

**Worksheet for Sascha Crasnow's "Al-Buraq"**  
by Sascha Crasnow  
(to be used with [video linked here](#))



**Key Takeaways:**

1. What does the word *al-Buraq* mean? What does the name refer to?
2. How does *al-Buraq* function to establish Muhammad's position with regard to other prophets?
3. What prompted depictions of *al-Buraq* to include wings?
4. How was *al-Buraq* described in early Islamic texts? How did this description change over time?

5. What is *al-Buraq*'s gender? How has *al-Buraq* been gendered in Islamic visual depictions over time?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Why does the artist Saba Taj use the figure of *al-Buraq* as an articulation of their particular identity?

### **Contextualizing the Work**

1. Think of other mythological figures (hybrid or not, Islamic or not). What is their significance in their culture of origin? How have they been used in contemporary contexts as symbols? In what ways is this similar or different to that of *al-Buraq*?