The Pain and Romance of the Rainy Season

پروین شاکر

Parveen Shakir (1952-1994) Poet, teacher (for nine years) and civil servant of the government of Pakistan (Custom's Department) and second secretary in Federal Bureau of Revenue in Islamabad. Parveen Shakir is one of the most renowned women poets that emerged after 1947 with intimately feminine voice-some of her *ghazals* carry the vivid impress of a distinctively feminine voice-consistent use of grammatical feminine gender or references to feminine attire and social contexts and a sensibility anchored in a women's experience. She wrote on a range of themes related with a woman's experience. i.e. fantasies and ecstasy of a teenager girl (laṛkī), marital love, sexual intimacy, pregnancy, infidelity, separation and divorce, being a mother. Shakir wrote about a love that is neither self-enthusiastic, nor self-engrossed. It cherishes reciprocity and while it lasts it is notably mutual. She also wrote about her experiences about being a female poet in a male dominated society, patronizing senior poets, predatory critics and intellectuals. One is struck by the autobiographical tone of much of her poetry. She died at quite a young age. Titles of her poetry collections are *khuśhbū* (Fragrance-1977), *sadbarg* (Marigold-1980), *khud kalāmī* (Soliloquy-1984), *inkār* (Refusal-1990), *kaf-e-āina* (The Mirror's Edge). Collection of her four earlier books is named *māh-e-tamām* (Full Moon).

(From an article by Professor CM Naim)

تیرا گھر اور میرا جنگل بھیگتا ہے ساتھ ساتھ ایسی برساتیں کہ بادل بھیگتا ہے ساتھ ساتھ بارشیں جاڑے کی اور تنہا بہت میراکساں جم اور اکلوتا کمبل بھیگتا ہے ساتھ ساتھ

Transliteration

terā ghar aur merā jangal bhīgtā hai sāth sāth aisī barsāteñ ki bādal bhīgtā hai sāth sāth

bāriśeñ jāre kī aur tanhā bahot merā kisāñ jism aur iklautā kambal bhīgtā hai sāth sāth

Translation

Your house and my jungle are drenched together Such are heavy rains that clouds are drenched together

The rains of winter season and my farmer so alone His body and only blanket are drenched together

اب بھی برسات کی راتوں میں بدن ٹوٹنا ہے جاگ اٹھتی میں عجب خواہشیں انگرائی میں

Transliteration

ab bhī barsāt kī rātoñ meñ badan ṭūṭtā hai jāg uṭhtī haiñ 'ajab khvāhiśeñ aṇgṛāī meñ

Translation

Even now in the nights of the rainy season the body aches Strange desires are awakened as I stretch my body

Transliteration

bāriś huī to phūloñ ke tan cāk ho gaye mausam ke hāth bhīg kar saffāk ho gaye

bādal ko kyā <u>kh</u>abar hai ki bāriś kī cāh meñ kaise buland-o-bālā śajar <u>kh</u>āk ho gaye

Translation

It rained and the flowers' bodies were torn apart The weather's hands grew cruel as they got wet

Clouds have no idea how in the desire for the rain Tall, high trees became dust

Transliteration

nam haiñ palkeñ terī ai mauj-e-hawā rāt ke sāth kyā tujhe bhī koī yād ātā hai barsāt ke sāth?

Translation

your eyelashes are wet, O wind, along with night Do you also miss someone with the rainy season?

میر تقی میر آنو جھکتے ہیں آنو جھکتے ہیں اندھیری رات ہے برسات ہے جگو چھکتے ہیں

Transliteration

terī zulf-e-siyah kī yād meñ āñsū jhamakte haiñ añdherī rāt hai barsāt hai jugnū camakte haiñ

Translation

In thinking of your dark tresses, tears glitter Night is dark, it's rainy season and the glow worms twinkle

> داغ دہلوی لیٹ جاتے ہیں وہ بجلی کے ڈرسے الهی پیہ گھٹا دو دن تو برسے

Transliteration

lipat jāte haiñ oh bijlī ke ḍar se ilāhī yeh ghaṭā do din to barse

Translation

Frightened by lightening, she hugs me involuntarily God, may this cloud rain for at least two days

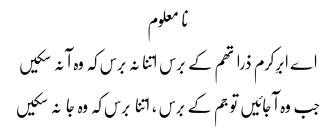
حسرتَ موہانی برسات کے آتے ہی توبہ یہ رہی باقی بادل جو نظرآئے بدلی مری نیت بھی

Transliteration

barsāt ke āte hī taubah na rahī bāqī bādal jo nazar āye badlī merī nīyat bhī

Translation

As soon as the rainy season came, I couldn't stay abstinent As clouds appeared my intentions changed



Transliteration

ai abr-e-karam zarā tham ke baras, itnā na baras ki oh ā na sakeñ jab oh ā jāeñ to jam ke baras, itnā baras ki oh jā na sakeñ

Translation

O bounteous cloud shower lightly, don't rain so hard that she is unable to come When she does come, rain hard, so hard that she is not able to go

Transliteration

mazā barsāt kā cāho to in āñkhoñ ā baiṭho safedī hai, siyāhī hai, śafaq hai, abr-e-bārāñ hai

Translation

If you wish to enjoy the rainy season, come and rest in these eyes
They have whiteness, they have darkness, they have redness, they have a rainy cloud

Transliteration

abr āye, ghaṭā chāye, ilāhī oh bhī ā jāeñ idhar bāriś kī rim-jhim ho, udhar pāzeb kī cham-cham

Translation

If only the clouds would come, cover the sky, And God, may she come too If only rain would patter on this side, and anklets would jingle on that side

بوندیں گریں تو آنکھ میں آنبو بھی آگئے بارش کااس کی یاد سے رشتہ ضرور ہے

Transliteration

būñdeñ girīñ to āñkh se āñsū bhī ā gaye bāriś kā us kī yād se riśtā zarūr thā

Translation

When rain drops fell my eyes were filled with tears There is definitely a connection between the rain and thoughts of her

> رنگ برسات نے بھرے کچھ تو زخم دل کے ہرے ہوئے کچھ تو

Transliteration

rang barsāt ne bhare kuch to zakhm dil ke hare huye kuch to

Translation

The rainy season filled in some colors at least The wounds of the heart blossomed at least

> منیر نیازی شهر کی گلیوں میں گهری تیرگی گریاں رہی رات بادل اس طرح آئے کہ میں تو ڈر گیا

Transliteration

śahr kī galiyoñ meñ gahrī tīragī giriyāñ rahī rāt bādal is tarah āye ki main to ḍar gayā

Translation

In the streets of the city deep darkness kept lamenting Last night clouds came in such a way that I was really frightened اختر ہوشار پوری کچے مکان جتنے تھے بارش میں بہہ گئے ورینہ جو میرا ڈکھ تھا وہ ڈکھ عمر بھر کا تھا

Transliteration

kacce makān jitney the, bāriś meñ bah gaye warnā jo merā dukh thā, oh dukh umr bhar kā thā

Translation

All the mud houses were washed away in the rain Otherwise the pain I had was a lifelong pain

> قتیل شفائی گنگناتی ہوئی آتی میں فلک سے بوندیں کوئی بدلی تری پازیب سے ٹکرائی ہے

Transliteration

gungunātī huī ātī haiñ falak se būňdeñ koī badlī terī pāzeb se ṭakraī hai

Translation

Rain drops are coming from heaven humming Some cloud has collided with your anklet

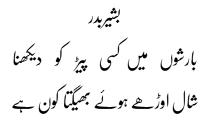
دور تک چھائے تھے بادل اور کمیں سایہ نہ تھا اس طرح برسات کا موسم کبھی آیا نہ تھا

Transliteration

dūr tak chāye the bādal aur kahīñ sāyā na thā is tarah barsāt kā mausam kabhī āyā na thā

Translation

The clouds had gathered for some distance but there was no shade Never before had the rainy season come like this



Transliteration

bāriśoñ meñ kisī per kā bhīgnā śāl orhe huye bhīgtā kaun hai

Translation

In the rainy season just look at a tree Wrapped in shawl, who is drenched?

صبا اکرام چھپ جائیں کمیں آگہ بہت تیز ہے بارش یہ میرے تیرے جم تومٹی کے بے ہیں

Transliteration

chup jāeñ kahīñ ā kī bahot tez hai bāriś yeh mere tere jism to miţṭī ke bane haiñ

Translation

Let's hide somewhere because it's raining hard These bodies of yours and mine are made of clay

> خالد معین عجب پر لطف منظر دیکھتا رہتا ہوں بارش میں بدن جلتا ہے اور میں جھیگتا رہتا ہوں بارش میں

Transliteration

ʻajab pur-lutf manzar dekhtā rahtā hūñ bāriś meñ badan jaltā hai aur maiñ bhīgtā rahtā hūñ bāriś meñ

Translation

Strangely enjoyable scenes I keep seeing in the rains My body burns and I am drenched in the rains

Transliteration

ham se pūcho mizāj bāriś kā ham jo kacce makān wāle haiñ

Translation

Ask us the temperament of the rainy season We, the people with mud houses

سود عثانی حیرت سے تکتا ہے صحرا بارش کے نذرانے کو کتنی دور سے آئی ہے یہ ریت سے ہاتھ ملانے کو

Transliteration

ḥairat se taktā hai saḥrā bāriś ke nazrāne ko kitnī dūr se āyī hai yeh ret se hāth milāne ko

Translation

The desert stares in wonderment at the gift of the rain From what a long distance it has come to shake hands with the sands