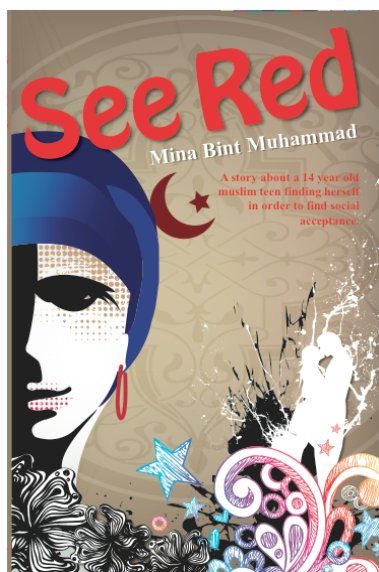


Press release – embargoed until 01 April 2011

MUSLIM SCHOOL GIRL SIGNS BOOK DEAL WITH CONTRAVERSIAL NOVEL

15 year old, fully covered British Muslim, Mina Bint Muhammad launches her debut novel *See Red* – about a rebellious Muslim girl who lives a double life.

Mina, winner of the Young Muslim Writer Awards, finished writing *See Red* at the age of just 14. The novel, who some may consider ‘controversial’ tells the story of Jenna Kamal – a rebellious fourteen year old who pulls down her scarf once out of the front door, tries smoking, shop lifting and raving before returning to her God when she becomes desperate for help.



Written in a humorous style, the book is filled with Arabic words and phrases and it gives a great insight into the lives of many Asian teenagers growing up in Britain.

Mina from East London isn't a rebel like Jenna, but she does understand the issues faced by her main character - of balancing religion and the demands of secular society. She hopes that her book will change people's views of Muslim women:

Mina explains: "I wrote the novel because I thought it would help people understand the issues faced by Muslim teenage girls in today's society. Writing the book is important to me - it allows me to be recognised as a Muslim, as a woman, *with a voice*. I hope that, in time, we Muslims will no longer be associated with the stereotypes as portrayed in the media; rather, we will be regarded as a positive part of society".

Ola Laniyan-Amoako comments: "Mina is an amazingly talented individual with a great personality. She is outspoken, confident and ready to take on the world of literature. We are delighted to be publishing her first novel and think it will do very well".

***See Red* (Urbantopia Books), is published on 01 April 2011. Priced £7.99 it is available in bookshops, on Amazon and at www.urbantopiabooks.co.uk.**

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Media contact

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Booksellers contact:

To order copies of *See Red*, please contact Ola Laniyan-Amoako at ola@urbantopia.co.uk or on 07939142315