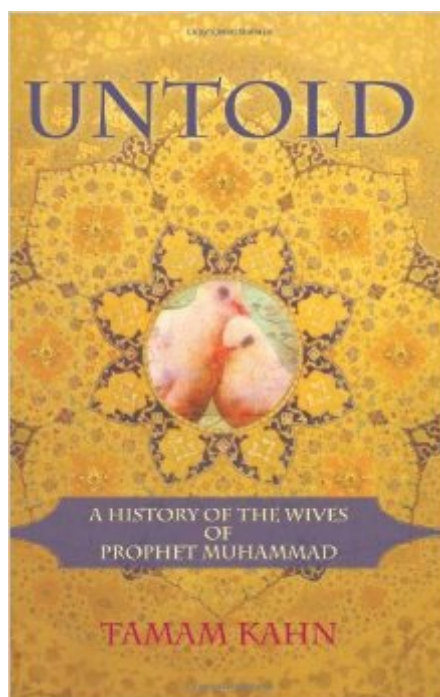


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Untold: A History Of The Wives Of Prophet Muhammad



Synopsis

"Finally, we get to meet the first women of Islam. Thank you for this brave book." –Coleman Barks, author of *Essential Rumi*, and other books on the great Persian Language poet
"Brilliant and illuminating . . . awesome in the depth of its research, the grace of its prose, and the beauty of its poetic voices." Alicia Ostriker, author, poet, and Professor Emerita of English at Rutgers University
"Poet, historian and mystic, Tamam Kahn captures the voices and hearts of women you will never forget. I would gladly sit at these women's feet night after night to hear their stories. "
-Elizabeth Cunningham, author of *The Maeve Chronicles*
Untold demystifies the most influential women at the dawn of Islam: Prophet Muhammad's wives. They are presented in all their variety, among them, Khadija, a successful merchant and his only wife for twenty-five years; Umm Salama, who helped forge an important peace treaty; Rayhana and Safiyya, two Jewish captives; and there are others. This unusual book combines short biographies with meticulous research. The reader enters seventh century Arab culture and the first moments of what came to be a new religion. This book is powerful women's storytelling.

Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Monkfish Book Publishing (August 31, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0982324650

ISBN-13: 978-0982324653

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.6 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars – See all reviews (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #102,139 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam > Muhammed #28 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam > Women in Islam #83 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam > History

Customer Reviews

Untold: A History of the Wives of the Prophet Muhammad by Tamam Kahn
I opened Tamam Kahn's new book, *Untold*, with much anticipation. As I have been studying and practicing Islam for many years now I have read some accounts of the wives of the prophet Muhammad (saw). But these have always concentrated on Khadija (ra) and Aisha (ra), and usually as part of various biographies of Rasul Allah (saw), not standing on their own. So I eagerly awaited a copy of this book to learn

and gain insight into the women who were closest to him (saw), indeed the only people who were most aware of the intimate details of his life. Who were they? What did they think? What influence might they have had on the day-to-day life which we follow so rigorously from the Hadith? What were they and he (saw) like as people? What I found did not disappoint me. Kahn has created a rich story of these women. This is not to say that all my questions were answered, but that the book brings you into the lives of each of these women in a way that connects with them in the heart. As I read I realized that Kahn has, in this book, created a space where the women can speak for themselves. I felt more and more that I was looking into their lives through Kahn's own heart felt connection with them. The vehicle for this kind of connection is the mix of prose and poetry that is used in the book. Where biographical accounts are given, they are given in prose. This adds to the authenticity and scholarship. Where Kahn is speculating on the emotive presence of the wives she turns to poetry in order to delve deeply into the heart. This method gives life to the intuitive creativity that carries so much of what is truly unique and worthy in these accounts.

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