

Dawood Prize for Literature

Most Of the literary prizes in the world give general encouragement to authorship. These are of high usefulness to society through calling attention to deserving books, and through public emphasis on the importance of books in general.

To the Dawood Foundation however the greatest virtue of these prizes lies in their educational aspect which can be developed for the growth of a happy and healthy society.

Trustees of the Dawood Foundation also realized that since Pakistani writers have united under all Pakistan's Writers Guild, it was easier to render some services to their united cause without fear of engaging into any sort of controversy.

In realisation of the above, a yearly allocation of Rs. 25,000 was made in 1963 in the shape of awards on outstanding Urdu and Bengali Books. The aim of this Prize known as Dawood Prize for Literature, is to encourage scholarly and research works in the two national languages of Pakistan.

Further, in realisation of the need for national integrity and better appreciation and understanding of each other's social problems and literary pursuits, the amount of Rs. 5,000 has been earmarked for interlingual translations of the Prize winning books. In this way East and West Pakistan can know the contents and quality of each other's writings.

There are two categories of Prizes in prose writing namely (1) research, history or criticism of literature (2) research on any ideological, historical, cultural or social aspect covering pre-independence or post-independence periods of Pakistan.

The Dawood Prizes have been regularly adjudged and announced each year. The interest shown by the writers, publishers, judges and the readers in general is most encouraging indeed. These Prizes have provided great impe-

tus and encouragement to Pakistani scholars and creative writers. One could see a visible improvement in the academic quality and quantity of books produced in Pakistan as compared to the situation that existed a few years ago.

The significance of the Dawood Prizes does not lie this that it carries a big sum of money for individuals. Its significance lies: in its status as a permanent national Prize, More important than money is the recognition of the talent and the hard work of the men of letters solely through our national resources.

The Trustees are grateful to the Guild authorities and the literary judges who cooperated with the Dawood Foundation to make these awards a success.

The Prizes for 1968-69 have been announced as following:

Bengali Total Rs. 10,000

Padmavati of Alawal by Prof. Syed Ali Ahsan
Sahitya Oitijhya Mtilyabodh by Abdul Hug
Urdu Total Rs. 10,000

Iqbal Shaer Aur Falsafi by Prof. Viqar Azim.
Khawar Nama Edited by Chand Hussain
Shaikh.

Multani Zaban Aur Us ka Urdu Se Taalluq by Dr. Meher Abdul Haq.

Turkish Urdu Dictionary by Dr. Mohammad Sabir.

Panel of Judges for Bengali books consisted of Dr. Mohammad Enamul Huq (Chairman); Prof. M. Idris Ali; Prof. Ahmed Hossain; Dr. Anisuzzaman and Hasan Hafizur Rahman.

The Judges for Urdu books were: Dr. Mumtaz Hasan (Chairman); Pir Husamuddin Rashidi ; Dr. Shaukat Husain Sabzwari; Prof. Mumtaz Husain; Dr. Abdul Ghafoor and Mukhtar Masood.

Last year, only one Urdu book was found

worthy of a prize. The other portion of Rs. 5,000 was therefore withheld and has been awarded this year to following 3 books:

Hindustan Pas Manzar-o-Pesh Manzar by Syed Mohd. Taqi.

Tuzak-c-Jehangiri translated by Moulvi Ejaz-ul Huq Quddusi.

Panjab Rang by Shafi Aqeel.

An additioNal prize of Rs. 5,000 was given to a book in English titled "The Social and Cultural History of Bengal by Dr. M.A. Rahim."



Prof. Ali Ahsan
Padmavati

This book is a scholarly investigation into source materials of Alawol's work PADMAVATI. Professor Ahsan shows what and how Alawol borrowed from the Hindi poet Malik Mohammad Jayasi. The book contains parallel texts from Jayasi and Alawol and elaborate commentary on, and annotation of the texts (Serajul Islam).



Dr. Ashraf H. Siddiqui
A study of Bengali Folklore, Loka Sahitya

The book deals with the description of various kinds of folklore material available in Bengali. It describes the Bengali folklore in the oral tradition and explains scientifically, its study, Bengali folklore and research tools in the contemporary folkloristic methods presented in Europe and America.



Dr. M.A. Rahim
Social and Cultural History of Bengal

Dr. Rahim, professor of History, University of Karachi has based this book on original sources and contemporary documents as well as on evidence gathered from archaeological material, to present a picture of Bengali society with special reference to the Muslims during the period 1201 A.D. to 1757 A.D. This book studies the basic forces, people, history and geography and their currents and cross-currents which were at work through centuries in shaping the socio-cultural pattern in Bengal.



Aijaz-ul-Haq Quddusi
Autobiography of Emperor Jahangir, Tuzak-i-Jahangiri

Of all the important books which shed light on the Mughal rule in Indo-pakistan subcontinent, Emperor Jahangir's auto-biography "Tuzak-i-Jahangiri" is not the least one. Besides making inroads into the emperor's personal life, this book gives valuable information about twenty two years' rule of Jahangir.



Abdul Huq
A Collection of Literary Essays
Sahitya Oitijhya Mulya bodh

This book is a collection of 29 essays, the most important one of which gave the book its name. These are mostly literary criticism, including critical survey of literary problems and appreciation of a number of Bengali Muslim writers. It also includes criticism of 6 best plays of Henrik Ibsen.

His another play FERDOWSI won the drama contest Prize of Bengal Academy and Bureau of National Reconstruction in 1964.





Sheikh Chand Hussain

Khawar Nama

Khawar Nama is the earliest epic poem which exists in old Dakhni Urdu, translated by Kamal Khan Rustam in A.H. 1059, from original Persian text. The poem consists of 24,000 verses which were composed in a period of 18 months, a remarkable feat in itself. The story deals with imaginary battles fought by Hazrat Ali against the infidels.



Syed Viqar Azim

Iqbal as a Poet and Philosopher

Iqbal—Shair aur Falsafa

Professor Syed Viqar Azim needs no introduction to Urdu literary world. His several research works on Urdu short story and Urdu fiction and Urdu drama have proved that he knows his subject well. In the eyes of critics this book is a significant contribution to the understanding of Iqbal and is expressed in extra ordinarily beautiful prose. And as the originality demands, some quite new aspects of Iqbal's thought have been discussed in the book.

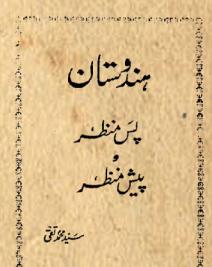


Syed Mohammad Taqi

A short Survey of Indian culture and politics in relation with Indian Muslims

Hindoostan, Pasmanzar-o-Peshmanzar

The book deals with Indian political situation and cultural condition in its historical setting which has intimate relation with Indian Muslim's struggle for the establishment of Pakistan. Therefore it was considered as particularly important for the study of Pakistan movement.



Dr. Maher Abdul Guq

Multani language and its relation with Urdu

Multani Zaban aur Uska Urdu se Taalluk

This book deals with Multani language which is the oldest among modern speaking languages of Indo-Aryan origin. The study of this language is a must for foreign and Urdu scholars in general who have some interest in Indo-Aryan family of languages.



Dr. Mohammad Sabir

Turkish-Urdu Dictionary

Dr. Mohammad Sabir of the University of Karachi is one of the country's outstanding scholars in Turkish language and literature having studies at the University of Istanbul from where is took is Ph. D in Turkish Philology. This dictionary compiled by him is the first of its kind and is based on the latest edition of the Turkee Sozluk (Turkish to Turkish dictionary) published by the TURKISH LANGUAGE SOCIETY, Ankara. This pioneering effort should be a valuable source of reference for the students, and its significance in advancing Pakistan-Turkish understanding is self evident.