

## Travelogues of Italy in Urdu Language: Trends and Tradition

Zeba Yasmeen<sup>1,a</sup>, Qamar Abbas<sup>2</sup>, Mujahid Abbas<sup>3</sup>, Dua Qamar<sup>4</sup>, Farooq Ahmad<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Principal / HOD Department of Urdu, Govt. Degree College (W), Mankera, Bhakkar, Pakistan,

<sup>2,4</sup> Department of Urdu, Govt. Postgraduate College, Bhakkar, Pakistan,

<sup>3</sup> Department of Urdu, Qurtuba University of Science and Technology, D. I.Khan, Pakistan,

<sup>5</sup> Punjab Higher Education Department, GICCL, Lahore, Pakistan,

Received: February 1, 2017

Accepted: March 27, 2017

### ABSTRACT

Travelogue writing is a famous form of literature in Urdu. Writers have collected information of visited countries in their travelogues. There are a large number of travelogues of Italy in Urdu. These travelogues present information about culture, social life, educational system, politics, history, tourism and important institutions of Italy. Most of these travelogues are partial travelogues of Italy and in these travelogues visits of other countries of the world are also included.

**KEYWORDS:** Urdu Literature, Urdu Travelogue, Urdu Travelogues of Italy, Urdu Travelogue trends,

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Italy is one of the most beautiful countries of the world. It has many resources of beauty and attraction for the tourists from all around the world. Travelers from the areas included in Pakistan visited this country before partition. They narrated visit stories of this country in an interesting and informative way. These travelogues are a great source of knowledge and information about Italy in Urdu language.

### 2. URDU TRAVELOGUES OF ITALY

A large number of travelogues of Urdu are about the visit of this country. Most of these travelogues are about the joint visits of Asian and European countries in which Italy is also included. Here is a description of some important travelogues of Urdu language about Italy.

#### 2.1. SERO SAFAR OF AKHTAR RIYAZ UD DIN

This travelogue is written by Begum Akhtar Riayaz ud Din and was published in 1971. She visited the cities of Venus and Milan of the Italy in 1968. She also visited many more countries of the world in her tour. Detail of visited cities of the world is: Shanghai and Canton of China, Hong Kong, Dhaka of East Pakistan, Makah and Medina of Saudi Arabia, Beirut of Lebanon, Geneva of Switzerland, Paris of France, Berlin and Bon of West Germany, London of England, Istanbul of Turkey, Shiraz of Iran, Damascus of Syria, Poznan of Poland, Zagreb of Yugoslavia, Chicago and Washington of America, Niagara of Canada. In this visit her husband was with her. Her husband was on his business tour. He has to participate in conferences of plastic industry. She accompanied him as his personal secretary. This travelogue is in the form of diary. She described her daily routine of the tour. She has also described eating habits of the people of Italy and other countries. Mainly she included reports of business conferences (Akhtar Riaz Sheikh, Sero Safar, 1981).

#### 2.2. PARIS 205 KILOMETER BY MUHAMMAD AKHTAR MAMONKA

Muhammad Akhtar Mamonka traveled in different Courtiers of the world purely as a tourist. He visited Kabul, Kandahar and Herat cities of Afghanistan, Mashhad and Tehran of Iran, Ankara and Istanbul of Turkey, Bulgaria of Yugoslavia, Geneva and Milan of Switzerland, Monaco, Marcelo and Monte Carlo of France. He also visited Italy in this tour. Surprising fact of this tour was that he visited 18 countries and traveled approximately 25 thousand Kilometer of distance with only 41 dollars in his pocket. He describes his visit in a very light style. He described

<sup>a</sup>**Corresponding Author:** Zeba Yasmeen, Principal / HOD Department of Urdu, Govt. Degree College (W), Mankera, Bhakkar, Pakistan. +923336839134, Email: mzhn786@gmail.com

history and culture of visited areas. Historical places of these areas are highlighted in this travelogue (Mamonka, 1984).

### **2.3. SAFAR E MINA BY ISHFAQ AHMED**

In This travelogue Ishfaq Ahmed narrated his experience of the visit to the city of Rom of Italy, cities of Qurtuba and Gharnata of Spain and Peking city of China. In this travelogue of Ishfaq Ahmed there is a touch of fiction writing. He describes different events of his travel in a very interesting way. He described his meetings with peoples and dialogs with them (Ahmed, 1991).

### **2.4. BARAH E RAST BY BUSHRA REHMAN**

She visited Rom of Italy, Paris of France, Washington of America, Toronto of Canada and London of England. She has written about landscape of Italy in a beautiful style. Her style of writing is interesting and straightforward. She attracts her reader with her power of writing. She has described culture and habits of the peoples of Italy completely. She has visited these areas as a tourist and narrated all her visit story in a tourist's style (Rehman, 1983).

### **2.5. ROZNAMCHA E SAFAR E EUROPE BY PARSHAD BAHADUR RAJKUMAR**

Parshad Bahadur Rajkumar was a prince of a local Indian state. He visited different countries in 1933. His visits were of following cities of the world: London, of England, Berlin, Prague, Budapest of Germany, Milan of Switzerland, Paris of France, Istanbul of Turkey, Bombay and Haiderabad of India and Rom of Italy. We see glimpse of the life of a prince in this travelogue. He informed his father about his visit during traveling by letters. After the journey, these letters were published in the form of a travelogue. In this travelogue he described daily routine of his travel, his stay at different places, his food routine, his meetings with different people, introductions of important places and details of his visit (Bahadur Rajkumar).

### **2.6. TAMASHA MERE AGEY BY JAMIL UD DIN AALI**

Jamil ud Din Aali has written two travelogues 'Duniya Mere Agay' and 'Tamasha Mere Agay'. In his second travelogue he has described his visit to Rom of Italy. The other places visited were Colon, Bon, Berlin, Frankfort of Germany, Amsterdam and Hag of Holland, Geneva of Switzerland, Paris of France and New York, Washington, Chicago of America. His style of writing is light and humorous. He has written information of different kinds of visited areas. He has also described cultural and social life of these areas in his travelogue (Aali, 1954).

### **2.7. MUSAFIRAN E LONDON BY SIR SYED AHMED KHAN**

Sir Syed Ahmed khan was great reformer of the subcontinent. He visited European countries to study their educational system so that he can implement this system in his own country. So he traveled this area in 1869 and included information about it in his travelogue 'Musafiran e London'. His sons, Syed Mehmood and Syed Hamid were with him in this tour. He visited countries of Egypt, Italy, Sisley, France, Morsels and England. He spent about one and half year there. He observed their educational system, educational curriculum and ways of teaching, culture and social life and included all this in his travelogue. He admired great progress of Europe and felt sorrow on decline of his nation. His style of writing is simple and clear (Ahmed Khan, 1961).

### **2.8. SIYAHAT E SULTANI BY SHAH BANO**

In 1910, Shah Bano visited the cities of Paris of France, London of England, Geneva of Switzerland, Istanbul of turkey, Venus and Florence of Italy and Cairo of Egypt. She traveled with Nawab Sultan Jahan Begum and other 320 people in which there are members of her family, her friends and her servants. Purpose of this visit was to participate in function of imperial palace. She described details of this imperial function in his travelogue. She has written adventurous details of marine voyage. She described in detail the tour of England, Italy, France, Switzerland, Turkey and Egypt and daily routine of Nawab Sahiba in this travel. She also described historical importance of visited places and their beauty (Bano).

## **2.9. EUROPE MAIN CHAR HAFTAY BY SHORISH KASHMIRI**

Shorish Kashmiri visited European countries in 1959. His visited countries were Germany, Austria, France, England, Switzerland, Italy and Lebanon. Style of his travelogue is informative but he has also utilized literary tools in this travelogue. Many verses of famous poets are also cited there. He narrated this travelogue in a poetic style. He included photographs of important places and personalities. He also included letters which he had written during his journey to different people (Kashmiri, 1963).

## **2.10. PARIS KI GALIYAN BY ALI SUFIAN AFAQI**

Ali Sufian Afaqi is a famous writer of Pakistani film industry. He visited Italy and France for the purpose of film making 'Mere Hamsafar'. Sohail Hashmi, Rashid Mukhtar, Pervez Malik, Muhammad Ali, Zeba, Robin Ghosh and Lehri were with him in this tour. His style of writing is very interesting. He has a touch of humor in his writings. He included life of markets, cinema house, clubs and public places in a very informative and interesting way. Activities of film shooting and film stars relations and their talks are also described (Afaqi, 1994).

## **2.11. AIK BAR CHALO VENUS BY QAMAR ALI ABBASI**

It is a complete travelogue of Italy. Qamar Ali Abbasi visited Venus city of Italy by a tourist's point of view. His style of writing in this travelogue is straight forward and humorous. He described details of his visits of important worth seeing places of Venus. He also met people from the different fields of life and given details of these meetings in his travelogue. He created humor with the help of selected words and events (Abbasi, 1995).

## **2.12. SAFARNAMA BY RAEY BAHADUR LALA BEIG NAATH**

It is travelogue of England, France, Italy and Switzerland. He had given detail of cities and buildings of these areas. He also highlighted educational conditions of visited countries in his travelogue. Especially he described Government structure, its administration and institutions. He had given a comparison of civilization of these areas with the civilization of India. He also gives a glimpse of the English and Indian palaces (Beig Nath, 1899).

## **2.13. SIYAHAT NAMA E ROOS BY MAHIR UL QADRI**

It is story of different tours during period of 1969 to 1976. It is a collection of letters written by him during his visits to his brother, relatives and friends. In this period he visited Durban city of South Africa, Nairobi of Kenya, Rome of Italy, Istanbul of Turkey, Makkah and Medina of Saudi Arabia, London of England and Cairo of Egypt. He visited important tourism places of these cities and described them in detail in his letters. He participated in literary events there and wrote their full reports in his letters. He also described Islamic thinking in these countries and their culture and traditions.

## **2.14. SAFARNAMA E EUROPE BY MUNSHI MEHBOOB ALAM**

It is a traveling story of Venus of Italy, Vienna of Austria, Berlin of Germany, Belgium, Paris of France, London of England, Istanbul of Turkey, Beirut of Lebanon, Damascus of Syria, and Egypt. Period of traveling is 1900. He described ethical values of the peoples of these countries, their customs, their traditions, their cultures and their morality, in detail (Aalam, 1908).

## **2.15. HAMA YARAN DASHT BY MUHAMMAD KABIR KHAN**

It is pure humorous travelogue of Muhammad Kabir Khan. He traveled in Italy and some other countries for the purpose of job. His areas of visit were Baghdad of Iraq, Rome of Italy and Abu Dhabi of United Arab Emirates. He created humor in description of different events and relations of the people of traveled areas. He described condition of laborers in these countries. He also narrated the condition of the military persons of his own country, appointed in these areas (Kabir Khan, 1987).

## **2.16. NAZAR NAMA BY MEHMOOD NIZAMI**

Mehmood Nizami visited different areas of the world during October 1952 to April 1953. His visit was organized by UNESCO for the research of broadcasting places of these countries. He visited city Cairo of Egypt, Venus and Rom of Italy, Lebanon, Switzerland, Paris of France, Canada, cities of London, Oxford and Cambridge of England, America, Cuba and islands of Bahama. This travelogue has a very important literary place in Urdu literature. It has a mixture of information and sentiments of the writer. Especially when he visited the historical palace in these countries his emotions were at bloom which made his writings beautiful and emotional. He described old history of such places in an interesting way (Nizami, 1958).

## **2.17. KHANABADOSH BY MUSTANSAR HUSSAIN TARAR**

Mustansar Hussain Tarar is a famous travelogue writer of Urdu literature. He has written a large number of travelogues. But in spite of this large number, he maintained a standard and beauty in his travelogues. This is why his travelogues are among the most selling books of Urdu. Titles of his travelogues are: 'Niklay Teri Talash Main', 'Hunza Dastan', 'K2 Kahani', 'Yolk Sarae', 'Des Hoe Pardes', 'Alaska Highway', 'Ghar e Hira Main Aik Raat', 'Misr Ke Bazar Main', 'Nanga Parbat', 'Putli Peking Ki', 'Sonehri Olo Ka Sheher Main', 'Undlas Main Ajnabi'. This travelogue 'Khanabadosh' comprises on the visit story of Afghanistan, Iran, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Qabus, Egypt and Italy. His style of narration is very light and interesting. He describes natural scenery in his fantastic literary style which haunts its reader. He gives important information in his travelogues about the areas which he visited. His writing style is a combination of the information and the emotions and the sentiments of the writer. He also describes the history of visited places. There is a touch of fiction in his travelogues (Tarar, Khanabadosh, 1983).

## **2.18. NIKLAY TERE TALASH MIAN BY MUSTANSAR HUSSAIN TARAR**

This travelogue of Mustansar Hussain Tarar also fully represents the typical style of the writer. This travelogue describes the visit of the cities Kabul, Herat and Ghazni of Afghanistan, Mashhad, Tabriz and Tehran of Iran, Istanbul of Turkey, Venus of Italy, Berg and Burn of Switzerland, Frankfort, Berlin and Hamburg of Germany, Odense of Denmark, Stockholm of Sweden, Amsterdam of Holland, London of England, Paris of France. Duration of this visit was 9 months. In this visit he got a close experience of the life of visited areas and included this experience in his travelogue. 27 pictures of famous artist Sadqain are also published in this travelogue (Tarar, Niklay Teri Talash Main, 1984).

## **2.19. EUROPE JANG SY PEHLAY BY HAROON KHAN SHERWANI**

Mehmood Khan Sherwani travelled to attend International Historical Conference in Soistan in 1938. During this tour he visited many countries of the world. He had written the detail of this visit in his travelogue. Visited areas are: Naples of Italy, Bombay of India, Istanbul of Turkey, Athens of Greece, Bulgaria of Sofia, Paris of France, London and Oxford of England and Zurich of Soistan. Because the purpose of this tour was participation in historical conference, so he described in detail the history of visited places. His style of writing is very informative. He also included pictures of visited places (Sherwani, 1944).

## **2.20. MUSHAHIDAT E IRFANI BY SHEIKH YAQOOB ALI TURAB AHMEDI IRFANI**

It is travelogue of Alexandria and Cairo of Egypt, Venus of Italy, Paris of France, Switzerland. He traveled in these cities in 1925. He described his experience of marine travelling in a very interesting and adventurous way. He includes information about history and culture of visited areas. He had given details of historical places of these areas in his travelogue (Irfani).

## **SUMMARY**

Italy is a beautiful country. It is an important country of world in many aspects. So many travelers visit this country from Pakistan. This is why; a large number of travelogues in Urdu are about this country. Travelers described information of different fields of this country in their travelogues. Mostly cultural and historical information is being included in these travelogues. Most of the travelogues of Italy are joint visit stories with other countries visit. Some of these are pure travelogues of Italy.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Aalam, M. M. (1908). *Safarnama e Europe*. Mehboob Aalam Press.
- Aali, J. u. (1954). *Tamasha Mere Agay*. Lahore: Sheikh Ghulam Ali and Sons.
- Abbasi, Q. A. (1995). *Aik Bar Chalo Venus*. Karachi: Fazal Sons.
- Afaqi, A. S. (1994). *Paris Ki Galian*. Lahore: Maqbool Academy.
- Ahmed Khan, S. S. (1961). *Musafiran e Landon*. Lahore: Majlis e Tarqi e Adab.
- Ahmed, I. (1991). *Safare Mina*. Lahore: Sange Meel Publications.
- Akhtar Riaz Sheikh, B. (1981). *Sero Safar*. Lahore: Sindh Sagar Academy.
- Akhtar Riaz Sheikh, B. (1981). *Sero Safar*.
- Bahadur Rajkumar, P. (n.d.). *Roznamcha e Safar e Europe*. Haiderabad: Darulataba Sarkar e Aali.
- Bano, S. (n.d.). *Siyahat e Sultani*. Agra: Matba e Mufeed e Aam.
- Beij Nath, R. B. (1899). *Safarnama*. Lakhnao: Munshi Gulab Singh and Sons Press.
- Irfani, S. Y. (n.d.). *Mushahidate Irfani*. Turab Manzil.
- Kabir Khan, M. (1987). *Hama Yaran Dasht*. Lahore: Matboat .
- Kashmiri, S. (1963). *Europe Main Char Haftay*. Lahore: Matboat e Chatan.
- Mamonka, M. A. (1984). *Paris 205 Kilometer*. Lahore: Sang e Meel Publications.
- Nizami, M. (1958). *Nazarnama*. Lahore: Gosha e Adab.
- Rehman, B. (1983). *Barah e Rast*. Lahore: Watan Dost Limited.
- Sherwani, H. K. (1944). *Europe Jang Sy Pehlay*. Idara e Adbiat e Urdu.
- Tarar, M. H. (1983). *Khanabadosh*. Lahore: Sang e Meel Publications.
- Tarar, M. H. (1984). *Niklay Teri Talash Main*. Lahore: Sang e Meel Publications.