

Contents

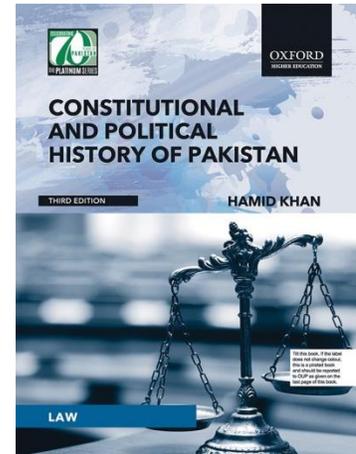
Book of The Month	1
Personality of the Month.....	3
The Value of Libraries for Research and Researchers.....	8

Book of the Month

Constitutional and Political History of Pakistan

By Hamid Khan

It has been seven decades since the independent state of Pakistan was carved out of British India, yet the country is still in pursuit of a suitable constitutional framework. Over this period of time, no other country has experimented with so many different constitutional forms, from parliamentary democracy to presidential form of government, to outright military regimes.



This book analyses constitutional development in Pakistan from its inception to present times. It provides a case-by-case account of constitution-making in Pakistan, with the inclusion of all pertinent documentation. Constitutional developments have been explained in the context of social and political events that shaped them. The book focuses on constitutional and political history, and constitutional development concurrently. It includes a liberal humanitarian reading of the travails of lawmakers and the role of generals, judges, politicians, and bureaucrats in the implementation of law.

Students of law, political science, and history, as well as lawyers, judges, and professors will find this book of particular value. Being grounded in a socio-political context, this book is also of interest to the general reader.

This third edition is updated to cover the constitutional and political developments till 2013.

AUTHOR DESCRIPTION

Hamid Khan is Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of Pakistan and a founding partner of a leading Pakistani law firm, Cornelius, Lane & Mufti. He is former President of the Supreme Court Bar Association of Pakistan (2001–3), and the Lahore High Court Bar Association (1992–

3). He regularly lectures on various legal subjects at the University of the Punjab, Civil Services Academy, Administrative Staff College, and the National Institute of Public Administration. He is an Ebert and DAAD Fellow, and a member of The Hague Academy of International Law. His other publications include *The Islamic Law of Inheritance* (OUP 2007), *Principles of Administrative Law* (OUP 2012), and *A History of the Judiciary in Pakistan* (OUP 2016).

Personality of the Month

Parveen Shakir



Parveen Shakir: (24 November 1952 – 26 December 1994) was an Urdu poet, teacher and a civil servant of the Government of Pakistan.

Parveen started writing at an early age and published her first volume of poetry, *Khushbu* [Fragrance], to great acclaim, in 1976. She subsequently published other volumes of poetry – all well-received – *Sad-barg* [Marsh Marigold] in 1980, *Khud Kalami* [Talking To Oneself] and *Inkaar* [Denial] in 1990, *Kaf-e-Aina* [The Mirror's Edge] besides a collection of her newspaper columns, titled *Gosha-e-Chashm* [Corner of the Eye], and was awarded one of Pakistan's highest honours, the Pride of Performance for her outstanding contribution to literature in 1976. The poetry books are collected in the volume *Mah-e-Tamaam* [Full Moon] with the exception of *Kaf-e-Aina*.

Parveen died in 1994 in a car accident while on her way to work.

Early career

Parveen started writing at a young age, penning both prose and poetry, and contributing columns in Urdu newspapers, and a few articles in English dailies. Initially, she wrote under the pen-name, "Beena". Shakir held two master's degrees, one in English Literature and one in Linguistics. She also held several degrees and another master's degree in Bank Administration.

She was a teacher for nine years before she joined the Civil Service and worked in the Customs Department. In 1986 she was appointed the second secretary, Federal Bureau of Revenue in Islamabad.

Style of poetry

Shakir employed mainly two forms of poetry in her work, one being the prevalent ghazal [plural: *ghazalyaat*], and the other being free verse. The most prominent themes in Shakir's poetry are love, feminism, and social stigmas, though she occasionally wrote on other topics as well. Her work was often based on romanticism, exploring the concepts of love, beauty and their contradictions, and heavily integrated the use of metaphors, similes and personifications.

Arguably, Shakir can be termed the first female poet to use the word *larki* (girl) in her works—the male-dominated Urdu poetry scene seldom employs that word, and uses masculine syntax when talking about the 'lover'. Similarly, she often made use of the Urdu first-person, feminine pronoun in her verses which, though extremely common in prose, was rarely used in poetry, even by female poets, before her.

Ghazalyaat

Shakir's ghazalyaat are considered "a combination of classical tradition with modern sensitivity", and mainly deal with the feminine perspective on love and romance, and associated themes such as beauty, intimacy, separation, break-ups, distances, distrust and infidelity and disloyalty.

Most of Shakir's ghazalyaat contain five to ten couplets, often – though not always – inter-related. Sometimes, two consecutive couplets may differ greatly in meaning and context [For example, in one of her works, the couplet 'That girl, like her

home, perhaps/ Fell victim to the flood is immediately followed by 'I see light when I think of you/ Perhaps remembrance has become the moon'].

Shakir's ghazalyaat heavily rely on metaphors and similes, which are repeatedly and thought-provokingly used to bring force and lyricism in her work. A fine example of this is seen in one of her most famous couplets, "Wo tou khushbu hai, hawaon main bikhar jaye ga/ Masla phool ka hai, phool kidher jaye ga?" [Translation: He is fragrance and would waft in the air/ the trouble lies with the flower – where shall the flower go?] where Shakir relates 'fragrance' to an unfaithful lover, 'air' to the unfaithful person's secret loves, and 'flower' to the person being cheated. Other metaphors Shakir commonly uses are titli[butterfly] for a Romeo, badal [cloud] for one's love, baarish [rain] for affection, and andhi [storm] for difficulties.

Some of Shakir's ghazalyaat or, more specifically, couplets, have gained an iconic status in Urdu literature. One of her most famous couplets is the one given above. Another famous, Shakir couplet is "Jugnuu ko din kay wakt parakhne ki zid karain/ Bachchay hamaray ehed kay chalaak ho gaye" [They insist upon catching the firefly in daylight/ The children of our age, have grown wiser], which is often quoted to comment on the often-surprising knowledge and awareness of the 21st century child.

Free verse

As compared to her *ghazalyaat* Shakir's free verse is much bolder, and explores social issues and taboos, including gender inequality, discrimination, patriotism, deceit, prostitution, the human psyche, and current affairs. It is also much more modern and up-to-date.

Shakir is known for having employed the usage of pop culture references and English words and phrases, that have mixed up with Urdu, in her free verse – a

practice that is both generally considered inappropriate, and criticized, in Urdu poetry. An example is the poem *Departmental Store Mein* [In a Departmental Store], which is named thus despite the fact that there the term 'departmental store' could easily have been substituted with its Urdu equivalent, and where words like 'natural pink,' 'hand lotion,' 'shade,' 'scent' and 'pack' are brought into use, and references made to cosmetics brands like, Pearl, Revlon, Elizabeth Arden, and Tulip. Other examples are her poems *Ecstasy*, *Nun* and *Picnic*.

Shakir's free verse also contains a few, credited translated or inspired works i.e. poems that are translations of, or inspired by, other authors. Examples are *Wasteland*, a poem inspired by Elliot's poem of the same name, and *Benasab Wirsay Ka Bojh*[The Burden of Illegitimate Inheritance], a translation of W.B. Yeats's *Leda and the Swan*.

Honours

Shakir's first book, *Khushboo*, was awarded the Adamjee Award in 1976. Later, she was awarded the Pride of Performance, one of Pakistan's highest honours in 1976.

Upon her death, the Parveen Shakir Trust was established by her close friend, Parveen Qadir Agha. The Parveen Shakir Trust organises a yearly function and gives out the "Aks-e-Khushbu" award.

The first substantial selection of Shakir's work translated into English was made by the poet Rehan Qayoom in 2011.

In 2013, Pakistan Post Office issued a commemorative postage stamp of Rupees 10 denomination on Parveen Shakir's death anniversary.

Shakir was highly educated. She received two undergraduate degrees, one in English literature and the other in linguistics, and obtained MA degrees in the

same subjects from the University of Karachi. She also held a PhD, and another MA degree in Bank Administration.

In 1982, Shakir qualified for the Central Superior Services Examination. In 1991, she obtained an MA degree in Public Administration from Harvard University America.

Shakir married a Pakistani doctor, Syed Naseer Ali, with whom she had a son, Syed Murad Ali—but the marriage did not last long and ended in a divorce.

On 26 December 1994, Shakir's car collided with a bus while she was on her way to work in Islamabad. The accident resulted in her death, a great loss to the Urdu poetry world. The road on which the accident took place is named after her now (Parveen Shakir Road).

Books

Volumes of Poetry

- Khushbu (1976) – *Fragrance*
- Sad-barg (1980) – *Marsh Marigold*
- Khud-kalaami (1990) – *Talking to oneself*
- Inkaar (1990) – *Refusal*
- Maah-e-Tamaam (1994) – *Full Moon*
- Kaf-e-Aa'ina – *The Edge of the Mirror*

The value of libraries for research and researchers

Good libraries help institutions to recruit and retain top researchers

There is global competition for top researchers, and institutional reputation is key to attracting them. Many factors contribute to a good reputation, including league tables, RAE scores, research productivity and funding levels. But the library also contributes, positively or negatively, to an institution's reputation. The quality, nature, and extent of the library's collections, of its staff and the services they provide, and of its buildings are all important. Successful and high-quality libraries can be a significant factor in recruiting and retaining top researchers.

Libraries help researchers win research grants and contracts

Success in winning research grants and contracts is critically-important, especially for research-intensive universities. Research Support Offices help researchers to generate a regular flow of high-quality applications for such grants and contracts, but libraries are playing an increasingly significant role too. On the whole they do so in response to specific requests rather than proactively, however, and in general researchers are not required to consult the library in generating their bids. Libraries could play a greater role if researchers knew that support was available, and if their involvement was more formalized. Libraries have an opportunity to use their skills to help researchers improve the quality of their funding applications, and to increase the institution's success in winning research income.

Libraries promote and exploit new technologies and new models of scholarly communications

Libraries are critically important in helping researchers to exploit the full benefits and opportunities of the networked world, including such developments as open access and social media. But libraries are not always well-equipped to promote change, and researchers sometimes resist efforts to modify their behaviors and practices. Nevertheless, many libraries have succeeded in addressing such problems, by establishing stronger links with researchers and re focusing their

services to promote and exploit new technologies and new models of scholarly communication.

Repositories increase the visibility of the institution and raise its research profile

Most institutions now have repositories to store and make available institutional assets such as research papers and theses. In most cases, the library runs the repository on behalf of the institution, and senior institutional managers acknowledge the role the repository plays in increasing the visibility of the institution's outputs and raising its research profile. But repositories are only as valuable as the content they hold, and now the focus is on increasing the volume of content, by making it routine for researchers to deposit their outputs. Libraries are now playing an increasing role in educating researchers and building more effective procedures and approaches across the institution.

Specialist staff works in partnership with academic departments

Information specialists - both subject specialists and those with a specific focus on the needs of researchers - form a significant group of the library staff in most institutions. The researchers who make use of them see them as vital. But too often information specialists and researchers are not well connected. Putting that right can alter specialists' roles profoundly, shifting them away from more traditional collection management roles. Where this change has taken place, information specialists take a more proactive role, working in partnership with academic departments and acting as consultants. Such developments have been welcomed by heads of departments and researchers.

Connecting with researchers enhances the value of the library's services

The digital revolution has changed the relationship between libraries and researchers, many of whom do not use the physical library. As one librarian said, "the more we do to make access quick, seamless and easy, the more invisible we make ourselves". Libraries are becoming alert to their separation from researchers, and are trying to find ways to reconnect with them, and to fill the gaps in their knowledge and understanding of researchers' needs. Such an approach can lead to

a strong service culture permeating the library, increasing researcher satisfaction, as well as winning recognition and respect for the library across the institution.

Easy access to high-quality content is a key foundation for good research

Access to high-quality content remains crucial to research, and its value is recognised by researchers, senior managers and librarians alike. Libraries spend huge amounts to sustain and develop their collections, and researchers across the sector now have access to more content than ever before. But they always want more. The downward pressure on institutional budgets, continuing increases in subscription costs at above inflation levels, and fluctuations in exchange rates, are making it more difficult to sustain the current level of purchasing. Some libraries are still seeking to increase the content budget, but others are reducing the amounts of content they buy, while yet others are seeking to be smarter by procuring more with less. 'Daring to be different', and taking a more evidence based, strategic approach to content procurement, should help libraries to meet researchers' needs more effectively as well as helping their dialogue with the senior managers from whom they seek funding.

Libraries are a physical manifestation of the values of the academy and of scholarship

Libraries are one of the most enduring features of the academy, central to the values and the practice of scholarship. But in a period of austerity they are increasingly being asked to justify their existence. Perhaps the deepest, yet most elusive, contribution that libraries make is to provide a physical manifestation of the scholarly ethos that universities exist to inculcate and preserve. There is a risk that this intrinsic value may not be recognized by future generations of researchers who work in an online world. In building the evidence as to libraries' contribution to research, it is important to stress that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts; and that the value of the library is as a crucial cornerstone and representation of the values of the academy and of scholarship.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

- Brigadier Prof. Dr. Younas HoD Education dept.
- Dr. Amir Nadeem Dean Mgt Science dept.
- Zafar Ahmad Registrar City University Peshawar
- Mr. Abdul Hameed Librarian City University Peshawar

Contact us:

City University of information Technology
Dalzak Road Peshawar Pakistan
Phone: +92 912609501-8
Mobile: +92 3129833113-7
Fax: +92 912609500
Email: rr@cusit.edu.pk