The Secret Meaning of the Hijab

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**Research Questions**

Why do Muslim Women wear the Niqab/Hijab and what is necessary to every kind of Muslim women’s clothing no matter what country it’s from?

**Background**

The Main Clothing Worn by Muslim Women

- Hijab – To cover up and to screen; this head covering helps maintain their modest lifestyle in which they choose to live.

- Burqa/ Niqab – loose clothing worn by the Muslim women to cover up their bodies and also the veil/ headscarf wore by Muslim women to cover up their faces.

**The purpose of the Hijab**

- The Quran: “Say to the believing women that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty; that they should not display their beauty and ornaments except what must ordinarily appear thereof.” [Quran: 24:31]. In other words the clothing must cover the entire body. Only the hands and face may remain visible in public or around men. In other words the Muslim culture wants the women to dress modestly to maintain the modest lifestyle of the Muslim culture.

- The main purpose of the Burqa/Niqab is for the Muslim culture to maintain a modest lifestyle. The Burqa/Niqab eliminates lustful gazes from men. This stops men from viewing women as sexual objects.

**Conclusions**

The hijab is not only a veil or a headscarf; it’s the Muslim culture’s way of life. The burqa/niqab is the actual clothing worn by the Muslim women that covers their bodies and the veil that covers their face. This is an important factor to the Muslim culture because it helps them live up to the hijab. Wearing the burqa/niqab helps both men and women in Muslim culture not to violate their moral boundaries.

![A Niqab](http://www.ummah.com/forum/showthread.php?317531-Niqab-Fard-or-not)

We will gain greater understanding and respect for Muslim American women and for other diverse cultures as well, if we research their customs and educate ourselves on that matter.