

THE SUMAYA MANIFESTO

Women Own Their *Worth*

Ninety-five theses on dignity, care and the capital every woman already carries.

HOW TO READ THIS

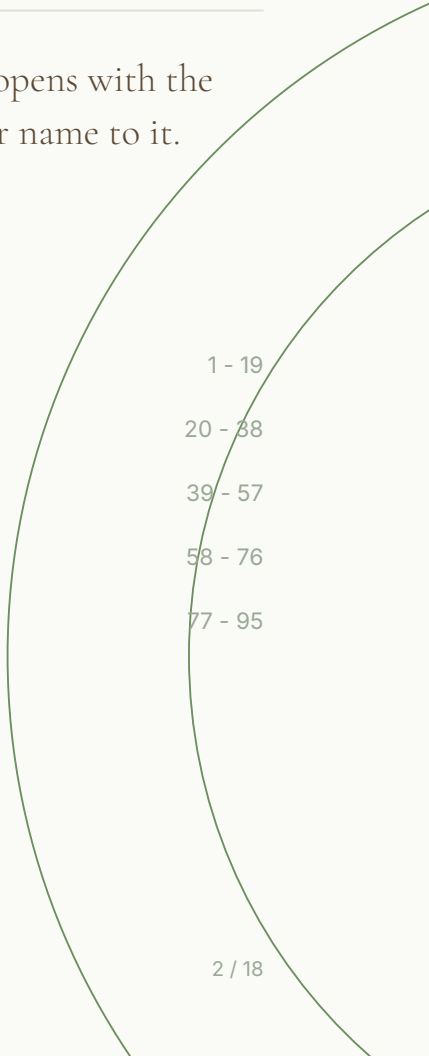
Ninety-five short, declarative claims in the lineage of Martin Luther's Ninety-five Theses and The Cluetrain Manifesto, translated into the language women and those who genuinely see them, have been waiting to hear. Each thesis stands alone. Together they build a worldview.

FOUR THREADS RUN THROUGH EVERY PART

- | Dignity is the first form of capital, and everything else follows.
- | The economy we measure rests entirely on an economy of care that women run for free.
- | Every woman is already wealthy, carrying wisdom, skill, memory and craft that no balance sheet records.
- | A woman who is truly seen does not merely survive. She leads, creates, and lifts others with her.

The arc moves through five constellations. The first constellation opens with the founding claim of the fund. The last invites the reader to sign their name to it.

- EVERYONE, AND WHY WE BEGIN HERE
- WHAT HOLDS HER BACK
- DIGNITY, AND BEING SEEN
- HOW SUMAYA WORKS
- THE BALANCE RESTORED



1 - 19
20 - 38
39 - 57
58 - 76
77 - 95

CONSTELLATION ONE

Everyone, and why we begin here

The world we are building, and why it starts with women and girls, the heart of community.

- 01 A world where everyone fulfils their potential begins with recognising those who have the least opportunity to fulfil theirs.
- 02 Women gave birth to every human being who has ever lived. Begin here.
- 03 The world's oldest injustice is also its most solvable.
- 04 When women are free to fulfil their own potential, so is everyone around them.
- 05 A woman with choice becomes a village with options.
- 06 Wherever a girl walks safely to school, an entire economy is being built.
- 07 One girl finishing school rewrites at least three generations.
- 08 Equality is the entire floor lifting.
- 09 The ultimate creation is new life. It takes both the masculine and the feminine to create it, and every one of us carries both sides.
- 10 The planet will rebalance with or without us. Women know intuitively how.

- 11 For most of recorded history, women, like nature, have often given without being recognised. Both are now asking.
- 12 The care that holds every family together has a name. Hazel Henderson called it the Love Economy, and beneath it lies Mother Nature, taken for granted for just as long.
- 13 Men who share the care unlock the self-respect that no salary can ever pay them.
- 14 An economy that values women's care will look nothing like this one.
- 15 The Love Economy has no shareholders. It has beneficiaries, and we are all among them.
- 16 Justice is not a favour granted to women. It is a debt that the world has carried for millennia.
- 17 On current trends, 351 million women and girls will still live in extreme poverty in 2030. Trends are made of decisions.
- 18 The window is narrowing and the opportunity has never been greater. Both are true at the same time.
- 19 Sumaya is she who rises. The question is who stands with her.

CONSTELLATION TWO

What holds her back

The economy nobody counts, and the choice it costs her.

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- 20 Every economy rests on an economy that has never been counted. Women have largely carried it for free.
- 21 Unpaid care is the economy's foundation, and women lay it every morning.
- 22 The care economy is the largest employer on earth and pays the least.
- 23 Every currency in circulation is backed by the unpaid labour of women.
- 24 GDP counts the ambulance and ignores the woman who kept the family well.
- 25 Price and value parted company long ago. The care that women provide is where the gap is widest.
- 26 What we decline to measure, we abuse without limit.
- 27 Measure how a woman actually spends her day and the injustice becomes impossible to deny.
- 28 When women's care becomes visible, policies are different.
- 29 Of all currencies, time is the one women earn least and spend most.

- 30 Every hour a woman spends carrying water is a loan the world has never repaid.
- 31 She feeds everyone else first. Her own plate is the last thing anyone measures.
- 32 A woman cannot climb out of poverty while in the dark and carrying the whole household on her back.
- 33 Rights a woman does not know she holds are rights she does not have.
- 34 A boundary spoken quietly is still a boundary. That it went unheard was never her failing.
- 35 What holds her back is not what she lacks. It is having no say over what she holds.
- 36 Three women in one household share a single sari. One goes out. The others wait. This is what poverty actually looks like.
- 37 Poverty is rarely the absence of things. It is the absence of choice.
- 38 Dignity disappears the moment choice is removed, and returns the moment someone is truly seen.

CONSTELLATION THREE

Dignity, and being seen

What returns the moment she is truly seen.

- 39 Dignity is the first form of capital.
- 40 Her dignity was never anyone's to take.
- 41 She is not waiting to be saved. She is waiting to be seen.
- 42 The moment someone is truly seen, self-belief begins to grow.
- 43 Self-belief is not defiance. It is a woman at home in herself.
- 44 To be seen is to be released from someone else's idea of who we should be.
- 45 Charity looks down. Recognition looks up.
- 46 A woman moves through cycles a man rarely notices. To see her is to understand and recognise this.
- 47 To truly see her is to accept and love all aspects of her.
- 48 No one can be truly seen until they are ready.
- 49 Look once, properly, and you cannot look away.

- 50 Being seen is the fastest route out of poverty, and the hardest thing to fund.
- 51 Every woman is wealthy. The world has simply been counting the wrong column.
- 52 Wisdom, skill, memory, patience, courage, care, connection, love. Every one is capital. She has carried them her whole life; money arrives last.
- 53 There is no such thing as a woman with nothing. Only a world that has never asked what she holds.
- 54 Poverty describes a bank balance. It has never described a person.
- 55 She is not poor. She has been undervalued.
- 56 What she knows about her own village, no visiting expert will ever learn.
- 57 Count her care, and still know this: she is not the sum of what she does.

CONSTELLATION FOUR

How Sumaya works

How Sumaya shows up, then the six levers of change that inform our theory of change.

- 58 Sumaya begins with the capital already in the room. Everyone contributes, everyone receives, and no one carries it alone.
- 59 A woman is a partner to be listened to.
- 60 Ask her what she knows before telling her what she needs.
- 61 To accept how she sees the world is not agreement. It is where partnership begins.
- 62 Help delivered as instruction leaves her smaller than it found her.

THE SIX LEVERS OF CHANGE

- 63 Freedom is not one lever but six, and they move together.

ECONOMIC POWER

- 64 A woman who controls her own income makes different decisions. That is the argument.
- 65 Savings and credit are not products. They are the difference between a plan and a hope.
- 66 Land, livestock, a name on a title deed. The asset gap is where inequality is written down.

VOICE AND DECISIONS

- 67 A household where decisions are made together is a household that thinks twice and does better.
- 68 Leadership is not a seat she is given. It is a room that stops being surprised she is in it.

TIME AND CARE

- 69 Every hour walking to water is an hour taken from school, from work, from rest, from herself.
- 70 Like men, women deserve to be valued for every hour they contribute.
- 71 A father holding his own child is not helping. He is participating.

EDUCATION AND SAFETY

- 72 A girl completes school when the journey there is safe, and not before.
- 73 A toilet with a door keeps more girls in school than any scholarship.

HEALTH

- 74 No woman should die giving life. Everything needed to prevent it already exists.
- 75 A healthy mother has a healthy family, and a healthy family lifts the whole community.

THE FOUNDATIONS OF A COMMUNITY

- 76 Clean water, a working toilet, light after dark, a roof, a phone signal. This is not development. It is the minimum.

CONSTELLATION FIVE

The balance restored

What follows, and what each of us can do today.

- 77 When a woman is seen, she does not merely survive. She leads, creates, and lifts others with her.
- 78 A community that has been truly listened to begins listening to itself.
- 79 Dignity is contagious. So is its absence. Choose which one you spread.
- 80 Joy returns with dignity, for those who receive and for those who give.
- 81 Freedom is a girl who can dream of a future, and a world that lets her reach it.
- 82 The proof of this work is not a woman who no longer needs us. It is a relationship that has changed us both.
- 83 A man who learns to feel what she carries, and not to fix it, has understood the whole.
- 84 Boys raised by women who are seen grow into men who see.
- 85 When two whole people meet, nothing is divided and everything multiplies.

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- 86 Independence is the same cage as dependence, turned to face the other way. Freedom is accepting our interdependence.
- 87 Every year a girl stays in school is a year she is not married.
- 88 A skilled pair of hands at a birth is the difference between a statistic and a mother.
- 89 Connect a village and you have not given it the internet. You have given it a voice that carries.
- 90 Regeneration begins wherever extraction stops.
- 91 Begin where you are. See one woman properly today.
- 92 Ask before you offer. Then listen longer than is comfortable.
- 93 Bring what you have – wisdom, experience, knowledge, skills, gifts, relationships, voice, time, heart, money. All of it is capital.
- 94 Invest in her potential rather than in her poverty.
- 95 Sign your name to the world where every woman is seen.

AN INVITATION

Sign your name to the world where every woman is seen.

The Sumaya Fund is not asking for charity. It is asking for clarity, and the courage to act on what has always been true. The women and girls we walk alongside are not waiting to be saved. They are waiting to be seen.

hello@sumaya.fund

Sumaya Fund
The Heart of Community

Investing in the heart of community.