

Pashtoon Nationalism: In the light of Mulla Salam Achakzai's Poetry

Fazal Ashna

M.Phil. Scholar, Department of Pashto, University of Balochistan, Quetta

Abstract:

In this article, the researcher has strived to pinpoint the core of nationalism throughout historical perspective. Notwithstanding, it has also been tried to identify the main reasons of nationalism at global level. While, questions regarding the emergence of nationalism have also been critically discussed and answered scholastically in the paper. Whereas, so far as the question of Pashtoon nationalism is concerned, the scholar has traced its roots in the 17th century hegemony of the Mughal empire over Pashtuns. With the advent of British emergence in subcontinent, consistent oppressions against Pashtuns pave the way to nationalism that is stemmed in the geography, culture, language and people. The early decades of 20th century figured out an outlier Pashto poet, Mulla Salam Ashezai's who perpetuated the notions of Pashtun nationalism in the British controlled area of British Balochistan. He selected poetry as tool to awake the Pashtuns and see the visible and secret missions of British agents in Afghanistan and the so called British Balochistan.

Key words: Pashto Poetry, British India, Mullah Salam Ashezai, Nationalism, South-Pashtoonkhwa.