

Travelogues of China in Urdu Language: Trends and Tradition

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Received: June 8, 2016

Accepted: August 15, 2016

ABSTRACT

Many political and literary delegations visit China from Pakistan. Individual people also travel this important country for different purposes. There are many important Urdu travelogues about China. In these travelogues information of political, social, agricultural, educational, cultural and religious nature is included. The history and revolutionary background of China is also discussed. Some of these travelogues have a touch of humour. Majority of the travelogues of China are of official visits of different delegations.

KEYWORDS: Urdu Literature, Urdu Travelogue, Urdu Travelogues of China, Urdu Travelogue trends,

1. INTRODUCTION

China is an important country of the world due to its economic growth. It is also important for Pakistan not only for its neighbour position but also for its friendly relations. It has a great historical background and a very strong civilization. People of Pakistan visit this country every year due to this friendship of both the countries. Both the countries exchange their educational resources for their people. Cultural and political delegations also visit China from Pakistan.

2. URDU TRAVELOGUES OF CHINA

In Urdu language many travelogues are found about China. Most of these comprise visits of different delegations from Pakistan to China. These travelogues have informative importance and also many of them are important for their literary characteristics.

2.1. NAI DIWAR E CHEEN BY IBRAHIM JALEES

Ibrahim Jalees visited China on the invitation of Vice Chief Minister of China on the second anniversary of China revolution. He visited the cities of China Canton, *Beijing*, Shanghai, Hong Chao, Nanking and Tennyson. This travelogue provides information about history, culture and system of China. New laws of China are also included in this travelogue. Indexes of the important personalities of China are also included (Jalees).

2.2. CHALTAY HO TO CHEEN KO CALIAY BY IBNE INSHA

Unlike other travelogues of Ibne Insha, in this travelogue only one country China is discussed. He visited the cities of China Beijing, Shanghai, Dahon, Canton and Socho. In this he was accompanied with Pir Hassam ud Din Rashdi, Professor Waqar Azeem, Ibrahim Kha, Kawi Jaseem ud Din, Dr. Inaam ul Haq, Ijaz Batalvi and Dr. Waheed Qurashi. The writer has a beautiful humorous style of writing. This travelogue has also informative importance. Complete details about history of china are included in it. Mao's long march is also discussed. Translation of Mao Zedong's seven poems is also a part of this travelogue. There are many cartoons and pictures in the travelogue (Insha, 1973).

2.3. ISHTARAQI CHEEN BY IRSHAD AHMED

Irshad Ahmed visited China in 1952. The areas of China visited by him are, Beijing, Canton, Urumqi and Xinjiang. He visited these areas of China with a delegation of journalists. He was accompanied with Faiz Ahmed Faiz and Ahmed Nadeem Qasmi. In his travelogue Irshad Ahmed described background of China Revolution and its reforms. He visited different institutions there. He included information about agricultural system, industry, political system, religion and medical facilities of China in a journalist's style (Ahmed, 1957).

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2.4. BASTI BASTI NAGAR NAGAR BY IRSHAD AHMED HAQANI

He was with President of Pakistan Zia ul Haq in his visit to China, Libya and Turkey. His position in the President's delegation was as a journalist. He described information of political system, social and economics in a pure journalist's style. It is an informative travelogue and mainly focuses on the activities of President of Pakistan during his visit to China and other countries (Haqani, 1989).

2.5. LAHORE SAY CHEEN TAK BY ASLAM KAMAL

In this visit of China Arbab Niaz and Begum Arbab Niaz were with the writer. They visited Beijing, Shanghai and Canton. This travelogue of Aslam Kamal is a simple narrative travelogue in the form of diary. He described his staying and meal routines during the travel. He visited gardens and historical places there and joined different functions and exhibitions. He is an artist and introduced different paintings and the art of painting in his travelogue 'Lahore Say Cheen Tak' (Kamal, 1989).

2.6. MUHABTON KAY DARMIYAN BY ASHRAF NADEEM

A delegation of trainees of Pakistan Administrative Staff went to China and the writer was a part of this delegation. They visited cities of China Beijing, Shandong, Haikou and Canton during 2 November to 30 November. This visit was to observe the reforms of agricultural system in China. He expressed his feelings and observations about the life of China. He highlighted hospitality and ethical manner of China's public and appreciated it. He also highlighted historical background and cultural values of visited areas. Beautiful pictures of China add to the value of this travelogue of Ashraf Nadeem (Nadeem, 1992).

2.7. SAFARE MINA BY ISHFAQ AHMED

This is the travelogue of Italy, Spain and China. In China, the writer stayed in Beijing. 'Safare Mina' of Ishfaq Ahmed is a story of different visits to these countries. This travelogue has fictional style of writing. He described his relations with different people. He also included his novelettes and short stories in this travelogue. So this book is a mixture of travelogue and fiction (Ahmed I. , 1991).

2.8. RASHAM RASHAM BY AMJAD ISLAM AMJAD

Amjad Islam Amjad is a famous poet and drama writer of Urdu literature. He went to China during 22 August to 27 September 1991. His visit companions were Dr. Farman Fatehpuri, Ajamal Khatak, A.A. Barohi, Prof. Nawaz Tahir, Munir Niazi, Aziz Bugti and Hassan Rizvi. He described their meetings with literary personalities. He also included his experiences about important places of visited areas. This travelogue has a very beautiful light homoursous writing style (Amjad, 1993).

2.9. PARVASNI BY PERVEN ATIF

Perven Atif went to India, Holland, Japan and China as a representative of Pakistan Women Hockey. In this travelogue, she mainly described his activities related to women hockey. He visited many important places there and described them beautifully. Most part of this travelogue has a style of monologue. She met with people of different fields. She discussed social problems of these countries (Atif, 1995).

2.10. CHEEN HAY TOO CHEEN MAIN BY TAJ MUHAMMAD LANGAH

He visited China, Korea and Hong Kong in 1975. He was a part of an official delegation of Chief Minister of Pakistan, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. He highlighted Pak China friendship in his travelogue. He completely introduced political, social, cultural and literary life of China in this travelogue. Human and political history of that nation is also present in it. Activities of the delegation are also a part of this travelogue (Langhah, 1976).

2.11. CHEESTAN E CHEEN BY JAMIL UZ ZAMAN

Jamil uz Zaman visited cities of China, Beijing, Canton, Shanghai, Nanchang and Shiyang. He included economical survey of China in the travelogue. He visited many industrial institutions of the above cities. The information about education, culture and civilization of China are also included. He discussed politics of China and steps taken by the

leaders for the development of this country. This travelogue has an informative style and has abundance of information in it (Zaman, 1977).

2.12. AAGY MOR JUDAI KA BY SAEED AASI

It is the travelogue of Beijing of China which the writer had visited in 1992. He was a part of the delegation of parliamentarians of Pakistan. He described activities of this delegation in detail. His meetings with different prominent personalities are also included. Information of different kinds is also included. Pictures of different events are also an asset of this travelogue (Aasi, 1994).

2.13. DEYAR E DOST KI TARAF BY SHARIF FAROOQ

This is the story of the visit of Beijing, China with the delegation of President of Pakistan, General Muhammad Zia ul Haq. This was a four days visit from 3 June to 6 June 1980. It is a journalist report type travelogue of Sharif Farooq about President's visit. He admired China's system and its administration. China's history and its cultural background is also a part of this travelogue. Pak China friendship is also its topic. He discussed main reasons of the development of China. Photographs of President's activities are also published (Farooq).

2.14. TASRAT E CHEEN BY ABDUL HAMID BADAYONI

He visited China with an official delegation. He included his religious and scholarly observations in the travelogue. He introduced the Muslim Scholars and religious personalities. Photographs of delegation members are also included. He described the life of Muslims and their social and religious activities in China (Badayoni, 1956).

2.15. SAFARNAMA E CHEEN BY ABDUL QADOS HASHMI

He visited cities of China, Canton, Beijing, Shanghai and Xinjiang. He started his journey in 1952. He was with a delegation of religious personalities invited by 'Jamiat e Islamia e Chin'. He completely described the life and living ways of Muslims in China. He also described China's social and cultural life. Agricultural information is also included in the travelogue. Education system, industry and China's history are also highlighted (Hashmi, 1957).

2.16. NAYA CHEEN BY FAZAL E HAQ SHEDA

This is the travelogue of China and Hong Kong. In China he visited Canton, Beijing and Shanghai. His traveling year is 1952. He visited this area for participation in peace conference. This travelogue has a diary style. The writer traveled in the company of Peer Sahib Manki Sharif. He described activities of Peer Sahib in his travelogue. He also described life style and beliefs of the people there (Shaida).

2.17. AIK HAFTA CHEEN MAIN BY KOURSAR NIAZI

He visited Beijing and Shanghai during 17 February to 23 February 1972. Begum Nusrat Bhutto and some other persons were with him. This visit was for participation in the ceremony of first flight of PIA to Shanghai. He introduced Zhou Enlai's visit to Pakistan in this travelogue. Participation report of delegation in the ceremony is also included. The history, geography, politics and administration system of China are also discussed (Niazi).

2.18. NI HAO BY KOKAB KHAWJA

She visited China with her husband Athar in 1984 and stayed there approximately for three years. It is an informative travelogue. She introduces China's culture, art and literature, festivals, religions, health, food, visiting places and much more. She also introduced staff of Pakistani Embassy (Khawja, 1990).

2.19. TAZKARA E CHEEN BY GULZAR AHMED

Gulzar Ahmed visited cities of China, Nanking, Beijing and Shanghai in 1982. He was invited by 'Anjuman Dosti for Gher Mulki Mumalik'. He included his expressions about history, revolution, agriculture, industry, tourism and international relations, of China. This is an informative style travelogue (Ahmed G. , 1984).

2.20. QISA CHEEN JANY KA BY MASOOD QURASHI

This was his visit with six member delegation, visiting China. They stayed there for fifteen days and visited cities of China, Shanghai, Shiyen and *Hangchow*. He described literary and cultural activities of the delegation and their participation in different functions and conferences. This travelogue included information about literature, culture and history of China (Qureshi, 1996).

Other travelogues of China in Urdu language are: 'Himala Kay Os Par', by Mirza Adib (Adeeb, 1983), 'Korea Kahani' by Hakeem Muhammad Saeed (Saeed, 1983) and 'Dunya Mera Gaon' by Khawja Ghulam us Sayedain (Sayedain, 1985).

SUMMARY

Beijing, Shanghai, Dahon, Canton and Xinjiang are the most visited cities of the Urdu language travelogues. The writers had different purposes for the visit of China but majority of them introduces the system and life style of this country. Almost all the travelogues are of informative nature. Most of the travelogues are individual travelogues of China and some of them contain visit stories of other countries of the world, in them also.

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