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An Unnoticed Hero of Pakistan's Independence Movement: A Case of Biography Mr. Naseem Hijazi

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: In this article, Mr. Naseem Hijazi, a lesser-known hero of the Pakistan Movement, is highlighted. The primary purpose of this paper is to expose the hidden aspects of Mr. Naseem Hijazi's life. He was a well-known novelist and writer, as well as a freedom fighter. He was a member of the Pakistan Movement, but few people were aware of his involvement. He was a devoted Muslim and a firm believer in Islam. This research paper investigates and analyses the life of Naseem Hijazi to get a complete image of him.

Design/Methodology/Approach: This research demonstrates that delving into individual biographies might provide a contextualized view of Naseem Hijazi's life, allowing for a complete picture of him. This study employed a qualitative content analysis method to examine Naseem Hijazi's biography during the Independence Movement.

Findings: The finding shows that Naseem Hejazi had a passion for life that could enthrall any of his companions. During a radio interview, Syed Hashim Raza described his relationship with Naseem Hejazi, saying that the Muslim League was the only party working to establish Pakistan between 1940 and 1947. Naseem Hejazi was one of those who stood behind Quaid-e-Azam throughout those times and was respected by all. Naseem Hejazi, I believe, ran half of the pro-Muslim League propaganda effort in Baluchistan, while Mir Jaffer Khan Jamali ran the other half. Quetta's Pasban Fortnightly, June 15 (1939: 6).

Implications/Originality/Value: In such a situation, history books about the Pakistan Movement should be rewritten to acknowledge Naseem Hejazi's work as one of the nation's benefactors."

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Introduction

Sharf Husain, also known as Naseem Hijazi, was an Urdu writer born on May 19, 1914. He was born in the hamlet of Sujaanpur, near Dhariwal in Gurdaspur, Punjab, in pre-Partition India, and fled to Pakistan after India's independence and subsequent partition in the district 1947. He died in March 1996 after

spending the majority of his life in Pakistan (Civantos, 2020). Naseem Hijazi's ancestors were members of the Hijaz tribe from Gurdaspur, Punjab. In the village of SojaanPur, Naseem Hijazi was born. He was born into the Chaudhary Jaan Muhammad family. His father worked for the Canal Department of the government. During his childhood, he was abruptly separated from his mother. He received his primary education in his hometown, but in 1938 he graduated from Islamia College in Lahore with a bachelor's degree (Khan, 2021). Meanwhile, he took up a pen and began writing. He first and foremost writes "Shader" as a work of fiction. He was known as "Muhammad Sharif" at the time, but on the recommendation of his teacher, he changed his name to Naseem Hijazi, which he kept until his death (Bertrand et al., 2019).

"It was almost unthinkable for the Muslims of the Subcontinent to achieve their separate homeland in the face of strong opposition from both the British government and the Hindu population under the then-prevailing unfavorable conditions, so the establishment of Pakistan is regarded as a historical miracle (Copson, 2017). However, under the leadership of Quaid-e-zealous Azam, they were brought together on a single platform, and the spirit of independence was renewed, helping them realize their dream of an independent Pakistan in a short period. The Muslims of the Subcontinent made huge sacrifices for Pakistan, with individuals from all walks of life dedicating their resources and making every effort imaginable (Khalid and Khan, 2006). The services provided by the leaders of this unparalleled struggle for the establishment of Pakistan are documented in almost every national and international writer's work on the Pakistan Movement (Hussain, 2008). These people are thought to be the forerunners of a historical movement. Many others towards the rear of the line, on the other hand, sacrificed everything for their own country, only to receive little in return and be forgotten for the rest of their life. Those who contributed merely symbolically to the fight for liberty, on the other hand, got the blessings of liberty. Many people still boast of being honored to receive the Quaid or attending a gathering with him. Others recall the Quaid's visit to their community and their presence there as if Pakistan's foundation would be practically impossible without it. These individuals have not only received more than their due share but have also been recognized for their notable contributions to the Pakistan Movement (Aslam, 2014)."

"Persons who contributed to the Pakistan Movement are honored with medals and honors every year on the 14th of August, the 23rd of March, and other key dates, but no one knows where these people originate. They earn honors and recognition at the expense of others who gave selflessly and without expecting anything in return to this great battle (Ahmed, 2005). Naseem Hejazi is one of these people who has dedicated his life to the freedom fight. However, both during his life and after he died, all his sacrifices and services remained unacknowledged. Surprisingly, he is mentioned by Baloch intellectuals in their works on Baluchistan's history and journalism as the solitary flag bearer of Baluchistan's admission to Pakistan, who used his newspaper Tanzeem to respond with all his strength against Raj's machinations and the Congress' vile propaganda. Baluchistan, Pakistan's largest province by land, would never have become a part of the newly established state if Naseem Hejazi had not been present. Not only have Baloch leaders praised his achievements, but they also acknowledge that Congress's wicked ambitions were only thwarted because of Naseem Hejazi. Since he was a child, he had a strong disdain for Hindu tyranny, and Pakistanis were in his blood. In an interview with Radio Pakistan Islamabad on May 20, 1986, Naseem Hejazi said that I could not even imagine being governed by Hindus during my school days. Congress and Brahman politics had been instilled in me by my forefathers. I had a great hope that the Muslims of the Subcontinent would be able to build their intellectual fortress one day (Sulehria, 2020)."

Literature Review

"I swear, if Naseem Hejazi had not been present in Baluchistan those days, accession of Baluchistan to Pakistan would have remained questionable, Nawabzada Jahangir Khan declared, recognizing his contribution to the Pakistan Movement and his efforts for accession to Pakistan. 370 (Inaamul Huq, 1991). (Kousar, Inaamul Huq, 1991: 370) Muslims all over the Indian subcontinent were struggling for their right to be free. On the other side, every effort was made to bring this war to a halt (Abbas, 2015;

Fay, 1995; Hussain, 2008 & Kelsay, 2007). Fundamental rights suspended for the people of Baluchistan from 1876 to 1935, and they were not allowed to speak out for their rights; they were not even allowed to read newspapers, and saying the words independence and sovereignty were practically impossible. Despite these horrible circumstances, the people of Baluchistan have repeatedly defied the British Raj. Mir Mehrab Khan first commanded it. The British were then attacked by Ghulam Hussain Masoori and his 1300 men, and he and his 200 men were martyred. In various engagements, Shahjahan Jomezai fought the British. Nawab Yousuf Ali Khan Aziz Magsi was also a pioneer of political awareness in Baluchistan. He helped found many Karachi-based publications, including *Al-Baloch*, *Baluchistan*, *Baluchistan Jadeed*, and *Young Baluchistan*, which were subsequently seized. Even though Baluchistan had a large Muslim population, the All India Muslim League was late in arriving. Baluchistan's residents were almost completely oblivious of its acts (Jalal, 2014). The National Congress sought to portray the Muslim League as a pro-government party, but they couldn't keep Baluchistan's brave and honest people in the dark for long (Ibad, 2016)."

Methodology

A qualitative perspective on seniors' Unnoticed Hero of Pakistan's Independence Movement is argued using a qualitative biographical participatory research approach. Several strategies for collecting and analyzing biographical data have been developed and put into practice, including. This research demonstrates that delving into individual biographies might provide a contextualized view of Naseem Hijazi's life, allowing for a complete picture of him. This study employed a qualitative content analysis method to examine Naseem Hijazi's biography during the Independence Movement.

Jahangir Khan Jomezai, Nawabzada

Given the geopolitical significance and mineral resources of the isolated province of Baluchistan, the British launched a web of conspiracies to achieve their desired solution, where they could maintain their influence over Baluchistan while being separate from India, writes Nawabzada Jahangir Khan. Kausar, Inaamul Haq, 1991: 308). The British and Hindus increased their manipulations and intrigues as the Pakistan Movement reached its goal, while a few crazed minds rioted. March-April 1947 wreaked such havoc that Quaid-e-Azam and Gandhi were forced to issue a combined call for peace. On the day Naseem Hejazi left Karachi's *Daily Zamana* to fly to Baluchistan, he began his role in the freedom struggle and the accession of Baluchistan to Pakistan. He was no stranger to supporting nationalist movements in the Indian subcontinent. He said I've always felt a connection to the Muslim League's mission and the Pakistan Movement. I traveled to a variety of locales to visualize my goal. My search eventually led me to Karachi. (Farooq and Syed 1977:66) At Karachi's *Daily Zamana*, he continued to fight bravely for the Pakistan Movement. However, the Sindh Congress government quietly offered the newspaper owner some monetary prizes given the Pakistan Movement's increased popularity as a result of the publication of *Daily Zamana*. When Naseem Hejazi realized that his owner had received the funds, he wrote an editorial denouncing the War Fund and resigned from the journal, claiming that it had abandoned its goal and cause. He later had the opportunity to meet Mir Jaffer Khan Jamali thanks to Sheikh Maqbool-ul-Haq. Because he was accustomed to the feudal attitude, he was initially cautious. He agreed to patronize Mir Jaffer Khan Jamali's literary production after learning that he was associated with the Baluchistan Pakistan Movement. Meanwhile, he spent most of his time engaged in political activities in Baluchistan, where he was actively involved in different Pakistan Movement activities. I stayed part of the political drama playing out across Baluchistan for nine years, not as a spectator, but as a character, he said" (Farooq and Syed, 1977).

Hijazi: A PhD Thesis

"The Critical and Explorative Analysis of Nasima Hijazi's Historical Novel Literature (NASIMHIJAZI KI TAREEKHY NOVEL NIGARY KA TEHQIQI AUR TANQIDI TAJZIA) is the title of a Ph.D. thesis on Hijazi's writing. Mumtaz Umar is a lecturer at the University of Karachi in Karachi. Meanwhile, in Quetta, Mir Jaffer Khan Jamali established the journal *Tanzeem* and appointed Naseem Hijazi as its editor. Through this newspaper, he remained at the vanguard of defending the nation's

ideological borders. He was adamant about gaining his homeland, Pakistan, which led to his fight for Baluchistan's accession to Pakistan. His name will always be linked to this movement. Nawabzada I met Naseem Hejazi for the first time at Mir Jaffer Khan Jamali's place; yet, his name was not new to me, writes Jahangir Khan Jomezai. As a companion of Mir Jaffer Khan Jamali and the editor of the *Tanzeem*, I already knew him well. I realized that the voice of Naseem Hejazi, heard in Baluchistan's political arena, was progressively becoming the voice of Baluchistan's educated people. (Farooq and Syed, 1977: 118) My impression of him was that of a person who knew Baluchistan as well as the lines on his hand, Jahangir Khan Jomezai continued. Through his journal *Tanzeem*, he opposed Congress's deceptive rhetoric. Naseem Hejazi has a passion for life that could enthrall any of his companions. During a radio interview, Syed Hashim Raza described his relationship with Naseem Hejazi, saying that the Muslim League was the only party working to establish Pakistan between 1940 and 1947. Naseem Hejazi was one of those who stood behind Quaid-e-Azam throughout those times and was respected by all. Naseem Hejazi, I believe, ran half of the pro-Muslim League propaganda effort in Baluchistan, while Mir Jaffer Khan Jamali ran the other half. *Quetta's Pasban Fortnightly*, June 15 (1939: 6). Naseem Hejazi's primary motivation for traveling to Baluchistan was to participate in the Pakistan Movement. In 1942, my passion for Pakistan led me to where I needed it, he said in an interview. As a companion of Mir Jaffer Khan Jamali, I traveled to Baluchistan and spent most of my time reading literature and evaluating the situation in Baluchistan. My dream for Pakistan was more important to me than all the money in the world. (Radio Pakistan, Rawalpindi, July 12, 1985; courtesy of Radio

Baluchistan Hosts the First Muslim League Conference

Local politicians who pushed for a unified Hindustan were among the most popular when the Muslim League began activities in Baluchistan. The Muslim League conducted its inaugural meeting in Quetta, Baluchistan, on the 10th and 11th of June. Maulana Zafar Ali Khan traveled throughout Baluchistan and visited Quetta in July-August 1939. In June 1943, the Muslim League's Quaid-e-Azam paid a visit to Baluchistan to invite Baluchis to join. He also recommended Muslims band together under a single political party rather than become fractured. As the Pakistan Movement grew in power, the British realized that partitioning Hindustan was necessary. However, they were adamant in their refusal to allow Baluchistan to join Pakistan's newly constituted state (Sultana, 2016).

Pakistani Patriotism

His love for Pakistan and the Pakistan Movement had become his greatest asset. He planned to devote his days and nights to help in this fight. He stated, "I couldn't imagine a single day in my life without Pakistan, and every other personal ambition paled in comparison to this passion." 1945-1947 were the busiest years of my life. The majority of my time was spent working for the Pakistan Movement, and all I could think about was gaining Baluchistan's accession to Pakistan (Sarkar, 1989). From August 1 to 14, it was at its peak, and I could only spend two and a half to three hours to my work on average. (Iqra 1976:147-148)" During the peak of the Pakistan Movement, its opponents created three fronts against it. To strengthen the British protectorate, the British wanted the Khan of Qallat to declare his independence and autonomy. On the other hand, Abdul Samad Khan Achakzai, Mirza Faizullah Abdul Qadir, and Chandarman Wakeel worked for the accession of Baluchistan to India. At the same time, those fighting for their rights formed a third front. On all of these fronts, Naseem Hejazi was fighting effectively and efficiently (Ahmad et al., 2019).

Nawabzada Jahangir Khan's Hijazi Proclamation

"Since Naseem Hejazi's arrival in Quetta, the Pakistan Movement has evolved into a national movement rather than a single-party movement," Nawabzada Jahangir Khan noted. Naseem Hejazi was working in Baluchistan to promote awareness about the Pakistan Movement. Despite the British and Hindu conspiracies, he stayed committed to his cause. He was well aware of Hindu discrimination against Muslims. Continuing to degrade Muslims was the most agonizing thing for him. In Baluchistan, the Muslim League had commenced activities, with Naseem Hejazi and his associates bolstering the movement's strength. Nawabzada Muhammad Khan Jomezai's election to the Constitutional Assembly

was a step toward Baluchistan's accession to Pakistan, as anticipated by Naseem Hejazi. Naseem Hejazi convinced Nawabzada Muhammad Khan Jomezai to run against a Congress candidate rather than leave the race open. After a lengthy debate, Nawabzada Muhammad Khan Jomezai agreed to run in the elections (Chawla, 2014).

Shahi Jirga

The British entrusted the fate of Baluchistan to the Shahi Jirga, a renowned and influential legislative body, to back their conspiracies. In the Constitutional Assembly, Nawabzada backed the Muslim League, paving the door for Baluchistan's accession to Pakistan. Naseem Hejazi would meet with Jirga members at night to persuade them to join Pakistan, and during the day, he would write pieces for his daily "Tanzeem" to guide Muslims and oppose foreign plots. The referendum in Baluchistan was set for June 29, 1947, and a positive result in Pakistan's favor seemed impossible. Naseem Hejazi, on the other hand, fought tirelessly to foil all of these plots. To deflect the focus of the Muslim League's central leadership away from the deteriorating conditions in Baluchistan, he penned a special editorial titled "Lamha-e-Fikriya" in the monthly "Tanzeem" on June 16, 1947. He said that a Pakistan without Baluchistan is unthinkable. He also arranged a meeting between Quaid-e-Azam and Baluchistan's tribal chiefs, which resulted in the tribal chiefs' support for Pakistan. "Today, as I write a chapter in the history of Baluchistan, I can say without reservation that during the referendum war in Baluchistan, Masood Khaddarposh proved to be the best of Pakistan's soldiers and a concrete wall in its fortress," he wrote. It was pure coincidence that a young ICS officer served as a boat steward and a young EAC served as a beacon of light for our stumbling vessel.(Raja, 1987:190)"

Congress's Biased Role

"Some Shahi Jirga members successfully converted to the Congress tribe. These tribal lords feared losing their lordship if Pakistan became a reality. It was promoted as the end of the tribal system and violated the Baloch people's rights. Baluchistan's income and expenses have been published to demonstrate that joining Pakistan was a bad deal. To win the hearts of the Pathan people, Congress used the phrase Sovereign Pathanistan. Baloch and Pathan were both afraid of being enslaved by each other. A rumor was also circulated concerning an announcement of independent Baluchistan or its admission to Afghanistan. The Congress offered Nawab Muhammad Khan Jomezai Rs180 million when Baluchistan's total income was less than 15 million."

Hijazi's Publications

"Khaak and Khoon are two words that can use interchangeably (Dirt and Blood) Yousuf bin Tashfin (Yousuf bin Tashfin) (Yousuf the Son of Tashfin) Chattan Akhari (Volume-1) On the internet (The Last Rock) Chattan Akhari (Volume-2) On the internet (The Last Rock) Marka Aakhari (The Last Battle) Andheri Raat Ke Musafir (Andheri Raat Ke Musafir) (Travelers of the Dark Night) (Volume-1) Aur Talwar Toot Gai (And the Sword was Broken) Toot Gai Aur Talwar (Volume 2) (And the Sword was Broken) Mujahideen Daastan-e-Mujahideen Daastan-e-Mujahid (Tale of the Fighter)'Gumshuda Qaafley is a song written by Gumshuda Qaafley (The Lost Caravans) Devta Aur Insaan (The Human and the Deity) Kaleesa Aur Aag (Church and Fire) Muhammad Bin Qasim (Muhammad Bin Qasim) Diyare Pakistan Se Haram Tak Pardesi Darakht Haram Tak Pardesi Darakht Haram Tak Pardesi Dar (The Alien Tree) Pouras Ke Hathi (Poras' Elephants) is a Hindi film. Qafila-e-Hijaz is a term used to describe a region in the Islamic world (The Caravan of Hijaz) Qaisar-o-Kisra (Quaisar-of-Kisra) (Caesar and Kisra) Saqafat Ki Talaash is a novel by Saqafat Ki Talaash (In Search of Culture) (Volume-1) Shaheen (The Eagle) (Volume-2) Shaheen (The Eagle). As a result, Saal Baad' (After 100 Years) Sufaid Jazeera is a journalist who works for Al Jazeera (The White Island). All of the Congress's interesting efforts were crushed by Naseem Hejazi's powerful writings; all attempts to generate misperceptions have been foiled; detecting the Congress's plots, Naseem Hejazi took it upon himself to answer in a deserving manner. He informed Nawabzada Jahangir Khan, We've had enough of British dramatics, and now it's our turn to offer the concluding act of this play currently being performed on the Baluchistan stage. Naseem Hejazi got a sneak peek inside the procedures that will take place on June 29 at Town Hall. On

this date, he tried everything he could to get a verdict on the fate of Baluchistan. Nawab Jogezi was also persuaded to reconsider Lord Mountbatten's insistence to purchase more time and declare in favor of Pakistan. As a result, when Mr. Jeffery Prayer started reading Lord Mountbatten's order, Nawab courageously went forward and declared, We don't need any more time for the decision because the Tribal Jirga elders have delivered their verdict in favor of Pakistan. Anyone who disagrees with our choice for a member of Pakistan's Constitutional Assembly should leave right now. (Tanzeem, Quetta Weekly, December 23, 1945; Nizam, Karachi, March 20, 1947) As a result, all of the other chiefs voiced their support behind Pakistan, and Mr. Jeffery Prayer declared that he would send a telegram to the Viceroy informing him of the Jirga's decision. After hearing this statement, Naseem Hejazi dashed outside and exclaimed, Pakistan Zindabad! Baluchistan's admission to Pakistan was made possible because of Naseem Hejazi's foresight."

Hijazi on the Big Screen

"Three of Hijazi's novels have been turned into stage productions. Akhri Chataan and Shaheen were dramatized and shown on Pakistan Television Corporation as independent drama serials in the 1980s (PTV). Akhri Chataan, PTV's finest historical fiction endeavor, is largely recognized as its best. The character of Sultan Jalal ud-Din, played by Salim Nasir, and the theme music created for the serial, gained critical acclaim. The novel Khaak Aur Khoon was converted into a film of the same name, and it is one of the few Lollywood (Lahore film industry) blockbusters (Ahmad, 2017). His important contribution to the Pakistan Movement, on the other hand, is nearly forgotten, and no one even acknowledges it. Nawab Muhammad Khan Jogezi, who turned down a Congress offer of Rs. One hundred eighty million when Baluchistan's total income was only Rs. 15 million, unambiguously acknowledged that Naseem Hejazi played a key role in Baluchistan's accession to Pakistan. Still, Naseem Hejazi is not mentioned in any of the Pakistan Movement books. It means that, even though his role in the accession of Baluchistan to Pakistan is still a living reality, authors and historians either have no idea who he is or purposely overlook him. In such a situation, history books about the Pakistan Movement should be rewritten to acknowledge Naseem Hejazi's work as one of the nation's benefactors (Babajee, 2020)."

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