

ASHURKA SURAJ KEH DEGA



By Abdulrazak Fazal Updated: September 2020



Click on above to listen to the Marsia

This 'marsia' is deeply poignant. The portion of the video's background contemplates the serenity of the countryside and the sadness of Muharram. The ritual observance of Muharram is very much evident among India and Pakistan's remote UP, Bihar, Punjab and Sindh rural communities. That reminds of the Indian film 'Gaman'. Muzaffar Ali, the Director of the National Award-winning film 'Gaman', portrays Smita Patil rendering a 'marsia' in a somber tone and beautifully capturing the echo of the Muharram procession resounding back. The picturization of the echo then dying away moves you to tears.

The month of Muharram as usual evokes mournful memories for us old timers. Having spent Muharram in the past in places like Zanzibar, Bombay, Karachi, and Dubai the memories vividly illustrate the environment. They had an aura of sadness. The hectic activity in Zanzibar rushing from one 'mehfil' to another, sitting in a Karachi restaurant in the evening over a cup of tea and listening to a soulful 'soz' being broadcast on the radio before making my way to Khalidina

Hall for a 'majlis' by Allama Rashid Turabi, candles being lit on every grave in Bombay's Rehmatabad cemetery (where actresses Meena Kumari and Nimmi are buried) on the eve of 'Shame Ghariba' and a lengthy queue of beggars outside the cemetery seeking alm or the 'Sabil' spot opposite my residence in Dubai and the volunteers stopping the passing by vehicles to offer a glass of 'sharbat' in memory of the martyred imam to those seated inside the car and the traffic almost coming to a halt. Ah memories! YA HUSAIN!

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