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# Haiku in Brahui Language

#### Language and Literature

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#### Abstract

Haiku is a Traditional Japanese Poem and is being translated and published in Brahui language. Many writers/ poets have used haiku style of poetry in Brahui. Haiku mainly consists of three lines and last line is of 5 syllables while middle line is of seven syllables. Haiku themes include mainly about nature and love. The article narrates few haiku poems by important Brahui poets. The research has mainly used secondary sources.

Key Words: Brahui, Haiku, poetry

#### Introduction

Haiku is basically a Japanese form of poetry, but now it is being written, along with other languages, in Brahui language too. Haiku complete poetical works are also published in Brahui and other languages. However, many Brahui poets consider this genre as useless pastime and are not paying an attention to ir. Had the famous and well known Brahui poets paid paid any attention to it, many books could have been printed in this genre. Neglect of 'Haiku' in Brahui language is because of difference of opinion amongst the writers. But the fact of the matter is that the writing of some 'haiku' in Brahui language is ample proof we have accepted it as a genre and it is present in many languages pf Pakistan on one way or other. Therefore, this type of poetry is not alien to us. Most of the books on 'Haiku' in Brahui language were written by Professor Aziz Mengal. In addition to this 'Badam na Pull' by Afzal Murad, 'Toosh' and 'Zind na Nidara' by Inayat Sagir, 'himnam na Khushboo' - Shams Nadeem, 'Shimshak', Barfeech', 'Jalishka' by Aziz Mengal are worth mentioning Haikus. In fact, three hundred years ago - a famous Japanese poet Matsuo Basho (1644-1694) created a highly discerned

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genre of verse called Haiku – where the nature is its imagery. Later on, all the Japanese poets continued writing on the scenery of nature and good Haiku implies strong feelings. In a few details and few words the entire scene is depicted.

On sweet plum blossoms

The Sun rises suddenly

Look, mountain Path!

Basho translated by Daniel Buchanan

Once Matsuo Basho stated that Haiku should be written by keeping in view the natural spirit of children. The great historian Macaulay had also said that poets are fond of great poetry and they have to be child first. It means that 'Haiku' is created by curious true and humanity's first strong passions found in children. Great poetry has now heightened the arena of 'Haiku' and 'Sheky' has further expanded it (Haider, p 196-197).

### (HAIKKU) (HOKKU)

Haiku is a popular poetic genre and many great Japanese poets have versified in it. Attempts have also been made in Chinese and English to adopt 'Haiku' and in the same vein write small poems.

'Haiku' is a three line poem. The first and third lines are small, consisting of five syllables while the second line is large, having seven syllables (Siddiqui, p-213).

The origin of Haiku is not based on any specific theory. Some say that its sources is 'Thalinka' while others say that 'Khoi-ringa' or 'Khoi Rabaikai'. In this reference Mohamamd Amin says :

"What is the origin of 'Haiku' – in this connection different ideas have been mentioned. In ancient Japanese poetry, there was a genre of poetry called 'Katha-otha' which consisted of three lines whose parts were arranged as 5-7-5 and Haiku is a kind of it. Some people say that the first stanza of long Japanese poems is called 'Hokku' which consists of three lines and there too the parts are 5-7-5. Later on, it was separated and give the name of Haiku. According to some other people, another poetic genre 'thanka' consisted of five lines and its aprts were arranged as 5-7-5-7-7. Its first line was separated and given the name of 'haiku' (Amin, p-5).

Afzal Murad very beautifully and in an expert way translated 'Haiku' poetry from Urdu into Brahui literature and thus enriched the Brahui literature with 'haiku'. Afzal Murad also translated Japense 'Haiku' into Brahui which is presented as follows for the readers''

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Therefore, Afzal Murad is a famous Haiku writer of Brahui and Urdu and Iqbal Haider says about him that he is a beautiful poet of cultured vision and is also a poet, writer of dramas and writer and compiler of Urdu-Brahui prose and poetry. He has proficiency in both poems (verse) and ode (Ghazal) and is pioneer of Haiku writing in Balochistan.

"Haiku was not only introduced in Brahui poetry in this century but many poets delved into it and Haiku collections (anthologies) have been published. Aziz Mengal, Afzal Murad and Azam Mushtaq are included in the list" (Murad, P-69).

Some of the Brahui Haikus are as under:

Everyone knows that poetry is the skill to say something in a minimum number of words. Raising the matter in an authentic way and saying it in an artful and elegant manner is the acme of poetry. By elegance we mean anything which is free of any impurity or where the impurity is very less. Other finer arts like architecture, painting, culture are more common as compared to poetry. While poetry is another name of the harmony of the sounds of letters and it can be felt, through-out but not seen. Therefore, it is something invisible in it and it is not a solid visible thing.

(Sani, p 90-91)

Amongst the genres of poetry, Haiku has the peculiarity to be the shortest genre.

(1) Regarding words (the least words).

(2) Regarding Lines (three lines)

(3) Regarding the harmony of sounds of verse, it is the shortest e.g Fahlan fahlan fa
Fahlan fahlan fahlan fa
Fahlan fahlan fa
Can be said in this form (Haider, p-25)

Haiku in its nature and mood is simple and soft. Simple in the sense that it has no condition of rhyme. Themse are generally about weather and effects of weather. The art of enjoying nature, the real system of nature and phenomena of nature is observed (Haider, p-26).

Iqbal Haider's Haiku has been translated by Afzal Murad as under:





Humaira Sadaf Hasani is the first Brahui poetess whose poetry has come forward. She has the expertise in 'Haiku' potery and with her Haiku poetry Brahui culture is enriching.

Azam Mushtaq Lehri wrote 'Hamd' and 'Nath' in Brahui Haiku. In addition to this, in her poetry book, she delved into other topics. For example

صدخہ جہان ئِ محمد نا پن ئَ كن زمين آسمان ئِ (Lehri, p-11)

Aziz Mengal wrote more books on Haiku Brahui poetry than anyone else. Leeko which is a form of Brahui folk poetry is like Haiku which is hundreds of years old and has passed in unwritten form from generations, has prevailed. In Aziz Mengal;s poetry book 'Jalishka' also contains Haiku poetry.



As mentioned before, Aziz Mengal wrote much in Brahui poetry and 'Barfeech' too is also written in Brahui poetry book.

The book 'Ashkail' which consists of Haiku poetry, is also the anthology of Aziz Mengal's poetry where he has written on different topics.

"Toos" which is a anthology of Brahui poetry, Afzal Murad has written poems on different topics.

پھلے او دیرے رنگ برنگ آ دنیاٹی تغ تا ذنجیرے (Murad, p 190-191)

The young Brahui 'ode' poet Shams Nadeem's five poetical collections have been printed where 'Hinam na Khushbo' is a book of Haiku poetry. In this book Brahui culture, relationships, different climates, modern technology, bravery of men, courage, downfall and other matters have been discussed through the medium of Haiku poetry.

The growing young Brahui poet 'Inayat Saghir' has also versified in 'Haiku' and has shown his worth fully in Haiku poetry.

برکٹ نا رمضان روچہ ننے آ فرض ئِ چار دے نا مہمان (Saghir, p 17-19)

Arif Zia – the famous urdu and Brahui poet in his book 'Sheeshal' has included 'Haiku'. He has used the same Japanese style metre 5-7-5.

تينٹ قوم نا ورنا تيکن اينو مس سياہ مار (Zia, p 138-139)

Dr. Abdul Razaq Sabir in his book 'She-Pole' has written some Haiku like

## Conclusion

Haiku is a modern genre in Brahui literature which has been introduced recently. But despite this, Brahui poets have written much in this genre and many books of 'Haiku' have come forward. However, this is not enough and much further work is desired in this form. What is needed is that the young poets should use their talents to use Haiku so that it could reach to a high pedestal in Brahui literature.

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