Abstract

This thesis is a comparative study of Sultan Bahu’s poetry and the works of five Persian poets including Nezami Ganjvi, Maulana Jalal ud Din Muhammad Balkhi, Sa’adi Sherazi, Hafez Sherazi and Maulana Abdul Rehman Jami. Sultan Bahu is considered among the legends of Punjabi Literature and he is a Persian Poet as well. Similarly the above said Persian poets are considered among the legends of Persian literature. All these great poets got utmost importance due to their significant thoughts and artistic way of thinking. To many critics all the above mentioned Persian poets are included among the greatest poets in the history of world literature. Undoubtedly, they touched the mythological heights of Persian language hundreds of years ago and wrote such sweet verses that a large number of the poets and writers, who came after them could never avoid their influence. Although the Punjabi language is not much closer to Persian language in many ways but the influence of Persian language and poetry cannot be ignored at any cost. Although Sultan Bahu is considered among the most famous poets of Punjabi but he is more famous as a Sufi and Mystic. Under the influence of Persian language and literature, he also wrote many books in Persian and he is a good Persian poet as well. All of the said Persian poets are the most famous poets. Both many orientlists and literary critics from Asia & Europe have already analyzed their art and thoughts. Hundreds of books have been written about their style, theme, thoughts and artistic approach and they are considered among well known personalities at international stage. But Sultan Bahu despite having written miraculous verses is still not famous at international level. Although Sultan Bahu and the said Persian poets have common features, all of these are Sufis and true followers of Islam and are called the “Sufi Poets” also, yet European and Iranian Scholars have yet to pay attention to Sultan Bahu’s sweet poetry. In this thesis I have tried to scientifically analyzed the poetry of this great poet and moreover to compare it with the art and thoughts of the said great Persian poets. By pointing out the resemblance and similarity in the poetry of Sultan Bahu and said five Persian poets, this thesis will open new scenarios for teachers, students and lovers of Persian and Punjabi poetry.