

visited 3/24/2008

Queen Noor of Jordan

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
(Redirected from Queen Noor)

Styles of Queen Noor

Reference style	Her Majesty
Spoken style	Your Majesty
Alternative style	Ma'am

Queen Noor (Arabic: الملكة نور) (born August 23, 1951 in Washington, D.C.) is the fourth wife and widow of the late King Hussein of Jordan.

She was born an American of English, Swedish, Scottish, and Lebanese descent. She is the current president of the United World Colleges movement.

Contents

- 1 Family and early life
- 2 Education
- 3 Affiliations and international activities
- 4 Marriage and children
- 5 Life after Hussein
- 6 Notable works
- 7 See also
- 8 Notes and references
- 9 External links

Family and early life

Queen Noor born **Lisa Najeeb Halaby**. She is the daughter of Najeeb Halaby, a former CEO of Pan-American World Airways, one time head of the Federal Aviation

Lisa Najeeb Halaby

Queen of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan



Titles	<i>HM</i> Queen Noor of Jordan (1999–) <i>HM</i> The Queen of Jordan (1978–1999) <i>Miss</i> Lisa Najeeb Halaby (1951–1978)
Born	August 23, 1951 Washington, D.C., United States
Consort	June 15, 1978–February 7, 1999
Consort to	Hussein of Jordan
Issue	Hamzah, Hashim, Iman, Raiyah
Father	Najeeb Halaby
Mother	Doris Carlquist

Royal Family of Jordan



- HM The King
- HM The Queen

visited 3/24/2008

Administration, and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, and his first wife, Doris Carlquist.

She has a younger brother, Christian Halaby, a composer and guitarist, and a younger sister, Alexa Halaby (a University of Pennsylvania squash champion who was a bridesmaid at the 1986 wedding of Maria Owings Shriver and Arnold Schwarzenegger).

Queen Noor's paternal grandfather, Najeeb Elias Halaby, a Lebanese immigrant, was an oil broker, according to 1920 census records. Merchant Stanley Marcus, however, recalled that in the mid-1920s, Halaby opened Halaby Galleries, a rug boutique and interior-decorating shop, at Neiman-Marcus in Dallas, Texas, and ran it with his Texas-born wife, Laura Wilkins (1889–1987, later Mrs. Urban B. Koen). Halaby died shortly afterward, and his estate was unable to continue the new enterprise.^[1]

Education

Lisa Halaby was born, raised and educated in the United States; she attended National Cathedral School from Grade 4 through Grade 8, and then went on to Concord Academy in Massachusetts. She entered Princeton University with its first co-educational freshman class, and received a BA in Architecture and Urban Planning in 1974.

She also attended The Chapin School in Manhattan.

Affiliations and international activities

Queen Noor is actively involved in a number of international organizations advancing global peace-building and conflict recovery and advises the United Nations on these issues. She is president of the United World Colleges, Chair of the United Nations University International Leadership Academy, International Patron and Honorary Chair of Landmine Survivors Network

- HRH Prince Hussein
- HRH Princess Iman
- HRH Princess Salma
- HRH Prince Hashem
- HRH Prince Faisal
- HRH Princess Aliya
 - HRH Princess Ayah
 - HRH Prince Omar
 - HRH Princess Sara
 - HRH Princess Aisha
- HRH Princess Alia
- HRH Princess Aisha
- HRH Princess Zein
- HRH Princess Haya
- HRH Prince Ali
- HRH Princess Rym
 - HRH Princess Jalilah
 - HRH Prince Abdullah
- **HM Queen Noor**
- HRH Prince Hamzah
 - HRH Princess Hayah
- HRH Prince Hashim
- HRH Princess Fahdah
 - HRH Princess Halaah
- HRH Princess Iman
- HRH Princess Raiyah
- HRH Princess Muna
- HRH Prince Mohammed
- HRH Prince Hassan
- HRH Princess Sarvath
 - HRH Princess Rahma
 - HRH Princess Sumaya
 - HRH Princess Badiya
 - HRH Prince Rashid
- HRH Princess Basma
- HRH Prince Asem
- HRH Princess Sana
 - HRH Princess Yasmine
 - HRH Princess Sarah
 - HRH Princess Noor
 - HRH Princess Salha
 - HRH Princess Nejla
 - HRH Prince Nayef
- Miss Abir Muhaisen

visited 3/24/2008

(<http://www.landminesurvivors.org/>), Advisor to Women Waging Peace, Seeds of Peace and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, Patron of the World Conservation Union, trustee of the Aspen Institute, Conservation International, World Wildlife Fund International, Refugees International, a Commissioner of the International Commission on Missing Persons and a Patron of the SOS Children's Villages - USA in Jordan.^[2] Queen Noor is also on the board of the Daniel Pearl Foundation, alongside former President Bill Clinton.^[3]

Marriage and children

An architect and urban planner, she met King Hussein while working in Jordan on the development of the Amman Intercontinental Airport. The couple married on June 15, 1978. In a *New York Times* article (May 19, 1978) about the couple's forthcoming wedding, a friend of the bride described her as "a darling, healthy, sunburned, tennis-playing, All-American girl, but she is very sophisticated. I can't see her marrying the average boy." Halaby converted to Islam, and before the marriage took place, her first name was changed from Lisa to Noor, an Arabic word meaning "light".

Queen Noor and King Hussein had four children:

- Prince Hamzah (born March 29, 1980), Crown Prince from 1999 to 2004
- Prince Hashim (born June 10, 1981)
- Princess Iman (born April 24, 1983)
- Princess Raiyah (born February 9, 1986)

As King Abdullah II's stepmother, Queen Noor cannot be classified as The Queen of Jordan, although no apparent titular distinction has been made between her and Abdullah's wife, Queen Rania. The present King's mother, however, is Princess Muna al-Hussein, an Englishwoman formerly known as Antoinette Avril Gardiner.

Life after Hussein

In the final months of King Hussein's life, Queen Noor reportedly wanted her son Prince Hamzah to be named heir to the throne, although she disputes this in her memoir, but Abdullah became king instead and Hamzah became the heir presumptive. In 2004, however, Queen Noor was dealt a further blow when, in a surprise move, Prince Hamzah was stripped of his title as Jordan's next in line and it is expected that King Abdullah will eventually name his own son as heir instead.^[4]

Queen Noor currently splits her time between, Jordan, Washington D.C., and London. She continues to work on behalf of numerous international organizations and makes 70 to 100 speaking appearances annually.^[5]

visited 3/24/2008

Notable works

- In 2003, Queen Noor published a memoir, *Leap of Faith*, which became a bestseller.
- Queen Noor is frequently mentioned in *Absolutely Fabulous* as a client of Edina Monsoon.

See also

- Hashemite

Notes and references

- ↑ Stanley Marcus. *Minding the Store: A Memoir*, 1974, p. 39.
 - ↑ http://www.sos-usa.org/cgi-bin/sos/jsp/retrieve.do?site=US&hNav=show&fn=6556_noor_en&nav=6.5&cat=/654_friends_worldwide
 - ↑ http://www.danielpearl.org/about_us/index.html
 - ↑ http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/4050231.stm
 - ↑ http://www.arabnews.com/?page=9§ion=0&article=40698&d=6&m=3&y=2004&pix=community.jpg&category=Features
- Queen Noor (2003) *Leap of Faith: Memoirs of an Unexpected Life*, Miramax Books, ISBN 0-7868-6717-5

External links

- Official Queen Noor website (<http://www.noor.gov.jo/index.htm>)
- Transcript of a speech given at The Kennedy Center For The Performing Arts in 1996 (<http://gos.sbc.edu/n/noor3.html>)
- 2002 commencement speech - Mount Holyoke College (<http://www.mtholyoke.edu/offices/comm/oped/QueenNoor.shtml>)

Retrieved from "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen_Noor_of_Jordan"

Categories: 1951 births | Living people | American Muslims | Americans of English descent | Americans of Scottish descent | Americans of Swedish descent | Arab Americans | Converts to Islam | Dames Grand Cross of the Order of St John | House of Hashim | Jordanian Muslims | People from Potomac, Maryland | People from Washington, D.C. | Princeton University alumni | Queens consort | Syrian Americans | The Hunger Project

- This page was last modified on 21 March 2008, at 01:24.
- All text is available under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License. (See **Copyrights** for details.) Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a U.S. registered 501(c)(3) tax-deductible

visited 3/24/2008

nonprofit charity.