Fore-Word

This is a 'Thesis' for Ph.D. on the topic “Influence of Perso-Arabic Elements on Kazi Nazrul Islam’s Poetry.” It comprises of six Chapters, of which the first Chapter is divided into two units and the rest are of one unit each. Transliteration of Arabic and Persian alphabets and abbreviations used are given before the first chapter begins. Reference books and authorities are mentioned at the end under heading Bibliography.

Unit(a) of chapter - I dealt briefly with the restless and poverty strikesen life of Kazi Nazrul Islam showing influence of Arabic and Persian words on him from the very childhood. His father’s profession and environment of his home, his uncle’s guidance, his early life’s toilings for earning livelihood as a teacher of Maktab or mullah of village or imam of mosque, his teacher’s inspiration in school life, and help of Moulabi in Paltan well-rooted in him Perso-Arabic elements and words and made him visionary of Iran’s oasis and Bulbul’s. Also, this unit showed how he got helps from his friends and well-wishers and attacks from his anticircles and enemies which sharpened his poetic talent all the more.

Unit (b) of chapter -I dealt with the use of Persian and Arabic words in Bengali literature as a whole right from Alaul to Rabindra Nath Tagore and thereafter. Also this unit showed how Perso-Arabic words penetrated into Bengali language while it was in the forming stage through traders, visitors, dwellers and rulers from the 4th century A.D. Further, this unit reminded that Bengali began to take shape of a language in the 10th century A.D. and flourished as a literary language in the 15th century A.D. while Persian was the state language.
Chapter II of the topic dealt with Kazi Nazrul Islam’s titles that contained less or no Perso-Arabic words. This chapter sorted out the said titles appending a list of them. They are generally love and nature related poems in ‘Payar Chhanda’. The milestone in sorting out these titles was fixed at 150 Perso-Arabic words used in a title. All titles in this Chapter contain 150 or less number of these words. Each of such words are arranged alphabetically under the heading of the title and are given meaning of the word and indicated the origin of the same. Elaborate discussion is made there after.

Chapter-III dealt with those titles of Kazi Nazrul Islam which contain abundant of Perso-Arabic words. Abundants means more than 150 words of Perso-Arabic origin in a title. A list of those titles is appended before going to elaborate discussion of words contained in them of Perso-Arabic origin. Nazrul Islam used abundant of these words in passionate or excitemental poems of different kinds. Poems on Muslim heroes and their eulogies or poems of Muslim stories in descriptive nature creating Muslim environment contain abundant of Perso-Arabic words. Language of origin is indicated in brackets before giving the meaning of the word.

Chapter-IV dealt with the influence of Perso-Arabic words on Kazi Nazrul Islam’s poetry as a whole. In this chapter we discuss how Kazi Nazrul Islam began to write poems in Muslim Bengali style with Perso-Arabic-Urdu mixed language at the very tender age under the guidance of his uncle and the influence of culture and tradition of his family and society. He was very much fascinated to and acquainted himself with the famous works of Persian literature while he was in Paltan and this revolutionised his spirit to use Persian and Arabic words at
ease in his own language without losing its charms and elegance. This chapter tried to show the deepness of Nazrul’s feeling in using those words that at once “take readers to Gulesthan of deserts enchanted with Bulbuls.”

Chapter-V narrated the influence of Perso-Arabic words on Bengali literature as a whole. This chapter traced the use of Perso-Arabic words in Bengali literature right from the time of Bharat Chandra Roygunakar, Tek Chand Tagore, Alaul, Daulat Wazir and others to the time of Mohitlal Mazumdar, Saityendra Nath Dutta, Rabindra Nath Tagore and other writers. This showed how Perso-Arabic words influenced the Bengali literature deeply in various times.

Chapter VI. is the conclusion. It was counted by many researchers that Kazi Nazrul Islam used almost 3000 Perso-Arabic words in his writings. This large volume showed the depth of influence of those words on the poetry of Kazi Nazrul Islam.

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