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## Research Article

## Hijāb, Choice, and Identity: Between Feminist Liberation and Islamic Modesty

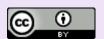
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**Abstract.** The hijāb, rooted in Islamic principles of modesty, is widely recognised as a core aspect of religious belief and practice. While the obligation of modest dress is established in Islamic sources for both men and women, interpretations of the hijāb, particularly regarding the extent of covering required for women, vary significantly across different cultural, legal, and theological contexts. Often positioned at the centre of global debates on gender and religion, the hijāb is alternately viewed as a symbol of piety, identity, resistance, or patriarchal control. This study analyses the hijāb, exploring how Muslim women understand and practice veiling within diverse socio-religious and feminist frameworks. The paper draws upon Islamic jurisprudence, feminist theory, and textual analysis to explore the Qur'anic and Hadith-based foundations of modesty, alongside the evolving discourses on

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