

## **Abdullah Jan Jamaldini Life History,**

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### **Abstract:**

*The article narrates the life history of Abdullah Jan Jamaldini, a renowned Balochi writer. The article traces his early life and describe the outstanding characteristics of his personality. The early education, and struggles of the writer and his contribution for the Balochi language are mentioned. The article has mainly used secondary sources for conduct of the study.*

**Keywords:** Abdullah Jan Jamaldini, Literature, Nushki, University

### **Introduction:**

Nushki is that particular area of Balochistan which is intellectually fertile and has produced great personalities in the fields of scholarship, poetry and literature. That is why, people with thirst for knowledge call this land with special love as 'Noshkal'. In fact, it is that fertile region which is best known for its literacy figures and scholars like" poet laureate Gul Khan Naseer, Azath Jamaldini, Ghulam Haider Noshkavi, Khalifa Gul Mohammad Noshkavi, Professor Mir Aqil Khan Mengal, Justice Amir ul Mulk Mengal, Godi Gohar Malik, Maulana Mohammad Afzal Mengal,

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Kafayat Karar (our famous teacher) and scholar Abdullah Jan Jamaldini also belonged to Nushki. Besides this, the land of ours has produced Balochi and Brahui poets such as Bilo, Basham, Reki and Faqir Qaiser Khan Faqirzai.

**Profile of early life of Mama Abdullah Jan Jamaldini:**

He was born on 8<sup>th</sup> May, 1922 and received his preliminary education from his father and completed his primary schooling from Nushki in 1932. Then he took admission in Sandeman High School, Quetta which was transferred to Pishin owing to 1935 earthquake in Quetta. Here he joined the group of Abdul Samad who was the nephew of Allama Abdul Ali Akhondzada. His other friends in Pishin were Kamal Khan Sherani and Dr. Khudai-dad. In 1941 Abdullah Jan and Kamal Khan Sherani took admission in Islamia College, Peshawar. There they became the disciple of famous Pashto poet and novelist Ustad Shaibzada Idrees who shaped their thinking to new directions. They graduated from Peshawar in 1945 and completed their formal education.

Both Abdullah Jan and Sahi Kamal Khan after graduation entered into government service as Naib Tehsildars. Abdullah Jan was posted at Nasirabad and Kamal Khan at Gulistan. But soon they were disillusioned with Government service and Abdullah Jan with his other friends resigned from service and he writes:

“So it was decided that I should take leave for one month and go to Quetta. After completion of leave should tender my resignation. Kamal Khan and Khudai-dad also went back to Quetta. I, applied for one month’s leave and Assistant Political Agent Nasirabad was my immediate senior officer. In fact, my ways and habits were not that of a government employee and he (the Assistant Commissioner) was not happy with me.

Therefore, they accepted the leave application forthwith. I left the Jhat Pat and also quit the job” (Jamaldini).

Mama Abdullah Jan Jamaldini, Sahi Kamal Khan Sherani and Dr. Khudai-dad Khan hired a residence in Balochi street, Quetta and soon this residence was known as 'Lat Khana'. In a way this house became the first informal institution for progressive and enlightened people. The comrades also hired a shop in Suraj Ganj Bazaar, Quetta where besides the stationery items, they stocked books on Marx, Engels, Lenin and other progressive thinkers. But the shop was raided by the government and Marxist literature was confiscated.

Lat Khana continued disseminating progressive thoughts and exchange of ideas with friends and molded Abdullah Jan's outlook towards progressive and Socialist ideals. In 1951, an organization with the name 'Balochi Zuban o- Adab – i Diwan' was established whose President and general Secretary were Mir Gul Khan Naseer and Mama Abdullah Jan Jamaldini, respectively. Mir Gul Khan Naseer's Balochi poetic work was published under the auspices of this organization.

Due to poverty and unemployment, Mama Abdullah Jan went to Karachi and started work as a proof reader in the information department. Then he remained Joint Editor of magazine 'Tulu' till 1970. After resigning from 'Tulu' he came back to Quetta and joined the Balochi Academy where he worked as 'Research Scholar'. After the establishment of the University of Balochistan, Balochi, Brahui and Pashto classes were started. Mama Abdullah Jan was also a candidate for the position of lecturer. Since he was a graduate whereas the requirement for the post was Masters, therefore Dr. Abdul Malik Kasi who was a member of University Syndicate at that time, disclosed to other members that in Pashto language

Ph.D's were available whereas in Brahui and Balochi there were no Master degree holders as there were no M.A classes in Brahui and Balochi. Dr. Malik emphasized that there is no reason (in the absence of Brahui and Balochi Masters) that these languages should not be promoted. Therefore, Abdullah Jan started service in Balochistan University in 1971 and afterwards did Masters

Personality of Abdullah Jan Jamaldini:

Mama Abdullah Jan had a wonderful personality and he was an epoch making man. His students, friends and relations all acknowledge his sincerity and services. Mama badly felt his nation's disdain for education and considered it quite unfortunate. Dr. Atta-ullah Bizenjo comments on Mama's distinct characteristics:

A kind father, an accomplished teacher, an empathetic friend, never frustrating die-hard political worker who stood by his commitments. He was a loving person, young and old, male and female, without distinction of color or race, religion or gender, adored him. We are lucky that we were born in Mama's era and he remained in our middle. Whatever we have learnt is because of Baba which we may not be capable of passing to the coming generations... Baba's story of struggle could be narrated by his old friends but still we could tell something about the long meetings with Mama.' Baba says that we are unfortunate that we do not read. Till now we don't know what is evolution, we are unaware of Science which has transformed the world'.

Mama Abdullah Jan had a great personality. He was conversant with the world at large, its development, the education of other nations, and the backwardness of its own people of the desert. He lamented that we were unlucky and we did not read and get education! As a Professor of Balochi

language he instilled in youth, the love for Balochi language and literature. Many students, teachers, doctors and literary persons are proud of their association with him. He was an all-embracing person without being arrogant and stilted.

Mama's diction was easy to understand and he wrote in the language of common man. His writings are: Dehat ke Gharib, Sardari system in Balochistan, Marg o mena, Lat Khana and Shama Frozan. Besides this, he wrote on literary and political personalities like Mir Mitta Khan Marri, Ghaus Bakhsh Bizenjo, Abdul Karim Shorish, Professor Karar Hussain, Azath Jamaldini, Ghulam Mohammad Shahwani. He was a voracious reader and read literature of different nations. His favorites in Pashto were Rehman Baba, Hafiz and Saadi in Persian and in Urdu he liked Iqbal and Faiz. In Balochi, he read classical poetry of Shai Mureed, Mast Tawakali. He was familiar with the world progressive literature.

Mam's achievements are many. He remained the Chairman of literary institution- Baloch academy, member of the Board of Governors of Academy Adabiat and life-long editor of 'Sangath'. In 1990, he received the Presidential award, in 1991 National book council award and in 1992 Bacha Khan award. He was against the gender differences and he sought economic justice. At last at the age of 94 on September, 2016 he left us forever. Perhaps we may have to wait for hundreds of years to get a luminary like Mama. Dr, Mubarak Ali, says about Abdullah Jan Jamaldini, "He was also our political teacher, all political workers should follow his teachings. He struggled for the improvement of society and laid the foundation of progressive politics. Abdullah was a light for backward and dark Balochistan" (Balochistan Express, 2017)

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