

## A Critical Study of Hijab and Covering from Muhammad Shahrur's Point of View

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### Abstract

Muhammad Shahrur is one of the modern religious thinkers who considers the mission of Islam to be eternal and for all human history and emphasizes the necessity of adapting Islamic teachings to changes in human society. Among the issues that Shahrur addressed is the issue of Hijab and covering. The current research while reading the works of Shahrur, which is dedicated to this issue, is an attempt to obtain an answer to two questions: 1. How has Shahrur proposed his theory of Hijab and covering? and 2. How can Shahrur's theory be analyzed and criticized? The result of the research in answering the two mentioned questions is that Shahrur, relying on the word, has come up with a new reading of the verses to the extent that he considers the covering of believing women - in any country - to be following the customs of their land. Shahrur's views, despite the effort made for innovation, from many aspects and for reasons such as undocumented comprehension of the word, undocumented understanding of morphology and syntax, giving preference to figurative usage, considering some phrases as historical evidence, and selective approach in using tradition are unacceptable.

**Keywords:** Muhammad Shahrur; Contemporary Reading; Innovative Interpretation; Hijab; Clothing.

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