

## ARTICULATING SILENCE: THE EXPROPRIATION OF THE PERIPHERY IN *SHAME*

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### **Abstract**

This essay focuses on how Salman Rushdie expropriates the notion of the periphery to critique dictatorship and on how his employment of the diaspora aesthetic fails to articulate the real voice of the silent and marginalized women in *Shame*. By discussing a number of issues that are associated with the diasporic world, including images of border and exile, meanings of home, the experience of migration, the ambivalence of cultural identity, and the representation of several silenced Pakistani women, the essay shows that the expropriation of the periphery in *Shame* unravels an inner conflict of the diaspora subject and reveals its anxiety. While trying to maintain a certain detachment, the novelist apparently loses his opportunity to conduct a more in-depth exploration of the above-mentioned agenda.

**Key Words:** periphery, female, diaspora aesthetic, palimpsest, Salman Rushdie