Urdu Studies Vol 4, Issue 1, 2024

Description

Six G?hazals from woh jo sha'ir? k? sabab hu? (The Indifferent Muse) by Kaleem Aajiz

Mohammad Saquib

DOI https://zenodo.org/doi/10.5281/zenodo.13292375

Abstract

Kaleem Aajiz is one of the foremost names among post-independence Urdu poets of Bihar. His inimitable classical style of ghazal composition has earned him a much-envied place in the world of letters, among listeners, fellow poets and critics alike who call him Meer (Meer Taqi Meer) although this sobriquet does not sit well with him. He had seen and suffered the horrors of Partition first-hand and makes it the central theme of his poetry. This translation is an attempt to understand and situate his poetry in the corpuses of Indian Urdu Literature, Urdu Literature from Bihar and Partition Literature. His sedated approach towards disconsolate grief during Partition troubles makes his poetry unique and lends it a rare authenticity. The translations of his ghazals tilt more towards retaining the sense and as such miss out on the seductive appeal of retaining the ghazal form itself in the English translation.

Keywords

Kaleem Aajiz, Urdu Poetry, Ghazal, Translation, Grief, Meer Taqi Meer, Partition

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Mohammad Saquib is an Assistant Professor, English at Akal University Talwandi Sabo, Bathinda (Punjab). He has done his PhD in English from Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh on the topic *The Subaltern Speaks: Shifting Postcolonial Perspectives in the Novels of Easterine Kire*. He has published his research works in *Summerhill: IIAS Review* and *Literatures from Northeast India Beyond the Centre–Periphery Debate* published by Taylor and Francis. His areas of interest are Postcolonial Studies, Subaltern Studies, Translation Studies and Literature from Northeast India. https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7592-4457 msaquibamu2013@gmail.com

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Date Created August 10, 2024 Author hashmiam