

Subject:- PERSIAN

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Course No. Per 203

Unit- II

Topic- (i) **Huma**

Online Class Materials

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Critical Appreciation of Huma

The novel Huma is one of the most popular and master piece work popular and master piece work produced by Mohammad Hijazi in the twentieth century. The chief feature of the book is the creation of characters belonging to the middle class. The hopes and ambitions, the miseries and hardship, as well as the tragedy of an honest man have been portrayed skilfully in the novel.

Apparently, the novel focuses on the sublime and selfless love between Huma and Hasan Ali Khan, the author has drawn very successfully the emotional equation between the two characters. In doing so he has, simultaneously depicted other characters involved in similar affairs but with a taint of lust and greed. He has also referred to the ominous and unhealthy fall outs and has indirectly driven home the points which manifest the true and pious love. While throwing light on the social and cultural aspect of the society, Hijazi has eloquently highlighted the prevailing deviation in social fabric of that time, such as the depressed condition of woman, evil of dowry system, illiteracy, promiscuousness, irresponsible role of newspapers, and other allied problems, thus making the novel a commentary on the contemporary Iranian society. The more positive aspect of the novel is that the author has not left the readers confused but supplied them with solution and a sense of reasoning and not mere imposition of his personal views. The effects of Russian and Iranian interaction on the sociological front has also been analysed and happenings indicative of a more healthy situation have been identified.

Since Hijazi had spent a life time in the midst of middle class people he possessed the first hand knowledge of and deep insight into the inner lives, habits and thinking of Persian families. Hence, he utilised his genius, interwoven with personal experiences, in treating the theme of the novel most strongly and satisfactorily. We find good number of pages of skilful writing which show a tendency towards prolixity, sage remarks and philosophical speculations.

The narration of the novel is in tune with the modern techniques of novel writing, which demand an element of suspense and uncertainty at every stage. The plot of the story gives no sense of sagging at any place and every episode is

well linked up with the previous one. Necessary clarifications, where ever required, has duly and aptly been inserted with dexterity.

The language and style of Hijazji's work have a special significance in modern Persian literature. The economy of words, well-founded constructions, straight forward and melodious style imbued with classicism attracts young readers intensively.

The novelist, Mohammad Hijazi, through his crisp and beautiful writings, has contributed magnificently to the art of novel writing in Persian on the one hand, and epitomisation of Iranian culture on the other. 'Huma' can be enumerated as one of the most idealistic adventures in Persian literature, for it stands as a good specimen of novel writing in Iran.