



**LUAHAN IDENTITI MUSLIMAH:** Menurut Cik Sulis, Muslimah yang berpakaian sopan dan berhijab tidak bermakna tidak bergaya. Rekaan beliau menggabungkan hiasan lambang Islam seperti bulan sabit dan bintang serta skim warna yang menggambarkan waktu fajar. - Foto SHAHRIYA YAHAYA

## Pelajar ingin ubah minda melalui fesyen

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BAGINYA, tanggapan yang negatifkan seseorang yang berpakaian sopan atau berhijab dengan pemikiran mundur dan tradisional merupakan sesuatu yang seharusnya diubah.

Untuk itu, Cik Sulis Awalludeen ingin berusaha melakukan demikian melalui pengkhususan dan kepakaran beliau iaitu fesyen.

Dengan dorongan tersebut, Cik Sulis menghasilkan koleksi fesyen sopan atau *modest wear* bagi projek akhir pengajiannya dalam jurusan Reka Fesyen di Maktab Seni LaSalle.

Koleksi baju wanita rekaannya yang diberi tajuk *Glistening Within* telah dipergakan semasa pertunjukan fesyen tamat pengajian LaSalle baru-baru ini dan menggambarkan aspirasi dan identiti Muslimah moden dalam fesyen.

Ini juga kali pertama pelajar LaSalle mereka koleksi fesyen yang menumpukan kepada pakaian sopan.

Menurut Cik Sulis, 23 tahun, berhijab tidak menghalang seseorang wanita daripada bergaya atau meluahkan identitinya melalui fesyen.

"Saya tidak ingin wanita Muslim dilihat seperti terkongkong oleh keputusan mereka mahu berpakaian sopan.

"Saya ingin menunjukkan bahawa kita masih boleh bergaya wa-



Saksikan video Sulis Awalludeen di BH.sg

laupun kita berhijab dan berpakaian sopan, ini bukan satu penghalang," katanya.

Untuk itu, hasil rekaan baju Cik Sulis direka untuk menepati keperluan seorang wanita Muslim, dengan potongan yang longgar dan labuh dengan baju yang berlembung panjang.

Dengan konsep ringkas dan minimalis, hasil rekaan beliau itu terdiri daripada pakaian luar atau *outerwear*, baju dan seluar panjang yang menggunakan skim warna yang gelap dan terang.

Menurut Cik Sulis, beliau telah memilih skim warna tersebut setelah mengamati pemandangan di waktu fajar atau subuh.

"Sebagai seorang Muslim, waktu fajar memang dekat di hati saya kerana ia merupakan masa yang indah dan juga mendatangkan ketenangan.

"Waktu fajar adalah waktu di mana langit berada di antara gelap dan terang, untuk itu saya telah menggunakan warna-warna ini dalam rekaan saya," ujarnya.

Idea untuk koleksi beliau juga memaparkan pengaruh budaya Islam dan konsep minimal pada tahun '90-an.

Lambang-lambang Islam seperti bulan sabit dan bintang juga telah disesuaikan dalam rekaan-rekaannya untuk menggambarkan unsur mistikal dan mempesonakan (*enchanted*).

Cik Sulis berkata bahawa minatnya dalam fesyen tercetus sejak kecil lagi setelah melihat nenek dan datuknya yang pandai menjahit.

Namun, keputusannya untuk menumpukan kepada fesyen sopan dibuat setelah beliau melalui penghijrahan itu sendiri sekitar setahun lalu.

"Saya memahami cabaran yang dihadapi wanita Muslim hari ini.

"Saya berharap melalui rekaan ini dan juga rekaan fesyen saya akan datang, saya dapat menyampaikan mesej kepada wanita Muslim bahawa ia bukan satu masalah jika anda berbeza daripada orang lain," katanya.

Cik Sulis, yang merancang membuka label fesyennya sendiri, juga berharap dapat meneroka pelbagai cara lain untuk membolehkan wanita Muslim bergaya dan meluahkan identiti mereka melalui fesyen.

## **Student wants to change perceptions through fashion**

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For her, the idea of associating a person who dresses modestly or puts on the 'hijab' with backward thinking and tradition is something that needs to change.

Thus, Miss Sulis Awalluden wants to try to do so through her specialty and expertise in fashion.

With that drive, Miss Sulis created a modest fashion collection or 'modest wear' for her final year project in Fashion Design in LASALLE College of the Arts.

Her collection of women's clothes was given the title 'Glistening Within' and it was showcased at the graduation fashion show in LASALLE recently. It features the aspirations and identity of the modern Muslim woman through fashion.

This is also the first time a LASALLE student has created an entire fashion collection focusing on modest dressing.

According to Miss Sulis, 23, wearing the 'hijab' does not inhibit a woman from being fashionable or expressing her identity through fashion.

"I do not wish to see Muslim women as a group that has been repressed because they decided to dress modestly.

"I want to show that we can still be fashionable even though we wear the 'hijab' and dress modestly, this is not a barrier," she says.

Thus, Miss Sulis' clothing was created to meet the needs of the Muslim woman, with loose cuts and length and long sleeves.

With a simple and minimalist concept, her creations comprise outer clothing or 'outwear', tops and long pants that use light and dark colour schemes.

According to Miss Sulis, she picked that colour scheme after she observed the daybreak or dawn.

"As a Muslim, the time of daybreak is very close to my heart because it is a beautiful time and it brings tranquility.

"Daybreak is the time when the sky is in between light and dark, thus I use these colours in my creations," she mentions.

The idea for her collection also features the influence of Islamic culture and the minimalist concept of the 90s.

Islamic symbols like the crescent and stars have also been adapted into her designs to showcase elements that are mystical and enchanting.

Miss Sulis says her interest in fashion was sparked in as a child when she watched her grandparents who were very skilled tailors.

However, her decision to focus on modest fashion was made after she embarked on her own transformation a year ago.

"I understand the challenges faced by today's Muslim woman.

I hope through this creation and my up-coming fashion designs, I can convey a message to Muslim women that it is not a problem if one stands out different from others," she says.

Miss Sulis, who plans to launch her own fashion label, also hopes to explore other ways to enable Muslim women to be fashionable and express their identity through fashion.

PHOTO:

**EXPRESSION OF FEMALE MUSLIM IDENTITY:** According to Miss Sulis, female Muslims who dress modestly and use the 'hijab' are not unfashionable. Her designs combine Islamic symbols like the crescent and stars as well as colours that capture daybreak.

- Photo SHAHRIYA YAHAYA