

Disowning of 'Our Lady of Alice Bhatti' by Mohammad Hanif Through Gendered and Religious Discourse

Authors : Abrar Ajmal

Abstract : The language used in literature reveals the culture and social gestalt of any society in which it has been constructed and consumed. This paper carries the same rationale, which aims to track certain socio-religious and cultural-economic disparities and discrepancies towards minorities, particularly Christians, in an Islamic re(public) where there is a clear majority of Muslims with the help of analysis of instances of language used in the narratives "Our Lady of Alice Bhatti" by Mohammad Hanif. It would highlight social inequalities practiced deeply in sociocultural discourse. Moreover, this research would also touch upon the question of gender discrimination and gender construction as a female entity in a male-chauvinistic scenic turnout using language since the novel revolves around communicative forfeits of Alice Bhatti's life where she is fraying in fisticuffs to benefit herself in a miss-fitted society. It would employ using Fairclough's framework for analysis to conduct a critical discourse analysis of the text at three axiom levels namely textual analysis, discursive practices, and socio-cultural analysis. Thus, the results would reveal textual findings in linguistic analysis, a range of embedded discourses in discursive practices, and consumption of the text into socio-cultural explications with the use of language and lexicalization employed in the selected excerpts.

Keywords : gendered discourse, socio-economic disparities minorities, Islamization, analytical framework

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