Opinion of Students of Lovely Professional University on HIJAB CONTROVERSY

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Abstract:

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The Karnataka High Court has taken up the case of Muslim women students at a Government College in the town of Udupi who were denied access into their class because they wore Hijab, a head scarf, a covering to which they were accustomed. Initially, there were just six of these kids, but their numbers grew exponentially over time. They did not revolt suddenly; this was a practice that other female members of their families were also used to, and they just followed after understanding that it was part of their faith and belief.

Despite students' protests, the college management relented on its decision to prohibit hijab in government college classrooms. They and their parents argued with college officials that it is their constitutional right to dress according to their religious practice. The educational institution cited a government directive mandating all students to wear a set uniform, and hijab is not part of the uniform. Resham, a student, sought the Karnataka High Court to seek redress, and three other students joined in the case known as Resham v State of Karnataka and Ors. As a result, the case is presently in court.

We have all heard the negative and positive comments delivered by some well known politicians and other dignitaries. As we all know that Lovely Professional University has a diversity of students studying from different states and countries. This project is based on what do students of LPU think about the ongoing hot topic of the Hijab Controversy.

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Introduction:

- Background to the study:

In India, the Hijab Controversy has been a point of contention. The Hijab Controversy, which originated in Karnataka, has gained national attention. Several schools have forbidden Muslim female students from wearing the headscarf in classes or on school grounds. The Karnataka High Court reserved judgment on the case on February 25.

Much of the debate, judicial and otherwise, appears to center on essentiality, a notion created by the Supreme Court in the Shirur Mutt case. According to the court, Article 25, which provides religious and conscience freedom, "covers all rites and activities that are intrinsic to the faith." Many people are wondering how important the headscarf is to practicing Muslim religion in light of the current controversy.

Hijab is a covering that covers the head and chest and is worn by certain Muslim women in the presence of any man outside of their close family or sometimes by men. Another meaning may be the separation of men and women in the public domain, whilst a philosophical dimension could be "the veil that divides man, or the world, from God."

For certain Quran, Hadith, and other ancient Arabic text believers, the term hijab was used to designate a headscarf, while ijb was used to denote a barrier, a curtain, or the Islamic standards of modesty and attire for ladies in general. For some, Muslim girls and women wear the hijab to safeguard modesty and unrelated seclusion from males. Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World defines modesty as "gaze, walk, clothing, and genitalia" for both men and women.A school uniform conflict arose in the Indian state of Karnataka in early January 2022, when some Muslim students of a junior college who wished to wear hijab to lessons were denied admittance on the grounds that it was a breach of the institution's uniform code. The disagreement extended to other schools and universities across the state over the next several weeks, with groups of Hindu students organizing counterprotests by refusing to wear saffron scarves. The Karnataka government issued an order on February 5th declaring that uniforms must be worn compulsorily where regulations exist and that no exceptions may be made for the wearing of the hijab. Several educational institutions referenced this ruling and refused Muslim females wearing the hijab admission.

On behalf of the students who were wronged, petitions were filed at the Karnataka High Court. Due to demonstrations and disagreements over the wearing of the hijab, the government shuttered high schools and universities for three days on February 8th. On February 10, the High Court issued an interim ruling prohibiting all pupils from wearing religious clothing. When schools reopened on 14 February, the high court's interim ruling was enforced in all Karnataka schools and colleges, with pupils and, in certain cases, instructors being instructed to remove hijabs and burkas outside the school gates. The hearings from the petitioners, the state, and the institutions ended on February 25th, after a total of around 23 hours spread over 11 days.

The application of dress standards by educational establishments, which prohibited the wearing of the hijab, was criticized both inside and outside India by authorities in the United States and Pakistan, Human Rights Watch, and people such as Malala Yousafzai and Noam Chomsky. Politicians such as Arif Mohammad Khan, Aaditya Thackeray, and Vishva Hindu Parishad, as well as women's rights advocates

Taslima Nasrin and Masih Alinejad, backed the ban.

Karnataka's education system consists of ten years of school and two years of pre-university college ("PU College"). Using powers granted by Section 145(1) of the 'Karnataka Education Act, 1983,' the Government of Karnataka enabled recognized educational institutions to decide on uniforms for their pupils. The state government requires uniforms for school children, and schools can select the colors. Uniforms were not prescribed government for PU colleges, but most college development committees (CDCs) adopted them over time, according to a PU department official. The agency issued a directive to all PU colleges in 2017 stating that PU students should not be required to wear uniforms.

College administrations that already had uniforms questioned the direction, claiming that students and parents were satisfied with them. The directive was still available on the PU Education Department website in February 2022, but it did not appear to have been implemented.

According to the BBC, protests over hijab have occurred in the coastal area of Karnataka in the past, but such concerns were often easily handled. However, not all instances were simple. Due to her insistence on wearing a headscarf, a second-year PU student at Udupi PU was barred from attending lessons for a whole year in 2011–12. There have also been cases of Hindu students wearing saffron scarves to protest Muslim pupils wearing hijab or burqa in class.

It is unclear what prompted the pupils' change of heart on the hijab issue. They admit to attending the first year of college despite the college's no-hijab regulation. They arrived at university wearing burqas and removed them in a "women' room" before attending classes. One of the pupils also stated that their parents were informed about this when they enrolled in college in 2020. Others were skeptical. The problem was resolved when the lessons were relocated to Covid. When school resumed on campus in September 2021, some students requested permission to wear the hijab, which was rejected on the grounds that everyone must wear a "common uniform."

The college development committee, which is in charge of developing consistent policies, was led by K. Raghupati Bhat, an MLA from the ruling BJP. There were no Muslims among its 21 members. Following the escalation of the conflict, Bhat called a conference with all students' parents on 1 January and proclaimed that the institution will maintain its uniform rule, which does not permit hijab. The CFI and SDPI argued that because uniforms were not imposed by the government, they could not infringe on students' religious liberties. Bhat contacted the state government's Pre-University Education Department to inquire about the situation. As a result, the problem was pushed to the level of the state government.

Soon after the Udupi incident became known, groups of Hindu students began arriving at their institutions wearing saffron scarves to protest Muslim students being permitted to wear hijabs. "If females are permitted to wear hijab, other students would come with saffron shawls to institutions throughout Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts," a representative of the Hindu JAGRAN FRONT , an offshoot of the Sangh Parivar, vowed.

The first to observe this development was a coeducational first-grade college in Koppa tehsil, Chikmagalur district, when some pupils donned saffron scarves and urged that the dress code be enforced. To defuse the issue, the institution requested Muslim students to remove their headscarf in class. A few days later, during a parent-teacher conference, it was determined that Muslim girls could wear the hijab as long as they did not pin it or knot it around their heads. The parents of the Hindu pupils did not agree with their children's request to wear saffron scarves. Hindu students from PU College in Mangalore wore saffron shawls to oppose the hijab on January 6, and were supported by Hindu nationalist organizations ABVP, VHP, and Bajrang Dal.

The saffron protests gathered traction in February, with demonstrations taking place at the Government PU College in Kundapura (2 February), Bhandarkars' Arts & Science College in the same town (3 February), and Dr BB Hegde College in Udupi (3 February). The saffron demonstrators successfully prevented

hijab-wearing Muslim students from entering the college at the previous site.

The government issued an order on either 3 or 4 February declaring that uniforms required by the state government, school managements, or college development committees must be worn compulsorily. According to the directive, students who adhere to religious beliefs have harmed "equality and harmony" at institutions. The prologue asserted that a prohibition on hijab was not unlawful, citing three court rulings from the High Courts of Kerala, Bombay, and Madras. In universities where the college development committees did not impose a uniform, students must nevertheless wear clothing that promotes "equality togetherness while not interfering with public order." B. C. Nagesh, the education minister, issued a statement stating that "those who choose to flout the government's school uniform standards cannot enter their schools and attend courses."

The effect of the government directive was immediate. Even before the order was made public, word of it had reached the coastal areas by 3 February and was being executed. Even institutions that had previously permitted hijab in courses felt obligated to prohibit them. In several cases, Hindu students pressed the issue by donning saffron scarves and claiming that if hijab was permitted in class, they should be permitted as well.

Several incidents of violence have occurred in parallel with the demonstrations. These were allegedly the outcome of the victims' social media remarks against the wearing of the hijab at universities. Dilip, a shopkeeper in Davanagere, was beaten and stabbed by a crowd after being pulled out of his shop. An enraged crowd of over 300 masked persons wielding dangerous weapons attacked a guy named Naveen and his mother, Sarojamma, in the hamlet of Nallur. Both were allegedly caused by posting an anti-hijab status on Whatsapp, according to the victims' relatives.

As we are students of a University that is rich in culture and religion, it is important to know what students think about the same because we have already heard what the government and some famous names think about the Hijab Controversy. As Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam well

said "For great people, religion is a way to make friends, for small people it is a fighting tool."

It is so sad to see that in some parts impress Ignis towards women while in other places a hijab is a symbol of women rights let's take an example of Iranian women Where society thinks that they have every liberty their liberty with dignity they are not confined to women there have a greater role in shaping the society with values and ethics this is not something according to them dignity is having his job on their heads. As Iran was not an Islamic country and there for women with more free and the memory of it is not far away women in their 50s and 60s were teen and adult with the revolution happened how tough it must have been to accept the new reality daughters back then imagine the granddaughters Singh picture of them outside in hair flowing free which is Cochin smiles on the faces Desi Jat thing has been going on for years since the regime change in 79 Iran in women will always challenged hijab.

So many run-ins scholars the females themselves stated many times that In their religion no one can force them to wear hijab.

Research aims and objectives:

In India, the hijab has been a point of contention. Six teens from a government-run college in Karnataka's Udupi district began protesting last month after being excluded from classrooms for wearing headscarves.

It is important to know and understand the perspective of the ongoing hijab controversy. LPU is a place that values cultures and religion. This project will help us to know and understand the opinion of students from LPU about what they think of the Hijab Controversy.

Our project/research will let us know what common students feel about the same and it is important to know various opinions from students of different ethnicities and backgrounds about the Hijab Controversy.

Objective:

- To understand the Hijab Controversy.

- To know the awareness of the news among the students.
- To know the opinion of students on the Hijab Controversy.
- To conclude if the Hijab Controversy is a political stunt or not.

Research Outline:

This project/research was conducted to record and understand the opinion of students from Lovely Professional University on the ongoing Hijab Controversy in Karnataka. We have all seen, heard and read about the opinion all the high named dignities have about the same. We came across articles and other news videos, where it has been discussed about the controversy and out which, half of them had no idea about what a hijab is or why it is important to some people in the Muslim community.

In this project/research, we recorded responses from the students and it was not surprising that some of them didn't know about the main purpose of hijab and what the controversy was about.

We contained the research within the boundaries of Lovely Professional University because; LPU is extremely rich in culture and religion. People from different states and countries come here to study. The more the variety of people the more exciting results we get.

Review Literature:

This project/research is based on the ongoing controversy of hijab in Karnataka, where young Muslim women were not allowed to enter the school/college premises because they were wearing hijab. At the time of writing, Justice Krishna Dixit had referred the case to a bigger bench to examine whether schools and colleges may force Muslim females not to wear hijabs in class. A day after a clash over the freedom to wear religious headscarves, Chief Minister ordered Basavarai Bommai educational establishments to close for three days. He also urged everyone involved to be calm and peaceful.

"On light of the magnitude of the issues that were disputed, the court is of the considered judgment that the Chief Justice should decide whether a larger bench should be formed in the subject matter," Justice Krishna S Dixit stated.

According to Firstpost (2022), what is more essential than the demonstration or its objective is the impact of such a protest on the country's societal fabric. Such protests expose the fault lines in Indian culture and create a significant schism between right-thinking folks and religious zealots. The contemporary thinking Muslim community, however, is the largest loser in all of this, since they are frequently exposed to religious humiliation by the fundamentalists that exist in Muslim culture. The efforts to impose burqa, niqab, and hijab on Muslim girl students are guaranteed to put pressure on Muslim women who do not choose to wear any of these garments.

The student branch of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which is presently in power in Karnataka, or the Campus Front of India (CFI), the student wing of the extremist Islamic organization Popular Front of India, have long been radicalized in this region of Karnataka. In this case, the CFI backed the Udupi girls protesting, and as the problem grew, the BJP's student branch led marches with students wearing saffron shawls, BBC (16th February, 2022).

NDTV on 7th March, 2022 said that, there is nothing problematic about Muslim females wearing a headscarf, sometimes known (incorrectly) as a "hijab." However, referring to the events in BJP-ruled Karnataka as the "hijab controversy" is deceptive. It's nothing of the kind. It is an outright violation of young Muslim women's right to education, which is guaranteed by Indian law and the Indian Constitution. It is important that the National Human Rights Commission, which was supposed to be progovernment under its new president, sent a warning to the district authorities in Udupi on January 27 after receiving a complaint, indicating that "the facts of the case are unsettling." The charges in the case are significant, concerning the 'Right to Education.' As a result, the case includes a serious breach of human rights.

We came across many more different articles from The Economic Times, Indian Express, The Hindustan Times, The Quint and The Wire, and each article had their own opinion about the same.

In Europe, the hijab and burka conflicts focus upon the many headdresses worn by Muslim women, which have become major emblems of Islam's presence, particularly in Western Europe. In numerous nations, wearing a headscarf has sparked political debate and calls for a partial or total prohibition in certain or all circumstances. Some nations already have laws prohibiting the wearing of masks in public, which can be applied to face coverings. Other nations are considering similar laws or have less stringent limitations.

Some nations already have laws prohibiting the wearing of masks in public, which can be applied to face coverings. Other nations are considering similar laws or have less stringent limitations. Some exclusively apply to face-covering apparel, such as the burqa, abaya, or niqab; others, such as the khimar, a form of headscarf, apply to any garment with an Islamic religious connotation. Various nations have different names for the topic, and "the veil" or "hijab" may be used as broad words for the argument, meaning more than simply the veil or the notion of modesty reflected in hijab.

While carrying out the research we found out that Arabic attire are part of culture in this country is developed because of environment conditions of repair does the Muslim world don't know the difference between culture and religion this is a big question

Waseem protesting against the job loss in Iran requiring them to wear a hijab protesters have taken to St sharing photos and stories without a job in annexor to bring about Change is a fight for their dignity and freedom.

Whereas in 2021 in France France is pushing forward with its xenophobic anti Muslim league legislations and proposes ban on minors wearing hijab in public has been added to the anti separatismbillWhere is where is comments from the people of France can be seen who is state that forcing the woman to either we are removed his job is seen in Europe in countries like France Tera naturalist room around need so what is the problem with somebody want to cover herself or out of free will what is freedom to choose.

A large to group of people these can be seen Chanting if you are in Rome you do as the Romans to if you have problem with the country and its policy leave it you don't give a sequel right in Islamic countries and you have the audacity to ask for equal rights in our country

United States ambassador wades into hijab controversy and commenting on the controversy around his shop in Karnataka's educational institutions United States has said that he job bands in schools valet religious freedom in Karnataka should not determine permissibility of religious clothing in a tweet Rashid Hussain the US ambassador at large for international religious freedom said religious freedom includes the ability to choose one's religious entire the Indian state of Karnataka should not determine the permissibility of religious clothing he added his job and is in schools file its religious freedom and stigmatize in marginalized women and singles.

Let's take a look at the religious perspective of hijab as written in quranic verse

Hijab in the Quran is a religious integral and fundamental part of Islam versus that have to do with the hijab Are as follows:

Until the believing women to lower their gaze from looking at for within things and protect their private parts from illegal sexual acts not to show off their adornment except only that which is apparent like both eyes for necessity to see the way or how to palms of hand or one night or dress like wheel gloves headcover April and draw the wheels all over. The bodies faces snakes in possums in not to reveal their adornment except to their husbands or the fathers or their husbands fathers are the sons or there has been sons or two brothers or their brother sons or the sister sons or their women that is sisters in Islam or the female slave whom the right hands poses or old male servants who lack vigour or small children who have no sense of feminine six in latin not stop defeats so as to reveal what is the height of the adornments and all of you beg Allah To forgive you all oh believers that you Maybe successful (al nur 24:31).

The newly named country that is yet to be recognised that is Islamic Republic of Afghanistan can be seen moving forward fast under taliban's rule Clearly demonstrate how women are appraised of the rights of education of their respective attires their freedom and can be seen dressed as a fanatic group of Muslims

times in again from the recent Statement made by Taliban decrease the people love Mujahid states that adult woman's consent is necessary during Nikkah marriage no one can force women to marry by pressure hoping that it should not turn into a deliberated loophole to Allow forced marriage before reaching adult age of women in that country

This holds fold is run by misogynists men Who are so threatened by intelligent in education it is pathetic that world has many more such women who are appraised raise their voice and on the other hand we can see some eminent females playing political side for example Noble LaureateMalalakYusufzai who was seen fighting for the rights of female in Pathetic conditions of women in Afghanistan and Pakistan Stated that women in her country were forced to wear Burga Anushka is like a pig fabric shuttlecock with only grilled to see through in on hot days it's like an oven at least I cannot wait that Malala stated while she was attacked and therefore ran out of her country saving her life. Amidst The Hijab row crown prince of Saudi

Arabia has decided to get away with the rules as he had earlier stated the women in the country no longer needed to be as head covers are black abayas I'm being the Prince of the country which is known where Islam is originated is taking the step Therefore is proven a progressive Prince how are things for the welfare of the citizens of this countryStating that it is not an essential religious practice protect your modesty not my hijab Niqaab Khan don't stick to patriarchy But keep an eye on your heart and mind and therefore the decision is entirely left for women to decide what type of decent in respect later she chooses to wear Mohammed bin Salman

The remarks of Saudi Crown Prince reflect the superior intellectual open thought processes signaling women in power meant any step towards progress especially when it comes from the holy land of the profit in Muslims need to take a lesson and abolish the retrograde thinking. So from the above context it is clear that some people want to be free when there is no freedom and some wants to be seized from the freedom therefore there is approval if a body's case for a long time it forgets how to fly no matter if you open the case for it will stick to that cage

As far as the statement made by Ministry of education BC Nagesh Tuesday said that students wearing hijab will not be allowed to write any second term examination and all students must follow rules and uniform hijab clad be allowed he added and therefore controversy has taken another turn over past few months.

Methodology:

This study is a qualitative analysis following a quantitative approach. We're the students of a recognized university, Lovely Professional University, Punjab; so to speak, we have a diversity of students coming from various parts of the country as well as different countries, which is why we conducted our own quantitative research aimed at understanding the opinion of the students in regards to the ongoing Hijab controversy.

There's no question that the new generation youngsters have a better understanding and respect for the culture and religion of each other. During our time of study we came across multiple articles and videos that mentioned politicians and other famous dignities arguing about the controversy without having basic knowledge of what it actually is about.

Through the online survey of the students, the target demographic for this project, we asked questions about their knowledge about the controversy and in addition to more specific questions asking if according to them.

Research analysis:

<u>To evaluate the opinion of students of LPU on</u> Hijab Controversy:

The opinion of students on Hijab Controversy was categorized into following sub headings:

- 1. Are you aware of the Hijab controversy??
- 2. Are you against or in favor of the Hijab controversy?
- 3. Do you think the Hijab controversy is just another political stunt?
- 4. What is your opinion on the Hijab controversy?
- 5. Do you think it was necessary to imply no Hijab rules in university?
- 6. Is there no peaceful way to stop wildfire?
- 7. Was this controversy important?

Are you aware of the hijab controversy?

Are you aware of the Hijab controversy?	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	18	80.0
No	02	20.0
Total	20	100.0

According to the data that was collected on Google form, all the 20 responders are aware of the ongoing Hijab controversy in Karnataka. The basic and common answer given by the students was, "Hijab as an accessory was denied in a government college in Karnataka as it violated

the uniform even though it hurt the student's religious sentiments."

This part of the questioner shows that students are aware of the happening around them and around the country

Are you against or in favor of the Hijab controversy

Are you against or in favor of the hijab controversy?	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Favor	06	20.0
Oppose	14	80.0
Total	20	100.0

Out of 20 responders 14 are against the fact that students are being stopped to enter the school and college premises because of the religious scarves Hijab. While 4 of them think that it is

justified for the authorities to not allow girls to enter schools or colleges with a hijab on. And the rest of them aren't sure if they are in favor or against of the controversy

Do you think the Hijab controversy is just another political stunt?

Do you think the Hijab controversy is just another political stunt?	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	16	80.0
No	04	20.0
Total	20	100.0

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After the CFI became involved, an issue that was first isolated to one college became a source of concern throughout the district and, eventually, the state. According to political commentators, the dispute represents an

opportunity for the CFI to seize the Muslim vote bank from the Congress.

According to, 16 out of 20 students think that Hijab Controversy is indeed a political stunt, but however 04 of the 20 responders think that it is not.

What is your opinion on the Hijab controversy?

What is your opinion on the	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Hijab controversy?		
Favor	05	25.0
Opposing	15	75.0
Total	20	100.0

This is one of the most important questions from the questioner. One of the students stated, "In a secular nation like India it is very easy to trigger religious riots. The advantage of these riots can be seen; in today's situation it is observed that even with small issues parties are trying to build up the biggest riot between the two major religions in India and even if the hit isn't political it takes turn and gets into it. The same happened with the hijab controversy, started off with Hindu boys scaring Muslim girl to remove her hijab which showed political influence and eventually the Karnataka HC's decision about no hijab rule." We recorded a variety of opinions from the students on the same, out of which some were positive, some were negative and some decided to not have an opinion as it is a very sensitive and political topic.

Do you think this controversy affected education of students?

Do you think this controversy affected education of the students	_ *	Percentage (%)
Yes	20	100.0
No	00	00.0
Total	20	100.0

The way these protests turned out into slogans in India and the instances of stone pelting, harassment took place. Things got so out of control that schools and colleges shut for 3 days thus in such a terrible instance the chief minister of karnataka had to take such a

decision. clearly affecting the educational environment of students.the situation reached such a state that authorities ordered that none of the students wearing Hijab will be allowed to sit in their final term examination

Was this controversy important?

Was this controversy important?	Frequency	Percentage (%)
yes	02	10.0
No	18	90.0
Total	05	100.0

"Again pointing to the same fact, that schools are meant to help students understand the importance of discipline and to do so having a proper uniform common for all is the basic start. This would also help the students understand (if

they really want to) that religion has its own place, and religion should help all of us come together not that we fighting amongst ourselves because of religions", said one of the students

Is there no peaceful way to stop this wildfire?

Is there no peaceful way to stop this wildfire?	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	15	75.0
No	05	25.0
Total	20	100.0

starting from udupi this wildfire can be seen in other states like puducherry madhyapradesh.the wearing of Hijab is an essential practise for some and misogynistic for others therefore women should be given autonomy to make decisions and court should take that into consideration. The government that support girls "education participation" needs to ensure to act well on their words and safeguard girls and give them right to wear hijab free of intimidation.

Conclusion

The purpose of this research was to analyze views of Lovely Professional University students about the recent ongoing controversy in India over the past six months. Based on our research it can be concluded that there are multiple thoughtprocesses of people from different backgrounds. Exploration of different remarks made by students gave us a broader reach out as citizens of India

At last We would like to Remind of the time second February 18 30s size in the parliament Lord Macaulay made a speech with regard to the Indian education that is why the RSS used to refer the English speaking in wins as the children of my colleague unfortunately we have adopted they called along with language and technology we have forgotten our Indian culture in trying a base to force it up on the Indian subjects a small part of the speech maybe quota days and we must all represent to do a base to form a class or maybe interpret between us in the millions whom we go for a class of people Indians in blood in color but English is test in opinions in morals and intellect.

But in reality we practice their culture. We followit beforeand it honors student citizens and is proud of it irrespective of caste and creed.

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