MUHAMMAD UMAR MEMON

Bibliographic News

- Note: (R) indicates that the book is reviewed elsewhere in this issue; (*) indicates that the entry is of some relevance to Urdu.
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 [A practical course in everyday written and spoken Urdu requiring no prior knowledge of the language. Ideal for study independently or with a teacher. Cassettes are recorded by native speakers of Urdu.]
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[Contents: short stories "Essence of Camphor," "Interregnum," "Obscure Domains of Fear and Desire," "Sheesha Ghat," "Ba'i's Mourners," "Myna of the Peacock Garden," and "Remains of the Ray Family"; translators: Moazzam Sheikh, Elizabeth Bell, Muhammad Umar Memon, Javaid Qazi, Sagaree Sengupta, and Aditya Behl.] (R)

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 - [A "teach yourself" book; comes with or without a set of 2 audio-tapes.]

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["An eclectic, perhaps seemingly eccentric, collection of short fictional pieces and assorted essays" resulting from the author's "various struggles—some willed, and others forced—to gain some understanding of myself, both as a Muslim in post-1947 India and as an Indian Muslim in the United States where I have lived since 1957, initially by chance but finally by choice."]

- —. Introductory Urdu. 2 vols. Revised, third ed. Chicago: South Asia Language & Area Center, University of Chicago, 1999. 345, 373 pp. [This is a thoroughly revised edition. The reference grammar has been rewritten in its entirety, with many new descriptive sections and a more detailed index. Likewise the section on Grammar Exercises has been both revised and expanded with additional exercises. Also, now each exercise has been clearly linked with specific sections in the grammar. The Urdu texts in the second volume have been gone over and corrected. Each now has many more supplementary notes. These notes, as needed, have been cross-referenced with the sections in the grammar and with other notes. Likewise the serial glossaries and the comprehensive glossary have been revised and also given helpful cross-references.]
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[A reference guide to the most important aspects of the language as native speakers use it today. The complexities of Urdu are set out in short, readable sections. Explanations contain minimal jargon and emphasis is placed on the aspects of Urdu that pose a particular challenge for English-speaking users. Features include: language examples throughout in Urdu script and romanization, user-friendly layout, detailed contents list and a comprehensive index.]