

## Who Are you in Gender, Dress, and Society

Regardless of what others demand of me, I completely believe in being real to myself. I am who I am, and I am pleased with it. Allah made me the way I am and I accept myself. I am who I am and I'm proud of myself. I love my gender, dress and society. I want people to accept me the way I am.

The flowers on the shirt represent my *gender and highlight the beauty of a female*. And the blue goose feathers on the shoulder of the t-shirt shows *the elegance of a woman*. Feather serves as symbols of *high honor*. I used feathers to represent *strength, growth* as well as *hope and freedom* of myself as a female. The halal word on the shirt has two deep meanings. Halal is an Arabic word that means *permissible and pure*. A Halal certified product means that the product is *permissible or acceptable* in accordance with Islamic law. Therefore from being a Muslim background, I only eat *halal certified foods*. Another significance of the word halal is “*virgin*.” In Islam, virginity is linked to *bridal purity and family honor*. The word halal represents the fact that *I am still a virgin and am preserving my purity for the man I will marry*.

The moon represents my *religion, Islam* and the month of *Ramadan*, my favorite month of the year. During Ramadan, Muslims aim to grow *spiritually and become closer to Allah and their loved ones*. I used gold beads to design the moon and the star to *highlight the powerfulness* of the month of Ramadan that *develops spiritual, social and moral values*. The word Tajik is to represent *my background and culture*. I used the blue bead to show *the confidence, faith and the sincerity that I have in my culture*. Heart and the letter “F” represents that *my heart is reserved for my family and friends*. I designed the front of the t-shirt with beads, colorful pearls, flowers and feathers to represent *my gender, dress, religion and culture in society*.

I designed the front of the t-shirt with beads, colorful pearls, flowers and feathers to represent *myself in society*. The back of the shirt shows my daily basis. On the back of the shirt, the graduation cap represents my *career path*. Once I earn my bachelors degree from City Tech, I will pursue Juris Doctor’s degree and become a lawyer. The prayer mat represents my *faith, belief and loyalty to my religion*, and that I *follow the daily obligatory prayers*. The computer and instagram shows my *daily routine*. I'm not a social media person but I like to spend time on Instagram to *learn about the things that I enjoy doing every day*.

Overall, I used the plain white t-shirt to represent my *gender, dress and society* and everything on the t-shirt represents the meanings of *depth, trust, loyalty, sincerity, wisdom, confidence, stability, faith, and intelligence* that I have.

**T-Shirt: Front**



**T-Shirt: Back**

