

Classic Poetry Series

Nida Fazli
- poems -

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Nida Fazli(12 October 1938)

Muqtida Hasan Nida Fazli popularly known as Nida Fazli (Urdu: نیدا فاضلی; Hindi: निदा फ़ज़ली) is an Indian Urdu poet.

 Early Life

Nida Fazli was born on 12 October 1938, in Delhi, India into a Kashmiri family and attended school in Gwalior. His father was an Urdu poet. During the partition of India, his parents migrated to Pakistan, but Fazli decided to stay in India.

 Career

While still young, Fazli was passing by a Hindu temple where a bhajan singer was singing a composition of Surdas about Radha sharing her sorrow with her maids at being separated from her beloved Krishna. The poetic beauty of the Pad, relating to the close rapport and bonding between human beings, inspired Nida to begin writing poems.

During that period, he felt that there were limitations in Urdu poetry. He absorbed the essence of Mir and Ghalib to express what he intended. He was fascinated by the lyrical mood of Meera and Kabir and widened his knowledge of poetry by studying T.S. Eliot, Gogol, Anton Chekhov and Takasaki.

 Bollywood

He moved to Mumbai in search of a job in 1964. In the early days of his career, he wrote in Dharmayug and Blitz dialects. His poetic style attracted the notice of filmmakers and writers of Hindi and Urdu literature. He was often invited to Mushairas, the prestigious recitation sessions of one's own poetry.

He became known among readers and ghazal singers for his elegant presentation and exclusive use of colloquial language for ghazals, dohaas and nazms, while avoiding ornate Persian imagery and compound words to simplify his poetry. He wrote the famous couplet: 'Duniya jise kehte hain jaadu kaa Khilona hai Mil jaaye to mitti hai kho jaaye to sona hai'. Some of his famous film songs include Aa bhi jaa (Sur), Tu is tarah se meri zindagi mein (Aap To Aise Na The) and Hosh waalon ko khabar Kya (Sarfaroosh).

 Uneven Career

He wrote essays critical of contemporary poets of the sixties in his book Mulaqatein which outraged poets including Sahir Ludhianvi, Ali Sardar Jafri and Kaifi Azmi. As a result, he was boycotted in some poetic sessions.

His career improved when Kamal Amrohi, a filmmaker, approached him. The original songwriter Jan Nisar Akhtar working on the film Razia Sultan (1983) had died before completing the project. Nida wrote the final two songs and attracted other Hindi filmmaker.

His celebrated lyrics were also used in Aap to aise na the, Is Raat Ki Subah Nahin (1996) and Gudiya.

He wrote the title song of TV serials like "Sailaab", "Neem Ka Ped", "Jaane Kya Baat Hui" and "Jyoti". The composition "Koi Akelaa Kahaan" is another popular composition sung by Kavita Krishnamurthy. His ghazals and other compositions are sung by notable artists of the day. He teamed up with Jagjit Singh in 1994 to bring an album named Insight, which got appreciation for its soulful poetry and music.

He recently wrote columns for BBC Hindi website on various contemporary issues and literature.

Mirza Ghalib's works often get mentioned by him.

 Style

"Hum laboN se keh naa paaye, unse haal-e-dil kabhi,
Aur wo samjhe nahiN, ye khamoshi kya cheez hai"

English Translation:

"My lips were never able to express the state of my heart,
And she failed to understand what my silence meant."

Nida Fazli is a poet of various moods and to him the creative sentiment and inner urge are the sources of poetry. He thinks that the feeling of a poet is similar to an artist: like a painter or a musician. In contrast he found lyric writing a mechanical job as he had to fulfil the demands of the script and the director. Later he accepted the practical necessity of money which comes from lyric writing and helps one to ponder on creative work.

He published his first collection of Urdu poetry in 1969. Childhood imagery persistently reflects in his poetry as elements of nostalgia. Primary themes which

run through his poetry are contradictions in life, the search for purpose, nuances of human relationships, differences between practice and preaching, and the groping for that which is lost.

Contribution Towards Communal Harmony

Nida Fazli disagrees with the partition of India and has spoken out against the communal riots, politicians and fundamentalism. During the riots of December 1992 he had to take shelter in his friend's house due to security concerns.

He has been honoured with the National Harmony Award for writing on communal harmony. He has 24 books to his credit in Urdu, Hindi and Gujarati—some of which are assigned as school textbooks in Maharashtra. He received the Mir Taqi Mir award for his autobiographical novel *Deewaron Ke Bich* from the Government of M.P. His best known works are: *Mor Naach*, *Ham Qadam*, and *Safar Me Dhoop To Hogi*.

Award

1998-Sahitya Akademi award

2003-Star Screen Award for Best Lyricist for Sur

2003-Bollywood Movie Award - Best Lyricist for "Aa Bhi Ja from Sur"

Ab Khushii Hai Na Koi Gam Rulaane Vaalaa

Nida Fazli

Apanaa Gam Leke Kahiin Aur Na Jaayaa Jaaye

Nida Fazli

Apanii Marzii Se Kahaan Apane Safar Ke Ham Hain

Nida Fazli

Badalaa Na Apane Aap Ko Jo The Vahii Rahe

Nida Fazli

Chaand Se Phool Se Yaa Merii Zubaan Se Suniye

Nida Fazli

Dekhaa Huaa Saa Kuchh Hai To Sochaa Huaa Saa Kuchh

Nida Fazli

Dhuup Mein Nikalo Ghataaon Mein Nahaakar Dekho

Nida Fazli

Diivaar-O-Dar Se Utar Ke Parachhaaiyaan Boltii Hain

Nida Fazli

Dil Mein Na Ho Jurrat To Muhabbat Nahiin Milatii

Nida Fazli

Din Saliqe Se Uгаа, Raat Thikaane Se Rahii

Nida Fazli

Duniyaa Jise Kahate Hain Jaaduu Kaa Khilonaa Hai

Nida Fazli

Garaj Baras Pyaasii Dhartii Par Phir Paanii De Maulaa

Nida Fazli

Har Ghadii Khud Se Ulajhanaa Hai Muqaddar Meraa

Nida Fazli

Hosh Vaalon Ko Khabar Kyaa Bekhudii Kyaa Chiiz Hai

Nida Fazli

Kabhii Kabhii Yuun Bhii Hamane Apne Hii Ko Bahlaayaa Hai

Nida Fazli