

**“THE RESISTANCE POETRY OF MAHMUD DARWISH AND QAZI  
MUHAMMED: A COMPARATIVE STUDY”**

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## **THE RESISTANCE POETRY OF MAHMUD DARWISH AND QAZI MUHAMMED: A COMPARATIVE STUDY**

### **Introduction:**

Resistance poetry is the literary manifestation of the resistance power of an oppressed population. It is disgracing and distressing for any nation that stands for peace and freedom to be overpowered by foreign imperialist powers. Then a resistance movement would come up from its men of letters is quite natural. There will be writers in that land, who revolt against this kind of foreign aggression through their creative contributions to invigorate the different ways of its resistant movements. Two such great poets, who keep similarity in this form of literature are Mahmud Darwish ( 1941 – 2008) and Qazi Muhammed (1577 – 1616). When Mahmud Darwish, the Palestine national poet, led a literary and resistant movement of Palestinians against the Zionist propaganda and Israel, Qazi Muhammed, an Arabic writer from Kerala who lived in the Sixteenth century, used his pen against the Portuguese colonization in Malabar.

**Mahmoud Darwish** (1941-2008), the most important contemporary Arab poet of the modern world, was born in Palestine. He travelled almost around the globe for his educations and his literary works. He worked in ‘Al Ahram’ newspaper (Egypt), journal ‘Palestine issues’ (Lebanon) and as director of Palestine Research Centre and he was a member in the executive committee of PLO.

Darwish’s poems are well known throughout the world. He has published around 30 prose and poetries which have been translated to more than thirty languages. He was the founder and the chief editor of ‘Al Karmel’, the most popular literary review.

Darwish was known as the essential breath of the Palestine people and a bright light to the world and he was an utterly necessary voice. He was harassed by Israeli military governor for writing and reciting poems, thus he realized that how the poem can be threat to the sword. This harassment from the side of Israel continued until 1970, when he left to Moscow. During the Palestine Intifada in Ramallah, he spent most of his time and wrote extraordinary poems of resistance “Mohammad”, “The Sacrifice”, and “The State of Siege”.

He published his very first poetry work in his 22<sup>nd</sup> age. Then almost of his poems were the depiction of the conditions they faced in Palestine then. He had written on love and death also. We can see that mainly he was clearing his stand towards Palestine through most of his poems.

**Qadi Muhammed** the great scholar and prolific poet, was born in Kittichira, Kozhikkod. He started his primary educations at his home itself. Then he mastered in astronomy, astrology, philosophy and arithmetic and in religious subjects as well like Qur’an, Hadeeth, Fiqh...etc. He was appointed as judge of city of Kozhikkod by the king Samoothiri.

Qadi Muhammed was an eminent writer who contributed around fifty books to the world, but unfortunately only very few of them have reached us, such as *ملتقط الفرائض، نظم الأجناس، نظم قطر الندى، منظومة في علم الأفلاك والنجوم، فتح المبين...* etc. His poems feature from others by his way of expressions of emotions and imaginations. He advises the people religiously and socially through his poems. His icon poem *فتح المبين* a depiction of the painful resistance of Muslims under the rule of the king Samoothiri who had a good relation with Muslims then, and the arrival of Portuguese to Kerala and its after effects. His poems differ with its effectiveness in picturing the history and the recent conditions there and in apprising the deserved and pleading for the rights.

## **Objectives**

1. The study aims at examining how both the writers shared the feel of colonial and imperialist writing experience.
2. The research also purports to undertake a comparative analysis of the resistance elements in the poetry of Darwish and Qazi Muhammed.
3. The study seeks to answer questions like, how the poetry of these poets influenced the resistance movements in Palestine and Malabar.

## **Summary of the findings and Conclusion**

Though there is gap of centuries between the period of Qadi Muhammed and Mahmoud Darwish, a large quantum of similarities is seen in their poetic art of resistance (Muqawama).

Qadi Muhammed was urging the suffering people to fight against the Portuguese domination through his poetry. At the same time Darwish was writing for the sake of recognition in the field of resistance poetry and in literature in general, rather than motivating the people. However the rebellious people motivated by them.

Darwish was recognized in this field as he wished, Qadi Muhammed, his poetic works and service to the community is being recognized and cherished even of the centuries.