

## An Analytical Study Of Abdullah Hussain's Novelette "RAAT"

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### Abstract

*Abdullah Hussain is a well-known Urdu novelist. He wrote many fiction books. The famous novel "Udas Naslen" has a distinct identity of his own. In addition, he wrote "Raaf", "Nadar Log", "Nashaib", "Naddi" and He also wrote "Wapasi Ka Safar". The famous novel "Raaf" plays an important role in this work. In this novel, he also presented different colors of his own life. In this article, an analytical study of "Raaf" is presented.*

### Introduction

#### Literature Review

Some critics have described "Raaf" as fiction. Among them is the well-known Urdu critic Dr. Nawar Ahmad. But most of the critics have called "Raaf" as a novelette. This novelette revolves around the two main characters Shaukat and Riyaz. These two characters are friends of each other during their college days. Riyaz and Shaukat are experts in their respective fields. Riyaz is a very good sportsman, While Shaukat is a very good writer. Shaukat does not want to live on a creative level and wants to write short stories. He have to earn some money for livelihood in life. He puts his intelligence in the field of journalism. In contrast to this character, Riyaz gets ownership of a newspaper in the form of a property from his father. He further consolidates his business. Both these characters likes a girl A classmate of them, name Jamal Afroz. This creates a rivalry between them. Shaukat has the ability to write very good stories. Shaukat wishes to make journalism a creative art, But it doesn't happen. Shaukat also gets married to Jamal Afroz. But later he gets tired of the monotony of commercial life and wants to leave it all. Shaukat tries to write something on a creative level, but he feels that he has lost his creative ability, and his house starts to suffer from hunger, so he earns a living by selling household goods. The desire to get Afroz is still there in hid mind. One day Shaukat meets his old classmate Jameela in a restaurant. She asks him to go to Riyaz for a job. Shaukat goes to Riyaz's office. But then After fighting with him, he returns home. On the same day, Jamila

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stays with Shaukat at her house for some time. Meanwhile, Riyaz takes Jamal Afroz to show him his magnificent house and here he succeeds in impressing Jamal Afroz with his grandeur, while Shaukat have made a decision about his life. He eats alone in a restaurant and commits suicide on the beach, leaving two strange women to shed tears over his corpse. Along with Shaukat's suicide, this Novelette's story ends.

In this novelette, Abdullah Hussain has focused more on the inner problems of his characters. Especially through the character of Shaukat, he presents his inner problems to the reader. Confusion forces him to commit suicide. In the same way Azmat Rasheed, the main character of Abdullah Hussain's short story "Bahar", commits suicide. The similarity between both characters is that both characters do this with a very strong intention and life is meaningless and meaningless for both characters.

Shaukat is a pure creative artist and can sacrifice anything for his art. In the same way Azmat Rasheed, the main character of Abdullah Hussain's novel "Bahar" commits suicide. The similarity between both characters is that both characters do this with a very strong intention and life is meaningless and meaningless for both characters.

Shaukat repeatedly gets lost in the memories of the past. Because he is not satisfied with the present life. The dissatisfaction of the present forces him to dwell in the past. Tries to reduce bitterness. Shaukat is a pure creative artist and can sacrifice anything for his art. see these lines...

”میں دُنیا بھر کے اخباروں میں بڑھنا ہوں شوکت!۔  
اگر نہ بھی بڑھوں تو کوئی فرق نہیں پڑنا۔ جبریلزم ایک بزیں ہے۔ ٹھیک ہے!۔  
میں اس بزیں کو آرٹ بناؤں چاہتا ہوں۔ اس سطح پر الٹا چاہتا ہوں جہاں لکھنے  
اور پڑھنے والے میں برا ۱۰ہ راست تخلیق نایم ہو جاتا ہے۔ جہاں دونوں  
نریق عمومیت کی زہریلی فضا سے نکل کر آزادی اور ذہانت سے ایک  
دوسرے کے ساتھ گنگو کر سکیں، جہاں وہ ایک مذہب ناندہ قوم نہیں بزیں۔  
احمقانہ

خیالات میں؟“<sup>1)</sup>

There are not many characters in this novelette. Through only three main characters, the story progresses and reveals the layers of reality. These three characters are striking in their own way. Shaukat is motivated by the futility of life and at the same time There is also irritation due to intelligence not being used in the right direction. Riyaz looks at material things from the point of view of business and money.

Jamal Ansari is the wife of Shaukat. Her husband's rise and fall is also her husband's past condition. But poverty has made her helpless. She can't do anything for her husband. At the very beginning of this story, the character seems to be a psychopath by his behavior and represents a man who doesn't care about society.

”کہاں جا رہے ہو؟  
چلے ہون کی جا آاں؟ وہ گاکر بوال  
شوکی چپ رہو۔۔۔ وہ سخنی سے بولی، لوگ سن رہے ہیں۔  
جگ میں چلے ہون کی چا آں۔۔۔ وہ گانا رہا رندہ رندہ بہت ہی چھ رہ گئی  
بھر ایک جگہ رک کر وہ ادھر ادھر دیکھنے لگا“<sup>2)</sup>

See another quote from which Shaukat's mental state is assessed:

”وہ دوبارہ کھانے پر ہل پڑا۔ اس کی لمبی لمبی نازک انگلیوں کو سالن میں  
لنہڑے اور بڑے بڑے لفٹوں کو بڑے اور بگڑے اور اس کے لمبوترے  
سردار ال تخلیق جہڑے تیزی سے کام کرتے ہوئے دیکھ کر وہ مہردی سے  
بولی، ”کچھ تو نمیز سے کھاؤ شوکی۔۔۔“<sup>3)</sup>

Riyaz had a crush on Jamal during his college days, but he got married to Shaukat. To get revenge, he uses various tactics to psychologically remind the couple of their old social position. He does. When Jamal goes to his office, he proves himself to be very busy. He talks about his relationship with high-ranking officials. Likewise, he convinces Shaukat that he is not a time-setter. So, He is a socially unsuccessful man. Riyaz is a metaphor for a man who

gives priority to materialism over intelligence. In the end, the author shows the scene of Shaukat's suicide very pathetically:

”خوف زدہ ہاتھوں سے دیواروں اور کھڑکیوں کو نھام کر اڑھوں نے  
اسے گھنٹوں گھنٹوں کم کم ہازی میں اترے ہوئے دیکھا اور دیر تک دم  
سادھے

کھڑے رہے۔  
”وا ہزے ہلا“..... پھر کئی نے دشت زدہ آواز میں کہا، ہال میں کہیں  
ایک ہلٹ کے گر کے ٹوٹنے کے آواز بلزد ہو گئی پھر سناٹا چھاگوا دم  
بخودہ جوم میں چپکے دو عورتیں سسکناں لے کر رونے لگیں۔“<sup>4)</sup>

Abdullah Hussain's novel "Raat" is also a special thing from the point of view of art. Abdullah Hussain has introduced two male and one female characters in the story. The female Character's name is Jamal. She appears as the main character as heroin of the story. among the two male characters, one is Shaukat, who becomes her husband, and the other is Jamal's friend Riaz. Before Jamal's marriage, both Shaukat and Riaz are her lovers. After Jamal's marriage, her husband's financial situation begins to deteriorate, so Jamal begins to turn to her friend and former lover.

Riyaz wants to convince her by displaying his nobility and wealth that she has made a huge mistake by not marrying him. The girl also realizes that she has lost her lot by not marrying her friend Ameer. This feeling of Jamal becomes a cause of regret. Thus, poison dissolves in the married life of Jamal and Shaukat. Through this novel, Abdullah Hussain has highlighted the women who are still with their former selves even after marriage. Expressing dissatisfaction with the financial condition of her current husband due to some quality of the lover, she shares her feelings with the former lover. She uses her children as a cover in this work. There are many problems. The following quote is being given as a demonstration of the wealth of Riyad and the emotions and feelings of Jamal after seeing his majesty and glory. It is also described in this paragraph:

”بس کرو ریاض“، وہ چہخنی --  
پھر اس نے جلدی سے چونا پہنا اور الٹے پاؤں بھاگ کھڑی ہوئی۔  
ریاض اس کے پیچھے لپکا، ڈرائنگ روم میں پہنچ کر وہ ٹھہک گئی۔ ”جال؟“  
ریاض نے بوچھا تمہاری طبیعت ”ٹھیک ہے۔؟“  
”ٹھیک ہے ریاض“  
وہ آسہ خشک کر کے مسکرائی ”تمہارا مکان بڑا خوب صورت ہے۔“ اس  
نے دل میں ملکی سی شرمندگی محسوس کی۔ ریاض اداسی سے ہنس۔ میں نے ملک  
ملک گھوم کر وہاں کی بہترین چیزیں جمع کی ہیں۔ وہاں کے بہترین  
آدمیوں کے برابر بیٹھا ہوں اور تم نے۔۔۔؟“  
وہ ایک لحظے کو رکا، ”تم نے آج تک مجھے ہاتھ لگا کر نہیں دیکھا جیسے  
میں کوئی اچھوت ہوں“  
آخری لفظ کا زہا ہوا اس کی ہونٹوں سے نکال اور وہ انہیں سے جذبات کو چھپانے  
کے لیے ایک دم ہلٹ کر دیوار کے ساتھ بڑی چھوٹی مہز کے سے سنا جے  
کھڑا ہوا اور لرزئی انگلیوں سے راکھ دازی گھمانے لگا۔ جمال نے بے خالی  
سے ادھر ادھر دیکھا۔“<sup>5)</sup>

Although Abdullah Hussain has used the scene and plot separately in this quote, but the theme is the same that he adopted in his novel "Qaid". Razia Sultana of "Qaid" was also wanted by Karamat Ali and Feroz Shah, but she He extended his hand to Feroz Shah which later proved to be the biggest mistake of his life. This situation is also in this novelett i.e. "Raat".

Looking at Abdullah Hussain's novel "Raat" from an economic point of view, we have to look at the economic philosophy of Abdullah Hussain himself. In the popular themes of Abdullah Hussain's Novels, livelihood is also an important topic. Income is the most important aspect of human life. We are alive because of livelihood. This is the reason that man is searching for livelihood from the beginning of time. This search later becomes the purpose of life. According to Abdullah Hussain, food is very important for survival and wealth for food. Talking about ways of earning wealth and economic resources, they are not only different from religion and

each region, but each person also has individual economic means. In Abdullah Hussain's fiction, there is no discussion on "Halal" and "Haram" economic means. In this comparison, the story of a person wandering around in search of sustenance, the economic exploitation of humans and the abuses of the capitalist class on the workers and the rights of the workers. In the acquisition, the struggle has been described. However, behind this struggle is Abdullah Hussain's philosophy of economy. Below is an excerpt from this novel on the effects of economic hardship. What happens to a well-to-do household when it falls victim to economic hardship? See in the quote:

”زرد سٹ بھئی گوا۔“ وہ بولی  
 ”زرد چبڑی کا سٹ کس قدر انسوس کی بات ہے۔“  
 وہ بڑے بڑے زوالے لہنا ہوا بوال۔  
 ”نہ نہ نہ ہلہلی چبڑ تو ہم نے خریدی تھی۔“  
 وہ اپنے آپ سے بولی۔  
 ”شادی کے بعد کتنے ہوسے ملے؟ تم بیٹ بھر کر کھاؤ شوکی۔“ وہ بولی  
 ”تمہیں اس سے کیا؟“  
 ”تو کیا بھوکا مر جاؤں؟“ وہ غرائی  
 ”نہیں“ وہ پہلی بار اس سے آنکھ مال کو بولی  
 ”بیٹ بھر کر کھاؤ۔“ وہ دو بارہ کھانے پر پل پڑا۔“<sup>6</sup>

The husband's indiscriminate eating in the above quote gives a good picture of the economic situation of the husband and his wife. The husband eating in this manner and looking at his wife's wallet frequently is also a mystery. .

Economically, both of them become so close that according to them, the standards of halal and haram and even the standards of honor are changed. See another quote that describes the old relationship and the current conditions of the psychology of Riyaz and Jamal:

”انکل مجھے کتاب لے کر دو“  
 ”ابھی لے کر دینے ہیں بیٹے“  
 بھر وہ اٹھا اور منیز کے نچلے دراز سے ایک بیدھا ہوا پیکیٹ نکال کر اس کی  
 طرف بڑھا۔  
 ”نہیں ریاض“ وہ دہل کر بولی ”نہیں“  
 ”ریاض اسے اپنے پاس رکھ مگر آخر کیوں ”جال“ وہ اپنے سامنے منیز پر  
 بڑے پیکیٹ کو گھور رہی بھر اس نے سے بولی۔  
 ”ریاض اسے بنا چل گوا ہے۔“  
 ”کس بات کا؟“  
 ”ساری ساڑھیاں جو تم نے مجھے دی ہیں تم نے اس سے چوری تو نہیں  
 دیں تم نے اسے کبھی نہیں بنا دیا۔ رحال وہ ال پرواہی سے بوال  
 ”کیا فرق پڑتا ہے؟“  
 ”آخر میں تم سے انزی۔۔ ریاض۔!!“  
 وہ چہرے اپنے بچاؤ کے لئے ہانہ اٹھ کر بولی۔ ”اچھا چلو نہ سہی“ وہ ہنس  
 ”مگر ہم اپنے پرانے دوست تو ہیں کم از کم ریاض!!“  
 وہ بولی ”خدا کے لئے۔۔۔“<sup>7</sup>

The main thing is that Abdullah Hussain has described all the events of this novel, which is based on social facts, philosophy and economy. It lowers people from their quality of life and hurts people's reputation and self-respect. People with such self-respect change the concept of honor.

"Raaf" Novelett published in "Sawera" Issue No. 33, 1964. "Raaf" is the name of Abdullah Hussain's collection which includes a novelett titled "Raaf" by him and a short story "Phool Ka Badan".

In the novelett "Raaf" the story of two friends is described. One is named Shauki (Shaukat) and the other is named Riyaz. Both have been friends since their university days.

Riyaz was a prominent Athlete and the vice-captain of the high team and the record holder of the 440 score. His father owned an English daily and gave Shaukat a part-time columnist for

his newspaper. His status in Riyaz's house was that of a person of the book. Shaukat and Riyaz were in their final year in the university when a girl named Jamal Afroz of the fifth semester of the History department came between them. She was affectionately called Jaal by everyone. Both friends started to be attracted her. Jamal Afroz Became the debating society leader of the magazine. Her picture was printed on the full page of the magazine. Riyaz captained the hockey team and won the inter-city Punjab championship. Then he exploited his father's money to the fullest. He had expensive suits tailored and bought a small car in which he commuted to the university while Shaukat wrote stories and gave speeches and won trophies.

One day it was announced to contest the elections for the presidency of the University Students' Union. Both Riyaz and Shaukat stood against each other for the President seat. In which Shaukat got success. In the same year Shaukat also received a gold medal and his Married to Jamal. Within a few years, Shaukat became the most famous and highly paid freelance journalist in his city. Until a few years after the marriage, he was living a very happy and peaceful life.

But then Shaukat's financial situation deteriorated. Meanwhile, Riaz was appointed as the managing director of a company. After Shaukat's financial condition deteriorates, he goes to Riyaz's office to find work there, but Shaukat returns empty-handed. Thus, Shaukat also made wealth and compared to Riyaz, married with the beautiful girl of the college. Even married the youngest girl but his own success, fame and wealth was due to the strange and fascinating writings.

The story is the tragedy of a man who too quickly achieves a superficial level of fame before artistic maturity, and then uses the usual emotional and business manipulations to maintain that fame. Instead of a car, it becomes just an entertainer. Thus, he gets wealth and fame, but this wealth and fame brings him in front of them, whom he considers to be of lower status than himself, but who are ahead of him in business. So once again, that feeling is inferiority complex. To get rid of it, he resorts to ideals. He wants to prove that he is an artist while others are just business people. But he has the ability to create art. It has already sacrificed art on the altar of wealth. The theme of "Raat" is those in an exploitative society that makes competition and progress the motto of life. This race of competition and progress. It makes people distant from each other and careless. After being left behind in this race of progress, life becomes meaningless to them.

The four characters of this story, Shaukat , Riyaz Jamal and Jamila, suffer from loneliness, mental agony and sadness in relation to each other. Living with heart. Some people are able to live such a life while Shaukat loses from this life and washes his existence in the raging waves of the sea.

In the same way, “the character of Novel Nashaib”'s Ayaz succeeds in this race of development and competition and proves his worth and gets both honor and fame. But in the end, the crime of corruption is punished and life becomes meaningless for them too. In the night, an attempt was made to describe the social status of a woman and the psychological pressure on her in the social status.

A woman has all the responsibilities in the society, taking care of the house, taking care of the children, the peace of the house and the trust in the human relations apart from the blood relations is focused on the woman in our society. But the society she has very little authority. In this novelett, we see that Jamal tries to save the house with great patience. But the confusion of the environment makes her prone to doubt and denial. In this novelett, the trend from the present to the past also emerges. Today's modern man feels tired even in this mechanical life. Therefore, scenes and events and beautiful memories of the past keep repeating again and again.see this quote :

” پھر اس کمرے میں جائے نہہے جاہاں صزدوق پڑے ہوئے نہہے اور جاہاں  
رات کو مہندی لگائے اور سوئے سے نبل سب کے عہد کے زنئے مسئلے  
ہوئے جوڑے نکال نکال کر بکسوں ، صزدوقوں اور ہڈیوں پر بھنال دئے گئے

ہوئے نہہے۔ نہانے سے پہلے ایک نظر اور ان کو ضرور دیکھ لیتے نہہے پھر  
 زہاد ہو کر اور نئے کپڑے پہن کر ابا کے ساتھ نماز کو جانے نہہے نماز کے بعد  
 گھر آکر صرف عذی لیتے کو رکھتے نہہے اور گڑبڑوں میں بھاگتے ہوئے ماموں  
 کے گھر پہنچتے نہہے۔ جہاں سے الگ عذی لیتے تھے پھر وہاں سے

مزلے کا رخ کرتے نہہے۔“<sup>8)</sup>

The people and scenes of the past attract Abdullah Hussain and play a major role in the understanding of most of his writings.

In the novelette, there is a story of a young man whose life has been torn apart by the collision of reality and dreams since childhood:

”اسے پھر ماضی کی یاد آتی کہ ماضی ایک وسیع و عریض ، آسودہ حال اور  
 زرد رنگ کی روشن سر زمین تھی جس سے صبح ہوتی ہے اور ایک وہ لڑکی  
 تھی گئی کے موڑ پر جس کا گھر تھا اور جس سے اس کی بڑی گہری نسبت  
 تھی۔“<sup>9)</sup>

He whole story seems to be full of Abdullah Hussain's past and childhood memories. Shaukat's future looks dark and he is traveling in the night of this dark future. There is no hope and no light. He left his village unaware of his beloved wife and child. At the end of the novel, an imaginary picture of a bird is presented, which spread its huge wings and was flying towards the deep waters with freedom and carelessness. Shaukat goes towards the sea in pursuit of this bird and goes down into the water. Ohh my God. Then he said in a terrified voice. Asim Butt writes about "Raaf":

”ایک کمر شالیز ڈٹا کاروبار ا لود معاشرہ اعلیٰ جمالیاتی اور ادبی اڈار  
 سے اپنی کمپنٹ نہیں نوڑتا۔ اس نظام سے موافق ہونے کے لئے کوئی  
 سمجھوتہ نہیں کرتے ، ان کے حصے میں رات آتی ہے ، جو ماہوسی ،  
 عذی اور موت

کی عالمت ہے۔“<sup>10)</sup>

Despite succeeding in love, marrying Jamal and becoming a famous working journalist, Shaukat remains depressed and meaningless as his past and present are a constant source of psychological torment for him. Gets depressed and eventually commits suicide by drowning in the sea.

From a technical point of view, the plot of the novelette is loosely shaped. The content of it is short, but it has been stretched and tried to make a novelette. Because of this, the events have changed and the plot has become loose. The reason for swinging in it is actually its content is similar to story. As an attempt has been made to create a special novelette. Razi Abdi writes as under:

” رات میں مختلف کہانیاں ایک دوسرے کے ساتھ

مربوط نظر نہیں آتیں۔ ان میں منطقی تسلسل نہیں ہے۔  
 جس کی وجہ سے جڑا سب کالیمکس اور ڈرو ماں نہیں

بن پائے ، سب واقعات محض اتفاقی ہیں۔“<sup>11)</sup>

It seems to lack logical connection and continuity. It has a plot based on mere coincidences instead of logical connection. Novelette has another important character." The story of "Raaf" revolves around three main characters: Shaukat, Riyaz and Jamal Afroz. Shaukat is an intelligent boy and an accomplished journalist. While Riyaz has been an accomplished athlete in college, the son of a rich father, publishes his own newspapers and magazines and becomes the owner of a newspaper. Jamal Afroz is a beautiful girl. Shaukat and Riyaz fall in love with Jamal Afroz. To get the girl, the two friends whose friendship was exemplified in college. , the rivalry begins. The characters of the novel appear to be living and flesh-and-blood people and all these characters are important in their place. The novelist has advanced the events through the characters.

Along with the characterization, dialogue writing has also been well done. The dialogues that Abdullah Hussain has given to his characters have not only created them by keeping the mental and emotional state of these characters in front, but also fulfill the dignity of the characters. It

has been kept in mind that every character in the novel speaks the language according to the grammar. We have tried to highlight the characteristics of the characters through dialogues.

In the novel, the imagery is also done. They have presented the scenes in detail. Whether it is a college university setting or nature scenes, he has portrayed perfection. Novelette's style is also fluid, simple and smooth. Difficult words are non-existent. Good language and charming style are Novelette's characteristics.

### **References**

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5. Also, p: 838
6. Also, p: 838
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9. Also, p: 19
10. Muhammad Asim Butt, Pakistani Adab kay Maemar- Abdullah Hussain Shakhsiyat aour Fun, Islamabad: Ikadmi Adabiat Pakistan, 2016, p: 140
11. Razi Abidi, Teen Novel Nigar, Sanjh Publications Lahore, January 2010,p: 114