

**Worksheet for Rachel Parikh's "Talisman"**  
by Sascha Crasnow  
(to be used with [video linked here](#))



**Key Takeaways:**

1. Define the term talisman.
2. What talismans are deemed most effective in the Islamic world?
3. Where does one find talismans?

4. What is the believed function of talismans? Why is jewelry a particularly popular and efficacious medium for talismans?

5. What are the various possible functions of the *muthanna* (mirror image) in the ring shown in the presentation?

### **Contextualizing the Work**

1. Select an Islamic talisman not covered in this presentation. What identifies it as a talisman? What are its contents? How is it worn or carried by its owner? How does its placement or usage relate to its function as talisman?