

Contemporary Trends in English Language

Samina Azhar, PhD.



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A Stylistic Study of the Fusion of Words in *Midnight's Children* and *Shame*

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Abstract

The most versatile contemporary author who has 'played' with language extensively and whose literature has become synonymous with the most subtle linguistic experimentations is Salman Rushdie. He consciously plays with the language, not merely to incorporate the linguistic richness in the narrative framework but simultaneously to insert the stylistic aestheticism into his creative writing. Rushdie is well known for his unique language which he uses throughout his novels to draw attention to the linguistic hybridity of India. He uses a variety of hybrid English in his novels, the Hinglish language, to convey the emotions of his Indian characters. It is interesting that Rushdie uses fused words as a means of linguistic experiment in his novels. This paper analyses the effect of his usage of fused words on the narrative, with reference to two of Rushdie's select novels, *Midnight's Children* and *Shame*.

Keywords: stylistics, chutnification, Hinglish, wordplay, fusion of words



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