

## **Abdul Ahad Azad as a Revolutionary and an Egalitarian Poet: A Study of his *Revolution* and *The River***

**Furrukh Faizan Mir**

Research Scholar Department of English University of Kashmir Hazratbal, Srinagar.

The present paper is an attempt to study Abdul Ahad Azad as a revolutionary and an egalitarian poet of Kashmiri literature. The paper will make an endeavour to show Azad as a small brook arising from Mahjoor's stream of poetry in the sense that Azad's poetry like that of Mahjoor is an action urging poetry, but Azad though taking inspiration from his immediate predecessor, Mahjoor widely differs from him and attains an individuality of his own by moving a step forward from Mahjoor's simple action urging patriotism to express his ardent views as a forerunner of an egalitarian, socialist and classless society. He was a crusader of inequality. This kind of strain was unprecedented in the entire corpus of Kashmiri poetry. Where Mahjoor talked and urged for the unity of Kashmiris, Azad talks of the unity and equality of the entire human race irrespective of any caste, creed, nationality or religion. He was a poet of man, a poet of human values. He laments on the shackles in which he finds man caught up all around, being crushed under the weight of oppression and exploitation. This study will however be made with special reference to two of his most celebrated poems, *Revolution* and *The River*.

### **Introduction**

Abdul Ahad Azad (1903-1948) was a well known Kashmiri poet of the twentieth century. He was one of the pioneers of modernist movement and the first revolutionary socialist poet of Kashmiri literature. He belongs to the famous Dar tribe of Kashmir. He was one of the most explicitly political and nationalist poet of the Kashmiri literature. But Azad's nationalist attitude is tempered by his socialism. Azad was a Marxist and also wrote one of the most influential literary histories of Kashmir in Urdu language, *Kashmiri Zabaan aur Shaeri* (1984). He was also closely associated with the progressive strand of the Kashmir nationalist movement in 1940.

