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Sahitya Akademi

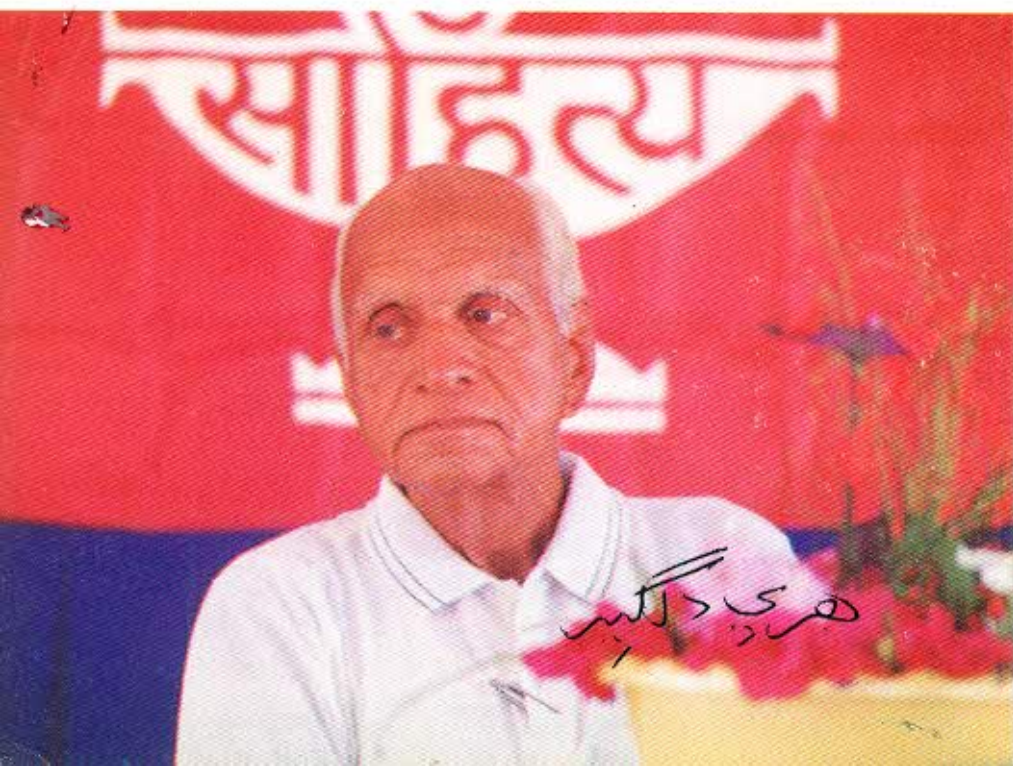


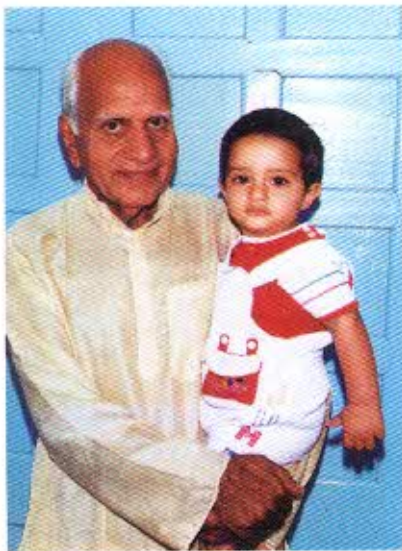
Indian Institute of Sindhology

invite you to

meet the author

Hari Guru-a-dinomal Daryani
"DILGIR"





With grand son

Hari Dilgir is an eminent and accomplished poet in Sindhi community. He is respected as a major poet by intellectual luminaries as well as by illiterate common Sindhi people. He is almost a household name in the Sindhi community.

He is principally a lyric poet and is a master of poetic technique and prosody, fully conversant with the intricate nuances of poetic craft which he learnt at a very young age from Janab Nawazali Jaffery 'Niyaz'. Simultaneously, he came under the influence of Kavi Kishanchand Bewas who was the foremost poet of his days. From him, Dilgir learnt the sweetness and beauty of the Sindhi language and positive and optimistic attitudes. Hari Dilgir has himself said that he is a poet of hope and a stubborn optimism.

The essential aspects of his poetry are : Naturalness, spontaneous flow of his expression flight of thought and depth of meaning in simple and sweet words. His

pen is like a painter's brush. There is a miracle of painting in his poetry. His imagery is superb.

He considers Art not for the sake of art itself but for the sake of life, because the ultimate issue is life, the incalculable worth of every human mortal and not just that of celebrities. He has righteous indignation for tyrants and perpetrators of injustice towards anyone, anywhere in the world. He is an ardent advocate of women's emancipation. He writes about social problems and portrays the realities, frustrations, hopes and joys of the human mind.

Dilgir started writing Sindhi poetry at the age of thirteen and has been continuously writing for the last sixty nine years. His early inspiration was Larkana where Dilgir used to live, but he says he was subsequently influenced by Tagore, Khalil Gibran, Walt Whitman and Mayakovsky. Therefore, it was his own inward evolution which has enriched his poetry. He has written voluminously on a variety of themes in various forms of poetry which include, Ghazals, Rubaaees, Qaseeda and Qita which pertain to classical poetry. At the same time he has written many beautiful poems based on modern forms of poetry like sonnets, Haiku Panjkadas, Tanahaa (single line poem), and Taraaeel a new form which he himself has introduced in Sindhi poetry. Besides, he has revived old classical forms like Dohia, Soratha, Baits, Vaaee and Lalit Pad. He has been writing free

verse also. About Naeen kavita he says he doesn't understand much of it. Dilgir is known as a Geetkavi because it was he who gave literary form to Geet in Sindhi. Some of his popular geets first appeared in his book *kod* (Sea Shells) published in Sindhi in 1942.

Four important elements in his poetry are: Optimism, Sympathy for all beings including birds and animals, Nature, and Love for children.

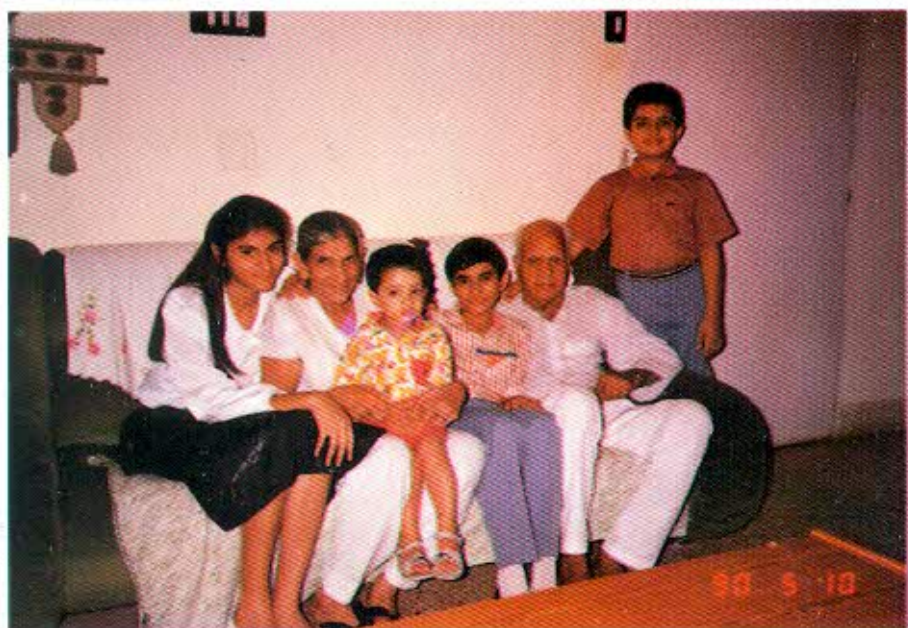
About optimism Dilgir says he initially imbibed it from his mentor Bewas and subsequently from Tagore and the Upanishads. He is a poet of cheer and assurance. He can enthuse and help the reader to regain his lost confidence. He reserves utmost sympathy for all beings. He loves all human beings irrespective of caste, colour, creed, religion and race. His mind is saturated with Sufi philosophy and he believes

in Vahdat-ul-Vajood. Dilgir is of a genial, cheerful and compassionate disposition. He has love even for animals and birds. In one of his Haikus, he bekons, on a wintry night, to a dog who is shivering in the cold, to come into his cosy and warm embrace.

Dilgir has written copiously on nature, and is known as the Wordsworth of Sindhi literature. Every great poet has obsession for the moon, flowers, moving clouds, water falls, flowing rivers and flitting, singing birds. His poetry reveals that Dilgir has this obsession. He is an important poet of children's verse and he loves tiny tots. Jointly with his mentor Bewas, he got published in 1942 in Sindhi a book *Manji Geet* which won a prize from Sindhi Adabi Board established by Govt. of Sindh. Besides this book Dilgir has three other books of children's songs to his credit.

At Sahitya Akademi function with Harish Vaswani, Krishin Khatwani, Satish Rohra and others





With wife and grand children

Dilgir's poems have appeared in almost all the school text books from std. I to std. XII. Besides, his books are prescribed as texts for graduates and post graduates. His book of reminiscences (autobiography) *Chols Muhimjo Chika Mein*, has been reprinted in Sindh (Pakistan).

Dilgir has achieved the pinnacle of success during his life time. He has written a number of books many of which have won awards.

Dilgir's full name is 'Hari Gura-dinomal Daryani' and 'Dilgir' is his nom-de-plume, the adoption of which he later on regretted and confessed that it was a misnomer as he is basically a man of jovial and cheerful nature. He was born on 15th June, 1916 at Larkana, Sindh into a well-to-do family. His father was a First Class Magistrate in Larkana. He was an honest and upright official. Although Dilgir did not enter headlong into the freedom movement due to family

compulsions, he was and is a patriot of the first order and without the knowledge of his father, composed several patriotic poems which have now appeared in the book *Azadi Andolan Ja Geet* brought out by the Sahitya Akademi.

He had his primary education in Municipal Sindhi School and higher secondary education in Govt. High School, Larkana. After partition, he stayed back in Sindh due to family constraints and was appointed by Sindh government as Executive Engineer and continued till he migrated to India. Where he came into contact with Late Bhai Pratab, the founder of Adipur (Kutch), the new home town for Sindhis, who appointed him as a founder principal of the Engineering Institute of Adipur.

He looks like a modern-day Rishi treading the earth. He is in love with life. He writes with strength and devotion for the benefit of mankind.



With family

A Select Bibliography

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80p. 18.5cm.

KODE Karachi Sindh,

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(co-author Narayan Shyam)

MAUJ KAE MAHERA N

OCEAN IN ECSTASY Ajmer

Sindhi Sahitya Sangat, 1966

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JAIZO Ajmer

I.I. Sindhology, 1993

160p. 21.5cm.

AZADI ANDOLAN JA GEET

New Delhi Sahitya Akademi, 1995

125p. 21.5cm.

A Chronology

- | | | | |
|------|--|---------|---|
| 1916 | Born at Larkana (Sindh, Pakistan) | 1965 | President, Gandhidham Municipality |
| 1930 | Started writing poems and participated in Poetry Symposium at Larkana | 1966-67 | President, Rotary Club of Gandhidham |
| 1934 | First poem published in "Sindhu", a prestigious Sindhi literary monthly magazine. | 1969-81 | Secretary, Gandhidham Development Authority |
| 1939 | Married Nanki Hingorani. | 1967 | Secretary, Gandhidham Collegiate Board till 1988 |
| 1941 | B.Sc. (Bombay University)
First book published -- Harishchandra Jiwan Kavita (Award from Govt. of Sindh) | 1979 | Sahitya Akademi Award on 'Pal Pal Jo Parlau' |
| 1942 | Award from Govt. of Sindh on 'Kode'
B.E. (Civil) Bombay University
Co-Editor, "Sindhu" literary monthly | 1983 | Award on 'Mazedaar Geet' from NCERT |
| 1946 | In-charge, Poetry section of 'Gulistan' and 'Gul Phul' children's magazines. | 1984 | C.H.D. (Govt. of India) Award on 'Rolu Awaaz' |
| 1958 | Migrated from Sindh to India and settled in Adipur (Kutch), became Founder Principal of an Engineering Institute | 1992 | Priyadarshini Academy Award |
| 1961 | Founded Polytechnic College, Adipur (Kutch), was chairman, Gandhidham Co-operative Bank till 1973 | 1993 | Gaurav Puruskar from Sindhi Sahitya Academy Gujarat State |
| | | 1994 | Chairman Sindhi Sahitya Academy Gujarat State till 1999 |
| | | 1996 | Narayan Shyam Award |
| | | 1998 | Award from Indusind Foundation for total contribution to Sindhi language. |

with wife Nanki

