

## **Muhammad Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Life and Works** (12<sup>th</sup> December 1942-2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019)

Dr. Muhammad Ali Dinakhel\*

### **ABSTRACT**

Muhammad Iqbal Naseem Khattak is known as teacher, researcher, educationist, critic, translator, poet and writer. He is the first ever Ph.D of Pashto department, University of Peshawar, Pakistan. He was expert on Khushal Khan Khattak's poetry, ideas and thoughts. He knew Pashto, Urdu, English, Persian and Arabic languages. That is why he has written not only in Pashto but in Urdu and English as well.<sup>1</sup> He was a self made man and started his career as school teacher and reached to the position of Professor and Chairman of the department of Pashto, University of Peshawar. His research books on Pashto literature are included in the curriculum of Pashto at graduate and postgraduate level in various universities across the country as well as in Afghanistan.

*Key Words:* Iqbal Naseem Khattak, Pashto, Poetry, Pashto research, Prose.

### **SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY AND METHODOLOGY**

When some writes about a literary and academic personality the first question comes to mind is that why we should discover various aspects of his personality and writings? Here I try to answer this question. While writing and reading about life and works of a particular person, actually as compared to his personality, we are more interested to know about his works in depth in the light of different aspects of his personality and background. Reading about the life of a writer provides insight into the background, environment and time. To know the background and insight we can easily understand that how the ideas shaped in a particular situation. Moreover, to know the author choice of genres and contents is also helpful in understanding priorities of a particular time. For understanding all these background information and in-depth meaning of writings of a particular writer, it is imperative to know about his personality and life. While discovering various aspects of a literary person, actually we are trying to know the connections between the author's life and his works. Sometimes we read only books of a particular author and criticize them without understanding the context that is his life and personality. In such a situation it is very difficult to know understand

---

\* Lecturer, Area Study Centre (Russia, China & Central Asia) University of Peshawar, Pakistan. Email: [alidinakhel@gmail.com](mailto:alidinakhel@gmail.com)

the actual and contextual meaning. It is a matter of utmost importance to know how an author's life has influenced his literary and creative writings. As it is known that literature is the reflection of life and society, therefore, it is also necessary to know about the life and time of an author. Author's life also helps us in knowing all of his works and the context.

Now it is clear that studying and discovering author's life help us in understanding the context and actual meanings implied in his creation but now the second important question is that how we should study the life of an author? The answer to this question is that first of all we should set some clear aims and objectives. Here aims and objectives mean that what we want to get from the study of a particular author's life. Generally we want to know about an author's age, education, background, literary works, literary genres and context of creation and so on. After understanding all these things we want to make connections between his background and his writings. After setting aims and objectives the second step is finding the sources. It includes all of an author's writings, writings about his life by other people and analysis of material of his contemporary period. Information from his family members, friends, teachers and students can also help in discovering various aspects of an author's personality. In this study, I also used Iqbal Naseem Khattak's books and articles as well as books and articles written on his life and works. I also obtained information from his colleagues and students.

After discussing these two general questions, it is also important to know that why Iqbal Naseem Khattak was chosen for this study? Actually he was chosen for his literary contributions and some other distinctions like being first ever Ph.D in Pashto from Pashto department University of Pashto, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ph.D on Khushal Khattak and at the same time he was a teacher, writer, poet, critic, researcher and translator.

#### NAME AND BIRTH

His personal name is Muhammad Iqbal while Naseem is his pen name and belongs to Khattak tribe. But usually in literary circles he is known as Iqbal Naseem Khattak. His name was chosen by his uncle Master Zaeef Shah. There was a tradition in his family that suffix "Shah" was followed by each male name. For the first time he was named without this suffix "Shah". His father name is Roz Badshah Khattak. Iqbal Naseem Khattak born on 12<sup>th</sup> December 1942 in Eesak Chauntra Village of Karrak. It is very famous village in Karak district. Khushal Khan Khattak has also mentioned this village in his poetry.

په لاجی په خو تره اوگر خېدل  
اوس مې گشت د افرېډيو په مېدان شي

Translation: I walked in Lachai and Chauntra/ now I am roaming in the fields of Afridis.

GENELOGICAL AND TRIBAL AFFILIATION: He belonged to the well known Khattak tribe of Pashtuns. Further, he has described his sub tribe and clan in this order: Khattak, Tari, Barak, Mandan, Easak, Mitak, Azimkhel, Topokhel.<sup>2</sup> He describes names of his greater grandfathers, grandfather, father and others in the following way: Mir Ahmad Shah (grandfather), Muhammad Shah (great grandfather), Muhammad Azim Shah (greater grandfather).<sup>3</sup>

#### EARLY LIFE

From his writings we may know that his early life was quite in troubles and poverty stricken. When he was almost of six years his father died at the age of thirty five in young age on 17<sup>th</sup> June 1949.<sup>4</sup> At that time his mother was twenty five years old. She had to look after her three children, one daughter and two sons including Iqbal Naseem Khattak.

As already mentioned, his early life was full of troubles and worries. There are three factors which played their instrumental role in developing his personality.<sup>5</sup> They are: orphanage, imprisonment and migration. About his imprisonment he said in one of his couplets:

د روژې مياشت او اختر مې شول په بند کښې  
د کرک حوالات ما ته رنتهمبور شه

Translation: I spent the month of Ramazan and Eid festival in prison/ the prison of Karak became Ranthambor\* for me. He is proud of some of his instrumental and leading qualities which have guided him throughout his life. These qualities are religious mindedness, early wakening in the morning, punctuality, reading, *Halāl Khori*, amiability, contentment, diligence, honesty and humbleness.<sup>6</sup>

Humanism was his philosophy of life. He described this philosophy in his poetry and prose works. One of his verses is quoted here.

که څوک مې لاره کښې ازغي کړي پرواه يې نه کړم  
زه په قدم قدم کرمه دلربا گلونه

\* prison in India where Khushal Khan khattak was imprisoned.

**Translation:** If someone sows thorns in my way, I don't care of it/I sow on each step attractive flowers.

## **FAMILY**

He has two sons, two daughters, wife and grandchildren. He has praised his religious and obedient wife (cousin) as a valuable asset of his life.<sup>7</sup> He has also praised his children, parents and uncles in his writings.

## **PHYSICAL FEATURES**

Rashid Ahmad, in one of his writings, in a very beautiful way described his Physical features. According to his observations, Iqbal Naseem Khattak has a balanced red and white colour, a balance stature that was neither tall nor undersize, thick hair which he used to comb in a beautiful way, attractive and manly voice which was neither heavy to burst ears nor too slow to hear.<sup>8</sup>

## **EDUCATION**

He got his early education from his village school. He studied till sixth grade (1956) in his village Lower Middle School Dab.<sup>9</sup> He passed his Middle Schools Exam from Government Middle School Mita Khel Karak district in May 1958. This school was situated at a distance of two miles from his village. He used to go to school on foot.<sup>10</sup> He passed his metric exam from Government High School Karak in July 1960. It was poverty that he could not continue his further education in college and there was no college in Karak at that time. During his service in Government Middle School Mita Khel, he got his Bachelor degree in 1964. He got admission in B.Ed in Government Training College Lailpur in October 1966. He completed his B.Ed on 15<sup>th</sup> June 1967 from this college. During his service as incharge of Middle school of his village he did master in Urdu literature from University of Peshawar in 1970 followed by Master of Arts in Pashto literature in 1975. He got gold medal in Master of Arts in Pashto. He also have the credit and honour of the first ever Ph.D. in Pashto literature from the department of Pashto, University of Peshawar.<sup>11</sup> He defended his Ph.D dissertation on 30<sup>th</sup> January 1984.

## **HIS TEACHERS**

In his writings he has praised all of his teachers but a few of them played instrumental role in his career. They are Mr. Muhammad Sadiq Khattak (Ex. Secretary Finance, Govt. of NWFP (now Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Professor Noor Shah Jehan Anwar, Malak Aqlim Khan, Professor Preshan Khattak and a religious scholar Mawlānā Muinuddin.<sup>12</sup> He has praised hard work and punctuality of the teachers of that time.<sup>13</sup>

## SERVICE

In October 1960 he was appointed as a temporary teacher at Government Middle School Wrana Latambar (Karak) but at that time he was under the age of eighteen years that is why subsequently he was terminated. Later on 24<sup>th</sup> February 1961 he was appointed as untrained teacher at a school of Landi Kachai at Kohat district.<sup>14</sup> At that time he got admission in Government Elementary College D.I.Khan for teacher training in May 1961. After training he was appointed in Middle School Mita Khel from where he has passed his Middle exam. Later on, after completion of his B.Ed degree, he was appointed as Senior English Teacher in 1967 in Government High School Tal Hangu. He served there till 30<sup>th</sup> April 1968 followed by his transfer as incharge of a middle school of his village where he has learnt his basics during his childhood. He served there from 12<sup>th</sup> May 1968 to 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1977. He joined Pashto academy as research lecturer on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1977. In 1979 it was decided to bifurcate Pashto department and Pashto Academy. With this division, he was transferred to Pashto department. He got promoted to the positions of Assistant Professor, Associate Professors and Professor respectively in February 1984, September 1995 and 1998. He served as Chairman of the department of Pashto from 1996 to 1999. He got retired from his active service on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2002 but continued his teaching and research activities for further three years. Meanwhile he was teaching and supervising research projects.

## HIS POETRY

He started his poetry from his early age when he was a student of middle school.<sup>15</sup> He thought poetry as a serious matter. He likes verses in every language having meaning, lucidity of language, and eloquence.<sup>16</sup> In this regard he is also of the opinion of great Pashto poet Khushal Khan Khattak who said about poetry in the following verses.

زۀ د شعر په کار هیڅ نه یم خوشحال  
ولې خدائے کړو را په غاړه دا مقال

**Translation:** I am at all not happy by writing poetry/ but God has rendered me this (poetical) articulation.

Khushal Khan Khattak further explains that composing a good poetry is very difficult job.

شعر کار د هر فاسق د فاجر نه دے  
نه د هر یوه وړ سترگي د کنگال  
شعر کار یا د سالک یا د مالک دے

د عاشق دے د درد من دے د ابدال  
 د هغه شاعر داني وشه په ژبه  
 چې د شعر درداني پلوري په مال

**Translation:** Composing verse is not the job of every libertine and profligate/Neither of each hungry eyed and empty minded/ composing verse is either the job of *Sālik* or *Mālik*/ it is a job of a lover or of a person afflicted with pain, or of *Abdāl*/ May a poet have eruptions on his tongue/ that sells gems of poetry for money.

Dr. Iqbal Naseem Khattak considers beautiful subject matter, suitable words, and figures of speech as basic elements for a good poetry. He is of the opinion that these qualities enhance the beauty of poetry manifold in a way like the beauty of a beautiful person is enhanced with beautiful dress. He also elaborates the difference between the good verse and the so called verse with an example of natural rose and plastic made rose. Although plastic made rose has attraction but no fragrance.<sup>17</sup> To make his views about poetry more strong he also presents a few verses as a proof from Khushal Khan Khattak who says:

چې چا دے شعر کرے بي ميزانه بي عروضة  
 دا هېڅ شاعري نه ده هسې سپي دي تمبډلي  
 همېشه د زړه په لاس تله د وزن  
 زيات و کم د وزن يو تورے غماز  
 چې معني ورسره نه و  
 ي وئبل سپوروي  
 خدائے به نه کا د خوشحال خبره سپوره

**Translation:** Those (poets) who have composed verses without rhyme scheme/ it is not at all poetry but just barking of dogs/ (while composing poetry) one should always have a scale in hands/ so that no single word may disturb the balance/ without meaning verses are slanderous talks (bad talk)/ God will not make Khushal's talk as bad and slanderous talk. To sum up poetry was a serious job for him. He has attempted in various genres of Pashto poetry. There are many colours in his themes and thoughts of poetry.

### CATEGORIZATION OF WRITINGS:

He wrote in three languages i.e Pashto, Urdu and English. All of his writings can be classified into following types:

#### 1. Creative Writings :

International Journal Of Pukhtunkhwa || Volume 5 | Issue II | July-December 2020

Website: <https://pukhtunkhwajournal.org>

Email: [info@pukhtunkhwajournal.org](mailto:info@pukhtunkhwajournal.org)



He has books in poetry, prose, and fiction (short stories). Moreover he has written only one drama for radio but discouraged by the producer and then never tried.<sup>18</sup>

**2. Translated Works:** There are three types of translation included in his works. They are from English into Pashto, from Urdu into Pashto and from English into Urdu.

**3. Research Writings:** He produced research books on Pashto literature. He has also contributed a large number of articles and research papers to Pashto and Urdu dailies and literary magazines. He has written more than two hundred research articles in Pashto, Urdu and English.<sup>19</sup> Several of his papers are part of Pashto syllabus being taught at college and university level in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Afghanistan.

**4. Critical Writings:** Besides critical books he has written numerous critical prefaces to numerous literary and research books.

### MAIN OBJECTIVES OF HIS WRITINGS

He has described that there are three motives behind all of his writings. They are exaltation of Islām, development of Pakistan and development of Pashto language.<sup>20</sup>

### PUBLISHED BOOKS (OVER ALL)

Following is the list of Iqbal Naseem Khattak's published books.

1. Da Mashum Pālana
2. Durdāne
3. Da Jadu Chaqu
4. Manshiyāt ka Zahar Qātil
5. Spirit of Islam
6. Khushal aw Jamālyāt
7. Da Rang aw Bo Qafila
8. Khushal Khan Khattak (Ahwāl wa Asār)
9. Pashtun Shanās
10. Da Rāz Khabare pa Kāghaz
11. Da Tānd aw Bahānd Takhayyul Shāer
- 12.

### INTRODUCTION OF PUBLISHED BOOKS

#### 1. Da Mashum Pālana:

It is written in Pashto to guide parents how to look after their children. It is published in 1981 by Pashto Academy University of Peshawar. Although, not significant in literature but rather significant for looking after children.

**2. Durdane:** In this book the author has written articles about modern Pashto poets and writers and their poetical works. Topics described in this

International Journal Of Pukhtunkhwa | | Volume 5 | Issue II | July-December 2020

Website: <https://pukhtunkhwajournal.org>

Email: [info@pukhtunkhwajournal.org](mailto:info@pukhtunkhwajournal.org)

book are: Amir Hamza Shinwari and his Poetry, Mian Syed Rasul Rasa his life and Art, Fazli Haq Shida and his Poetry, Ayub sabir and his Poetry, Preshan Khattak and his Poetry, Distinctiveness of Majzub, Major Yunas Khalil and his Art. For a long time this book remained part of the curriculum of Pashto in various universities. For the first time it was published in 1985 by Taj Kutab Khana Peshawar and another revised edition was published in 2000 in Peshawar.

**3. Da Jado Chaqo**” It is translated from English version *The Magic Knife*. It contains nine Chinese folk tales. It was published by Pakistan Academy of Letters. This book is very important for understanding Chinese culture. It also helps in knowing the common motifs of Pashto and Chinese folk tales. It is very interesting book in children literature.

**4.Manshiyāt ka zahr-e-qātel:** It was translated into Pashto from an article “Drug Abuse Policy in Pakistan” written by Dr. Inayat Khan. It is published in 1988 by Interact Club Peshawar.

**5.Spirit of Islam:** It is a well known book written by Justice Amir Ali in English language. Its translation from English into Pashto was started by Qazi Hidayatullah but he died before its completion. When Iqbal naseem Khattak joined Pashto Academy in July 1977, in the same year in the month of August, he was assigned this task of translation of the remaining parts of the book. He completed the translation with necessary commentaries and footnotes and finally it was published by Pashto Academy in 1986.

**6.Khushal aw Jamālyāt:** It is Ph.D dissertation of Iqbal Naseem Khattak. He completed this dissertation in three years from 1979 to 1982. He worked for this dissertation under the supervision of Prof. Preshan Khattak and Prof. Jehanzeb Niaz. It contains 612 pages. It is published by Pashto Academy University of Peshawar with financial assistance of Ghulam Farooq Khan. Besides bibliography and index there are sixteen chapters in this book. The author has divided the whole book into two parts. In the first part the first chapter deals with aesthetics in general. The second chapter is about theories of aesthetics, third chapter is about the beauty of nature, the fourth chapter describes the discussions of *jamal*, *jalal* and *qabah*, fifth chapter deals with Khushal’s concept of beauty, sixth chapter is about Khushal and aesthetic writings, seventh chapter is about Khushal’s views regarding the beauty of nature, eighth chapter deals Khushal’s views regarding women’s beauty, ninth chapter deals with music and painting, tenth chapter deals with the views of Khushal regarding *jamal*, *jalal* and *qabah*, eleventh chapter deals the *ijabi* and *salbi* values in Khushal’s poetry. Similarly the second part of the book is about art and Khushal. In this part, in continuation of chapters with first part, the twelfth chapter describes art, aim and ideology of an artist, thirteenth chapter is about the theory of Khushal Khan Khattak regarding



art, fourteenth chapter deals figures of speech in Khushal's poetry, fifteenth chapter is about the style of Khushal and the last chapter describes the findings and conclusion of this dissertation.

**7. Da Rang aw Bu Qāfila:** This books consists articles on four delicate thought poets of Pashto classical literature. Hehas described their delicacy and subtlety in their poetry. Topics discussed in this book are: Abdul Hamid Mashuwal Life and Art, Kamgar Khattak Life and Art, Kazim Khan Shida Life and Art, Ali Khan: Life and art. It was published in 1991 by *Idara Ilam wa adab Pakistan*. It is also a part of Pashto syllabus in various universities. This book is named after the following verse of Kazim Khan Shida.

د غنچې دربا                      ط وړپه واکېده دے  
قافله درنگ و بو درومي صبا شه

21

**Translation:** The door of the inn of a bunch (of flowers) is going to be opened/ it came a dawn and a caravan of colour and fragrance is proceeding.

This book is written in simple and fluent language for understanding of the students and teachers. All these four poets discussed in this book are pioneers of Romanticism. The author has analysed all available materials and helped the students to get the idea in a simple way.

**8. Khushal Khan Khattak: Hayāt wa fan (Ahowal wa afkar).** This book written in English is actually the D.Lit dissertation of Dr. Khadija Begum Feruzuddin. It was translated into Urdu by Dr. Iqbal Naseem Khattak and was published by Pakistan Academy of Letters Islamabad in 2004. Her thesis title is "Khushal Khan Khattak: Life and Works". She got her doctorate degree in literature from University of Punjab on 13<sup>th</sup> December 1940.

**9. Pashtun Shanās Khushal Khan Khattak:** It is written in Urdu. This book contains five chapters: Historical Background of Khattak tribe, Khushal and Alamgir's Era, Literary Contribution, Literary Evaluation and the last chapters consists on Remarks. It is published by Pashto Academy University of Peshawar in 2011. In this book, the author has described Khushal's life, books, poetry, literary and academic position. There are also details of writings on Khushal in Pashto, Urdu and English languages. The author was awarded with Abasin Arts Council Award in 2012 for this book.

**10. Da Rāz Khabare pa Kaghaz:** It is poetry book of Iqbal Naseem Khattak. It contains various poetical genres like odes, hymns, elegies and so on. It was published by University Publishers Afghan Market Qisa Khwani Peshawar in 2012. It contains 216 pages. In the introduction of this book the author has written in details about his life, education, service, and literary journey. Besides the introduction, there are four

International Journal Of Pukhtunkhwa || Volume 5 | Issue II | July-December 2020

Website: <https://pukhtunkhwajournal.org>

Email: [info@pukhtunkhwajournal.org](mailto:info@pukhtunkhwajournal.org)

major parts of this book. They are: *da abadi raṇa pa lor* (towards an eternal light), *virjane sānde* (mourning songs), *da fikar tāl* (swing of thought) and *muattar fikruna* (fragrant thoughts). First he named this book “*Da Yaduno Sparlay*” but later on when he saw the following couplet of Khushal, he changed the old name with the new one that is *Da Rāz Khabare pa Kaghaz*.<sup>22</sup>

کله ستا د راز خبرې په کاغذ کښې  
کله ستا د مخه حال قلم ته وائم

Translation: sometimes I write down your secrets on paper/ sometimes I share your situation with my pen.

**11. Da Tānd aw Bahānd Takhayyul Shāer:** It is also a research based book. It was published by Pashto Academy Quetta Baluchestan in 2014. It contains 596 pages. In this book the author has analysed the imagination of Khushal Khan Khattak.

## UNPUBLISHED BOOKS

List of unpublished books is given below.

1. Da Jabl-al-Noor Pa Laman Ke
2. Khushal, Iqbal aw Jinnah (Pashto Zuban wa adab ke ayene me)
3. Pa Islam Yaw Nazar
4. Mazhar al-Quran
5. Jamālyāt Ki Duniyā<sup>23</sup>
6. Meri Dāstān-i-Hayāt<sup>24</sup>
7. Be Diwe Jongāra (Short Stories)<sup>25</sup>
8. Da Khushalyato Ayena
9. Khushal Khan Khattak: Ek Mutalea

## INTRODUCTION OF UNPUBLISHED BOOKS

**1. Da Jabl-al-Noor Pa Laman Ke:** It is a travelogue of his holy journey of Hajj along with his wife and elder daughter Dr. Shehnaz Khattak. In this book he has noted his daily accounts during his stay from 11<sup>th</sup> September 2013 to 26<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

**2. Khushal, Iqbal aw Jinnah (Pashto Zuban wa adab ke ayene me):** In this unpublished book the author has analysed writings about Khushal, Iqbal and Jinnah in Pashto language. He has presented commonalities in thoughts of these three leaders.

**3. Pa Islam Yaw Nazar:** It is translation from English into Pashto of “Islam in Focus” by Hamood Ibn Lani. Iqbal Naseem Khattak translated it in 1984 on the request Kuet office of International Federation of Islamic Student Organization. It was scribed by Lutfullah Sorizi.

**4.Mazhar al-Quran:** It is translation of “Quranic Phenomenon” in Pashto and Urdu language.

**5.Jamālyāt Ki Dunyā:** It is written in Urdu. While working on his Ph.D dissertation, he has collected and studied materials related to aesthetics. Later on he decided to write a book on theories, different aspects and approaches of aesthetic.

**6.Meri Dāstān-i-Hayāt:** It is his incomplete autobiography written in Urdu language.

**7.Be Diwe Jonḡara:** It is an unpublished collection of his short stories.

**8.Da Khushalyato Ayena:** It is a bibliography of Khushalyāt in Pashto language: it was written for Khushal Research Cell in 1984 but not published yet.

**9.Khushal Khan Khattak: Ek Mutalea:** Although he has produced creative literature but as a whole he has limited himself only to research and criticism.<sup>26</sup> Most of his research work revolves around Khushal Khan Khattak. This book written in Urdu for Pakistan Academy of Letters Islamabad, is also about some undiscovered aspects of the life of Khushal Khan Khattak. It is still unpublished.<sup>27</sup>

Someone has also mentioned two other unpublished books *Rahmānyāt* and *Ranga Rang Maqale*.

**AS A TEACHER:** Besides a poet, researcher, writer, critic, and translator, he is also known as a best teacher. His method of teaching was very attractive and students could learn easily.<sup>28</sup> He was always giving opportunity to his students to ask questions. He was moving in his teaching from easy to complex and following all basic principles of Psychology regarding pedagogy. He was very punctual teacher.<sup>29</sup> He had all the good qualities of a best teacher.<sup>30</sup> He has supervised eight Ph.D scholars and eighteen M.Phil scholars.<sup>31</sup>

**AS A RESEARCHER:** He has devoted most of his time for research. His research interest area is Pashto literature and especially he was expert on Khushal Khan Khattak who was an owner of both sword and pen. Khushal Khan Khattak was expert in religion, anthropology, falconry, and many other fields. Iqbal Naseem Khattak is among top three scholars who have conducted their doctoral research on Khushal Khan Khattak. Among them the first one was Khadija Begum Feruzuddin who did her Doctorate research on Khushal Khan Khattak from University of Punjab. The second doctorate dissertation on Khushal Khan Khattak is that of Gul Muhammad Noori who got his doctorate degree from Moscow University in 1969.<sup>32</sup> The third one is Iqbal Naseem Khattak who have written his dissertation titled *Khushal aw Jamalyat* (Khushal and Aesthetics). He has published his research books and articles. His research based books have

International Journal Of Pukhtunkhwa || Volume 5 | Issue II | July-December 2020

Website: <https://pukhtunkhwajournal.org>

Email: [info@pukhtunkhwajournal.org](mailto:info@pukhtunkhwajournal.org)

discussed earlier. He has participated in many national and international seminars, conferences and workshops.<sup>33</sup> He also took part in debates and discussions in various programmes of TV and Radio.

AS A POET: Although his poetic contribution is lesser than his research works but his poetry is meaningful and mature. He is considered among contemporary prominent poets. He has only one published collection of his verses “*Da Rāz Khabare pa Kāghaz*”. At one time we can see different aspects of his poetry in this collection. He is a progressive, realist, patriotic and nationalist poet and writer. Romanticism is also among the dominant themes of his poetry. In the following verses he has praised nature in a beautiful way.

34

دا د نخترو قطارونه دا واورينې خوكې  
 راغونډې شوې د فطرت د رنگينو لمنې  
 فطرت په خپل ځائے دے خو ستاسو حسن کم خونه دے  
 خدائېگ و په تاسو بنائسته بنڪاري د غرو لمنې

Translation: rows of *nakhtar* (trees) and these snowy peaks/ declivity of the beauties of nature gathered/ Nature is in itself enough but your beauty is not less than that/ Indeed declivity of mountains looks beautiful with your presence.

35

مستو تنزرو بنائسته زرکو هنگامې جوړې کړې  
 لکه راغلي د خټکو وي په غرونو سپرلي

Translation: Overjoyed cuckoos and partridges made turmoil/as the mountains of Khattaks have springs.

He has also written four elegies in his poetry book. These elegies are of Master Khan Gul, his son's Zahid Iqbal Khattak\*, elegy of Benazir Bhutto and elegy of Prof. Preshan Khattak.

His writes in the elegy of his son:

د گلچين دغه روش دے د قضا دا روايت دے  
 د سر گل يې وي نظر کنبې د فطرت دغه قانون دے  
 اولاد مړ شي مور پ لار پائي دا روش د زمانې دے  
 د عالم سره خدا کرم خو کچ پچ مې اندرون دے  
 په سمسور سپرلي کنبې لارې په ما ټول عمر خزان شه  
 بې وسي ده مجبوري ده اوس مې ژوند په ځيگر خون دے

\* Zahid Iqbal khattak died on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1978

Translation: It is a way of flower-gatherer and a tradition of destiny and divine order/ it keeps its eye on the big flower, it is the law of nature/ it is the way of time that children die and parents live/ although (apparently) I (happy)laugh with the world but my internal body is badly injured (and bleeding)/you (my son!) went in the blossomed spring that made eternal autumn for me/It is my helplessness and compulsion and now my life is painful (like eating my liver).

He writes about Benazir Bhutto:

ژوند خو ژوند وه دې تا مرگ هم عالمگير شه  
 بې نظير وي شهادت دې بې نظير شه  
 ستا د مرگ خبر شه خور په درست عالم کښې  
 په گوگل کښې يې چې زړه وه نو دلگير شه

Translation: Not only your life but even your death became universal/ you were Benazir and your martyrdom became matchless/ your death news spread in the whole world/ all those who had hearts became heart-stricken.

In nutshell his poetry has many colours. He has attempted in various genres for different themes and thoughts.

AS A CRITIC: Being a poet and creative writer he was a good critic of creative literature. He has published his critical writings in various journals and newspapers. He has written critical comments (prefaces) on various books published in Pashto.

AS A TRANSLATOR: He has translated many important books. There are three types of translation which he contributed. These types are:

1. Translation from English into Pashto
2. Translation from Urdu into Pashto
3. Translation from English into Urdu

All of his translated works have already been introduced.

## **DISTINCTIONS AND AWARDS**

He was recipient of numerous literary and academic national and provincial awards. He also got Presidential award for recognition of his services for education and teaching.<sup>36</sup> A few of his distinctions and awards are given below.

1. He got gold medal in M.A Pashto from University of Peshawar in 1975.
2. He has the distinction of being the first ever Ph.D from Pashto Department University of Peshawar in 1984.
3. He was awarded Mawlana Mawdudi Islamic Literature award in 1989.

4. He got Presidential Award for his educational services in 1996.
5. He was awarded an award by Iqbal Academy Lahore in 2003.
6. He was awarded Abasin Literary Award in 2011.
7. He got Ajmal Khattak Literary award in 2012.
8. He was awarded Master Gul Khan Memorial Award in 2013.
9. He got Khushal Khan Khattak Literary award in 2014.
10. He was awarded Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Cultural Award on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014
11. He got peace award in Akora Khattak on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015.
12. He got District Karak Literary Personality Award on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2015.
13. He got Abasin Arts Council Award for the year 2014-2015
14. He got another Ajmal Khattak Award for the year 2014-2015.<sup>37</sup>

### TRIBUTE

Many writers and poets have presented tribute to him. Following are a few lines of such a poetical tribute to him by a Pashto poet Humayun Hamdard.

چې وجدان يې د جمال په ننداره وي  
 تخيل يې د خوشحال په ننداره وي  
 د احساس په لار د رنگ او بو سفر کړي  
 د شيدا حميد د خيال په ننداره وي  
 د همو جمالياتو مفسر وي  
 د خوشحال غوندي ابدال په ننداره وي  
 درداني دي چې د فکر په تار پېري  
 نکته دان يې د کمال په ننداره وي  
 ښه شاعر د ښه اديب د ښه استاد د ښه  
 شاگردان يې د مثال په ننداره وي

38

Translation: When intuition looks at his aesthetics/ His imagination looks at Khushal/ he is making journey of colours and fragrance on the way of feelings/he is looking to the idea of Shida and Hamid/ he is expounder of aesthetics/ he is spectacle of *abdal* like Khushal/ he weaves pearls in the thread of thought/ sagacious people looks at his excellence/ he is a good poet, good writer and good teacher/ his disciples looks for his match.

### Book on his life and works



During his life, a book on his life and contribution has been compiled by Dr. Wazir Shadān and Dr. banaras Khan Khattak. In this edited book, authors portrayed the life and works of Dr Iqbal Naseem Khattak and his services for the cause of promotion of the Pashto literature.

## END OF LIFE

At the age of 77 years he left this mortal world forever. His funeral prayer was held at Professor Colony on Tuesday at 11:30am. Academia and literati from various parts of the province attended the funeral of this academic and literary figure. Leading newspapers in Pakistan published the news of his sad demise. Express Tribune termed his death as “End of an era” (The Express Tribune, 2 January 2019). Leading English newspaper Dawn titled this news “Pashto writer laid to rest.”<sup>39</sup> The Daily Nawa-e-waqt called him a “literary asset.”<sup>40</sup> Daily Jang published this news as “Distinguished researcher, poet and writer died.”<sup>41</sup> International media also covered his death news. Among them BBC, Mashal Radio, Deewa Radio also exalted his literary contributions.

Different literary circles and government literary institutions organized condolence reference. Pakistan academy of Letters (PAL) organized a condolence reference on his demise.<sup>42</sup> Bacha Khan Markaz Peshawar also organized a condolence gathering and expressed grief over the sad demise of great writer.

## CONCLUSION

Iqbal Naseem Khattak was a good teacher, researcher, writer, poet, critic and translator. He wrote many books in Pashto, Urdu and English languages. His main contribution is in Pashto language. His research interest areas were Pashto classical and modern literature but actually he was expert on Khushal Khan Khattak. As a poet and writer he wrote in different genres. He published many books and articles and also has a long list of unpublished books. He has many distinctions in the field of Pashto language and literature. He was the first ever Ph.D from the department of Pashto , University of Peshawar.

## REFERENCES

---

<sup>1</sup> Lawaghiri, Dr. Satar Khan. *Da Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak pa Shaerai da Khushal Baba asarat*, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar* ,edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.271

<sup>2</sup> Khattak, Muhammad Iqbal Naseem, *Da Rāz Khabare pa Kāghaz* (Poetry), Peshawar, University Publishers, 2012, p. alif.

- <sup>3</sup> Khattak, Muhammad Iqbal Naseem, *Da Rāz Khabare pa Kāghaz* (Poetry), Peshawar, University Publishers, 2012, p. alif.
- <sup>4</sup> Khattak, Muhammad Iqbal Naseem, *Da Rāz Khabare pa Kāghaz* (Poetry), Peshawar, University Publishers, 2012, p. B (be)
- <sup>5</sup> Asmat Munir. *Zama Mohsin Ustāz*, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.132
- <sup>6</sup> Khattak, Muhammad Iqbal Naseem, *Da Rāz Khabare pa Kāghaz* (Poetry), Peshawar, University Publishers, 2012, p. H
- <sup>7</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.21
- <sup>8</sup> Rashid Ahmad, *Da Khushal Poh Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak Khushal aw Jamālyāt* in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.105
- <sup>9</sup> Khattak, Muhammad Iqbal Naseem, *Da Rāz Khabare pa Kāghaz* (Poetry), Peshawar, University Publishers, 2012, p. B
- <sup>10</sup> Khattak, Muhammad Iqbal Naseem, *Da Rāz Khabare pa Kāghaz* (Poetry), Peshawar, University Publishers, 2012, p. B
- <sup>11</sup> <http://www.uop.edu.pk/departments/?q=Department-of-Pashto> retrieved on 3/10/2019
- <sup>12</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.14
- <sup>13</sup> Khattak, Muhammad Iqbal Naseem, *Da Rāz Khabare pa Kāghaz* (Poetry), Peshawar, University Publishers, 2012, p. B
- <sup>14</sup> Khattak, Muhammad Iqbal Naseem, *Da Rāz Khabare pa Kāghaz* (Poetry), Peshawar, University Publishers, 2012, p. D
- <sup>15</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.10
- <sup>16</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.13
- <sup>17</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.12
- <sup>18</sup> Hanif Khalil, Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak in, *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p. 225.
- <sup>19</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.13
- <sup>20</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.25
- <sup>21</sup> Shidā, Kazim Khan, *Diwān-e-Kazim Khan Shida*, edited by Hamish Khalil, Peshawar, Idara Ishaat Sarhad, 1965, p.79
- <sup>22</sup> Aseer Mengal, *Bya me da TalKhkule Fiza yadigi*, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.154
- <sup>23</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.20
- <sup>24</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.10
- <sup>25</sup> Nagin, Nagina Khanum, Professor Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak da Jwand , Ilmi aw adabi Khidmāto yawa taarufi Khaka, in Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak in, *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, pp.35,36
- <sup>26</sup> Hanif Khalil, Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak in, *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p. 221.
- <sup>27</sup> Hanif Khalil, *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak (Maraka)* in Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.223
- <sup>28</sup> Mahmud, Muhammad Ayāz. *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak yaw Ustaz yaw Muhaqqiq* in Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar*, edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.86

- <sup>29</sup> Mahmud, Muhammad Ayāz. *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak yaw Ustaz yaw Muhaqqiq* in Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar* ,edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.87
- <sup>30</sup> Rashid Ahmad, *Da Khushal Poh Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak Khushal aw Jamālyāt* in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar* ,edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.106
- <sup>31</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar* ,edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.19
- <sup>32</sup> Dawud, Dawar Khan, *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak da yaw mutarjam pa hais*, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar* ,edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.176
- <sup>33</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar* ,edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.13
- <sup>34</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, *Da Rāz Khabare pa Kaghaz*, Peshawar, University Publishers, 2012, p. 149
- <sup>35</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, *Da Rāz Khabare pa Kaghaz*, Peshawar, University Publishers, 2012, p. 171
- <sup>36</sup> Khattak, Iqbal Naseem, in *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar* ,edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Araaf printers, 2017, p.20
- <sup>37</sup> Nagin, Nagina Khanum, *Professor Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak da Jwand , Ilmi aw adabi Khidmāto yawa taarufi Khaka*, in Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak in, *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar* ,edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Aaraaf printers, 2017, pp.89,80.
- <sup>38</sup> Humayun Hamdard, *Perzawene* , in, *Doctor Iqbal Naseem Khattak: Kaar aw Ziyaar* ,edited by Dr. Wazir Shadan and Dr. Banars Khan Khattak, Peshawar, Aaraaf printers, 2017, p399
- <sup>39</sup> Daily Dawn (3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019)
- <sup>40</sup> Daily Nawā-i-waqt (3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019)
- <sup>41</sup> Daily Jang (2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019)
- <sup>42</sup> <https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/pakistan-academy-of-letters-holds-condolence-522279.html> retrieved on 3/10/2019.