Travelogues written about Journeys of Pakistan: A Critical Study

Travelogue is one of the popular non fictional genres of literature. Although it is much popular in the readers but not much attention has been paid by the critics and researchers, as compared to other fiction and non-fictional prose, to evaluate it critically. This work is a critical and historical study of Urdu travelogue with special reference to the travelogues written about Pakistan. The thesis comprises of six chapters.

In the first chapter essentials of travelogue and its historic background is discussed briefly. It also includes different parameters of critical study of the genre like literary, cultural and religious aspects. An overview of the history of Urdu travelogue writing is also the part of the chapter. In the second chapter critically study of the travelogues is undertaken. This chapter includes the Urdu travelogues written by famous writers. This chapter is the most important one in the sense that these writers are well known and have their unique style of writing. In the third chapter study of the travelogues written by other people who are not famous for their writings but are important personalities with some other reference. This chapter discusses how these people feel and write and how they are different from professional writers. In the fourth chapter travelogue written about Pakistan by the foreigner in Urdu language are discussed. Most of them are not professional writers but they have written these travelogues in an interesting way. In the fifth chapter Urdu translations of the travelogues written about Pakistan in some other language are discussed. This is also an important chapter because it shows some different point of view because most of the writers do not belong to Pakistan and have their own mindset.

In the last chapter the discussion has been summarized and some findings are presented.