# **Key Elements Of Literary Theory**

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### Abstract

The theory has its way and methods of research as fundamental science, in this way the writer of literary theory can be successful and will have fulfilled the requirements of theory if he succeeds in the theory of literature.

This article outlines ways to facilitate academic work with literary theory writers in the light of theory and is presented as a key material. Literary theory writers, for example, must be aware of the relationships between cause and effect in literature. All changes in the content and form of the literature are the effects that have occurred for various reasons, thus all environmental conditions have their effects.

So many books have been written on theory in the world, but they have some problems. In the Pashto language, apart from some works in this field, all other works have shortcomings which are mainly due to unfamiliarity with theory and methodology. Once, the author understands the method of literary theory, s/he can present a good theory about poetry or any other genres in literature. Also, s/he can write good work on the literary theory. This article gives you a brief overview of basic topics that can help a writer study, write, and identify literary theory.

Keyword: Theory, Literary, culture, Cause and effect.

#### I. Introduction

Writing article has its value but only if it is in line with the principles of the article, i.e. its content is new and its structural form is similar to that of the publishing house.

The value of this writing lies in the fact that (literary theory gives the writer an idea of how to start a topic, what issues are important in literary theory, and how the topic should be discussed).

The novelty is that it gives every new writer the mentality of how to discuss a subject in the light of theory, to what extent, the theory is used in our writings as a science, and how much theory can help other disciplines.

#### 2. Research Objectives

- 1. Understanding the Writing theories and specific methodology.
- 2. Understanding the key elements of theory in the field of literary theory.
- 3. Presenting a theoretical guide to international and Pashto Literature.

#### 3. Research Questions

- 1. Does writing a theory require a special theory and methodology or not?
- 2. Is it necessary to understand the key elements of the theory in writing literary theory?

3. Are special works on literary theory written internationally or in the Pashto language according to the method of theory or not?

## 4. Subject

Literary theory as a new science of literature is a fundamental science for the analysis, interpretation, and expression of literature all over the world. Now that every issue has been thoroughly discussed, the literature specialists do not accept baseless and meaningless statements without proof, raising arguments in the literature and proving a new hypothesis or topic is done by theory.

Literary historians, critics, linguists, and finally those, who do research in the social sciences, need to understand the theory. All sciences, in general, are related to social sciences in particular; especially literary scholars should understand the theory (the literary theory).

With the advancement of science, the time, when one's identity begins and ends with the introduction of one's name, surname, and poetry, has finished. Indeed, now every subject is discussed from several angles and dimensions. If a literary expert is researching 'Khushal epic poetry', he must start discussing it from several angles, for example, the hereditary traits of Khushal epic, the hereditary traits are passed down from family to offspring. Psychologists say that up to the seventh generation, hereditary traits can be seen in special offspring, meaning that it is difficult to understand.

(The position of Khushal, the political situation of Khushal's time, the economic and cultural situation as well as some other dimensions cannot be used to prove why Khushal has talked a lot about war and conflict). It is the work of theory to prove the discussion and subject well.

For those who want to do scholarly work on literature or write any kind of research structure, this article of mine can help them more or less in this regard. If anyone wants to write a book on theory or write an article that uses theories it can help and give the author an idea about the chosen topic. Literary theory is the science that contains ideas about literature .....) (hashimi, 2017, 88)

These views differ, whether to accept or reject them depends on the author's intelligence and knowledge, the author doubts the understanding of the theory and does not accept every word without confirming it and not every thought is acceptable to him, but thinks critically considers every subject. However, thinking and not accepting every thought or word, not rejecting every word, doubting, not discussing a subject from multiple angles and aspects, are possible only when you understand the theory.

If we want to write the literary history, then it is necessary to understand the theory. Today, we have dozens of books of literary history. The reason, we talk about their accuracy or inaccuracy, the main factor of inaccuracy does not understand theory.

There have been a lot of points about the theory in many languages of the world, the opinions of many scholars in many languages are same in different languages as well as with the change of words, and I want to discuss these key points.

#### 5. The Value of Literature

Books can be written on the value of literature. Literature is a mirror of society; (such sentences are clichés), it is the product of human thought. It would be better to say creation rather than the product because 'product' is mainly an economic term. Human thought is a means of development, in societies where more work is being done on literature, it develops. Advanced societies have advanced literature and backward societies are not paying much attention to literature. Assessing the value of literature is the work of theory, through the science of theory we can talk about the value, so it is necessary to understand the value of literature in the area of theory.

6. The Essence of Literature

Theory determines the essence of literature, the nature of which has been discussed in philosophy and psychology, before I talk about the essence, I must begin my points from origin:

Aristotle is one of the philosophers who believes in human perfection and distinguishes between the first and the untrained essence of human and the nature which human acquires on the basis of inner change and knowledge by recognizing his inner self. In his opinion, this inner change can be implemented by the knowledge of ethics, that is, the group of philosophers who advocate the perfection of human, believe that the primitive and untrained human race is different from the trained, knowledgeable and informed human race.

When we refer to the human race, it literally means the essence, that is, the characteristics of a thing with whose transformation and loss, the essence changes. The origin means the reality of a thing. If a thing exists, then the existing reality and how it is created and what it is created from, depends on the origin.

The human species is also related to the elements of internal structure, that is, all human behavior is directly related to the species or origin.

Some philosophers say that the environment is fundamental to human growth and perfection, but others say that the environment must change and become humane. Hegel considers human awareness essential and a fundamental step towards superiority.

In literature, essence means the reality, understanding the origin of everything means the essence and essence is too discussed in the knowledge of theory. In addition, for understanding the elements of creation. understanding essence and identifying the essence of literation is also the work of theory.

#### 7. The Beginning of literature

Theory also discusses the beginning of literature. Who is the first poet of Pashto language? Was there any other poet before Amir Karore? Does Amir Karore have more poems? Why does Amir Karore's poem speak of war? We have some leading people in the ancient period, have there been others before them in certain genres or not? Literary theory can answer the above questions well, although the topics are related to the history of literature but it is easy to prove it with the principles of literary theory.

### 8. Development and Progress of Literature

The literature of the world has originated and developed over time. Literature, society and human are the three dimensions of the triangle that change human with the progress of society and when changes occur in human, it is obvious that positive or negative changes can occur in literature, with the development of society, human progresses and human progress is reflected in literature. Literature is the mirror of society; human is often subject to society so these are the issues which are interconnected.

Literary theory studies the origins, historical period, and sustainability of literature. How literature develops or stagnates are debates that have to do with society. Literature is an effect that adopts various aspects based various factors. In literature, the study of historical periods is done through the theory of literature, for the sake of better expression I will give an example:

Sonnet originated in ancient times, there are different opinions about the first sonnet writer, and some say it was written by Abu Muhammad Hashim in (845), some say it was written by Akbar Zamindawar around (1994), their sonnets had similar characteristics. Considering the definition of sonnets, most of the first sonnets had romantic content, followed by Rokhanis sonnets with mystical issues, then Khushal's sonnets had all kinds of content. Based on form and content, difference can be seen a lot in Khushal's sonnets. Types of sonnets, such as: rhythmic sonnets, Non-rhythmic sonnets, all rhyming sonnets, a few rhyming sonnets and other sonnets have sprung up. In Rahman Baba's period, poetry had mystical issues. He had given the superiority to imaginary love over real love and debates over it from the spiritual world away from the materialistic world of human, the sonnet of the Indian literary school had different characteristics. There are various reasons for the many changes seen in sonnets so far.

# 9. Relationships between Cause and effect

The relationships between cause and effect are very important in literary theory. Every phenomenon is not born of another phenomenon, just as all human beings in the world are born of other human beings, so most of the effected phenomena are the results of some causes.

Cause and Effect are related to each other and for researching on effects it is important to understand the causes of effects, because effects phenomena arise due to different causes and sometimes lead to advancement in science and sometimes lagging behind. Most literary theoretical works have ideas about each genre of literature but theoretically it is difficult to discuss and in every genre in which the discussion begins its origin, progress and sustainability should be studied considering the cause and effect.

(In particular, the theory identifies the relationships between cause and effect to prove the facts and the causes that exist in society are used to better explain the effects.)

Advances in literature, new achievements and discoveries can only take place when we are aware of all the causes of social studies and we can provide a good basis for revealing facts in sciences and social sciences.

A researcher who intends to write a literary theory or to prove the facts of a new science in literature is bound to be aware of the relationships between cause and effect. We have a brief discussion on sonnet in the light of theory.

The first period of Pashto literature starts in 139 and lasts 1000 years. The first sonnet writer of

this period was Abu Muhammad Hashim Sarwani in the year 223.

Abu Muhammad Hashim was a student of Ibn Khalad known as Abu Al-Aina in Iraq. He was an elegant and literary man. He has praised Dirham in a poem and Abu Hashim has translated it into Pashtu...) (hashimi, 2015, 89)

In ancient times, it was the first translated poem, translated from Arabic into Pashto. The Arabic and Persian words (dirham, owner and gold) are easily seen. It is first sample of eastern poetry (Prosodic poetry). As there are Arabic words in it and its morphological structure is also Arabic, the fact is that it has been translated from the Arabic language.

(Another sonnet writer in this period is poet Akbar Zamindawar, whose sonnets have a romantic content. Sonnets are the first (youth, family background and sonnets) part of complimentary odes. In this part of the beginning of the ode, love issues often came up. In the early days, most of the sonnets had romantic content, so Akbar's sonnets also had romantic content ....) (hashimi, 2015, 77)

The poems of the first period have unique characteristics based on certain causal conditions and the researcher has to find the causes and investigate the effects phenomena.

The first poet of the second period is Bayazid Rokhan. Rokhan's literary school was mystical and political; therefore the issues of the particular school of mysticism are more prevalent in the poetry of the Rokhan and his followers.

Rokhan was a teacher of Sufism and had many followers; therefore most of his poems are similar to Sufism in meaning. They waged a hot and cold war with the Mughals whose best tool of the Cold War was mystical and political issues in poetry.

Theoretically, there were some reasons why the sonnets of the Rokhanis of the second period differed in meaning from the poems of the ancient period.

After Rokhan, sonnets of Khushal's literary school had all kinds of content, types of sonnets

emerged, Khushal sonnets differed from the sonnets of early period as well as sonnets of Rokhan period which had many reasons.

The literary school of Rahman Baba and the literary school of Abdul Hameed Momand had different ways in terms of meanings of sonnets. Rahman Baba's sonnets were mystical about Imaginary and real love and Hameed Momand and Kazim Khan Shieda laid the foundation of Indian School of Sonnets. The reasons for this are given in some books which I will skip over in order to shorten the subject but I think it is important to mention that there have been some differences in terms of the moral and spiritual structure of the sonnets throughout history whose reasons were some factors of time.

(The poems of the third period differ from those of the first and second periods. Due to economic developments in Afghanistan, political conflicts, social developments, systematic educational system and places, influences of some international and some neighboring languages on Pashto and other factors, some differences are seen in terms of the content of the sonnets.

At the beginning of the third period, the construction of schools, the publication of newspapers and journal, bridges and hospitals, scientific advances, the influx of skilled people from other countries, and etc. influenced the sonnets of evolutionary process...) (hashimi, 2016, 144)

After this period, the writers and poets of the awakening period decided to bring a message instead of artisticness and poeticness in their creations. Most of the aims of the awakened youth are found in the writings of poets and writers, the best example of which is the creations of the Gul Pacha Ulfat, as well as some other reasons that can be seen in the sonnets of this period.

The origin and development of effects in all creative writings can be best discussed when we have knowledge of all the causes of time and there is no more important scientific way to prove the facts, of all sciences and especially of social science. Understanding the relationships between cause and effects is fundamental to social science research topics.

### 10. Literature and society

Literature is a mirror of society, so in literary theory, the effects of society on literature are inevitable. Exploring and proving these effects is the work of literary theory, in most introductions of literary theory, the relationships between literature and societies have been discussed. Literary theory writers should be aware of all the conditions of the society, scientific work in the field of theory and comprehensive information from the society is important in proving new hypotheses.

### II. Literature and politics

The effects of social goodness and badness have their impacts on human and literature, political bad and good conditions have their effects first on human and then on literature, literary theory writer must be aware of the political situation of the writer and poet. When Sulaiman Layeq was a member of the governmental system, he wrote epic songs and his Persian and Pashto poetry of that time was completely related to politics as well as today's poetry.

In order to study Khushal Khan's political poetry, we have to study the political situation of his time, For Gul Pacha Ulfat's poetry and proses, we should be aware of goals and struggles of the Awakened Youth Movement. In all his creations, there are influences of the politics of the time. Moreover, literary theory writers should be aware of the political conflicts and situations of the time while studying literature.

#### 12. Literature and culture

Literary theory writers need to be aware of culture when studying literature. Cultural revolutions or cultural invasions have their effects on literature. After the Renaissance Period, there was cultural, political, economic and social revolution which influenced literature all over the world, the emergence of free literature and free poetry genres in Pashto literature, the emergence of artistic prose literature genres as well as different ideas and thoughts in terms of content came to creation. In discussing the current literature, the writer must be aware of all types of conditions of the current time.

Some Pashto language writers have migrated to other parts of the world. There are some cultural issues in their writings which are not seen in the Pashtun community or it is possible that there might be things which are considered bad here but they may be considered a right thing there.

#### 13. Literature and economics

Literature is also related to economic development and backwardness. Literature of developed societies is different from the literature of backward societies. Afghanistan's creations and research are different from America's creations and research. Afghan writers' creations may have a picture of the life of the poor as most of the writers have economic problems so their speeches will definitely address the issues that are related to the economic problems.

Everywhere in Afghanistan, there are poor and destitute people, and we face hundreds of beggars every day. Most of the social problems occur due to weak economy, if a human sells his daughter in return of money or kills a human for less money and hundreds of other problems are related to economy. Human beings live in the society; all the conditions of the society affect them so the writer of literary theory should be aware of the economy of the society.

#### 14. Literature and science

Scientific progress is literary progress, science and knowledge are related to literature, and scientific progress of the ancient period of Pashto literature is different from today. Schools, universities and scientific centers are directly related to literature. At the beginning of the third period, Afghanistan has witnessed scientific progress, so there were many differences in literature. Literary theory writers should be aware of these issues and in order to study each genre, they should discuss the scientific developments of the time.

#### 15. Literature and family

While researching the literature we must become aware of the genetic characteristics of the author, every human being has parents, the inner and outer structure of the same human being are often similar to the parents or the parents' families, based on the science of psychology these features can last up to the seventh generation.

In Pashtun societies, we often pay attention to the father's family and mention the author's father's name and grandfather's name and discuss the father's genealogy, but to my knowledge the child is in the mother's womb for nine months, nourished by the mother through the placenta. Many of the mother's special characteristics exist in her child. As familiarity with writer's paternal family is important in his/her introduction, mentioning writer's maternal family is even more important. We are familiar with most of the writers' father names and families in Pashto language, but not with mothers' names and families of the writer. If a literary theory writer wants to do something new about a person, he/she must be aware of the author's family and hereditary characteristics, parents' chromosomes have effects on child. Father's sperm and the mother's ovum or the father's (xy) and mother's (xx) determine child's gender as they are sex chromosomes. Even the slightest disturbance of these chromosomes has its effects on the child. For example, if one of the father's (y) is combined with the mother's two (xx) then the person would be cruel, brave, and warlike and would have other similar characteristics. So if a writer, who talks too much about war and battles in his creations, has a lot of tendency to war, or supports war, is

more likely to have a disorderliness of chromosomes. In such cases, a literary theory writer should have knowledge of the writer's genetic traits and complete information from his/her family.

#### 16. The content and forum of creation

In Pashtu and other languages, the creation content and origin of the forum, development and sustainability is a matter of literary theory. All kinds of poetry and proses are created by human beings, because humans are social beings. There are various differences and thoughts in human being. These different ideas cause humans to present different ideas in their speeches, so different situations of society affect human and the writer presents all those words in different genres.

The ode of the ancient period in Pashto literature had one kind of content and forum, and Rokhanis had different kind of forum. The changes that have come in Khushal's different forum are because of various environmental conditions. One of the duties of literary theory writer is to research the content and form of creation and to show the reasons which have influenced literature at different times.

(In the ancient period of Pashto literature we have two masterpiece odes, the first of which is the ode of Sheikh Asad Soori, the elegy on the death of Amir Mohammad and the second one is the ode of Khakarandoi Ghori written for the compliment of Sultan Shahabuddin and Sultan Ghias. These two odes are two valuable and masterpiece odes of Pashto literature whose examples could not be found in Persian literature of that time and we cannot find such odes in medieval and contemporary period of Pashto literature....) (hashimi, 2014, 133)

(The odes of the Ghorids period were perfect odes; but after the Ghorid's Court we had no odes for three centuries. However, when ode appeared in the spiritual style of Rokhan, its form and styles were completely different. The ode that was very strong in terms of art and literature in Ghorid's court, one of them was said to be a source of praise and glory and the other was an elegy, were beautified with the praise of Allah and Divine thoughts in Rokhan's style. Odes of Rokhanis were enriched with the thoughts of unity and mysticism, but they are simple and tasteless in terms of industry, literature and expression, and their poetic and artistic perfection and industrial beauty seem to be overshadowed. The poetic power that is seen in the odes of Ghaznavids and Ghorids is very dull in the period of Rokhanis....) (habibi, 1979, 66)

In the Rokhanis period, only mystical and moral issues appeared in the odes, and the poetic side was weak. After the Pir Rokhan mystical and political literary school, the Khushal Khan Khattak National School of Literature started.

Baba made many changes in the field of poetry and prose, transformed the prose of the Rokhanis into simple and straightforward prose and used many common or classical rhymes in the field of poetry.

(Khushal Khan Khattak also led the poem with his literary efforts and brought it back to the feast of gathering from Rokhanis spiritual palace. In terms of diversity, he enriched it so much that now the odes of the Ghorids and the Rokhanis, which had no other color than praise and mysticism, were enriched with various subjects and found every kind of literary beauty .....) (waziri, 2012, 26)

Ethical, epical, honorable, complaints, condemnation, praise, goodness, preaching and indoctrination, but sometimes Sufism, monotheism and many other subjects were also included in the form and framework of the poem. In fact, Baba is the creator of a new ode. The odes in Baba's Collection have more than 2000 Khushal couplets. Khan's odes are а comprehensive part of his poetry which show the poet's strength and artistic ability and literary skill.

I made the above comment on the odes in order to show difference in terms of content and form of the ode that has taken place with the passage of time. To show this difference and to show it by reason is the work of literary theory. Thus, the writer of literary theory should be aware of the conditions of time which could prove a new hypothesis.

# 17. Research Content and Forum

Research is related to prose, the origin of simple prose comes from Suleiman Maku, but the traces of theory or literature are first seen in the art of poetry in 'Khushal's Dastaranama'. Khushal has primarily talked about the introduction of some genres in his art of poetry, mentioning these points can be related to part of theory.

(The development of theory begins in the third period, the 'literary debates' of Gul Pacha Ulfat is a work that deals with the issues of theory. Similarly, other writers also worked on the theory of literature and today we have best writers in Afghanistan who write best articles and books on the literary theory. The literary theory writer should be aware of when to find research forum and content and when to start changing it, and why he developed and should mention proofs ...) (shinwari, 2015, 40)

The reasons for the emergence of different genres and schools, the study of genres, the characteristics of schools and so on should also be discussed.

## 18. Conclusion:

In general, this study helps every author, especially the person who writes the literary theory book in writing any research type (essay, booklet, book, monograph, thesis and dissertation).

Literary theory writing has its own ways, which are pointed out in the writing. Also, theory is related to the history of literature, criticism and other such sciences. Therefore, it is necessary to read and understand the literary theory; the writer of literary history must take advantage of theory in writing history, it is also important to understand the theory for literary criticism.

The article primarily gives the author an idea and perspective on how to begin and end a research topic in the light of theory. How important it is to understand the theory and methodology of theory and how a writer can identify the basics of theory and apply it in his work while writing literary theory. The achievement of this article is that it can provide good guidance in writing literary theory.

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