

Classic Poetry Series

Ehsan Danish

- poems -

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Ehsan Danish(1914 - 22 March 1978)

Ehsan Danish (Urdu: عہسان دانیس), born Ehsan-ul-Haq (Urdu: عہسان الہاگ), was a prominent Urdu poet from the Indian subcontinent. At the beginning of his career his poetry was very romantic but later he wrote his poems more for the labourers and came to be called "Mazdoor Shair" (The poet of labourer) by his audience. His poetry inspired the common peoples feelings and he has been compared with Josh Malihabadi, and he holds unique position as one of the best poets of all times, with fine, romantic and revolutionary, but simple style of poetry.

He was born on 1914 and died on 22 March 1982.

 Biography

Ehsan Danish was born in Kandhla, a small town in the Muzaffarnagar district of Uttar Pradesh, India. He belonged to a poor family and he could not continue his study due to financial reasons but still learned the Arabic and Persian languages on his own. Later he migrated to Lahore and settled there permanently. He struggled very hard to earn his living. He worked as an ordinary labourer for years in odd jobs, finally becoming a poet of excellence. His autobiography, Jahan-i-Danish, is a classic and motivated many. Ehsan Danish has written more than 80 books and hundreds of articles about and including poetry, prose, linguistics, philology, autobiographies and the famous interpretation of "Diwan-e-Ghalib". Much of his literary work is still unpublished.

He died in Lahore, Pakistan on March 21, 1982.

 An excerpt

Maulvi Saeed talks of Ehsan Danish, the poet. He recalls:

"In 1928, when we lived in Mozang I happened to be present at a gathering in the street adjoining ours where a short-statured but a well-built darkish young man recited a naat in a voice which kept the audience spell-bound. The poet was Ehsan-bin-Danish (now Ihsan Danish, for 'bin' though in Arabic stood for 'son of', in Hindi meant 'without'). The poet had come from across the Yamuna in search of employment — and perhaps recognition, too. Lahore gave him both; employment which hardly did any credit to this city, recognition, of course, which it never held back.

Ehsan was seen in the evening at the mushairas; in the morning, at the building

sites with a brush in one hand and the lime-bucket in the other; or doing a gardener's job on the Simla Hill. He has recorded the experiences of his early days in a fascinating autobiography — Jehan-i-Danish. In the realm of poetry, he was not a mere labourer, but a master architect."

Awards

Tamgha-e-Imtiaz, received March 22, 1978 from the government of Pakistan.

Ab Haq Mein Bahaaron Ke Sabaa Hai Ke Nahiin Hai

Ehsan Danish

Kabhi Mujh Ko Sath Lekar Kabhi Mere Sath Chal Kar

Ehsan Danish

Nazar Fareb-E-Kaza Kha Gai To Kya Hoga

Ehsan Danish

Purasish-E-Ghum Ka Shukriya Kya Tujhe Aghi Nahi

Ehsan Danish

Sirf Ashq-O-Tabassum Main Uljhe Rahe

Ehsan Danish

Yun Na Mil Mujh Se Khafa Ho Jaise

Ehsan Danish