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Description

“**Begum**” by Ibn-e Sa’id (1924 – 2005)

Translated by [Shama Askari](#)

M.H. Askari alias Ibn-e-Sa’id was a veteran journalist and a political analyst. He was born on 12 December 1924 in Ludhiana, in undivided India. His father Professor Mirza Mohammed Sa’id, was a distinguished scholar serving as the principal of Government College Ludhiana, at that time. M.H. Askari wrote under the pen-name Ibn-e-Sa’id from 1945-58. His work was published by leading literary magazines such as *Saqi*, *Naya Daur*, *Mah-e Nau* among others. He passed away in 2005 in Karachi.

Ibn-e-Sa’id’s work was largely forgotten. It was under the aegis of Dr Asif Farrukhi that I embarked on a journey rediscovering Askari’s writings, and discovered two manuscripts of his unpublished novellas as well as numerous short stories in several magazines. A compilation of his Urdu short stories titled *Inti?h?b* Series, and his novellas *Mehvar* and *Raushni? k? Sheher* were published by Oxford University Press, Karachi, in 2017.

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Works cited

Translated from “Begum” *M?h-e-Nau*, Karachi, December 1954 (pp.29-42)

Translated from “Inti?h?b Ibn-e-Sa’id;” *Urdu Afs?ne, Tart?b aur Inti?h?b*: Asif Farrukhi, OUP, Karachi, 2018 (pp. ?)

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