

## PalArch's Journal of Archaeology of Egypt / Egyptology

### ELEMENTS OF NOVEL IN URDU AUTOBIOGRAPHIES: AN ANALYTICAL STUDY

*Dr. Asima<sup>1</sup>, Fatima Gul<sup>2</sup>, Dr. Shazia Andleeb<sup>3</sup>, Syeda Rabia Gul<sup>4</sup>, Prof. Dr. Robina Shaheen<sup>5</sup>,  
Dr. Subhan Ullah<sup>6</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>Women University Mardan

<sup>2</sup>Ph.D Scholar, University of Peshawar

<sup>3</sup>Khwaja Fareed University Rahim Yarkhan

<sup>4</sup>International Islamic University Islamabad

<sup>5</sup>University of Peshawar

<sup>6</sup>Govt Degree College Lahor (Swabi)

Corresponding Author E.mail: [1asimakhanchd@gmail.com](mailto:1asimakhanchd@gmail.com), [3shazia.andleeb@kfueit.edu.pk](mailto:3shazia.andleeb@kfueit.edu.pk)  
[2fatimagulfida@gmail.com](mailto:2fatimagulfida@gmail.com), [4syedaraboo649@gmail.com](mailto:4syedaraboo649@gmail.com), [5rubinauni@uop.edu.pk](mailto:5rubinauni@uop.edu.pk)  
[6subhanurdu@gmail.com](mailto:6subhanurdu@gmail.com)

**Dr. Asima, Fatima Gul, Dr. Shazia Andleeb, Syeda Rabia Gul, Prof. Dr. Robina Shaheen Dr. Subhan Ullah. Elements Of Novel In Urdu Autobiographies: An Analytical Study-- Palarch's Journal Of Archaeology Of Egypt/Egyptology 20(1), 580-587. ISSN 1567-214x**

**Key Words: literature, autobiography, Nonfiction, "Ali Poor ka Ailee", "Shahab Naama", "Yadon ki Baraat", "Kar-e-Jahan Daraz hay", "Jahan-e-Danish"**

#### ABSTRACT

In literature, autobiography is nonfiction which describes incidents in life. experiences of a person. Because of no plot and fluency, readers do not take interest, as this not entertaining for common readers. Comparatively readers take interest in novel and fiction than autobiography, but now with time, there are autobiographies, that have fluency like novel and the readers like to read autobiographies e.g "Ali Poor ka Ailee", "Shahab Naama", "Yadon ki Baraat", "Kar-e-Jahan Daraz hay", "Jahan-e-Danish". In the following section novelty in autobiography has been highlighted.

#### INTRODUCTION

Autobiography is an interesting genre of non-fiction in literature and a medium of self-expression in which a person writes down his personal situations and

events truthfully. Therefore, it does not appeal to the general reader. Because what can anyone care about the personal circumstances of an individual? This genre began to include elements of the novel to create interest and increase the interest of the reader. For example, the plot which provides the material of interest in any genre and writing, therefore the heart of the reader in this genre of literature. In order to maintain the stickiness, it is important to include the main element of the novel i.e. story-telling, because human beings are addicted to reading and listening to stories.

In this regard, Dr. Abul Lais Siddiqui says.

"انسان کو فطرتاً قاصے کہانی سننے کا شوق ہوتا ہے اس شوق کا سلسلہ دراصل اس کے شوق خود نمائی میں ملتا ہے اور فن یا ادب کا اولین محرک یہی جذبہ خود نمائی ہوتا ہے یہاں خود نمائی سے مراد صرف ایک فرد کی خودنمائی نہیں بلکہ اس کی ذات کے ساتھ ساتھ اس کی جماعت یا اجتماعی ذات کا اظہار بھی مقصود ہوتا ہے اور انفرادیت اجتماعیت کا یہ سنگم ایسا ہی ہوتا ہے جیسے خود انسان کی ذات جو ایک انفرادیت کی حامل ہوتے ہوئے بھی جماعت کی ایک جزو ہوتی ہے۔ دوسروں کے قصوں میں دل چسپی کا سبب یہی ہماری اجتماعی خودی کا اظہار ہے جو افراد قصہ کے عمل اور کردار سے ظاہر ہورہا ہے۔" 1

And it is a fact that we are very interested in knowing and hearing about other people's interesting situations and events. For example, when one of our friends or relatives goes somewhere, when we come, we are very eager to hear the conditions of that area and the people there, and when he starts narrating his travel story, we say this again and again. What happened then? In my opinion, there is no person who is not interested in listening to stories and this interest is present in every person from childhood to old age. Therefore, if there is an element of story in the genres of prose, the interest of the readers will automatically be attracted. In this way, we see that elements of the novel have started to be included in many genres of prose. For example, in our modern travelogue, there are evidences of the presence of elements of the novel because of the story, rather regular travel novels have been written. Exactly the same situation happened with autobiography. In this regard, Dr. Abdul Qayyum writes:

"اب انسان کو محض نیکی اور شرافت کا مجسمہ اور بدی کا پتلا بتانا فرسودہ ہو چکا ہے بلکہ بشریت کے عناصر لطافت اور کثافت دونوں کی آمیزش سے ترکیب پاتے ہیں وہ بیک وقت معصوم بھی ہے اور خود غرض بھی، وہ جامع اضداد بھی ہے وہ اپنے آپ کی تردید کرنے والا بھی۔ جدید نفسیات نے زندگی اور فرد دونوں کے مطالعے کو بہت دل چسپ بنا دیا ہے۔ اب رموز زندگی کو سلجھانے اور واضح کرنے میں جدید علوم سے بڑی مدد لی جا رہی ہے۔ صرف واقعات کا سلسلہ وار بیان کر دینا فنی اعتبار سے کافی نہیں سمجھا جاتا۔ بلکہ انتخاب، واقعات اور معمولی جذبات تک رسائی حاصل کرنا ضروری ہو گیا ہے۔ اظہار بیان میں ایک مخصوص سلیقہ اور واقعات کی تدوین میں حسن ترتیب بنیادی اور اہم چیز ہو گئی ہے۔ افسانہ واقعات کی کہتونی نہیں بلکہ ناول کے انداز پر ایک دل چسپ تخلیق ہے۔ جس میں زندگی کے خدوخال ابھرتے اور کردار کے اساسی پہلو سامنے آتے ہیں۔ اس طرح فرد کی زندگی نہ صرف جاذب نظر ہو جاتی ہے بلکہ نیچرل بھی معلوم ہوتی ہے۔" 2

## LITERATURE REVIEW

It is the requirement of the reader's interest that the circumstances and events of the life of autobiography i.e. one personality is described in a dramatic and incidental manner so that the reader's interest in it increases automatically and this is what indicates the elements of the novel. Autobiography is the story of an individual's life, which he narrates himself. And for that, it is necessary that

there should be an element of truth and reality in it, that the autobiographer should describe the circumstances and events of his life, his emotions and feelings with truth. The circumstances and events of the individual's life are written. The second thing is that it is based on truth and reality, so it does not retain the interest of the general reader, compared to other genres such as novels, fiction or stories, readers are more interested. A man has a single story, so general readers are not interested in this genre. Therefore, for the interest of the general reader, the elements of the novel have started to be included in this genre of literature, but the elements of the novel have come naturally in modern autobiography. This evolution and change has happened gradually and this change has been greatly appreciated. .Because only telling the truth and reality does not create or maintain affection in your home. As Abdul Qayyum writes:

"نقادان فن سوانح میں صداقت و سچائی پر بہت زور دیتے آئے ہیں۔ لیکن مخلص صداقت اور خشک واقعات ہی سوانح میں دل چسپی پیدا نہیں کر سکتے۔ بلکہ اظہار بیان کی خوبی اور خوش اسلوبی کو بہت دخل ہے۔" 3

If there is no literary flavor in Fard Wahid's story, the reader's heart will not remain attached to it. Every human being is affected by the circumstances and environment of this world. It takes effect. Therefore, every writer and poet, being a member of this society, is affected by the conditions and events of the society. The surrounding conditions affect him, so some present their emotions and feelings in their poetry and some through prose. Some express it in fictional prose and some in non-fictional prose. Like Aap Beeti, travelogue, biographies, etc. but in one way or another, he embellishes his heartfelt feelings regarding his circumstances.

Dr. Robina Shaheen writes in this regard.

"تخلیقی سطح پر آپ بیٹی کا عنصر تمام اصناف ادب میں کارفرما رہتا ہے۔ شاعری، افسانہ، ڈرامہ، ناول اور غیر افسانوی ادب تقریباً سب میں فن کار کے ذاتی تجربات، مشاہدات اور جذبات کا عکس ملتا ہے۔ بالواسطہ یا بلا واسطہ اپنی اپنی ذات کی یا ترا فنکار کو تخلیق پر ابھارتی ہے۔ فنکار نے جو زیست کی ہے۔ اور اس زیست کے جن پہلوؤں میں وہ ہمیں شریک کرنا چاہتا ہے۔ وہ پہلو اس کی تخلیق کا حصہ بنتے ہیں۔ اس طرح خود نوشت میں اس فرد واحد کے تجربات، مشاہدات اور جذبات کی بھر پور عکاسی ہوتی ہے۔ اور اس کی نفسیاتی کیفیات کا پرتو بھی ملتا ہے۔ اسے انتخابی فن کہا جا سکتا ہے۔ جو زندگی کے وسیع تجربات مشاہدات اور اہمنمائندہ واقعات کی ایسی ترتیب ہے جس میں تخلیقی عنصر نمایاں رہتا ہے۔" 4

Therefore, every author has his own point of view and he tries to present the same, whether it is in a novel, in a book, in a travelogue, whatever the point of view is, he does not appear different from it. An autobiographer also writes his circumstances but not only for his contemporaries but also for future generations. Therefore, it is necessary to include such elements in it. It should be written in such a way that the interest of the future generation can be maintained and its circumstances can take some influence from the events and understand its conditions and emotions. Try it.

The autobiographer not only wants his self to be publicized, but he also wants to live forever among his readers through his autobiography. And the greed of

survival also compels him to create such literature or art. By which his name may live forever and ever. In this regard, Sohail Bukhari sums up as follows.

"اشاعت خیال بقائے ذات کا ذریعہ ہے۔ اور یہ ہر انسان کی عین فطرت ہے۔ صناعت اپنی مصنوعات کے ذریعے باقی رہنا چاہتا ہے۔ ہر فن کار اپنی تخلیقات کی شکل میں اپنی ذات کی بقا چاہتا ہے۔ لیکن اس کے لیے یہ ضروری نہیں کہ وہ اپنے خیالات کو دوسروں تک پہنچانے کی شعوری کوشش ہی کرے۔ اس لیے کہ فطرت تو لاشعوری طور پر بھی اپنا کام کرتی رہتی ہے۔" 5

Autobiography is also a genre of literature, as the writer advertises his thoughts, feelings and emotions through other genres. Similarly the autobiographer also makes a sincere effort to present the hidden emotions and feelings of his life through his autobiography. Since the purpose of literature is to publish ideas as well as to create beauty. And this purpose cannot be achieved without imagination. Therefore, reality and imagination are also important in literature. Must have. Rather, one has to work with imagination. Because we also use our imagination while writing autobiography. And we try to present many events that happened in our childhood with the help of our imagination. In this regard, Suhail Bukhari writes:

"کوئی حقیقت ادبی کارنامہ اس وقت تک نہیں بن سکتی جب تک کہ اس پر تخیل کا رنگ نہ چڑھایا گیا ہو۔ ادبی نظریات ہمارے تجربات کا نچوڑ ہوتے ہیں۔ وہ خام اور غیر منہضم مواد سے حاصل نہیں ہوتے۔ بلکہ حالات و واقعات کی بضم شدہ غذا سے تیار ہوتے ہیں۔ وہ خون صالح کی طرح ہماری رگ و پے میں جاری و ساری رہتے ہیں۔ اور ہمارے تخیل میں ڈوب کر ادبی تخلیقات میں اس طرح جھلکنے لگتے ہیں کہ خود ہمیں بھی خبر نہیں ہوتی۔ وہ آئی و لمحاتی نہیں ہماری زندگی کا ایک پائیدار جز و ہوتے ہیں۔" 6

Literature and imagination are indispensable for each other. The writing which is not colored by imagination does not deserve to be called literature. Autobiography is also a genre of literature. Therefore, it is not beyond imagination because while writing autobiography, the writer also works with imagination to a great extent. Autobiographer not only describes the events of the past and present but also points to the possibilities of the future. In other words, it is the life of an individual, but in it the whole era is seen with all the situations and events. And in the beginning Compared to the written poems, the poetry of this period seems to be somewhat interesting because it has set the stages of development gradually, just as every art gradually reaches a certain point by taking evolutionary steps.

autobiographies of this period are also not like the first written autobiographies, but in order to make them interesting for the readers, such efforts have been made to change the technique of autobiography that people are automatically attracted towards reading autobiography and This genre of literature has started to get attention. Many autobiographies of the new era are very similar to the novel and many elements of the novel have been included in it. Thus, the most important and the first element of the novel is the story. Autobiography is the story of a single person, there is no interest until there is a story in it, because how can anyone be interested in the circumstances and events of a person's life. It depends on the individual and his personality. What a great personality he has And what is his social status? If one has a high personality, then people are attracted him. Otherwise, how can anyone be concerned with the circumstances

and events of a common man's life in this most busy period. But only when there is a story in it. In this regard, Waqar Azeem writes as under:

"کہانی دل چسپی کا ایک مشغلہ ہے کہانی انسان کے ان کارناموں کی روداد ہے جس میں اس نے اپنے ماحول کی کسی متصادم قوت کے مقابل آکر اس پر فتح حاصل کی ہے۔ کہانی انسان کے احساس برتری کی تسکین کا ذریعہ ہے۔ کہانی حقائق کی دنیا سے دور تخیل تصور اور رومان کے ایک

جہان تازہ کی تصویر ہے۔"7

So because of the importance of storytelling, this element is included in all genres of literature and we feel its lack every moment. It has been associated with literature from the very beginning. If we look back at our early literary capital, we will definitely see the existence of stories in one form or another. If you pick up the stories, they are the whole stories. The poet presents his story to the readers to some extent, even if it is a facet or a trivial aspect of life. But the story is there, and must be, because without it, readers would be less interested in these genres of literature, or reject them altogether. However, it has to be said that a story is an interesting thing and no matter how it is told, it remains interesting. Whenever there is an opportunity to listen or read a story, people forget their busyness and Fatigue leaves behind. And starts listening and reading the story. The story is the source of human satisfaction. Both the story and the human being are inseparable and both of them are closely related. How does the story progress? It needs conflict and a competitor. There should be suspense and curiosity, and if it doesn't, the retelling doesn't have the intrigue and curiosity that people like. Even when Allah created Adam and then commanded the angels to prostrate before him, they all prostrated. But the devil refused and this refusal caused the heart of this story, which continues to this day. He is trying to mislead the son of Adam. If Satan had prostrated like the other angels at that time, the matter would have ended and there would not have been a conflict between right and wrong, but this refusal of the devil created great interest in this initial story and incident. This refusal is mentioned by Iblis in one of his poems "Gabriel and Iblees".

"ہے مری جرأت سے مشمت خاک میں ذوق نمو  
میرے فتنے جامہ عقل و خرد کاتار و پو!  
دیکھتا ہے تو فقط ساحل سے رزم خیر و شر  
کون طوفان کے طمانچے کہا رہا ہے، میں کہ تو؟  
خضر بھی بے دست و پا، الیاس بھی بے دست و پا  
میرے طوفان یم بہ یم، دریا بہ دریا، جو بہ جو!  
گر کبھی خلوت میسر ہو تو پوچھ اللہ سے  
قصہ آدم کو رنگیں کر گیا کس کا لہو؟  
میں کھٹکتا ہوں دل یزداں میں کانٹے کی طرح  
تو فقط اللہ ہو، اللہ ہو، اللہ ہو"8

This can be said with reason that the story started with man, but the interest in this story is created when a man resists an opposing force.

"کہانی سے انسان کی دل چسپی اور اس مشغلے سے اس کا لگاؤ اس کی اجتماعی زندگی کی ایسی حقیقت ہے۔ جسے تاریخ کی سنجیدگی اور اس کے فکر کی منطق نے بھی پورے وثوق کے ساتھ تسلیم کیا ہے۔ انسان اپنی حیات اجتماعی کے بالکل ابتدائی دور میں فطرت کی جن قوتوں سے نبرد

آزما اور برس پیکار تھا۔ اس پیکار اور کش مکش میں اسے سختی کی جن منزلوں سے گزر کر فتح و ظفر کا روئے تاباں دیکھنے کی مسرت حاصل ہوئی تھی۔ اس کی روداد میں اس کے لیے، قند مکرر کی چاشنی تھی۔ کام و دہن کو اسی چاشنی سے آشنا کرنے کی خواہش نے اسے آپ بیتی دہرانے کا عادی بنایا۔ یہی کہانی کہنے یا داستان سرائی کا آغاز ہے۔"9

The story began by describing human situations and events. Even man turned to write and preserve his own story, past and past situations, and described his external and internal conditions with boldness and boldness. He forgot that too at that time. That I am recording my own situation. All that was stated with truth. He also did not care about the reaction of the people. He explained everything with utmost honesty. Even religious people like Khurram Murad express in his autobiography as his personal weakness in his own words.

"علی گڑھ میں جب میں اٹھ دن رہا تو اس دوران میں نے ایک بھی نماز نہیں پڑھی حالانکہ بچپن سے پانچ وقت نماز پڑھنے کا عادی تھا۔ ماحول ایسا تھا۔ دوست ایسے تھے کہ نماز پڑھنے کا موقع ہی نہیں آتا تھا۔ میں نکوبننے کے خوف کی وجہ سے نماز پڑھنے کی جرأت نہیں کرتا تھا اگرچہ یہ دن گزار کر میں واپس آگیا تاہم میرے ذہن میں اپنا یہ فعل خلش بن کر کھٹکنے لگا۔ میں سوچنے لگا کہ اتنی دین داری اور نماز کی پابندی پر کھڑی دیوار علی گڑھ کی ایک ہی بلے میں ڈھے گئی۔ آخر وہ اتنی کمزور کیوں ثابت ہوئی۔"10

Apart from this, there are many other autobiographies in which weaknesses have been described. Since the basis of this genre is based on truth, autobiographers in one way or another admit many things about themselves that neither remember nor know. They say that the truth is bitter. That's why people don't take so much interest in simple and truth-based situations. Autobiography is mostly based on truth and reality but still nowadays people take a lot of interest in this genre of literature and take it hand in hand. The most important reason for increasing people's interest in it is the story, otherwise, how can anyone be interested in the situations and events written by an ordinary person, but nowadays people are writing their own poems with great enthusiasm. The main reason for this is the interest of people, which has started to increase more than before in this genre of literature. This is due to the change in your technique. Otherwise, what is the need of anyone to read the dull events of an individual In the beginning, the poems written were not so interesting and people did not get interested in them. Compared to them, novels and short stories were read with great interest and taste. Because there is a regular plot in novels and short stories. It contains the plot and all the elements of the story that move the story forward. Like characters, dialogues, scenery, etc., so the readers used to read with more interest. Therefore, there was a need to make some changes in the technique of genre like autobiography to provide entertainment for the people. Because in the life of an individual there is much for the whole society, provided that he records his circumstances honestly and truthfully. Every person has secrets of life from which every other person can learn a lot. Dr. Riaz Majeed is right to say that every person can write at least one novel in his life. By this he means autobiography. So if changes are made in the current technique of autobiography, this is such an interesting genre of literature. It will gradually take the place of the novel and it will become a developed form of the novel. Because the novel also describes the facts and the novelist describes what happens in the society. It brings out the same character, the same situation

Presents the same events that happen in real life and in this way the autobiographer also describes the situations and events of his life with truth. Works with a mixture of coloring and imagination. And the autobiographer describes the real situations exactly as they are in the society. He brings the same characters, the same situations, presents the same events that happen in real life. The novelist talks about the whole society and the autobiographer only about himself, other characters and events are secondary. Real life from the characters. I am also concerned with the novelist and the autobiographer, both present this same character in their own colors.

It will appear to the autobiographer in a very real way. But according to the requirements of the novel, the novelist will make a lot of changes and adjustments in this character. The elements of the novel are starting to take place in it. It seems that gradually it will replace the novel. Just as the novel is a developed form of narrative, instead of the supernatural elements in the novel, the bitter realities of life, social confusions are described. In the same way, autobiography also seems to be a developed form of the novel.

Today's autobiography is not what it used to be in the past, in order to increase the attention and interest of people in this genre of literature, there have been many changes in the technique of this genre. Rast used to start his speech. But nowadays, such autobiographies are also written. In which a character is described. Like "Ali Poor ka Ailee". In it, Mumtaz Mufti has written the circumstances and events of the life of a character named Ilyas. But actually it is his own life. And people read it as a novel, but later found out that it was his own words.

Some autobiographers start their novels directly, narrate their own words and situations, but in the style of a novel and it seems more like a novel than a novel. Like Josh Malih Abadi's "Yadaon Ki Barat", Qaraatul Ain's "kar-e-Jahan Daraz Hay", Ihsan Danish's "Jehan-e-Danish" and Qudratullah Shahab's "Shahab Nama", these are such autobiographies that are more like novels than autobiographies. It seems because there have been some changes in technique in these autobiographies and some of the basic elements of the novel are included in these autobiographies. The writers, novelists and poets who have written their own autobiographies have novels. The elements are there to the fullest and it seems more like a novel than you think

The same storyline, plot, character, dialogue, visualization, the same exaggeration, mixing of imagination, coloring and many more which are the basic elements of the novel are beginning to find place in autobiography. Some novelists have also written their own autobiography. Hence, there are novel features in his autobiographies too. Because when the novelist sits down to write his novel, he will add what he adds to the novel. Because he has become a habit and he does and writes something unintentionally which he adds while writing in the novel. The same exaggeration, exaggeration and coloring, say that a thief will get away with theft but will never get away with manipulation And exactly the same thing has happened with today's autobiographies too and there are many such autobiographies that have elements of the novel.

## REFERENCES

- Abul Lais Siddiqui, Dr., essay, "Novel Funni Nuqt e Nazar say" including "Urdu nsr ka funni irtiqa" compiled by Dr. Farman Fateh poori, Urdu Academy Karachi 1989 p. 51
- Dr. Abdul Qayyum Article, "Swanah Nigari kia hay" including " Urdu nsr ka funni irtiqa " Compiled by Dr. FarmanFateh poori, Urdu Academy Karachi p.196
- Also p. 197
- Dr. Robina Shaheen, Essay "Khud nawish swanah nigari ki Haqeeqat aor Saqee Farooqi ki Aap Beiti",including Khayaban" Department of Urdu University of Peshawar 2007 p.176-177
- Dr. Suhail Bukhari, Urdu main Novel Nigari, Maktaba Jadidi Lahore, 0691,p.13-14
- Also p. 14-15
- Dr. Waqar Azeem, "Dastan say Afsanay tak" Urdu Academy Sindh Karachi, 1990, p.2
- Allama Iqbal, Poem "Gabriel Wa Iblees" including Bal-e-Jibril, Sheikh Ghulam Ali, Chowk Anarkali Lahore 1991, p. 27.
- Dr. Waqar Azeem, " Dastan say Afsanay tak ", p. 104
- Khurram Murad, Lamhay, Shirkat Printing Press Lahore. 2000, p. 75