

5 March 2004



Sahitya Akademi

meet the author

Mughni Tabassum





Receiving Babul Reddy Foundation Award from Soli Sorabji

*'Kal mere lafzoan mein
meri jaan rahbegi,
Duniya jab dekhegi
to hairaan rahbegi'.*

*My heart throbs
in my words embellished,
The world tomorrow
at it be astonished.*

- Mughni Tabassum

Mohammed Abdul Ghani well-known as 'Mughni Tabassum', an eminent poet, critic, teacher and researcher in Urdu was born in 1930 at Hyderabad. He is renowned Osmanian (who studied in Osmania University) who is held in high esteem by his admirers all over the world.

During his student days he was attracted towards communism. Much impressed by Poet Laureate Iqbal he began writing poetry at the age of fourteen during his matriculation days. Later he was associated with Progressive Movement of Urdu Literature, then embraced modernism and again moved back to progressive group. His literary forte lies in his understanding the usage of changing trends in Urdu literature.

Prof. Mughni Tabassum emerged as a poet with classic fervour blended with refreshing modernity of thought. His poetry in both 'Nazm' and 'Ghazal' reflects his miraculous sensibilities with its lucidity. He masters the art of writing experiences and impressions in appealing simple precision.

Mughni's poetic talent has been rightly assessed by Prof. Shamim Ifanfi, "His poetic approach is marked with slow pace and diction is of whispers which gradually enlightens our

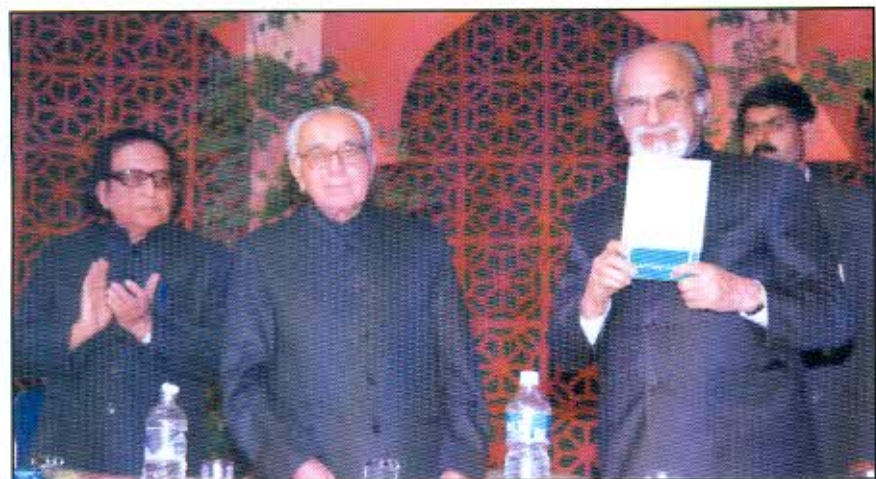


50 Years Independence Industrial Award by ICAP

sensibilities. And hence this poetry is neither a burden to our ears nor it becomes a sudden occurring. A hidden sense of belonging eventually emerges from his couplets and very quietly it starts shrouding us under its grip. The happenings, his wavering waves of thought, his emotional feelings emerge abruptly. These happenings and sensibilities lands up like rays of moonlight on the earth with such a fragility that we realise our encounter when it had already entered our conscious." His poetic works '*Nawa-e-Talkh*',

researcher his work on '*Fani Badayuni's*' poetics is his literary achievement which is appreciable with regards to its excellence in both 'Research & Criticism'. He popularized stylistics study in literary criticism to evaluate literary works. '*Bazyaft*', '*Awaz our Aadmi*', '*Lafzaun Se Aage*' are considered to be his widely acclaimed works in the field of literary criticism. He set the trends to assess and study Urdu poetry with the tools of 'stylistics' and phonetic attributes.

Dr. Mughni Tabassum says, "Creative usage of language is the



With I.K. Gujral in International Ghalib Seminar, New Delhi

'*Pebli kiran ka Bojh*', '*Mitti Mitti Mera Dil*' and '*Dard ke Kheme ke Aas Pass*' are embodiments of his versatile poetic genius.

Prof. Mughni Tabassum is also an acclaimed modernist critic. Working for his research work on Fani Badayuni he adopted 'stylistic' and 'phonetic' analysis of poetry. In Urdu literary criticism this was first ever experiment which paved the avenues for analysis in stylistics perspective of literary works. Prof. Gyan Chand Jain, eminent linguist of Urdu, opines 'as a

basic requirement for both poetry and prose. Without the urge of creativity there cannot be literature at all."

Prof. Mughni is a good administrator and a dedicated



Book Release function of Mughni Tabassum



At Rajasthan Urdu Academy along with Prof. G.C. Narang and fellow writers

teacher too. He continued the mission of nurturing and nourishing Urdu language and its centre at 'Idara-e-Adabiyat-e-Urdu' Hyderabad which was founded by legendary Dr. Syed Mohiuddin Quadri Zor in 1931. He edits 'Sabras' (Monthly Literary Journal) and 'Sher-O-Hikmat' (Bi-annually) to mould and patronize upcoming writers and to further the cause of research and literary criticism. Being associated with several literary bodies he has been instrumental in organising translation and literary workshops and seminars.

Prof. Mughni is a dynamic soul with unbound zest to work for literature. He has been the source of inspiration to many researchers & critics in Urdu because of his innovative thinking and approach to literature. He keeps himself well aware of the developments occurring in Indian Writing. He contributes regular columns on literary aspects to Urdu Newspapers and journals.

Prof. Mughni has been compared with literary

legends like Moulana Hali & T.S Eliot in view of his personal attributes, his style of writing and contributions made to the world of literature. Today he remains one of the most celebrated critic and poet in Urdu who is effectively striving for the cause of promotion of language and culture.

*Fursat-e-umr hai kum,
harf-e-tamanna sun lo,
Baat shikwoan ki na
poocho kay woh daftar
hai alag.*

*Listen to my word of wish
as the leisure in life is less,
not to enquire about my
complaints, it has its own
account.*

(Mughni Tabassum)



Speaking at Book Release Function.
Mr. Akbar Hyderabad, Prof. Gopichand Narang,

A SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

POETRY:

1. Nawa-e-Talkh - 1946
2. Pehli Kiran Ka Bojh - 1980
3. Mitti Mitti Mera Dil - 1991
4. Dard Ke Kheme Ke Aas Pas - 2002

LITERARY CRITICISM:

1. Bazyaft - 1969
2. Awaz aur Aadmi - 1992
3. Lafzaun Se Aage - 1993

RESEARCH:

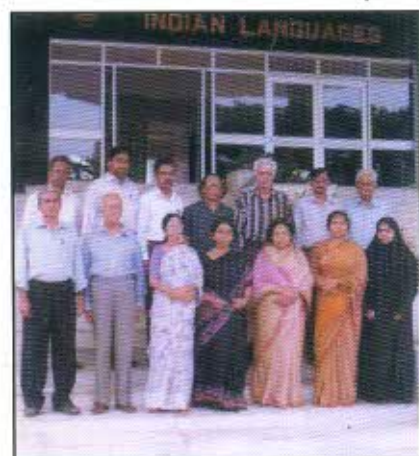
Fani Badayuni - Hayat, Shakhsiyat aur Shaeri - 1969

BIOGRAPHY:

Fani Badayuni (A Monograph for Sahitya Akademi) - 1993

COMPILATIONS:

1. Nazr-e-Fani Badayuni - 1968
2. Fani Ki Nadir Tehreeren - 1970
3. Fikr-e-Iqbal - 1977
4. Kahaniyan - 1983
5. Angrezi Mein Maasir Hindustani Kahaniyan - 1996
6. Asri Hindustani } Kahaniyan - 2001
7. Deccani Lughat and Tazkera -e- Deccani Makhtootat by



At CIIL, Mysore with other writers

Agha Haider Hasan (Ed.) - 2002

8. Hindustani Musalman Manzil ki Talash Mein - 2003

TRANSLATIONS:

1. Kahani Aur Uska Fun - 1957
2. Shadi Ki Aakhri Salgirah - 1975

EDITED:

1. Sher - O - Hikmat - Bi-Annual Urdu Journal
2. Sabras - Monthly

AWARDS CONFERRED BY:

1. Uttar Pradesh Urdu Academy
2. Bihar Urdu Academy
3. West Bengal Urdu Academy
4. Andhra Pradesh Urdu Academy
5. Madanna Trust, Andhra Pradesh
6. Babul Reddy Foundation, Hyderabad (1988)
7. Potti Sri Ramulu Telugu University, Hyderabad
8. Maharashtra Sahitya Academy - 2003

MISCELLANCY

BOOKS:

Telugu Adab Ki Tareekh par ek Nazar - 1956

Nukat-e-Urdu - 1956

Extension Lecturers:

He delivered extension lectures at Aligarh Muslim University, Jamia Urdu Aligarh, University of Hyderabad, University of Mysore, Andhra Pradesh Open University, Bombay University, Hindi Academy - Andhra Pradesh & Others.

LECTURES ABROAD:

1. Delivered a special lecture at URDU MARKAZ, London.
2. A special lecture on 'Urdu Prosody' at ILMI MAJLIX, London.

3. A special lecture on 'Teaching of Urdu as Mother tongue' at AMIRKHUSRO SOCIETY OF AMERICA, Chicago, U.S.A.
4. A Special lecture on 'Deccani Ghazal' at UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, Berkely, U.S.A.

A CHRONOLOGY

- 1930 - Born at Hyderabad
- 1944 - Beginning of Writing poetry
- 1946 - Matriculation from Darul Uloom High School
 - First collection of poems 'Nawa-e-Talkh' Published
- 1948 - Intermediate Course
- 1950 - B.A. from Osmania University, Hyderabad
- 1951 - Marriage
- 1952 - M.A. (Urdu) Osmania University, worked as Cataloguer, Osmania University Library.
- 1953-55 - Employed as UDC with AG Office, Hyderabad
- 1955-57 - Part-time lecturer at three colleges and honorary lecturer at two colleges at Hyderabad.
- 1958 - Appointed lecturer, Dept of Urdu, Osmania Unity.
- 1961 - M.A. (Persian) - Osmania University, Hyderabad
- 1962 - Ph.D from Osmania University
- 1969 - Reader, Dept of Urdu, Osmania University, Hyderabad
- 1976 - Second Marriage
- 1983 - Professor, Dept of Urdu, Osmania University, Hyderabad
- 1985 - Visiting Professor, Central University of Hyderabad.
- 1988 - Head, Department of Urdu, Osmania University
- 1990 - Retired from service at Osmania
- 1999 - Jashn-e-aetherafe-Khidmath (Celebration to acknowledge contribution & services) at Hyderabad
- 2000 - 'Nazr-e-Mughni Tabassum' Felicitation volume published. Ed: Prof Sulaiman Athar Javed.



With fellow writers - Urdu Markaz, London