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POETRY IN TRANSLATION

Kashmiri Mystical Verses and Contemporary Scholarly Voices

Aamir Habib



Snow-covered branches on a winter morning. Photo by Mohammad Zahid

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Abstract

From the enigmatic *vākhs* of Lall Dyad to the sublime *shruks* of Nund Rishi, and the poetry of 18th and 19th-century mystics, religious poetry in the Kashmiri language has captivated hearts and minds for centuries. This poetry presents a tapestry woven from diverse religio-cultural backgrounds, serving as an awe-inspiring medium for thoughtful inquiry, spiritual enlightenment, and artistic expression while remaining distinct from a syncretic model. This paper provides a concise historical overview of mystical poetry in Kashmiri, and with a focus on some Kashmiri works, it then explores how contemporary scholars of Kashmiri language and literature have contributed to the preservation of this spiritual heritage. It highlights key preservation efforts such as compilation, textual criticism, and interpretation, underscoring their importance for future generations. Additionally, it emphasises the lasting influence of the said poetry on contemporary Kashmiri literature, affirming its continued relevance in shaping modern literary discourse. By connecting historical and contemporary voices, this paper highlights the timeless appeal and legacy of Kashmiri mystical verses.

POETRY IN TRANSLATION

- Abdur Rehman Rahi In Translation – 1
Abdur Rehman Rahi In Translation – 2
Ali Shalda In Translation
Chaman Lal Chaman In Translation
Faiyaz Dilber In Translation
Hamdam Kashmiri In Translation
Lal Ded In Translation
Naseem Shafai In Translation
Sunita Raina Pandit In Translation

POETRY IN ENGLISH

- Abid Ahmad
Huzaifa Pandit