***Nayi Kavita* (New Poetry)**

Nikhil Govind

*Nayi Kavita* (New Poetry) is associated with Agyeya (1911-1987) and the seven poets published in Agyeya’s 1943 collection *Tar Saptak* (a musical term for the higher octave). Agyeya went on to edit three other anthologies titled Second (1951), Third (1959), and Fourth (1979) *saptaks*. The prefaces written by Agyeya and the poets became famous in their own right. Here, Agyeya probed the place of modernism and tradition, of literary groupings and manifestos, of form and registers of language. Agyeya also insisted that no single criteria or aim unified their diverse formal and thematic experimentations. All the other poets of that collection were to become venerable figures in Hindi literature—Nemichandra Jain, Bharat Bhushan Agrawal, Prabhakar Machwe, Girirajkumar Mathur and Ramvilas Sharma. But perhaps the most famous find of the first anthology was the young Muktibodh(1917-1964). Muktibodh’s theorizations of many of these questions that engaged Agyeya, were to give the New poetry in Hindi a robust intellectual infrastructure from where poets of later generations in the 1960s and 1970s could initiate points of departure. Though New Poetry is often contrasted to the poetry of the Progressives which engaged social inequality, it is more meaningful to contrast New Poetry with the generation of the 1920s and 1930s—the Chayavadi poets (Chayavadi literally means poets of shadows). That older generation, writing in the noon of nationalism, asked the same questions of tradition, appropriate thematics, language and sound, and came up with a very different set of answers.

**Timeline**

1943: Publication of *Tar Saptak*

1944: Establishment of *Parimal*,a group of young authors based in Allahabad.

1951: establishment of *Alochana,* a journal dedicated to criticism. Publication of Second *Saptak*.

1952: In an interview to Patna Radio, Agyey announces the arrival of *Nayi Kavita.*

1953: *Parimal* organises a conference on *Nayi Kavita* in Allahabad.

1954: Publication of the literary magazine *Nayi Kavita (1954-67).*

1959: Publication of third *Saptak*.

1979: Publication of fourth *Saptak*.

**Bibliography:**

Kunwar Narayan

*Chakravyuh* (1956)

*Parivesh Hum Tum* (1961)

*Atmajayi* (1965).

Raghuveer Sahay

*Seedhiyon Par Dhoop Mein* (1959)

*Aatmahatya ke Viruddh* (1967)

Bharat Bhushan Aggarwal

*Jaagte Raho*(1942)

*O Aprastut Prashna* (1958)

Sarveshwar Dayal Saxena

*Kaath Ki Ghanti* (1959)

Prabhakar Machawe

*Maple* (1957)

Girijakumar Mathur's Manjari

*Droop ke Dhan* (1955)

*Shila Pankh Chamkeele* (1961)

*Jo bandh nahi saka* (1961)

*Bheetari Nadi Ki Yatra* (1975)

*Sakshi Rahe Vartmaan* (1979)

*Main Waqt ke Hoon Samne* (1990)

Muktibodh

*Chand Ka Muh Tedha hai* (1964)

*Bhuri Bhuri Khaq Dhuli* (1980)

**Important critical works:**

Lakshmikant Verma, *Naye Kavita Ke Pratiman* (1957).

Nanddulare Vajpaee's *Aadhunik Kavya: Rachna Aur Vichaar* (1962).