



## CULTURAL PRESENTATION AND USAGES OF WORDS: A CRITICAL STUDY OF BLASPHEMY AND UNVEILING INDIA

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### ABSTRACT

*The language is the single possession of human being and it is only thing which made human being different from other forms of creation. It is the cultural identity of an individual and the society. The author's social and cultural civilization is interconnected with language use. This study has been taken to analyse the texts of two different writers in the context of different dialectical usage of words and the presentation of culture. This is a trend of Urdu Hindi language knowing writers who use local dialectical words in English texts. This research paper has been taken to study the mixture use of words and societal flux in the Blasphemy and in Jung's Unveiling India. It happens in the writings of Indian subcontinents writers that their writings in English literature reflect the cultural and social ethos of the country. The language is the identification of once own social and traditional values. The writers of the second language users have inserted their own fashion of art and presentation of the societies. They have ratified the art of their own culture and social values in their texts. The writers of the Indian subcontinents have polished their literature in its own context. Durrani and Jung have utilised their localised themes and cultural identities in these texts through the use mixed themes and local dialectical words. They have not deliberately used these words but the language environment and thematic concerns of the societies compelled them to utilise such cultural themes and dialectical words.*

**Key Words:** Culture, Language, Traditional, Words, Second Language, Presentation, Subcontinents, Urdu, Hindi and Civilization

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## INTRODUCTION

In the twentieth century the women literature has established a stage of solid presentation from where we have lot of genres to read. There are a lot of varieties in the literature and these varieties have been not only from the majority section of the writers or from one culture but also from the minority writers. They have portrayed the huge verities of culture and their presentation in different fashion as well. Women writers of early nineteen century have influenced the new and minority generation of twentieth century. This study has been taken to deal with the two texts of the two different regional Muslim women writers in the context of their cultural and language presentation.

### *Unveiling India*

Anees Jung is an Indian women author, journalist and columnist for major newspapers in India and abroad. The book *Unveiling India* is written by her in 1987. In this most famous work she has depicted the ironical lives of women in India especially the ironies of Muslim women. Jung came into limelight with this publication, she has written several other books as well, in which she has talked about different issues of women in the society. This book brings to limelight various issues that are present in Muslim society like marriage issues, widowhood, unfair work practices, sexual servitude, the problems of bearing and rearing children in poverty, religion, discrimination and other forms of exploitation.

### *Blasphemy*

Blasphemy is a novel written by Tehmina Durrani, a Pakistani women novelist and women right activist. It has been studied as an exposure of the Pakistani Maulanas and shown to the whole world how some religious ministry exploits the Muslim masses behind the concealment of Islamic religious traditions. These so called the religious leaders have interpreted the religious books by their own for their benefit in the society. The novel generated some controversy, and it was feared that it might be banned in Pakistan for its condemnation of the sufi pirs of Pakistan. However, as Kamal Siddiqi points out, the novel “will make little difference in either their (the pirs) lives or the status that they enjoy. One reason is that the book is in English a language read by less number of people in Pakistan. This work by Durrani has highlighted that how the self and emotions of human beings especially of women and Islamic values are dying in the hands of religious pirs. She has infused the voice of protest in the Heer and other characters in the novel.

### *Cultural Presentation in the Blasphemy and Unveiling India*



Heer the heroin of the novel also has to face identical crises throughout the novel. She is in Pir's bondage. The only time she leaves the physical confines of her home she has to lose her identity and even her name, Pir renames her Piyari instead of a pure woman he introduces her as prostitute from the city to the men he brings into his "sanctified" bedroom. (Iqbal et al, P, 212)

The present study of this novel "*Blasphemy*" is intended to address the issue of culture and the problem of local dialectical words usage in the text. This has been taken to deal with the problems existing in the social world of women and cultural values in the society of Pakistan. The author has revealed the facts and realities of the society which is under the influences of pirs. The Heer is the central character of the novel and the whole story is revolving around her. These pirs have degraded the basic and real picture of the social and cultural values of the Pakistani society. This system is existing in the Pakistani society and women have been utilised to suffer such huge indifferences which have not been allowed by the Islam. They have utilised the religious tactics to earn money and fame in the society.

Pir sain is not only exploiting the emotions of the people inside his Haveli but the emotions of the other people of the society also. As they come for spiritual guidance to him and they think that he is their best well-wisher to lead them to the Islamic ways of life. But in reality, he is not a spiritual model to be followed. People blindly trust him and they come to him for prayers. They used to come at his shrine even after his death. (Iqbal et al, P, 211)

The innocent people living in any society blindly trusted the religious men and not know the inner world of evil of these pirs. They have not only spread the superstitions and orthodoxy types of beliefs among the people but have especially infused the wrong sense of values among the women. The novel has also been studied as a representative of the cultural position of the women in the Muslim country Pakistan. It has also been interpreted that Durrani's construction of a particular kind of zenana show that the veil (burqa and chador in Blasphemy) and the purdah system are inherently linked to women's sense of identity and of identification with specific economic and class structures, consent with which is key to women's survival in Pakistan's rural patriarchy.

In the *Unveiling India* Jung has revealed the ironical stories of the women and has portrayed the complex face of the women world in Indian society. The women in this book are not extraordinary or famous but they are women of the common society whose problems have been traced and printed in the media. Their stories are about the marriages, widowhood and some women have been brought under purdah which is the customs of the society. They have kept under the four walls. This system of culture indifferences and old traditions still exist in the Indian society.

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## Usage of Words in the *Blasphemy and Unveiling India*

The study of the language is the scientific study of the society and the language is the presentation of customs, values and total face of the society. The study has been conducted by examine the textual thrust and its mixture use of words along with the English language. Local dialectical usages in the *Blasphemy* and in the *Unveiling India* have been proved by analysing these texts.

Words used in the *Unveiling India* by Jung like **ayah** in the first chapter and on page 14, **chilman, henna**. There are various words used by the author and even she has used some aphorism like on page 16...with mao tai at a round table in Peking... and there are number of examples like on page 17 other sentence has been used ...we would pitch our stakes at pachesi and cards... there are some Indian cultural words like **rangoli, puja, shehnia, pido, chunris, papal, haveli, jat karma, chillah, nam karma, tiffin annaprasana, bismillah, rajdhani, lathis**, etc. Jung has not only used words but sentences too have been fashioned the text by its usage. Another example is ...ban jaagey ban wasi jaagey... (108) Therefore by examining the text of Jung we came to know that writers from any area never forget the identity of his/her language and culture.

The culture and dialectical presentation in the text of Durrani is the main focus of the study. The local usage of words and sentences in the *Blasphemy* is the identity of the society of author. Durrani has used these words to connect the text with the message to the readers. She has used in the very first chapter of her novel as ...rhythm of the holy words...Allah ho Akber, Allah ho Akber, ashudo an la illaha ilallah...not only the holy words but there are number of words and sentences in the text. Words like **dai, amma sain, charpai, korah watta, jagirdar, maulvi, jooti chupai, malag ,deen, chaddar**, etc. Sentences like on page (152) ...I kept my chunni tightly... Both the authors have used words from Hindi and Urdu dialects and the stories of their local atmosphere and the characterisation of the novels from their own locality. The writers are the real face of the society and what is happening in the society writers portrayed the same things in their works. The literature of any kind is the reflections of that social world where from the writers belong.

## Methodology

The methodology for this research work has been taken is the primary texts of both the Muslim women writers in order to analyse the cultural circumstances and usage of local dialectical words. The intended research paper is qualitative by nature; thick descriptive method of analyzing the texts is used as methodology. The critical survey of the novels is

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done in the light of cultural presentation and usage of words in the texts. The original texts of the novels is the basic tool for the researcher, although other related literary texts, critical paper, journal articles and electronic media has been used as secondary source of materials for the study by the researcher.

## Results

In the above examination and evaluation of the texts by the Muslim women writers we come across that the writers are the real interpreters of the society through their observations and experiences. Both the writers have depicted through their works of literature in English the social atmosphere, customs and traditions of the society. They have used the local dialectical words and sentences in both the texts. Durrani has traced the Pakistani cultural beliefs and Urdu dialectical words and Jung has revealed the stories of women from all over the country and has used the Hindi dialectical words. She has portrayed the Indian cultural traditional in the text.

## Conclusion

In the conclusion we came to know that these texts represented the cultural and dialectical ethos of the society of Indian subcontinent. These texts have been proved by examining the diversity of cultural ethos and languages differences. Writers have traced the reality of the society and they have mixed the sentences with their local dialectical words and have made the local stories famous in the English literature throughout the world. Both the writers have shown different regional inheritance, cultural longings and dialectical differences. They have been particular with the issues of women and their problems in the society and have interpreted the manners of expressions in their own ways.

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