

Classic Poetry Series

**Kaykobad
- poems -**

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Kaykobad(1858–1952)

Kaykobad (Bengali: কায়কোবাদ; also spelt Kaikobad) or Mohakobi Kaykobad (Kaykobad the great poet) was the pen name of the poet Kazem Ali Quereshi.

 Background

Kaikobad was a Bengali epic poet and writer. He was born in 1857 in the village of Agla in the Upazila of Nawabganj, in the district of Dhaka, in what is now Bangladesh. He was the son of Shahamatullah Al Qureshi, a lawyer at the Dhaka District Judge Court.

Kaikobad studied at Pogose School and ry School in Dhaka. He then went to Dhaka Madrasah where he studied up to the Entrance Examination. However, he did not sit for the examinations, returning instead to his native village to take up the job of postmaster, where he worked until his retirement. In 1932, he presided over the main session of the Bangiya Muslim Sahitya Sammelan in Kolkata.

 Works

Kaikobad revealed his poetic genius early. His Birahabilap was published in 1870, when he was about thirteen. Kaikobad was influenced by the epics written by hemchandra banerjee and nabinchandra sen and, in 1904, published Mahashmashan (The Great Crematorium), based on the Third Panipat War. The epic, which shows the destructive nature of war in both victory and defeat, is considered his masterpiece.

Kaikobad's other works include Kusumakanan (1873), Ashrumala (1895), Shivamandir (1922), Amiyadhara (1923), Shmashanabhasma (1924) and Maharram Sharif (1932). His Premer Phul (1970), Premer Vani (1970), Prem Parijat (1970), Mandakini Dhara (1971) and Gauchh Paker Premer Kunja (1979) were published posthumously. The Bangla Academy published his complete works as Kaikobad Rachanabali (Writings of Kaikobad) in three volumes (1994–95).

Kaikobad's literary inspiration derived from his desire to make the backward Muslims aware of their rich tradition and heritage and thereby help restore their glory. However, he also wrote on religious issues of both Hindus and Muslims. For his literary achievements, the Nikhil Bharat Sahitya Sangha awarded him the titles of 'Kavyabhusan', 'Vidyabhusan' and 'Sahityaratna'. He died on 21 July

1951 and was buried at the Azimpur Graveyard in Dhaka.

Azan

Kaykobad

Bongovumi O Bongovasha

Kaykobad

Desh Bani

Kaykobad

Pronoyer Prothom Chumbon

Kaykobad