

# Government Degree College Baramulla

## Department of English Honours in English

Title: Kashmiri Literature in Translation  
Credits (4+2): theory 04, Tutorial 2

Code: ELRC3822M  
Contact hours: 64+64

### Course Objectives:

- To acquaint students with major Kashmiri literary figures and movements across different periods.
- To study the development of Kashmiri literature in translation from mysticism to modernism.
- To examine issues of identity, gender, politics, and representation in Kashmiri writings.
- To reflect critically on the process and politics of translation as a mode of literary transmission.

### Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate familiarity with key Kashmiri poets and fiction writers in translation.
- Analyze literary texts in relation to their socio-political and cultural contexts.
- Critically engage with questions of translation, authorship, and representation.
- Evaluate continuities and ruptures in Kashmiri literary traditions across centuries.

### Unit I: Mystical Beginnings

**Ranjit Hoskote, I, Lalla: Poems of Lal Ded,** (Introduction– “Lal Dēd: Life, Poetry and Historical Context”) pp. 10-24

· Selected *Vakhs* from *Lal: Translation Introduction and Glossary*, **Shafi Shauq**

- Feeble is my body yet I row my boat in the ocean...” (*Oam paan sodiras naavi chhas lamaan...*)pp. 24-25
- “The right path I came, the right path I did not go...” (*Aayas vatyey geyas ni vatyey...*)pp. 36-37
- “My teacher taught me but one lesson...” (*Gwaran vaninam kunuy vatsun...*)pp. 36-37
- “Reed- darts I throw from a bow of wood...” (*Hachvi haarinji pyetsiv kaan goam...*)pp. 42-43
- “A scholar I see haggardly feeble...” (*Gaatulah akh wuchum bwachi seety maraan...*) pp. 44-45

### Unit II: Progressive Voices

· **Abdul Ahad Azad** (in translation)

- *Dariyaav* (The River)
- *Ghulami*(Servitude)

· **Ghulam Ahmad Mehtaj**(in translation)

# Government Degree College Baramulla

- *Walo Haa Baagvano*(Come O Gardner)
- *grees koor* (Peasant Girl)

## Unit III: Echoes of Lyric Voices

**Habba Khatoon**(in translation)

- *Che Kameu Soni Meyaaane* (Which Rival of Mine)
- *Maalinea Ho* (O My Folks)

**Naseem Shafaie**, (Trans. Indu Kilam)

- Neither a Shadow Nor a Reflection, pp. 1-3
- Who is to Blame, pp. 48-49

## Unit IV: Kashmiri Short Fiction

**Akhtar Mohiuddin** (in translation) *Looking Into the Heart of Life* by Azhar Hilal

- Foreword by G. R. Malik
- “Fixture” (Short Story), translated by Mohammad Amin, pp. 104-107
- “TheSoldier”(Short Story), translated by Akhtar Mohiuddin, pp. 153-162

## Tutorials (2 Credits)

### Objectives:

- To engage students in close reading and interpretation of translated Kashmiri texts.
- To explore comparative perspectives between original and translated versions.
- To encourage analysis through written assignments, discussions, and presentations.

### Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to:

- Write critical essays analyzing translated Kashmiri texts.
- Discuss issues of cultural transfer and linguistic loss/gain in translation.
- Present interpretive arguments connecting texts to historical and contemporary contexts.

## Unit I: Mystical and Progressive Writings

### Topics Covered:

- The spiritual and social dimensions in Lal Ded's and Azad's works
- The transformation of oral poetry into written translation

### Classroom Activities:

- Group reading of vakhs in translation
- Comparative discussion: Mysticism vs. Modernity

## Unit II: Lyricism and Fictional Realism

### Topics Covered:

# Government Degree College Baramulla

- Representation of women in Habba Khatoon and Naseem Shafaie
- Narrative realism in Akhtar Mohiuddin's fiction

## Classroom Activities:

- Presentation: "Women's Voices in Kashmiri Poetry"
- Assignment: The politics of translation in Akhtar Mohiuddin's stories

## Suggested Reading

1. Hoskote, Ranjit, trans. *I, Lalla: The Poems of Lal Ded*. Penguin, 2011.
2. Kilam, Indu, trans. Naseem Shafaie. *Neither a Shadow Nor a Reflection*. Sahitya Akademi, 2018.
3. Kaul, R. K., ed. *Selections from Modern Kashmiri Literature*. Sahitya Akademi, 2007.
4. Khawaja, Mehdi, trans. *To Each Their Own Hell: Selected Short Stories of Akhtar Mohiuddin*. Gulshan Books, 2015.
5. Mohi-ud-Din, Akhtar. *Looking Into the Heart of Life*. Edited by Azhar Hilal, M/S Book bank Sellers & Publishers, 2010.
6. Rahman, Shafi Shauq. *Kashmiri Literature: Studies in Themes and Traditions*. Gulshan Books, 2012.
7. Shauq, Shafi. *Lal: Translation Introduction and Glossary*. Ali Mohammad and Sons, 2022.
8. Zutshi, Chitrlekha. *Languages of Belonging: Islam, Regional Identity, and the Making of Kashmir*. Permanent Black, 2003.