**Abstract**

Urdu is a standardised register of the Hindustani language and has become popular after the establishment of Muslim rule in North India. It originated from Shauraseni, a middle Indo-Aryan language which is the predecessor of other modern languages. Urdu poetry or *shairi* has a rich tradition and is marked by true feelings and sentiments. It has many different forms, with *ghazal* being the most important one. Urdu *ghazals* have been widely translated owing to their popularity.

Shama Futehally (1952-2004) was born in Bombay and studied English at the universities of Bombay and Leeds. Her translation of Meera’s *Bhajans*, *In the Dark of the Heart: Songs of* *Meera*, was published in San Francisco. She has published two novels in New Delhi- *Tara Lane* and *Reaching Bombay Central*. Her translation of Urdu *ghazals*, *Silvers of a Mirror*: *Glimpses of the Ghazal* (2005) attempts to capture the best qualities of the *ghazal* in a contemporary voice.

*Ghazal* is an Arabic word which literally means talking to women. Itis a love-poem which initially addressed human love and later reached for the divine. It is often infused with music and has become a form of entertainment. This paper attempts to explore the theme of love in the select Urdu *ghazals* translated in English by Shama Futehally.