

**SHAMSUL ULEMA DR. UMER BIN MOHAMMAD DAUD  
POTA ACADEMIC & LITERARY SERVICES**

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**Abstract**

*Sindh has produced so many literary scholars, saints, poets and wise people who worked for growth and development of Sindh. Among such figures the great scholar whom the history of Sindhi and Persian literature would never forget who cultivated a barren field and sowed seed of fertile on a barren field of literature for the blooming generation of Sindh. Dr. Omer bin Muhammad Daud Poto- a famous research scholar, writer and historian is highly remembered as literary figure in the field of literature for his work and contribution comprised of national and international levels throughout the history among the others, and he was praised for his work due to constant handwork, passion and struggle in the walks of life. Albeit his literary services imparting precious knowledge pertaining to social life and human struggle as well guidance for the people of Sindh. This research article attempts to give clarity of his academic and literary services since his birth till death whatsoever the personal life under poverty confronted with innumerable issues and barrier for life made challengeable life on the Earth. However, the role of different personalities who motivated his life like his teacher and unbearable circumstances which disturbed the matter of life. His unflinching efforts*

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*towards for literature through his life proved his highness of his emotions and thoughts that were extremely nurtured and matured in every mode of expressions witnessing his proof to being conscious in contributing his life for academic and literary services rendering fruitful knowledge for novices in the field of literature.*

**Keywords:** *Dr Umer Bin Mohammad Daudpota, Academic, Literary, Services, Contribution*

### **Introduction: His Life and contribution in field of literature**

Dr Umer Bin Mohammad Daudpota came into this world on 25th March, 1896 A.D in Talti, Taulka Sehwan Sharif, the previous District Dadu, but, the present on newly created District Jamshoro Sindh. (L.Jahai and Revendher ,1991). However, his father Mr. Mohammad Daud Pota worked as a farmer and carpenter. Basically, Dr Umer Bin Mohammad Daupota, acquired the primary education from his native town and for further, education; he moved for larkana in 1914, the then, moved to Madressah school of Naushahro Feroze. After that he matriculated from Sindh-Madrassa-tul-Islam in Karachi. (Syed G.M, 2004). Meanwhile, he studied at D.G Science around 1917, and achieved the first class. He was given 60 rupees discount fellowship per month on the result of his brilliant achievement. (Mehran, 1965). His continuous struggle finally proved that he acquired the second time the first class in M.A from Bombay University in 1921 while receiving chancellor medal such a successful achievement in his career life at the same year. Besides this he went Britain's Cambridge University's Emmanuel College in 1924, and studied three years and completed his dissertation writing on "Influence of Arabic poetry on Persian poetry" ( Mehran, 1965) ,the then , he came back own homeland ,and was appointed him as the principal of Sindh Madrasatul Islam from 1927 to 1930.

(Qasmi Chair, 2008) likewise, he was nominated for fellowship by Bombay university in 1928. And worked as professor at Ismail College, Andheri, Bombay during 1930 to 1939, the then, worked as director of Public Instruction Sindh during 1939 to 1950. Meanwhile he was bestowed with the title of "ShamsulUlama" (Sun of Scholars") From the British Government in 1940.(L. Jahai and Revendher 1991). The then, as the member of Sindh Public Service Commission from 1950 to 1955, Thereof, he started living in Karachi after his retirement in 1956, the then, editor of Sindhi magazine "Mehran" in 1957 and the same year; he went to perform Haj at Makkah. Moreover, he remained in touch

with Fuad University, the then as member of Pakistan-Iran Cultural Society, and founder of Sindh literary Society (Sindh adabi society), Karachi. He worked and edited materials for literature through the contribution of his writings in the shape of several books. A few books are mentioned as below

- 1) Shah Abdul Karim of Bulri
- 2) Abdur Rahim Girhori (a great dervish/wali and scholar of Sindh)
- 3) Sindhi poetry and prose
- 4) Bayan ul Aarifeen
- 5) Common education in India
- 6) On Arabic commentary book and Abyaat Sindhi (Sindhi poetry) of Makhdoom Mohammad Zamaan Lanwaari)
- 7) Edited Shah jo Risalo by Shah Abdul Latif: the great poet of Sindh, comprised of 13 surs meanwhile the remaining surs compiled by Allama Ghulam Mustafa Qasim
- 8) Son baraabersagra (threads equal to gold).

As the above mentioned list of books and furthermore essays and articles contributed for development and growth of literature (Qasim, 2008) Daud Pota carried out his scholarly research work in English, Arabic, research work in English Arabic, Persian and Sindhi languages. His fields of research involved history, poetry, criticism, biography, and religion and Sindhi literature. Hence forth, He produced and contributed more books and essays as well articles shared for knowledge in the field of literature (Moulai Sheedai, 1958). At the last, he left this pleasant world on November, 1958, owing to heart attack in Karachi, and was buried near the tomb of Shah Latif Bhittai Shah

#### **Research methodology:**

Research work focuses on services and contribution of Dr. Daud Pota and unflinching struggle throughout life in pursuit of knowledge and fact behind it. As the historical approach is applied in this article because it is comprised of such techniques and guidelines which help to get knowledge from the primary sources like books, journals, articles and magazines witnessing the fact and evidence of material in order to write up on specific topic covering the historical perspective point of view.

#### **LITERARY SERVICE OF UMAR BIN MUHAMMAD DAUD POTA**

Human History exposes the struggle and achievement of person on this world. Broadly explaining that his own autobiography which later on was published by

his wife named Khadija Khanum Daud Pota after the departure of husband's soul from this temporary world. Meanwhile Cultural Department of Sindh set up a library putting up his name as Allama Daud Pota library in Hyderabad near Rani Bag. Dr. Umar Daud Pota entered in the field of writing and editing in 1922, prior to it, he wrote the different articles for newspapers, the then for books. However, the preface of Sarhgul witnessing the excellent approach of his writing and embodied with classical theme having explanatory notes in 1934. Whereas the first article published in monthly Mehran research journal under the title "Adabi Sangat" in January 1946. (Moulai Sheedai, 1958)

The main theme of Sarhagul points out the affiliation, affection and reflection with Pir Sahib and loving teacher-Professor Hoot chand Mool chand Gurbahastia who guided in matters of writings and nurtured his personality and filled the gap in educational learning (Moulai Sheedi, 1958), furthermore, he always praised the efforts and struggles of his loving and highly learned teacher in the walks of life and had a great respect, reverence and honor in his heart. The article published in Al-Waheed's Independence number of 14th August 1949 under the title "Asn Ji Sindhi Zuban". In such the article, he admired Sindhi, earnestly and beautifully that proved his eternal love and respect for Sindhi. Hence the work of compilation pertaining to articles under the title Muzmoon-Aeen-Maqala (edited Khaliyan Khaman Daud Pota) and Soum Barabs Sangra edited by Dr. Anwar Figar Hakro the then, published. Irrespective to it, during the tenure of study in Bombay he wrote "Tareekh-e-Mausumi, Chach Nama, and Bayan-ul-Aarifeen", and other eight more made published. Well-known literary scholars have appreciated the research work of Daud Pota sahib remarkably by Moulana Abul Kalam Azad acknowledging through "Land of Sindh yet not deprived of researchers and scholars." A famous Sindhi scholar -Moulana Ghulam Muhammad Qasmi entitled him with great scholars of 11th and 12th centuries focusing on Hijra, Imam Abul Hassan Kasmī, Muhammad Hayat, Makhdoom Moeen, Makhdoom Muhammad Hashim Thattaiv and other faqhees and scholars. Such highly learned people brought Sindh at the level of world literature along with Islamic world. Meanwhile the Ulemas were headed as great teachers and Shukhus. During the reign of British Government, subcontinent was made colonized at the same slot, Umar bin Muhammad Daud Pota was tilted with a great reverence (Moulai Sheedai, 1958). As Sindh was parted from Bombay, he accepted the offer of Sindh government and joined as Director of Public Insurrections till 1959. Since then, his tenure of achievements can be summed up as below:

1. Education re structured
2. Education for Adults
3. Transformation the administrative system of Primary Schools from Local Boards and Municipalities to Sindh Government.
4. Set up schools imparting knowledge in Arabic
5. Struggle and effort for University for Sindh.

Generally, He was working as director, the then member of Sindh Public Service commission and could not give much more time to writings for the different purposes due to services.

In 1954, Sindh was annexed in Punjab. He joined Public Service Commission in Lahore for one year. He worked for his nation irrespective to reward and remuneration. He used to get books for studies from the earned salaries and also helped needy ones. As the result of it, he had no enemy and possessed a soft heart for others. When Mr, Khero Sahib initiated movement for the separation of Sindh from Bombay, he remained stable and stagnant for his aims in spite of the opposition from different factions of society. Pro government personalities avoided Khero Sahib, because of fear felt from him, and isolated from the Commissioner Ms. Themes Once a dinner was arranged to tribute Khero Sahib. Khan Bahadur Hussain's grandson. The number of famous personalities were invited, the most of them did not attend the party owing to some urgent pieces of work. Except two personalities attended the invitation of dinner like Mir Banda Ali Talpur and Dr. Daud Pota Sahib. Someone questioned him for being present at dinner and how he managed his previous time for dinner the then, replied "Allah Al-Mighty has not granted his authority to Commissioner, so that I may fear from him." (Shaikh Muhammad Ismaeel, 1991). In fact, Sindh may get separation and restore her the previous status in history so as to glance over the past glorious era of Sindh from it one can learn lesson of life historical perspective point of views. He never got tired in lieu of contribution of writing which was need for the people of that time, His utmost struggle was to enrich Sindhi language and avoid amalgamating it from the influence of other languages making it pure and perfect for sake of Sindhi people. His motives for writings were to develop spiritualism among masses of Sindh, and focused on the important of spirit by dint of education. His compete devotion in regard to teaching and writing were made to purify Sindhi language from the amalgamation of Hindi and Sanskrit. (Syed G.M ,2004). Sindh had precious no college for imparting Knowledge to young ones of society. As per directives and struggles, exhorted him to upgrade Sindh Madarsatul Islam to College during the minister ship of PirIlahi Bakhsh. When Sindhi Adabi Board was established Dr. Umar Daud Pota Sahib in the capacity of the member of its working committee with Pir

Hussamuddin Rashdi and other members proposed a program which was assigned following tasks:

1. Re-write History of Sindh or Sindhi's;
2. To prepare an authentic Sindhi dictionary;
3. To compile Shah-jo-Risalo, so that it is not only complete but also authentic;
4. To publicize manuscript of ancient Sindh;
5. Translate important books of other languages in Sindhi and published them.

Responsibilities and assignments for the various scholars among them outstanding figure Allama Daud Pota was given a task to prepare manuscript of Shah-jo-Risalo. Dr. Sahib works are manifold and numerous as a few books mentioned below:

- a. Shah-jo-Risalo
- b. Murrhid-al-Mubtahadiilal-
- c. Murrhid-al-Mubtahadiilal-Lisanual Arab award

In Bombay College, Dr. Allama Daud Pota worked for a journal to teach Arabic to Children. The journal was furnished with modern techniques. The lessons comprised of the different chapters and exercises. This journal consists of 20 exercises.

Muarif No. 4

Dawah-al-Bayat Boston

7. Nafhat Hafiz Mutakhabat
8. Ayas-e-Danish
9. Siasat Nama
10. SafarnamaKhsru
11. Roshan Shabnam Nain Khusro
12. Sindhi Nama AearNazar joIntekhab
13. BayanatArifeen
14. Sindhi Nazam 1944
15. Aghaz-e-Farsi
16. English translation of Ibn-e-KhuldoonMuqademah
17. ArabiAdabbaaenTamaddun understanding (English)
18. Shah-jo-Risalo- Sindhi Adabi Board and many more.

### **Title of “SHAMSUL ULEMA” (*The Sun of Scholars*)**

In 1945, for the recognition of his services rendered in the field of learning and literature, he was awarded the title “*ShamsulUlema*” by British government. He was fourth scholar of Sindh to get the title.

### **Conclusion:**

Dr Allama Daud Pota no doubt remained a great writer, historian and scholar in a domain of literature. Albeit being poverty-stricken boy of poor farmer and carpenter in the family ground had never felt sort of shames in hardworking and finding out the way for happy life. His journey for acquiring the basic education from native town and moved to cities for higher seat of learning remained stable and valid throughout his life. He had great taste for learning and developing skills in the field literature like prose and poetry. He had an enormous knowledge of slot at these days, and contributed a loft for developing literature of high qualities. He studied at native country the then, abroad for higher education after that served at high level of posts in the country throughout his life, and devoted his life in lieu of development and spread of literature, furthermore, worked for betterment of Sindh language for that he had a great love and reverence in heart. He was bestowed with the title of “*ShamsulUlema*” Finally, his departure from this world took place due to sudden heart attack, and buried at Bhit Shah.

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