

# *Chapter – I*

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Mirza Ghalib is regarded as the most eminent and versatile poet of Urdu language. He was great in literary domain of Persian as well. He lived intensely and felt keenly. Brutally truthful, transparently candid, endowed with broad human sympathies and invested with liberal outlook, Ghalib was the guardian of self respect. Besides, he was independent of thought and action and had the passion for original, refusing to tread the beaten track of others.

Ghalib was not indifferent towards the deepest problems of human life. As he was a keen observer of life, he pondered over human existence. His study of life was vast. He writes: "By the time I had reached the age of seventy, apart from the jostling crowds of commoners, a cavalcade of seventy thousand men of consequence had passed before my weary eyes. Therefore, I can call myself a fairly shrewd judge of human beings." (Jafri, Hyder, 1970)

Being extremely sensitive, Ghalib was a mature and highly intellectual person. He was a man of rich experience and comprehensive outlook, who thought and felt deeply. Ghalib's poetry reveals his philosophical and psychological views. His philosophy is often interpreted as Wahdat-al-Wujood which means that everything will perish except The Being of God i.e. the permanent and Real Existence is only one, that of God. Ghalib's poetry and letters also reveal the psychological analysis

of human existence i.e. innumerable human feelings such as craving for love and belongingness, ceaseless desires and unending quest, feeling of sorrow, happiness, hope, wit and humour, death anxiety, and other emotions of love, hatred and jealousy etc.

People have understood and appreciated Ghalib as a poet, being delighted by the beauty of his poetic imageries. Here, the effort of the researcher is to interpret his poetry from the philosophical and psychological perspective and bring into light some hidden educational thoughts underlying those philosophical and psychological interpretations.

Ghalib is a great and renowned personality and great personalities are not only inbuilt, rather developed especially under the influence of the atmosphere they live in. Ghalib's personality was also developed under the influence of his age and atmosphere. Even today, people read Ghalib at universal level. In Delhi, Ghalib Academy has been established which is the centre of books and magazines on Ghalib. Almost every year, on Ghalib, National and International Seminars are held worldwide.

All of us know that the poet suffered lots of hardships during his life time. The death of his father and guardian uncle (when he was a child), of his seven children one after another, of his dearly loved brother and adopted son in young age, the scourge of poverty and constant danger of debtor's jail, non recognition of merit and vulgar vilification over literary controversies, the torture of disgrace of gambler's prison, the

pain and suffering of half a dozen diseases and above all bitter domestic life – what could be more miserable for a sensitive mind like Ghalib. But Ghalib did not succumb to his miseries ,rather bore all that befallen him wholeheartedly. Therefore, one of the objective of the present study is to show how he faced and understood life. The purpose of studying all these aspects is to find some clues for adjustment in life. By reading this work, especially the young generation may be able to learn how to get adjusted in life and how to lead life.

Though lots of studies have been done on Ghalib’s poetry and letters but till today, no systematic work has been done to bring out the psychological, philosophical and educational aspects of his compositions together as an integrated whole. All the three above mentioned aspects are interrelated with each other; hence should not be looked as a separate entity.

Contrary to the general belief, this study disapproves the view that Ghalib was merely a poet of love and wine or of gloominess and pessimisms. The present study “psychological and philosophical Interpretations of Ghalib’s compositions and it’s Implications for Education” is a modest attempt to understand Ghalib in terms of his ideas on man, God, and society, as well as his psychological analysis of human beings. In the light of the above discussions, the researcher started with humble investigation, with the following main objectives:

1. To bring out the psychological aspect of Ghalib’s works.
2. To bring out the philosophical aspect of his works.

3. To find out the educational implications of Ghalib's works.

The study consists of chapters such as: *Introduction, A Brief Biographical Background of Mirza Ghalib, Ghalib and Existential Issues, Ghalib's Understanding of Human Nature, Wit and Humour in Ghalib's Compositions, Ghalib as a Sufi and Educational Implications of Ghalib's Work along with the conclusion*. It includes among other things, Aims, Curriculum, Methodology of Teaching, Role of Teacher and student and Discipline in School, in the light of Ghalib's philosophical and psychological thoughts.

The subject of the study is mainly theoretical; hence it is a library based study. The researcher has made an analysis of the content of Ghalib's Poems and Letters (primary data), as well as of secondary data in the form of written material on Ghalib. The researcher has tried to consult relevant material available in books, journals and magazines of different libraries and academies.