conditions, as well as, her commitment to the Islamic culture portray eternal values of power, valor, and governance. In this way, Hazrat Khadija (RA) also contributed to sustaining and growing the Islamic movement and provided as an example for women emancipation and representing them in the spheres of social, religious, and economical activities. Her legacy is still inspiring Muslims across the world and teaching them many lessons about the faith, humanity and the service to mankind. The purpose of this article is to show how Hazrat Khadija (RA) is an ideal women, who is worthy to become the role model for generations to come.*

**Keywords:** *Hazrat Khadija (R.A), Women in Islam, Islamic History, Female Empowerment, Role Model.*

### **Hazrat Khadija as a role model**

In the large history of Islam there are people whose good deeds linger on beyond the space and time continuum. One eminent virtuous personality of the early phase of Islam is Hazrat Khadija bint Khuwaylid (RA). She is revered not only as the first wife of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) but also as a strong supporter of Islam at the times when the religion was still being established. It is a perfect example of courage, wisdom, and dedication from her life. Being the first person to accept Islam and being one of the important women in the history of islam, Khadija's contribution is still regarded as the source of motivation for Muslims around the world. This article explores every aspect of her life and proves that she is a worthy example of an exemplary woman who can serve as an example to both men and women of all the generations.

### **1. Background and Early Life**

The blessed lady, Hazrat Khadija (RA) was born around 555 CE into the noble tribe of Banu Asad of the Quraysh tribe in Makkah. Her father, Khuwaylid ibn Asad, was a successful merchant and head of a tribe, her mother Fatima bint Za'ida came from noble lineage. Born and raised in Mecca, Khadija was surrounded by the world of trade that was connecting the two superpowers – Romans and Persians. Even though she never went to formal school, she was trained well, she had basic knowledge about business, relationships, and tribal bargaining.

Despite the low status of women of that time and age, Hazrat Khadija (RA) was not afraid to break those barriers. These included her intelligence, good speaking skills and the fact that she was very much a lady. She was chaste, and her moral character was impeccable, and therefore was nicknamed as Tahira, meaning the Pure One, and Ameerat Quraysh, meaning the Princess of Quraysh. Still, these titles pointed to her qualities and ethical reputation rather than being mere honors. She needs to find herself when grown up, but her teenage years were also the years of responsibilities as she takes up the leadership of the large business inherited from her deceased father. Nevertheless, her social status did not decrease after becoming a twice widowed, rather, her virtue, the management of her business, and the upbringing of her children were turning her status into a favorable entity within Meccan society. Such

commitments were evident as she pinned down her stomach condition as a deep character and spirit strength.

To extent of such significance of her early accomplishments we should consider more about socio-economic background of Mecca. In pre-Islamic Arabian society and especially the Makkah city, women were largely powerless, and most of the power and wealth belonged to male members of the tribes. However, Khadija (RA) did not only invest herself but was very successful in this commercial field. These women inherited their money, but it was not only that; they were also smart managers and Applicants who had the vision of sustaining and expanding the business. But this did not change her, her charitable character did not allow her to become distanced from those less privileged for the money she had. Lith, as presented by the historical and narrative sources, was reportedly a woman of benevolent nature and noble character. In Mecca, she undertook various charitable actions that included supporting the poor, widows and the children who had lost their parents. Muslim women's anti- oppression stance was apparent before she was Muslim. It became important when she later embraced prophetic mission of Muhammad (PBUH).

Furthermore, Hazrat Khadija (RA) was known for her wit and intelligence on the basis of which she was often consulted. She was equally praised for being just, sharp in discerning equity, and smart in the matters of the heart—features widely lacking in a tribal context disjointed by hasty impulsive and arrogance. Her counsel and strategic approach in managing social relations made her a powerful figure in both family and political affairs. She was regarded fair, courteous, and wise and balanced power with grace in her every endeavor. This was evidenced by a balance between privilege based on the comfort of her childhood and responsibility as a child who was expected to be productive based on the notions of historical ncultural child rearing. Khadija could not afford to be aloof and ignore the welfare of the less fortunate members of her society due to her wealth. She didn't use her influence in ways that benefited herself or pursued her self-serving interests but she gave to society and significantly helped many. Her house was called the refuge and shelter for everybody, especially such a traveler or a person who needs help. Therefore, it can be stated that Khadija (RA) was destined to be the remarkable figure she became in Islamic history through the environment into which she was born and raised. Her grounding in faith, intelligence, benevolence, and leadership shall play a significant role in helping the Prophet (PBUH) and the early Muslims.

## **2. As a Businesswoman**

Among all the roles played by Hazrat Khadija (RA), her achievements in the sphere of business must be numbered among the most significant. While women during that period were excluded from public and economic domains, Khadija (RA) defied all odds and became one of the wealthiest and respected businessmen of her time. Her entrepreneurial brains, sound investments, and ethical dealings in business made her an influential personality in trading markets of Mecca. She controlled caravans that operated for long distances reaching Yemen, Syria and Abyssinia trading goods like textiles, spices, perfumes and metals among others. She was particular when hiring agents and managers and conspicuously chose those who were credible and renowned for being correspondent and rational. Among them there was a young man named Muhammad ibn Abdullah (PBUH); he was characterized by his honesty which gained him the epithet "Al-Amin". It was trade caravan of Khadija (RA) and she entrusted it to him and it was heading towards Syria. Upon returning home with Maysarah, she narrated to her the miracle that was not only rich gains but also the excellent character, righteousness, and integrity, coupled with his staunch refusal to engage in corrupt practices. This particular meeting may be considered as a turning point in her life. Based on his ethical standards and business skills, Khadija (RA) asked her closest friend Nafisa to marry him. The basis for this partnership were respect and it would later form the basis of the

Islamic message. However, the capability of evaluating integrity in contrast to wealth or a position reflects her wisdom and prudence.

In many ways, the conduct of Khadija (RA) in her business was revolutionary. In that environment, nobody would tell the truth and everyone lived off others; she was different: she was honest. It is also reportedly that she paid her workers higher wages than what others in the same field was paying, provided safe working conditions and promoted ethical trading. However she preferred not to compromise on ethics and sticking to ethics alone as a business management principle was something that would later be the key to Islamic economics system. Keyoglu also created a kind of check and balance system informally. It was expected that her agents should feedback often and owing to her tight control over finances and business transactions, embezzlement was greatly reduced. This not only speaks volumes about her/BUT also about her character as a businesswoman and her thinking abilities that will be handy when managing big operations.

She does not resign herself financially independent woman at all yet she remain so humble. Khadija (RA), never publicize her wealth and did not let her affluence act as a barrier between herself and other people. Instead she used her wealth to the improvement of the society unlike other benefactors who used their wealth to pamper themselves. First and foremost, she empowered her community and tried to meet the needs of the less fortunate. Sacrifices and struggles of Hazrat Khadija (RA) are the key factors that shape a new understanding of an independent woman entrepreneur. She is a living proof that aim, success, business, and moral principles can be evenly accompanied by faith and kindness. The civilizing that Mrs. Naismith attained was not a result of a lucky chance; it was a result of using her wisdom, hard working and unyielding integrity.

### **3. Marriage to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)**

Al –Madinah As we see from the case of Khadija (RA) in the blessed Book, two lives were interwoven together and a covenant that would change the course of the destiny of Islam. Despite the fact that the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was twenty-five years old when the marriage happened, their relationship with them remained full of respect, admiration, and kind affection. The Prophet (PBUH) was employed as a merchant by Khadija (RA) and she noticed his trustworthy, righteousness and fairness. Pleased with his character, Khadija (RA) spoke to one of her close friend to give her information about him regarding marriage. When they were formally wed they got married in a small wedding which only closely acquainted people were invited. However, the kind of relationship that was established between the two was not one that was built on money or political influence but on vices, and the relation was vice-related. Hajizrat Khadija (RA) turned into not only a husband, but friend and comfort, support in his life.

Hazrat Khadija (RA) did not remarry during her marriage and her husband also saw her till the end of her life. So, they had a married life that they were enjoying for more than a quarter of a century. And, over the years, although the Prophet of Allah (PBUH) does not take any other wife during this period, he reminds her tenderly and loves her memory passionately. Basically, there is a hadith in Sahih Muslim that can be used as the evidence as mentioned above. A narrator says that “when the Prophet (PBUH) hears Khadija’s (RA) sister, Hala, the Prophet (PBUH) used to shout in desperation and say: “O Allah, it is Hala! This goes a long way to establish the height of their affection to each other. That is the only person he can replace and SE no he cannot forget his wife so soon after being married. The holy Prophet (PBUH) also had six children, Qasim, Zainab, Ruqayyah, Umm Kulthum, Fatimah (RA) and Abdullah. All the sons passed away in their childhood whereas the daughters were blessed to witness the initial efforts towards the emergence of Islam. In this case among them Fatimah (RA) would stand out to be one of the most beloved women in Islam. She got married to

Hazrat Ali (RA) and gave birth to Hasan (RA) and Husayn (RA). It was a tranquil and chaste atmosphere at home. Hazrat Khadija (RA) supported the Prophet (PBUH) in all aspects, including emotionally, spiritually and financially. And when, receiving the first revelation and after he had begun receiving the first revelation, he was seized, even as he who made the revelation to him was seized. The first revelation happened one too and when he returned home terrified and distraught, it was Khadija (RA) who said to him: 'Never!' By Allah, Allah will not betray you. Any Muslim who takes care of his relatives throughout his life is a manifested servant of Allah while one who feeds a poor person and offers him a place to rest will be provided shelter by God in the hereafter." (Sahih al-Bukhari, No. 3)

These words are not only the expression of her faith in the wisdom of Allah but also in caring and noble character of the Prophet (PBUH) as known to his wife. Slick as she was the first to believe in him as a prophet before the angel Jibreel visited him again. Her belief and complete faith made up the Prophet's morale and gave him the power to continue the divine revelation. Her marriage with the Prophet (PBUH) serves as a model for marital companionship in Islam. It includes learning about trust, obedience, and the values of harmony and bonding from an emotional and spiritual point of view. Their home also became the haven or the base of the growing Islamic call, which was protected by the strength of Khadija.

#### **4. First Believer and Supporter of Islam**

About the rank of Hazrat Khadija (RA) it can be mentioned to be the first ever individual to embrace Islam. It wasn't as though she needed convincing or proof; she was a true believer who possessed faith as a result of her inner disposition and faith in the Prophet (PBUH). For a woman in Mecca at a time when monotheism was quite shameful and revolutionary, challenging the polytheist community, Khadija's (RA) instant acceptance of the message signifies her bravery. When the Prophet (PBUH) was frightened and anxious after descending from the Cave of Hira when he received revelation from Sayyidina Jibreel (AS), it was Khadija (RA) who soothed and consoled him. Not only did she console him emotionally but also led him to her cousin Waraqah ibn Nawfal, a Christian monk who had knowledge of the previous scriptures. This revelation of the Prophet (PBUH) was convincing to Waraqah since it aligned with divine inspiration, thus strengthening Khadija's (RA) support. Here she was not a passive character; she was actively participating in the early Islamic movement.

Mu' still offered all her property, home and position for the promotion of the Prophet's mission. Finally she supported many of the early Islamic programs, among them the printing of messages and housing of new converts who were being targeted. Teaching about the worth of endurance, Khadija (RA) bore social persecution in the forms of disrespect and banishment. The people of Quraysh, who used to worship her and shower all their respect upon her, now rebelled against her. She stayed strong and did not falter in her belief. Its influence grew upon other companions of the Prophet including Abu Bakr (RA), Ali (RA), and Zayd ibn Harithah (RA). Another example is the remarkable nature of Aisha's staunch prayer which rose to become a source of support for the Prophet (PBUH) as well as the Muslims. Due to her faith and sacrifice, Allah sent his blessings to her through Angel Jibreel. There is also a hadith narrated by Aisha in Sahih al-Bukhari where the Angel said: "O Allah's Messenger! Khadija is coming with a dish of meat soup, food or drink. When she comes to you, say to her from her Lord and from me, greetings and peace; and let her into Paradise in which she shall have a house; no noise and no weariness there." (Sahih al-Bukhari, Hadith 3820). This is something quite unique as it clearly demonstrates her high rank in the sight of Allah and the angels.

#### **5. Support During Persecution**



Following the arrival of the Message of Islam to the community of Moslems, the Quraysh of Saad had a vehement animosity towards the early Muslims and stepped up the pressure on the community. The first group was persecuted, socially ostracized, physically assaulted, and in some cases, the economy of the country was boycotted. [11] There was someone during this period of oppression who defended the Prophet (PBUH) and the believers; her name was Khadija (RA). Muhammad (SAWA) : She stood by the Prophet and believers and reminded them of the faith and gave them strength. This showed generosity in the way she distributed much-needed wealth to the oppressed Muslims. She offered housing, food and any other basic necessities for the life of the Muslim converts who might have lost their sources of income upon embracing Islam. One of the best examples of this is during the three year social and economical boycott which was carried out by the Quraysh against the Banu Hashim clan of the Prophet (PBUH). They were confined into the small valley of Shi'b Abi Talib; they were prohibited from talking or buying and selling products from one another. This was the situation you would find the protagonists in, and they were also hungry and suffering. But Hazrat Khadija (RA) had her own set of problems namely.

She spared no effort to try to make sure that the Prophet (PBUH) his family and the Muslims would be starved to death. Her personal sacrifices were surrendering possessions, a lot of which, having to sell, convincing others to stay intact and optimistic. This was not a silent suffering; she was an influential spirit that reassured the troubled souls of Shi'b Abi Talib. As she was also the mother of believers the Muslim community especially the women and children were able to receive the kind gesture that was being offered. Such sacrifices of Hazrat Khadija (RA) during this boycott are still recalled as a true act of devotion in the way of Allah Almighty. She brought to fame the name that symbolized strength, loyalty, and selflessness. This attitude clearly depicts the ten of patience (sabr) and reliance (tawakkul) in Allah. Despite this, she did not wane in her faith, encouraged others and provided both encouragement and provisions for the Prophet (PBUH) at the worst of times. Such actions at that time prove her to be a brave woman who was the driving force behind the early movement in Islam. This quote can be summarized as to say that when people were disbelieving in me, she was believing in me. She believed in me when all other people accused me of lying to them. She propagated me with her wealth when the rest used to disdain; and Allah gave me progeny through her while he left me barren with others. ” (Musnad Ahmad, Hadith 2669) On the time of oppression and injustice she was a determined woman.

## 6. Her Death and Its Impact

Amongst all the incidents that ever happened in the life of the Holy Prophet, the death of Hazrat Khadija (RA) in the tenth year of his prophethood was one of the saddest. She died shortly after the end of the boycott which was in the same year in which he also lost his dear uncle and father figure, Abu Talib. These two losses greatly impacted him and the year came to be referred to as “Aam al-Huzn” – the year of sorrow. During her lifetime the Prophet (PBUH) had a lot of concern for her. For more than a quarter of a century Khadija (RA) has been his most ardent advocate, counselor, and beloved wife. He never got involved with another woman while the woman was alive, and after she died he maintained a great love for her memory. In another Tradition of Sahih Muslim it has been reported that whenever the Prophet (PBUH) slaughtered a sheep, he used to share a portion with the friends of Khadija (RA), as a sign of respect because of his love for Khadija (RA). (Sahih Muslim, Hadith 2435)

Thus, Aisha (RA) commented on the Prophet's affection for Khadija (RA), saying, “Never did I see the Prophet as fond of any woman after Khadija as I saw him; telling me about her even though she died before the Prophet married Aisha.” (Sahih al-Bukhari 3816). This loss was a heavy blow in many ways and particularly dealt a severe psychological and religious

blow on the life of the Prophet (PBUH). He has always been tearful and full of gratitude when he talked about her. Her loss was not only personally painful for the Prophet (PBUH) but for the Muslims in general. She was the financial backbone, bigger support group and guide throughout the inception of Islamic revelation point. Hazrat Khadija (RA) left her influence on the time she had lived in and the time that followed. It remains significant that her death seems to mark beginnings, new opportunities for the expansion of the Prophet's mission. It is for this reason that the Prophet (PBUH) decided to embark on a journey to Ta'if and had the Isra and Mi'raj, both of which were vraminent significant in the advancement of his mission. The subject of this article was singularly, and inextricably tied to the emergence of early Islamic civilization.

### **7. Legacy in Islamic Thought**

Thus, the tradition of Hazrat Khadija (RA) is alive in Islam today in teaching, history, and philosophy. As the first Muslim and the most supportive to the Prophet (PBUH), her position is unrivaled in the Islamic world. They have named her one of the four perfectly chaste women of the world, together with Mary the daughter of 'Imran (Maryam), Asiyah and Fatimah. The messenger of Allah (PBUH) declared, 'The women of her time was none better than Maryam daughter of Imran and the best of women of her time was Khadija 'Amna bint Khuwaylid.' The life of Hazrat Khadija (RA) has become symbolic today of empowered woman in Islam. Proverbs 31 describes her as an accomplished businesswoman, a wise counselor, and a woman with courage to overcome all forms of hardship. She proved that Islamic values from the onset regard women as strong and capable individuals. This indicates that Islam never restricted the business of women because prior to embracing Islam, she was already in the business. In her relationship with the Prophet (PBUH) women can see the example of a special respect, companionship, and love in marriage.

In Islamic spirituality, she has been deified as a woman of adjectives such as Taqwa which refers to being conscious of God, Iman, which is faith, Ihsan which is divine chastity. In mosques and homes, in books and discussions, Aishah is remembered and praised for her modesty, her charity, and her always being steadfast for her religion. Modern scholars and preachers have used her story to educate people with sermon of what a believer who stands for truth at all times. God continues to use her story as an inspiration to believers in today's society. For the women who encounter difficulties embracing faith, managing social issues or struggling in their lives, she will inspire and promote righteousness. To husbands, her story assists in changing perception on partnership, trust, and loyalty in marriage to a man. The show portrays Aisha as a lover and follower of the Prophet (PBUH), thus encouraging various believers to build faithful and reciprocal unions. Khadija was the first woman to embrace Islam and become a Muslim, which also means that the birthplace of Islam was in her house. It swaddled Fatimah (RA) and in her heart, it sheltered the Prophet (PBUH). In her, the ray of light was sown to bust the darkness of the world.

### **8. Hazrat Khadija (RA) and the Social Status of Women in Pre-Islamic Arabia**

The position of women in pre-Islamic Arabia was relatively very pathetic due to the fact that they were treated as subordinate citizens. Women lacked many freedoms in different aspects of their lives, and mainly they were viewed as the property of men. They were denied their right to inheritance, they had no say in the society, and most of the time they were denied control over their own bodies. Infant exposure, especially of female infants, was also a common practice during this time and this is a clear indicator of the poor status of women during that era. However, amidst this cut throat, non-acceptance of women, Hazrat Khadija RA is a symbol of independency, dignity and success. The women of this era were seen as passive beings who could not actively participate in society; however, Khadija (RA) was one of such women who proved all the nay-sayers wrong. Her position was prominent one, she

was a businesswoman, a leader of her community and a woman of high status. She is noble and wise and she contributed a lot in breaking the traditional stereotype that women should not take any active part in the economy through exclusion of roles such as begging and dependency. Financial independence is another interesting aspect of Morrie's character. During the period when women had no place outside their homes, Khadija (RA) was not only leading a huge business empire but also used to travel and conduct business along with trade caravans. It was more astonishing that she gained much respect for her business prowess considering the social status that women had during that time. Not only did it exemplify her empowered spirit but also inspire women and let them know that they too could succeed in a society ruled by men. More so, marrying Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), a younger man, a widower was another blow to the culture of the society. Khadija (RA) was financially independent while the Prophet (PBUH) was still unknown to many people. This love that has sprouted from mutual understanding and respect was a testament to the fact that is true love is aligned to faith, trust, and trust and is not dictated by the status or financial power.

She is an example of a life where Islam brought feminism in the early society by empowering women through leadership, agency and esteem. Edith Clarke demonstrated that a woman could work and be successful in business, manage a home and children, and belong to a society as a dignified woman as well as be a pious Christian.

### **9. The Spiritual Role of Hazrat Khadija (RA) in the Prophet's Life**

Without hazrat khadija (RA) in his spirituality, the Prophets life would have been incomplete as she served as the backbone of his entire life. At the onset when the Prophet (PBUH) was receiving the first revelation, he was still confused as to what had happened to him. The angel Jibreel (AS) had visited him in the cave of Hira, and ordered him saying, "Read!" or "Recite!" This evidently touched the Prophet (PBUH) deeply; as soon as he returned home, he was almost emaciated by the strangeness of the encounter. Just as usual, it was Hazrat Khadija (RA) who consoled him in this hour of intense sorrow. She pacified him of his high esteem that she had and assured him of his generosity to the poor, his honesty, and his ethical standards. Khadija (RA) believed the message immediately because she was a wise woman and very faithful to her husband. She believed in him, and her immediate faith in his message also paved way for the supports she offered to the Prophet (PBUH) as and when they were needed in the initial years of Islam.

Following the first experience, Khadija (RA) presented the Prophet (PBUH) to her cousin, Waraqah ibn Nawfal, who was a Christian Scholar. Waraqah told him that he was indeed chosen to receive revelations from God and that he would undergo a number of hardships in the near future. The same was the start of the mission of the holy Prophet of Islam and Hazrat Khadija (RA) was the first follower and hence the title 'the first believer' was apt for her. She stood very firmly and was more than just an emotional support during the early years with revelation about the filmmaking process. At the time when the people laughed at the Prophet (PBUH) and did not believe in him, it was Khadija (RA) who supported him, strengthening him in his mission. The message that she received, she did not just accept it but live it. Being a woman, her contribution was not confined to the capacity, but she was also a believer in him which made her an essential component of the Prophet (PBUH). It is exactly her beliefs that steeled him to carry on his mission with more intensity as he anticipated hardships in his endeavours.

This time it was Hazrat Khadija (RA) who consoled him during this trial. She also tried to comfort him, to remind him of the fact that he has a high social standing and he had never cheated anyone, not even the poor men, was honest and had never been cheating anyone. Khadija (RA) knew that the message was true and this was due to her being wise and fully supporting her husband. Her inputs were tremendous, and her quick belief in the message

prepared her for being a strong support base for what the Prophet (PBUH) needed when he began the early preaching of Islam. Following the first dream, Khadija (RA) brought the Prophet (PBUH) to her cousin, Waraqah ibn Nawfal, who was a Christian scholar. Waraqah also told the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) that he indeed received the revelation and he would have many tribulations in his life. With the help of Allah, this was the time when the Prophet began his mission, and in return, Hazrat Khadija (RA) remains the first commemorated as a believer.

Her support during the initial years of revelation was not only support but spiritual support too. Khadija (RA) on the other hand never laughed at the Prophet (PBUH), but instead supported him and gave him courage and belief on those who were disrespecting him. Most importantly, she did not merely receive the message but lived it to the fullest. The support she gave was not only financial and materialistic aspect, but her faith in him thus making her a very important figure in the life of the Prophet (PBUH). With this conviction instilled in her early, she ensured that he persevered through all the challenges that come with the mission.

It was that Hazrat Khadija (RA) not only remained a supportive wife but also a motherly figure who helped in the moulding of the next generation of leadership of Islam. Of her six children, most of them died either in infancy or during early childhood. Of her children, Fatima (RA) is well-known among all Islamic history. Playing a very critical role in that history. Fatima (RA) later on married Ali ibn abi talib (RA) and their children Hassan and Hussain (AS) played vital role in the early Islamic history with special reference to leadership and martyrdom.

Like any other mother in any society, mothers play a significant role in ensuring that their children are instilled with specific values of the society; similarly, Khadija (RA)'s maternal role was crucial for her children. However, such positive role models were observed; for instance, Fatima (RA) admired her mother's personality and characteristics such as strength, determination, and religious adherence. Hazrat Khadija (RA) was a role model for her daughter in every way she taught Fatima (RA) to be a woman of piety, strength and independence. The Code of Hammurabi and legalistic worldview: the principles of justice, compassion, and the service to the greater good formed the basis of Fatima's (RA) upbringing and therefore, she epitomizes the ideal Muslim woman of the Islamic tradition. She raised Fatima (RA) differently from her other children; most of whom did not survive childhood. The bond between a mother and her daughter was established on faith and love for the Prophet (PBUH) and passion for spreading Islam. In any case, Fatima (RA)'s life and leadership followed in the footsteps of her mother, which made her a role model of Islamic womanhood. Also, the role of the mother of Hazrat Khadija (RA) was not only to feed or to look after her children, it included, to train them to be strong Islamic individuals. In her, the audience witnesses that, in Islam, being a mother means not only nurturing children but also inspiring faith and character in leaders of the Muslim communities.

#### **10. Hazrat Khadija (RA)'s Influence on the Companions of the Prophet (PBUH)**

Despite the fact that Hazrat Khadija (RA) died earlier in the Islamic history, she left an indelible mark on companions of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). It can be suggested that her contributions to Islam are even greater beyond her actual actions throughout her lifetime; she influenced the lives of the early Muslims, specifically the women in the community. Among the best characters that Khadija (RA) taught all the companions with her actions were sacrifice. Her loyalty to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) exhibited a greatness for the then and coming generations to emulate. Women in particular benefited from her determination during early Islam where the fold was being persecuted. Khadija (RA) was one of the first converts to Islam and was a loyal supporter of the Prophet (PBUH). It was not only financial support that she offered but also moral and even spiritual support. Some of these earliest



Muslims regarded her as one embodiment of how a Muslim woman could be religious and humane as well as strong and brave.

Moreover, the initial support came from the financial aspect of Hazrat Khadija (RA) in helping the early Muslim community. The Prophet (PBUH) remained loyal to Aisha until her death, and companions who lived during that period regard her as one of the virtuous women who did not harm Islam. It was a tradition through which each time gifts were brought to the Prophet (PBUH), he would take some and distribute them among the friends and relatives of Khadija (RA), this is evident that her legacy lingers on till today. It was also evident in the management and leadership skills that she imparted on the Prophet's (PBUH) followers. She was able to prove that leadership was not meant only for men and women could also participate in leadership in the society and history of Islam. The companions of the Prophet (PBUH) respected her a lot, and her virtue was an example imbibed by her successors even after her death.

### Conclusion

Thus, Hazrat Khadija (RA) is one of the most remarkable figures in the history of Islam as she is an organizer and the first patron of the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as well as a constructive figure in the spheres of the life. She came out as a thriving businesswoman, a caring wife and a kind-hearted philanthropist who was worthy of emulation by every male or female person.

If her life is studied, then one would understand faith, perseverance and sacrifice vital to lead the righteous life. It is in the light of this fact that Hazrat Khadija's support during the early years of Islam especially when the mission was facing numerous problems is a very important part of the history of Islam. She was the most loyal wife to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and through her charity she helped the early Muslim community when it faced moments of extreme oppression. From this example, we learn about the virtue of firm belief, supporting people in difficult situations, and devotion to the noble cause as well as with the selfless character of Hazrat Khadija (RA). Her life offers lessons for every single person who seeks to live a life that is fruitful, meaningful, and built upon righteous principles. Prophet Muhammad (SAW) was fortunate to have Hazrat Khadija (RA) as his first wife, a wise business woman far from being a docile housewife, she had qualities of a leader and contributed immensely to the early expansion of Islam.

Up to the present, her story remains a beacon of light to many people, giving them strength to be steadfast to their principles, fight bravely and wisely, and live purposefully in order to help others. Her legacy will remain immortal and extinguishing prejudice, hatred, and self-interest as a recipe for success in life and pursuing greatness no matter the adversities one might experience.

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