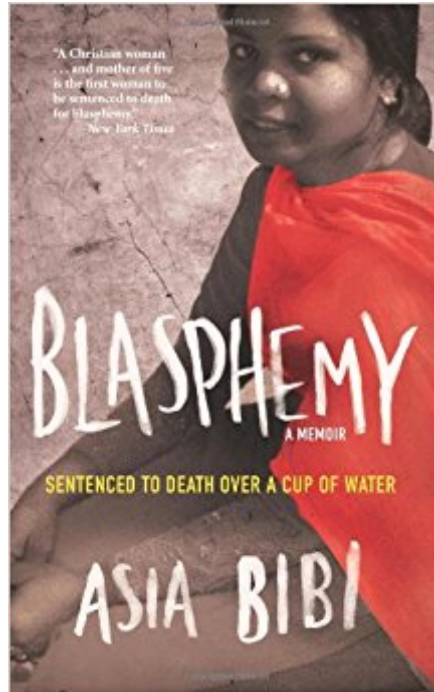


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# Blasphemy: A Memoir: Sentenced To Death Over A Cup Of Water



## Synopsis

In June 2009 a Pakistani mother of five, Asia Bibi, was out picking fruit in the fields. At midday she went to the nearest well, picked up a cup, and took a drink of cool water, and then offered it to another woman. Suddenly, one of her fellow workers cried out that the water belonged to Muslim women and that Bibi "who is Christian" had contaminated it. "Blasphemy!" someone shouted, a crime punishable by death in Pakistan. In that instant, with one word, Bibi's fate was sealed. First attacked by a mob, Bibi was then thrown into prison and sentenced to be hanged. Since that day, Asia Bibi has been held in appalling conditions, her family members have had to flee their village under threat from vengeful extremists, and the two brave public figures who came to Bibi's defense—the Muslim governor of the Punjab and Pakistan's Christian Minister for Minorities—have been brutally murdered. In Blasphemy, Asia Bibi, who has become a symbol for everyone concerned with ending an unjust law that allows people to settle personal scores and that kills Christians and Muslims alike indiscriminately, bravely tells her shocking and inspiring story and makes a last cry for help from her prison cell. Proceeds from the sale of this book support Asia Bibi's family, which has been forced into hiding.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

On June 14, 2009, Asia Bibi, a wife, mother of 5 children and a Christian, went to harvest fruit for 250 rupees in Pakistan. Thirsty, she went to a water bucket and used the cup to get a drink of water. The other women (all Muslims) working with her turned hysterical at the thought of drinking after a Christian, who are considered unclean. An argument began, then she was chased, beaten and

dragged to a police station. There, she was unjustly accused of having blasphemed against the Muslim prophet Mohammad. She was sentenced to death by hanging on November 8, 2010. You will read about the appalling and inhumane conditions Asia and her fellow women prisoners are held in. You will read about the two Pakistani government officials, the Governor of Punjab, and the Minister for Minorities who tried to help Asia and were assassinated by fundamentalists for their efforts. Pakistan's Blasphemy laws persecutes everyone, including other Muslims. Most of Asia's fellow women prisoners were found guilty of the Hudood Ordinance, that makes a criminal of any woman who has sexual relations outside marriage. Most of Asia's fellow inmates had been raped, and then found guilty of adultery, because they could not provide 4 eyewitnesses to their rape, as required by law. Asia asks "Tell other people you know about what has happened to me. Spread the word. I believe this is the only chance I have of not dying in this dungeon. I need you. Help me." As of this date, Asia is still in prison. Please do as she asks and help her.

This book is very informative about how people are treated, especially women, under Islamic rule in Pakistan. In reading this you learn that all minorities are discriminated against as well as Muslims. All it takes is for someone who doesn't like you, to cry "Blasphemy", and you are presumed guilty. What a terrible law.

This story broke my heart. The idea that this woman is still in prison, still sentenced to death, for merely disagreeing with some of the village women who did not think she should drink water from the well only because she is Christian. The women of the village turned in a mob, wanting to harm this woman, who has a child with disabilities, and other small children who need her. The blasphemy laws in much of the Muslim world are there to seek revenge against others. I always thought women would be less cruel than men, but in this case, the women of the village were as mean and vicious as any man alive. I dread to think of her life, and how this is going to end. Everyone please read this book, and write to the government who is supporting this injustice. Perhaps if they receive thousands of letters, they will see how this makes them look to the rest of the world. Ignorant and COLD BLOODED MEAN!

What an amazing story of faith and endurance! This book will put you in the cell with Asia. You will experience the ups and downs of being persecuted for Jesus. I will never forget Asia! This dear mother of 5 children ripped out of her loving family to endure unbearable treatment. But somehow God gets her through it! And you are experiencing this in real time. She is still there, under sentence

of hanging. Our job is to pray for her and her family that is in hiding. You will get a real glimpse into what it is like to be a humble Christian in a country 96% muslim. Pakistan which gets more dangerous for Christians every day!!!! 85 Christians killed in a Church double suicide attack just last week. What a beautiful lady, such a contrast to the vicious muslims who hate her, but truth is....it is Jesus they hate. Glad to know that the proceeds of this book go to help her family. I will pray for you Asia each and every day till you are freed!!!!!!

This is the story of the first woman in Pakistan to be facing the death penalty simply for standing up for her faith. She has been in dungeon-type prison since 2009. She has a family, including a mentally handicapped child & all the proceeds from the book go to support the family. This book is worth the cost on several levels.

I was surprised by how short a story it was, but it was very well told. Considering that it had to be told to a lawyer or family members and then retold to a translator, it's amazingly well done. The narration is her voice throughout. It's not a happy story, but it is not depressing either, though nothing is glossed over. Unbelievable as to how long this ordeal has dragged on. Sure hope they can get her out!

A short but very important book that explains Muslim intolerance and hatred that seems to be inherent within their religious texts. Only in a sick society and religion will someone be in jail, let alone on death row, based on what comes out of their mouth.

Those who stand for humanity are not pressing the issue of religious bigotry which resulted in the false accusation of Asia frequently enough. I abhor to live in a country where being a member of a minority group means to face such inhumanity.

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