Research I Critical view of Epistolary works by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan

In Urdu literature the figure of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and his works are well known for multifaceteo reasons. His prose work has been published in big quantum. Though not becoming to his stature, but much of critical work on his prose art has appeared the recent past. Sir Syed's Urdu prose brought revolutionary change in the history of Urdu prose writing through his unique diction and power of expression.

A general introductory preview of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and his contemporary prose writers' achievements are given in the Dr. Syed Abdullah's book "Sir Syed Ahmed our Unkay Namwar Rufaqa Ki Urdu Nasar Ka Fiqri-o-Fanni Jayza". Though much of Sir Syed's prose work has been published but the true worth of his works and his own literary stature has not been completely determined yet. To date, no research work becoming his literary achievements has been published. His prose writing multifaceted. Religious prose, Historical prose, Journalistic prose are some of the dimensions carrying a blend of his epistolary art. During Sir Syed's era, epistolary writing had entered a new epoch. Prior to Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Mirza Ghalib introduced a living genre of epistolary writing that was concomitant to his name. Sir Syed's epistolary writing skill is not only the continuation of the same diction but a quest for new horizon / vistas as well. Majlis Tarakki-e-Aciab published 02 volumes of his epistolary work. Now, the need is to evaluate, the works of is contemporary eminent writers and compare with that of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan in perspective of epistolary. In this research the focus is to evaluate the worth and justify the criticism on his work. Harmony of ideas, as well as expressions have been scrutinized in his letters and dissertations both. In the same way an analysis of his thought in his articles as well as writings, has been presented according to his philosophy and deeds.

Research oriented views of Sir Syed's addressee also falls in the scope of my work under study. Moreover, a pursuit and hunt for Sir Syed's work yet to be published is included in my work too. On parameters of literature, research and their worth in the history of Urdu literature to be published. My research work fulfills the demand of the question that what was the real form of epistolary writing skil during Sir Syed's era.