

Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Quotes

*People, Thinking, Islam, Believe, Religious, Tolerance, Country, Christian,
Children, Angel, Mean, Real, Democracy, Girl, Islamic, Men, Europe,
Differences, Rights, Kenya*

If we don't take effective measures now, the Netherlands could be torn between two extreme rights.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Islam is not a race...Islam is simply a set of beliefs, and it is not 'Islamophobic' to say Islam is incompatible with liberal democracy.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

There is a huge difference between being tolerant and tolerating intolerance

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Tolerance of intolerance is cowardice.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

The more we oblige, the more we self-censor, the more we appease, the bolder the enemy gets.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I love life more than I love death.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

It takes a long time to dissolve the bars of a mental cage.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I was a Muslim once, remember, and it was when I was most devout that I was most full of hate.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Where there is no freedom of speech, there is no conscience.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Avoiding offense means that we don't accept each other as equals.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

The demand that Islam makes of women is to not attract attention to yourself, and if you are in a secular society, that attire does exactly that, and it is a political symbol, no longer religious.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I wanted secular, non-Muslim people to stop kidding themselves that Islam is peace and tolerance.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I confront the European elite's self-image as tolerant 'while under their noses women are living like slaves.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I have had to pay a price for leaving Islam and for speaking out. I have to pay for round-the-clock security because of the death threats against me.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

In a well-functioning democracy, the state constitution is considered more important than God's holy book, whichever holy book that may be, and God matters only in your private life.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

My first experience in the Netherlands was very pleasant, extremely pleasant. I mean, I got my residence permit, refugee status, within four weeks of arrival. People treated me extremely well.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I see no difference between Islam and Islamism. Islam is defined as submission to the will of Allah, as it is described in the Koran. Islamism is just Islam in its most pure form.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

My friend, the Dutch filmmaker Theo van Gogh, was murdered in 2004

for having been insufficiently reverent toward Islam.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Reality is not easy, but all this make-believe doesn't make it easier.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I don't believe there is such a thing as 'moderate Islam.' I think it's better to talk about degrees of belief and degrees of practice.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

The Christian take on Hellfire seems less dramatic than the Muslim vision, which I grew up with, but Christian magical thinking appeals to me no more than my mother's angels and djinns.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Liberal capitalism is not perfect, but compared to the other 'isms,' it's far superior.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

However, some things must be said, and there are times when silence becomes an accomplice to injustice.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I would like to be judged on the validity of my arguments, not as a victim.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

You'll be pleased to hear, Christopher, that I am no longer a Muslim liberal but an atheist [...] I find that it obviates the necessity for any cognitive dissonance.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I don't have much in me left for Somalia, because the country is so broken, it's not realistic to daydream about it.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I'd like Muslims to look at their religion as a set of beliefs that they can appraise critically and pick and choose from.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

In 1985 as a teenager in Kenya, I was an adamant member of the Muslim Brotherhood.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I grew up in Somalia, in Saudi Arabia, in Ethiopia, and in Kenya. I came to Europe in 1992, when I was 22, and became a member of Parliament in Holland.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I do not believe in God, angels and the hereafter.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Free speech is the bedrock of liberty and a free society. And yes, it includes the right to blaspheme and offend.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Drinking wine and wearing trousers were nothing compared to reading the history of ideas.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Americans have always welcomed people of all backgrounds, religions, and races. It's a spirit of tolerance, now energized and amplified by the cult of multiculturalism.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

...Bear true witness, even if it be against yourselves, your parents or your family.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

There are some mosques with facilities for women; it's usually a back room with a back-door entrance.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

We must reclaim and retake feminism from our fellow idiotic women.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I call myself a liberal - a classical liberal as in John Stuart Mill.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

In 2010, I suggested that if you are a good Muslim with a good conscience, go and look for a better God, and I think that was juvenile of me.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

What I find daunting always is to stand on a stage and talk to people, whether they agree with me or not.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I talk about a Christianity that is enlightened enough to separate spirituality from the rest of life. Not just church and state, but knowledge and church.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

The idea that if people are just friendly and demonstrate they want peace, that will be answered with good will - that is really naive.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

They decided to let immigrants in and I am an immigrant. They gave us a chance to participate in this country's life and I took it.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I want people to emphasize life before death as opposed to life after death.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I am grateful to my father for sending me to school, and that we moved from Somalia to Kenya, where I learned English.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

All my life I have been a nomad.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Muslim leaders should ask themselves what exactly their relationship is to a political movement that encourages young men to kill and maim on religious grounds.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

The West is duly terrified. But it should not be surprised.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

No one in the American Enterprise imposes their beliefs. We clash, and I think that's what the West is all about.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Unlike the United Kingdom or the Commonwealth, the umma, or Muslim community, has no symbolic leader, let alone a formal one.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Every time you take a train, step into your car, walk into the shopping mall, go to the airport - every single time, something could happen. That's how terrorism works.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I would rather clean than beg.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

If such a young nation as the U.S. could make it to superpower status,

we could do it as well.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

Every time I went on TV I got a threat.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

My conscience is informed by reason. It's like Kant's categorical imperative: behave to others as you would wish they behaved to you.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

But without doubts, without a standpoint reached through questionings, human beings can't acquire knowledge.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

I think of Canada, first and foremost, in terms of space. The amount of space available is breathtaking.

~Ayaan Hirsi Ali

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