

GLOSSARY OF SOME MUSLIM TERMS

To examine the problems and prospects of Muslim women's education from a broader perspective we have discussed their ideological issues, which includes the following Muslim terms:

Burkha: Loose garment of usually black or white colour covering the entire body with veiled, opening of the eyes, worn by Muslim Women. Though the use of Burkha is very uncommon among the Muslim women of West Bengal it is very much prominent among the Muslim women in Bangladesh.

Darga: Graveyards of Muslim priests and Pirs.

Hadith: Recorded traditions of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) i.e. his sayings, works and approvals.

Hijri: The Prophet's journey from Mecca to Medina. The Muslim era dates from this year i.e. 622 A.D.

Kaba: The sacred house in Mecca around which there are pilgrims for performing Haj.

Kolema: A pillar of Islam that proclaims Allah is the only one Lord of the whole universe and Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) as His last Prophet.

Madrasha: Educational institution that mainly deals with Islamic tradition and its ideology.

Mehr: Dower promised by the groom to his bride at the time of marriage.

Muharram: First month of the Muslim calendar. A religious festival is also held on this month to commemorate the martyrdom Of Hassan and Hussain—the sons of Hazrat Ali (R).

Mullah/Mouluvi: In real sense Mullah or Mouluvi refers those Muslim priests and teachers who have sufficient erudition in Islamic ideology and jurisprudence. But practically the persons having very little learning in Islamic tradition are included in this category.

Namaj: The Islamic form of prayer or worship.

Purdah: Seclusion or veiling of women.

Pir: Muslim Saint also called as Sufi.

PBUH: It stands for 'Peace Be Upon Him'. It is mandatory for every Muslim to use these words after uttering or writing the name of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH).

Quran: The Holy Book that has been sent by Allah through Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) as the complete code of life for mankind.

Ramadan: Ninth months of Islamic calendar. Considered as the month of daily fasting. In this month the Holy Quran was revealed to the Prophet.

Roja: Fasting and restrain from all sorts of sensual appetites during daytime.

Shariat: The second laws of Islam. The main source of its guidance is the Quran and the Hadith.

Shirni: Sweet distribution after religious offerings.

Zakat: An Islamic approach of tax payment. About 2.5% of the personal income of every rich person are levied for the relief of the poor.