

Subject:- PERSIAN

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Unit- V

Topic- 2. Parvin Etesami

Online Class Materials

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Parvin Etesami

Parvin Etesami is regarded as one of the most distinguished women poets of modern Persia. Information regarding her place and date of birth is uncertain. She was born at Tabriz on March 16, 1907 A.D. or 1910 A.D. in a wealthy and socially esteemed family. Her father Mirza Yusuf Khan Etesami, entitled Itesamul-Mulk, was a well-known literary figure of his time. Parvin lost her mother at an early age. Consequently, she was brought up under the loving care of her father, who taught his daughter Arabic and Persian literature. According to Malikush-Shu'ara Md Taqi Bahar, she started composing poetry at the age of eight.

She studied at the Iran Bethel School in Tehran, an American high school for girls where she graduated in 1924. Afterwards, she taught for a while at that school. For her graduation, she wrote the poem, *A Twig of a Wish* (1924) about the struggles facing Iranian women, their lack of opportunities and the need for their education.

In 1926, she received an invitation to become the tutor of the queen of the new Pahlavi court, but she refused.

On July 10, 1934, she was married to a cousin of her father, Fazlollah Etesami, and they moved to the city of Kermanshah. But the marriage only lasted for ten weeks and they separated due to differences of interests and personality and she returned to Tehran.

In 1936, E'tesami was awarded by Reza Shah Pahlavi the third-degree Iran Medal of Art and Culture, but she declined. In 1938–39 she worked for several months at the library of Danesh-Saraay-e 'Aali, (currently known as Tarbiat Moallem University) of Tehran. Her father died in 1938, and she died only three years later of Typhoid fever. She was buried near her father in Qom, near the Masumeh shrine. Parvin Etesami's house became an Iranian national heritage site on October 19, 2006.