



Slave-girls being inspected before purchase, and being taken away after purchase, Qatar, 1964

(Note both girls being gripped by the arm during inspection.)

Source: "Slavery in Arabia – 1964". This filmed report can be found on Youtube and some other hosting sites. Many viewers will find the content disturbing.

In accordance with the religion of Muhammad, following the laws Muhammad enforced, these girls were slaves because their mothers were slaves. These images were taken by American journalists using a long-range lens, unknown to the buyer, seller, or slaves.

Slave-children en route to Jeddah & Mecca, to be sold there to fund the trip, 1964

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Mecca slave market operated openly until 1962. If they have survived captivity, children sold openly at market in Mecca then would be in their sixties today.



Photograph purportedly showing slave-women for sale, Libya, 2018

Ongoing slavery in Libya is widely known about.^{1 2 3}

The Quran and the way of life (*sunnah*, سنة) of Muhammad guarantee the possibility of slavery. Slaves may be owned regardless of how they were enslaved, as demonstrated, for example, by Muhammad's ownership of Mariya the Copt, an imported gift. Children of slaves are also, by default, slaves.

Muhammad was a ruler and a major slave-owner. The Quran and the way of life of Muhammad allow a slave's owner to have sexual intercourse with them (Quran 23:1-6) whenever they please, regardless of consent or age (see, for example, Quran 2:223, Quran 33:49, *tafsir* on Quran 65:4, and *sharh & fiqh* citing hadiths stating Aisha's age).^{4 5} A slave girl may be the shared property of more than one owner.

The Muwaṭṭā of Imām Mālik, an influential and much-respected compilation of Muhammad's laws, states: "There is no punishment⁶ of a free man for any injury of a slave... even if he kills them intentionally."⁷

Slave for sale, Saudi Arabia, 2016

This photograph was taken at an auction in Saudi Arabia by the man who bought this Iraqi slave. Photos taken soon after show her being sexually abused by her new owner.⁸

Gulf Arabs, such as Saudis, acquire the slave-girls deemed most desirable, according to an 18-year-old slave-girl who was jointly purchased in Iraq by two men in 2014, including an imam.⁹

The Basic Law of Saudi Arabia, Chapter 1, Article 1, states that it is an Islamic state, and that "God's Book and the way of life (سنة) of His prophet (ﷺ) are its constitution."



1 BBC, *African migrants sold in Libya 'slave markets', IOM says*, 11 April 2017. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-39567632>
2 Emma Graham-Harrison, *Migrants from west Africa being 'sold in Libyan slave markets'*, The Guardian, 10 April 2017, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/10/libya-public-slave-auctions-un-migration>
3 Nation / Agence France Presse, *African migrants sold as 'slaves' for \$200 in Libya*, 12 Apr 2017. <https://nation.africa/kenya/news/african-migrants-sold-as-slaves-in-Libya-/1066-3886812-5hy4xoz/index.html>
4 See also: BBC, *Libya exposed as an epicentre for migrant child abuse*, February 2017. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-39109585>
5 See also: Middle East Monitor, *UNICEF warns of immediate danger facing women, children in Libya*, 13 Oct 2021. <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20211013-unicef-warns-of-immediate-danger-facing-women-children-in-libya/>
6 This ruling is derived, among other things, from the Qur'an 2:178, which takes precedence over a comment of Muhammad's that harm towards slaves would be punished in kind. He seems to have changed his mind (or God overruled him), and no punishment of any person who harmed a slave is found in the many judgements of Muhammad, though in a small number of cases, certain harshly treated slaves were freed by Muhammad (with no punishment of the owner). Contrast should probably be made between punishment on the one hand, and on the other hand, compensation unrelated to any judgement of guilt or wrongdoing (this being called *diya* in Arabic: دية) Malik prescribes such compensation to a slave owner for "as much as is lost from the value of the slave" to be paid by another person if they should injure or kill his slave.
7 Hadith 15, or 1598, or 2585 (depending on reference system), Chapter 21: Retribution for Killing, Book 43: On Stemming the Flow of Blood (Sometimes entitled "Blood Money"), The Muwaṭṭā of Imām Mālik.
8 Sam Webb, *On Sale to Rapiists*, The Sun, 20 Sept 2016. <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/1817563/isis-is-trafficking-iraqi-yazidi-women-to-uk-ally-for-horrifying-auctions/>
9 Michel Moutot, Agence France Presse, 2 Sept 2015. Published by several sources, e.g. Yahoo News, Business Insider, & Al-Arabiya. <https://www.businessinsider.com/afp-i-want-a-blue-eyed-yazidi-teen-describes-is-slave-market-2015-9?r=US&IR=T>