

Key Musawah Publications and Projects (March 2020)

Knowledge Building

- *Who Provides? Who Cares? Changing Dynamics in Muslim Families* in English and Arabic (2018). This thematic paper examines economic and parental rights and responsibilities in Muslim families using the holistic Musawah approach, which integrates Islamic teachings, international human rights principles, national guarantees of equality, and realities of women's and men's lives today. It argues that states, the private sector, communities and NGOs, faith-based leaders, and individuals and families should work to reform Muslim family laws and reshape family relationships in a way that is true to the Qur'anic ethos and reflects the needs and realities of today's societies. The *Wheel of Healthy Muslim Families* also was derived from the key recommendations to families and individuals in order to facilitate transformation in marital relationships. It is illustrated as a positive version of the Wheel of Power and Control that is used in spaces to combat violence against women.
- *Musawah Knowledge Building Briefs*, a series that promotes the use of a new egalitarian language, provides arguments for advocacy, and conveys key ideas and concepts related to Muslim legal tradition in a simple and appealing way.
 - Issue 1:** *Shari'ah, Fiqh and State Laws* in Arabic, English, French (2016)
 - Issue 2:** *Muslim Family Laws: What Makes Reform Possible?* in Arabic, English, French (2016)
 - Issue 3:** *Islam and the Question of Gender Equality* in Arabic, English, French (2017)
 - Issue 4:** *CEDAW and Muslim Family Laws* in Arabic, English, French (2017)
- *Musawah Knowledge Building Videos*, a series of short videos derived from the Knowledge Building Briefs outlining key concepts related to Muslim legal tradition and women's rights in multimedia format.
 - Video 1:** *Shari'ah, Fiqh and State Laws* in English, with Arabic and French subtitles, and dubbing in Dhivehi.
 - Video 2:** *Muslim Family Laws: What Makes Reform Possible?*, with Arabic and French subtitles, and dubbing in Dhivehi.
- *Musawah Vision for the Family*, in English, Arabic and French (2016), proposes a model of Muslim family relations that upholds equality and justice for all family members and promotes the well-being of families and society. The document outlines how and why we must rethink notions of male authority and guardianship (*qiwamah* and *wilayah*) over women on the basis of Qur'anic values, Muslim legal tradition, human rights principles, and the lived realities of women and men.
- *Men in Charge? Rethinking Authority in Muslim Legal Tradition* (edited by Ziba Mir-Hosseini, Mulki Al-Sharmani, and Jana Rumminger), in English (Oneworld, 2015) and Arabic (2017). This is a collection of ten papers that critically engage with and challenge the assumption of male authority over women within Muslim legal tradition.
- *Women's Stories, Women's Lives: Male Authority in Muslim Contexts* (2016), in Arabic (2017), a global report with stories and findings from the *Global Life Stories Project*, in which teams from nine countries (Bangladesh, Canada, Egypt, Gambia, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, and the United Kingdom) documented women's life stories to better understand their experiences with *qiwamah* and *wilayah*. The Project and some initial findings were also summarised in a chapter in *Men in Charge?*
- *Compilation of Resources Related to Women's Rights in Muslim Family Laws* (2016), in English, outlines and brings together resources from the four corners of Musawah's holistic framework –

Islamic teachings, universal human rights, national and constitutional guarantees of equality and the lived realities of women and men – broken down according to specific topics related to women’s rights in Muslim family laws.

- *Musawah Framework for Action* (2009), in English, Arabic, French, Farsi, and Bahasa Malaysia. This paper provides the conceptual framework for Musawah, demonstrating that equality in the family is necessary and possible through a holistic approach that brings together Islamic teachings, universal human rights principles, fundamental rights and constitutional guarantees, and the lived realities of women and men today.
- *Wanted: Equality and Justice in the Muslim Family* (edited by Zainah Anwar), in English, Arabic, and French (2009). This is a set of theoretical papers that seek to understand the genesis of Muslim family law, how it was constructed within the classical *fiqh* tradition, and how the wealth of resources within *fiqh* and Qur’anic verses on justice, compassion, and equality can support reform towards more egalitarian family relationships.
- *Home Truths: A Global Report on Equality in the Muslim Family* (2009), in English and Arabic. This report, based on information provided by national groups, shows why equality in Muslim family laws is necessary and why it is possible in 30 countries.
- Various individual press articles and academic talks/articles on Musawah and topics such as Muslim family laws, *qiwamah* and *wilayah*, etc., including ‘Decoding the “DNA of Patriarchy” in Muslim family laws’, ‘Men in charge? Rethinking authority in Muslim legal tradition’, and ‘Global life stories: Capturing Muslim women’s lived realities’, all published on openDemocracy.

Capacity Building

- *Seven-day curriculum on Islam, Gender Equality & Justice* (I-nGEJ), adaptable for national, regional, and international levels, which has repeatedly been called transformative and life-changing by participants of the course.

International Advocacy

- *Comparative Legal Review of the Impact of Muslim Family Laws on Women Across Commonwealth Asia and Africa* (2019). This report provides a detailed analysis of 12 principal areas of concern relating to marriage and family matters in 10 Commonwealth countries where Muslim women and girls suffer discrimination under current Muslim family laws: Bangladesh, Brunei, India, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Singapore, South Africa, and Sri Lanka. The report discusses the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in urging legal reform of discriminatory religious and personal laws; highlights the critical legal advocacy work of domestic women’s rights organisations across the 10 countries; analyses steps taken by governments to reform and/or overcome resistance to legislative change; and concludes with a series of recommendations for reform.
- Mapping of Muslim Family Laws globally (2016–ongoing): *Country Overview tables for 31 countries* and *Positive Developments Table* in both English and Arabic. These tables contain information outlining the legislative frameworks, available case law, policies, procedures and practices in 31 countries on 12 principal issues of concern.
- *CEDAW and Muslim Family Laws: In Search of Common Ground* (2011), in English and Arabic. This report outlines the arguments related to Islam made by 44 OIC countries in their CEDAW reporting documents and constructive dialogues with the CEDAW Committee and Musawah’s responses based on our Framework for Action.
- *CEDAW Thematic Reports and Oral Statements* (ongoing) on various countries reporting to the CEDAW Committee October 2011–February 2020, including Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, the Gambia, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia,

Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, [Turkey](#) and [United Arab Emirates](#). [Note: Please see the [website](#) for a full listing and links to oral statements for those countries.] These reports and statements, which were prepared in consultation with NGOs and activists from the reporting countries, have been raised by the Committee members during constructive dialogues with States parties and in CEDAW Concluding Observations.

- [Musawah Submission to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Protection of the Family](#) (October 2015).
- [Musawah Statement on the annual UN International Day of Families](#) (May 2015).
- [Musawah Oral Statement to the UN Working Group on Discrimination against Women in Law and in Practice](#) (January 2014).
- [Musawah Statement to the OHCHR on Child, Early and Forced Marriage](#) (December 2013).
- Active participation in CEDAW Committee meetings, Commission on the Status of Women sessions, and other international advocacy events.

Communications

- Musawah website in [English](#) and [Arabic](#).
- Active [Facebook newsfeed](#), [Twitter account](#), and [YouTube channel](#); and a brand-new [Instagram account](#).
- Global Meeting for Equality and Justice in the Muslim Family (13–17 February 2009), Summary of Proceedings in [English](#), [Arabic](#), and [French](#). Approximately 250 activists, scholars, academics, legal practitioners, and policy makers from 47 countries attended the meeting.
- [Musawah opening video](#) (2009)
- [Musawah Toolkit for Advocates: Sharing the Musawah Framework and Key Messages](#) (2013). This toolkit, which introduces key elements in the Musawah Framework for Action and key messages, is a tool for building knowledge and mobilising for equality in the family.
- [Musawah Vision](#), newsletter for the Musawah community (27 issues as of December 2019).
- [Musawah Strategic Direction: Setting the Foundations for a Dynamic Movement](#) (2012). This report outlines Musawah's short- and longer-term strategy in its key areas of work.
- [Tribute to Fatima Mernissi](#) (8 March 2016).