

ABSTRACT

THESIS: The Sari in Its Ongoing Glory

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DATE: May 2017

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The sari can signify relationships, things and emotions, and represents not just a thing to wear but also integral aspects of relationships with others that flow constantly between persons and things. The personality of the woman is revealed through her material possession, namely her sari. Indian women show their identity through the sari. Under the crafting of identity comes the emotional relationship with the sari. Through the sentimental association with the sari, a woman can express her feelings. Dressing the body through a clothing like a sari is a total sensory system of communication that simultaneously connects a woman to some people and separates her from others. Sari also is an index of fashion. The personality of the woman is revealed through her material possession, namely the sari. Each sari has a story to tell, and the sentimental association of the sari has been brought into light in this research. The results of this research could be useful in analyzing the social forces instrumental in the way Indian women dress. This work does not use any ethnography, instead I have used my personal experience through a number of stories, observations, and anecdotes.