

Q. Define Hijrat in the context of Basti.

Analogically, Intizar Hussain envisages the migration of Muslims, the hijrat of Prophet Muhammad from Mecca to Madina. In the history of the Muslim peoples, hijrat holds the position of an experience which repeats itself time and again. With its association of long-enduring pain and

sorrow, both internal and external, it becomes a creative experience.

Moreover, he was of the view that hijrat means migration from one age to another. However, bearing in mind the post partition socio-political affairs of Pakistan, Hussain later on termed it a failed migration.

Q. Mu- i- Mubarak episode in "The Shadow Lines"

Amitav Ghosh in the novel "The Shadow Lines" highlights the two polarities of human nature. While there can be people on whom sense prevails and they mould palpably volatile situation to their control, there just may be another section which would make a mess of it and the human blood so spilled would shine in the flickering flames of the torched houses. A detailed account of the events that led to the riots is given in the novel. On 27 December 1963 Mu-i-Mubarak disappeared. There were some incidents of people's damaging public property, but their anger was directed against the government and not against any particular religious community. Moreover, the protesters belonged to all the religions. Mu-i-Mubarak is just the kind of incident, which establishes the above fact in the novel.