

CHAPTER 9.

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON PLAGIARISM. (سرقه).

1. Plagiarism is divided into two main types, viz :

(a) سرقه ظاہر = Palpable plagiarism

(b) سرقه غیر ظاہر = Non evident plagiarism.

Each of these is subdivided as follows :

2. (a) (i) انتحال nor نسخ, deliberate copying, changing neither the words nor the sense. In cases where this duplication has been made in error they name it توارد. It seems hardly credible, at first sight, that this could happen, but my remarks in Part II, Ch. 1, anent repetition of metaphor or simile ad nauseam, or to use an Urdu idiom, "باسی کڑھی میں" may make it easier of comprehension.

(a) (ii) Taking the sense, entire; but changing some of the words and altering the original words.

(a) (iii) Taking the sense, entire; but changing the order of the words. This is called اعادہ, and is accounted lawful if the second version can be said to be an improvement on the first.

(a) (iv) Taking an idea contained in a couplet or hemistich and expressing it in a different way. This also is only allowable on condition that the amended version excels the original.

3. Non evident plagiarism.

(b) (i) Reproducing the sense of a well known passage but disguising its resemblance.

(b) (ii) Extending the meaning of a verse or line of another poet or expressing his idea more generally.

(b) (iii) Taking a different sense of a poet's line and using it anew in that new sense.

(b) (iv) Similarly, but where the new meaning is diametrically opposed to the previous poet's meaning.

(b) (v) Taking a verse and embellishing it.

4. اقتباس. The insertion of a quotation from the Hadis or the Holy Quran into a verse in such a way that it fits into the argument. This is not plagiarism.

5. تصدین. The insertion of a hemistich or line of another poet. If the verse is well known, i.e., a quotation from a classic, there is no need to indicate the source; but where there is any doubt about its being recognized, the Urdu poets mostly acknowledge or indicate the authorship in the verse to save themselves from any accusation of plagiarism. Example :

"میں کیا کہوں کہ کون ہوں سودا بقول درد
جو کچھ کہ ہوں سو ہوں غرض آفت رسیدہ ہوں"