

Classic Poetry Series

**Ahmad Faraz**  
**- poems -**

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# Ahmad Faraz(12 January 1931 - 25 August 2008)

Ahmad Faraz (Urdu: احمد فراز) born Syed Ahmad Shah (Urdu: سيد احمد شاہ) on January 12, 1931 in Kohat, was a Pakistani Urdu poet. He was considered one of the great modern Urdu poets of the last century. Faraz is his pseudonym 'takhalus'. Faraz died in Islamabad on August 25, 2008.

Faraz has been compared with Faiz Ahmad Faiz, holds a unique position as one of the best poets of current times, with a fine but simple style of writing. Even common people can easily understand his poetry. Ethnically a Hindkowan, Ahmed Faraz studied Persian and Urdu at the Peshawar University. He later became lecturer at the Peshawar University. He was awarded Hilal-e-Imtiaz, Sitara-i-Imtiaz and after his death Hilal-e-Pakistan by the government.

## <b> Biography </b>

Faraz was born in Kohat, Pakistan to Syed Muhammad Shah Barq. His brother is Syed Masood Kausar. In an interview with Rediff he recalls how his father, once bought clothes for him on Eid. He didn't like the clothes meant for him, but preferred the ones meant for his elder brother. This lead him to write his first couplet:

:?? ?? ?????? ????? ??? ????? ??? ??

:???? ??? ????? ??? ????? ?? ????? ??? ??

Sab kay waste laye hein kaprye sale se

Laye hein mere liye qaidi ka kambal jail se

(He brought clothes for everybody from the sale)

(For me he brought a blanket from jail)

His parents asked him once to learn mathematics from a class fellow during the summer vacation. But he was weak in mathematics and geography, he didn't remember maps and roads.

He was from a respectable family of Syed, descendents of "Haji Bahadar" a famous saint of Kohat, he moved to Peshawar with entire family. Studied in famous Edwards College, Peshawar and then did his Masters in Urdu and Persian from Peshawar University.

During his time in college, Faiz Ahmad Faiz and Ali Sardar Jafri were the best progressive poets, who impressed him and became his role models.

## <b> Literary and Political life </b>

Outspoken about politics, he went into self-imposed exile during the Zia-ul-Haq era after he was arrested for reciting certain poems at a Mushaira criticizing the military rule. He stayed for 6 years in Britain, Canada and Europe before returning to Pakistan, where he was initially appointed Chairman Academy of Letters and later chairperson of the Islamabad-based National Book Foundation for several years. He has been awarded with numerous national and international awards.

He was awarded the Hilal-e-Imtiaz in 2004, in recognition of his literary achievements. He returned the award in 2006 after becoming disenchanted with the government and its policies.

"My conscious will not forgive me if I remained a silent spectator of the sad happenings around us. The least I can do is to let the dictatorship know where it stands in the eyes of the concerned citizens whose fundamental rights have been usurped. I am doing this by returning the Hilal-e-Imtiaz (civil) forthwith and refuse to associate myself in any way with the regime..." a statement issued by the poet.

About his current writings he says: "I now only write when I am forced to from the inside." Maintaining a tradition established by his mentor, the revolutionary Faiz Ahmad Faiz, he wrote some of his best poetry during those days in exile. Famous amongst poetry of resistance has been "Mahasara". Faraz was also mentioned by actor Shahzada Ghaffar in the Pothwari/Mirpuri telefilm "Khai Aye O".

Despite his deteriorating health, he was quite active in the Judicial Crisis, in 2007. He joined personally the lawyers to protest against the government, and also encouraged his colleagues to do the same.

### <b> Death </b>

Faraz died from kidney failure in a local Islamabad hospital on 25 August 2008. His funeral was held on the evening of 26th, by many admirers and government officials at H-8 Graveyard, Islamabad, Pakistan.

### <b> Samples of poetry </b>

A sample of his poetry is:

Nazm: Khwaab martay naheen  
Khwaab martay naheen

Khwaab dil hain, nah aankhen, nah saansen keh jo  
Rezaa, rezaa huwe to bikhar jaayen ge  
Jism kii maut se ye bhii mar jaayen ge

English translation:

Dreams do not die

Dream are not heart, nor eyes nor breath

Which shattered, will scatter

Die with the death of the body

# Se Dur Na Ho Dil Se Utar Jaayegaa

Ahmad Faraz

# Aashiqii Be-Dilii Se Mushkil Hai

Ahmad Faraz

# Ab Ke Ham To Shaayad Kabhii Khvaabo.N Me.N Mile.N

Ahmad Faraz

# Ab Ke Rut Badalii To Khushbuu Kaa Safar Dekhegaa Kaun

Ahmad Faraz



# Ab Ke Tajdiid-E-Vafaa Kaa Nahii.N Imkaa.N Jaanaa.N

Ahmad Faraz

# Ab Kis Kaa Jashn Manaate Ho

Ahmad Faraz

# Ab Naye Saal Kii Mohalat Nahii.N Milane Vaalii

Ahmad Faraz

# Aise Chup Hai Ke Ye Bhi Ho Jaise

Ahmad Faraz

# Baraso.N Ke Baad Dekhaa Ik Shakhs Dilarubaa Saa

Ahmad Faraz

# Beniyaaz-E-Gam-E-Paimaan-E-Vafaa Ho Jaanaa

Ahmad Faraz

# Mai.N Ne Kabhii Lab-O-Rukhasaar Ke Qisse

Ahmad Faraz

# Dil Bhii Bujhaa Ho, Shaam Kii Parachhaa\_Iiyaa.N Bhii Ho.N

Ahmad Faraz



# Dost Ban Kar Bhii Nahii.N Saath Nibhaanevaalaa

Ahmad Faraz

# Dukh Fasaanaa Nahii.N Ke Tujh Se Kahe.N

Ahmad Faraz

# 'Faraz' Ab Ko\_Ii Saudaa Ko\_Ii Junuu.N Bhii Nahii.N

Ahmad Faraz

# Gile Fuzuul The Ahad-E-Vafaa Ke Hote Huye

Ahmad Faraz

# Haath Uthe Hai.N Magar Lab Pe Duaa Ko\_Ii Nahii.N

Ahmad Faraz

# Har Tamaashaa\_Ii Faqat Saahil Se Dekhataa

Ahmad Faraz

# Havaa Ke Zor Se -E-Baam-O-Daar Bhii Gayaa

Ahmad Faraz

# Hogayi Rukhsat Ghata Baarish Ke Baad

Ahmad Faraz



# Huii Hai Shaam To .N Me.N Bas Gayaa Phir Tuu

Ahmad Faraz

# Hum Jo Toote To Is Tarah Toote

Ahmad Faraz

# I Too Was A Poet Once

I too was a poet once O life of my words, but I cannot remember  
Since I have forgotten you the love of my art too, I cannot remember

Yesterday during a conversation with my heart I learnt  
that any forelock, lips, any mouth, I cannot remember

In the city of intellect insanity is quiet as if  
the very spontaneity the rabid fluidity of his speech, he cannot remember

Firstly I was not familiar with the mannerisms required for ruins  
Now the ways and traditions of the residents of gardens, I cannot remember

Everyone asks for the shop selling arrows and quiver  
but his own body, any customer cannot remember

Time has brought me to such a desert of forgetfulness  
Now your name even, may I perish, I cannot remember

Is this not enough that in the state of being without country  
the abandonment of my fellow countrymen I cannot remember

Ahmad Faraz

# Inhii.N Khush-Gumaaniyo.N Me.N Kahii.N Jaa.N Se Bhii Na Jaao

Ahmad Faraz

# Is Daur-E-Bejunuu.N Kii Kahaanii Ko\_Ii Likho

Ahmad Faraz

# Is Qadar Musal\_Sal Thii.N Shiddate.N Judaa\_Ii Kii

Ahmad Faraz

# Is Se Pahale Ke Bevafaa Ho Jaaye.N

Ahmad Faraz

# Jab Tera Dard Myrey Sath Wafa Karta Hae

Ahmad Faraz



# Jis Simt Bhii Dekhoo.N Nazar Aataa Hai Ke Tum Ho

Ahmad Faraz

# Juz Tere Ko\_Ii Bhii Din Raat Na Jaane Mere

Ahmad Faraz

# Kahaa Thaa Kis Ne Ke Ahd-E-Vafaa Karo Us Se

Ahmad Faraz

# Karuu.N Na Yaad Agar Kis Tarah Bhulaauu.N Use

Ahmad Faraz

# Kathin Hai Raahaguzar Durr Saath Chalo

Ahmad Faraz

# Khamosh Ho Kyo.N Daad-E-Jafaa Kyuu.N Nahii.N Dete

Ahmad Faraz

# Khvaab Marate Nahii.N

Ahmad Faraz

# Kuchh Na Kisii Se

Ahmad Faraz



# Kyaa Rukhsat-E-Yaar Kii Thii

Ahmad Faraz

# Mai.N To Aavaaraa Shaayar Huu.N Merii Kyaa Vaqa'At

Ahmad Faraz

# Muntazir Kab Se Tahayyur Hai Terii Taqariir Kaa

Ahmad Faraz

# Muttafaavate.N Hai.N Mere Khudaa Ki Ye Tuu Nahii.N Koi Aur Hai

Ahmad Faraz

# Payaam Aaye Hai.N Us Yaar-E-Bevafaa Ke Mujhe

Ahmad Faraz

# Pech Rakhate Ho Bahut Saaj-O-Dastaar Ke Biich

Ahmad Faraz

# Phir Toot Ke Ronay Ki Rut Aayi Hai

Ahmad Faraz

# Phir Usii Raahaguzar Par Shaayad

Ahmad Faraz



# Qurbato.N Me.N Bhii Judaa\_Ii Ke Zamaane

Ahmad Faraz

# Ranjish Hii Sahii Dil Hii Dukhaane Ke Liye Aa

Ahmad Faraz

# Saaqiya Ik Nazar Jaam Se Pahale Pahale

Ahmad Faraz

# Sab Log Liye Sang-E-Malaamat Nikal Aaye

Ahmad Faraz

# Sakuut-E-Shaam-E-Khizaa.N Hai Qariib Aa Jaao

Ahmad Faraz

# Sholaa Thaa Jal-Bujhaa Hoo.N, Havaaye.N Mujhe Na Do

Ahmad Faraz

# Sunaa Hai Log Use Bhar Ke Dekhate Hai.N

Ahmad Faraz

# Uthuu.N Bhii To Zaalim Terii Duhaa\_Ii Na Duu.N

Ahmad Faraz



# Tere Hote Huye Mahafil Me.N Jalate Hai.N Chiraag

Ahmad Faraz

# Terii Baate.N Hii Sunaane Aaye

Ahmad Faraz

# Tu Meraa Pehla Piyar Sajan

Ahmad Faraz

# Tum Bhi Khafaa Ho Log Bhii Baraham Hai.N Dosto

Ahmad Faraz

# Tuu Paas Bhii Ho To Dil Beqaraar Apanaa Hai

Ahmad Faraz

# Us Ko Judaa Hue Bhii Zamaanaa Bahut Huaa

Ahmad Faraz

# Us Ne Kahaa Sun

Ahmad Faraz

# Us Ne Sukuut-E-Shab Me.N Bhii Apanaa Payaam Rakh Diyaa

Ahmad Faraz



# Vafaa Ke Bhes Me.N Ko\_Ii Raqiib-E-Shahar Bhii Hai

Ahmad Faraz

# Vafaa Ke Khvaab Muhabbat Kaa Aasara Le Jaa

Ahmad Faraz

# Vahashat-E-Dil Silaa-E-Aabalaa\_Paa\_Ii Le Le

Ahmad Faraz

# Ye Aalam Shauq Kaa Dekhaa Na Jaaye

Ahmad Faraz

# Ye Kyaa Ke Sab Se Bayaa.N Dil Kii Haalate.N Karanii

Ahmad Faraz

# Ye Merii Gazale.N Ye Merii Nazme.N

Ahmad Faraz

# Ye Tabiyat Hai To Khud Aazaar Ban Ham

Ahmad Faraz

# Yeh Dil Ka Chor Ke Is Ki Zarooratain Theen Bohat

Ahmad Faraz



# Zakhm Ko Phuul To Sar, Sar Ko Sabaa Kahate Hai.N

Ahmad Faraz

# Zulf Raaton C Hai Rangat Hai Ujaalon Jesi

Ahmad Faraz