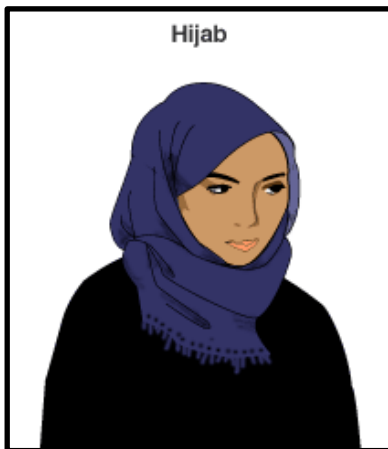


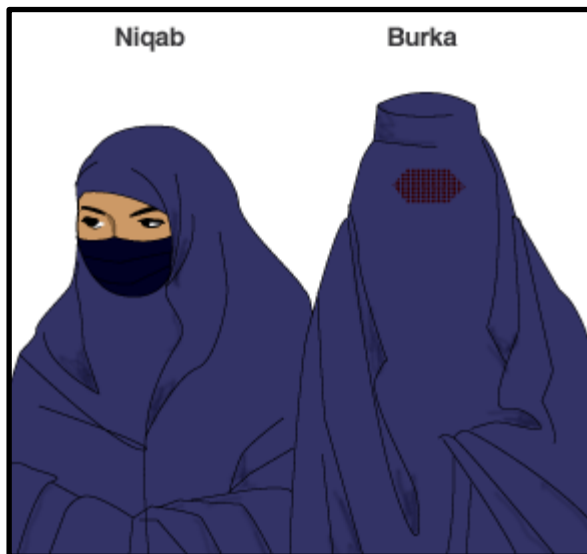
Muslim Veils

©BBC News



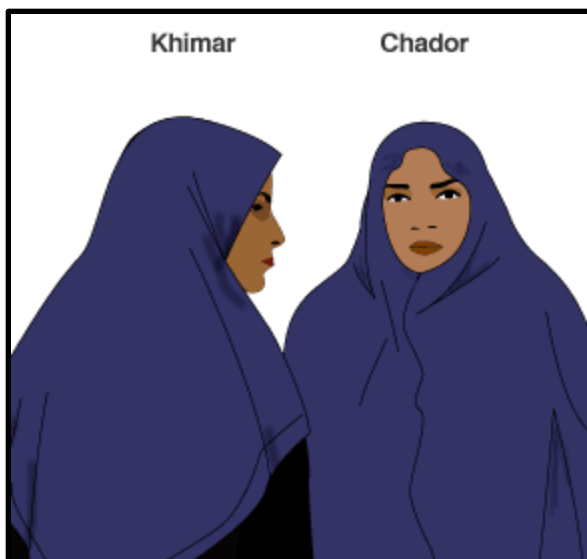
The word hijab comes from the Arabic for veil and is used to describe the headscarves worn by Muslim women.

The type most commonly worn in the West is a square scarf that covers the head and neck but leaves the face clear.



The niqab is a veil for the face that leaves the area around the eyes clear. However, it may be worn with a separate eye veil. It is worn with an accompanying headscarf.

The burka is the most concealing of all Islamic veils. It covers the entire face and body, leaving just a mesh screen to see through.



The khimar is a long, cape-like veil that hangs down to just above the waist. It covers the hair, neck and shoulders completely, but leaves the face clear.

The chador is a full-body cloak. It is often accompanied by a smaller headscarf underneath.