

# EDUCATION ON THE ETIQUETTE OF DRESSING FOR MUSLIM WOMEN: AN ANALYSIS OF THE PROPHET'S HADITH ON CLOTHING

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**Abstract:** The education on the etiquette of dressing for Muslim women is a crucial aspect of Islamic teachings. This etiquette involves not only aesthetic considerations but also deep moral and spiritual dimensions. This article aims to analyze the hadiths of the Prophet Muhammad SAW related to the etiquette of dressing for Muslim women and to identify the basic principles that should be followed. This study is expected to provide clear guidelines for Muslim women in their daily lives according to Islamic teachings.

**Keywords:** Education, Dressing for Muslim Women, Islamic Teachings, Hadiths

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## Introduction

Clothing is an essential aspect of human life that reflects one's identity, culture, and beliefs. In Islam, clothing serves not only as a body cover but also as a reflection of obedience to Allah SWT and His Messenger. The hadiths of the Prophet Muhammad SAW provide clear guidance on the appropriate etiquette of dressing for Muslim women. This article will examine these hadiths to identify the basic principles of dressing that Muslim women should follow.

In today's information era, both print and electronic media have significantly influenced society's perception of identity and the noble values that should be maintained. Many women are influenced to abandon their true identity for popularity and material gain, thereby sacrificing religious values, particularly regarding the etiquette and rules of Muslim women's dress. This phenomenon has become more concerning as more women, without feeling any guilt, showcase their beauty by revealing their aurat (parts of the body that should be covered), displaying the curves of their bodies, and even offering themselves for the sake of popularity.

This situation indicates a serious identity crisis and moral degradation among some Muslim women. Therefore, it is crucial to revisit Islamic teachings on the etiquette of dressing, as outlined in the hadiths of the Prophet Muhammad SAW. By examining these hadiths, we can understand the fundamental principles of dressing that Muslim women should follow to reclaim their true identity and maintain their dignity and religious values.

## Literature Review

### A. Analysis Of The Prophet's Hadith On Clothing

#### 1. Covering the Aurat Perfectly

وَجْهَهُ إِلَى وَأَشَارَ وَهَذَا هَذَا إِلَّا مِنْهَا يُرَى أَنْ تَصْلُحَ لَمْ الْمَحِيضَ بَلَّغَتْ إِذَا الْمَرْأَةُ إِنَّ أَسْمَاءُ يَا  
وَكَفِّي.

"O Asma, when a woman reaches the age of menstruation, it is not appropriate for her to display parts of her body except this and this - and he pointed to his face and hands."  
(HR. Abu Dawud) (Ahmad Abu, 2001: 123)

This hadith emphasizes the importance of covering the aurat perfectly, which includes the whole body except for the face and hands. (Ahmad Abu, 2001: 125) Allah SWT commands all His servants to always cover the private parts of people who are not their mahram. According to fiqh experts, the aurat is a part of the body that must be covered as commanded by Allah SWT and the apostles. (Abu Dawud Sulaiman Bin Ash'ath, 2008: 225) There are many arguments and hadiths about covering the private parts for Muslims which are the basis for this command. (Al-Bukhari, 2011: 321).

#### 2. Not Resembling Men's Clothing

From Ibn Abbas r.a.:

الْمُنْتَشِبِينَ مِنَ الرِّجَالِ بِالنِّسَاءِ ، وَالْمُنْتَشِبَاتِ مِنَ النِّسَاءِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ لَعَنَ رَسُولُ اللهِ  
بِالرِّجَالِ

"The Messenger of Allah SAW cursed men who imitate women and women who imitate men." (HR. Bukhari). . (Al-Bukhari, :2011:219)

This hadith emphasizes that women should not wear clothing that resembles men's clothing to maintain clear gender identity. This means that how the human condition is created is essentially the best form according to Allah SWT. If Allah SWT, the owner of all perfection, says this, then we as creatures are truly not good enough to label our existence as not yet perfect and worthy of being changed. . (Al-Bukhari, 2011: 298).

#### 3. Loose and Non-Transparent Clothing

صِنْفَانِ مِنَ أَهْلِ النَّارِ لَمْ أَرَهُمَا، قَوْمٌ مَعَهُمْ سِيَاطٌ كَأَذْنَابِ الْبَقَرِ يَضْرِبُونَ بِهَا النَّاسَ، وَنِسَاءٌ  
كَاسِيَاتٍ عَارِيَاتٍ مُمِيلَاتٍ، رُءُوسُهُنَّ كَأَسْنِمِ الْبُخْتِ الْمَائِلَةِ، لَا يَدْخُلْنَ الْجَنَّةَ، وَلَا يَجِدْنَ رِيحَهَا،  
وَإِنَّ رِيحَهَا لَيُوجَدُ مِنْ مَسِيرَةِ كَذَا وَكَذَا

Two classes of hell's inhabitants I have never seen; (namely) a people who have a whip, like a cow to beat people and whose women are clothed but naked, swaying, their heads like the sloping hump of a camel, such women will not enter heaven and will not smell its

*scent, even if it smells during this trip and this (far away) (HR. Muslim) (An-Nawawi, 2010: 101).*

Ibnu Abdil Barr said, "The meaning of the Prophet words is that women wear thin clothes, which can describe the shape of their body and cannot cover or hide it. They are still clothed in name, but in essence they are naked." Apart from that, Muslim women's clothing should not resemble men's clothing. (Abu Husain Muslim bin Al Hajjaj, 1765: 112) From Ibn Abbas radhiyallahu 'anhu said: Rasulullah ﷺ cursed men who resemble women and women who resemble men. (HR. Bukhari) On the issue of clothing specifically, Abu Hurairah said: The Prophet cursed men who wore women's clothing and women who wore men's clothing. (HR. Abu Dawud, Ibnu Majah, Hakim, and Ahmad with authentic sanad). (Al-Ja'fi, Imam Abi Abdillah, 1992: 75).

## **B. Principles of Dressing Etiquette for Muslim Women**

- 1. Covering the Aurat Perfectly:** Clothing must cover the entire body except for the parts allowed (face and hands) (As-Sijistani, 2013: 115). The concept of aurat in Islam refers to the parts of the body that must be covered in public. For women, this typically includes the entire body except for the face and hands. (Al-Asqalani, Ibnu Hajar, 2001: 123). The guidelines for covering the aurat are rooted in the Qur'an and the Hadith, aiming to promote modesty and dignity. Several hadiths provide detailed instructions on how Muslim women should cover their aurat, emphasizing the importance of modest attire that aligns with Islamic principles (Ats-Qalani, Ibnu Hajar. 1989: 1120).

### Context and Interpretation

The hadith from Aisyah r.a. is often cited in discussions about Islamic dress codes for women. Scholars interpret this instruction as a fundamental principle that underpins the Islamic approach to modesty. The directive to cover the entire body, except the face and hands, is seen as a means to protect a woman's dignity and privacy, fostering an environment where women are respected for their character rather than their physical appearance. (Az-Zabidi, Imam, 2002: 45).

### Modern Application

In contemporary settings, the application of this hadith can be observed in various forms of attire that adhere to Islamic principles. Common examples include the hijab, which covers the hair, neck, and sometimes the shoulders, and the abaya or jilbab, which are loose-fitting garments that cover the body. These clothing items are designed to be modest and not reveal the shape of the body. However, the implementation of these guidelines can vary depending on cultural and personal preferences. Some women may choose to wear the niqab, which also covers the face, leaving only the eyes visible. The choice of how to cover the aurat is often influenced by a combination of religious understanding, cultural norms, and individual conviction. (Muhsin, 2009: 120).

### Educational Importance

Educating Muslim women about the importance of covering the aurat perfectly is crucial in helping them understand and embrace their religious identity. Islamic educational programs and curricula often include lessons on the significance of modesty and the specific requirements for covering the aurat. By providing a clear understanding of these principles, educators can empower women to make informed choices about their attire in accordance with their faith. (Muhsin, 2009: 112).

- 2. Non-Transparent:** Clothing should be made of non-transparent material that does not show the skin or body shape clearly. Muslim women's clothing should be made of non-transparent material and should not clearly reveal the skin or body shape. This guideline originates from Islamic teachings aimed at preserving modesty and protecting women's honor (Barlas Asma, 2002: 98).

Relevant Hadith From Ummu Salamah r.a., she said: "At the end of my community, there will be women who are dressed but appear naked..." (HR. Ahmad). (Az-Zabidi, 2002: 111).

This hadith warns against the phenomenon of women appearing dressed but essentially naked because their clothing is too thin or transparent, revealing the shape of their bodies. This hadith emphasizes the importance of choosing clothing materials that do not expose the aurat. (Abdul Mustakim, 2003: 78).

#### Context and Interpretation

In this context, being dressed but naked refers to clothing that, despite covering the body, still clearly shows the skin or body shape. Scholars interpret this hadith as a warning to avoid thin or transparent clothing. Modest clothing should cover the body in a way that does not draw attention to the body's shape or skin underneath. Barlas, Asma, 2002: 120).

#### Modern Application

In the modern era, there is a wide range of clothing materials available, and Muslim women have various options to ensure their clothing meets Islamic standards of modesty. Garments such as abayas, jilbabs, or tunics made of thick, non-transparent materials are common choices. Additionally, many Muslim women opt for layered clothing to ensure their aurat remains well-covered (Ahmed Leila, 2000: 46).

Loose clothing also plays a crucial role in maintaining modesty. Non-tight clothing not only covers the body but also prevents the body's shape from being clearly visible, which is one of the fundamental principles of Islamic dressing.

#### Importance of Education

It is essential to educate Muslim women about the importance of choosing clothing that is not thin or transparent. Through educational programs and discussions, women can understand the reasons behind this guideline and how to apply it in their daily lives. Education can also include practical guidance on selecting appropriate clothing materials and dressing modestly without sacrificing comfort or personal style. (Ahmad Al-Mursi Husain Jauhar, 2009: 69).

3. **Loose Fit:** Clothing should be loose so as not to show body contours.
4. **Not Resembling Men's Clothing:** The style and form of clothing should clearly show a woman's gender identity.
5. **Simple and Not Excessive:** Clothing should not be used for excessive display or attention-seeking.
6. **Islamic Aesthetic Values:** Clothing should reflect beauty in line with Islamic values, such as cleanliness and neatness. (Al-Bukhari, 2011: 55- 60).

## Method

This research uses a qualitative method with a descriptive-analytical approach. Data is collected through literature review of hadiths related to the etiquette of dressing for Muslim women. These hadiths are then analyzed to identify the basic principles that should be followed in dressing.

## Result and Discussion

Creating a results and discussion section for a study on the supporting and inhibiting factors of pedagogic competence of Islamic Education teachers at SMA Swasta Muhammadiyah 02 Medan requires an analysis of both qualitative and quantitative data collected through surveys, interviews, or observations. While I can't provide real data, I can draft a sample structure based on hypothetical findings to guide you in writing your actual results and discussion sections.

### A. Result

Education on the etiquette of dressing for Muslim women based on the hadith of the Prophet SAW emphasizes the importance of covering the aurat, maintaining modesty, and simplicity in dressing. These hadiths provide clear guidelines regarding permissible and prohibited types of clothing and remind of the consequences for those who do not comply with the established rules. By following these teachings, Muslim women can properly fulfill religious commands and maintain their dignity and faith.

### B. Discussion

1. The principle of covering the aurat perfectly is deeply embedded in Islamic teachings and serves as a cornerstone for the modesty expected of Muslim women. The hadith from Aisyah r.a. provides clear guidance on the areas of the body that should remain covered, emphasizing the importance of modesty in both public and private spheres. Through education and awareness, Muslim women can uphold these values and confidently express their religious identity through their attire.
2. Choosing clothing that is not thin or transparent is an integral part of dressing etiquette in Islam. The hadith warning against women appearing dressed but naked emphasizes the importance of modesty and protecting the aurat. By understanding and applying these principles, Muslim women can maintain their honor and dignity in accordance with Islamic

teachings. Proper education can help women make wise decisions about their clothing and live lives that align with religious values.

### **Counclusion**

Education on clothing etiquette for Muslim women based on the hadith of the Prophet SAW emphasizes the importance of covering the private parts, maintaining modesty and modesty in clothing. These hadiths provide clear guidance regarding the types of clothing that are permitted and prohibited, and warn of the consequences for those who do not comply with the established dress code. By following these teachings, Muslim women can carry out religious orders correctly and maintain their honor and religion.

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