



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The San Diego Public Library Screens “Women of Islam: Veiling and Seclusion”

Film Event is One of Many Related to the “One Book, One San Diego” Campaign

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library will present a film entitled “Women of Islam: Veiling and Seclusion” in conjunction with the ongoing *One Book, One San Diego* reading campaign. Ghada Osman, Ph.D. will facilitate a discussion after the screening, which begins at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 4 in the auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego. This event is free to the public.

In “Women of Islam”, director Farheen Umar travels throughout Pakistan, Iran, Turkey and the USA to talk with Muslim women and challenge the assumptions about the practice of wearing veils. The mainstream media would have us believe that the veil is always an imposition, an oppressive requirement of Islam, but this landmark documentary explores the origins of such stereotypes and confronts misconceptions about the tradition of covering in Muslim society.

Ghada Osman, Ph.D., is an associate professor at San Diego State University, where she is the director of the Arabic Language program in addition to being the director of the university’s Center for Islamic and Arabic Studies.

The *One Book, One San Diego* campaign, initiated by KPBS, is designed to encourage all San Diegans to read the same book at the same time, and to educate and enlighten on topics and themes of concern to the community; this year’s selection is Greg Mortenson’s *Three Cups of Tea*.

Throughout the yearlong campaign the San Diego Public Library and KPBS will present workshops, lectures, discussion groups and television and radio programming. For a calendar of community events visit the library catalog at www.sandiegolibrary.org and click *One Book, One San Diego*.

The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future

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