

# The Quran and its Message

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سَلَامٌ عَلَيْكُمْ

Salamun Alaikum (Peace be upon you)

## WAS ADAM'S<sup>(pbuh)</sup> SPOUSE CREATED FROM HIS RIB?

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It is the common belief of many Muslims that the wife of Adam<sup>(pbuh)</sup> was created from a part of his rib.

The name of Adam's<sup>(pbuh)</sup> spouse has not been mentioned anywhere in the Quran. Adam's<sup>(pbuh)</sup> spouse has been simply referred to as 'Zawjaha' which simply implies a 'mate, pair or partner' (Note that the pronoun 'ha' in 'Zawjaha' is 3rd person feminine singular). There is no mention of 'Hawwah' or any other derivative of the name 'Eve' in the Quran.

**The creation of Adam's<sup>(pbuh)</sup> spouse from his rib is neither supported nor derived from the Quran.**

The Quran is clear as to the creation of Adam's<sup>(pbuh)</sup> spouse which can be studied from Surah Nisa (Chapter 4), verse number 1.

### THE QURAN

#### 004:001

"O mankind! Fear your Lord, Who created you from a single (Arabic: Wahidatin) soul (Arabic: Nafsin) and created from out of it (Arabic min'ha) its mate (Arabic: Zawjaha) and spread from these two (Arabic min'huma), many men (Arabic: Rijalan) and women (Arabic: Nisa'a); and fear God, by Whom you demand one of another (your rights), and (to) the ties of relationship; surely God ever watches over you"

- ADAM <sup>(pbuh)</sup> IS CREATED FROM ONE SOUL (ARABIC: NAFS). HIS SPOUSE IS CREATED OUT OF THAT ONE SOUL.

004.001

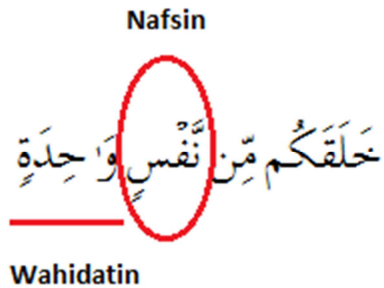


Illustration - Joseph Islam

- FROM THEM BOTH ARE SPREAD MANY MEN AND WOMEN.

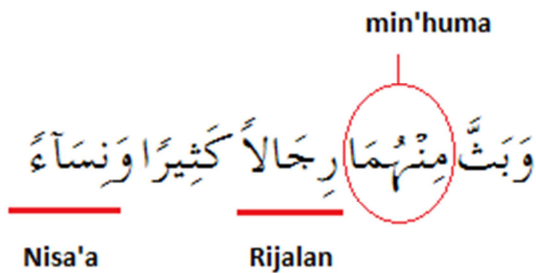


Illustration - Joseph Islam

However, the Torah and the [Islamic secondary sources](#) such as Ahadith, are indeed in relative agreement. Whether or not this particular notion of the creation of Adam's spouse <sup>(pbuh)</sup> has been 'inherited' into the [Islamic secondary sources](#) from Biblical theology is a matter for the readers own scrutiny and subsequent conclusions.

The Quran makes no such claims.

## GENESIS (JEWISH TORAH PART OF THE TANAKH)

### CHAPTER 2:

#### Verse 21

“And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the place with flesh instead thereof”

#### Verse 22

“And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from the man, made He a woman, and brought her unto the man” [1]

## AHADITH

### WOMAN FROM THE CROOKED RIB OF ADAM

**BUKHARI HADITH: Volume 7, Book 62, Number 114:**

Narrated Abu Hurairah:

The Prophet said, "Whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should not hurt (trouble) his neighbour. And I advise you to take care of the women, for they are created from a rib and the most crooked portion of the rib is its upper part; if you try to straighten it, it will break, and if you leave it, it will remain crooked, so I urge you to take care of the women." [2]

See also: Volume 4, Number 548; Volume 7 Number 113 and Volume 7 Number 114

- Please Note: All the above three references regarding the creation of Adam's<sup>(pbuh)</sup> spouse from his rib in Sahih Bukhari are from **one** narrator, Abu Hurairah.

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## FINAL THOUGHTS

The creation of Adam's <sup>(pbuh)</sup> spouse from a part of his rib is neither a concept supported or found within the text of the Quran.

## REFERENCES

[1] Jewish Publication Society Bible.

[2] SAHIH BUKHARI, Volume 7, Book 62, Number 114, Center for Muslim-Jewish Engagement [online], Translation available at <http://www.cmje.org/religious-texts/hadith/bukhari/062-sbt.php> [Accessed 1st October 2011].

Any emphasis in bold black, are my own insertions. They have no bearing on the original text other than they emphasise relevance to the topic at hand. These are merely illustrations and have solely been utilised for educational and explanatory purposes.

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