World History  DBQ#1: Islamic Women  
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Directions: The following question is based on the accompanying Documents 1-11. Some of the documents have been edited for the purpose of this writing exercise. Write your answer on the lined pages of the essay packet.

The question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. As you analyze the documents, take into account both the sources of the documents and the authors' points of view. Write the essay on the following topic that integrates your analysis of the documents. Do not simply summarize the documents individually. You may refer to relevant historical facts and developments not mentioned in the documents.

1. Has the rise and expansion of Islam broadened or restricted women's rights?

Based on the following documents, discuss the changes and dilemmas posed to women at different time periods and in varying Islamic communities. What kinds of additional documentation would help assess the impact of Islamic practices over time on women's rights?

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