

SAMINA ALI

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I'VE COME TO REALIZE THAT MUSLIM WOMEN ARE AN UNSUNG, SECRET RESOURCE IN WHAT YOU MIGHT TERM A GLOBAL JIHAD FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE.

-SAMINA ALI

AMERICAN MUSLIM AUTHOR AND GENDER ACTIVIST

Samina Ali is an award-winning author, activist and cultural commentator. Her debut novel, *Madras on Rainy Days*, won France's prestigious **Prix Premier Roman Etranger Award** and was a finalist for the **PEN/Hemingway Award in Fiction**. Ali's work is driven by her belief in personal narrative as a force for achieving women's individual and political freedom and in harnessing the power of media for social transformation. She is the curator of the groundbreaking, critically acclaimed virtual exhibition, **Muslima: Muslim Women's Art & Voices**.

Her current project, a memoir of her near-death experience delivering her firstborn, takes an unsparing look at gender bias and the crisis of **preventable maternal deaths** in the U.S.

A former cultural ambassador for the **U.S. State Department** and a regular contributor to *The Huffington Post* and *Daily Beast*, Ali has spoken extensively at universities and other institutions worldwide. Her work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Economist*, *The Guardian*, *Vogue*, National Public Radio (NPR) and elsewhere. She lives in California with her family.

Speaking Topics

- Muslim Women and Feminism: From Stereotypes to Diverse Realities
- What does the Quran really say about a Muslim woman's hijab?
- Reclaiming What's Mine: A Muslim Woman's Journey
- Motivational: A Writer With No Words

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