



# CUSIT-brary

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**City University of Science and IT  
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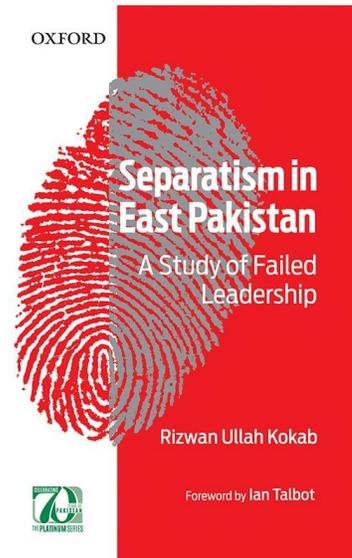
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## Book of the Month

**Separatism in East Pakistan**

**A Study of Failed Leadership**

**Rizwan Ullah Kokab**



**Separatism in East Pakistan: A Study of Failed Leadership** provides an academic perspective on the Bengali nationalist movement, the seeds of which were sown in the 1940s. Being an original work by the author, the book aims to record the growth of the Bengali nationalist movement and shortcomings of Pakistani leaders in accommodating it. This scholarly empirical appraisal is a vital addition to the available literature on post-Partition history of the events leading from 1947 up to the breaking up of Pakistan and the creation of Bangladesh in 1971.

### ***AUTHOR DESCRIPTION***

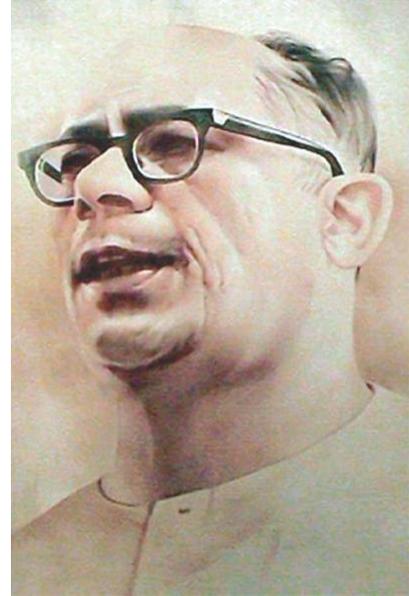
**Dr Rizwan Ullah Kokab** is an Assistant Professor at the Government College University, Faisalabad. He is currently completing his post-doctoral research from the University of Edinburgh. Kokab has been a researcher at the Pakistan Study Centre, University of the Punjab. His research interests span modern South Asia, the early history of Pakistan, the various mass movements since its inception, foreign relations, and the development of Islam in the subcontinent. He has authored several papers on movements throughout history in South Asia.

## Personality of the Month

Akhtar Hameed Khan

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**Akhter Hameed Khan** was a Pakistani development practitioner and social scientist. He promoted participatory rural development in Pakistan and other developing countries, and widely advocated community participation in development. His particular contribution was the establishment of a comprehensive project for rural development, the Comilla Model (1959). It earned



him the Ramon Magsaysay Award from the Philippines and an honorary Doctorate of law from Michigan State University.

In the 1980s he started a bottom-up community development initiative of Orangi Pilot Project, based in the outskirts of Karachi, which became a model of participatory development initiatives. He also directed many programmes, from microcredit to self-finance and from housing provision to family planning, for rural communities and urban slums. It earned him international recognition and high honours in Pakistan. Khan was fluent in at least seven languages and dialects. Apart from many scholarly books and articles, he also published a collection of poems and travelogues in Urdu.

### Early career

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Khan was born on 15 July 1914 in Agra. He was among the four sons and three daughters of Khansaahib Ameer Ahmed Khan and Mehmoodah Begum. His father,

a police inspector, was inspired by the reformist thinking of Syed Ahmed Khan. In his early age, Khan's mother introduced him to the poetry of Maulana Hali and Muhammad Iqbal, the sermons of Abul Kalam Azad, and the Sufist philosophy of Rumi. This upbringing influenced his interest in historical as well as contemporary social, economic, and political affairs.

Khan attended Government High School at Jalam (Uttar Pradesh), and completed his education in 1930 at Agra College where he studied English literature and history. He read English literature, history, and philosophy for a Bachelor of Arts degree at Meerut College in 1932. Khan continued his studies and was awarded a Master of Arts in English Literature from Agra University in 1934. He worked as a lecturer at Meerut College before joining the Indian Civil Service (ICS) in 1936.

Khan married Hameedah Begum (the eldest daughter of Allama Mashriqi) in 1940. Together, they had three daughters (Mariam, Amina, and Rasheeda) and a son (Akbar). After Hameedah Begum's death in 1966, he married Shafiq Khan and had one daughter, Ayesha. During his ICS career, Khan worked as collector of revenue, a position that brought him into regular contact with living conditions in rural areas of East Bengal. The Bengal famine of 1943 and subsequent inadequate handling of the situation by the colonial rulers led him to resign from the Indian Civil Service in 1945. He wrote, "I realised that if I did not escape while I was young and vigorous, I will forever remain in the trap, and terminate as a bureaucratic big wig." During this period, he was influenced by the philosophy of Nietzsche and Mashriqi, and joined the Khaksar Movement. This attachment was brief. He quit the movement and turned to Sufism. According to Khan, "I had a profound personal concern; I wanted to live a life

free from fear and anxiety, a calm and serene life, without turmoil and conflict. when I followed the advice of old Sufis and sages, and tried to curb my greed, my pride and aggression, fears, anxieties and conflict diminished."

### **Rural development initiatives**

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During his tenure as principal of Comilla Victoria College, Khan developed a special interest in grassroots actions. Between 1954 and 1955, he took a break to work as director of the Village Agricultural and Industrial Development (V-AID) Programme. However, he was not satisfied with the development approach adopted in the programme that was limited to the training of villagers. In 1958, he went to Michigan State University to acquire education and training in rural development. Returning in 1959, he established the Pakistan Academy for Rural Development (PARAD) at Comilla on 27 May 1959 and was appointed as its founding director. He also laid foundations for the Comilla Cooperative Pilot Project in 1959. In 1963, he received a Ramon Magsaysay Award from the Government of the Philippines for his services in rural development. Khan became Vice-chairman of the board of Governors of PARAD in 1964, and in the same year, was awarded an honorary Doctorate of law by Michigan State University.<sup>[16]</sup> In 1969, he delivered a series of lectures at Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, based on his experience with rural cooperatives. During the visit, he established collaborative links with Arthur Lewis.

### **Advisory roles**

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Following his move to Pakistan, Khan was asked to implement the Comilla Model in rural settlements of North-West Frontier Province (now Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Punjab,

and Sindh. He declined the offer on the grounds that the proposals were predominantly motivated by political interests rather than the common well-being. However, he continued to advise the authorities on various aspects of rural development, such as participatory irrigation management. He worked as a research fellow at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad from 1971 to 1972, and as Director of Rural Economics Research Project at Karachi University from 1972 to 1973. Khan went to Michigan State University as a visiting professor in 1973 and remained there until 1979. During this time, he carried on advising the Rural Development Academy at Bogra in northern Bangladesh, and the Pakistan Academy for Rural Development, Peshawar, on the Daudzai Integrated Rural Development Programme. He also traveled extensively during this period in the capacities of speaker, advisor, or consultant on rural development programmes across the world. In 1974, he was appointed as a World Bank consultant to survey rural development situations in Java, Indonesia. He also briefly worked as a visiting professor at Lund University, Harvard University, and Oxford University.

### **Death**

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In 1999, Khan was visiting his family in the United States when he suffered from kidney failure. He died of myocardial infarction on 9 October in Indianapolis at the age of 85. His body was flown to Karachi on 15 October, where he was buried on the grounds of the OPP office compound.

### **Legacy**

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Khan's ideology and leadership skills were a source of inspiration for his students and colleagues, and continue to serve as guiding principles even after his death. Edgar Owens, who became an admirer of Khan's ideology while working at USAID's Asia

Bureau, co-authored a book with Robert Shaw as a result of observations and discussions with Khan at Comilla Academy. A later study of various rural development experiences from South Asia, edited by Uphoff and Cambell (1983) was jointly dedicated to Khan and Owens.

Soon after Khan's death, on 10 April 2000, the Government of Pakistan renamed the National Centre for Rural Development the Akhter Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development and Municipal Administration.

Later in 2005, the Council of Social Sciences, Pakistan, in collaboration with the National Rural Support Programme and other institutions, announced the Akhter Hameed Khan Memorial Award. The annual cash award is given on Khan's birthday to a Pakistani author for a book on issues related to rural and urban development, peace, poverty alleviation, or gender discrimination. At the occasion of the award ceremony in 2006, a documentary film about the life and times of Akhter Hameed Khan was premiered. The film includes archival footage and interviews with family members, colleagues, and contributors and beneficiaries of the Comilla and OPP projects.

The Akhter Hameed Khan Resource Centre was established in Islamabad, under the auspices of the Institute of Rural Management, as a repository of published and digital resources on rural development. Although the Akhter Hameed Khan Resource Center (AHKRC) was initially formed in 2010 as a repository of works and writings by Khan and his mentee Shoaib Sultan Khan; since 2015 the resource center transitioned into an NGO that has established an experimental site in urban development in Dhok Hassu, Rawalpindi. The site builds on lessons from the OPP and Comilla Academy and uses the research and extension and participatory development approaches.

## Awards and honours

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Khan received the following civil awards:

- Jinnah Award (Posthumous, 2004) for services to people as founder of the Orangi Pilot Project.
- Nishan-e-Imtiaz (Posthumous, 2001) for services to the community.
- Ramon Magsaysay Award (31 August 1963, Manila, Philippines) for services to rural development.
- Sitara-e-Pakistan (1961) for pioneering work in rural development.

## Publications

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Khan was fluent in Arabic, Bengali, English, Hindi, Pali, Persian, and Urdu. He wrote several reports and monographs, mostly relating to rural development in general or his various successful and model initiatives in particular. He also published collections of poems and travelogues in Urdu.

### In English

- 1956, *Bengal Reminances, vol 1, 2 & 3*. Comilla Academy (now the Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development), Comilla, Bangladesh.
- 1965, *Rural Development in East Pakistan, Speeches By Akhter Hameed Khan*. Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University.
- 1974, *Institutions for rural development in Indonesia*, Pakistan Academy for Rural Development. Karachi.
- 1985, *Rural development in Pakistan*. Vanguard Books. Lahore.

- 1994, *What I learnt in Comilla and Orangi*. Paper presented at the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) seminar. Islamabad.
- 1996, *Orangi Pilot Project: Reminiscences and Reflections*. The Oxford University Press: Karachi. (editions: 1996, 1999, 2005). ISBN 978-0-19-597986-2
- 1997 *The sanitation gap: Development's deadly menace*. The Progress of Nations. UNICEF.
- 1998, Community-Based Schools and the Orangi Project. In Hoodbhoy, P (ed.), *Education and the State: Fifty Years of Pakistan*, Chapter 7, Karachi: Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0-19-577825-0
- 2000, *Twenty Weeks in America: A Diary, 3 September 1969 – 21 January 1970*. Translated from Urdu by Aqila Ismail. City Press. ISBN 969-8380-32-9

### **In Urdu**

- 1972, *Safar-e-Amrika ki Diary* (A Diary of Travels in America). The City Press: Karachi. 2nd Edition: Atlantis Publications, Karachi 2017.
- 1988, *Chiragh aur Kanwal* (Collection of poems in Urdu). Saad Publishers. Karachi.

## **Functions and objectives of special library**

### **Special Library**

In 20th century with the development of industrial, technological and scientific advances the concept of special libraries came in to existence. The growing need for specialized information further development and research came to play a vital role in the expansion of special libraries.

Special Library is a library, which collects updated and comprehensive information on the subject concerned with the parent organization and disseminate this information promptly to the people associated with the organization on demand and in anticipation. Besides this, one other factor is that a special library develops its major collection on some special subject or field.

For example: National Science Library, National Library of Medicine, Libraries of government and non-government organizations like Parliament Library etc.

### **Objectives of Special Library:**

The main objectives of a special library are as follows:

1. It serves the information needs of its parent body;
2. It disseminates updated and significant information in the concerned field;
3. It gives pinpointed information promptly;
4. It provides desired information to its users on demand and mostly in anticipation;
5. The users also get new ideas and inspiration to initiate new projects.

### **Functions of special library:**

A special library performs primarily the following functions:

- It selects and procures documents and other sources of relevant information;
- It processes the procured information or documents with the help of classification, cataloguing, shelf arrangements etc. to make them easily available for the users;
- It subscribes to a good number of journals related to its area;
- It provides indexing and abstracting services to the users to save their time;
- It provides reference services to the users by telephone, by post or by email;
- It gives current awareness service (CAS) regarding new arrivals and latest services to the users;
- It provides Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) services to the users as per their subject interest and requirement;
- It also gives document delivery service to its user;
- It brings out library bulletins weekly/ fortnightly/ monthly to keep the users up to date with latest information;
- It gives translation services to provide the desired information to the users in their convenient language;
- It also provides internet as well as internet facility to the users in order to access the library collection and catalogue at their desktop;
- It responds to the reference queries and make retrospective search of literature as per users demand;

- It compiles bibliographies, union catalogues, documentation lists, newspaper-clippings, accession lists etc. to save the time of its users; and
- It provides inter library loan facility to the users.

### **Book Selection policy of Special Library**

Special Library is a library or information center, maintained by an individual, corporation, association, government agency or any other group; or a specialized or department collection within a library. For the development of its collection, special library maintain some selection policies. This includes:

1. Selection policies of special library must be established within the form of the libraries stated objectives.
2. The subject coverage special libraries collection must be intensive and extensive. The collection mixed the current anticipated information requirements of library clientele.
3. It is advisable to have a library committee consisting of specialist who can give advice on book selection and purchase.