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ABSTRACT

Praise to Allah lord of the worlds, blessing and peace on Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), his family and all his companions.

The Eulogy of Prophet (SAW) is one of the poetical art, and a form of expression to ones religious sentiments and emotions. It is a literary genre which is characterized by the glorification of the Charismatic personality of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), his moral and ethical values and description of his conquests and battlefields.

The Eulogy of Prophet (SAW) witnessed its origin since the very beginning of his prophet hood. The companions of the beloved prophet were the first to have commended and spoken in the most laudatory term of his highness, and outstanding physical and spiritual disposition. The Poets of Umayyad and Abbasid era followed this art in both its form and spirit. It was in fact, the age of decadence when the Eulogy of Prophet (SAW) witnessed its full bloom & fluorescence in its mystic atmosphere. The Sufi Poet Al-Busiri is considered to be one of the masters of this art. His poem “ Qasida Burda” is regarded as a masterpiece and a perfect model for what was known in this field during the early eras.

After this preface concerning the state of Eulogy of Prophet (SAW) during the early ages, I have appeared to the core of my topic and have begun it with the twentieth century in which the Eulogy of Prophet (SAW) reached its culmination. At the juncture, I have come up with an extensive and comprehensive study of the topic and it’s prominent pioneers e.g., Mahmud Sami Al- Barudi, Ahmad Showqi, Ahmad Muharram, and other outstanding poets having tremendously contributed to this field during the era of 20th Century.

The Indian ulemas and poets have played a magnificent role in the field of Prophet's Eulogy during the first centuries in general and the twentieth century in particular. It is noteworthy that many of these ulemas who devoted themselves for the Eulogy of Prophet (SAW) ,were well versed in the field of " ilm hadith" (The science of prophetic traditions) Keeping in view their remarkable role, I have endowed my 3rd Chapter for the Critical study of their eulogistic art and fascinating versification in this regard .The poets incorporated in this chapter include Habibur Rehman Usmani, Anwar Shah Kashmiri and Muhammd Idris Kandlawi.

There is no doubt that the Urdu poetry till date has been playing an active role in the growth and fluorescence of the eulogistic genre. I therefore, have dedicated my 4th chapter as a study to the art of Eulogy of Prophet (SAW) in Urdu poetry and its luminaries from the 20th Century. The study is compact and cross-sectional in nature and draws conclusions from the text to demonstrate its literary value and artistic attributes.

The 5th Chapter deals with the Comparative Study between the eulogies in Arabic and Urdu in a comprehensive and critical nature. It portrays the stylistic art of the Eulogy of Prophet (SAW) in both the languages followed by the examples to demonstrate the similar as well as divergent literary characteristics and artistic attributes between both the sources.The chapter is pursued by the conclusion and the bibliography on the basis of which the research could achieve its goal .

This is the abstract of what I have traced out as a result of my humble study entitled " The Eulogy of The Prophet (SAW) in Arabic and Urdu in the 20th Century: A Comparative study ".The spring of eulogy will continue to gush out of the innate fabric of the poets and will continue to be served as a distinctive genre and subject for further research due to its noble scope in literate, religion and history.

It was from Allah the Almighty if I got through and from my own self if I mistook. I beseech Allah to for his help and guidance and to mark this effort as a source of virtue for my deeds in hereafter. I put my trust on Allah and to him I will return.