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MUHAMMAD: PROPHET FOR OUR TIME

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The captivating life story of Prophet Muḥammad (peace be on him) has attracted the attention of an array of orientalist throughout the modern period. Among the catalogue of orientalist whose names are associated with the life story of the Prophet Muḥammad (peace be on him) are: William Muir (1819–1905), David Margoliouth (1858–1940) and William Montgomery Watt (1909–2006); they were, as matter of interest, the subject of a contemporary scholar Jabal Muhammad Buaben's valuable study titled, *Image of the Prophet Muhammad in the West: A Study of Muir, Margoliouth and Watt* (1996).¹ For much of the modern period, the female scholarly voice was noticeably absent. But this has since changed towards the end of the twentieth century during which two significant western female scholars have come on board to write — what may be termed — fairly balanced texts on the noble life of the Prophet Muḥammad (peace be on him).

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1. See, Jabal Muhammad Buaben, *Image of the Prophet Muhammad in the West: A Study of Muir, Margoliouth and Watt* (Leicester: The Islamic Foundation, 1996).