

Travelogues of Turkey in Urdu Language: Trends and Tradition

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ABSTRACT

Travelogues of Urdu language of Turkey have a valuable importance due to their historical and cultural information. These travelogues have also literary touch because of beautiful writing style and emotional ways of narration. Many tourists visited this country for different purposes and deeply studied its history and life style and described it in their travelogues. Most of the travelogue writers visited this country with other important countries of Europe and compared culture and social life of these countries.

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

1. INTRODUCTION

Turkey is an Islamic country situated in two continents Asia and Europe. In its neighborhood there are very important countries of Bulgaria, Greece, Iran, Iraq and Syria. Due to its geographical position and its political and historical importance, many travelers of the world visit this country. Travelers from Pakistan also visit in a great number every year. This is why there are a reasonable number of Urdu travelogues about Turkey. Urdu language writers of old and recent ages preserved their experiences in the form of travelogues about this country.

2. URDU TRAVELOGUES OF TURKEY

Urdu travelogues of Turkey have a great importance due to their informative and literary contents. There are different trends in these travelogues but one thing which is common is that the writers fully introduced history and culture of Turkey in their travelogues. Some of important Urdu travelogues of Turkey are as under:

2.1. UFAQ TA BE UFAQ BY DR. AGHA SOHAIL

Dr. Agha Sohail visited Turkey, England and Mutahida Arab Emirates. He went to cities London, Birmingham, New Castle and Leeds of England, *Abu Dhabi* of Mutahida Arab Emirates and Istanbul of Turkey. There he visited historical places. He introduced these places with a light mode. He included his impressions in the travelogue about these places. He also described important events of his visit. His travelogue is an informative travelogue of light style of writing (Sohail, 1990).

2.2. DUNYA GOL HAY BY IBNE INSHA

This is the travelogue of Ibne Insha in which he described the details of his visits to Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Philippine, Malaysia, Afghanistan, Turkey, Japan, Iran, Korea, Hawaii, America, France and England. It is a humorous travelogue. He created humour from every event of his travel. He provided information about the traveled areas of the world. Nature of this information is almost political, cultural and administrative arrangements of these areas. Cartoons and pictures are also included (Insha, 1985).

2.3. DO HAFTAY TURKEY MAIN BY SYED ABUL HASSAN ALI NADVI

In 1956, Syed Abul Hassan Ali Nadvi went to Istanbul, Ankara and Konya, cities of Turkey. His thoughts of religious, ethical and historical nature are found all over the travelogue. He met there, with prominent people of

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different classes. His thoughts and emotions are mixed with information of these cities. Especially his religious point of view is dominant. His speeches and pictures of different events are also published (Nadvi).

2.4. MUSAFIR KI DIARY BY KHAWJA AHMED ABBAS

Khawja Ahmed Abbas visited Hong Kong, China, Singapore, Japan, Canada, America, Switzerland, France, England, Germany, Iraq and Turkey, in 1937. He visited these areas with a tourist's point of view. He noted political and historical situation of these areas and included this information in to his travelogue 'Musafir Ki Diary'. Life of night clubs is openly described by the writer. He also commented on international powers interfering into the political atmosphere of different countries (Abbas, 1940).

2.5. SER O SAFAR BY BEGUM AKHTAR RIAZ SHEIKH

This the travelogue of Hong Kong, China, East Pakistan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, France, Switzerland, Western Germany, Turkey, England, Iran, Syria, Poland, Yugoslavia, America, Canada and Italy. She visited these countries with her husband. It was purely a business tour and she accompanied her husband as his secretary. This travelogue is in the form of a diary. She mostly described her participation, with her husband, in different business conferences and business meetings (Akhtar Riaz Sheikh, Sero Safar, 1981).

2.6. PARIS 205 KILOMETER BY MUHAMMAD AKHTAR MAMOKA

He visited Afghanistan, Turkey, Iran, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Switzerland, Italy and France. In Turkey he visited cities of Arz e Rome, Ankara and Istanbul. There were only 41 dollars in his pocket and he went to almost 18 countries and traveled 25 thousands kilometer distance. He enjoyed his visit and also entertained his readers with his interesting style of writing. He also included historical information and life style of the people of these countries (Mamonka, Paris 205 Kilometer, 1984).

2.7. BASTI BASTI NAGAR NAGAR BY IRSHAD AHMED HAQANI

This travelogue of Irshad Ahmed Haqani informs about the countries of Libya, China and Turkey. He was in the delegation of President of Pakistan, General Zia Ul Haq. His position in this delegation was as a journalist. The style of this travelogue is of a newspaper column. He described political, economic and social systems of visited countries, in detail. In this travelogue we find details of President's meeting with prominent personalities and also delegation's activities (Haqani, 1989).

2.8. MASHRIQ E WOSTA BY ASHRAF AYUB

Ashraf Ayub visited, during 18 April to 27 May 1964, the countries of Iran, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq. This is a travelogue of light style of writing. He included geographical and cultural information of visited areas. In Turkey he went to Istanbul, Ankara and Konya cities. He described details of visit of these cities and informed about daily life of Turkish areas (Ayub).

2.9. ZABAN E YAR MAN TURKEY BY IQTADAR AHMED

He visited Turkey in 1992 with his brother Dr. Asrar Ahmed. In Turkey they traveled in the cities of Bursa and Istanbul. Purpose of their visit was to participate in Second International Conference of Islamic Medical Association of North America. He described the events of the visit in details. They visited historical and important places of these cities and he gave detailed information about them. He also included in his travelogue the cultural and historical information and the pictures of beautiful places (Ahmed, 1995).

2.10. ZOUQ E DASHT NAWARDI BY A.B. ASHRAF

This travelogue is actually a collection of different articles written by the writer during the period of 1983 to 1988. He visited different countries for the purpose of his job. The visited countries in this travelogue are: Greece, Cyprus, England, Yugoslavia, Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, Syria, Gordon, Egypt and Turkey. In Turkey he visited cities of

Istanbul and Ankara. He narrated history of the countries and described information about the visit of important places that he visited. Details of his meetings with common people are also included (Ashraf, 1994).

2.11. ROZNAMCHA E SAFAR E EUROPE BY PARSHAD BAHADUR RAJKUMAR

He visited Switzerland, Germany, England, France, Turkey, Italy and India from 8 May to 10 November 1933. This travelogue is a collection of his letters which were written to his father during his travel. He described his daily routine in these letters. He visited important places of these countries and described complete detail about these places in his letters to his father. In this travelogue we can notice glimpses of the life of a prince and his unique style of traveling (Bahadur).

2.12. PARIS O PARAS BY SURRYA HUSSAIN

This is the story of her two tours to different countries. In one of these visits her purpose of traveling was her admission to Boson University for her doctorate degree. She lived there in hostel and described the life of a European hostel in an interesting style. In Turkey she visited cities of Ankara and Istanbul. She narrated her meetings with different persons and her dialogues with them. She also described culture and civilization of visited countries. In this travelogue we also find history and literary background of these countries (Hussain, 1988).

2.13. ZAITON KAY SAAEY BY JALAL UD DIN SIDDIQUE

The visited cities of Turkey were Istanbul and Ankara in this travelogue. Jalal ud Din Siddique visited Turkey to observe development process there in cities and villages of Turkey. This visit was arranged by his department. He included information of geographical, historical and cultural nature in his travelogue about visited areas. Especially he observed rural life and had given its details in to this travelogue. His style of writing is informative (Siddique, 1984).

2.14. GIRTAY PATTAY BY HUSSAIN SHAHID

Hussain Shahid visited Holland, Turkey, Kuwait, Iran, England and Lebanon. His purpose of visit was his business. He wrote this travelogue in a simple narrative style. He included information of historical and different kinds. He described the life style of visited areas and compared this with that of his own country's life style. He visited different places of tourism importance and described them in his travelogue (Shahid).

2.15. 'ZAMAN O MAKAN AUR BHI HAIN' AND 'SAFAR ASHOB' BY HAMZA FAROOQI

In his travelogue 'Zaman o Makan Aur Bhi Hain' (Farooqi, Zaman o Makan Aur Bhi Hain, 1978), Hamza Farooqi described his visit to Lebanon, Syria, Gordon, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Austria, Vienna, Iran and Afghanistan. While in his second travelogue 'Safar Ashob' (Farooqi, Safar Ashob, 1987), there is a visit story of Turkey, Gordon, England, Germany, Hungary, Austria, Romania, Bulgaria, Iran, Afghanistan and France. In his visits he has deeply observed the visited areas as described his experiences in his travelogues. He visited important places of tourism importance. He included the information of historical and cultural nature. He also discussed his tour problems. He met with different scholars and literary persons and described these meetings in his travelogue. In his second travelogue Molana Ghulam Rasool Mehr was with him. He also included quotations from Allama Iqbal's letters, speeches and poetry.

2.16. TURKEY QADEEM O JADED BY KHALIL AHMED HAMDI

Khalil Ahmed Hamdi visited Turkey as secretary of 'Jamat e Isalmi' during 12 November to 27 December 1968. He visited cities of Ankara, Istanbul and Anatolia. He included in his travelogue conversations with different personalities. He also described Islamic history of Turkey and life style and geography of this country. He also introduced Jamat e Islami Movement (Hamdi, 1972).

2.17. ATTA TURK KAY WATAN MAIN BY SHARIF FAROOQ

Sharif Farooq visited Ankara and Konya cities of Turkey. This travelogue 'Atta Turk Kay Watan Main' is collection of his letters written to his friends during his visit. In these letters he described history, geography and culture of Turkey in detail. He visited Turkey in respect of a tour arranged by Institution for Joint Defense of Pakistan, Iran and Turkey. In his travelogue he described his meetings with different political and defense related personalities. He introduced Atta Turk and his movement briefly (Farooq).

2.18. MOULANA ROM KAY DES MAIN BY ZAFAR IQBAL BHATTI

Zafar Iqbal Bhatti started his journey to Turkey in September 1984. He visited the cities of Ankara, Istanbul and Konya there. He stayed there for two years for his studies in Metu University. He introduced this University in travelogue. He also described history of Turkey, its geography, civilization, life style and included pictures of important places in his travelogue (Bhatti, 1990).

2.19. TURKEY MIAN DO SAAL BY DR. IBADAT BRELVI

It is travelogue of Ankara, Konya and Istanbul. Dr. Ibadat Brelvi stayed in Turkey for two and half year. He was appointed as a professor of Urdu language and literature in Ankara University. He described the story of his stay in Turkey and his activities there. He visited historical places and the places related to great personalities of Turkish history. He also brought into light the Turkish culture, civilization and life style. He also introduced Turkish language. Pictures of different moments are also included in the travelogue (Brelvi, 1986).

Other travelogues of Turkey in Urdu language are: 'Safar Guzasht' by Abdul Hafeez Mirza (Mirza, 1994), 'Sadi Aur Atta Turk Kay Des Main' by Aziz Ali Sheikh (Ali Sheikh, 1994), 'Shouq e Awargi' by Atta Ul Haq Qasimi (Qasmi, 1994), 'Roznamcha e Siyahat' by Ghulam us Saqlain Naqvi (Naqvi), 'Siyahat Nama' by Mahir ul Qadri (Qadri, 1987) and 'Safarnama e Europe' by Munshi Mehboob Alam (Alam, 1908).

SUMMARY

There is a great tradition of Urdu travelogue writing and the travelogues of Turkey are a part of this tradition. Urdu travelogue writers have given a great importance to the geographical features and history of this country and described them in an informative style. Both informative and literary trends of travelogue writing are found in Urdu language. Most of the travelers visited the cities of Istanbul, Konya and Ankara and described their cultural, social and political values in their own styles.

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