



## THE FOUNDER

Nazma Khan came to America from Bangladesh at the tender age of eleven where she found herself being the only *Hijabi* in middle school. She remembers her experience as a difficult one. "Growing up in the Bronx, in NYC, I experienced a great deal of discrimination due to my *Hijab*, 'she reflects. 'In middle school, I was 'Batman' or 'ninja'. When I entered University after 9/11, I was called Osama bin Laden or terrorist. It was awful. I figured the only way to end discrimination is if we ask our fellow Sisters to experience *Hijab* themselves."

## SUPPORTERS OF WHD

"World Hijab Day is not an act of worship but rather an effective way to create global awareness of the issue that is being attacked unfairly. It has achieved some great success already. Alhamdulillah (all praise is due to God)"  
-*Mufti Menk* (Scholar/Speaker)

"World *Hijab* Day was the encouragement I needed to wear *Hijab*. By next World *Hijab* Day, I will be proud to say that I have been a *Hijabi* for a year, God willing."  
[*Natasha, WHD Participant*]

"It's commonly believed that wearing a veil is a form of sexual discrimination. I didn't find it to be so. To my surprise, the veil was strangely liberating, an unapologetic form of self-expression."  
[*Joe Galvez, Catholic*]



## WORLD HIJAB DAY

FEBRUARY 1ST

*"An open invitation to both Muslims and non-Muslims to don the Hijab for a day. Better Awareness. Greater Understanding. Peaceful World."*



/WorldHijabDay  
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## WHY HIJAB?

"The word "*Hijab*" comes from the Arabic "hajaba," which means to conceal or hide from view. In general terms, it refers to Islamic modest dressing for women. First, a woman's body should be covered such that only her face, hands, and feet are revealed. Secondly, the clothing must be loose enough so that the shape of a woman's body is not visible.....*Hijab* is constant and marks a woman as a Muslim." [Beliefnet.com]

*"Say to the believing women that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty; and that they should not display their beauty and ornaments except what must ordinarily appear thereof; that they should draw their veils over their bosoms..."*  
[Quran 24:31]

## WHAT IS WORLD HIJAB DAY?

February 1st, 2013, marked the first annual *World Hijab Day* in recognition of millions of Muslim women who choose to wear the *Hijab* and live a life of modesty. The brainchild of this movement was a New York resident, Nazma Khan, who came up with the idea as a means to foster religious tolerance and understanding by inviting women (non-*Hijabi* Muslims/non-Muslims) to experience the *Hijab* for one day. For many people, the *Hijab* is a symbol of oppression and segregation. By opening up new pathways to understanding, Nazma hopes counteract some of the controversies surrounding why Muslim women choose to wear the *Hijab*. The whole movement was organized solely using social networking sites. It has attracted interest from Muslims and non-Muslims in more than 100 countries worldwide. Their literature has been translated now in 40 languages.

## 10 FACTS ABOUT WHD

1. 67 countries participated in the first WHD.
2. WHD posters have been translated in 40+ languages.
3. Jewish, Christians, Pagans, Atheists, Wiccans, Rastafarians, Mormons, Buddhist and many more participated in 1st WHD.
4. Press coverage : BBC, Al-Jazeera, Huffington post, etc.
5. The founder of WHD is a New Yorker .
6. WHD committee members are from different parts of the world.
7. 100+ different countries will participate in WHD 2014 .
8. There are 50+ WHD ambassadors worldwide .
9. WHD President & VP are best friends. :)
10. WHD was a dream for 3 years before it was a global movement.