

Thematic Study of the Urdu Ghazal of Pakistani Era: From 1960 onwards

Ghazal has been the most popular and powerful genre of Urdu poetry. It has a rich tradition and valuable references of the history of the Indian sub-continent can be seen in its verses. Much has been written on the classical poetry and its critical appreciation with all important aspects has been the priority of most of our critics. However, the ghazal of twentieth century in general and the ghazal of Pakistani era in specific requires more importance. Some works are there on the Pakistani ghazal but most of those are with stylistic approach and thematic study of the Pakistani ghazal was still less preferred area. This work is an attempt to cover the same.

The work comprises of eight chapters.

In the first chapter basics of ghazal and the relationship between ghazal and its themes has been discussed with various angles.

In the second chapter tradition of Urdu ghazal has been discussed briefly with special reference to its themes and topics. It starts from beginning of ghazal in Urdu and covers all the periods till sixth decade of the twentieth century.

In the third chapter thematic study of the Urdu ghazal of seventh decade of the twentieth has been done. Political and socio-economic situation of the country has been discussed to understand the background of thematic changes.

In the fourth chapter ghazal of eighth decade, in the fifth chapter ghazal of ninth decade and in the sixth chapter ghazal of last decade of the twentieth century has been discussed in the same manner.

In the seventh chapter changing themes of Urdu ghazal of first decade of twenty first century has been discussed with reference to contemporary political and social situation of the country.

The discussion has been concluded in the last chapter.