

The present research work sets out to analyze representation of different religions in Urdu novel. Religion is pivot of life. So important is it in human life that its value cannot be overstated. In one way or other it reflects in all spheres of human life and controls all activities: may it be rituals of birth or death; wedding ceremonies or funerals. Literature, on the other hand is reflection of life. It takes stuff from society and portrays the way life actually goes on there. Realizing the important roles of religion and literature this research project attempts to analyse the way different religions are presented in Urdu novels (an important part of Urdu literature).

This research work is divided into six chapters. The first chapter carries a wholesome discussion on major religions including: Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Christianity, and Islam. It covers detailed introduction of these religions, their basic belief system, rituals, religious personalities, and code of life.

Second chapter mainly covers topics of modernity, equality, accountability, and ethics with respect to different religions. It also brings under discussion areas of goodness and badness; good, and evil; life and death as presented in Urdu novel.

In third chapter spirituality and religions along with ways and value of preaching common people in the light of teachings of different religions as portrayed in Urdu novel is discussed.

In fourth chapter extremism, sectarianism, intolerance etc. in religious context and concept of punishment and reward in different religions as presented in Urdu novel is discussed.

Fifth chapter role of religious leaders and preachers, highlighting their positive and negative aspects has been analysed in relation to different religions. Finally, light has also been shed on status of women in different religions as represented in Urdu novels. It also covers exploitation of women in the name of their respective religions.

Chapter six, "Conclusion" which is final chapter of this research work recapitulates the whole discussion. It not only comprehensively summarizes the previous chapters but also carries suggestions for future researchers in this field.