

The aim of this research work is to give a critical appraisal of Urdu poetry in 20th century in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Urdu Ghazal started here in Mughal era and Urdu Nazam lately took importance. Urdu poetry is discussed in detail; prominent poets of KPK have also given much importance in this research work. It has been tried to bring all the changes and factors producing changes into light. A comparison also being made between old and new poets that how and to what extent their way of thinking and subjects vary.

For this purpose this research work is divided into five chapters.

First chapter is about the culture and geographical location of this province along with the introduction and a brief background of Urdu poetry before 20th century. Poets like Maazullah Khan and Qasim Ali Khan have been discussed in detail whose contributions are second to none in this province.

The second chapter is the study and analysis of the poetic evolution of pre-partition era. In this chapter the poets of early 20th century and their works have been discussed briefly. Poets like Sa'ed Ahmed Ali, Ghulam Hussain Misger, Aasi Sarhadi, Dilawar Khan Bedil, Jaffar Ali Jaffery, Barq Ganjavi, Qazi Muhammad Umar Qaza, Mir Waliullah Abbottabadi and Khalis Makki brought a revolution in the field of Ghazal and Nazam (poem).

Third chapter of this thesis is the story of poetry and poets of this province emerged after partition till 1980. In this era a number of trends and changes appeared in Ghazal and poems of KPK. Farigh Bukhari, Raza Hamdani, Muhsin Ihsan, Ahmed Faraz, Qateel Shifaie, Khatir Ghaznavi, Yousaf Raja Chishti and Saeed Ahmed Akhtar were the leading poets of this era who brought positive changes in the genre of Ghazal and Nazam. They were the pioneers of Modern poetry in KPK. In this chapter importance has been given to the modern poetry of these poets.

The fourth chapter is comprised of the study and evolution of poetry from 1980 to 2013. In the modern age most of the poets are composing Azad Nazams (free verses) along with Ghazal and Nazam. In this era the poetic scenario have been completely changed in this province. Poets like Maqbool Aamir, Ghulam Muhammad Qasir, Ahmad Hussain Mujahid, Nishat Sarhadi, Akhtar Raza Saleemi, Ahmed Fawad Aasif Saqib and Bushra Farrukh have tremendous contribution in modern poetry of KPK. I have made a truthful analysis of these poets in this chapter.

The last chapter is the overall analysis of the topic and suggestions are listed here for further research work and for the promotion of poetic trends in KPK.