NEW LITERARIA-

An International Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities

Volume 7, No. 1, Aug-Sept, 2025

ISSN: 2582-7375 www.newliteraria.com



Interpreting the Dress Code of Zarri Bano: From Fashionism to Spiritualism

Dr. Saleha Ilhaam Assistant Professor, Centre for Distance and Online Education, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India

Abstract:

Clothing is an essential component of human existence and one of the fundamental necessities. Since clothing is a way for people to mimic their social bodies, there are many different explicit and implicit connotations associated with it. Clothes can serve as a means of communication regarding one's personality, habits, and unique style. The organization of social life, class, and community can all be characterized by one single item of clothing. Numerous factors, such as the media, the fashion industry, culture and also an individual's character, have an impact on how one dresses and expresses their interests. The representation of clothing in a narrative is not static. It helps readers investigate symbolic meaning and provides authors with a familiar vehicle for conveying nuanced character features. Through an in-depth exploration of Zarri Bano, the leading lady in *The Holy Woman*, this paper demonstrates how clothes and accessorizing express religious, cultural, and social recognitions. Also, taking into consideration the spiritual versus corporeal dynamic, the paper attempts to showcase how clothes in the recent work act subliminally to define Zarri's identity and self and her understanding of the dualistic view of reality.

Keywords: Clothing, Fashion, Identity, Self, Spiritualism.