

Muslim women a biographical dictionary Full Version

Muslim Women: A Biographical Dictionary

Understanding the rich tapestry of Muslim women's lives across history necessitates a comprehensive exploration of their contributions, struggles, and achievements. A biographical dictionary dedicated to Muslim women serves as an essential resource, highlighting their diverse roles in society, their influence in religious, cultural, political, and social spheres, and their enduring legacy. This article aims to delve into the significance of such a dictionary, its scope, key figures, and the broader implications for historical and contemporary scholarship.

Introduction to the Concept of a Biographical Dictionary of Muslim Women

Definition and Purpose

A biographical dictionary of Muslim women is a systematic compilation of detailed entries about women who have identified as Muslim, spanning various time periods, geographic regions, and social strata. Its primary purpose is to document their lives, achievements, struggles, and contributions, offering a nuanced understanding of their roles beyond stereotypes and monolithic narratives.

Historical Context

Historically, women's histories were often marginalized or overlooked. The emergence of biographical dictionaries dedicated to Muslim women marks a shift toward recognizing their agency and significance. These compilations challenge stereotypes, highlight diverse experiences, and foster a more inclusive understanding of Islamic history and culture.

Scope and Structure of the Biographical Dictionary

Chronological Scope

The dictionary can encompass:

- Early Islamic period (7th century onwards)

- Medieval eras
- Modern and contemporary periods

Geographical Scope

It covers Muslim women from:

- The Middle East
- South Asia
- Southeast Asia
- Africa
- Europe and North America (for Muslim women in diaspora)

Criteria for Inclusion

Women included are those who:

- Made significant contributions in religious, political, educational, or social domains
- Were influential figures or leaders
- Played roles in cultural or scientific advancements
- Overcame social barriers to achieve recognition

Organizational Structure

Entries are typically organized alphabetically, with each entry containing:

- Full name and titles
- Dates of birth and death
- Biographical overview
- Key achievements
- Historical and cultural context
- References for further reading

Major Categories of Muslim Women Featured

Religious Figures

Women who have contributed to Islamic scholarship, spiritual leadership, and religious reform.

Political and Social Leaders

Women who have held positions of power, led movements, or influenced policy.

Educators and Scholars

Women who advanced education, science, literature, and arts within Muslim communities.

Activists and Humanitarians

Women involved in social justice, human rights, and community development.

Artists and Cultural Icons

Women who contributed to arts, music, literature, and cultural preservation.

Notable Figures in the Biographical Dictionary

Historical Figures

- **Fatimah bint Muhammad**: The daughter of Prophet Muhammad, revered for her piety and leadership.
- **Razia Sultana**: The first female ruler of Delhi, known for her governance and military prowess.
- **Huda Shaʿrawi**: Egyptian feminist and nationalist, who founded the Egyptian Feminist Union.

Modern Influencers

- **Malala Yousafzai**: Pakistani activist for female education and Nobel laureate.
- **Benazir Bhutto**: First woman to head a democratic government in a Muslim-majority country.
- **Ilhan Omar**: U.S. Congresswoman advocating for minority rights and social justice.

Religious Scholars and Leaders

- **Amina Wadud**: Islamic scholar advocating for gender equality within Islamic theology.
- **Zaynab al-Ghazali**: Egyptian religious and political figure, influential in Islamic activism.

Significance and Impact of the Biographical Dictionary

Preserving Women's Histories

The dictionary ensures that the stories of Muslim women are preserved and accessible, countering historical erasure.

Promoting Gender Equality and Awareness

Highlighting women's achievements fosters awareness, challenges stereotypes, and promotes gender equality within Muslim communities and beyond.

Enhancing Academic and Cultural Understanding

It serves as a valuable resource for scholars, students, and cultural practitioners, enriching understanding of Muslim women's diverse experiences.

Encouraging Role Models and Inspiration

Profiles of accomplished women provide role models for young girls and women worldwide, inspiring future generations.

Challenges in Compiling a Biographical Dictionary of Muslim Women

Historical Marginalization

Many women's histories are undocumented or recorded marginally, especially in patriarchal societies.

Bias and Stereotyping

Historical narratives often reflect biases that overlook women's contributions.

Language and Accessibility Barriers

Sources may be in various languages, requiring translation and interpretation.

Representation and Inclusivity

Ensuring representation across different regions, social classes, and periods remains a challenge.

Future Directions and Developments

Digital Platforms and Databases

Development of online biographical repositories increases accessibility and updates.

Interdisciplinary Collaborations

Involving historians, theologians, gender studies scholars, and cultural experts broadens perspectives.

Community Engagement

Involving Muslim communities worldwide ensures authentic and diverse representations.

Expanding the Scope

Including lesser-known women, grassroots activists, and contemporary figures continues to deepen understanding.

Conclusion

A biographical dictionary of Muslim women is more than a compilation of names; it is a testament to their resilience, ingenuity, and profound influence across centuries. It challenges reductive narratives and celebrates diversity within Muslim societies. As scholarship advances and digital tools evolve, such dictionaries will become ever more comprehensive, serving as vital resources for understanding the complex identities and histories of Muslim women. Recognizing their stories not only honors their legacy but also inspires ongoing efforts toward equality, justice, and cultural appreciation worldwide.

Muslim Women: A Biographical Dictionary ? An Investigative Review

Introduction

In the vast tapestry of Islamic history and culture, Muslim women have played pivotal roles that often defy simplistic narratives. From scholars and saints to activists and artists, their stories are woven into the fabric of societal development, spiritual life, and intellectual discourse. A comprehensive biographical dictionary focusing on Muslim women offers invaluable insights, serving both as a scholarly resource and a bridge to understanding the diverse experiences of women across different eras, regions, and social contexts. This investigative review explores the significance of such a dictionary, its methodological foundations, key entries, and the broader implications for gender studies, Islamic history, and cultural preservation.

The Significance of a Biographical Dictionary of Muslim Women

A biographical dictionary dedicated to Muslim women functions as a crucial repository of individual lives that collectively challenge monolithic portrayals of Muslim women as passive or marginalized. Instead, it highlights agency, resilience, and diverse expressions of faith and identity. Such a compilation:

- Preserves marginalized histories often overlooked in mainstream narratives.
- Provides role models and inspiration for contemporary Muslim women.
- Facilitates interdisciplinary research spanning history, theology, gender studies, and anthropology.
- Contributes to intercultural understanding by showcasing shared human experiences.

This scholarly endeavor also counters stereotypes by documenting the myriad ways Muslim women have shaped religious thought, social movements, and cultural landscapes.

Methodological Foundations

Constructing a biographical dictionary of Muslim women requires rigorous and nuanced methodology. Key considerations include:

- Source Diversity: Utilizing primary sources such as historical manuscripts, letters, religious texts, and oral histories, alongside secondary sources like academic articles and biographies.
- Inclusivity: Ensuring representation across eras, regions (Middle East, South Asia, Africa, Southeast Asia, Europe, Americas), social classes, and sectarian affiliations.
- Verification: Cross-referencing information to confirm accuracy, especially when dealing with legendary or semi-legendary figures.
- Contextualization: Situating each biography within its historical, cultural, and socio-political milieu to avoid anachronisms or oversimplifications.
- Thematic Groupings: Organizing entries thematically?e.g., scholars, saints, political leaders, artists?to facilitate targeted research.

Key Entries and Notable Figures

A comprehensive biographical dictionary would include a broad spectrum of women whose lives exemplify the diversity of Muslim female experiences. Some notable figures include:

Early Islamic Period

- Khadijah bint Khuwaylid (c. 555?619 CE): The first wife of Prophet Muhammad, a successful businesswoman and supporter of early Islam.
- Aisha bint Abu Bakr (c. 613?678 CE): A prominent scholar, transmitter of Hadith, and influential figure in early Islamic history.

Medieval and Ottoman Eras

- Fatima al-Fihri (c. 800?883 CE): Founder of the University of al-Qarawiyyin in Fez, Morocco, considered the world's oldest existing educational institution.
- Rabi'a al-Adawiyya (717?801 CE): Sufi mystic whose spiritual teachings continue to inspire Islamic spirituality.

South Asian Contributions

- Begum Rokeya (1880?1932): Pioneer of women's education and rights in Bengal.
- Malala Yousafzai (b. 1997): Nobel laureate and advocate for girls' education in Pakistan.

Contemporary Figures

- Ilhan Omar (b. 1982): U.S. Congresswoman and prominent Muslim American politician.
- Nawal El Saadawi (1931?2021): Egyptian feminist, writer, and activist known for her advocacy on women's rights.

Religious and Spiritual Leaders

- Hazrat Bibi Pak Daman: Revered saintly women in South Asian Islam.
- Sheikh Bint Al-Azraq: Female Islamic scholar from medieval Andalusia.

Impacts and Contributions

The entries in such a dictionary reveal several recurring themes:

- Religious Scholarship and Leadership: Women like Aisha and Fatima al-Fihri exemplify intellectual leadership and spiritual authority.
- Activism and Reform: Figures such as Begum Rokeya and Malala Yousafzai highlight activism for education, women's rights, and social justice.

- Artistic and Cultural Influence: Women poets, artists, and writers like Nawal El Saadawi and indigenous poets have shaped cultural narratives.
- Political Engagement: Contemporary women in politics and activism demonstrate ongoing engagement with national and global issues.

Challenges in Compilation

Creating such a dictionary is fraught with challenges:

- Historical Biases: Many early female figures are documented through male-dominated narratives, requiring careful interpretation.
- Cultural Sensitivities: Respecting religious and cultural nuances while maintaining scholarly objectivity.
- Language Barriers: Sources in Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Turkish, and other languages necessitate multilingual expertise.
- Representation Gaps: Certain regions or periods may be underrepresented due to limited available sources.

Broader Implications

A biographical dictionary of Muslim women extends beyond mere biographical listings; it acts as a catalyst for broader scholarly and social conversations:

- It challenges stereotypes by showcasing Muslim women as active agents in history.
- It promotes gender-inclusive narratives within Islamic studies.
- It informs contemporary debates on women's rights, religious authority, and social justice.
- It serves as an educational tool fostering intercultural dialogue.

Conclusion

The endeavor to compile and study a Muslim Women: A Biographical Dictionary is both an academic necessity and a social imperative. It illuminates the multifaceted lives of women who have contributed significantly to religious, cultural, and political spheres. Such a resource not only preserves vital histories but also inspires future generations to recognize and celebrate the diverse, dynamic roles Muslim women have played and continue to play in shaping societies worldwide. As scholarship progresses, expanding and refining this dictionary will remain essential, ensuring that the voices of Muslim women are heard, appreciated, and integrated into the broader narrative of human history.

Question What is the purpose of a Muslim women biographical dictionary? A Muslim women biographical dictionary aims to document the lives, achievements, and contributions of Muslim women throughout history, highlighting their roles in religious, social, and cultural contexts. **Who are some notable Muslim women featured in recent biographical dictionaries?** Recent biographical dictionaries often feature figures such as Rabi'a al-Adawiyya, Fatima al-Fihri, Malala Yousafzai, and Benazir Bhutto, showcasing their influence in spirituality, education, activism, and leadership. **How does a biographical dictionary of Muslim women contribute to gender studies?** It provides valuable insights into the historical and contemporary roles of Muslim women, challenging stereotypes, and highlighting their diverse experiences and contributions within Islamic societies. **What challenges are faced in compiling a biographical dictionary of Muslim women?** Challenges include limited historical records, cultural biases, language barriers, and the underrepresentation of women in historical documentation, which can make comprehensive coverage difficult. **Are modern biographical dictionaries of Muslim women available online?** Yes, several digital platforms and online archives feature biographical dictionaries of Muslim women, making this knowledge more accessible to researchers and the general public. **How do biographical dictionaries of Muslim women impact contemporary Muslim communities?** They serve as sources of inspiration, empower women by highlighting their achievements, and foster greater understanding and appreciation of women's roles within Islamic history and society. **What criteria are typically used to select women included in a Muslim women biographical dictionary?** Selection criteria often include historical significance, contributions to religion, education, social reform, leadership, and influence within Muslim communities and beyond.

Related keywords: Muslim women, biographical dictionary, Islamic women, female scholars, Muslim heroines, women in Islam, Muslim female figures, Islamic history women, women biographical entries, Muslim women leaders

magazine womens day

Magazine Women's Day: Celebrating Strength, Empowerment, and Inspiration

Every year, on International Women's Day, magazines around the world come alive with stories of women's achievements, struggles, and aspirations. **Magazine Women's Day** features inspiring articles, striking visuals, and powerful messages that highlight the importance of gender equality and women's rights. These publications serve as a reflection of societal progress and a catalyst for change, celebrating women of all backgrounds and ages. Whether through feature stories, interviews, or special editions, magazines dedicate their pages to honoring women's contributions and advocating for a more inclusive future.

In this article, we explore the significance of **Magazine Women's Day**, its history, how magazines celebrate women's achievements, and ways to participate in this global movement. Let's delve into the world of magazine editions that make Women's Day memorable and impactful.

The Significance of Magazine Women's Day

Highlighting Women's Achievements

Magazines have long been a platform to showcase women's accomplishments across various fields—be it science, arts, politics, sports, or business. On Women's Day, these publications dedicate special editions to celebrating trailblazing women who have broken barriers and paved the way for future generations. Such stories inspire readers and serve as proof that gender equality is achievable.

Raising Awareness About Gender Equality

Magazines play a crucial role in raising awareness about ongoing gender disparities and social issues women face worldwide. By featuring investigative journalism, opinion pieces, and personal stories, they educate the public about topics like wage gaps, gender-based violence, and underrepresentation. Women's Day editions often include calls to action, encouraging readers to advocate for change.

Fostering a Sense of Community

Magazines foster a sense of community among women by sharing stories of resilience, solidarity, and empowerment. They provide a platform for women to see themselves represented, find role models, and connect over shared experiences. This sense of belonging is vital for building confidence and inspiring collective action.

Historical Context of Women's Day in Magazines

The Origins of International Women's Day

International Women's Day originated in the early 20th century, rooted in labor movements and women's rights activism. As the day gained momentum, magazines became instrumental in spreading awareness, documenting progress, and celebrating women's contributions.

Evolution of Women's Day Celebrations in Magazines

Initially, magazines focused on highlighting women's struggles and advocating for rights. Over time, the tone shifted to celebrating success stories, achievements, and empowerment. Modern magazine

editions now blend celebration with activism, reflecting societal changes and ongoing challenges.

How Magazines Celebrate Women's Day

Special Editions and Covers

Many magazines release special Women's Day editions featuring powerful cover stories, iconic women, and thematic content. These editions often include:

- Portraits of inspiring women from various sectors
- In-depth interviews with change-makers
- Features on women's rights movements
- Artistic visuals emphasizing female strength

Feature Stories and Profiles

Magazines highlight stories of women overcoming adversity, achieving milestones, and making a difference in their communities. These features serve as motivating examples and highlight diverse perspectives.

Interactive Campaigns and Collaborations

Some magazines partner with NGOs, brands, and activists to run campaigns promoting gender equality. These can include social media initiatives, reader participation drives, and awareness events.

Editorials and Opinion Pieces

Thought leaders and influential women contribute editorials that discuss issues like women's rights, feminism, and social justice, fostering dialogue among readers.

Ways to Engage with Women's Day through Magazines

Subscribe and Support Women-Centric Publications

Supporting magazines that focus on women's stories and issues helps amplify their impact. Consider subscribing to or purchasing magazines that prioritize gender equality and female empowerment.

Share and Discuss Content

Read and share inspiring articles with your network. Engage in discussions about women's achievements and challenges to raise awareness and foster change.

Participate in Magazine Campaigns

Join online campaigns, contests, or events organized by magazines during Women's Day. Your participation can help spread important messages and inspire others.

Create Your Own Stories

If you have a story of resilience or achievement, consider submitting it to magazines or sharing it on social media. Personal stories can resonate deeply and motivate others.

Top Magazines Celebrating Women's Day

- **Vogue:** Known for its fashion and culture coverage, Vogue often features influential women, fashion icons, and discussions on gender roles.
- **Time:** Publishes special editions highlighting women leaders, innovators, and social change advocates.
- **Forbes:** Focuses on women entrepreneurs, business leaders, and economic empowerment stories.
- **Elle:** Celebrates women's achievements in arts, fashion, and activism with inspiring profiles and editorials.
- **National Geographic:** Shares stories of women explorers, scientists, and environmentalists making a difference worldwide.

Conclusion: The Power of Magazine Women's Day

Magazine Women's Day is more than just a celebration; it's a movement that recognizes the resilience, strength, and brilliance of women everywhere. Through compelling storytelling, impactful visuals, and advocacy, magazines inspire change and foster a culture of equality. As consumers and readers, supporting these editions and engaging with their content amplifies the message of empowerment.

Remember, every story told and every voice heard on Women's Day through magazines contributes to building a more inclusive and equitable world. Let's celebrate women's achievements, recognize ongoing challenges, and commit to supporting gender equality not just on this special day, but every day.

Together, through the power of media and storytelling, we can continue to uplift women and create a

future where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

Magazine Women's Day is a celebrated occasion that shines a spotlight on the achievements, struggles, and ongoing journey toward gender equality for women worldwide. This special day serves as a reminder of the progress made and the work still ahead, inspiring countless publications to craft features that honor women's contributions across various spheres of life. As a prominent theme in media, Magazine Women's Day offers a unique platform to amplify voices, showcase stories of resilience, and advocate for positive change. In this guide, we'll explore the significance of Magazine Women's Day, its evolution over time, and how publications can craft meaningful, impactful content that resonates with readers.

The Significance of Magazine Women's Day

Magazine Women's Day is more than just a day for celebration; it is an opportunity to reflect on issues surrounding gender equality, representation, and empowerment. Magazines, as influential media outlets, have historically played a pivotal role in shaping societal perceptions of women. From covering pioneering women in history to highlighting contemporary issues such as wage gaps, representation in leadership, and reproductive rights, magazine features help inform and inspire.

Key reasons why Magazine Women's Day is essential:

- Celebrating Achievements: Highlighting women's accomplishments across arts, science, politics, sports, and business.
- Raising Awareness: Drawing attention to ongoing challenges like gender discrimination, violence, and inequality.
- Inspiring Action: Motivating readers to support women's rights and participate in social change initiatives.
- Fostering Representation: Promoting diverse stories that reflect the multifaceted nature of womanhood.

The Evolution of Women's Day in Media

Historically, magazines have mirrored societal attitudes toward women, evolving from stereotypical portrayals to more nuanced, empowering narratives.

Early Representations

- Portrayals focused on beauty standards, domestic roles, and idealized femininity.
- Limited space for women's voices or professional achievements.

Shifts Toward Empowerment

- Introduction of features on women breaking barriers in politics, science, and arts.
- Coverage of women's rights movements and feminist campaigns.

Contemporary Approaches

- Emphasis on intersectionality, acknowledging diverse backgrounds and experiences.
- Highlighting stories of resilience, leadership, entrepreneurship, and activism.
- Using platforms for advocacy rather than mere celebration.

This evolution underscores the importance of responsible, impactful storytelling on Magazine Women's Day.

How to Create Impactful Magazine Content for Women's Day

For editors, writers, and content creators, crafting compelling features for Magazine Women's Day involves thoughtful planning, research, and a genuine understanding of issues faced by women today.

- Identify Your Focus

Decide on the core message or theme for the issue or feature, such as:

- Celebrating pioneering women in a specific industry.
- Addressing gender equality challenges in your region.
- Highlighting stories of women overcoming adversity.
- Promoting women's health, education, or economic empowerment.

- Curate Diverse Voices

Representation matters. Include stories from:

- Women of various ages, backgrounds, and professions.
- Marginalized communities and underrepresented groups.

- Voices from different cultural, racial, and socio-economic contexts.
- Conduct In-Depth Research

Ensure accuracy and sensitivity by:

- Interviewing women directly involved in relevant fields.
- Consulting reputable sources and data.
- Being aware of cultural nuances and avoiding stereotypes.
- Focus on Storytelling

Make narratives engaging and relatable:

- Use personal stories to illustrate broader issues.
- Incorporate visuals?photos, infographics, and artwork.
- Highlight moments of triumph and resilience.
- Incorporate Expert Insights

Add depth with commentary from:

- Feminist scholars and activists.
- Industry leaders and pioneers.
- Community organizers and educators.
- Call to Action

Encourage readers to participate beyond reading:

- Share stories on social media.
- Support women-led initiatives and charities.
- Advocate for policy changes.

Content Ideas for Women's Day Magazine Features

To inspire your content creation, here are some impactful ideas for Magazine Women's Day features:

Profiles and Interviews

- Celebrating women who have shattered glass ceilings.
- Personal stories of overcoming societal barriers.
- Leaders in women's rights movements.

Historical Highlights

- Pioneering women in history.
- Milestones in women's rights and achievements.
- Evolution of women's roles in society.

Issue-Focused Articles

- Addressing the gender pay gap.
- Women's health and wellness.
- Women in STEM and technology.
- Women's entrepreneurship and economic empowerment.

Cultural and Artistic Features

- Women's contributions to art, music, and literature.
- Spotlight on female artists and creators.
- Exploring cultural perceptions of women.

Action and Advocacy

- Profiles of campaigns fighting for gender equality.
- How to support local women's organizations.
- Tips for readers to become allies and advocates.

Best Practices for Publishing Women's Day Content

To ensure your magazine's Women's Day feature is respectful, impactful, and resonant, consider the following:

- **Avoid Stereotypes:** Present women as complex individuals, not just symbols or stereotypes.
- **Use Respectful Language:** Be mindful of terminology and cultural sensitivities.
- **Highlight Solutions:** Focus on progress and initiatives making positive change.
- **Engage Readers:** Incorporate interactive elements like reader stories, polls, or calls for participation.
- **Ensure Inclusivity:** Cover diverse identities and experiences to reflect the multifaceted nature of womanhood.

The Power of Visuals and Design

Visual storytelling enhances the impact of your content:

- Use powerful imagery that celebrates strength, diversity, and resilience.
- Incorporate vibrant colors associated with Women's Day, such as purple, green, and white.
- Design layouts that are clean, engaging, and accessible.

Measuring Impact and Continuing the Conversation

After publishing your Women's Day feature, consider ways to sustain engagement:

- Share stories across social media platforms.
- Host webinars, panel discussions, or interviews.
- Collaborate with women's organizations for events.
- Encourage reader participation through comments and stories.

Conclusion

Magazine Women's Day is a vital occasion to honor women's achievements, shed light on ongoing challenges, and inspire action for gender equality. As content creators, journalists, and publishers, your role is crucial in shaping perceptions and fostering a culture of respect, empowerment, and inclusivity. By crafting thoughtful, authentic, and diverse stories, you can contribute meaningfully to the global movement for women's rights, making every issue a testament to progress and hope.

Remember, the power of storytelling can inspire change. Use your platform to celebrate women's stories—past, present, and future—and help build a more equitable world.

Question What are some popular magazine features for Women's Day? Popular magazine features for Women's Day often include inspiring stories of women achievers, fashion and beauty tips, health and wellness advice, and articles highlighting gender equality and women's rights. How can magazines celebrate Women's Day effectively? Magazines can celebrate Women's Day by showcasing diverse women stories, promoting women-led initiatives, running special editions focused on women's achievements, and supporting campaigns that advocate for gender equality. Which magazines typically publish Women's Day special editions? Major fashion, lifestyle, and women-focused magazines such as Vogue, Cosmopolitan, Elle, and Good Housekeeping often publish Women's Day special editions highlighting women's stories and issues. How has Women's Day influenced magazine content over recent years? Women's Day has led magazines to feature more empowering stories, highlight women entrepreneurs, address social issues affecting women, and promote inclusivity and diversity in their content. Are there digital magazine campaigns for Women's Day? Yes, many digital magazines run special campaigns, virtual events, and online features on Women's Day to reach a broader audience and promote awareness about women's issues. What role do magazines play in promoting gender equality on Women's Day? Magazines play a crucial role by raising awareness, challenging stereotypes, amplifying women's voices, and encouraging societal change through impactful stories and advocacy. How can brands collaborate with magazines for Women's Day promotions? Brands can collaborate with magazines through sponsored content, special features on women-led products or initiatives, and by supporting campaigns that celebrate women and promote gender equality. What are some creative ideas for Women's Day magazine covers? Creative ideas include featuring diverse women from different backgrounds, using bold empowering slogans, incorporating artistic illustrations, or showcasing women in leadership roles to inspire readers. How can readers engage with magazine Women's Day content? Readers can engage by sharing stories, participating in online campaigns, attending virtual events, and supporting women-centric initiatives promoted by magazines on Women's Day.

Related keywords: women's day, women's magazine, women's empowerment, female celebration, women's issues, women empowerment, women's articles, women-focused magazine, women's rights, women's feature

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