

Naseem Hijazi

Sharif Hussain (Urdu: شریف حسین), who used the pseudonym **Nasīm Hijāzī** (Urdu: نسیم حجازی, commonly transliterated as **Naseem Hijazi** or **Nasim Hijazi**) (19 May 1914 – 2 March 1996), was an Urdu novelist.^{[1][2]}

Naseem Hijazi



Naseem Hijazi in 1976

Born	Sharif Hussain 19 May 1914 Gurdaspur district, Punjab, British India
Died	2 March 1996 (aged 81) Lahore, Pakistan
Occupation	Novelist
Language	Urdu
Nationality	Pakistani
Notable awards	Pride of Performance Award in 1992

Life and career

Hussain was born in an [Arain](#) family in the village of Sujaanpur, near the town of Dhariwal, in the [Gurdaspur district](#) of Punjab, in pre-partition [India](#). He migrated to [Pakistan](#) after partition in 1947. He chose [Islamic history](#) as the inspiration for his novels.^[3]

Among the notable writers of his time, [Ibn-e-Safi](#), [Saadat Hasan Manto](#), and [Shafiq-ur-Rehman](#) were his popular contemporaries. He lived most of his life in Pakistan and died on 2 March 1996.^{[4][3]}

Naseem Hijazi died on 2 March 1996 at the age of 81 in [Rawalpindi](#), Pakistan.^{[4][1][5]}

Writing

Naseem Hijazi used historic settings as the background for his novels and based most of his work on [Islamic history](#), demonstrating both the rise and fall of the [Islamic Empire](#).^[3] His novels *Muhammad Bin Qasim*, *Aakhri Ma'raka*, *Qaisar-o Kisra*, and *Qafla-i Hijaz* describe the era of Islam's rise to political, militaristic, economic, and educational power, while *Yusuf Bin Tashfain*, *Shaheen*,^[6] *Kaleesa Aur Aag*, and *Andheri Raat Ke Musafir* describe the period of the Spanish [Reconquista](#).

In *Akhri Chataan*, he depicts the [Central Asian](#) conquests of [Genghis Khan](#) and his destruction of the [Khwarizm Sultanate](#).^[3]

Hijazi wrote two sequential novels on the [British Raj](#), and described the shortcomings of many nations within India after the collapse of the [Mughal Empire](#). The novel *Mu'azzam Ali* starts a little before the [Battle of Plassey](#). The lead character, Muazzam Ali, joins the fight against the British with the army of [Siraj-ud-Daula](#). The story progresses as the character moves from one place in India to another in search of lost glory and freedom. He takes part in the [third battle of Panipat](#) and finally settles in [Srirangapattana](#), which is growing in power under the towering personality of [Haider Ali](#). The book ends around the death of Ali. The second book on the battles in the same area, *Aur Talwar Toot Gayee* (And the Sword Broke), is about Haider's son [Sultan Tipu](#), where the same character is finding his dreams being fulfilled in Tipu's valiant endeavours against the [British East India Company](#). The book culminates in Sultan Tipu's sad and untimely martyrdom.^{[3][1]}

Hijazi also wrote the novel *Khaak aur Khoon*, which details the violence caused by religious tensions between Muslims, Sikhs, and Hindus at the time of the partition of [British India](#) and the [Independence of Pakistan](#) in 1947.^{[7][3]}

Although some historians have accused him of distorting historical facts in his novels,^[3] he has influenced many readers inside and outside Pakistan.^[2]

Publications

Title (Roman)	Title (English)	Title (Urdu)	Genre	Historical Period/Events
<i>Khaak aur Khoon</i> ^{[7][1]}	<i>Dirt and Blood</i>	خاک اور خون	Novel	British Indian Empire, Partition of India in 1947, Creation of Pakistan
<i>Yousuf bin Tashfin</i> ^[1]	<i>Yousuf Son of Tashfin</i>	یوسف بن تاشفین	Novel	Al-Andalus, First Taifas period, Almoravid Empire, Spanish Reconquista
<i>Akhari Chattan</i> ^{[2][1]}	<i>The Last Rock</i>	آخری چٹان	Novel	Siege of Jerusalem (1187) – Saladin captures Jerusalem from the Crusaders, Mongol invasion of Khwarezmia and Eastern Iran, Fall of Baghdad (End of Abbasid Caliphate)
<i>Aakhari Maarka</i> ^[2]	<i>The Last Battle</i>	آخری معرکہ	Novel	Invasions of India by Mahmud of Ghazni
<i>Andheri Raat Ke Musafir</i> ^[2]	<i>Travelers of the Dark Night</i>	اندھیری رات کے مسافر	Novel	Spanish Reconquista, Fall of Granada ^[3]
<i>Kaleesa Aur Aag</i> ^[2]	<i>Church and Fire</i>	کلیسا اور آگ	Novel	Spanish Reconquista, Spanish Inquisition, expulsion of the Moriscos - (continued from the end of Andheri Raat Ke Musafir) ^[3]
<i>Muazzam Ali</i>	<i>Muazzam Ali</i>	معظم علی	Novel	British Indian Empire, Battle of Plassey, Third Battle of Panipat, Anglo-Mysore Wars (Hyder Ali's Era)
<i>Aur Talwar Toot Gai</i> ^[2]	<i>And the Sword Broke</i>	اور تلوار ٹوٹ گئی	Novel	Anglo-Mysore Wars (Tipu Sultan's Era - continued from the end of 'Muazzam Ali')
<i>Daastaan-e-Mujahid</i> (1944) ^{[3][2]}	<i>A Soldier's Tale</i>	داستان مجاہد	Novel	Arab Umayyad Caliphate - Muslim Conquest of Al-Andalus, Sindh, Central Asia, and Maghreb
<i>Insaan Aur Devta</i>	<i>Man and God</i>	انسان اور دیوتا	Novel	Ancient India - brutality of upper castes towards lower castes in the Hindu religion

Muhammad Bin Qasim ^[1]	Muhammad Bin Qasim	محمد بن قاسم	Novel	Muslim Conquest of Sindh ^[3]
Pakistan Se Diyar-e-Haram Tak	From Pakistan to Sacred Land	پاکستان سے دیارِ حرم تک	Travelogue	
Pardesi Darakht	The Foreign Tree	پردیسی درخت	Novel	British Indian Empire, a few years before partition of British India
Gumshuda Qaafley ^[2]	The Lost Caravans	گمشده قافلے	Novel	British Indian Empire, Partition of India, Creation of Pakistan - (continued from the end of Pardesi Darakht)
Pouras Ke Hathi ^[2]	Poras's Elephants	پورس کے ہاتھی	Drama	Indo-Pakistani War of 1965 ^[3]
Qafla-e-Hijaz	The Caravan of Hijaz	قافلہ حجاز	Novel	Rashidun Caliphate, Muslim conquest of Persia
Qaisar-o-Kisra ^[1]	Caesar and Cyrus	قیصر و کسریٰ	Novel	Byzantine–Sasanian War of 602–628, Rise of Islam in Arabian Peninsula
Saqafat Ki Talaash	In Search of Culture	ثقافت کی تلاش	Drama, Humor	
Shaheen ^{[6][1]}	The Falcon	شاہین	Novel	Spanish Reconquista, Fall of Granada ^[3] (English translation of Shaheen) (https://www.wattpad.com/story/34239959-naseem-hijazi%27s-shaheen-english-translation)
Sau Saal Baad	100 Years Later	سو سال بعد	Novel, Humor	
Sufaid Jazeera ^[2]	The White Island	سفید جزیرہ	Novel, Humor	

Selected adaptations

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- [Shaheen](#)^{[8][9]}

Awards and recognition

- [Pride of Performance](#) Award by the [President of Pakistan](#) in 1992.^[5]

References

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