

DegreeLive

B.Com Honours

Semester I

Calicut University

Additional Language - Malayalam or Hindi or Arabic or French

Course Code: AEC2 • Module 3 Notes

1. Literary Appreciation: Classical and Modern Poetry

Poetry represents the height of artistic expression in any language. Appreciating poetry requires understanding the historical context, rhyme scheme, meter, and key metaphors. This module covers the elements of poetic composition in Malayalam, Hindi, Arabic, and French literature, and explores traditional vs. modern poetic trends.

Poetic Structures across Languages

Regional Metres & Forms

- **Hindi & Malayalam:** Hindi uses *Dohe* (couplets) and *Chhand* (meter), while Malayalam poetry is traditionally built on Sanskrit *Vrittas* or native Dravidian songs (*Pattu*).
- **French & Arabic:** French utilizes syllabic meter (e.g., Alexandrine) and rhyme schemes, while classical Arabic poetry uses the *Qasida* format with strict rhythmic meters (*Bahr*).

Poetic Devices

- **Alankara (Figures of Speech):** Rich use of metaphors, similes, and exaggeration to heighten emotion (Rasa).
- **Imagery:** Nature, spiritual devotion, and social commentary are common themes across all language traditions.

Evolution: Traditional to Modern Poetry

Poetry has evolved significantly:

- **Traditional Poetry:** Characterized by strict rules, religious or mythological themes, and formal diction (e.g., Bhakti movement in Hindi, classical court poetry in Arabic).
- **Modern Poetry (Free Verse):** Breaks away from strict rhyme and meter to focus on contemporary social realities, political protest, and individual psychology.

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