Importance of Epics and its Teller in Pashtu Literature

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Abstract: This essay focuses on importance of epics, tellers of epic, the differences of epic and heroic poems and the history of the epic in Pashtu language and literature. The essay is a qualitative research. It is found that Pashtu oral and written literature have more stories and folklores. Stories are formed among the people and spread among the people. This kind of folklore and stories are the literature of their own language and the same is with the epic. There are many Pashtunational epics such as: Sufism epics, love epics and the patriotic epics as Fate Khan and Rbia, Adam Khan and Dur- Khani, Zan- ZaniShama-Mar and GhafoorLiwal’s epics of (Deer Hosai), Kabk and Zarina, Irshak and Shash and the epics of Khoshal Khan Khatak. These epics and its teller are very important in Pashtu language and literature. Students will become familiar with the literature of their own society and also will be good supplementary materials for the students. Pashtu language and literature as other languages in its different genera in prosodic form and folkloric literature has epics which are important in prose and poems.

What is epic? And which poems regarded as an epic

SidiqRohi divides the poems into three parts such as epics, lyrics and dramatic poems. 1: 82. Epic (in Pashtu it is called Hamasa) is that kind of poem or prose writing that happened events are told in a story form. Hamasa or epic in Arabic language means (hard working or intensity in work) this word of Hamasa also means the brave man. During the time, epic used for the meaning of braveness.

Key words: the epic of Adam Khan and Dur- Khani, The epic of Zan- ZaniSham and the deer, the epics of Khoshal Khan Khatak, different kinds of epic

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I. Introduction

Are the Epic and Heroic Poems Different?

Epic is that kind of literary genera that includes tribal and national admiration of the athletes, fighting, bravery, and other admiration. Epic is a story of courageous and honor of knights. It is possible that the hero of an epic be a special person, tribe or a nation. In the epic the place and in the place the musical poems also come which gives a special beauty to the poem. Epics differ from one period to another period from one tribe to another tribe. Though these differences epic has two basic characteristics: The first is that the epic is long. Second, the epic is a story of courageous and honor (۲۸۸). Epic and heroic poem have differences in meaning. It is right that every epic is form a total of the heroic poems, but few heroic poems will not make the epic as an example, Amir Krul poems is a heroicpoem but will not be called an epic but it is honor.

I am a lion in this world; there is no hero than me
No in Hindo, Send, Takhar and Kabul
No other in Zabul
No hero than me (۲۸۸)

Epic is the story of the courageous, honor of a champion in a society. In the world there are five popular epics such as Mahabart in India, Iliad and Odyssey in Greek, sida in Spain, Anieid in Romania and Shahnama in Afghanistan (۲۹۸). Aristotle ranked epic after tragedy in his composition. In history of languages in the world epic has the first position. Epic remains a legacy of courageous from our previous generation to the new generation that the reading of the epic by each literate individual is a need. (اُفیْ مَثَل)

Epic is made up of heroic and battle poems. But every battle poem story and honor is not an epic. It is from here, thatthere is a conflict of ideas among the authors in Pashtu literature on epic, heroic poems and honor. Epic area historic genera and its history go back to Greek for the first literary epic shaped in Greek.

It is said that some of the tribes do not have an epic, for example, in Arabic there are more honors but there is no epic. Pashtu oral and written literature have more stories and folklores, it is the stories of their tribes that the hero and the setting of the depend on Pashtun situational condition. The epics are formed among the people and spread among the people. These kinds of folklore and stories are properties of their own language. Beside of these stories we have those kinds of stories and traditional folklore that based on the religious, political and social reasons find their wayo our culture and regional people remained us the oral and written
forms of them which are in the form of prose and poetry. It has different themes as love poems, heroic poems, and religious poems and so on.

In Pashtu there are more epics such as Rabia and Fateh Khan, Adam khan and DurKhani.

Epic is the process of those events that is not based on logic and science. There are events which are unnatural and unusual as in the story of Iliad and odyssey there are gradually born of their god. In this work, Homer admires Greek nations and in his work he talks about braveness, resist in the field of fighting. Fight of Troy is the essential topic of Iliad and odyssey. Iliad includes ten years war and last six weeks fighting that happened around (1250Lunar) this war was about the kidnap of Helen by the son of Try. Helen was the woman with face that launched thousand ships. Homer in his work admires his nation through braveness and heroism. The odyssey also tells the story of the perseverance of Penelope, Odysseus’s patient wife. Never does her faith waver in her husband and never does she promise herself in marriage to any of the local suitors. In this epic Odyssey and his wife fight with evil suggestions. After twenty years Odyssey return to his house and his wife did not know him. At last Odyssey starts his new life and in this way the story ends. In Pashtu epic of Adam Khan and DurKhani, Mirogie own self fight with forty athletes. Lay down all of them and sit above them empower the story which shows the braveness and of the night.

Forms of Epics in Pashtu

Ancient Epics: In ancient time ancient epic was created with social behavior custom and culture of the nation at that time. In this case the author has no more attention to innovation. They used the written texts and oral stories and the author connect these stories, anecdotes to complete the epic.

Thematic Epic

The writer finds the topic for themselves or they used the topic or the subject of the ancient epics in new form. In these kinds of epics the writer has innovation and with the consideration of rules and regulation they create their epics. Shaah-Nama and Maha-Bahart are the example of this kind of work.

Numinous Epic

In this kind of epic hero of sprites after the defeat of Giant and the long journey reach to the last achievement which is the (fana fi –allah) In Tazkeratul-awlia the story of Hilaj is A Numinous Epic. During centuries epic in spiritual forms of the literature is a personal, tribal, family courageous fighting stories. Khoshhal Khan Khattak also has epic poems also has this kind of secrets.

If answer with sward you are a man
If someone received annoy with a stick

Khoshhal Khan Khattak happiness would be that time
That the lighting of whitesward comes out

The swards of Khattaks are so trenchant
As a needle goes in the tent of Khiam

It means that much force was in the swards of Khattaks that easily entered the steel.

Khosh-hal Khan Khattak has mentioned the (Hira and Anjam) and Adam Khan and DurKhani epics like this.
There will be no revolt of Ranja in the world  
Fight of Ranja would not be in the world  
If the Hir face was not born  
If the news of Durkhani was not from the face  
What Adam Khan wanted from her in the house? (۵ : ۹۷)  

Shamsudin Majroh ZanZani Epic:  
Majroh in his ZanZani epic introduced the hero of the epic like this. The hero of this story is the robber of the mid nights, because he traveled during the night and wanted to reach the actual meaning of the human life. (۷ : ۱) Here a question is raised for a hero that what is the cause of this calamity? He knows the cause after seeing of the ruined and destroyed city that the cause of this calamity is the personal soul of the human and in soul of the society is that kind of black calamity is raised and this kind of dragon rules that destroy the village of heart and thinking. Dry the spring of life gives the meaning of life that this ZanZani Dragon (it is self-interested and self-intelligence).

One day the day of the night was gray- black .  
I have come out of the city noise  
Doors of the city became closed  
I have walked toward the desert.  
Now Destroyed  
Searched for the lost beach  

In this epic fighting of the hero is with the Dragon and the dragon is that leading of soul toward sin.  
Among the Contemporary epic writers is Abdul Ghfoor Liwal’s (Arshak and Awshash is the greatest sign of the Koshani Period that connect the love of beauty of Bagram (Awshash) and the soldier Paktani (arshak) with the blue waves and deliver it to Abasin. In this poem love, hero patriotic and history make the colorful cradle of the old woman that swing our greatest his story and beautiful.  
Lam or Ilneio: It is saying of are and beautifulness that can be said a lovely epic.  
Epic of Awkak and Zarina : in this kind of poetic epic the girl of the Saqi civilization with care and thinking save Helmand’s water from foreigners and the mentioned Saqi athlete( kak) for the saving of his national principle (Hilmand River) with happiness goes toward the enemy. (۴ : ۱۱)  

II. Conclusion  
Epic in the form of spiritual literature during the centuries is the courage, swards and fighting stories of a person, family, nation and tribe. Most of the nation’s don not have epics but they have heroic poems. Each heroic poem cannot be an epic because an epic is about the courage of a tribe, family and person and praise their works. Epic is connected to the heroic poems because in an epic heroic poems are included. In Pashtu literature we have more folk tales that have the characteristics of an epic as the story of Adam khan and Durkhanai and Fateh khan and Rabia. Also in spiritual epics of the lecturer Shamsudin Majroh (zani Dragon) Khosh-hal Khan Khattak’s heroic poems is mentionable. In contemporary period poetic epics of Abdul Ghfoor Liwal five poetic epics (Deer, ArshkawAwshash, Lam and Ilneew, Kak and Zarina and sultan) is mentionable. It is mentionable that each onelove with the country, with people and devotion in these epics the courage of the hero is praise able. In foreign epic the Iliad and Odyssey is mentionable.
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